

## BC Toxicology News Monthly Bulletin (January 2017)

Reza Afshari - Not peer reviewed

### Contents

1. Toxicology Picture of the month.....	28
2. Toxic Spills.....	29
3. Garbage/Sanitation.....	29
4. Insecticides.....	29
5. [Drinking] water high exposure .....	30
6. Air high exposure .....	30
7. Food high exposure.....	30
8. Soil high exposure .....	30
9. Food recall, CFIA .....	30
10. Marine “positive” biotoxins - data from CFIA spreadsheets .....	31
11. Fentanyl high exposure.....	31
12. Meetings .....	32
13. Other.....	33

--- Provided information in GRAY is not related to January issue, but could be of interest.

### 1. Toxicology Picture of the month

Shellfish warning sign (?!)- must be thoroughly washed before consumption because of pollution in sea. UK. (Photo by: Photofusion/UIG via Getty Images). [LatinosHealth](#)

--- **Shellfish poisons (ASP, PSP, DSP) are not destroyed by boiling!**



## 2. Toxic Spills

Incident date	Who	Nearest Community	Spilled Content	Source	Link/Source
2016 <b>Or general news</b>					
2017-01-26	A gas leak occurred at 1276 Garcia St. when a natural gas line was damaged during a scheduled exchange of a gas meter at the house.				<a href="#">Times Colonist</a>
2017-01-26	Several buildings at the University of Victoria were evacuated due to a <u>gas leak</u> on Ring Road today.				<a href="#">Times Colonist</a>
2017-01-26	Water Below Shawnigan Lake Landfill Exceeded Heavy Metal Guidelines. Sonia Furstenau reports on the environment ministry website show that levels of aluminum, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, lead, manganese, vanadium and zinc exceeded either B.C. drinking water regulations or guidelines to safeguard aquatic life during some testing periods in October and November.				<a href="#">The Tyee</a>
2017-01-25	The federal government is serious about enforcing its safety regulations, Transport Minister Marc Garneau says. They have launched surprise inspections of tugs and barges along the British Columbia coast.				<a href="#">The Tyee</a>
2017-01-25	Government-commissioned report	Two suspected illegal drug labs, gasoline and other fuels contaminated the grounds of a former homeless camp on the lawn of Victoria's courthouse. Recommendation of trucking away tonnes of soil.			<a href="#">CTV NEWS</a>
2017-01-24	Western Canada Marine Response Corporation	Reduced oil spill response times. Five of the oil response stations would be on Vancouver Island with the main hub in Nanaimo. With the approval of Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline at both the federal and provincial levels, plans for seven new oil response stations are closer to becoming reality.			<a href="#">CBC NEWS</a>
2017-01-23	Thompson-region community of Vavenby remains under a "do not use" order one week after a diesel spill in the North Thompson River. About 250 people in the community draw water from the river. Although detectable signs of petroleum hydrocarbons in the water. Still, the order remains in place. On the night of Jan. 16, a transport truck travelling along Highway 5 slid off the icy roadway and crashed into the river, spilling approximately 800 litres of diesel fuel. Forty kilometres downstream, by river, is the Vavenby Water System.				<a href="#">CBCNEWS</a>
2017-01-18	A public meeting was being held at the Vavenby Community Hall for all Thomson-Nicola Regional District residents to answer the public questions on by Interior Health Authority and others. (A semi-truck crashed into the river Monday night, spilling about 800 litres of diesel into the North Thompson.)				<a href="#">CASTANET</a>
2017-01-17	Interior Health is advising people who draw their water from the North Thompson River between the communities of Avola and Vavenby to watch for signs of diesel fuel after a truck crashed into the waterway.				<a href="#">CASTANET</a>
2017-01-13	Interior Health is warning residents to avoid drinking water from the Thompson River after a train derailed near Ashcroft, B.C. on Thursday, spilling what the health authority calls a "substantial" amount of fine-ground metallurgical coal into the water.				<a href="#">CBCNEWS</a> <a href="#">CASTANET</a>
2016-12-02	Nanaimo oil spill response base would serve as hub if pipeline approved. Five new oil spill response bases could be coming to Vancouver Island as early as 2018 if the provincial government approves the expansion of the Kinder Morgan pipeline. Western Canada Marine Response Corporation says if the pipeline is approved, it will receive \$150-million in industry funding for the construction of 5 response centres.				<a href="#">CTVNEWS</a>
2016-12-02	Christianne Wilhelmson, The executive director of the Georgia Strait Alliance			B.C. oil spill response times make Trans Mountain Pipeline 'a ticking time bomb'	<a href="#">CBC News</a>
2016-12-02	--- Alberta Premier Rachel Notley --- Author	Salish Sea- BC	35 oil tankers a month	Research placing the risk of a spill at 79 to 87 per cent over 50 years	<a href="#">The province</a>
2016-12-02	Marc Garneau, Can transport minister	Along the coast between Alaska-BC	Science shows that there's no technology to recover dilbit that's sunk below the surface ... That technology doesn't exist."	For "difficult to clean" persistent oils such as Bunker C fuel. There "will be" a tanker crude oil shipping ban imposed on entering or leaving any port.	<a href="#">Metro</a>

