

2025 Canadian Biosafety Symposium Program

TUESDAY, September 23, 2025

8:30 am - 4:30 pm		Pre-symposium Workshop The Working Mind: Better Conversations, Stronger Teams, Healthier Workplaces Lucienne Azzie, Opening Minds <i>Joliet</i>
8:30 am - 12:00 pm		Pre-symposium Workshop Does Your Biosecurity Plan Have Legs to Stand On? - Tailoring Threat and Risk Assessments for Optimal Facility Operations Ryan Gregory, Aurel Tamburri - Merrick Canada Cam Ewart - Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) <i>Frontenac</i>
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm		Lunch
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm		Pre-symposium Workshop Life Science Facilities Biological Waste Management: Laboratory and Research Farms Cam Ewart, Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) <i>Frontenac</i>
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm		BESWG Meeting (Members only) <i>Joliet</i>
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm		Exhibitor Networking Reception <i>Richelieu</i>

WEDNESDAY, September 24, 2025 - Joliet-Frontenac

7:00 am - 8:00 am		Registration and Breakfast <i>Richelieu/Foyer</i>
8:00 am - 8:15 am		Welcome and Opening Remarks Tom Walus, Andrea Smida CABS-ACSB
8:15 am - 9:15 am		Keynote Address Biosafety and the “New Normal” Mark Ungrin and Lucca Filippo, University of Calgary
9:15 am - 9:45 am		Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines Jenna Armstrong, Public Health Agency of Canada
9:45 am - 10:05 am		Coffee Break <i>Richelieu/Foyer</i>
10:05 am - 10:25 am		Professional Development by Teaching: An Opportunity for Mutual Learning Janet Hankins, Stephanie Norlock, IFBA
10:25 am - 11:05 am		Preparing for Brazil’s First BSL4 Laboratory Tatiana Ometto, CNPEM

11:05 am - 11:35 am		Efficient and Effective: VHP Decontamination for BSL-3 Suite Mary Van Gaasbeck, STERIS
11:35 am - 11:45 pm		Meet the Exhibitors - 1 Minute Pitch
11:45 am - 1:00 pm		Lunch Break <i>Richelieu/Foyer</i>
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm		CL2 - Electric Boogaloo Interactive Role Playing Game Bronwyn Kelly-Seigh & Angela Stott, SGS Canada
2:00 pm - 2:35 pm		Taming the multi-headed monster that is a Containment Level 3 facility: challenges, insights, and pandemic preparedness Devender Kumar and Eoin O'Grady, University of Calgary
2:35 pm - 2:55 pm		Coffee Break <i>Richelieu/Foyer</i>
2:55 pm - 3:15 pm		Canadian Laboratory Incidents with Human Pathogens and Toxins Christine Abalos, Public Health Agency of Canada
3:15 pm - 3:35 pm		Decarbonization of Laboratory Design with Integrated Safety and Sustainability Kashyap Desai, TBD
3:35 pm - 3:45 pm		Conclusion and Wrap Up
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm		Canadian Association for Biological Safety/L'Association Canadienne Pour La Sécurité Biologique (CABS-ACSB) Annual General Meeting (Virtual and In Person)

THURSDAY, September 25, 2025 - Joliet-Frontenac

7:00 am - 8:00 am		Continental Breakfast <i>Richelieu/Foyer</i>
8:00 am - 9:00 am		Keynote Address Marisa Azad, Ottawa Hospital
9:00 am - 9:30 am		The Evolution of Biosafety Cabinet Testing at the University of Alberta Sandra Music, University of Alberta
9:30 am - 9:40 am		Reporting Changes Affecting Biocontainment Alexandra Johnson, Public Health Agency of Canada
9:40 am - 10:00 am		Coffee Break <i>Richelieu/Foyer</i>
10:00 am - 10:45 am		Open (Bench) Mic - Story Time
10:45 am - 11:15 am		A Review of the Western University HazMat Team's Response to a Simulated Containment Level 3 Emergency Rick Gibson, Western University

11:15am - 12:00 pm		The Science of Interior Finishes in Containment Laboratory Facilities Tom Walus, Arcoplast and Ryan Gregory, Merrick Canada
12:00 pm - 1:15pm		Lunch <i>Richelieu/Foyer</i>
1:15 pm - 1:35pm		ABSA Update Sherry Bohn, ABSA International
1:35 pm - 2:00pm		The Importance of Infectious Biological Hazardous Waste (IBHW) Management in Rural Health Sector Hospitals in Mexico Luis Ochoa Carrera,
2:00 pm - 2:30pm		TBD David Wasescha, Labconco and David Phillips, ConTest
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm		Coffee Break <i>Foyer</i>
2:45 pm - 3:15 pm		Laboratory Biorisk Assessments: Considerations for Incorporating Cyberbiosecurity Julianne Baron, Science and Safety Consulting
3:15 pm - 3:25 pm		Canadian Association of Biological Safety/L'Association Canadienne Pour La Sécurité Biologique (CABS-ACSB): Update on the Registration and Certification of the Biosafety Officer in Canada Tom Walus, CABS-ACSB
3:25 pm - 3:30 pm		Closing Remarks Tom Walus CABS-ACSB