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Nota di contenuto	PREFACE -- CONTRIBUTORS -- 1 Canada's Changing Science-Based Policy and Regulatory Regime: Issues and Framework -- Part 1: Macro-Issues and Policy Controversies -- 2 Government Science and the Public Interest -- 3 Between Expertise and Bureaucracy: Risk Management Trapped at the Science-Policy Interface -- 4 Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (Mad Cow Disease): Lessons for Public Policy -- 5 Can Eco-Labeling Undermine International Agreement on Science-Based Standards? 6 Risk-Based Regulatory Responses in Global Food Trade: A Case Study of Guatemalan Raspberry Imports into the United States and Canada, 1996-1998 -- 7 Socioeconomic versus Science-Based Regulation: Informal Influences on the Formal Regulation of rbST in Canada -- Part 2: Science in Regulatory and Risk Management Institutions -- 8 The

Therapeutic Products Programme: From Traditional Science-Based Regulator to Science-Based Risk-Benefit Manager? -- 9 The Canadian Food Inspection Agency: Modernizing Science-Based Regulation. 10 The Pest Management Regulatory Agency: The Resilience of Science in Pesticide Regulation -- 11 Fisheries and Oceans Canada: Science and Conservation -- 12 Patient Science versus Science on Demand: The Stretching of Green Science at Environment Canada -- 13 A Question of Balance: New Approaches for Science-Based Regulation -- 14 Central Agencies, Horizontal Issues, and Precarious Values: Coordinating Science Policy in the Federal Government -- 15 Conclusions: New Institutions and Prospects for Change.

Sommario/riassunto

Risky Business is a comprehensive look at Canada's science-based policy and regulatory regime. It asks what risks Canadians might be exposed to as fiscal pressures strain the capacity of regulators in areas such as food, drugs, pesticides, fisheries, and the environment. The first part of this book focuses the reader's attention on diverse and major themes and issues that pervade science-based regulatory regimes today. The second part suggests a framework for analysis and endeavours to present both sympathetic and critical perspectives on the inner-workings of regulatory departments and agencies in the area of the protection of human and environmental health and safety. Covering such topics as the organizational evolution of regulatory agencies, regulatory bodies' changing sources and levels of funding, a review of the independence of science, and the increased potential for realization of risk, these essays point to the need for these regulators to operate with openness and accessibility in order to maintain public confidence. Indeed, the contributors argue that this openness is crucial to both democratic governance and the development of innovative knowledge economies.
