



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

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News from ASEQ-EHAQ

Dear members and friends,

We hope you were able to join us for the May events dedicated to educating and raising awareness about multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS). If you missed any of these events, don't worry. We will be uploading the videos to our website for your convenience.

At our May 10 event, Accessibility Standards Canada (ASC) reaffirmed its commitment to including MCS in its standards. Here is a summary of the presentation delivered by Mr. Philip Rizcallah, CEO of ASC, during our MCS Day event.

Mr. Rizcallah introduced the work of ASC and its role in developing standards for accessibility, including for individuals with multiple chemical sensitivities (MCS). He highlighted the ASC's commitment to inclusivity and equity in standards development, ensuring representation of people with disabilities in their committees and consulting with relevant groups, such as MCS communities. He discussed upcoming events and opportunities for engagement, and emphasized the importance of feedback from various stakeholders in shaping ASC standards. He expressed a commitment to further engagement with MCS to better understand needs and incorporate them into future initiatives. Overall, the presentation underscored the ASC's dedication to promoting accessibility and removing barriers for all individuals, including those with MCS.



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We are excited to share our video '[What is MCS?](#)' and are thrilled with the positive feedback it has received from around the world. We invite you to utilize this video to amplify the message advocating for the inclusion of MCS and to address the growing prevalence of MCS. Additionally, to support your personal needs for inclusion and accessibility, we have provided [resources](#) on MCS that you can share.

Speaking of the prevalence of MCS, you may be aware that the diagnosed number of MCS in 2022 dropped to half a million. At the Environmental Health Associations of Canada and Québec, we rely on Statistics Canada data from 2000 to 2020. Due to COVID-19, there were collection issues in 2021, and additional challenges in 2022. Therefore, we do not use data on MCS for 2021 and 2022. To read the explanation provided by Statistics Canada concerning 2022 data, [please click here](#). We eagerly anticipate the 2025 collection on diagnosed MCS in Canada.

We have some great events for June. [Click here](#) to view the events page.

Advocacy Beyond May: Sustaining Momentum Year-Round

June 7, 2024; from 3:00 to 4:30 pm

Zoom registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwudOCvqTotH9wxNg7xawn4XCAVhvp0pCFW>



Focus Group: Take Back Your Power

June 12, 2024; from 2:30 to 5:00 pm

Zoom registration:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIsdu2vqTgvHtJfAeP4YPyuWlrH0_ZfoSyp

Accessible justice and human rights for persons with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) Manitoba

June 18, 2024; from 2:00 to 4:30 pm

Zoom registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0vdO2urT4sH9zv2S2LLqG6-EHcahxFN1md>

Attending MCS events offers members and individuals with MCS a platform to gain insights into coping strategies, access specialized knowledge, and foster a sense of belonging within a supportive community. Moreover, active participation enables you to contribute your unique perspectives, advocate for your needs, and collectively work towards greater understanding and inclusivity surrounding MCS. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Wishing you good health, always. With solidarity,

Rohini Peris, President & CEO

Michel Gaudet, Executive Director