



WHMIS for PEI Workplaces

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CHAPTER 1 - ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

1.0 Introduction

This guide is intended to provide employers and workers across Prince Edward Island with the information they need to implement an effective Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) program.

WHMIS is Canada's national system for providing information about hazardous products used in the workplace. The *Hazardous Products Act (HPA)* and its Regulations set the standard for how information about hazardous products is shared. In Prince Edward Island, the WHMIS Regulations under the *Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Act* use this information to guide how hazardous products should be used, stored, and handled. These regulations also make sure that workers get the right education and training to safely work with these products.

The regulations under the HPA dictate how suppliers must classify and label hazardous products. They also mandate how suppliers prepare and maintain documentation for those products. WHMIS relies on this information from suppliers to make sure that workers know the hazards of the products they use and how to protect themselves from those hazards. While the federal government sets rules for suppliers through the HPA, each province and territory are responsible for enforcing WHMIS regulations in provincially regulated workplaces.



For additional support, please contact:

Workers Compensation Board (WCB)
Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Division

Email: ohs@wcb.pe.ca

Phone: 902-569-0449 or 1-800-237-5049 toll-free
in Atlantic Canada

24-Hour OHS Emergency Line: 902-628-7513

For additional resources:

- Visit our website at wcb.pe.ca
- Download our **Guide to OHS Legislation App** available for iOS and Android

Find and follow us on



1.1 What is the *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHS Act)*?

The **OHS Act and its Regulations** set the minimum standards for occupational health and safety in the workplace and define the general safety principles for provincially regulated workplaces in PEI. A safe workplace starts with employers and workers understanding the OHS Act and its Regulations.

Section 12 of the OHS Act states that employers must take every reasonable precaution to protect the health and safety of individuals at or near the workplace. This includes making sure that machinery, equipment and materials are in safe working condition, and that workers are provided with adequate training and supervision. Employers are also required to identify and eliminate workplace hazards to help prevent incidents and injuries.

In PEI, the WCB's OHS Division enforces the following legislation and regulations at workplaces and work sites:

- *Occupational Health and Safety Act*
- OHS Act General Regulations
- Fall Protection Regulations
- Scaffolding Regulations
- Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) Regulations
- Workplace Harassment Regulations
- *Smoke Free Places Act*
- *Youth Employment Act*

This publication is not intended as a form of legal advice and should not be taken as a statement of the law. The information provided in this guide is for general application and therefore, the reader should always refer to the OHS Act and its Regulations for specific requirements.

Visit our website wcb.pe.ca for more information and additional resources.

