

Environmental Act Proposal

Warehouse
Stanley Knowles Building
391 York Ave
Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Health Canada is requesting a site licence for the storage of boxed REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) in the warehouse located in the basement of the Stanley Knowles Building, 391 York Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W1. The warehouse will be used as an intermediary storage facility for boxed REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) between drop offs from Health Canada carriers (Environmental Health Officers) servicing First Nations road communities and pick up by the disposal company awarded the contract (currently Stericycle Inc). The request for a site licence comes as a result of restructuring and policy change in the use of fleet vehicles. Before restructuring, REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) was transported directly to the disposal company. Currently with the new policy change there are scheduling conflicts between vehicle use and drop off times at the disposal company. Interim storing of REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) onsite removes this issues.

REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) will be stored temporarily in a secure cage in the warehouse located in the basement of the Stanley Knowles Building until such time arrangements can be made for the disposal company's retrieval. All boxed REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) will be accompanied with a Manitoba Movement Document/Manifest. All Manitoba region Health Canada's Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) are TDG certified.

Interim storage of biomedical waste will commence upon approval from Manitoba Conservation and issuance of an environment site licence.

BUILDING INFORMATION

Name of building:

- **Stanley Knowles Building,
391 York Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W1**

Point of Contacts:

- **Murray Purcell
Regional Manager
Security/BCP/Administration
391 York Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W1
204-984-8297**
- **Garry Aneechin
Warehouse Officer
391 York Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W1
204-983-6088**
- **Andy Mormul
Environmental Health Officer
300 - 391 York Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4W1
204-984-1992**

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

The Stanley Knowles Building is located downtown Winnipeg beside the convention centre and across the street from the Winnipeg Remand Centre, zoning designation M . The back of the building is serviced by a parking area and two residential apartments. The loading dock for the building is located at the back of the building.

The warehouse in the Stanley Knowles Building is located in the basement. It serves as a multi-purpose storage area for a number of Health Canada departments including Public Environmental Health Services. The warehouse provides limited access to authorized personnel and secured storage cages with restricted access to only the warehouse staff and respective department to their cages. Visitors/carriers are escorted throughout the warehouse. The facility has a single elevator that leads to the main floor loading bay at the back of the building.

Boxed REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) would be stored as an intermediary between EHO drop offs from road communities and pick up from the disposal company award by Health Canada from time to time. Boxed REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) would be stored in the Public Environmental Health Services secure cage.

TYPES OF WASTES

The types of waste being stored in this facility is classifies as UN3291 REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps). The medical waste will arrived on site already packaged as per it's TDG packing instructions with the accompanied Manitoba Movements Document. Arrangements would be made with the disposal company to pick up the boxed REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) at the Stanley Knowles Building.

Biomedical waste refers to waste that is generated by health care facilities on First Nation communities to include:

- blood soaked gauze/bandages (minimal)
- water samples positive for Escherichia coli (e-coli) content (minimal)
- waste sharps/needles (majority of waste)
- expired medication (minimal)
- cytotoxic waste – methotrexate prepared dose syringe (very low).

Cytotoxins are used in limited fashion as a cancer treatment in First Nation communities. Given the low numbers of needles currently being used within the community care program, the prepared dosage syringes are considered safe to be disposed of with other syringes.

WASTE PACKAGING & LABELLING

All medical waste stored at the warehouse will be packaged as follows:

- used sharps including preloaded cytotoxic syringes, expired medications (pills) not part of a pharmaceutical return program are disposed yellow sharps containers (1 litre (ℓ) containers to 13.2 ℓ containers)
- liquid water samples positive for e-coli are disposed of in sealed 100 ml tray containers
- blood soaked gauze/bandages is placed in plastic yellow biohazard bag and sealed
- all sharps, sealed tray containers, and sealed yellow biohazard bags are placed in second plastic yellow biohazard bags
- all secondary bags are sealed and placed in UN4G/Y20.1/S/13 air approved Health Canada white cube boxes.



All medical waste boxes will remain sealed while in interim storage until removed by the disposal company.

WASTE STORAGE AND HANDLING

The following procedure describes the flow of UN3291 REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) through the warehouse:

- REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) will be received at the Stanley Knowles Building via Health Canada fleet vehicles from road access communities located within a 332km radius of Winnipeg MB within the Province of Manitoba. Fleet vehicles will access the loading bay located at the back of the building via Kennedy Street, north of York Avenue.
- The number of waste boxes for interim storage can vary from 2 to 5 boxes per vehicle. Frequency of waste pickup is determined by the First Nation communities requesting removal. All waste boxes are inspected at pickup. All waste boxes improperly packaged are not transported to Winnipeg.
- REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) will be off loaded from fleet vehicles at the loading bay by the carrier. All waste boxes are inspected at offloading before moving to the storage area. Waste boxes are transported by dolly by the carrier to the secure Health Canada storage cage located in the warehouse. The warehouse supervisor is informed of

the transfer and provided with copy 5 of the MB manifest/movement document. Warehouse staff has had TDG training.

