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**Sent:** Monday, February 7, 2011 4:22:39 PM  
**Subject:** Updating Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines/ / Mise à jour des Normes et lignes directrices canadiennes sur la biosécurité

*La version française suit:*

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) are currently developing joint Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines (CBSG) pertaining to human and terrestrial animal pathogens. These Standards and Guidelines will combine and update the following documents:

- Laboratory Biosafety Guidelines 3rd Edition, 2004 (PHAC)
- Containment Standards for Veterinary Facilities 1st Edition, 1996 (CFIA)
- Containment Standards for Laboratories, Animal Facilities and Post Mortem Rooms Handling Prion Disease Agents, 2005 (CFIA)

The Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines are being developed to help streamline biosafety practices for stakeholders regulated by both PHAC (for human pathogen containment) and CFIA (for terrestrial animal pathogen containment).

PHAC is currently working on implementing the *Human Pathogens and Toxins Act* (HPTA), which includes developing a regulatory framework in consultation with interested parties. While the Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines and the related plan for consultations are linked to the HPTA process, the development of and consultations on the Standards and Guidelines is a separate initiative.

PHAC and the CFIA look forward to engaging stakeholders during this process. Although the development of these Standards and Guidelines is in the early stages, we will be providing status updates on the web as they become available. As well, we will be offering an email subscription service to interested parties so they receive the latest news on the development of the Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines. The project is planned to be completed by autumn 2012. The consultation phase is planned for early 2012.

For more information:

CBSG Website: <http://bit.ly/g8SMZX>