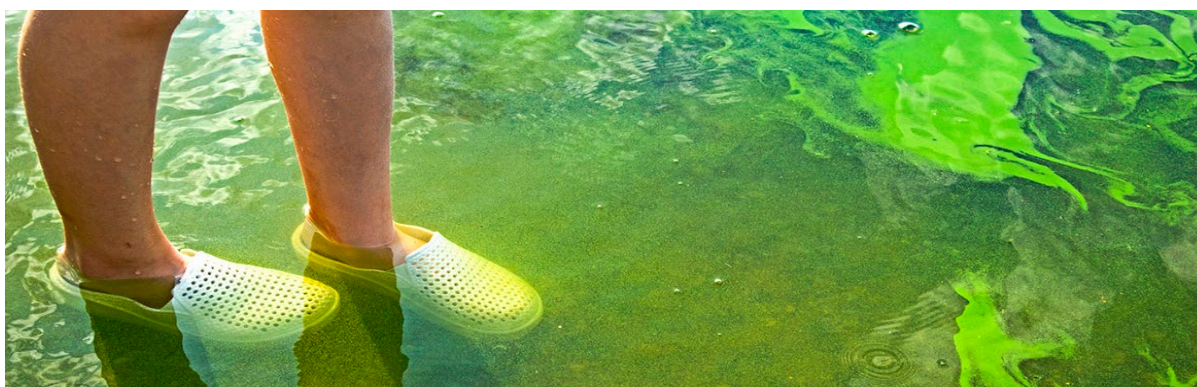


ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

VOL 9 (5) MAY 2025



<p><u>AIR QUALITY</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor air • Outdoor air • Radon, Other 	<p><u>CLIMATE CHANGE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme weather • Flooding • Sea level rise • Wildfires, Other 	<p><u>DISEASES, VECTORS, PESTS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 • Animal vectors • Insect vectors • Pests, Other
<p><u>FOOD</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food safety • Food security • Growing food, Other 	<p><u>BUILT ENVIRONMENT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green& blue spaces • Housing • Noise • Planning & design • Transportation, Other 	<p><u>PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDAMENTALS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication • Health promotion • Health impact assessment • Health equity • One Health, Other
<p><u>WATER</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water • Recreational water • Small water systems • Wastewater, Other 	<p><u>NON-CLIMATE RELATED DISASTERS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthquakes • Marine • Terrestrial, Other 	<p><u>OTHER TOPICS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannabis products • Tobacco, nicotine products • Ionizing, non-ionizing radiation • Personal services establishments, Other
<p><u>SPECIFIC POPULATIONS</u> (children, Indigenous Peoples, older adults, other)</p>		

Environmental Health (EH) Research Scan: Aims and Scope

NCCEH's EH Research Scan aims to expand awareness of topics in environmental health, in line with [NCCEH's vision](#) to be the indispensable online resource for environmental health practitioners and policy-makers across Canada. This research scan is not peer reviewed; it does not cover all research, news, and information, and NCCEH is not responsible for the accuracy of the content from media or databases. Not all links are open access; some are abstract links where paid journal subscription is required.

EDITOR PICKS

A public health perspective on cyanobacteria, climate change, population growth, and potential risk of neurodegenerative disease [journal article].

Michael J Lee, Environmental Epidemiologist, BCCDC, and co-authors

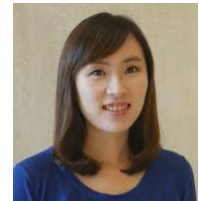
“...we provide a narrative review describing how climate change and population growth contribute to increasing risk of cyanotoxin exposure...”



Fermented foods safety guidance: a resource for environmental public health professionals [BC CIPHI newsletter].

Tina Chen, Environmental Health and Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH

“Fermented foods are growing in popularity across Canada, but there remains a knowledge gap among environmental public health (EPH) practitioners regarding fermentation processes and food safety controls.”