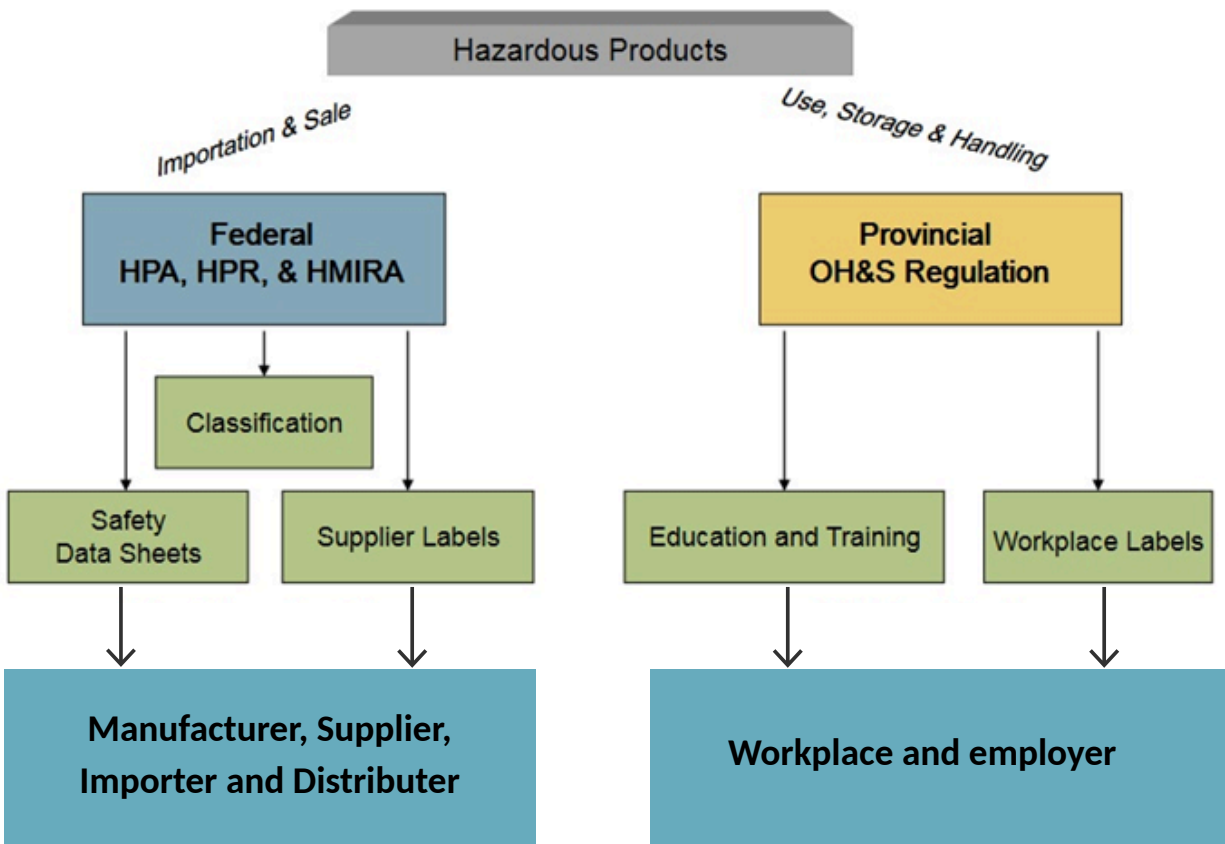
CHAPTER 2 - WHAT IS COVERED UNDER WHMIS

WHMIS covers the classification, labelling, and communication of health and safety information for hazardous products used in the workplace. Through proper labels, SDSs, education and training, WHMIS provides workers with the information they need to safely use hazardous products.

2.0 Hazardous products

A hazardous product is any product, mixture, material, or substance that is classified in a hazard class. Hazards are grouped into physical hazards like flammability or explosiveness or health hazards like toxicity or skin irritation. Hazard groups are further broken down into categories. Organizing hazards by class and category supports accurate labeling and SDSs so that hazardous products can be safely handled in the workplace.

Hazardous Products Acts and Regulations



2.1 Key components of WHMIS

Classification

WHMIS divides hazardous products into two main hazard groups: physical hazards and health hazards. Each group is divided into several classes, which may be further broken down into categories based on the severity or type of hazard. Each class is represented by a unique pictogram, which are symbols inside red, diamond-shaped borders that show the specific type of hazard.

Labelling

Labels on hazardous products must contain the name of the product, the name and contact information of the Canadian supplier, the associated hazards, and the necessary precautions required to safely use the product. Labels must have the pictogram, a signal word and standardized hazard and precautionary statements grouped together. Labels must be written in both English and French.

Safety Data Sheet (SDS)

A Safety Data Sheet (SDS) is a document that provides essential information about a hazardous product. SDSs contain details about hazardous products' properties, hazards, safe handling, storage, first aid, and emergency response measures. SDSs help employers and workers understand how to use the hazardous product safely.

Worker education and training

Education and training are essential parts of WHMIS. Workers must understand labels, pictograms, SDSs, and know how to handle hazardous products safely. Employers must provide product specific training for workers and they must update the training content as needed.

WHMIS plays a vital role in helping to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses in PEI by establishing consistent standards for the classification and communication of chemical and biological hazard

WHMIS Hazard Pictograms



2.2 What is not covered under WHMIS?

Some products are **completely or partially exempt** from WHMIS.

