



# NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS



The SCC Ontario Chapter's Newsletter



October 2023

Volume CX

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## SCC ONTARIO CHAPTER MEETING

*"Successful Skin Care Products Featuring Natural  
Ingredients: A Technical Perspective"*

- Howard Epstein, Ph.D.

**November 2nd, 2023**

## PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS CHAPTER MEETING

As this meeting is an "in person" event simply click on the button below which will take you to our registration page. You can then either bring the payment with you or send a cheque to [rob.castillo@univarsolutions.com](mailto:rob.castillo@univarsolutions.com). Please make your reservation before the Monday prior to the meeting.

**Click Here  
To Register**

# SCC ONTARIO CHAPTER MEETING

*“Successful Skin Care Products Featuring Natural  
Ingredients: A Technical Perspective”*

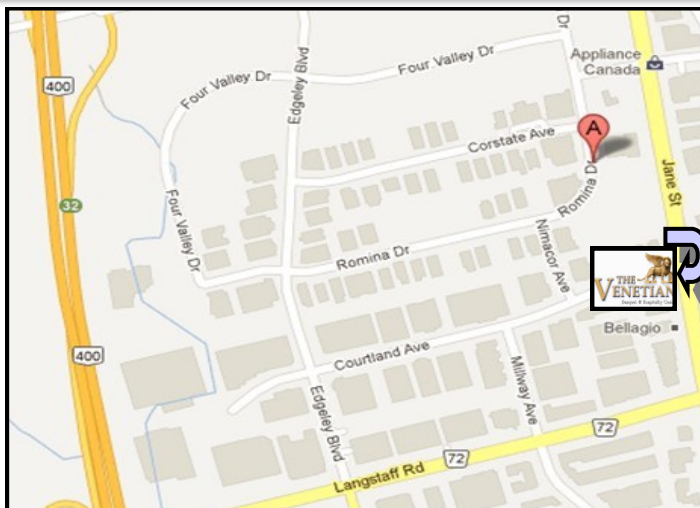
- Howard Epstein, Ph.D.

**November 2nd, 2023**

**Location:** The Venetian Banquet & Hospitality  
Centre 219 Romina Drive, City of  
Vaughan, ON, L4K 4V3  
(tel: 905-264-9960)

**Time:** 5:00 Cocktails  
6:00 Dinner  
7:00 Presentation  
8:00 Adjournment

**Fees:** \$60 pre-paid SCC member  
\$70 pre-paid non-member  
\$30 pre-paid student  
\$75 at the door



## Abstract:

Successful Skin Care Products Featuring Natural Ingredients: A Technical Perspective  
Howard Epstein, Ph.D., EMD Electronics, Surface Solutions, Philadelphia, PA.

Successful marketing and sales of cosmetic products featuring natural ingredients requires more than a compelling story for the natural ingredient(s). Beyond certifications of recognized agencies that include Bio Cosmetique, Cosmos Natural/Organic, Ecovadis, and documentation ensuring the natural ingredient is authenticated, the ingredient must meet the consumer's expectations. In the past it might have been sufficient to simply explain that the beneficial properties of natural ingredient(s) was associated with their antioxidant and nutritive properties. Currently the "Super Food" trend is quite popular. While many of the natural ingredients used in skin care are consumed by people and provide nutritive benefits to the body, there may be less nutritive support for skin. To ensure the most skin-appropriate super food ingredient is used in a product various biological assay(s) can be used with relevant skin biomarkers that confirm beneficial activity for skin. Finally, the efficacy of the ingredient should be confirmed with human clinical-type testing.

This presentation will discuss examples of natural ingredients including super foods that provide benefits for skin. The beneficial component(s) in the super food will be identified, a brief overview of relevant biological assays with relevant biomarkers used to identify the mechanism of activity and the human use testing protocol to confirm the benefits for skin will also be discussed.

