



News for the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors

Reducing the threat of harm from death cap mushrooms

The Health Protection Branch is partnered with the BC Centre for Disease Control, the Ministry of Environment and other health agencies and mushroom expert groups to identify mitigation steps to reduce the threat of harm from *Amanita phalloides* and other toxic mushroom species that grow in urban environments.

Amanita phalloides – also known as the ‘death cap’ mushroom - is an invasive exotic fungus from Europe that is highly toxic, and if ingested can cause serious liver and kidney damage and possible death. Symptoms include gastrointestinal distress 6 – 16 hours post ingestion, followed by a brief period of false recovery, and then relapse. In British Columbia (B.C.), the death cap mushroom has started to spread to urban areas, and has been reported in the following locations: Victoria, Saanich, and Oak Bay; Vancouver, Mission, and Surrey; and Galiano Island. Common host trees for the mushroom include Hornbeam, English oak, Sweet chestnut, Beech, Filbert, Linden, and Northern red oak. The mushroom usually fruits in the fall, but it can fruit in the summer when yards are watered.

The first recorded death cap poisoning in Canada occurred in 2003 in Victoria, B.C. when a man mistook early blooming death cap buttons for puffballs. The man recovered after hospitalization, but not everyone does, and there has been one recorded death in Victoria, B.C. The BC Centre for Disease Control continues to monitor and survey death cap sightings, as well as reports of poisonings.

The Ministry of Environment, Inter-Ministry Invasive Species Working Group provides a useful Fact Sheet on the death cap mushroom: <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/HRA/invasive-species/Publications/Factsheet%20Death%20Cap%20Mushroom%20Aug%202017.pdf>

If you find a death cap mushroom the following steps are recommended:

- Collect all the mushrooms, bag them, and dispose of them in the garbage (do not compost).
- Wash your hands with soap and warm running water after handling the mushrooms.
- Call the B.C. Drug and Poison Information Centre at 1.800.567-8911

This article is a reproduction from the Health Protection Branch: Quarterly Newsletter of May 2018. Thank you to the Ministry of Health for allowing this content to be republished.

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE. . .

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Branch Update

I'd like to start out by wishing everybody a happy new year, and I hope that the holiday season was filled with joy, cheer, family, friends, and all the other things that make it enjoyable. Reflecting on the past year, both the Branch and CIPHI National accomplished a great deal in 2018: the Branch successfully transitioned into compliance with the new *Societies Act*; recruited a BC rep for CoPE and a couple of new councilors; engaged in a number of member outreach initiatives, including a survey of educational opportunities; transitioned our communications platform to the Google suite; and promoted the profession in local municipalities around the Province during Environmental Public Health Week.

We're starting 2019 off with change on the Executive Council: Gordon Moseley has stepped away from his role as President to focus on his young family and new position at work, and I will be moving into the President position. Gordon has left big shoes to fill, and his commendable work as President has put us into a fantastic position moving into this year. Thanks to Gordon's hard work and leadership, we'll be looking to roll out a number of initiatives this year, including ways to engage our student members in the profession; bringing back educational opportunities for EHOs; raising the profile of the Branch with employers; and updates and modernization to our web presence.

I'm looking forward to moving these, and other, initiatives forward, and am excited to be working with a Council comprised of such dedicated, passionate volunteers. I think you'll like some of the things we've got on the go for this year, and I'd be happy to hear from you if you've got concerns or ideas!