1. Completely exempt: WHMIS does not apply to hazardous products that are:

- **Wood or wood products.**
- **Tobacco or tobacco products.**
- **Manufactured articles** – where the hazardous product is part of the material.
- **Products being transported under the *Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG) Act*.**

2. Partially exempt: WHMIS has limited application to products such as:

- **Explosives** – which are covered for safe handling and storage under the federal *Explosives Act*.
- **Cosmetics, drugs, medical devices, or food** – which are defined and controlled under the federal *Food and Drugs Act*.
- **Pest control products** – which are often found in workplaces such as landscaping or agriculture, and are regulated under the federal *Pest Control Products Act*.
- **Radioactive nuclear substances** – regulated under the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*.
- **Consumer products** – which are defined in the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act*, and are intended to include everyday products found in households, not in workplaces.

Although these products are completely or partially exempt from WHMIS, they are still considered dangerous and are controlled under other acts and regulations.

WHMIS labels and SDSs are not required for partially exempt products, but employers must still train workers who may handle or be exposed to these products. Training helps workers understand existing labels and product information so they can use the products safely.

2.3 Consumer products

A consumer product is any item intended for personal, household, or recreational use, rather than for commercial or industrial purposes. These products are typically sold in retail stores, used in small quantities, and handled infrequently, making them generally low risk for consumer use. Products such as household cleaners, spray paints, glues, and solvents in small quantities are regulated by the *Canada Consumer Product Safety Act* (CCPSA). Consumer product labels do not use WHMIS symbols because the CCPSA has its own requirements for communicating hazard information.

WHMIS regulations are designed to manage the risks associated with hazardous products in the workplace. These products are often used more frequently and may be stored in larger amounts or at higher concentrations, which can increase risk. WHMIS addresses these increased risks by requiring more detailed information on product labels and SDSs. For example, long-term health risks are not listed on consumer product labels, while WHMIS requires that information on product labels. SDSs also require information on proper storage, personal protective equipment (PPE), first aid treatment, emergency spills, clean-up and disposal.

Acetone is sold as both a consumer product for non-commercial purposes, using consumer packaging (left), and also sold as a commercial product (right) using WHMIS-required packaging.



The exemption for consumer products is not absolute. If a consumer product that may pose a health and safety risk is being used regularly in a workplace, workers must be informed of the known hazards. Workers must also be trained in the safe use, handling, storage and disposal of the product.

Whenever possible, choose hazardous products that require WHMIS labels and SDSs which include more comprehensive safety information. Choosing products that are regulated through the HPA provides workers with the information they need to protect their health and safety.

Visit our website wcb.pe.ca for more information and additional resources.

CHAPTER 3 – ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A successful WHMIS program depends on everyone understanding and fulfilling their role. Suppliers, employers, supervisors, and workers must do their part to help maintain a safe and informed workplace.

How does WHMIS work?



3.0 Suppliers and manufacturers

Under the HPA, a supplier is anyone who sells or imports a hazardous product. A manufacturer is also a type of supplier who produces, processes, packages, or labels hazardous products for sale.

Suppliers must:

- Identify and classify hazardous products
- Prepare supplier labels and SDS
- Update and distribute SDSs and labels as required

If a hazardous product has been imported directly from another country for workplace use, the workplace is considered the supplier and must take on all supplier responsibilities.

The HPA requires every hazardous product to have a Canadian address on its label and SDS. Products without a Canadian address shown on the label or SDS are presumed to be imported by the workplace.

3.1 Employers and supervisors

- Educate and train workers on the hazards and safe use of hazardous products
- Properly label all hazardous products and create workplace labels when needed
- Provide access to current SDSs
- Implement appropriate control measures to protect workers
- Review and update WHMIS education and training at least annually or when conditions change

3.2 Workers

- Use or wear required PPE
- Participate in WHMIS education and training
- Take responsibility for health and safety by:
 - Checking for proper labels
 - Reading and following instructions on labels and SDSs
 - Following safe work procedures
 - Labelling containers when decanting hazardous products
 - Reporting missing, damaged, or incorrect labels or outdated/missing SDSs

Visit our website wcb.pe.ca for more information and additional resources.

CHAPTER 4 – LABELS

Under WHMIS, all hazardous products used, handled, or stored in the workplace must be properly labelled. Labels provide a quick alert to the product's key hazards and outline basic safety precautions. Proper labelling is a shared responsibility. Suppliers label hazardous products before sale, and employers make sure that labels are present and maintained in the workplace.

