



Spring, 2021

Spring is in the air. The grass is green, the birds are chirping, and CEPA modernization Bill ([Bill C-28](#)) was tabled in the House of Commons! While the Bill is modest in scope, we are encouraged that endocrine disruption and consideration of vulnerable populations are mentioned. The Bill opens the door for much needed, and long overdue, discussions and changes to chemicals management in Canada.

As the pandemic continues to hold us in its grip, we find hope in the global appetite for change. There appears to be an increase in the general population's understanding of how our interactions with the environment affect our health. Let us hope that this momentum is sufficient to elicit the behaviour and policy changes necessary for humans and the environment to be in balance.

Please take note that the Draft Risk Management Approach for Talc is open for comment. In addition, the CMP is looking for input on whether or not PFAS should be addressed as a class of chemicals. As these substances have come into focus of late, we plan to hold an educational webinar about them in the near future, and will keep you posted.

This spring brings changes to the New Brunswick Lung Association and the CNHHE. After many years of dedication and hard work to improve our personal and collective health, and the health of our environment, Liz Smith is stepping away into well earned retirement. Thank you, Liz for all you have done over the years!

I am happy to have been handed the torch in maintaining our contract with Health Canada to continue to engage civil society organizations in Canada's Chemicals Management Plan. I look forward to working with you all.

Melanie

CMP DOCUMENTS OPEN FOR COMMENT:

Talc

The Final Screening Assessment for Talc ($Mg_3H_2(SiO_3)_4$) was published. **The Risk Management Approach for Talc ($Mg_3H_2(SiO_3)_4$) was also published for a public comment period ending June 23, 2021.**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/chemicals-management-plan-3-substances/talc.html>

Monocyclic and Bicyclic Sesquiterpenes Group

The *Draft Screening Assessment for the Monocyclic and Bicyclic Sesquiterpenes Group* and the *Risk Management Scope for Certain Terpenes and Terpenoids within the Monocyclic and Bicyclic Sesquiterpenes Group* were published for a 60-day public comment period **ending on July 7, 2021**.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/chemicals-management-plan-3-substances/monocyclic-bicyclic-sesquiterpenes-group.html>

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

A notice of intent to address the broad class of PFAS was published. Stakeholders and interested parties will have opportunities to provide input to help inform Government of Canada activities related to addressing PFAS as a class. As a first step, stakeholders are invited to provide initial feedback on the intent to address PFAS as a class, including challenges or opportunities they foresee, or indicate their interest in being engaged in future discussions by emailing eccc.substances.eccc@canada.ca. (No deadline given)

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/other-chemical-substances-interest/per-polyfluoroalkyl-substances.html>

If you are interested in commenting on any of these draft documents, sharing the knowledge you have at a webinar to educate others and to develop group comments, or attending a webinar to learn more about any of the above substances, please email us at cnhhe-rcshe@nb.lung.ca!

OTHER CMP NEWS:

Published:

Canadian Environment Protection Act

The Government of Canada strengthens its *Canadian Environment Protection Act* to better protect Canadians and their environment.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/pollution-waste-management/strengthening-canadian-environmental-protection-act-1999.html>

Selenium and its compounds

A final order adding selenium and its compounds to Schedule 1 of CEPA 1999.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/substance-groupings-initiative/selenium.html>

Plastic manufactured items

A final order adding plastic manufactured items to Schedule 1 of CEPA 1999.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/other-chemical-substances-interest/plastic-pollution.html>

Chemicals Management Plan Science Committee

A committee report on considerations for identifying potential risks from exposure to chemicals in the workplace. The meeting record for the February 2020 Chemicals Management Plan Science Committee meeting.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/chemicals-management-plan/science-committee/meeting-records-reports.html>

Transparency in chemicals management

An amended version of the Approach to disclose confidential information and promote transparency in chemicals management was published to reflect the results of the pilot phase of the confidential substance identity claim review project for claims older than 10 years.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/chemicals-management-plan/initiatives/transparency.html>

Informed substitution within Canada's chemicals program

A summary of feedback from the consultation: Informed substitution within Canada's chemicals program.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/consulting-future-chemicals-management-canada/what-we-heard-informed-substitution-canadas-chemicals-program.html>

Acetonitrile

The Final Screening Assessment for Acetonitrile.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/chemicals-management-plan-3-substances/acetonitrile-nitriles-group.html>

DTPMP

The Final Screening Assessment for DTPMP

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/chemical-substances/chemicals-management-plan-3-substances/dtpmp.html>

OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS:

Canada's National Observer:

Conversations: Linda Solomon Wood with Seth Klein and poet Erin Robinsong

How the climate emergency is like a war

May 20, 2021 07:00 PM EDT

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/6516189550718/WN_-OYIwczgR4iI80OGKh9dbw

NSERC Grant Opportunity:

https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Innovate-Innover/alliance-alliance/index_eng.asp

Environment Canada Contract Opportunity:

Developing a Policy Lab for National Stakeholder Engagement on Transparency for Chemicals:

<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/procurement-data/tender-notice/PW-21-00953937>

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH NEWS

Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA):

Blog Post: The Good the Bad, and the Ugly on Chemicals and Environmental Rights

<https://cela.ca/blog-long-awaited-amendments-to-cepa-the-good-the-bad-and-the-ugly-on-chemicals-and-environmental-rights/>

CELA, Citizens' Network on Waste Management, and HEJ Support:

News Release: *Regulatory Actions to Plastic Pollution in Canada closer with addition of "Plastic Manufactured Items" to CEPA Toxic Substances List.*

Environmental and Health organizations call for fast regulatory actions on plastic items

<https://resilient-health.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/CELA-HEJSupport-CNWM-MR-Plastics-Manufactured-Items-Sch-1-CEPA-toxic-05122021.pdf>

Équiterre

Strategic Plan: Toward an Unprecedented, Transformative Mobilization to Tackle the Environmental Crisis

<https://www.equiterre.org/en/news/toward-an-unprecedented-transformative-mobilization-to-tackle-the-environmental-crisis>

Mount Sinai Health System:

Series: How the Environment is Shaping the Health of Generations: what scientists want you to know to protect your children, families, and communities.

https://events.mountsinaihealth.org/event/environmentalhealthCHATS?fbclid=IwAR1r7F-mFoy7aLefKdrEub8FAz_7mFCQRNsjdHTbITdmrudNOx5EF75JxhQ

Nature Conservancy of Canada:

Making Nature Investable Summit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uOLpe6Pdr4o>

Spring Nature Field Kit

https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Spring-Nature-Field-Kit-6794215?fbclid=IwAR38A-myItGpa7weCaIBMAayS5p3bF-P34TS_Pg-5ifCcNXclqq866OE9v4