Yours Truly,

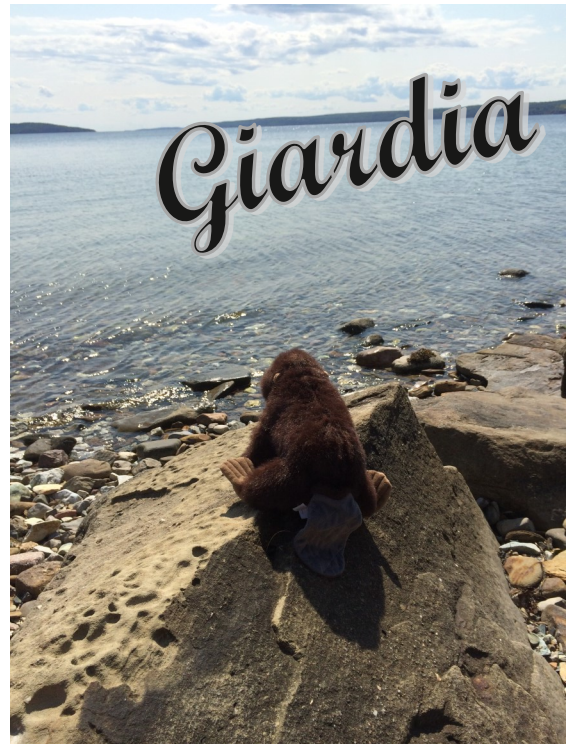


Casey Neathway
BC Branch – President



Hello CIPHI members and environmental health professionals alike! Welcome back again to Giardia's Corner with me, Giardia! Winter hit BC with a vengeance. Overall the weather has been fairly mild but extreme weather conditions hammered the west coast in December. We saw flash flooding in Metro Vancouver, heavy snow on the Coquihalla, and intense windstorms. Perhaps most notably, the windstorms knocked down countless trees, knocked out power, and caused widespread damage that left many people in the dark and cold until Christmas or later... Fingers crossed for a milder tail end to the season.

On a different note, are you interested in getting involved? In this Edition of Giardia's Corner were highlighting the BC Branch's callout for those of you looking to get on board.



CIPHI represents and unites Environmental Public Health professionals across Canada. We advance the profession and the field of Environmental Public Health through certification, advocacy, education, and professional competencies. Through this we protect the health of all Canadians. More information about our organization is available at our website, www.ciphi.ca.

The British Columbia & Yukon Branch of CIPHI is inviting expressions of interest from individuals holding the CPHI(C) designation for the following positions on the Executive Council:

- Executive Secretary
- Councilor (x3)

These roles are great opportunities to advance the profession and network with colleagues across the province, while gaining valuable professional development hours (PDHs) for the CIPHI CPC program.

To express interest, or for more information on the roles and responsibilities of the positions, please email president@ciphi.bc.ca





FNHA staff and community members identify proper use of pressure canners.

BC has one of the highest rates of botulism in Canada, and canned traditional foods are often high protein and low acid (e.g. salmon, deer, moose, etc.) By combining food safety knowledge and support for First Nations community members who are already preserving food, FNHA can help increase safe access to this vitally important foods.

Earlier this year, FNHA supported community members from each region in BC to attend train-the-trainer workshops on food preservation and subsequently brought all of those Community Champions together in Chilliwack for a gathering and training workshop. The Community Champion concept recognize the skills and expertise already held by Nation staff and supports them as



All products canned in community come from tested recipes to ensure proper pH & Aw controls

FNHA EHOs Participate in Food Preservation Workshop

FNHA Environmental Health Officers and Community Programs Support staff participated in a multi-day food preservation workshop with Okanagan Indian Band in October. This hands-on workshop was a continuation of work being done in collaboration with FNHA and First Nations across BC to increase access to traditional foods, and ensure that food preservation is being done in a safe

manner.



Hot water processing of berries.

leaders in their communities. A canning curriculum, including tested recipes and how-to guidance, was recently released by FNHA and is available online at <http://www.fnha.ca/wellnessContent/Wellness/FNHA-Canning-Foods-Your-Guide-To-Successful-Canning.pdf>.

At the workshop in Okanagan, participants prepared and preserved both high and low acid foods using hot water bath and pressure canners. Community members and FNHA staff worked side-by-side, focusing on food safety and proper use of equipment throughout the session. At the end of the session, participants had preserved foods to bring home with them and use throughout the winter, and there was increased knowledge of food safety, and comfort with the use of equipment.

FNHA is continuing to prioritize safe access to traditional foods as a program area and looks forward to supporting more Community Champions in leading these workshops in other communities around BC.

City of Castlegar Wins 2018 Tap Water Taste Test

The City of Castlegar made a big splash at the 5th Annual Tap Water Taste Test at the BCWWA Conference when this first-time competitor took home the top prize of 'Best of the 'Best'. The challenge featured a panel of selected "aqualiers" that judged tap water samples from 12 providers around BC. The judges ranked each sample based on appearance, aroma, taste, mouth feel, aftertaste, and overall impression. The 2018 judging panel included:

- **Robert Haller**, Executive Director, CWWA
- **Alan Forrest**, Vice-President, AWWA
- **Claus Homann**, Board Trustee, WEF

The quality of samples was very high once again this year; the first round of judging resulted in a tie and required a re-pour of the top two samples to determine the final winner.

