

# Canada Busted Covering Up Spikes In Fukushima Radiation

By [Washington's Blog](#)

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## Falsely Stated That There Were No Unusual Radiation Levels

The governments of [Japan](#), America and Canada have [covered up the severity of the Fukushima crisis](#) ever since it started in March 2011.

They've [cut way back on radiation monitoring](#) after the Fukushima meltdown, underplayed the amount of radiation pumped out by Fukushima, and [raised acceptable radiation levels](#) ... rather than fixing anything.

For example, Straight.com [reports](#):

 A study by several researchers, including Health Canada [the department of the government of Canada with responsibility for national public health] monitoring specialist [Ian Hoffman](#), reveals a sharp spike in radiation over southwest B.C. on March 20, 2011.

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In 2011, investigative journalist Alex Roslin [reported](#) in the Georgia Straight that a Health Canada monitoring station in Sidney had detected radioactive iodine-131 levels up to 300 times normal background levels.

In 2011, Health Canada was declaring on its website that the quantities of radiation reaching Canada did not pose any health risk to Canadians.

"The very slight increases in radiation across the country have been smaller than the normal day-to-day fluctuations from background radiation," Health Canada said at the time.

Roslin maintained in his article that Health Canada's own data contradicted that assertion. Below, you can see more of what the researchers stated in the PowerPoint presentation about the radiation plume.



Here's what Roslin [wrote](#) in 2011:

After Japan's Fukushima catastrophe, Canadian government officials reassured jittery Canadians that the radioactive plume billowing from the destroyed nuclear reactors posed zero health risks in this country.

In fact, there was reason to worry. Health Canada detected large spikes in radioactive material from Fukushima in Canadian air in March and April at

monitoring stations across the country.

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For 22 days, a Health Canada monitoring station in Sidney detected iodine-131 levels in the air that were up to 300 times above the normal background levels. Radioactive iodine levels shot up as high as nearly 1,000 times background levels in the air at Resolute Bay, Nunavut.

Meanwhile, government officials claimed there was nothing to worry about. "The quantities of radioactive materials reaching Canada as a result of the Japanese nuclear incident are very small and do not pose any health risk to Canadians," Health Canada says on its website. "The very slight increases in radiation across the country have been smaller than the normal day-to-day fluctuations from background radiation."

In fact, Health Canada's own data shows this isn't true. The iodine-131 level in the air in Sidney peaked at 3.6 millibecquerels per cubic metre on March 20. That's more than 300 times higher than the background level, which is 0.01 or fewer millibecquerels per cubic metre.

"There have been massive radiation spikes in Canada because of Fukushima," said Gordon Edwards, president of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility.

"The authorities don't want people to have an understanding of this. The government of Canada tends to pooh-pooh the dangers of nuclear power because it is a promoter of nuclear energy and uranium sales."

Edwards has advised the federal auditor-general's office and the Ontario government on nuclear-power issues and is a math professor at Montreal's Vanier College.

Similarly, the Nelson Daily [reported](#) in 2012:

The Green Party of Canada said despite public concern over fallout from the nuclear disaster in Fukushima, Health Canada failed to report higher than normal radioactive iodine levels in rainwater.

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"We were worried that this important information would not reach the public and unfortunately, it looks as if we were right," said Green Leader Elizabeth May, MP for Saanich Gulf Islands in a written press release.

It has now been revealed that data were not released from a Calgary Health Canada monitoring station detecting levels of radioactive iodine in rainwater well above the Canadian guideline for drinking water.

This isotope was known to be released by the nuclear accident and also showed up in tests in Vancouver, Winnipeg and Ottawa. Lower levels of contamination resulted in a don't-drink-rainwater advisory in Virginia.

"Serious questions are arising about how Health Canada tests for radiation, and why it has failed to properly alert the public," said May.

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“In effect, Health Canada has not allowed Canadians to take any preventative steps to reduce our exposure to this radiation.”

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