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“Companies that solely focus on competition will die. Those that focus on value creation will thrive.”

Edward de Bono, Author, Doctor and Inventor of the term Lateral Thinking

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**February 2025**

### **Weight-of-Evidence Critical in Chemical Regulations**

Canada already has significant economic headwinds to contend with. These include the real prospect of impacts from US tariffs on Canada in March or April; the US Government rolling back existing environmental regulations and freezing new ones causing more regulatory misalignment with Canada; the Canadian Government has admitted serious concerns with lack of regulatory alignment with the United States; and, all of that exists in an already overburdened Canadian economy with massive regulations strangling productivity and growth.

A recent Statistics Canada Report published in early February noted: “Regulatory requirements rose by 37 percent between 2006 and 2021. The increase is estimated to have lowered gross domestic product growth by 1.7 percentage points and employment growth by 1.3 percentage points in the business sector over that timeframe.” It's clear the federal Government does recognize the problem, but what will it do about it is the burning question.

Earlier this month the U.S. Congress introduced the 'No IRIS Act' (EPA's 'Integrated Risk Information System') calling into question the IRIS Act itself. Instead of IRIS, the US Congress wants a strong scientific evidence-based approach for all regulatory decisions.

this initiative noting that: "The IRIS program has a troubling history of being out of step with the best available science and methods, lacking transparency, and being unresponsive to peer review and stakeholder recommendations." There are many examples of regulatory decisions taken in Canada related to critical chemicals that failed to consider the 'weight-of-evidence' leading to decisions that negatively impacted the economy, while at the same time with little or no significant benefit for society writ large. These include several new regulatory provisions under CEPA, duplicative labelling regulations, biocide regulations not supported by 'best available science' as in other jurisdictions, and more.

Over the past several years Canada has lived with a number of flawed regulatory actions in the chemical sectors wherein the courts actually quashed several federal Government regulations. The one getting the most attention was the addition of manufactured plastic items, not substances as required under law, to Schedule 1 of the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* as being toxic. Many other regulatory decisions flowing from CEPA also require a fresh look to prevent further challenges similar to the one being taken in the Congress of the United States like the "No IRIS Act".

CPCA and other groups have consistently asked the Federal Government to heed existing federal requirements for fair and evidenced-based outcomes, which must include full recognition of the following:

- *Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement* for new regulations to address economic impacts.
- *Federal Cabinet Directive on Regulations* which are extensive and addresses economic impacts, trade issues with other jurisdictions, alignment and much more.
- *Canada-United States Regulatory Cooperation Council* focused on ensuring there is regulatory alignment with Canada's largest trading partner.
- *Canada's Red Tape Reduction Act* came into effect in 2012 with a '*One-for-One Rule*' requiring the removal of one existing regulation for every new Canadian regulation added causing administrative burden for industry.

In recent years none of the above were fully complied with in Canada. The results have arguably crippled Canada with respect to productivity and economic growth. In terms of regulatory alignment, the current US Administration has stated that for every new regulation going forward 10 will be removed. This will add a new and significant non-tariff barrier to trade even if it is only 2 regulations removed for 1 new one added in the United States.

There are many examples of Canada pushing the envelope on chemical regulations without the 'weight of evidence' fully considered. CPCA and others continue to raise those concerns to no avail. Such actions will only add more regulatory misalignment between Canada and the United States. These regulatory actions already represent non-tariff trade barriers for businesses in Canada as well as for companies investing and shipping products to Canada. These may be further exacerbated soon by actual trade tariffs of up to 50% on Canadian goods according to the Trump Administration.

When the coatings industry is negatively impacted in the 15 industry segments from architectural to automotive to industrial segments, it directly hits other industry sectors relying on coatings used in thousands of products that make up more than 70% of Canada's GDP. Over the years Canada has proven that it can indeed apply a weight-of-evidence approach to regulatory decisions in the chemical sector and it's time to do so again. It's time for a change.

**Gary LeRoux**  
President & CEO



## Join the Community. Follow CPCA on LinkedIn!

Let's talk coatings, technology, and regulations! CPCA invites you to join us on LinkedIn.

