

Occupational Hygiene

What is it? What is OHAO?



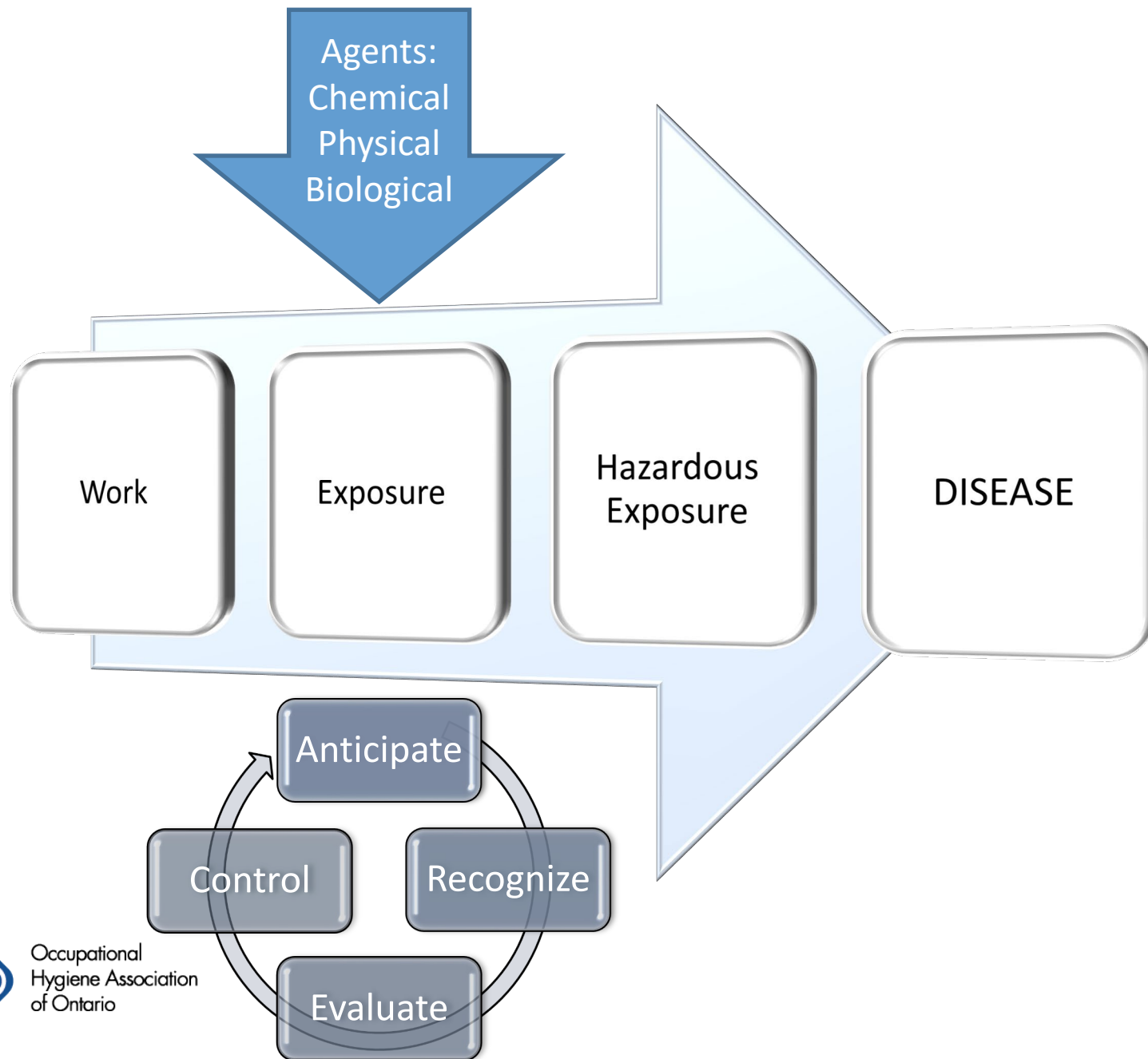
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What's Occupational Hygiene?

