

## Mould – Pay Now or Pay Later

Everyone likes to save a few bucks, and municipalities are no exception. But if a building has water damage, the cheapest route may be to call in the remediation professionals sooner rather than later.

Mould requires three elements to grow: moisture, heat (2° - 40°C) and an organic food source. It is capable of growing on a wet surface within 24-48 hours. Left unchecked, mould will happily consume any organic food source it encounters. This includes your important documents, protective equipment for emergency services personnel, drywall and carpets. Mould reproduces by means of spores, which may exist for many years waiting for the right conditions to begin growing.

Spores require an external assistance to migrate. The air currents created by fans or ventilation systems are ideal ways to spread spores throughout a building.

We recently had a municipality attempt to remediate its own building after it sustained water damage.

In order to dry out the building, the municipality brought in fans. The fans spread the mould spores throughout the facility and the mould then damaged valuable equipment. In this case, the equipment could be salvaged, but it required cleaning by the only qualified individual in the province. The cost to repair the equipment ended up far exceeding the initial cost of drying the building.

To save time and money following water damage, contact a qualified restoration company that specializes in identifying and removing mould from buildings.