## ADVOCACY REPORT



### CPCA Advocacy Efforts Supporting a Stronger Canadian Coatings Industry

- CPCA Holding Bilateral Meetings with Government Senior Management and Other Industry Groups
- CPCA Member, BASF, Helped Organize a Visit of Automotive Refinish Paint Shops by a Team of ECCC VOC Regulators
- CPCA Publishes its "Monthly Science Digest Review" Tracking Evolving Issues of Concern in the Chemical Industry
- Long-time CPCA Member Lorama Expands Global Footprint with Acquisition of Monteith and Waterfoot from DCL Corporation
- CPCA Shared Orr & Boss Outlook for 2025 with All Members
- Upcoming World Coatings Week (March 24-31, 2025)

### CPCA Holding Bilateral Meetings with Government Senior Management and Other Industry Groups

The Final RTHE framework and Plan of Chemical Management Priorities are likely to be **adopted by mid-year as planned**. CPCA and other industry groups recently had opportunities to discuss the status and specific concerns with other regulatory regimes planned for implementation such as the Canada Toxic Labelling regulation and human health hazards of concern (HHHOC), a GHS-like framework as well as possible development timelines for 2025.

*CPCA shared with members the results of these meetings on the CanadaCoatingsHub and were asked to provide early input on these upcoming regulatory reforms as part of the Government of Canada efforts to reduce regulatory burden. If acted on these new labelling initiatives are anticipated to become an important non-tariff trade impediment and as such will be a priority for discussions later in 2025.*

### CPCA Member, BASF, Helped Organize the Visit of Automotive Refinish Paint Shop by a Team of ECCC VOC Regulators

A visit recently took place in the Ottawa region re: VOCs in Automotive Refinish Paint. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) recently thanked CPCA and BASF for suggesting an Automotive Refinishing body shop and for providing officials with an introduction to the automotive refinishing best practices. It was very informative for

information.

*ECCC officials will definitely have a better understanding of the Automotive Refinish paint sector while regulatory amendments to the Automotive Refinish VOC Regulations are being prepared. Please visit the member-only CPCA's secure [Canada CoatingsHUB](#) for more information regarding this regulatory development.*

### **CPCA Publishes its "Monthly Science Digest Review" Tracking Evolving Issues of Concern in the Chemical Industry**

Towards the end of 2024, CPCA launched a new monthly service for its members: the [CPCA Monthly Science Digest Review](#), which is shared with CPCA technical committees and then posted on CPCA's secure CoatingsHUB for the benefit of all CPCA members. In this publication, CPCA provides the most recent list of scientific articles related to multiple CMP regulatory issues (PFAS, Plastics/microplastics, Biocides, Risk assessment and management, waste management, etc.) as well as insight on innovations and new technologies and occupational publications of interest to the CASE industry.

*The NEW "CPCA Science Digest Review" is for 'Members Only' and any members who are interested in being added to the distribution list for this new monthly research publication can contact CPCA.*

### **Long-time CPCA Member Lorama Expands Global Footprint with Acquisition of Monteith and Waterfoot from DCL Corporation**

On February 12, the [Lorama Group Inc.](#), a leading provider of colour dispersions and bio-based additives, has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the colourant dispersions business of DCL Corporation, a CPCA member. This acquisition includes DCL's manufacturing facilities in Ontario, Canada (Monteith) and Waterfoot, UK. This strategic acquisition is part of Lorama's ongoing growth strategy and strengthens its position as a global leader in providing innovative colour solutions to the paints and coatings industry.

*Monteith is renowned for its specialized industrial coatings and dispersions, bringing decades of industry experience and a strong customer base. Waterfoot, a leading innovator in color solutions for in-plant and specialty coatings, further enhances Lorama's capabilities in providing high-quality, tailored products to customers worldwide. Together, the acquisitions will help drive Lorama's continued leadership in the global coatings sector.*

### **CPCA Shares Orr & Boss Outlook for 2025 with All Members**

In 2024, the global paint and coatings market was a nearly flat both in volume and value. In 2025, the global market is expected to grow by 1.9% in volume and by 2.3% in value. The interest rate reductions in North America are working their way through the economy. The residential housing markets are starting to grow. Commercial construction remains strong, although it is not growing as fast as in the last three years. Overall manufacturing has declined in 2024 and is expected to remain stable in 2025. Economists are still awaiting for more clarity on the United States tariff policy and worldwide measures and, more specifically on their impact on Canada's and Mexico's economic performance, which are expected to be slower.

