



NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS

The SCC Ontario Chapter's Newsletter



February 2025

Volume CXVII

2025 Ontario Chapter Officers

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SCC ONTARIO **BONUS** EDUCATION DAY

"Natural Oils and Butters – Technical Applications"

-Benjamin Schwartz

March 6th, 2025

PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS CHAPTER MEETING

Simply click on the button below which will take you to our registration page. You can then either pay at the door or pay with credit card in advance or at the door. Please make your reservation before the Monday prior to the meeting.



**Click Here
To Register**



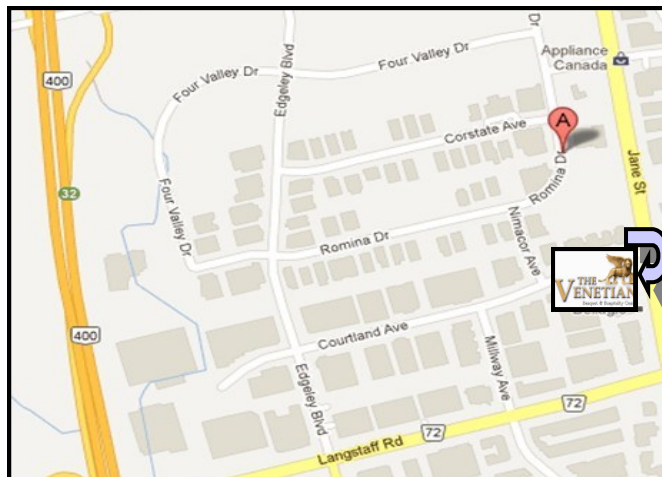
SCC ONTARIO **BONUS** EDUCATION DAY

“Natural Oils and Butters – Technical Applications ”

-Benjamin Schwartz

March 6th, 2025

Location:	The Venetian Banquet & Hospitality Centre 219 Romina Drive, City of Vaughan,
Fees:	SCC Members—\$75 (Pre-Registered) Non-Members \$100 (Pre-Registered) Students \$30 (pre-Registered)
Schedule	See below Noon– Lunch (provided) 4:30pm– Adjourned



Natural Oils and Butters – Technical Applications

This full-day presentation will take formulators and others with a technical interest from the basics of lipid classes and composition all the way through deeper concepts of fat crystal morphology and the molecular basis of how phenomena like bloom and syneresis occur.

AGENDA

8:30 – 9:00 AM | Registration

9:00 – 10:30 AM | Introduction to Lipid Chemistry - Fatty Acids | Triglycerides | Waxes | Sterols | Tocopherols

10:30 – 10:45 AM | Break

10:45 AM – 12:00 PM | Oxidative Stability and Fatty Acids - Lipid Oxidation – Definition and Mechanism | Iodine Value | OSI (Oil/Oxidative Stability Index) | Antioxidants – Definition and Mechanism

12:00 – 1:15 PM | Lunch

1:15 – 2:45 PM | Solid Fat Content and Melt Profile - Fatty Acids – Physical and Chemical Properties | Triglyceride Composition – Fats and Oils | Solid Fat Content (SFC) Curve | Thermal Behavior of Butters (Structuring | Stability | Modifications | Molecular Conformations)

2:45 – 3:00 PM | Break

3:00 – 3:45 PM | Crystallization and Molecular Structure - Chain Packing | Crystal Morphology | Thermal Stability | Cooling Rates and Morphology

3:45 PM | Q&A Session

Benjamin Schwartz Bio

Starting his career with Estee Lauder, Benjamin has spent 20 years as an R&D Chemist working in personal care and cosmetic innovation. Managing the R&D lab for a Bay Area contract manufacturer he oversaw product formulation and scale up for a variety of startups, independents, and global brands. Now as a Customer Innovation Manager for AAK, an international raw material supplier focused on plant-based lipids, he supports the technical and regulatory demands of the world's most influential personal care and cosmetic companies.





Sustainability is looking good!

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A Welcome Message From the 2025 Chair...

Dear SCC Ontario Chapter Members,



It is my great pleasure and privilege to serve as the Chair of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists (SCC), Ontario Chapter, for 2025. I am honored to continue the legacy of fostering professional growth, innovation, and collaboration within our vibrant community.