## 3. Garbage/Sanitation

Incident/ report date	Description	Source
2017-01-...	None returned	---

## 4. Insecticides

Incident/ report date	Description	Source
2017-01-...	None returned	---

## 5. [Drinking] water high exposure

Incident/ report date	Contaminant	Area	Location	No of samples/Results	Source
2017-01-30	Selenium levels	Canada US	--- Elk River watershed --- Koocanusa reservoir and the Kootenai River	[Fish populations]	<a href="#">Wildsight</a>

## 6. Air high exposure

Incident/ report date	Description	Area Location	No of samples/Results	Source
2016-12	None returned	---		

## 7. Food high exposure

Incident/ report date	Contaminant	Source
2017-01-24	ASP Scientists tracked West Coast outbreaks of the planktonic algae back to 1991, finding them strongly correlated with warm phases of Pacific Ocean cycles. <sup>1</sup>	<a href="#">Climate news</a>
2017-01-12	ASP In the years when the climate was warmer — including years with higher ocean temperatures and changes in ocean currents — the levels of domoic acid in the razor clams were higher, the researchers said in a statement from Oregon State University.	
2017-01-11	ASP Warmer Oceans Increase Likelihood Of Toxic Shellfish, Study Finds 1991-2015 PNAS j January 10, 2017 114 (2) 239–244	<a href="#">Huffington post</a> <a href="#">PNAS</a> <a href="#">Yahoo news</a>
2017-01-09	ASP Strong correlation between toxic levels of domoic acid in shellfish and the warm-water ocean conditions orchestrated by two powerful forces - El Niño events and the Pacific	<a href="#">Phys.org</a>

<sup>ASP</sup> Amnesic shellfish Poisoning, <sup>DA</sup> Domoic acid,

## 8. Soil high exposure

Incident/ report date	Contaminant	Area	Report	Source
2017-01-25	Government-commissioned report	BC	Two suspected illegal drug labs, gasoline and other fuels contaminated the grounds of a former homeless camp on the lawn of Victoria's courthouse. Recommendation of trucking away tonnes of soil.	<a href="#">CTV NEWS</a>
2017-01-24	Western Canada Marine Response Corporation	BC	Reduced oil spill response times. Five of the oil response stations would be on Vancouver Island with the main hub in Nanaimo. With the approval of Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline at both the federal and provincial levels, plans for seven new oil response stations are closer to becoming reality.	<a href="#">CBC NEWS</a>
2017-01-24	Commander Resources	BC	Acquires Rebel Zinc Project, BC (company), acquired a 100% interest by map staking of the Rebel zinc and lead prospect located in northeastern BC. The 1620 hectare Rebel Property occurs on the southern of Kechika.// Compilation of available public domain data shows a 1.7 kilometre Pb in soil (40 ppm cutoff) anomaly that is partially coincident with the massive pyrite and ferricrete outcrops. Reported assays from the massive pyrite zone contains low to anomalous Pb, Zn and Ba, with the best sample being 0.5% Zn, 0.2% Pb and 24.6 g/t Ag	<a href="#">YahooFinance</a> <a href="#">MENAFM</a> <a href="#">Stockhouse</a>
2017-01-24	Geoscience BC	BC	Geoscience BC hunts for new copper-silver-molybdenum occurrences (spills?)	<a href="#">Can Mining Journal</a>

## 9. Food recall, CFIA

Incident date	Food (Company / Firm)	Reason to recall	Hazard classification	Distribution/Link
2017-01-27	AgeLOC brand TR90 Protein Boost recalled	Undeclared milk (allergen)	---	<a href="#">National</a>
2017-01-10	Vanworld brand Glutinous Rice Balls (Black Sesame Filling)	Undeclared peanut (allergen)	1	<a href="#">BC Poss National</a>
2017-01-09	My Mix Grab n' Go brand Chocolate Pretzel Hearts	Salmonella	1	<a href="#">BC Poss National</a>
2017-01-04	Various cakes manufactured by King's Pastry (allergen)	Undeclared hazelnuts/tree nuts	1	<a href="#">National</a>