- Unique applied science discipline
- Occupational hygienists are scientists dedicated to protecting worker health
- Also referred to as “industrial hygiene”
- Arose from efforts in the early 20th Century to protect the health of workers in mines and industrial plants
- Crucial in Canadian workplaces



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What's Occupational Hygiene?

- Fits into broader field of occupational health and safety (OHS)
 - Related field: environmental health and safety (EHS)
- Anticipation, recognition, evaluation and control of workplace hazards or stresses which may lead to illness or discomfort
- Redesign the workplace to reduce or eliminate hazards
- Assist workplaces to comply with the law
- Safe and healthy working conditions enhance our quality of life and contribute to productive work
- Those practicing in the field are called an..

Occupational Hygienist



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Careers Opportunities

manufacturing
safetyassociations academia
pharmaceutical
transportation public
propertymanagement aerospace
municipalities colleges
labourorganizations
agriculture government universities
research factories steel
health mining education
laboratories agriculture
consulting petrochemical
healthcare schoolboards



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Are you interested in a career in Occupational Hygiene?

- Do you enjoy math and science?
- Are you creative and imaginative and enjoy problem solving?
- Do you have good communication skills?
- Do you like to work in teams and individually?



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Occupational Hygiene Professionals Must Be Good At...

- Initiative, Patience, Perseverance
- Responsibility, Honesty, Respect
- Cooperation, Teamwork, Empathy
- Fairness, Integrity



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How do you become an Occupational Hygienist?

- Occupational Hygienists have come to the field in similar and different routes
- Let's look at the basics....



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Highschool

- If you are a high school student considering a career as an occupational hygienist, you should have strong marks or an interest in:
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Physics
 - Math
 - English
 - Calculus



University / Post Secondary

- If you are a university student / post secondary student considering a career as an occupational hygienist, the following programs are most applicable :

Environmental
science

Statistics

Epidemiology

Toxicology

Pure and applied
science, e.g.
biology and
chemistry

Occupational
health and safety



Undergraduate, Diploma or Certificate Programs

- Ryerson University
- Western University
- Lambton College
- Seneca College
- ... and many more (just look at everyone invited for today!)



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Graduate Schools (Canada)

- There are dedicated graduate level degrees specializing in occupational hygiene

University of Toronto

(Masters of Public
Health)

University of British
Columbia

(Masters of
Science)

McGill University
(Masters of Science)



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Professional Designations in OH



Canadian Registration
Board of Occupational
Hygienists

ROH - Registered
Occupational Hygienist

ROHT - Registered
Occupational Hygiene
Technologist



CIH – Certified Industrial
Hygienists



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*Both organizations have specific
academic, occupational hygiene course and
experience requirements*

In Summary, Occupational Hygiene is....

- An applied science discipline
- Crucial to Canadian workplaces
- Dedicated to protecting worker health
- An exciting career opportunity that demands technical and soft skills
- Never boring!



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So now you are an Occupational Hygienist (or have an interest in OH or are in a related OHS field)

- You want to continue to professionally develop, stay current in occupational hygiene issues, stay connected and learn from other occupational hygienists, you will want to join a *professional association*.
- For Occupational Hygienists in Ontario, this is:



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Mission Statement

- To advance the profession of occupational hygiene and to serve the interests of our members by:
 - sponsoring professional development and training;
 - promoting public and legal recognition of occupational hygiene;
 - developing partnerships with stakeholders-employers, unions, government;
 - providing public education; and,
 - fostering communication and networking amongst members



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Common Vision and Values

- Our membership want to protect worker health and prevent occupational illnesses
 - Our membership are experts in occupational hygiene for industry, the public and other stakeholder organizations
- Our organization and membership share values
 - Respect and integrity
 - Health and prevention
 - Discover and learning
 - Collaboration and Connection



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Common Vision and Values

- Our actions will be guided by the principle of treating others the way they want to be treated, including the board of directors, our members, guests, presenters, and in our affiliations with other organizations.