Extreme heat events: media communication with impact [evidence review]. Also: [webinar link](#)

Rebecca Goulding, Environmental Health and Knowledge Translation Scientist, NCCEH

“...Media reporting on extreme heat events can affect public perception of risk and the protective measures people take in response. Interviews were conducted with...”



Wildfire smoke air pollution: new approaches needed to protect people affected.

Sarah B Henderson, Scientific Director, Environmental Health Services, BCCDC and NCCEH

“Research on wildfire smoke has been growing rapidly in recent years and the evidence shows that, like air pollution from other sources, wildfire smoke is likely harmful to all aspects of human health...”



What drives parents’ use of air quality indexes during wildfire smoke events: predictors of index knowledge, frequent checking, and following health guidance.

Catherine E Slavik, Center for Science Communication Research, University of Oregon

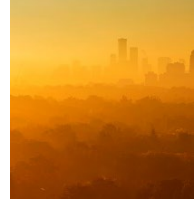
“In July–August 2023, parents from Oregon, Washington, California, and British Columbia (BC) (n = 2100) participated in an online cross-sectional study...”



EDITOR PICKS, CONTINUED

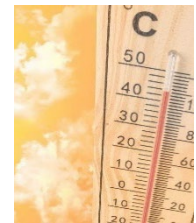
Preparing for heat events.
BC Centre for Disease Control

“Here you will find information on preparing for heat events and what to know about the different types of heat alerts.”



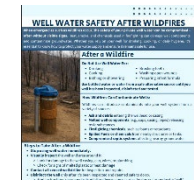
The association between hot days and substance-related suicides: a time-stratified case-crossover analysis in British Columbia, Canada [journal article].
Karen Li, Sarah B Henderson, Eric Coker, Kathleen E McLean, Michael Joseph Lee

“...The risk of suicide via self-poisoning was increased on hot summer days in BC, Canada. However, the relationship was influenced by other factors that vary among individuals and geographies.”



Well water safety after wildfires.

“When emergencies such as wildfires occur, the safety of your private well water can be compromised - often without visible signs.”



Heat, wildfire smoke, and health. Recommended actions for owners and managers of rental and strata housing.

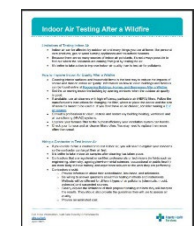
Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health

“Extreme heat and wildfire smoke events can put housing residents at risk for illness or death, even when they are at home in their units. Owners and managers of rental and strata housing can make potentially lifesaving decisions that protect housing residents.”



Indoor air testing after a wildfire.

“Cleaning interior surfaces and household items is the best way to reduce the impacts of smoke and dust on indoor air quality.”



EDITOR PICKS, CONTINUED

Strengthening the use of science for emergency management in Canada: A brief report from the Chief Science Advisor of Canada.

“This report summarizes opportunities and challenges with science advice coordination in Canada during national emergencies across a wide range of threats. It aims to...”



A research agenda to protect human health and build resilience in the face of a changing climate. National Academy of Science

“This agenda identifies key research domains including health impacts, adaptation and mitigation strategies, infrastructure and capacity building, and policy and public engagement. The publication provides actionable guidance to accelerate...”



Emergency preparedness and extreme weather experiences of Indigenous people, 2024. Statistics Canada

“As the earth's climate continues to change, the rate of extreme weather events is expected to increase with it. This may put First Nations people, Métis and Inuit at a disproportionate risk of suffering adverse effects of extreme weather, due to...”



The impact of climate change on Indigenous food security and safety in Indigenous communities. The relationship between food security and climate change. Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources

“...climate change has altered the land we live on today, making it hard for many Indigenous Nations to gain valuable food sources and carry on their traditions.”



Empowering coastal resilience: Indigenous spill-response training in British Columbia.

“...A co-managed training program grounded in public-value theory delivers dual benefits: public outcomes such as such as faster...”