*A specific outlook for Canada is available to CPCA members. CPCA shares all Orr & Boss economic outlook data on a bi-monthly or quarterly basis and their newsletter analysis and Excel charts can be found on [CPCA's Canada CoatingsHUB](#) for the benefit of all members.*

### **Upcoming World Paint and Coatings Week (March 24-28, 2025)**

The [World Coatings Council](#) (WCC) recently made a decision to change World Coatings Day to World Paint and Coatings Week. The inaugural World Paint and Coatings Week will take place from March 24-28, 2025. This week will celebrate the value and benefits the global coatings industry brings to its customers, national economies, and the world.

CPCA is a founding member of the WCC. At the next WCC Annual Meeting on March 12, members will provide regional updates and establish the next priorities for the Council in 2025. CPCA also notes that the **European Coatings Show (ECS)**, the gathering of the coatings and paint industry will take place at the same time, from March 25 – 27, 2025.



# WORLD PAINT COATINGS WEEK

**March 24 – 28**

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# REGULATORY RADAR

*Your Canadian Regulatory Report*

*Trusted Advocacy. Proven Results.*

## Advocacy Report

*Association, Industry, Government,  
and Stakeholder Engagement*



### This Month's Regulatory RADAR Advocacy Report for Members Only

- Environmental Handling Fee Rate Changes in Several Provinces
- CME Actions Challenging Tariff Impacts with US
- Possible Unintended Impact of Consultation on Company Proposed Obligations for Precursors and Designated Devices

## Paint Uses

- CPCA Maintains Watch on Relevant Trade Data Tracker and Other Resources for Members
- Updates on Scientific Research and Experimental Development Hosted by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce
- Industry-related Details on Environment and Climate Change Canada New Substance Program and Masked Name Regulations
- CPCA Reports on Actions to be Taken for Risk Management and Prohibition of Short-chain, Medium-chain, and Long-chain Chlorinated Alkanes
- Details on WHPP Question & Answer Summary Following Multistakeholder Workshop in November 2024
- CPCA's Recent Bilateral Meeting with Health Canada Senior Officials on the Status of True Copy Label and HMIRA
- Competition Bureau Report Summarizes Feedback on Artificial Intelligence and Competition
- Reporting on US Tariffs as it May Impact the CASE Sector in Canada
- ECHA Adds Five Hazardous Chemicals, Some Implicated in the CASE Industry & Potential Impacts on CMP Approaches
- EU's Packaging Approach and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR) to "Pose Substantial Challenges for the Transportation Sector"

Did any of these issues catch your attention? **Join CPCA!** CPCA members receive our advocacy report monthly and have access to all our regulatory updates on the Canada CoatingsHUB. **These issue resources are strictly for members only and not to be shared.**

[Join CPCA](#)

### Ensure Nothing is Missed on Regulatory Compliance in Canada

For more details on the issues noted above, and many more over the past month, please review the latest monthly **Regulatory RADAR** (Canada and US/Int'l Edition) with links to important documents and ongoing actions being taken by CPCA and its committees on behalf of industry. **For Members Only.**

**Note:** If you are not a CPCA member, please ask for a **complimentary copy of the latest Regulatory RADAR**.

[Send me a Copy of the Regulatory RADAR](#)



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# Canadian Coatings Conference

MAY 21 - 23, 2025  
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# Plant a Tree. Grow Clean Air.