## Biography:

Howard Epstein is Director of Technical Services for EMD Electronics, Surface Solutions, Philadelphia, PA., an affiliate of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. He was a scholar in residence at the University of Cincinnati department of Dermatology and received his Ph.D. in Pharmacognosy from the Union Institute & University in Cincinnati, Ohio during that time. He has been in the cosmetics industry for many years since he began his career formulating cosmetics for Estee Lauder, Maybelline, Max Factor, Bausch & Lomb and Kao Brands. In addition to his interest in botanicals Howard previously served as editor of the Journal of the Society of Cosmetic Science and is a member of the International Academy of Dermatology. He is on the editorial board of the dermatological journals Clinics in Dermatology and SKINmed representing the cosmetics industry to dermatologists. Howard has authored chapters in various cosmetic technology textbooks including various chapters in Harry's Cosmeticology and holds eight patents. He received the Maison G. deNavarre Medal Award in 2020, the society's highest honor supporting the best interests of the cosmetics and personal care industry.





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# THE SCC ONTARIO CHAPTER IS HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE OUR POPULAR "HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE!" IS BACK.



**Friday, November 24th 2023**

We are returning to  
The Venetian Banquet & Hospitality Centre,  
219 Romina Drive, Vaughan.

We start the evening at 6:00 p.m.  
by enjoying the specialties from the antipasto table.

Dinner will follow at 7:15 p.m. SHARP.  
The dance floor will be open until 1:00 a.m. and  
you can enjoy a sweets table at 10:30 p.m.

## **Reserve early and save.**

Early bird pricing up to November 1st is \$180.00 per person.  
After the November 1st deadline the price is \$200 per person.



**Reservations Will Open Soon !**

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- Free registration for upcoming chapter meeting for 2 people for February meeting

#### **Gold - \$1000**

- Company logo will be prominently displayed in event space
- Company logo will be displayed on website
- Free registration for upcoming chapter meeting for 1 person for February meeting

#### **Silver - \$500**

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- Company logo will be displayed on website

**Email Dorothy Here to Inquire About Sponsorship**



*Door Prize Donations are Appreciated*

## **MENU**

**Venetian Antipasto Station & Butternut Squash Soup**

**Romaine & Iceberg Mixed Salad**

**Asparagus Risotto**

**Fillet Mignon with Cognac Sauce & Fillet of Salmon in a butter and white wine sauce**

**Vegetarian Option - Eggplant Parmigiana**

**Grilled Red & Yellow Peppers & Broccoli**

**Parisienne Potato**

**Chocolate Tartufo in a Martini Glass**





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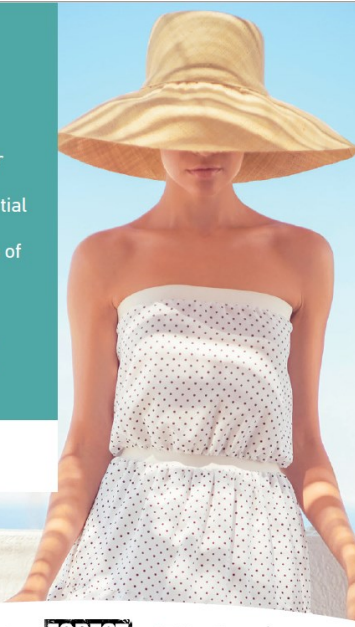
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# Education Day 2023

Recap



This year's Education Day on September 21st was interesting to say the least. **Ricardo Diez, Ph.D** was the featured speaker for the day. Armed with his unique style and interactive engagement with the audience the program proved to be extremely informative and entertaining!

His seminar, "Fundamental Concepts in Personal Care Products for Non-Technical People" was designed to introduce the basic principles and terminology of the personal care industry to professionals who are not directly involved in the technical aspects of product development. The seminar covered four main topics.



Firstly, **Materials and Their Interactions**. This topic discussed the nature and properties of the common ingredients used in personal care products, such as oils, surfactants, emulsifiers, polymers, and preservatives. It also shows how these ingredients interact with each other and with the skin and hair during the formulation and application processes.



