2024 Canadian Biosafety Symposium – Pre-Symposium Workshop

Title: Planning for Resilience and Change in Laboratories

Length: 8hrs

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Course Abstract:

Whether you are planning a new facility, renovating an existing space, changing science programs, modernizing diagnostic services, or simply looking to be ready to adapt in the future, careful planning is crucial to save time, money, and headache. Maximizing opportunities for a modern laboratory requires more than avoiding copy-paste approaches and safeguarding essential components. Balancing industry best practices with emerging trends and ensuring efficient workflows is crucial as labs adapt to changing science and technology. Often, modifying existing spaces can avoid extensive renovations. In this era of innovation, careful continuity planning is critical, requiring clear expectations and roles among stakeholders. This course offers a comprehensive framework for developing and managing laboratory facilities that are resilient, adaptable, and future-ready. Participants will learn to integrate scientific, safety, physical facility and operational requirements to optimize operational performance, benchmark against industry best practices, and develop strategies that allow for smart flexibility. The course highlights the importance of linking science, safety, operational requirements and the physical facility, preparing for and facilitating transitions due to evolving programs, innovative technologies, and changing regulatory landscapes, and ensuring long-term program continuity through proactive change management and strategies for biorisk and continuous quality improvement. Participants will also explore how to engage with regulators, anticipate industry trends, and maintain transparency with stakeholders. By the end of the course, attendees will be equipped to create lab environments that efficiently adapt to evolving programs and external influences, ensuring sustained operational success.