- Temporary parking of vehicles for offloading and loading waste is in front of the loading bay. REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) will not be stored in vehicles overnight.
- All waste box shipments received for interim storage are accompanied by a MB manifest/movement document. Copy 4 is retained by the carrier for a period of two years. Copy 5, the receiver's copy will remain with the shipment until such time the shipment is picked up by the disposal company.
- Health Canada's storage area is a secured location within the warehouse only accessible by the warehouse supervisor/staff and EHOs (the carriers). The secured area designated for storage has a floor space of 4.9 m² and is segregated from the adjacent storage areas by chain link fence. The floor is made of concrete with no drains within or adjacent storage spaces. Waste boxes will be stored on skids within an allocated space. No other storage of materials and equipment will be allowed within the designated area. A spill kit is available in case of unforeseen leaks. Due to the length of short term storage refrigeration is not required. The warehouse operates between the hours of 0800 – 1630 hours Monday through Friday.
- Removing interim stored boxes of REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) with movement document will be completed by the receiving/disposal company via the same elevator and loading bay at the back of the Stanley Knowles Building. The warehouse supervisor will escort the receiver to the Health Canada storage cage and transported to the loading bay. Waste boxes will be loaded into vehicles provided by the receiver company.
- The number of staff involved with the care of waste boxes while awaiting final disposal include two warehouse staff and 13 EHO and administrative staff (access to the cage).

CAPACITY

Interim storage of REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) will be held until such time that 25 waste boxes have been collected or 90 days, whatever comes first. Boxes average 9-10 kgs per box and consists on average 98% sharps containers. Sharps containers vary in size from 1 l containers to 13.2 l containers. The remaining regulated medical waste consists of contaminated water samples in sealed trays and other hospital waste as describe above in yellow biohazard bags.

CONTINGENCY PLAN

The warehouse in the Stanley Knowles Building has an existing *Emergency Risk Management Action Plan*. The plan outlines what action needs to be taken by both building employees accessing the warehouse and warehouse staff in case an unforeseen event occurs. The *Emergency Risk Management Action Plan* is subdivided into six areas:

- General Notes – procedures and instructions for employees to follow with safety and emergency personnel;
- Fire/Explosive: Immediate procedures;
- Medical Emergency: Immediate procedures;
- Bio or Chemical Incident: Immediate procedures;
- Bomb Threat/Suspicious Package: Immediate procedures;
- Power/Water Disruption: Immediate procedures.

The *Emergency Risk Management Action Plan* also contains an emergency contact list. Emergency procedures are posted at both entrances to the warehouse.

For chemical spills, further emergency procedures are provided in the product's MSDS located at the WHMIS workstation.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is not required during the transporting and storage of REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE, N.O.S. (including sharps) from the vehicle to the secure storage area.

DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

BIOPHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Regional Setting

Winnipeg is located at the bottom of the Red River Valley. It is a low-lying flood plain with flat topographical features. The valley was formed by the glacial lake, Lake Agassiz. Winnipeg is on the eastern edge of the Canadian Prairies.

Vegetation and land use surrounding the City of Winnipeg includes tall grass prairie to the west and south; aspen parkland to the northeast; agriculture and livestock farming; and urbanization.

The Stanley Knowles Building located in the Winnipeg downtown area.

Regional Climatological Setting

Winnipeg has four distinct seasons, with short transitional periods between winter and summer. The average yearly high and low temperature of 9.13 °C (48.43°F) and -0.13°C (31.75°F) respectively.

Winnipeg has moderate precipitation with 513.7 mm (20.22 in) of precip per year. There is measurable rainfall on 76.9 days throughout the year, and 54.7 days with snowfall. Most of the precipitation occurs in the warmer months, with June being the wettest month and February being the driest. Droughts can take place in the region

Because of its flat topography and substantial snowfall, Winnipeg is subject to severe flooding.

Regional Surface and Groundwater Conditions

Winnipeg has three major rivers: the Red River, the Assiniboine River, and the Seine River. The Red River empties into Lake Winnipeg approximately 55 kms north. The Stanley Knowles Building is approximately 1 km north of the Assiniboine River; approximately 1.5 km west of the Red River; and approximately 3.5 km west of the Seine River.