4.0 Supplier responsibilities

Suppliers, including manufacturers and importers, must:

- Classify hazardous products
- Provide bilingual supplier labels
- Include an up-to-date SDS
- Make sure labels are clear, prominent, and in contrast with the container

Label updates

Suppliers have 90 days to provide an updated SDS to customers - that means 90 days from which significant new data becomes available. Suppliers have 180 days to provide the updated label, as shown on the next page.

WHMIS Labels

- 1 Product Identifier**
The product name exactly as it appears on the container and on the Safety Data Sheet (SDS).
- 2 Hazard Pictograms**
Hazard pictograms, determined by the hazard classification of the product. In some cases, no pictogram is required.
- 3 Signal Words**
"Danger" or "Warning" are used to emphasize hazards and indicate the severity of the hazard.
- 4 Hazard Statements**
Brief standardized statements of all hazards based on the hazard classification of the product.
- 5 Precautionary Statements**
These statements describe recommended measures to minimize or prevent adverse effects from exposure to the product, including protective equipment and emergency measures.
- 6 Supplemental information (if required)**
May be required based on classification. This information must not contradict or detract from the standardized information.
- 7 Supplier Identifier**
The company which made, packaged, sold or imported the product, and is responsible for the label and SDS.
- 8 Safe Handling Precautions**
May include pictograms or other supplier label information.
- 9 Reference to SDS**
If available.

Supplier Label

(must be provided in English and French)

1 Product K1 / Produit K1



3 Danger | Danger

4 Fatal if swallowed. Causes skin irritation. | Mortel en cas d'ingestion. Provoque une irritation cutanée.

5 **Precautions:**
Wear protective gloves. Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
Store locked up. Dispose of contents/containers in accordance with local regulations.
IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of water. If skin irritation occurs, get medical advice or attention. Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.
IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTRE or doctor. Rinse mouth.

Conseils :
Porter des gants de protection. Se laver les mains soigneusement après manipulation. Ne pas manger, boire ou fumer en manipulant ce produit.
Garder sous clé. Éliminer le contenu/réceptacle conformément aux règlements locaux en vigueur.
EN CAS CONTACT AVEC LA PEAU: Laver abondamment à l'eau. En cas d'irritation cutanée : Demander un avis médical/consulter un médecin. Enlever les vêtements contaminés et les laver avant réutilisation.
EN CAS D'INGESTION : Appeler immédiatement un CENTRE ANTIPOISON ou un médecin. Rincer la bouche.

6 5% of the mixture consists of an ingredient or ingredients of unknown acute toxicity. | 5% du mélange consiste en ingrédients de toxicité aiguë inconnue.

7 Company XYZ, 123 Machin St, Mytown, ON N0N 0N0 (123) 456-7890

Workplace Label*

1 Product K1

8 **Danger**
Fatal if swallowed. Causes skin irritation. Wear protective gloves (neoprene). Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.

9 See SDS for more information.

1 Produit K1

8 **Danger**
Mortel en cas d'ingestion. Provoque une irritation cutanée. Porter des gants de protection (polychloroprène). Se laver les mains soigneusement après manipulation. Ne pas manger, boire ou fumer en manipulant ce produit.

9 Pour de plus amples renseignements, consulter la FDS.

*Requirements may vary - consult your local jurisdiction for their requirements.

4.1 Employer responsibilities

Employers must:

- Verify supplier labels are present and correct
- Replace missing or damaged labels using a supplier label or a workplace label
- Make sure labels are not removed or altered

4.2 Workplace labels

Workplace labels are created by employers and required when:

- Supplier labels are missing or unreadable
- Products are produced in the workplace
- Products are decanted into new containers. (See image right.)
- Products are imported without proper labelling and not sold or distributed

Workplace labels must:

- Identify the product using the same name as on the SDS
- Provide safe handling information or hazard details
- Indicate that an SDS is available



Example of a workplace label:



ACETONE

No smoking, sparks, or flames.

Wear eye, face, and hand protection.

Use in well-ventilated area, or wear NIOSH-approved respirator with organic vapour cartridges

Safety data sheet available

4.3 Bulk shipments and unpackaged products

Employers must label hazardous products received in bulk or without packaging at the time they are received. These labels must meet supplier label requirements.