Thank you to everyone who competed in the 2018 event and for all your hard work in delivering clean, safe and great tasting tap water! Watch for details on the next Tap Water Taste Test which will take place in Victoria, BC during the 47th BCWWA Annual Conference & Trade Show on May 26-28, 2019.



Tim Roark
Branch Historian

Update from NCCEH

NCCEH: Looking Back and Moving Forward

As the new year gets underway, we have an opportunity to share with CIPHI colleagues some of last year's accomplishments, reflect on emerging and expanding public health issues, and invite you, our stakeholders, to share your knowledge and practice needs to assist our planning for a productive 2019. This past year saw a number of steps forward, including work on new environmental health topics and more in-depth examinations of issues that public health continues to face. We also embarked on new approaches to knowledge translation and different formats for getting important information to our stakeholders. This is a brief overview of our recent work and plans for the coming fiscal year.

Knowledge synthesis and translation

As part of our mandate to provide evidence-based knowledge synthesis and translation, we have continued to work on critical issues relevant to public health practitioners. Projects this year covered a wide range of topics that include our work on cannabis and the environmental health risks from personal cultivation (developed into an evidence review and factsheet), a guidance document on public health responses to wildfire smoke events, contributions to a Health Canada document on the management of crude oil incidents, and new topic pages on an array of important issues such as: neonicotinoid pesticides (and pesticide exposure in the urban environment); flood prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery; Indigenous disaster response; and the healthy built environment. We also hosted a secondment with the First Nations Health Authority that focused on [radon testing in BC First Nations communities](#); this partnership is leading into projects on traditional food safety in the wake of climate change pressures as well as safe, healthy, housing for

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NCCEH: Looking Back and Moving Forward Continued. . .

Indigenous communities. As always, we have tried to be as responsive as possible to field inquiries, providing direct responses to assist public health practitioners in their daily work.

Launched in May, the NCCEH began a [blog](#) that provides a venue for us to share content that might fall outside the scope of our regular product types. Our blog is regularly refreshed with new content that include resource lists, opinion pieces, policy announcements, or general commentary on emerging and timely environmental health issues.

This past year, we've also begun working on different methods of getting public health information to our knowledge users. One new format is the use of short animated whiteboard videos. Packed with information that is specifically relevant to public health professionals, we have so far produced two videos: 1) [Extreme Heat Can Be A Killer](#) and 2) [Ration: Public Action and Cancer Prevention](#). We have plans to produce a series of videos on a variety of EH topics, so make sure to subscribe to the [NCCEH YouTube](#) channel. You can also click the notification icon to get updates whenever we publish a new video, including recordings of presentations in our NCCEH Seminar Series.

If you didn't get a chance to read through some of the content that interested you this year, all of our [newsletters have been archived](#) and are available on our site. These monthly reports highlight recently published products, upcoming events, new blog entries, and relevant educational material. They also provide quick summaries of all of our newly released [evidence reviews](#), [guidance documents](#), [topic pages](#), and [field inquiries](#) and can direct you to the full documents so check out the repository for NCCEH's 2018 products.

Knowledge mobilization

Part of our knowledge translation process involves delivering material to our stakeholders in different venues across the country. During the past year we attended several CIPHI conferences, including the CIPHI National Annual Education Conference and branch education events in Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Ontario. We presented on a range of topics, including cannabis cultivation, ethnic foods, plastic contact materials, and climate change and the role of public health. We were also invited presenters for several stakeholder groups interested in our environmental health work such as BC Lung, the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, Nova Scotia Public Health, and Alberta Health Services (Safe Healthy Environments). We again convened and hosted a panel on cannabis and environmental health considerations at the Canadian Public Health Association's Public Health 2018 conference, held in Montreal. Many of these presentations are available in the [Workshops and Presentations](#) section of our website for those who were unable to attend or are looking for the slide decks for reference.

