SEMINAR SERIES 2019 - 2020

Southern Ontario Centre for Atmospheric Aerosol Research

University of Toronto

MANAGING NUISANCES CAUSED BY CANNABIS PRODUCTION IN ONTARIO

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During the ramp up to legalization of non-medical cannabis in October 2018, production in agricultural and rural areas has greatly expanded. Due to skunk-like odours and the use of lighting during dark winter months, the complaints by neighbours has also increased dramatically. Nuisance concerns from farms, including odour, are not a new problem. The Ontario government frequency receives and mediates complaints nuisance complaints related to farms such as odour complaints from dairy farms, light concerns from greenhouses or dust concerns from grain dryers. The Ontario government has also established a tribunal, the Normal Farm Practices Protection Board to resolve disputes related to nuisance complaints. This presentation will provide a summary of the regulatory framework that currently exists for cannabis production in Canada. It will also highlight the current challenges and potential solutions to managing nuisance concerns from cannabis operations.



Vicki Hilborn is a Professional Engineer working as the Engineering Program Coordinator for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA). Her role involves leading the 30 engineers and environmental specialists within OMAFRA's Innovation, Engineering and Program Delivery unit who are located across Ontario. She also coordinates OMAFRA programs addressing nuisances concerns related to farming, farm equipment safety, reducing the risk of barn fires, updates to the farm building code and reducing the impact of agriculture on the Great Lakes. Previously, Vicki was the North American Microbiology Manager for PlanET Biogas Solution, who constructs and supports farm-scale anaerobic digesters. She graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science from the University of Waterloo and a Masters of Applied Science from the University of Guelph. She lives in Brantford with her husband.

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