

Topic: Overview of Canadian Water Regulations
Title: 2009 Overview of Approved IDEXX Microbiological Methods in Canadian Provinces and Territories
Source: IDEXX Laboratories
Date: 25 September 2009

Report Highlights:

- This document provides the most current information available and will be periodically updated to reflect changes, as they become available, in each Province, Territory or Region in Canada
- Each Canadian Province or Territory typically has alpha-numerical designations for their respective methods
- Laboratory Accreditation is required in Ontario and *strongly recommended* and increasing across other regions
- **Health Canada** provides input and guidance for multiple types of water including drinking water, recreational water, ‘carrier’ water safety, bottled water, packaged ice and water used in food preparation
 - [Health Canada Guidance on Total Coliform Testing](#)
 - [Health Canada Guidance on *E coli* Testing](#)
 - [Health Canada Guidance on Heterotrophic Plate Count Testing](#)
- **Federal Provincial-Territorial Committee on Drinking Water (CDW)** consists of 14 voting members (the 10 provinces, three territories, and the federal government); members represent the authority responsible for drinking water quality in their jurisdiction, usually either the department of health or the environment
- **Environment Canada (EC)** provides management and guidance on wastewater municipal effluent as agreed upon by the Canadian Council of Ministers of Environment ([CCME](#)), the Water Agenda Development Committee ([WADC](#)) participates in CCME processes

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Acronyms

APHA American Public Health Association
BNQ Bureau de normalisation du Québec
CALA Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation
CFR Code of Federal Regulations (USA)
EWQA Enhanced Water Quality Assurance
HC Health Canada
MOE Ministry of the Environment
MOH Ministry of Health
OSDWA Ontario Safe Drinking Water Act
SCC Standards Council of Canada
SDA Safe Drinking Water Act
SM Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater

British Columbia (EWQA, CALA and SCC for lab accreditation)

SM / APHA 9222 B* and 9222 D, G SM / APHA 9223B / TM MICR 001-60 40 CFR Part 141** / TM MICR 002-60 / SM 9215B and 9215D*** Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater	coliforms Coliform / <i>E coli</i> HPC, (also SimPlate) per Shelley Tiffin, EWQA, PHSA Laboratories, BCCDC Laboratory Services
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Alberta (CALA and SCC for lab accreditation)

SM/APHA 9223 A,B Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater	total coliform / <i>E coli</i> per Karu Chinniah, Drinking Water Branch
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New Brunswick

SM 9223 B (P/A and MPN) (Colilert, Colilert-18, Colisure)	total coliform / <i>E coli</i>	Drinking and Ground water
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Ontario

SM 9223 (MOE 3226) (P/A) TW1-740-001 based on SM 9223, Most Probable Number SM/APHA 9222B = TC-1/BKG-1 (m- Endo)	Total coliform / <i>E coli</i> Total coliform / <i>E coli</i> total coliforms	
laboratories are licensed to perform drinking water testing under Part VII of the SDWA		http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/en/water/sdwa/licensedlabs.php
SCC accredited labs in Ontario for OSDWA		http://palcan.scc.ca/SpecsSearch/SpecsSearchAction.do

Manitoba (CALA and SCC for lab accreditation)

APHA 9223, 9223B 40 CFR Part 141 / TM MICR 002-60 EPA 1623	Total Coliforms / <i>E coli</i> Also HPC by SimPlate Crypto Giardia	
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Quebec (BNQ/SCC for lab accreditation)

MA. 700 – ECCT 1.0 (P/A only method) (Colilert)	total coliforms / <i>E coli</i>	
BNQ accredits labs under an agreement with SCC		http://www- es.criq.qc.ca/pls/owa_es/bnqw_lab0.liste_lab0_accr?p_lang=en

Saskatchewan (CALA only for lab accreditation)

Standard Methods 20th Ed for methods

SM 9223 B	Total coliform/ <i>E coli</i>	
SM 9215	HPC	

Nova Scotia (CALA and SCC for lab accreditation)

LSDL680 AOAC 991.15 (P/A and MPN) (Colilert)	total coliform / <i>E coli</i>	
SM9223B	total coliform / <i>E coli</i>	Drinking, Ground, Surface and Wastewater
AOAC: Official Methods of Analysis of the Association of Official Analytical Chemists (USA), 15th Edition, 1990		