Next, Dr Diez discussed, **Terminology**. With this he clarified the meaning and differences of some frequently used terms in the personal care industry, such as foam, lather, mildness, irritation, hydration, moisturizing, actives, oil-free, and others. Examples and illustrations to help understand these concepts better were also included.

The topic of **Formulations** was of great interest to the group. The composition and structure of various types of personal care products was described such as shampoos, conditioners, body washes, creams, lotions, gels, and sprays. It also demonstrated how these products change from their initial state in the container to their final state on the skin or hair after use.



Finally, **Hot Topics** addressed some of the current issues and trends in the personal care industry, such as 1,4 Dioxane, ethoxylated materials, natural, sulfate-free, and clean beauty products. It also challenges some of the common claims and myths about these topics.

*Attendees received a certificate of attendance at the end of the day as well as a copy of the presentation.*

**Ricardo Diez, Ph.D**, is currently an Adjunct Professor at Rutgers University (NJ) where he has been teaching for about ten years two Applied Cosmetic Science courses in the Master of Business and Science.

He has more than four decades of experience in Research and Product Development in the industry in both consumer product companies (P&G, Dial Corp. and Chanel) and raw material producers Miranol, Stepan, Witco and Huntsman. He has technology patents in both areas.

He also gives courses and seminars for the SCC and IFSC, and for the Center for Professional Advancement.



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# Environmental Impact of the cosmetic industry

By Perry Romanowski

When I started formulating cosmetics back in the late 1990's, one regulatory movement was to reduce the VOC (volatile organic compounds) of cosmetics. What this primarily meant was that all the hair-sprays we sold would have to be reduced to 55% VOC. Since these formulas could be composed of up to 90% VOC, that made it a big challenge.

I always thought it was a ridiculous thing to regulate. It seemed to me the amount of VOC produced by personal care products was minuscule compared to that of automobiles and airplanes. And if you look at the numbers, this is true. Less than 4% of VOC emissions come from personal care products.

## Vilification of the Cosmetic Industry

While [this study of VOCs](#) is worth considering further, this experience prompted me to start noticing other instances where the cosmetic industry was seemingly unfairly targeted. It seems the media and internet provide a steady stream of stories about the harms and hazards of the cosmetic industry. In addition to [causing air pollution](#) you can find claims that the cosmetic industry is

- [Killing coral reefs](#)
- [Excessively killing animals](#)
- [Creating too much plastic waste](#)
- [Hugely impacting global warming](#)
- [Causing cancer](#)

Let's look at the relative impact that each of these might be having on the specific problem.

## Are cosmetics killing coral reefs?

There are lots of sources claiming that sunscreens are responsible for the bleaching of coral reefs. A few governments have banned what they believe are the offending ingredients including oxybenzone and octinoxate. Numerous brands have popped up claiming to sell "reef safe" sunscreens.

The justification they are reef safe? They don't contain any of the banned sunscreen ingredients, but instead feature mineral sunscreen ingredients like Zinc Oxide.

This is a weak rationale for two main reasons. First, there is no good evidence that [sunscreens are causing coral bleaching](#). Global warming and the acidification of the oceans are the main culprit. And second, if one does find the evidence compelling, there is also evidence that [zinc oxide can cause coral bleaching](#). So, if you believe sunscreens are causing coral bleaching, using a zinc oxide based sunscreen isn't going to help.

No, sunscreens are not the main cause of coral bleaching. There is not even good evidence that they contribute to the problem at all. But banning cosmetic ingredients is a lot easier to do than better regulating CO2 emissions and agricultural runoff.

And if we banned sunscreens, the coral reefs would continue to bleach.

## Are cosmetics killing animals?

Concern about animals being used for testing in cosmetics first garnered a lot of attention in the 1970's. Some suggested this was spurred on by [Peter Singer](#) and the establishment of the animal rights movement. Since then numerous groups have attacked the cosmetic industry for doing unnecessary testing. This has led to significant government action and currently animal testing of cosmetics is "banned" in numerous places around the world, most notably the EU.