*CPCA is a proud supporter of Tree Canada, providing annual donations on behalf of CPCA members, which contributes to reforestation efforts across Canada and helps reduce CO<sub>2</sub> in the air we all breathe.*

Plant a Tree



TreeCanada  
ArbresCanada

## GREEN INITIATIVES



### BASF's Kissau, GIC's Tan Talk Chemicals Sustainability

The **Global Impact Coalition** (GIC) has launched the Automotive Plastics Circularity initiative to ensure more plastics in end-of-life vehicles are recycled or reused. As BASF, SABIC, Clariant, Covestro, LyondellBasell and other companies are working through the GIC to increase circularity in the automotive plastics value chain and moving toward a lower-carbon future can be a complex process, the GIC CEO Charlie Tan and Lars Kissau, president of BASF's Net Zero Accelerator, discuss the challenge ahead and efforts to lower the cost of sustainable solutions. Read this episode of ICIS' Think Tank podcast.

### Axalta and Dürr Partner to Revolutionize Digital Automotive Paint Technology

Axalta Coating Systems has announced a **strategic partnership with Dürr Systems** AG to revolutionize automotive paint technology. Combining Axalta's innovative NextJet™ technology with Dürr's robotics integration expertise.

### Lanxess Makes Big Step Towards Smaller Footprint & Provides New Plant Hygiene Solution

LANXESS is demonstrating how this can be achieved in practice with the introduction of a product range of iron oxide yellow pigments that offer a significant carbon dioxide savings potential. Their label Scopeblue identifies those **LANXESS products** manufactured using a high proportion of **circular raw materials**. The new Scopeblue product line is available soon and includes their micronised iron oxide yellow pigments Bayferrox 3910, 3910 LV and 3920, which are utilised in particular in high-quality coating applications due to their property profile. Improper industrial hygiene can result in microbial contamination of raw materials, recycled water, and finally the end products. **Preventol® OX** delivers excellent performance in cleaning and disinfecting industrial plants, water and recycled water. Preventol products have a very broad and balanced spectrum of activity against molds, bacteria and yeasts - even in highly microbiologically contaminated media. Learn more about our holistic plant hygiene approach online, discover their 3-phase approach or visit Lanxess at European Coatings Show.

### BASF's Chemetall Runs its US Blackman Township Production Facility Entirely on Renewable Electricity

The **Surface Treatment** global business unit of BASF's Coatings division, operating under the Chemetall brand, has switched its electricity supply for its production site Jackson

<b>Past Issues</b>	<p>County, Michigan, USA, to 100% renewable electricity. The energy provided by the partnership is generated by a subset of renewable resources, including solar, wind, and hydro, and wind, resulting in an approximate reduction of 950 tons of CO2 emissions in 2025.</p>	<b>Transparency</b>
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# Membership

*Your Support is Essential  
To Help Us Better Help 'Your' Industry*

The Canadian Paint and Coatings Association has six Membership Classes priced fairly to benefit each class according to its return in the industry. Your support and participation, along with all like-minded companies seeking better outcomes for the sector in Canada is now more critical than ever. In our case more is better given the current challenges.

## Explore Membership

## MEMBER RECOGNITION



## The PITTSBURGH PAINTS Company Appoints Brian Carson as CEO

**The Pittsburgh Paints Company**, newly independent leader in the paints and coatings sector, announced the appointment of Brian Carson as CEO. Brian, who has more than 30 years of experience in the building products industry, was most recently President and CEO of AHF Products, a manufacturer of hard surface flooring for residential and commercial interiors. “The Pittsburgh Paints Company has a century-long legacy, multi-billion-dollar scale, and a talented team, and we intend to make our mark in a vibrant and ever-changing paints and coatings industry,” said Brian Carson. His appointment follows several recent senior-level appointments at PPC, including Joe Durham as CFO and Brian Padden as President, Retail.

## PPG Recognized on Fortune Magazine's 'World's Most Admired Companies' List for 17th Consecutive Year

The list, considered the leading corporate reputation indicator, identifies the largest, best-regarded companies across 51 industries, as voted on by industry peers. PPG ranked #2 in the chemicals industry, retaining its spot from 2024 and representing its highest industry

### LANXESS Receives Excellent Sustainability Ratings

The company ranked 1st in Dow Jones Sustainability Index Europe, 4th rank worldwide. The group is among the top-rated chemical companies in ISS ESG ratings and the MSCI ESG confirms AA rating for the fourth time.

