



LEADERS IN OZONE LAYER & CLIMATE PROTECTION



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MOPIA's 31st AGM is April 23, 2025

MOPIA's 31st Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 beginning at 5:45 (1745) for the purposes of hearing and receiving reports, electing members to our Board of Directors and appointing an Auditor for 2025-26. The event will be live streamed.

Visit www.mopia.ca for more details and nomination papers for a Board position.

Refrigeration and A/C Conference Scheduled for June in Milan



Centro Studi Galileo, an Italy-based training and certification authority, is hosting an international conference on refrigeration and air conditioning in Milan, Italy, from June 12-13, 2025. The event will bring together experts to discuss key topics in the sector, such as new refrigerants, energy efficiency, environmental impacts, and advancements in technologies for refrigeration and air conditioning systems. The conference will address global challenges, including the phase-down of F-Gas, the introduction of low-GWP refrigerants, and the importance of sustainable practices in cooling.

Sessions will cover various aspects, including the future of refrigerants, innovations in components and systems, green cooling technologies, and use of the cold chain for food and vaccines. Key speakers from renowned institutions, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR), will provide insights into the latest research and developments. The conference will also highlight important regulatory updates, such as the European Union's regulations and the Kigali Amendment.

A special session will focus on the role of women in refrigeration and air conditioning, featuring presentations and discussions to promote gender diversity in the industry. The event is an essential opportunity for professionals in the field to network, share knowledge, and collaborate on future solutions.

Source: https://www.centrogalileo.it/conference/?utm_campaign=campagna_iscrizioni_convegno_2025_eng__3_invi_o_&utm_source=emailchef&utm_medium=email&utm_term=campaign#programma

Attorney: Lessons from PFAS Litigation Apply to F-Gases & TFA

At the recent International Institute of Refrigeration (IIR) 2025 conference, environmental attorney Robert Bilott urged stakeholders in the natural refrigeration industry to educate the public about the risks associated with PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) in refrigerants. Bilott, famous for exposing the dangers of PFAS, emphasized the importance of transparency, drawing from his two-decade legal battle that revealed the harmful effects of PFAS (like PFOA and PFOS), and led to significant regulatory actions. He highlighted that short-chain PFAS (such as trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)) found in refrigerants are becoming a global concern, with studies showing their presence in water supplies, rain, and human blood.

Bilott warned of the challenges of regulating PFAS, citing lobbyists attempting to limit their classification, and disputes over potential harm. He advocated for comprehensive, class-wide regulation, similar to how dioxins and PCBs were handled. Despite claims from the chemical industry that TFA is harmless, Bilott noted that these chemicals are increasingly being linked to toxic effects. He also discussed ongoing litigation, with companies facing billions in damages for PFAS contamination. Bilott urged the industry to act proactively, learn from the past, and seek natural refrigerant alternatives to avoid repeating history.

Source: <https://naturalrefrigerants.com/famed-lawyer-bilott-urges-natrefs-industry-to-spread-the-word-on-pfas-refrigerants/>



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Manitoba Ozone Protection Industry Association

Scotiabank's First Zero Carbon Branch Completed in Winnipeg

Scotiabank's first Zero Carbon branch was recently completed at Kildonan Place Mall in Winnipeg. This project involved close collaboration between design, engineering, and sustainability consulting teams to meet the Canada Green Building Council's Zero Carbon standards. Key aspects required of the project included the use of entirely electric systems, the conversion of the HVAC system to cold climate electric heat pumps, advanced lighting controls and reduced lighting power densities to achieve a 15% energy reduction, and the installation of triple-pane, argon-filled curtain wall glazing with low-e coatings. Additionally, the building's envelope was upgraded for better insulation. Other measures incorporated in Scotiabank branches for increased energy efficiency include improved interior lighting, upgraded rooftop HVAC units and heat-sensor light switches. The project was successfully completed as a result of collaborative efforts between Scotiabank, Nejman Architect, and Pretium Projects.

See: <https://www.nejmark.mb.ca/project/scotiabank-kildonan-winnipeg-mb/>

Planet's Capacity to Naturally Sequester Carbon in Decline

A recent study from the Royal Meteorological Society reveals that the biosphere's ability to naturally absorb atmospheric carbon is decreasing by 0.25% each year. At the same time, CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels are rising consistently, meaning the impact of these emissions on the atmosphere is becoming more severe. Fossil fuel use is the primary source of CO₂ emissions, yet many governments are planning to increase fossil fuel production by 110% by 2030 and by 350% by 2050. These increases would not allow us to meet the requirements needed to limit global warming to 1.5°C. The Environmental Integrity Alliance (EIA) is advocating for a global commitment to halt the expansion of fossil fuel production and to phase out existing extraction. Initiatives like Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance (BOGA) demonstrate that a fossil fuel phase-out is both achievable and necessary for countries. Without urgent action, the continuous rise in carbon emissions will worsen the climate crisis and will in turn further reduce our chances of maintaining a livable future.

Source: <https://rmets.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/wea.7668>

Canada Releases Final PFAS Report, Seeking Feedback

The Government of Canada has published its' final Report on the State of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) and a proposed Risk Management Approach to regulating the substances. A phased, class-based strategy is proposed, including prohibiting PFAS in firefighting foams, consumer products with alternatives, medical devices and industrial sectors. The government is seeking stakeholder feedback until May 7, 2025, before proceeding with regulatory actions.

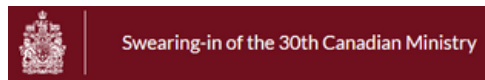
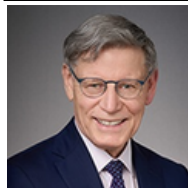
See: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/evaluating-existing-substances/state-per-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-report.html#toc0> and <https://mcmillan.ca/insights/canadas-final-pfas-report-is-here/>

Manitoba's Minister of Environment and Climate Change



The Hon. Mike Moyes' appointment as Manitoba's Minister of Environment and Climate Change took place on January 23, 2025, following the Hon. Tracy Schmidt's move to the Education portfolio after the passing of the then-Minister of Education, Hon. Nello Altomare. Minister Moyes, a former Winnipeg high school teacher, represents the Riel riding of Winnipeg. He was also the Legislative Assistant within the Environment Ministry.

Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change



The Hon. Terry Duguid was sworn in as Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change on March 14, 2025. He is a former Winnipeg City Councillor and the current MP for Winnipeg South. Holding a Master's degree with a focus on Ozone Depletion in his thesis, and a strong background in environmental matters, he is a seasoned environmental professional.

