



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canada Science and Technology Museum closed

OTTAWA, September 11, 2014 – The detection of unacceptable levels of airborne mould has prompted the closure of the Canada Science and Technology Museum (CSTM) for an indeterminate period.

Over the course of its annual early September week of closure for maintenance, air tests performed following the discovery of mould in the South wall of the Museum revealed unacceptable levels of airborne mould. Management has thus decided the CSTM would remain closed until remedial work is performed. Museum management is currently examining options with its contractors, and the length of time the Museum will remain closed is currently unknown.

The health, safety and well-being of Museum visitors, staff and stakeholders is the top priority of the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation (CSTMC) and the Government of Canada. Staff working in the Museum building were evacuated on Thursday, as soon as air test results showing unacceptable levels of mould in the air were disclosed to management. The Museum was to be closed until Friday for maintenance, so no visitors were impacted by the decision to evacuate the Museum. Contingency measures to relocate evacuated staff in other CSTMC facilities will be taken. Some previously planned activities for Museum visitors such as birthday parties, group visits, and others could be cancelled due to this situation. The CSTMC regrets any inconvenience this may cause its visitors.

“The health, safety, and well-being of the people who visit us and work at the Museum are our absolute priority,” said CSTMC President and CEO Alex Benay. “We took action as soon as the situation was discovered, and we will continue to show the same transparency following the evolution of the situation.”

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