



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



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

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

International Conference on Multiple Chemical Sensitivity Calls for Action on Indoor Air and Accessibility

Saint-Sauveur, Québec, Canada - March 25, 2026 - Global experts to convene May 7 and 8 for **RESILIENCE 2026**, a free virtual event advancing science, policy, and inclusion.

As rates of chronic illness linked to environmental exposures continue to rise (Robins et al., 2026) an international conference is bringing urgent attention to the need for safer indoor environments and inclusive public policy.

On May 7 and 8, 2026, the Environmental Health Association of Canada (EHAC-ASEC) and the Environmental Health Association of Québec (ASEQ-EHAQ) will host **RESILIENCE 2026**, a free, fully virtual and accessible, international conference focused on multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS), indoor air quality, and environmental health.

The conference will bring together researchers, clinicians, policymakers, and civil society leaders from Canada and around the world to examine the growing health and accessibility impacts of chemical exposures in everyday environments.

In Canada alone, more than **1.13 million people are diagnosed with multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS)**, a condition that can significantly limit major life activities, including access to healthcare, housing, and employment.

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Recent policy developments, including recognition by the American Medical Association of fragrance sensitivity including MCS, as a condition that may impair daily functioning, are contributing to growing international momentum for change.

“This is no longer a marginal issue,” said Rohini Peris, President, of the Environmental Health Associations of Canada and Québec “People are being excluded from essential services and public spaces due to preventable environmental exposures. This conference is about advancing solutions.”

What RESILIENCE 2026 will address:

- The science of multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS) and environmental exposures
- Indoor air quality and its role in public health and accessibility
- Barriers in healthcare, housing, and workplaces
- Policy responses, including fragrance-free and lowest-emission environments
- Legal and human rights frameworks, including recent international developments

Why this matters now

- Prevalence of MCS has more than doubled in Canada since 2000
- Millions worldwide are affected by chemical exposures
- Indoor environments remain largely unregulated for accessibility
- Growing recognition of MCS as a human rights issue

Event Details

RESILIENCE 2026

- Date: May 7–8, 2026
- Time: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (EST)
- Accessibility: Virtual (free registration), International, bilingual (English/French with simultaneous interpretation), ASL, LSQ, CART, Zoom captioning.
- Register: <https://aseq-chaq.ca/en/resilience-registration-2026/>
- Learn More: <https://aseq-chaq.ca/en/resiliencemcsconference-2026/>

About the Organizers

The Environmental Health Association of Canada (EHAC-ASEC) and the Environmental Health Association of Québec (ASEQ-EHAQ) are national leaders in advancing environmental health, indoor air quality, and accessibility for people affected by multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS).



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