At SCC, our mission is to provide an environment that encourages networking, facilitates the exchange of ideas, and delivers valuable education and training to support your career and enhance the quality of work in our industry. Through our meetings, seminars, and events, we aim to keep you informed about the latest advancements, regulatory updates, and emerging trends in cosmetic science.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of you—our dedicated members, volunteers, and industry partners—for your unwavering support and commitment to our Chapter. Your enthusiasm and participation have been instrumental in making our programs successful and meaningful.

Reflecting on 2024, we had an incredible year filled with engaging educational sessions and memorable networking opportunities. In 2025, we will build on this momentum, bringing you even more enriching experiences, insightful discussions, and opportunities to connect with peers and industry leaders.

I look forward to a year of learning, collaboration, and success. Let's make 2025 a year of growth, inspiration, and achievement—working, educating, enjoying, and excelling together.

Wishing you all a healthy, fulfilling, and prosperous year ahead!

Best regards,

Shahin Kalantari

Chair, SCC Ontario Chapter 2025


Your Voice Matters! Help Shape the Future of SCC Ontario

The Society of Cosmetic Chemists Ontario Chapter (SCC Ontario) is dedicated to providing the best possible experience for our members and potential members. We want to hear from you! Your feedback is essential in shaping our events, networking opportunities, and educational programs to better serve our growing community.

We invite you to take just a few minutes to complete our **Satisfaction Survey** and share your thoughts on what's working, what could be improved, and what you'd love to see in the future.

Why Your Input Matters:

- ☒ Influence the future of SCC Ontario events and initiatives
- ☒ Ensure we meet the needs of our members and potential members
- ☒ Help create a stronger, more connected community
- ☒ Have a direct impact on the programs and resources we offer

 **Your opinion counts! Click the circle to the right to take the survey**

 **Your responses are completely confidential, and your email address will not be shared.**



Your feedback helps us grow and evolve to better serve **you**. Thank you for being a valuable part of the SCC Ontario community!

Looking forward to your insights,
Society of Cosmetic Chemists – Ontario Chapter

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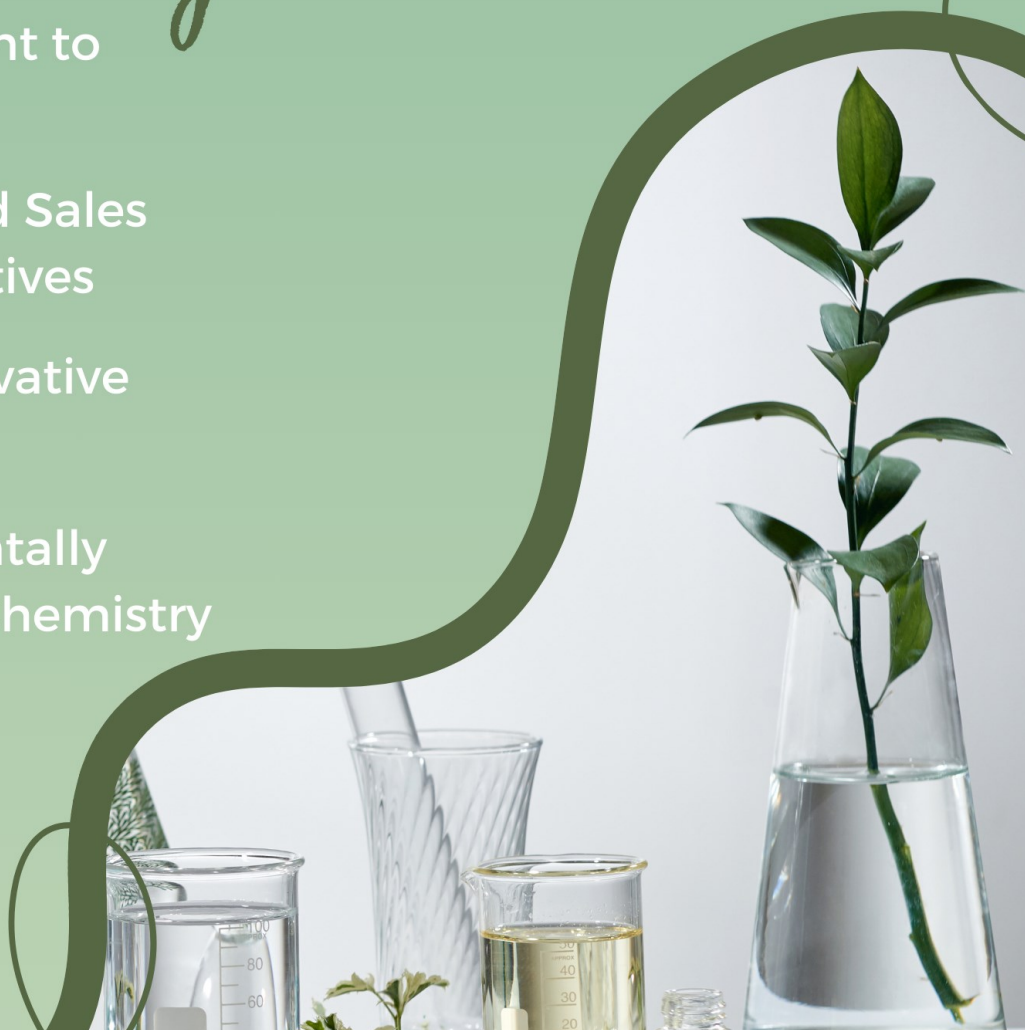
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Contact us: Kashif Mazhar Email : kashif@vivachem.ca Tel: (416) 624-8566
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February 2025 Meeting

