

**Keynote: Filtration and Air Cleaning in the Age of COVID-19** 

Jeffrey Siegel, Ph.D. University of Toronto

## **ABSTRACT**

Filtration and air cleaning are having a moment. There is intense focus on removing SARS-CoV-2 from the air and society is engaging with HVAC systems and indoor air quality in an unprecedented manner. This represents both opportunities and challenges. The central opportunity is that the filtration and air cleaning industry can reach new customers and demonstrate value for their products. The central challenge is that there many new products, new technologies, and new approaches, only some of which are effective, and this is creating additional confusion in the market. The purpose of this presentation is to address this challenge and provide the scientific evidence for what filtration and air cleaning measures have been demonstrated to work for SARS-CoV-2 and other related respiratory viruses. A specific focus is on the context for these measures and how they can be used to achieve a healthier indoor environment as well as maximize the COVID-19 risk reduction benefit. The presentation will also address the broader (beyond COVID-19) question: how should filters and air cleaners be used to ensure effective improvement of indoor air quality? The overall goal of the presentation is to ensure that the moment we are in translates into a sustainable future for effective filtration and air cleaning.