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## On the Frontlines

Dear members and friends,

August is upon us, and it's the perfect time to reflect on the progress we've made together, while looking forward to the future. Through research, education, and advocacy that promotes recognition and inclusion for people living with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS), all of us at EHAC-ASEC and ASEQ-EHAQ have been continuing to build on the momentum of the past few months. Every discussion, collaboration, and community involvement brings us one step closer to our shared goal of building more accessible spaces for all.

### Share Your Voice: Survey on the Disability Tax Credit

We are introducing a new survey to better understand the experiences of people with Multiple MCS when they apply for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC). Although the DTC is a crucial entry point to a number of federal and provincial disability services, many individuals still face obstacles during the application process. Your experience can help identify gaps, inform research, and strengthen advocacy efforts with government, healthcare professionals, and policymakers, regardless of whether you were denied the DTC, chose not to apply, or are unfamiliar with the program. We urge you to [fill out the survey here](#) if you haven't already in order to contribute to the collection of data required to enhance the availability of disability services for people with MCS.

### Participate in our Research

One of the most effective means of raising awareness, enhancing accessibility, and influencing laws that assist people with MCS is research. Participants are currently being sought for a number of community-engaged research studies examining issues like lived experience, accessibility, healthcare access, environmental health, and climate resilience. Your involvement can help contribute to the evidence required to enhance healthcare, strengthen public policy, and build healthier, more inclusive communities across Canada. If you experience symptoms

such as headaches, breathing difficulties, dizziness, brain fog, fatigue, skin reactions, or nausea after exposure to fragrances, chemicals, smoke, cleaning products, or other environmental substances, you may qualify to be part of a focus group. To find out about current opportunities and how you can get involved, we invite you to visit our [Participate in Our Research webpage](#).

## Upcoming Research Papers on Indoor Air Quality and Multiple Chemical Sensitivity

Strengthening the scientific evidence for better indoor environments and increased accessibility for people with MCS is one of our ongoing priorities. We are happy to announce that eight research papers have been submitted and are presently undergoing peer review. These works will help fill important gaps in understanding while offering useful, fact-based suggestions for indoor air quality, healthcare, policy, and accessibility.

The following are the eight papers currently under review:

1. Scent-Free Policies: An Effective and Low-Cost Source-Control Strategy to Improving Indoor Air Quality
2. Technician Decontamination and Indoor Air Quality Testing: Toward Formalized Protocols
3. Chemical Exposures, Sensitization, Provocation and Symptom Profiles in Adults with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity: A Cross-Sectional Survey
4. Healthcare Access for Adults with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity in Canada: A Cross-sectional Survey
5. When Disability Recognition Fails: Accommodation Denial and Socioeconomic Exclusion Among Canadians with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity
6. Fragrance-Free Policies in Practice: Identifying Implementation Gaps Through Lived Experience
7. Fragrance-Free Policies: A Scoping Review of Definitions, Implementation, and Gaps
8. Toward an Evidence-Informed Model Fragrance-Free Policy: An Indoor Air Quality Source-Control Framework for Accessibility and Inclusion

These articles mark a significant advancement in the existing body of knowledge regarding MCS and indoor air quality. Once published, they will help educate researchers, policymakers, employers, accessibility specialists, building managers, healthcare professionals, and more about practical strategies for improving indoor air quality, reducing chemical exposures, improving accommodation practices, and fostering more inclusive environments. Our goal is to improve the health, accessibility, and inclusion of people with MCS and promote significant policy development by adding peer-reviewed research to the scientific literature.

## Upcoming Events

### August Open House: Healthcare Access and MCS

 August 28, 2026 |  2:00–4:00 PM ET |  Online via Zoom

[Register here](#)

During this month's Open House, we will discuss the challenges that many people with MCS encounter when trying to access healthcare, such as indoor air quality, fragrances, and finding accommodations. Participants will have the chance to connect with others, exchange experiences, and talk about useful tactics for navigating healthcare access in a safe and comfortable environment. The bilingual Open House will be conducted via Zoom, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM ET. We invite you to participate in this crucial discussion.

As we look to the future, we are focused on promoting advocacy, education, and research that enhances the quality of life for people with MCS. We invite you to continue to be involved by sharing your experiences, taking part in our research, attending events, and raising awareness in your local communities. We thank you for your ongoing commitment to building inclusive, accessible, and healthier environments for all.

Take good care,

**Rohini Peris**

President & CEO

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**Michel Gaudet**

Executive Director