Recap

February 6th, 2025, **Abhijit Bidaye** (Applications Manager – Consumer Care at Croda Inc) delivered an in-depth presentation on the **use of Cryo-SEM and EDS for sunscreen characterization**, offering valuable insights into the behavior of mineral UV filters in O/W emulsions. The session addressed the well-known challenges of stabilizing high-SPF sunscreen formulations, particularly the impact of UV filter location on emulsion stability.

During the presentation, Cryo-SEM with elemental analysis was demonstrated as an advanced imaging technique for visualizing the microstructure of emulsions. The process involved freezing small samples in slushed liquid nitrogen, enabling a detailed examination of UV filter distribution within different emulsion systems. The findings reinforced the correlation between emulsion stability and the spatial positioning of mineral UV filters.

In addition, SAXS analysis was utilized to investigate the influence of emulsifiers and microstructure on the overall stability of sunscreen formulations. The results provided a deeper understanding of active ingredient distribution and how formulation variables can impact sunscreen performance.

The presentation concluded with a discussion on the practical applications of these analytical techniques, emphasizing their role in enhancing formulation strategies for more stable and effective mineral-based sunscreens.

Abhijit Bidaye is the Applications Manager – Consumer Care at Croda Inc. During his 27-year career in the personal care industry, he has spent 25 years of his employment on the supply side of the industry with Croda Inc. in both Skin Care and Hair Care. His current focus is on Sun care, Col-or cosmetics and Sustainable innovation. Abhijit is a graduate of University of Cincinnati MS in Cosmetic Science program. He has BS in Pharmacy from University of Pune, India. He has presented at various industry related events and has chaired NYSCC Sunscreen symposium events.



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Foaming formulas with stability problems: what is the cause?

Belinda Carli

You've created a shampoo, body wash or face wash and... oh no! It's formed a gel layer, has powder on the surface or turned runny during stability tests. What could be the cause of the formula instability, and how can you fix it?

Read on to find out about common stability issues when formulating foaming formulas, and most importantly, what you should trouble shoot to try to fix them.



Had issues with a cosmetic emulsion? [Read our blog: Cosmetic emulsions with stability problems: what is the cause.](#)

Need an [overview of stability and shelf life testing cosmetic formulas? Watch this video here.](#)

- Learn how to run professional stability programs, including microbial tests, with our [Certificate in Cosmetic Quality & Stability.](#)
- *Are you a small brand wanting to learn just the essentials on a budget? Take our [stability testing for small cosmetic brands workshop here](#) instead.*

FOAMING FORMULA STABILITY PROBLEM 1: COLOUR AND AROMA CHANGES IN YOUR FOAMING FORMULA

When you have colour or aroma changes in your foaming formula, you'll first need to decide if the changes are significant enough to impact a consumer, as well as the safety and performance of the finished product. Small differences in colour or aroma may be tolerated by consumers, but large differences in pH or viscosity will adversely affect the flow and probably the foam of the product and render it unfit for sale.

Try these fix-its to improve the colour and aromatic stability of your foaming formula:

- add a small input of chelating agent and see if this restores the original colour. [Find out about chelating agents here.](#)
- remove or reduce plant or essential oils that are susceptible to oxidation; or add a little vitamin E to prevent oxidation. Careful – any oils or vitamin E added can reduce foam and cleansing performance, so amend inputs with caution! Watch this video to see [how to test if you are using the right input of vitamin E.](#)
- you may also need to check microbial counts to ensure there is no contamination of your foaming formula.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



JOURNAL OF COSMETIC SCIENCE'S 75th ANNIVERSARY

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Journal and is now available on the **SCC Media Library**. Coming soon are special issues focused on hot topics in cosmetic science such as sustainability and microbiome.

