



Canada WHMIS Update

**Lynn Berndt-Weis, Director
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Health Canada**

Presenter biography

Lynn Berndt-Weis has 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 under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 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.



In February 2020, Lynn became the Director of the Workplace Hazardous Products Program (WHPP), where she now works to further Health Canada's agenda to protect the health and safety of Canadian workers under the administration of Canada's WHMIS program. Lynn continues to maintain effective partnerships with a broad range of industry sectors, international regulatory colleagues, and Canadian provincial and territorial partners. In her role as Director of WHPP, 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 and responsible for the Global List informal correspondence group for which Canada is co-chair.

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 an overview of WHMIS in Canada, as well as updates on two key regulatory initiatives, including amendments to the Hazardous Products Regulations to further align with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling for chemicals (7th edition), and the modernization of the Hazardous Material Information Review Act, which came into force in March 2020. Health Canada will also discuss work undertaken related to compliance and enforcement.