Other labelling methods

Labels may include marks, tags, stamps, stickers, or embossed symbols. Workers must be trained to recognize and understand these formats.

The true test of the workplace labelling system (the label plus education relating to the label) is whether the system used in a particular workplace conveys all the necessary health and safety information to the worker.



Special cases

- **Bulk shipments:** Labelling exemptions may apply during transport, but products must be labelled by the employer upon receipt.
- **Small containers:** Containers under 100 mL are exempt from hazard statements. Containers under 3 mL may have removable labels for use.
- **Piping systems and vessels:** May be identified using placards, colour coding, or other means if workers are trained to understand them.

Placards

Placards can be used instead of a label when:

- The product is not in a container.
- The product is for export or future sale/distribution. Placards must be clear, legible, and contain the same information as a workplace label.

4.4 Laboratory samples

Laboratory samples received from suppliers must include:

- Chemical or generic name
- The statement:
 - "Hazardous Laboratory Sample. For hazard information or in an emergency, call"
- Emergency phone number

Example of a supplier label for a laboratory sample:



PRODUCT IDENTIFIER
HAZARDOUS LABORATORY SAMPLE For hazard information or in an emergency call ----- ÉCHANTILLON POUR LABORATOIRE DE PRODUIT DANGEREUX Pour obtenir des renseignements sur les dangers ou en cas d'urgence, composez Tel. _____
SUPPLIER IDENTIFIER

Produced and used in a laboratory

No workplace label is required if:

- The product is used only for evaluation/testing in the lab
- It's clearly identified by a system understood by lab staff
- Workers are trained and can access hazard information as needed

Decanted samples in a laboratory

If a product is transferred to another container:

- The new container must be clearly identified
- Workers must be trained and able to access necessary hazard information

Visit our website wcb.pe.ca for more information and additional resources.

CHAPTER 5 – SAFETY DATA SHEET

SDSs provide detailed information about hazardous products, including their dangers, safe use, symptoms of exposure, and emergency procedures. They contain more information than labels and help you:

- Identify product hazards
- Learn how to protect yourself
- Understand safe handling and emergency actions

5.0 Who prepares the SDS?

Suppliers, manufacturers or importers prepare the SDS, which must be accurate at the time of sale. If the manufacturer is outside Canada, the Canadian importer must prepare or update the SDS. Employers may need to create a SDS if the product is made and used only in their workplace.

WHMIS requires a SDS for all hazardous products used, handled, or stored in Canadian workplaces.

5.1 SDS availability

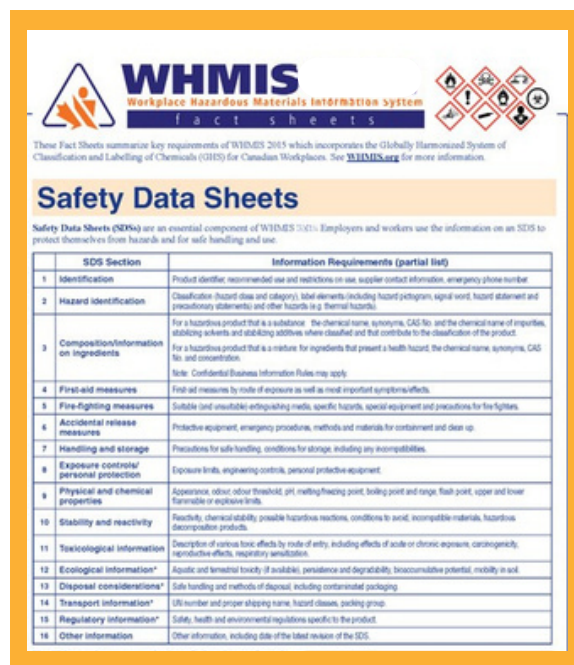
Employers must keep the SDS readily available in print form to workers who use or may be exposed to hazardous products, and for health and safety representatives. Printed SDSs should be easily accessible and stored in a convenient location.

5.2 SDS format and understanding

The SDS follows a standard 16-section format for easy reference. Although the SDS format is consistent, some workers may require additional support to understand the technical terms and language used. Employers must explain SDS content to workers to make sure they understand it and can work safely. Descriptions of each section of the SDS are provided in Appendix D.