So, there is a lot less animal testing being done in the cosmetic industry. In truth, companies don't want to do animal testing. It is expensive, it is terrible for a company's reputation, and most people who work at cosmetic companies don't like animal cruelty either.

However, animal testing of cosmetics still happens. We do not yet have enough reliable animal testing alternatives to prove ingredients are safe. When we do, the cosmetic industry will gladly stop doing any animal testing.

*Continued on page 14*



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## 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.



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Yes, there is still some animal testing going on in the cosmetic industry. It's worth pointing out that the pharmaceutical and chemical industries does way more animal testing than the cosmetic industry. If we banned all animal testing of cosmetics, there would still be a lot of animal testing.

### **Do beauty products create too much plastic?**

The cosmetic industry certainly produces a lot of plastic waste. Very little of the plastic packaging is recycled. There is movement to change this with companies like [Terracycle](#) and big brands creating programs to address the problem. There is also a trend towards companies trying to produce solid products that don't require plastic bottles.

However, this problem will not go away any time soon. Solid formulas don't really work as well as standard beauty products. Recycling of plastic is not yet feasible on a large scale. Until there are laws passed that make recycled packaging more economical than new packaging, the plastic problem will persist.

And while the beauty industry certainly contributes to the problem, it pales in comparison to food and beverage companies. It's reported that Coca Cola produces [3 million tons of plastic each year](#). The EPA reports 14 million tons are produced in the US so that's a pretty high percentage by a beverage company.

If we got rid of all cosmetics, we'd still have a plastic problem.

### **Are cosmetics causing global warming?**

Certainly the beauty industry requires energy to produce products so it will contribute to global warming and climate change. But how much? It's hard to say since no one really keeps track of this in much detail. We can guess by looking at the [EPA estimates](#) for the sources of greenhouse gas production. According to this 23% of greenhouse gases are produced by industry. The cosmetic industry is a small fraction of that.

So, while the cosmetic industry does contribute to global warming it is only a small fraction of the problem.

Eliminating emission levels from the cosmetic industry would not have a significant impact on global warming.

### **Are cosmetics causing cancer?**

Concerns about cosmetics causing cancer are not new. But there has never been evidence that cosmetics cause cancer. The ingredients and products are safety tested and the products are safer than they have ever been. What is new is how rapidly fear marketing has taken over the cosmetic industry. Companies and NGOs, and content makers look for any concerning issues then use the media and social media to scare consumers away from ingredients. The trend of Clean Beauty has allowed companies to use fear marketing to get consumers to spend more money on products that are not safer but cost more.

No, cosmetics are not causing cancer. They are not a [primary cause or even significant cause of cancer](#).

But if you are afraid of cosmetics don't use them. You will experience no negative health effects by avoiding all cosmetics. Although you may smell and look worse.

#### [Perry44](#)

Perry has been formulating cosmetic products and inventing solutions to solve consumer problems since the early 1990's. Additionally, he has written and edited numerous articles and books, taught continuing education classes for industry scientists, and developed successful websites. His latest book is *Beginning Cosmetic Chemistry 3rd Edition* published by Allured.



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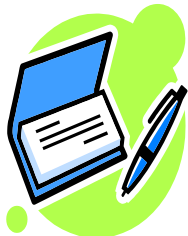
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## Dues Renewal

Returning members can sign in, or re-set their password if needed, via the button below. Once signed in, you will see an option to reactivate your membership.



Please note: It is important to keep your membership active. Members who are dropped for non-payment of dues must pay a reinstatement fee plus current year dues in order to be reinstated. Members who resign will only need to pay current dues to be reinstated.

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## Presenters Welcome!!!



