

### **3. Selection of Contaminants**

There are many ways by which contaminants can be prioritised. Factors that can be taken into consideration in the decision can include toxicological properties of the contaminants, the level of emissions from different industries found in Toronto (by means of emission factors), the size of the population affected and the magnitude of exposure of the exposed populations, the route of exposure, the persistence of the contaminants, adequacy of federal and provincial regulations, and the quality of the scientific knowledge.

The Project Advisory Committee has developed a list of contaminants to be assessed for their carcinogenic impact in Toronto. These contaminants are selected based on their carcinogenic potencies, the likelihood that there are sufficient sources within Toronto to justify investigation and other factors. The list of contaminants selected for evaluation is presented below.

- 1,3-butadiene
- asbestos
- benzene
- cadmium
- chromium
- polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (dioxins)
- formaldehyde
- PAHs
- tetrachloroethylene
- trichloroethylene

The properties of the selected contaminants are described in detail in Appendix A. Only selected relevant properties are examined in the main report.