NCCEH eNews (Apr 2025): Heat alert and response systems in Canada: a check-up on preparedness; more... NCCEH

This monthly eNews highlights recent environmental health publications and more!



April 2025 research scan.

National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH SCAN

SELECTED RESOURCES

1. Chen T. **Fermented foods safety guidance: a resource for environmental public health professionals [newsletter]**. Vancouver, BC: BC CIPHI - Canadian Institute for Public Health Inspectors; 2025 Spring. Available from: <https://ciphi.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/CIPHI-BC-Page-Spring-2025.pdf>.
2. Henderson SB. **Wildfire smoke air pollution: new approaches needed to protect people affected [journal article]**. Can Med Assoc J. 2025;197(17):E483-E4. Available from: <https://www.cmaj.ca/content/cmaj/197/17/E483.full.pdf>.
3. Lee MJ, O’Keeffe J, Nguyen H, Piva D, Blaney J, Henderson SB. **A public health perspective on cyanobacteria, climate change, population growth, and potential risk of neurodegenerative disease [journal article]**. Environmental Research Communications. 2025;7(5):052501. Available from: <https://dx.doi.org/10.1088/2515-7620/adccb3>.
4. Li K, Henderson SB, Coker ES, McLean KE, Lee MJ. **The association between hot days and substance-related suicides: a time-stratified case-crossover analysis in British Columbia, Canada [journal article]**. Environ Health. 2025;24(1):25. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12940-025-01176-5>.
5. National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health. **NCCEH eNews (Apr 2025): Heat alert and response systems in Canada: A check-up on preparedness; more...** Vancouver, BC: NCCEH; 2025 04 17 Apr. Available from: https://app.cyberimpact.com/newsletter-view-online?ct=S1xlod_IHctI0fpAPUXHiArRDltgeyWu1qJ5oACIUy6yAvv13nk4CSK3T-G1NsQjNVxJqjYgt0Q1-09i-qPpcA6AfcVVhIngvc7jcrqzH186pMQ7nQGxzIORb94ObOW.
6. National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health. **April research scan**. Vancouver, BC: NCCEH; 2025 04 17 Apr. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/sites/default/files/2025-04/NCCEH%20Research%20Scan%20-202504.pdf>.
7. Goulding R. **Extreme heat events: media communication with impact [evidence review]**. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2025 05 08 May 8. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/resources/evidence-reviews/extreme-heat-events-media-communication-impact>.
8. Goulding R. **Extreme heat events: media communication with impact [webinar]**. Vancouver, BC: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health; 2025 05 29 May 29. Available from: <https://ncceh.ca/events/upcoming-webinars/extreme-heat-events-media-communication-impact>.

1. AIR QUALITY

INDOOR AIR

1. Lee S, Adibi A, Giang A, Carlsten C, Paul N, Brigham E, et al. **Evaluating the Long-Term Cost-Effectiveness of a Government Rebate Program for Air Cleaners in Preventing Asthma in**

