



WHMIS and GHS in Canada – Overview and Updates

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Presenter biography

Lynn Berndt-Weis is the Director of the Workplace Hazardous Products Program (WHPP), where she supports Health Canada's agenda to protect the health and safety of Canadian workers under the administration of Canada's Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS). Lynn maintains effective partnerships with a broad range of industry sectors, international regulatory colleagues, and Canadian provincial and territorial partners. Lynn is also the head of the Canadian delegation for the UN Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (UNSCGHS) and responsible for the Global List informal correspondence group for which Canada is co-chair.



Previously, Lynn worked in various programs within Health Canada over the past 20 years. Lynn started her career in toxicological research, focusing on the risks and impacts of environmental chemical exposures on the health and safety of Canadians. This experience was essential as she transitioned to the Chemicals Management Plan (CMP) under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA), leading teams responsible for the evaluation and risk management of chemicals with the goal of reducing risks to human health from these chemicals, and developing effective scientific and regulatory initiatives related to chemical safety.

Lynn holds a Bachelor of Science (High Honours in Biology) from Carleton University in Ottawa, ON, and a Master of Science, Biology, University of Maine, USA.

Presentation abstract

Health Canada will provide a brief overview of WHPP in Canada, and an update to a regulatory initiative proposing amendments to the Hazardous Products Regulations (HPR) to align with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling (GHS) for chemicals (7th edition). Other topics will include an update on program efficiencies that are being implemented under the Hazardous Materials Information Review Act as it relates to exemptions for confidential business information and other emerging issues for worker health and safety in Canada.