As of December 1st 2015, the Human Pathogens and Toxins Act (HPTA) and Regulations (HPTR) have come into effect. The Canadian Biosafety Standards (CBS)2nd ed. and accompanying Handbook are the guiding documents for compliance. Printed copies are not yet available and it is encouraged that an electronic copy is readily accessible.

As of April 2016, the University of Manitoba holds a license which covers all facilities which use human and terrestrial animal pathogens and toxins.

What does this mean?
- Principle investigators are no longer individually regulated—we’re all in this together! Everyone needs to implement changes as highlighted in this newsletter and in the new Generic Refresher Training (more detail on reverse)
- Biological Safety Officer needs to track the transfer of regulated biological agents. (See below)
- For departments working with regulated biological agents ’Containment Zones’ will be established to comply with physical and security requirements.

Reporting the Transfer of Regulated Biological Agents

HPTR requires shipping and receiving of all regulated materials to be reported by labs to the Biosafety Officer (Steven Cole). Please note: This does NOT include pathogens/toxins found in their natural environment i.e. human blood/tissue samples

- Commercial suppliers: Electronic copy of the shipping confirmation to be submitted to the BSO
- International institutions: Biological agent transfer form to be filled out and submitted to BSO
- Transfers between Canadian Institutions: Biological agent transfer form to be filled out and submitted to BSO
- Transfers within the University of Manitoba: No form or notification necessary!

For ALL transfers: update of EHSA bioinventory is required!
Biosafety Training

1. **New Generic Refresher Training:**

   Required for all PIs and personnel who completed Generic Biosafety Training *prior to April 19th 2016*. This training will bring participants up to date on new federal regulations and changes to the University of Manitoba Biosafety Program.

   This training and quiz is available [online](#) and will also be available as in-person training sessions throughout the year (session dates will be circulated to biopermit holders shortly).

2. **Generic Biosafety Training:**

   Required for all NEW laboratory personnel to the University of Manitoba and to be completed within 30 days of start date. This training encompasses generic biosafety training as well as the new refresher training.

   Please be advised that site-specific training is also required to be completed and documented by new personnel and the Principal Investigator/lab supervisor. A template for site-specific training can be found [here](#).

As a reminder, this training is in addition to departmental WHMIS training—both are required for personnel listed on biosafety permits!

Coming Soon....

Biosafety Permit Renewals will be starting shortly. The biosafety office will be in touch to assist in the renewal of your permit.

**New this cycle:**

- To confirm scope of work, CL2-Regulated permits are to be signed by PI, department head and WHMIS coordinator.
- We’ll be asking for PI’s Iridium ID to assist in accessing the Environmental Health and Safety Assistant Database.