Check out JCS Volume 75 now!

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INTRODUCING OUR 2025 ONTARIO CHAPTER OFFICERS

During our annual Holiday Dinner Dance on December 6th our Area V Directors from SCC National, Dorothy Maraprossians and Rob Quinlan installed our incoming officers for 2025.

Serving as our Chapter Officers for 2025 are;

Shahin Kalantari - Chair
Vera Matovina - Chair Elect
Tanya Baksh - Secretary
Rob Castillo - Treasurer

We wish them well in executing their duties for 2025!!





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FOAMING FORMULA STABILITY PROBLEM 2: POWDERY OR LIPID LAYER FORMS ON TOP

If you see a powdery or lipid layer forming on top of your foaming formula, the causes are either:

- insufficient surfactant or solubilizing agent for the lipid content OR
- insufficient mixing of the surfactant/solubilizing agent before it is added to the water phase

It will take another sample to fix this. In the next sample, try:

- checking the ratio of surfactant or solubilizing agent to oil content first – this includes all oils present, such as plant oils, essential oils, fragrances and antioxidants.
- make sure this ratio is significantly in favour of the surfactant or solubilizing agent, then remember to mix the oils into the solubiliser or surfactant thoroughly, without introducing air, before adding to the water phase.

It could also be that you are trying to solubilise too much oil phase in a surfactant with a high water content. If that is the case, you may need a straight solubilizing material to provide effective solubilizing power and mix that with your oils first, before adding to the surfactant phase, to resolve this issue.

FOAMING FORMULA STABILITY ISSUE 3: A GUMMY OR GEL LAYER FORMS

When formulating more natural surfactant formulas, it can be difficult to build the required viscosity into your foaming formula without the use of gums. Even when using more conventional surfactants, you may want to add certain gums for conditioning properties. In either case, when not added using the correct method, these gums can form jelly like layers in a foaming formula – either at the top of the product or at the base.

To fix this issue:

- make sure you mix all surfactants and water phase together BEFORE adding the gum to the formula. This ensures that when you add the gum to the formula, it will hydrate with all available water.
- make sure you check the correct method for adding the gum or polymer – for some gums you will need to take the pH up to ensure it gels properly and then reduce it to suit the skin and hair; for other gums or polymers you may need to acidify before bringing the pH back up. Make sure you understand proper gum selection and which environment or method steps suit the gum you have chosen with further study, or at a beginner level with our [How to choose cosmetic gums workshop](#).
- always follow the supplier instructions when it comes to neutralization of more innovative polymers.



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NEWSLETTER POSTING DATES FOR 2025

Here are the dates for 2025
that the Northern Highlights
Staff plan to post the 5 news-
letters for the year;

- ♦ January 20th
- ♦ February 6th
- ♦ May 1st
- ♦ August 28th
- ♦ October 9th



(or as close as we can get)

Should posting dates change
throughout the year the most
up to date list can be found at
the below site.

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FOAMING FORMULA STABILITY ISSUE 4: DROP IN VISCOSITY

The use of some actives and especially some essential oils can cause an irreversible decrease in the viscosity of a foaming formula. In some cases, using certain actives or essential oils just isn't possible with some combinations of foaming ingredients.

Other causes of a drop in viscosity could include:

- a significant change in pH – this is one of the most common causes of viscosity change, so if you notice a big drop in viscosity, check the pH. If pH is the cause, you will need to isolate what caused the pH change and fix that to also correct the viscosity issue.
- if you have used salt to thicken the product, it too can be impacted by a change in pH.
- when using salt to thicken your formula, be very careful with the input: remember, too much salt can irreversibly thin the product and this can change from batch to batch.
- oxidation can cause a change in pH which can then impact viscosity. Consider this when conducting your instability investigations; if there is a colour or aromatic change as well as a pH change, it could be oxidation.

WHAT OTHER CAUSES ARE THERE OF FOAMING FORMULA INSTABILITY?

Other causes of foaming formula instability could include:

- the use of vanilla essential oil can turn your formula brown to black over time, even when sufficient antioxidant is used.
- some preservatives can turn formulas pink or brown when a citrus fragrance or essential oil is present.
- foaming formulas can change colour when they become excessively alkaline or acidic, and their viscosity can thin dramatically too – so ensuring good pH stability is essential to prevent colour and viscosity changes.

