

**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

# Overview of Approved IDEXX Microbiological Methods in Canadian Provinces and Territories 2009

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

### Alberta (CALA and SCC for lab accreditation)

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

### New Brunswick

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

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### Ontario

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

### Manitoba (CALA and SCC for lab accreditation)

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| APHA 9223, 9223B<br>40 CFR Part 141 / TM MICR 002-60<br>EPA 1623 | Total Coliforms / <i>E coli</i><br>Also HPC by SimPlate<br>Crypto Giardia |  |
|--|---|--|

### Quebec (BNQ/SCC for lab accreditation)

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

### Saskatchewan (CALA only for lab accreditation)

#### Standard Methods 20<sup>th</sup> 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)<br>(Colilert)  | total coliform / <i>E coli</i> |  |
| SM9223B  | total coliform / <i>E coli</i> | Drinking, Ground,<br>Surface and<br>Wastewater |
| <b>AOAC: Official Methods of Analysis of the<br/>Association of Official Analytical Chemists<br/>(USA), 15th Edition, 1990</b> |                                |  |

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### Prince Edward Island (CALA and SCC for lab accreditation)

SCC/ CALA accredits based on HC and Ontario MoH

### Newfoundland (CALA only for lab accreditation)

SM 9222B total coliforms

### Yukon Territories (CALA and SCC for lab accreditation)

SM 9223 B total coliforms/*E coli*

### Northwest Territories (CALA only for lab accreditation)

SM 9223 A, B, and 9225 D total coliform/ *E coli*

### Nunavut no information

no information available at this time

\* *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater* (APHA, AWWA, WEF), current Edition, including on-line Edition; includes: Colilert, Colilert-18, Colisure, Quanti-Tray, Quanti-Tray/2000 as method 9223B

\*\*40 CFR Part 141, refers to United States Environmental Agency (US EPA) Section 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 141: National Primary Drinking Water Regulations

\*\*\* *Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater* (APHA, AWWA, WEF), on-line Edition; includes: SimPlate as method 9215E