Water drainage around the Stanley Knowles Building is collected by storm drain sewers.

Species at Risk

There are no aquatic habitats, terrestrial habitats, farm lands, flora or no occurrences of rare species at risk.

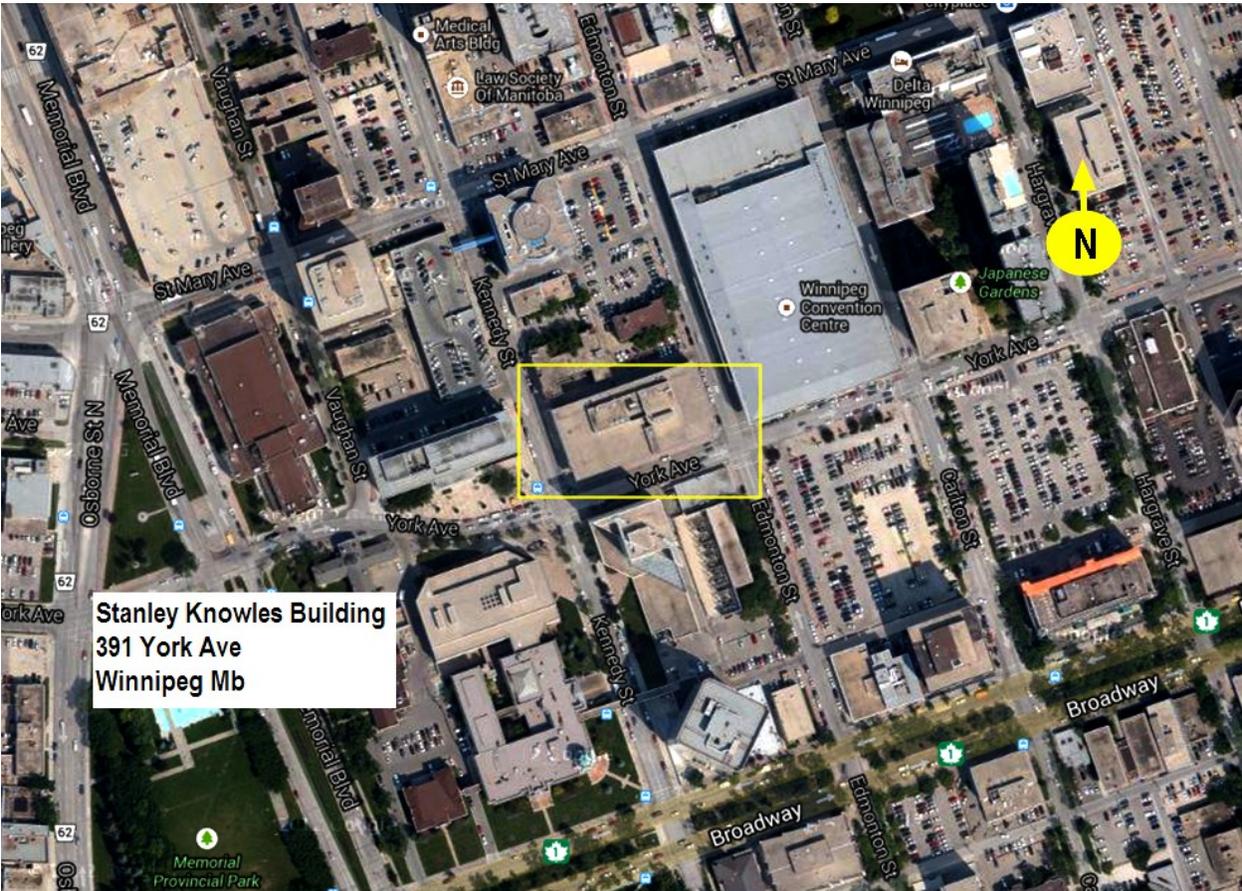
APPENDICIES

Appendix A – Arial View of 391 York Ave

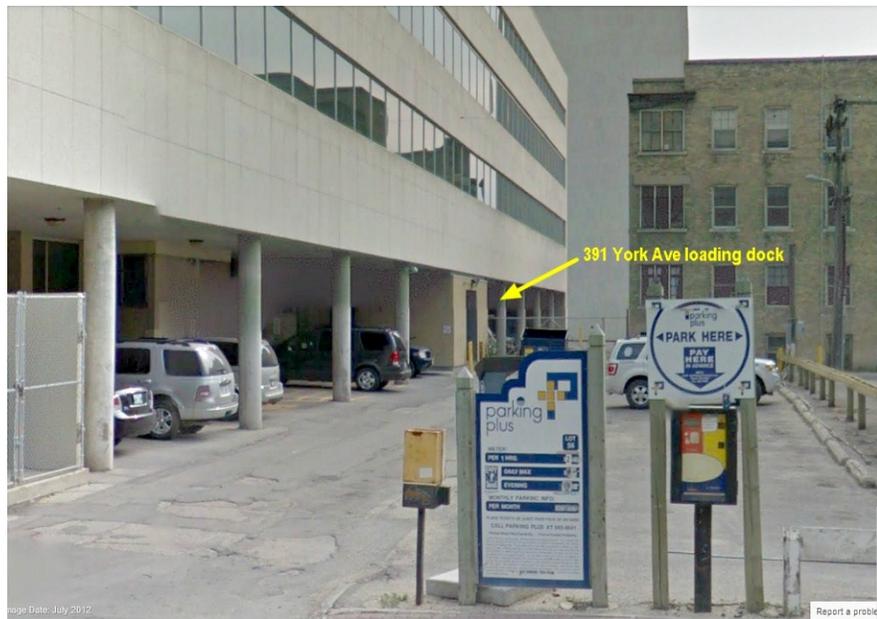
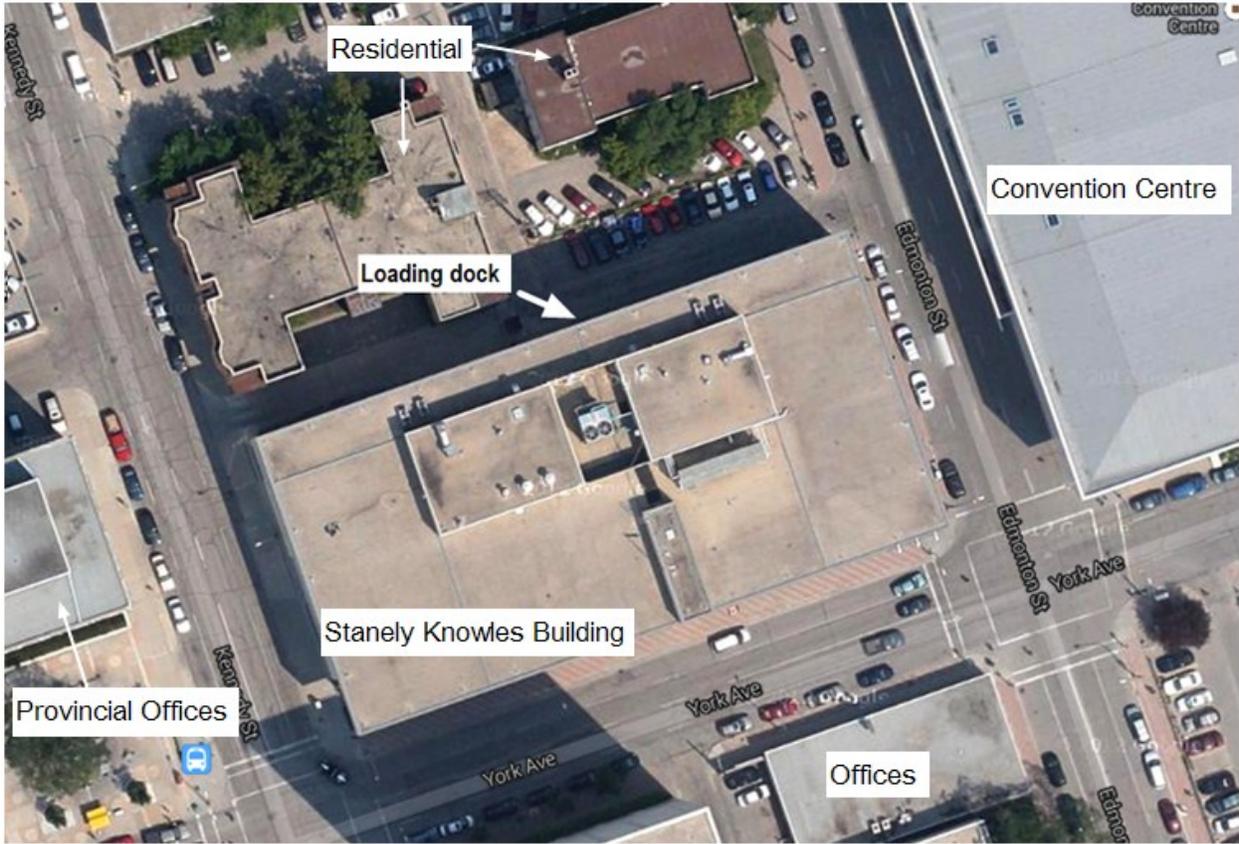
Appendix B – Arial View of Loading Dock