Remember too that 'scum' can form around the base of showers or the rim of bathtubs if chelating agent is not used with certain surfactants such as most sulphates.

If you are formulating foaming exfoliant products you will need to make sure you have incorporated suitable gums to stabilize these particles otherwise they are particularly susceptible to floating toward the top or sinking to the bottom.

Finally, be careful with your mixing! Using high shear does not suit foaming formulas because they are meant to foam. Even low shear mixing can cause the introduction of a lot of air that can then take a long time to settle out, or cause gel layers or viscosity changes. Make sure you keep your low shear mixers below the surface of product and sufficiently low to avoid sucking air into the formula during the mixing phase; and that vats suit the batch size of product to be made.

[Investigate other cosmetic formulation mistakes with this video.](#)

You need to ensure your foaming formulas are stable over the shelf life of their sale and then when in use by consumers. [Find out more in this video: Who's responsible for faulty product?](#)

Make sure you know how to conduct the necessary stability checks on your foaming formulas, and more importantly, how to trouble shoot and fix your foaming formulas when things go wrong.

Happy formulating!



Article compliments of Institute of Personal Care Science



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UPCOMING EVENTS

March 6th, 2025 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario BONUS Education Day - " <i>Natural Oils and Butters – Technical Applications</i> " -Benjamin Schwartz
May 29th, 2025 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Chapter Meeting— "Sensitive Skin " - Sue Sperring
July 16th, 2025 Lionhead Golf Club & Conference Centre	SCC Ontario Annual Golf Tournament
September 25, 2025 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	Education Day—"Fundamentals of Microbiome for the Cosmetics Industry" presented by Paul Lawrence
November 6, 2025 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Chapter Meeting—TBA
December 5, 2025 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Holiday Dinner Dance
February 5, 2026 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Chapter LUNCH Meeting—TBA
March 5, 2026 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Chapter Meeting—TBA

ONTARIO CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM SOCIETY FOR COSMETIC CHEMISTS



The support of Cosmetic Science Education and Research are central to the goals of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists (SCC). The Ontario Chapter has developed a Scholarship Program available to students planning to complete cosmetic science research in Canada. In the past, the \$1000.00 award has been presented to students from Seneca Polytechnic, University of Toronto, University of Waterloo, University of Guelph and McMaster University. The program began in 2003 and over 20 students have received awards.

Interested students are invited to submit a brief one page outline to Dennis Zuccolin, Director of Scholarships at jdzuccolin@gmail.com. The scholarship applications will be reviewed by the SCC Ontario Chapter Board members. Students awarded a scholarship can also apply for additional support (up to \$1000.00) to cover research and development costs, training and conference expenses.

The Ontario Chapter has supported the Seneca Polytechnic Cosmetic Science Program and students by providing annual scholarships. Undergraduate students of the Seneca Polytechnic School of Biological Science and Applied Chemistry have also been supported by an annual award.

Successful scholarship and award candidates are encouraged to attend SCC meetings, volunteer at events, collaborate with members, prepare a poster presentation, write an article for the newsletter and make an oral presentation on their research at a chapter meeting.

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MEMBERSHIP

For those who would like to become members, yearly fees are \$180 US. Applications are available from your Executive Committee or on-line at;



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Presentation Library

Peruse our wide selection of presentations from previous meetings

<http://www.ontarioscc.org/presentations.htm>

Membership Programs and Privileges

Journal - Membership includes subscription to the Journal of Cosmetic Science, the Official Journal of the Society of Cosmetic Chemists. The Journal contains technical papers on topics of interest to cosmetic scientists and is distributed six times per year.

Meetings & Seminars - The Society holds its Annual Scientific Meeting each December. The Meetings and Seminars provide a forum for an exchange of current findings and technology on topics of global interest in cosmetic science.

Continuing Education Programs - Our CEP Programs are short courses taught by practicing cosmetic scientists and perfumers, all acknowledged experts in their disciplines.

Chapters - Each member is assigned to one of nineteen Chapters throughout the United States and Canada, according to his or her geographic location. Chapters hold local scientific meetings throughout the year, and many publish their own newsletters.

I.F.S.C.C. - The Society of Cosmetic Chemists is one of 42 member organizations within the International Federation of Societies of Cosmetic Chemists.

Emeritus Members - Attend Chapter educational events and evening meetings for free!