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History

1964	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formation of Ottawa & Southern Ontario Local Sections of American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)
1978	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bill 70 – Occupational Health & Safety Act• Merger to form Ontario Location Section of AIHA
1982	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposal to form independent association• Name changed to “Occupational Hygiene Association of Ontario”
1984	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legal incorporation of OHAO
1987	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formation of Canadian Registration Board of Occupational Hygiene (CRBOH)
1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hugh Nelson Award created
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• OHAO celebrates 50 year anniversary



Board of Directors

- Officers
 - President
 - President-Elect
 - Past President
 - Secretary Treasurer
- Directors (6)

All terms are three (3) years

President-Elect / President / Past President progression



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Membership

Professional	Associate	Student
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Engaged in profession of occupational hygiene, and either holds a valid CIH, ROH, ROHT or OHST designation; orHas a minimum of six (6) years combined post-secondary education and occupational hygiene work experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Interest in occupational hygiene, and engaged in any aspect of occupational health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enrolled in full-time program in occupational health and safety at post-secondary institution



Membership Benefits

Professional	Education	Mentorship	Newsletter	Committees	Website
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interaction with peers and professionals from other OHS fields Representation of profession 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional Development Courses Symposia Regional Meetings Online webinars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practicing hygienists and young or early-career professionals, students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OHAO Forum Four (4) issues per year Regular columns Articles Electronic distribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Membership Communications Nominations Awards Mentorship Regional Meetings Consultations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership application / renewal Registration for events Distribution of OHAO Forum Career Opportunities Consultant Listing



OHAO Student Awards – U of T

Award	Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One (1) Student Award of \$500 will be awarded to students enrolled at University of Toronto in the Masters of Public Health – Occupational & Environmental Health (Professional Option in Occupational Hygiene).• In addition to the cash award, the recipient will receive:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Student membership to OHAO (1 year)- Admission to OHAO 2021 Fall Symposium	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Award is available only to a student who is registered full time in the MPH –Occupational & Environmental Health (professional option in Occ Hygiene) who is in their final year of the program as of the application date.• Award based on the highest overall cumulative marks in the following core hygiene courses (completed in the previous term): CHL 5911 – Occupational Hygiene II CHL 5915 – Control Methods in Occ. Hygiene CHL 5918 – Biological Hazards in the Workplace



OHAO Student Awards – Ryerson

Award	Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One (1) Student Award of \$500 will be awarded to students enrolled at Ryerson University in the Bachelor of Applied Science (Occupational and Public Health) – Occupational Health and Safety Option• In addition to the cash award, the recipient will receive:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Student membership to OHAO (1 year)- Admission to OHAO 2021 Fall Symposium	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Award is available only to a student who is registered full time in their final year of the program as of the application date. Students registered in either the 4 year or 2 year Accelerated programs are eligible.• Award based on the highest overall cumulative marks in the following core courses (completed in the previous year):<ul style="list-style-type: none">OHS 314 – Physical AgentsOHS 421 – Occupational Hygiene Methods I



OHAO Mentorship Program

- To provide opportunities for:
 - Interactions
 - Exchange of ideas & knowledge
 - Between seasoned and young or early-career professionals, students or relatively recent graduates



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OHAO Mentorship Program

- Structured program
 - Matching compatible mentee and mentor candidates
 - Requires both mentor and mentee be members of OHAO
 - Candidate mentees and candidate mentors submit applications
 - Mentorship Program committee review applications and match potential candidates
 - A 'sponsor' with the Mentorship Program committee will contact both parties of a mentoring pair and initiate communication
 - Once introduced it is up to the mentoring pair to decide on a partnership or request 're-pairing'
 - Mentoring partners are asked to participate for between 6 months and 1 year
 - Content of 'interactions' at discretion of mentoring partners but meeting the needs of the mentee



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Thank you!

www.ohao.org

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