5.3 Obtaining and updating the SDS

Employers must get an up-to-date SDS from suppliers before receiving hazardous products. The SDS must be updated whenever new, significant hazard information arises, such as changes in classification or protective measures. The date of the last revision is always in Section 16. Employers can prepare their own SDS if it contains at least the same information as the supplier's SDS and the supplier's version is available at the workplace. Suppliers have 90 days to provide an updated SDS to customers - that means 90 days from which significant new data becomes available.



5.4 Protecting workers using personal protective equipment (PPE)

Section 8 of the SDS details how to protect workers. Ideally, hazards are controlled at the source through proper ventilation or barriers, but often PPE is required. The SDS and product label specify what PPE is needed.

Hazardous products can enter the body through:

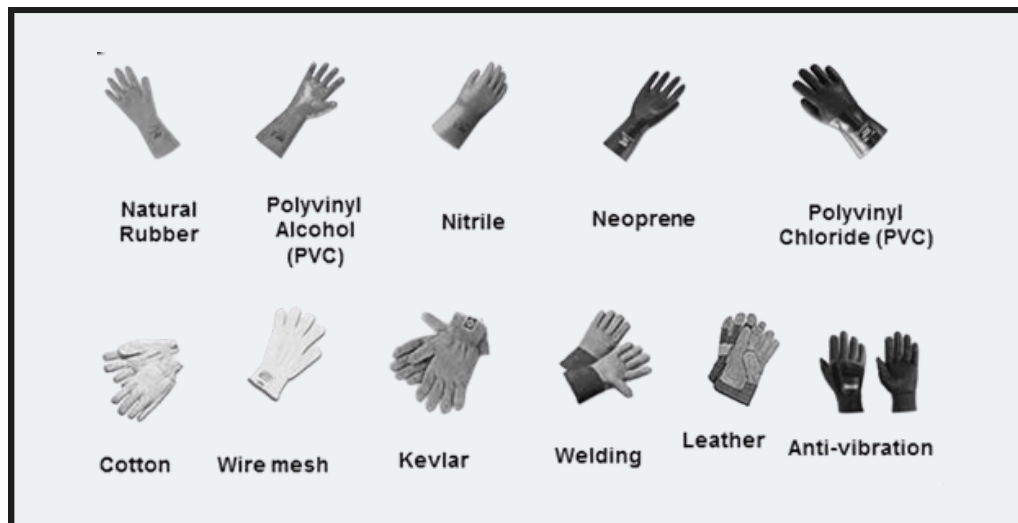
- **Inhalation** - breathing in a gas, vapour, dust or fumes
- **Ingestion** - swallowing a chemical intentionally or unintentionally. An example of unintentional ingestion could be eating contaminated food or contamination on hands
- **Skin contact** - absorption of chemical through skin
- **Eye contact** - splash of chemical to the face and eyes

Effects may be immediate like a skin rash or long-term like cancer and organ damage depending on exposure. Employers must train workers in selecting, using, and caring for PPE.



Types of PPE include

Protective clothing: Gloves, aprons, boots, or full suits made of materials suited to the product.





Important notes about PPE:

- PPE protects the wearer, not others in the vicinity.
- Employers must make sure that PPE fits, is maintained, and is used correctly.

Under **Part 45 of the OHS General Regulations**, employers must:

- Provide PPE that protects workers from hazards
- Keep PPE in good condition
- Train workers before use on how to wear, care for, and understand PPE limits

Workers must check their PPE before each use and never use PPE they believe is defective.

Eye protection

Goggles or face shields. Workers wearing contact lenses must inform their employer.



Respiratory protection

Proper respirators with a good seal. Clean-shaven skin is needed for a proper fit.



5.5 Confidential business information

Sometimes, suppliers want to keep certain product details confidential to maintain a competitive advantage. This can include information such as the exact chemical name or the concentration of an ingredient. Even when some information is withheld, any hazards, including health risks, must always be disclosed. If the withheld information is needed for a medical emergency, a doctor or nurse can contact the supplier using the phone number on the SDS to get the necessary details.

For more information on the *Hazardous Material Information Review Act* (HMIRA) which oversees the Confidential Business Information process, please consult WHMIS.org

Visit our website wcb.pe.ca for more information and additional resources.

