



Association pour la santé environnementale du Québec
Environmental Health Association of Québec



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Environmental Health Association of Canada
Association pour la Santé Environnementale du Canada



Project Legal Outreach for the Disability of Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS)

Workshop in Alberta: **Accessible justice and human rights for persons with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS)**

Date: August 14, 2024

Time: 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM MDT

Registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZiuduGhrTkiGNe9u0YHYua9TSzCLeKwuS6Y>

AGENDA

1:30 PM - 1:45 PM

INTRODUCTION:

Rohini Peris, President & CEO, Environmental Health Associations of Canada and Québec

Robert Lattanzio, LLB - Executive Director, ARCH Disability Law Center

1:45 PM - 2:05 PM

MEDICO-LEGAL ASPECTS OF MCS:

Dr. John Molot, Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Ottawa

- Biological mechanisms of MCS
- The weight of evidence
- Requirements for medical expertise in MCS
- Questions lawyers should ask to better understand client's accommodation needs.

2:05 PM - 2:15 PM

LIVED EXPERIENCE OF MCS

- Pre-recorded video presentation from a person with lived experience of MCS

2:15 PM - 2:25 PM

ACCOMMODATION MEASURES FOR MCS

Rohini Peris, President & CEO, Environmental Health Associations of Canada and Québec

2:25 PM - 2:45 PM

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF ALBERTA

Sanjana Ahmed, Legal Counsel, Office of the Director of the Alberta Human Rights Commission

- Human Rights for people with MCS in Alberta

In this presentation, Alberta's Office of the Human Rights Commission will address how MCS is treated in the human rights context and will include an overview of recent cases addressing accommodation related to MCS.

2:45 PM - 3:00 PM

LAWYER PRESENTATION – Alberta Bar

Michael DeRosenroll, Principal Lawyer, Human Law

- Respecting individual rights and freedoms

3:00 PM - 3:35 PM

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM

Les Hagen, Executive director of Action on Smoking & Health (ASH Canada)

- Everyone deserves clean indoor air

The presentation will focus on winning strategies to obtain clean indoor air restrictions including legislation, regulation and litigation. Everyone deserves the right to breathe clean air where they work, live or play.

3:15 PM - 3:25 PM

Jamie Happy, Health Promotions Coordinator, Alberta Lung Association

- Health impacts of chemical exposure and tools to reduce risk.
Presentation synopsis (sub-title): The impact of chemical and scent exposure on health; risk factors, sensitivities and co-morbidities; tools to reduce risk.

3:25 PM - 3:35 PM

Heather Walkus, National Chair, Council of Canadians with Disabilities

- How disability must be taken into consideration in all areas of community life.

3:35 PM – 3:50 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION & AUDIENCE Q&A

All speakers

3:50 PM - 4:00 PM

CLOSING

Robert Lattanzio, LLB – Executive Director, ARCH Disability Law Centre

- Access to justice issues facing MCS communities drawn from ARCH’s legal practice
- The duty to accommodate the delivery of legal services
- Effective strategies for an accessible practice as it relates to MCS
- About the Empowering Community and Removal of Barriers (ECRoB) project
- And the creation of the **Legal Advisory Committee as part of ECRoB**

Rohini Peris, President & CEO, Environmental Health Associations of Canada and Québec