

## **Course Name: Introduction to Radiation and Radon Gas**

**Course Description:** The objective of this course is to provide awareness about what is radiation, what is radon gas, health effects from exposure, time-distance–shielding, safe work practices, legislation in Canada, past and present uses of radiation. The course content and activities include a PowerPoint presentation, use of radiation survey instruments, various personal protective equipment for workers, and a discussion on Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (NORM).

**Target Audience:** General staff or employees who have may work in facilities where NORM, Radon Gas or other forms of radiation may be used.

**Course Outline:** This course addresses the following topics:

- Radiation: alpha, beta and gamma
- Decay of Radioactive Materials
- Radon Gas
- Health Effects
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Time-Distance-Shielding
- NORM
- Relevant Legislation and Enforcement in Canada

**Length of the Course:** This course is delivered in two (2) hours.

**Course Location:** The course can be delivered at a Jacques Whitford office or at the client's facility.

**Course Evaluation and Certification:** JWTI Certificate.

**Course Pre-requisites:** None.

**Materials:** PowerPoint Handout.

**Supplementary Reading(s):** None.

# Jacques Whitford Training Institute



**Instructor Information:** Ken Bisson is the Director of the Hazardous Building Materials Service Team in Ottawa and a senior reviewer. Ken attended Cambrian College in Sudbury, Ontario for two semesters in 1976 and 1977. He left college to pursue a career in the environment working for 13 years in the Environmental Control Department of Rio Algom Mines Limited in Elliot Lake, Ontario. Ken worked on projects with respect to radiation, radon gas monitoring, spill response, hazardous materials, PCBs and asbestos. He is the National Director of Hazardous Building Materials for the Indoor Environment service line at Jacques Whitford. Mr. Bisson has over 28 years in the environmental industry, Mr. Bisson has worked in almost every environmental field and has been with Jacques Whitford for 8 years. Mr. Bisson's experience ranges from monitoring in the uranium mines in Elliot Lake, Ontario to Radiological, Asbestos, PCB Mold and Lead surveys in Toronto, Ontario and Phase II investigative drilling from Three Rivers, Quebec to Port Alberni, British Columbia. His experience and training in the environmental industry are very diverse. Mr. Bisson started in 1977 with Rio Algom Limited collecting radiological and background data for the environmental assessment of the town of Elliot Lake, the surrounding area and for 12 uranium mines. Mr. Bisson assisted in preparing one of three Rio Algom Limited's annual safety reports for the Atomic Energy Control Board. In 1990 Mr. Bisson became a consultant and since has conducted radiological building surveys, Asbestos, Mold, Lead and PCB investigations and remediation programs across Canada. Mr. Bisson has participated and completed numerous training seminars with respect to Radiation, Asbestos, Lead, PCBs, Mold, use of an X-ray Fluorescent (XRF) spectrum analyzers, Environmental Management/Auditing and Contaminated Sites Investigations and Remediation. He has worked on approximately 1,000 asbestos or designated substances surveys across Canada. He has conducted radiation studies of buildings and property, as well as off shore oil pumping and processing operations to determine or delineate radiological contamination. Mr. Bisson became an accredited Radiation Safety Officer, in 2001. Mr. Bisson has also assisted in the preparation and management of spill response programs for several national clients.

## **Other Important Information:**

**Available Support Services:** If you have any questions, please contact [course\\_admin@jacqueswhitford.com](mailto:course_admin@jacqueswhitford.com) or call Course Admin at JWTI (613) 738-0708 ext. 3204.