CHAPTER 6 – EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Under PEI’s WHMIS Regulations, **education** refers to general information, often received in a classroom or online, about hazardous products. Workers who have completed this education can transfer the education they have taken from one employer to another. Workers often receive a certificate upon completion and new hires should present this certificate during orientation.

In contrast, **training** is specific to the job and workplace. It cannot be transferred between jobs as the training must be specific to the workplace and the products that are in use.

6.0 Employer responsibilities

Sections 4 and 5 of the WHMIS Regulations require employers to inform, educate, and train any worker who uses or may be exposed to hazardous products.

This includes:

- Informing workers about hazards related to the products they use or may be exposed to in the course of their work.
- Educating workers about WHMIS labels and SDSs and explaining their importance. This is often done through a course with a test and certificate.
- Training workers, who will be using the products, on how to safely use hazardous products in their specific job and workplace. Training must be tailored to the actual tasks and procedures at each location. For example, a nurse and a mechanic would require different WHMIS training.
- Confirming worker comprehension to make sure they understand WHMIS and can perform their work tasks safely. Comprehension can be confirmed by using written tests, practical demonstrations or other suitable means.

Employers must consult with their Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee or health and safety representative when creating and updating education and training programs.

6.1 Does WHMIS education and training expire?

WHMIS education certificates don’t have an expiry date, and the regulations don’t require re-education on a fixed schedule. However, training must always be current and effective.

Retraining is required when:

- A worker cannot apply their training correctly
- New hazardous products, equipment, or processes are introduced
- Workplace conditions change

Employers must make sure workers understand and can apply their WHMIS training when appropriate. This can be verified through testing, observation, or demonstration.

6.2 Annual review of training program

Employers must review their workplace-specific training at least once a year, or more frequently if:

- Workplace conditions change
- New product information becomes available

The review doesn't automatically mean that retraining is needed. It checks whether the training is still accurate and relevant. The annual review is also a good time to:

- Evaluate worker understanding
- Update documentation
- Confirm proper PPE is in use

This process keeps the WHMIS program effective and up to date.

Did you know?

Job-specific training must happen even after a generic WHMIS course is completed. The training must include the employer's procedures for the safe use, handling, storage and disposal of the hazardous products and the procedures to be followed in an emergency situation.

6.3 Avoiding aggressive WHMIS education and training sales tactics

Some private training providers may use high-pressure tactics, falsely implying their WHMIS training is required or endorsed by the WCB. They may even suggest that not purchasing the training will lead to a visit from an OHS Officer. Should you be subjected to any aggressive sales tactic you can confirm your legal requirements by contacting the OHS Division at 902-569-0449 or 1-800-237-5049. Employers can choose a qualified provider to deliver WHMIS training, or they can choose to do it themselves. Training must include both general education and worksite specific training procedures. Regardless of who provides the education and training, employers remain legally responsible for protecting workers.

Visit our website wcb.pe.ca for more information.

CHAPTER 7 – ENFORCEMENT AND INSPECTION

The WCB's OHS division is responsible for enforcing WHMIS in PEI workplaces. OHS Officers can enter any workplace at any time to conduct inspections and confirm compliance with occupational health and safety laws, including WHMIS Regulations.

During an OHS inspection, employers should be prepared to:

- Demonstrate that a WHMIS program is in place
- Show where SDS are located for all hazardous products used in the workplace
- Confirm that all hazardous products are properly labeled
- Provide records of WHMIS education and training for employees who use or may be exposed to hazardous products

In federally regulated workplaces, WHMIS is enforced by the Federal Labour Program within the department of Employment and Social Development Canada.

7.0 Worker knowledge and compliance

During inspections, OHS Officers may speak with workers to make sure that they understand and are applying their WHMIS education and job-specific training. Workers must be able to answer key questions about each hazardous product they work with, such as:



- What are the hazards of this product?
- How do you protect yourself?
- Where can you find more detailed information about this product?
- What should you do in an emergency involving this product?

If a worker cannot answer the questions, it may suggest that the training was not effective. In that case, under Section 5(4) of the WHMIS Regulations, the Officer may require the employer to retrain the worker.



Visit our website wcb.pe.ca for more information and additional resources.