<sup>CFIA</sup> Canadian Food Inspection Agency



2017-01-27	Terry Lake & Perry Kendall	BC	Fentanyl crisis: Artists contribute work to Covenant House fundraiser	<a href="#">Van Sun</a>
2017-01-24	Terry Lake & Perry Kendall	BC	Free coverage for treatment drugs Suboxone and methadone last week for anyone with an income of less than \$42,000 (delays on recommendation by 80 experts).	<a href="#">Van Sun</a>
2017-01-18	B.C. Health Minister Terry Lake	BC	\$16 million in new money to tackle the crisis, including an additional 40 adult intensive residential treatment beds and 20 for youth, and funding 50 new intensive outpatient treatment spaces, as well as covering the cost of treatment therapies, such as methadone and Suboxone, for people with low incomes.	<a href="#">CBCNEWS</a>
2017-01-18	<a href="#">BC Coroners Service</a>	BC	There were 142 fatal overdoses in December	<a href="#">CTV NEWS</a>
2017-01-16		BC	Brandon Jansen, a 20-year-old died from a drug overdose at a substance-abuse treatment centre in Powell River on March 7, 2016. Coroner's inquest begins.	<a href="#">CBCNEWS</a>
2017-01-16	Jane Buxton	BC	B.C. Centre for Disease Control, distributed 16,597 kits to individual drug users and facilities such as shelters in 2016, including 3,165 that were refilled because they had been used to reverse an overdose, according to figures released on Monday. In 2015, 3,394 kits were dispensed and 428 were used. In 2014, 1188 and in 2013, 671 kits were distributed.	<a href="#">Global and Mail</a>
2017-01-12	Acting captain of Occu health & safety Steve Fraser	BC	The ongoing overdose crisis has many firefighters dealing with emotional and mental fallout because of their job.[firefighter, paramedic & police]	<a href="#">CBCNEWS</a>
2017-01-12	Har-rison Mohr of Sunshine Coast RCMP.	BC	The Sunshine Coast was initially affected to a lesser degree with few isolated cases, but a sudden spike in fentanyl-related overdoses was later observed	<a href="#">Coastreporter</a>
2017-01-11	Samantha Anderson - Reporter	BC	Awareness key to prevention	<a href="#">Claverdale</a>
2017-01-10	Samantha Anderson - Reporter	BC	China refutes claims it's a major source of fentanyl	<a href="#">Global&amp;Mail</a>
2017-01-10	Hedy Fry, a Liberal MP-Vancouver	BC	The whole country isn't suffering from the same problem -- it's B.C. and Alberta". "It's now starting in Ontario, and I would suggest to you that once it gets bad in Ontario, we will notice action being taken.	<a href="#">CTVNEWS Politics</a>
2017-01-10	Const. Jocelyn Noseworthy	Vernon-NorthOkanagan RCMP	19 charged, fentanyl seized in undercover Vernon drug bust	<a href="#">CBCNEWS</a>
2017-01-09		Ontario-Bermuda	Two Ontario residents jailed in Bermuda on fentanyl-related charges. Face charges of importing? the controlled drug fentanyl to Bermuda.	<a href="#">Toronto Star</a>
2017-01-08	Doug Nickerson	Surrey man	BCCDC report always carries a naloxone kit and administers it to anyone he finds overdosing.	<a href="#">Van Sun</a>
2017-01-06	David P. Ball ?	BC	Nearly 800 death last year in BC 60% fentanyl-related. Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) had charged three Lower Mainland residents	<a href="#">Metro</a>
2017-01-05	Gillian Frosst, epidemiologist with Interior Health	Kootenay-Boundary	Opioid overdose deaths from 7.8 per 100,000 population is lower than for the Interior Health region as a whole (17.5 per 100,000population) and provincially (15.8 per 100,000 population). n=5 in 2016 which grew	<a href="#">Castlegar source</a>
2017-01-05	Barbara Yaffe, Mmedical officer	<a href="#">Toronto</a>	Fentanyl killed at least 374 in B.C. last year. Toronto officials are launching a plan to stop it from happening in Toronto	<a href="#">Toronto star</a>
2017-01-02	Victim families	BC	'It's a travesty': Police should act on fentanyl dealer text messages, say	<a href="#">Van Sun</a>

## 12. Meetings

Date	Title	Where
2017-01-20	2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Network of Toxicology" - BC	9:00 to 11:00 at BCCDC-EHS
2017-01-27	6 <sup>th</sup> Toxicology-learning-[fun & tragedy] group meeting	11:00 to 12:00 at BCCDC-EHS

### 13. Other

Incident/ report date	Who	Area Location	No of samples/Results	Source
2017-01-18			Regulators identified some 130 aboriginal groups that could potentially be affected by the project.	<a href="#">Vancouver Sun</a>
2017-01-1	---The Coldwater Indian Band south of Merritt, B.C		The expansion proposed by Texas-based Kinder Morgan would triple the capacity of an existing pipeline system to ship more than 890,000 barrels of oil per day from Alberta to the West Coast. It was recently approved by both the B.C. and Trudeau governments, subject to nearly 200 federal and provincial environmental, financial, and technical conditions. --- has added its name to a chorus of groups challenging federal approval of the controversial Trans Mountain expansion in court, alleging that the pipeline project could do irreparable damage to its only viable source of drinking water.	<a href="#">National observer</a>
2017-01-11	Christy Clark Premier	BC	Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion has met all five of her conditions for approval and Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion can go ahead. It includes a revenue-sharing agreement worth up to \$1 billion.	<a href="#">Newstalk770</a> <a href="#">CTVNEWS</a> <a href="#">Global&amp;Mail</a> <a href="#">Vanc Sun</a> <a href="#">Thestar.com</a>

Not Official