- British Columbia, Canada.** Am J Respir Crit Care Med. 2025;211(Abstract):A7402-A. Available from: <https://www.atsjournals.org/doi/abs/10.1164/ajrccm.2025.211.Abstracts.A7402>.
2. Sun L, Héroux M-È, Xu X, Wheeler AJ. **Associations between residential fossil fuel combustion and indoor concentrations of nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, and aldehydes in Canadian homes.** J Expo Sci Environ Epidemiol. 2025. Available from: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41370-025-00762-6>.
 3. Tung K, Kumar R, Fung AS, Leong WH. **Residential Air Source Heat Pump Water Heater Performance Testing and Feasibility Analysis in Cold Climate.** Sustainability. 2025;17(5):2234. Available from: <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/17/5/2234>.
 4. Wang J, John S, Tiina R, Sergey G, Michael Y, and Bunte J. **Aerosol emission, transmission, and mitigation from performing singing and wind instruments.** J Occup Environ Hyg. 2025:1-10. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1080/15459624.2025.2491486>.
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1. Ahmed A, Hawken S, Gunz A, Talarico R, Yu C, Messerlian C, et al. **Prenatal exposure to fine particulate matter composition and risk of cerebral palsy: A population-based retrospective cohort study in Ontario, Canada.** Environ Pollut. 2025;375:126302. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S026974912500675X>.
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3. Hejna M, Białowiec A. **Volatile organic compounds release from carbonized solid fuels derived from municipal solid waste: Risks, mitigation, and regulatory challenges.** J Environ Manage. 2025;380:125049. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0301479725010254>.
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6. Segelhorst A, Aliakbari E. **Air Quality in Canada and the OECD.** Vancouver, BC: Fraser Institute; 2025. Available from: https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/air-quality-canada-and-oecd?utm_source=Media-Releases&utm_campaign=Air-Quality-in-Canada-and-OECD&utm_medium=Media&utm_content=Learn_More&utm_term=415.
7. Tao H, Chen G, Wu L, Lou H. **Synergistic impact of air pollution and artificial light at night on memory disorders: a nationwide cohort analysis.** BMC Public Health. 2025;25(1):1591. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-025-22863-5>.

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RADON, OTHER

1. Gaskin J, Zhou LG, Li YE, Tardif P. **Ventilation approaches and radon control in Canadian houses.** *Front Public Health.* 2025;Volume 13 - 2025. Available from: <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/public-health/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2025.1569494>.
2. Li L, Coull B, Vieira CLZ, Koutrakis P. **High-Resolution National Radon Maps Based on Massive Indoor Measurements in the United States.** SSRN. 2025. Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4800406>.
3. Ma X, Su C, Zhu Z, Zou Z, Dai Y, Sun C, et al. **Assessing indoor radon concentration: Field study from a university campus in Shanghai.** *Build Environ.* 2025;278:112998. Available from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360132325004792>.
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2. FOOD

FOOD SAFETY

1. Blais-Savoie J, Yim W, Kotwa JD, Yip L, Kozak R, McGeer A, et al. **Screening of retail milk in Ontario for the presence of influenza A viral RNA.** *Can Commun Dis Rep.* 2025;51(4):152-5. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.14745/ccdr.v51i04a06>.
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 9. Wang D, Kim BF, Nachman KE, Chiger AA, Herbstman J, Loladze I, et al. **Impact of climate change on arsenic concentrations in paddy rice and the associated dietary health risks in Asia: an experimental and modelling study.** The Lancet Planetary Health. 2025. Available from: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196\(25\)00055-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2542-5196(25)00055-5).

FOOD SECURITY

1. Cherry D, Sarapura-Escobar S. **Co-developing Community-Based Understandings of Food Security, Food Sovereignty and Indigenous Food Self-Determination in Collaboration with Three First Nations in Northern, Ontario.** Rural Review - Ontario Rural Planning Development and Policy. 2025;9(1). Available from: <https://journal.lib.uoguelph.ca/index.php/ruralReview/article/view/8291>.
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GROWING FOOD, OTHER

1. Agence nationale de sécurité sanitaire de l'alimentation de l'éducation et de la santé. **Analysis of the results of Inserm's collective expert review on the health effects of pesticides.** Maisons-Alfort Cedex, France: ANSES; 2025 Apr 24. Available from: <https://www.anses.fr/en/content/analysis-results-inserms-collective-expert-review-health-effects-pesticides>.
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3. WATER

DRINKING WATER

1. Chalmers E, Duncan C, Gora S. **Development of water safety risk matrices to improve water safety in Arctic drinking water systems in Nunavut, Canada.** Int J Circumpolar Health. 2025;84(1):2450877. Available from: <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11748980/>.
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RECREATIONAL WATER

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SMALL WATER SYSTEMS

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WASTEWATER, OTHER

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4. CLIMATE CHANGE

EXTREME WEATHER

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This document can be cited as: National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health.
Environmental health research scan. Vancouver, BC: NCCEH. 2025 May.

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