The SCC Ontario Chapter board is currently accepting submissions for presentations! Interested parties can submit a presentation abstract and a biography. Your talk may be accepted for either a Chapter meeting or Education Day.

Please send all enquiries to Andy Halasz (speaker coordinator) at

[bhalasz39@gmail.com](mailto:bhalasz39@gmail.com)

## Did You Know?

SCC Ontario Chapter Has a Group Presence on **Linked in** and invites you to join the Group As a Member of the SCC Ontario Linked in Information Source.

Take A Look **Linked in**



## NEWSLETTER POSTING DATES FOR 2023

Here are the dates for 2023 that the Northern Highlights Staff plan to post the 5 newsletters for the year;

- ♦ January 12th
- ♦ February 27th
- ♦ April 27th
- ♦ August 24th
- ♦ October 5th



(or as close as we can get)

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

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



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*Did You Know?*

**Why Is Diet  
Coke So Fizzy?**

Whether you're buying ingredients for an at home "Coke and Mentos" demonstration, asking a flight attendant for a beverage, or just trying to pour a can of soda into a glass before hockey comes back on, you may have noticed something: Diet sugar-free sodas fizz more than regular sugar-rich sodas when opened.

The degree of carbonation or "fizziness" of a soda is partly a function of how easily carbon dioxide bubbles can form in the sugary flavour water we call pop. When it's easier for bubbles to form, you get more of them and therefore an increased "fizziness".

When a liquid has a high surface tension, it means that the bonds between the liquid's molecules are very strong. Surface tension is why some spiders can walk on water—the spider's weight isn't enough to break apart the water molecules! In a substance with high surface tension, bubbles will not form very easily.

Surfactants are chemicals that decrease the surface tension of a liquid. They will therefore make it a bit easier for bubbles to form. Regarding Diet Coke, aspartame, and potassium benzoate (a preservative) **are surfactants!** Caffeine as well, but it has much less of an effect due to its low concentration.

Bubbles of gas will struggle to form in very viscous liquids, like maple syrup or waffle batter. Diet soda actually has a slightly higher viscosity than sugary soda, which slightly diminishes its fizzing potential. However, a slightly higher viscosity means that when bubbles do form, they're a bit more stable.

This **explains** why Diet Coke not only fizzes more than classic Coke, but the foam also lasts longer!

Compliments of <https://www.mcgill.ca/oss/article/did-you-know>

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

November 2, 2023 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Chapter Meeting— “Successful Skin Care Products Featuring Natural Ingredients: A Technical Perspective”-Howard Epstein
November 24th, 2023 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	Annual Holiday Dinner Dance
February 1st, 2024 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Chapter Meeting— TBA
March 6th, 2024 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Regulatory Day
May 30th, 2024 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Chapter Meeting— Dr. Joe Schwarcz
September 19th, 2024 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Education Day—Joe Dallal
November 7th, 2024 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	SCC Ontario Chapter Meeting—TBA
December 6th, 2024 The Venetian, Vaughan Ontario	Annual Holiday Dinner Dance

## 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 College, 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 [dzuccoli@estee.ca](mailto:dzuccoli@estee.ca). 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 College Cosmetic Science Program and students by providing annual scholarships. Undergraduate students of the Seneca 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.

## NORTHERN HIGHLIGHTS STAFF

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## MEMBERSHIP

For those who would like to become members, yearly fees are \$170US. Applications are available from your Executive Committee or on-line at;

<http://www.sconline.org/membership/>

Please return the completed form at your convenience and reap the benefits of the SCC. For renewal memberships, please send payments directly to the SCC National Office. For your convenience, National will accept payment by **VISA, Mastercard or AMEX**. Please contact National for details.

## Presentation Library

Peruse our wide selection of presentations from previous meetings

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

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### Change of Address

Throughout the year many of our members change jobs or relocate and forget to notify the National Office. Without notification, these members may not receive important mailings and eventually are made inactive. If you know of someone who has moved, please ask them if they have contacted the National Office regarding their address change.