

Racialized and low-income communities often bear a disproportionate burden of exposure to environmental chemicals and pollution. Yet they are often excluded from health research.

We have an opportunity to change this.

Join us for a Roundtable discussion

to explore how environmental health research can better serve the needs of communities facing environmental injustice.

- Share your knowledge and experience of on-the-ground realities in Ottawa
- Explore how a community-based approach to research on environmental chemicals could strengthen the evidence base and foster local capacity for action.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER: roundtableregistration.eventbrite.ca

What: Roundtable discussion on strategies to strengthen health research on environmental chemicals in communities facing socio-economic inequity and environmental injustice

When: *Roundtable 1:* February 6, 2024, 10:30 am – 3:00 pm (lunch provided), *or*
Roundtable 2: February 8, 2024, 10:30 am – 3:00 pm (lunch provided)

Where: Rideau Community Hub, 815 St. Laurent Boulevard, Ottawa

Who: Professionals currently or recently working in health and social services in Ottawa, including frontline staff, managers, directors, peer workers and board members



Ottawa Coalition of Community Houses
Coalition des Maisons communautaires d'Ottawa



Britannia Woods Community House
Maison communautaire Britannia Woods



Health
Canada

Santé
Canada



uOttawa



Sandy Hill
Community Health Centre



MIREC
Maternal-Infant Research
on Environmental Chemicals

PEHE
COLLABORATION
ESEP



About the Roundtables

These roundtable sessions are being organized as the first phase of a multi-phased feasibility study involving local service providers and community members in Hamilton and Ottawa, respectively, to explore a community-based approach to fostering understanding, trust and potential interest among people living in marginalizing circumstances to get involved in health research on environmental chemicals in Canada. The study is being conducted (in English) by researchers at Health Canada and the University of Ottawa, with links to Health Canada's [Maternal-Infant Research on Environmental Chemicals \(MIREC\)](#) initiative and the uOttawa-led [Prenatal Environmental Health Education \(PEHE\) Collaboration](#). Local research collaborators in Ottawa include The Ottawa Coalition of Community Houses, Britannia Woods Community House, Ottawa Public Health, and the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre. Ethical aspects of Phase 1 of the study have been reviewed and approved by the University of Ottawa Research Ethics Board [S-09-23-8690].

Facilitation of the round table discussions will be in English, however you can provide your responses in English or French.

What is the concern?

Environmental chemicals exist in the places we live, work and play, such as:

- workplace chemicals
- hazards in the home
- toxics in personal care products and cleaners
- pesticides in food
- lead and other contaminants in drinking water

Health effects of environmental chemical exposures may include:

- chronic diseases such as asthma, cancer and heart disease
- adverse effects on children's developing brains and bodies
- reduced ability to fight off infections.

Children and the developing fetus can be particularly vulnerable to harm.

For more information:

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We pay respect to the Algonquin people, who are the traditional guardians of this land. We acknowledge their longstanding relationship with this territory, which remains unceded. We pay respect to all Indigenous people in this region, from all nations across Canada, who call Ottawa home. We acknowledge the traditional knowledge keepers, both young and old. And we honour their courageous leaders: past, present, and future.