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## CANADIAN ECONOMY



### From Soft Landing to Turbulence, Can Canada's Economy Keep Growing?

Canada has started the year in a good and stable economic position despite the challenges posed by global economic uncertainties. The Bank of Canada has set an inflation target of 2% and is currently well within its target range. The lower central bank's key interest rate of 3.0% should normally support economic growth. But periods of great uncertainty can have profound economic repercussions for financial markets and for companies and their customers. In times of crisis, companies need to adapt quickly to survive. While increased interprovincial trade alone can't compensate for potential losses in the U.S. market, it can soften the blow. Companies are urged to: Develop a strategic plan and act on it; Articulate a strategy and seek expert advice on executing it; Make sure

## EDC United States Market Intelligence

The **Canadian and U.S. economies** are intricately linked through trade. The EDC U.S. market intelligence hub is regularly updated with insightful content to help you make informed business decisions regarding Canada's largest trade partner.

## Government Tax Programs Offering Credits and Grants

To better navigate in uncertain times, it's important for companies to optimize their internal processes and prepare for unforeseen developments by having access to credit and other financial resources. **Canada offers incentives** and tax credit programs to global companies looking to invest in Canada. **The Business Development Bank of Canada** offers financing, consulting, and capital. Companies can expand globally with the Canada's Trade Accelerator Program and use programs to **Hire Upskill Talent**. CPCA members who wish to obtain more information on SR&ED programs, such as the Clean Economy Tax Credits for energy generation or electric/hydrogen forklifts, can visit the **CPCA CoatingsHUB**.

# TECH INNOVATIONS



## Sustainable Nanoparticles Improve Scratch Resistance of Water-based Acrylate Coatings

A new study investigates the environmentally friendly modification of **nanoalumina (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)** to improve the scratch resistance of polyacrylate coatings.

## Researchers to Create Sustainable Barrier Coatings for Paper-based Liquid Packaging

An AI-Powered UK research project, called **SustaPack**, aims to overcome manufacturing challenges for the next generation of paper-based packaging for liquids and offers a sustainable alternative to plastics. A key feature is its multi-layered barrier coating, which prevents contained liquid from leaking, as well as inward oxygen permeation, maintaining high quality products for consumers. The packaging can be recycled in existing paper waste streams.

## A Review Flame-retardant Coatings for Wooden Structures

Concerns have arisen about wood having inherent high flammability and threatening the fire safety of buildings and inhabitants. Among the diversity of methods for flame resistivity, the **flame-retardant coating applied on wood** offers advanced fire protection. This review aims to provide significant insights into the evaluation methods and global regulations, serving as a guideline for evaluating the flame retardancy of wood structures in building construction.

## Innovative Apatite Nanoparticles for Advancing the Biocompatibility of Implanted Biodevices

Many **biomedical devices** face challenges like insufficient cell adhesion, leading to inflammatory responses after their implantation. Apatite coatings, particularly hydroxyapatite (HA)—a naturally occurring form found in bones, promote better integration with tissues. However, the biocompatibility of artificially synthesized apatite nanoparticles often falls short of expectations. To overcome this challenge, Japanese researchers have developed a method for synthesizing surface-modified apatite nanoparticles that improve the performance of apatite coatings.

## Harder Paints Changed Collision Repair, But Modern Abrasives Could Speed Fixes

Modern automotive paints are harder and more durable than ever. The new coatings, driven by regulations and consumer demand for durability, have become increasingly difficult to manage with hand-held tools. With modern finishes incorporating fine metallics and pearls, these hand-held tools can create permanent indentations in the surface. The paint changes are forcing collision repair technicians to reassess their use of abrasive tools. Manufacturers are expected to help develop tools better suited for modern automotive finishes.

### Industrial Heat Pumps and the Future of Sustainability

So much heat generated by industrial processes just ends up, quite literally, **vanishing into thin air**. That's where industrial heat pumps step in and shake things up as they are capturing wasted heat and putting it back into the system. It's a win-win: businesses save big on energy costs, and the environment breathes a little easier. Simply put, industrial heat pumps are rewriting the energy efficiency rules.



CPCA's DIY Centre has everything you need from **tutorials** to **inspiration** so you can **paint-it-yourself**.

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