Appendix A – WHMIS Program Checklist

WHMIS Program Development	
Program Development Activity	Date Completed
Consult the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee or Safety Representative during program development, implementation, and review	
Maintain a list of all toxic substances present in the workplace, as required by Section 32 of the OHS Act.	
Maintain a current list of all suppliers.	
Keep Safety Data Sheets in a binder or electronic database, accessible to workers.	
Identify qualified WHMIS instructors for both education and training.	
Identify and document workers who require WHMIS training; maintain training records.	
Establish a process for new workers and contractors to receive WHMIS training.	
Review all labels and SDSs for clarity, accuracy, and completeness.	
Review safe work practices and emergency procedures used in WHMIS training.	









Appendix A – continued

Education and Training	
Education Activity	Date Completed
Provide a general WHMIS overview that includes information on roles, labels and SDSs	
Inform workers about hazard information related to products they use.	
Training Activity	Date Completed
Provide site-specific instruction on accessing hazardous product information.	
Train workers when new products or hazard information is introduced.	
Train workers on emergency procedures.	
Confirm clear understanding with workers with language or learning barriers.	
Review all labels and SDSs for clarity, accuracy, and completeness.	
Follow-Up Activities	Date completed
Assess workers' WHMIS understanding through tests, demonstrations, or other methods. Provide additional training as needed.	
Review the education and training program annually, in consultation with the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee or Safety Representative.	

Appendix B – WHMIS Training Record

WHMIS Training Record	
Worker name:	
Date:	
Education/ Awareness Course Name	
Provider name	
Description of Specific Workplace Training Provided	
Worker initial:	Employer initial:

Appendix C – WHMIS Pictograms

	Exploding bomb (for explosion or reactivity hazards)		Flame (for fire hazards)
	Flame over circle (for oxidizing hazards)		Gas cylinder (for gases under pressure)
	Corrosion (for corrosive damage to metals, as well as skin, eyes)		Skull and crossbones (can cause death or toxicity with short exposure to small amounts)
	Health hazard (may cause or suspected of causing serious health effects)		Exclamation mark (may cause less serious health effects or damage the ozone layer)
	Environment* (may cause damage to the aquatic environment)		Biohazardous infectious materials** (for organisms or toxins that can cause diseases in people or animals)

***Environmental hazards** are part of the global system (GHS), but they are not officially included in Canada's WHMIS. However, you may still see them on labels and safety data sheets, and including this information is allowed.

****The biohazardous infectious** materials hazard class is not part of the global system, but it is included in WHMIS to help protect workers.

Appendix D – Safety Data Sheet components

	SDS Section	Information Requirements
1	Product and company identification	Includes the product name, recommended use, supplier details, and emergency contact.
2	Hazard identification	Describes the hazards associated with the product, including physical, health, and environmental hazards.
3	Product composition and information on ingredients	Provides details about the chemical composition of the product, including hazardous ingredients.
4	First-aid measures	Provides necessary first-aid steps in case of exposure such as inhalation, ingestion, skin or eye contact.
5	Fire-fighting measures	Provides information on appropriate fire extinguishing methods, equipment, and potential hazards during a fire.
6	Accidental release measures	Details procedures for containing and cleaning up spills or releases of the hazardous product.
7	Handling and storage	Includes recommendations for safe handling practices and safe storage requirements.
8	Exposure controls and personal protection	Specifies permissible exposure limits, personal protective equipment (PPE), and engineering controls to minimize exposure.
9	Physical and chemical properties	Lists physical and chemical properties of the product, such as appearance, odor, boiling point, melting point and PH.
10	Stability and reactivity	Describes the product's stability and potential for hazardous reactions.
11	Toxicological information	Provides information on the potential health effects of the product, including acute and chronic effects.
12	Ecological information	Details the potential environmental impact of the product.
13	Disposal considerations	Offers guidance on proper disposal methods for the product and its packaging.
14	Transport information	Provides information related to the transportation of the hazardous product (such as the UN number, proper shipping name, hazard class and packing group).
15	Regulatory Information	Lists applicable regulations and safety standards
16	Other Information	Includes any additional information not covered in the previous sections, such as the date of the SDS and abbreviations used.