Appendix C – Warehouse Floor Plan

Appendix A – Arial View of 391 York Ave

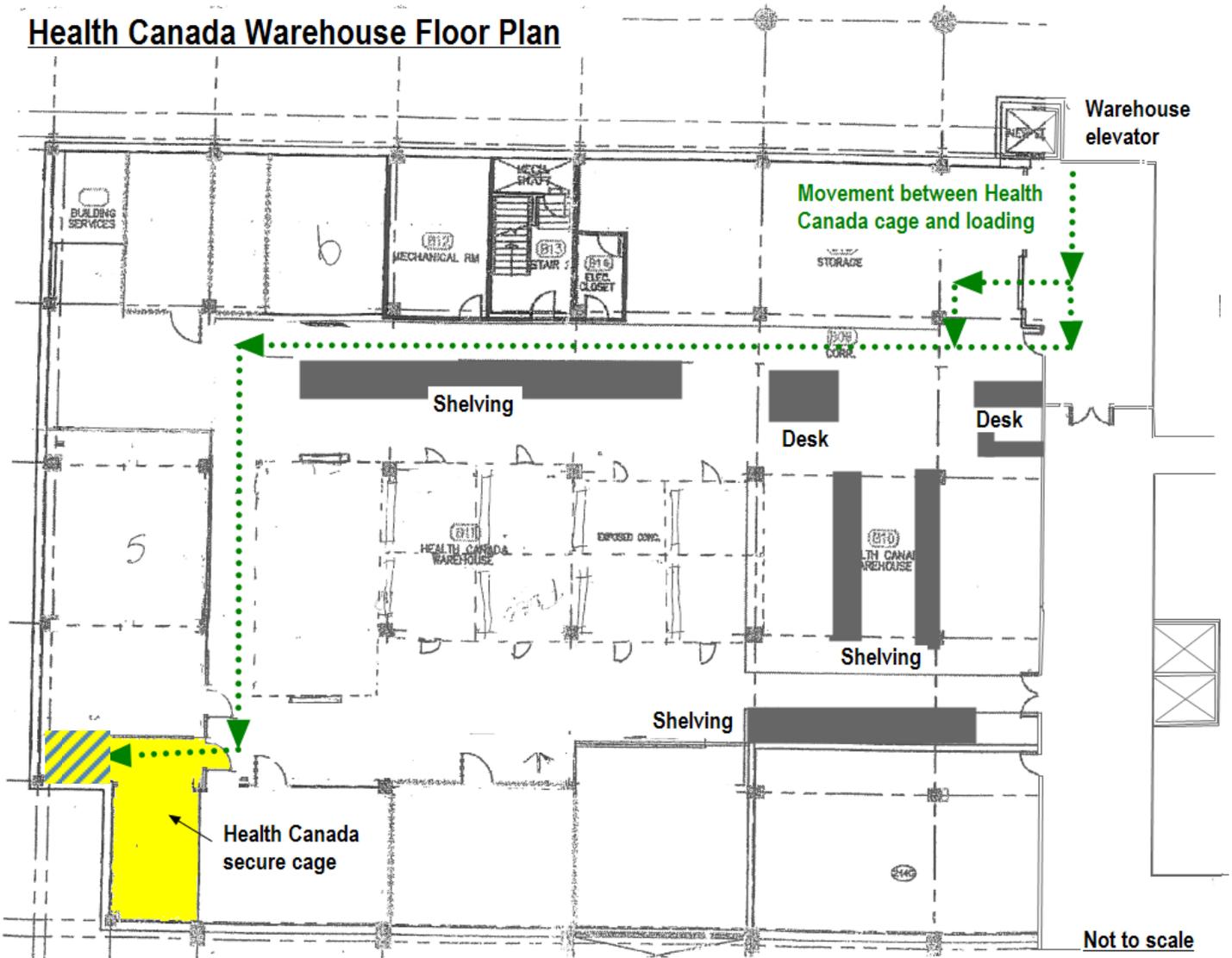


Appendix B – Arial View of Loading Dock



Appendix C – Warehouse Floor Plan

Health Canada Warehouse Floor Plan



 Designated Interim Waste Box Storage Space