Our environmental public health seminar series offers another way for us to connect with our stakeholders. This year we had invited speakers from across the country speak about rapidly evolving issues in the public health landscape. Dr. Craig Stephen from the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative spoke about conservation as a public health strategy for climate change preparedness. Dr. David Kaiser from Montreal Public Health spoke about public health surveillance of housing conditions. Drs. Nancy VanStone and Paul Belanger from Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health spoke about surveillance systems and the monitoring of health impacts with the changing climate. Maria Mukhtar and David Guillette from Peel Public Health and the Peel Data Centre spoke about mapping the built environ

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BOC EXAMS ARE GOING GREEN
starting 2019 candidates will be
submitting their reports electronically

**JOIN OUR FREE EXAMINER WORKSHOPS TO
LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEW PROCESS**

Workshop Dates: February 5th or 14th
Time: 09:00 - 10:00 PST
to register email: bocbcbranch@ciphi.bc.ca

NCCEH: Looking Back and Moving Forward Continued. . .

ment. These sessions help build capacity on current and emerging topics and offer a national platform for in-depth discussions with experts in the field. These seminars are available in several formats on the [NCCEH Environmental Health Seminar Series](#) webpage and on the [NCCEH YouTube channel](#).

Building capacity

This December, our NCCEH team launched an online [forum on the Healthy Built Environment in Canada](#). The human-made and natural features of the built environment have direct and indirect impacts on physical and mental health outcomes. In fact, we know that aspects of the built environment can influence air quality, traffic injuries, the presence of toxic substances, and can also modify physical activity levels, social connectedness, dietary habits, mobility, and housing. This NCCEH/BCCDC forum is hosted on our website and was created to support cross-sector and pan-Canadian collaboration and discussion, foster resource sharing, and strengthen public health capacity by facilitating a practice of reciprocity across sectors working on built environment issues. As we move into 2019, the forum will continue to involve ongoing network building as well as introducing and connecting professionals in and outside of public health across Canada.

We are further developing capacity through collaborations with the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP). In November 2018 at the [World Town Planning Day](#) we co-presented with the chair of the CIP Healthy Communities Committee to inform planners of our environmental health perspective integrated with the built environment, as well as our priorities for inter-sectoral work in the coming months. One notable collaboration with CIP was our input into their membership survey designed to identify their needs and focus areas going forward. We have also been consulting with experts across Canada on ticks and environmental management, creating networks of professionals who are working on this challenging new issue. When it comes to building capacity at the foundation of public health, we continued to support the Ron de Burger Award for students submitting exceptional evidence reviews and knowledge synthesis reports – a skill essential to working in the public health field. Informally, we take every opportunity to create connections between public health professionals across Canada, bridging both geographic divides and program silos that often prevent individuals and organizations from collaborating meaningfully.

Moving forward

At the end of fiscal year 2019-2020, NCCEH will be completing our second 5-year funding cycle with the Public Health Agency of Canada. We will soon be submitting a proposal for renewal into the next cycle. As the environmental health landscape evolves across Canada, our aim remains to be responsive to the needs of the public health workforce. In the coming year we will continue to align our priorities to major public health issues that broadly fall under climate-driven impacts and health; emergency response and preparedness; healthy built environment; children’s environmental

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Keep up to date on the latest news at the BC Branch website:

www.ciphi.bc.ca

The page also contains information on membership, conferences, career opportunities, documents, and much more. Check it out regularly.

Did you know the BC Branch is on Facebook and Twitter?



Click on the icon to find the BC Branch on Facebook and *Like* the page.



Click on the icon and *Follow* the BC Branch on Twitter.

NCCEH: Looking Back and Moving Forward Continued. . .

health; and, environmental public health practice areas that include food safety, drinking water, waste water, cannabis and edible products, cannabis and second-hand smoke, personal services settings, environmental contaminants found in the physical environment such as radon, and outdoor pollutants.

In 2019-2020 NCCEH will collaborate with the [NCC of Aboriginal Health](#), [NCC of Determinants of Health](#), [NCC of Healthy Public Policy](#), [NCC of Infectious Diseases](#), and the [NCC of Methods of Tools](#) in a project that addresses long-term public health responses to evacuations due to natural disasters in Canada. We will work with individual NCCs on issues such as health equity and environmental public health practice, health equity and healthy built environment, practice and policy clearinghouses for climate change and public health, pharmaceuticals in water systems, and outbreak management (tools and resources).

In terms of the provision of professional development and education, our [Ready-to-Eat Meats: Assessing the Food Safety Risks online course](#) will remain available, as will our [NCCEH Seminar Series](#). The development of an online course based on one of our most downloaded resources, the [mould investigation toolkit](#), is underway and is planned for launch in fall 2019. We will co-promote NCCHPP's [HIA Step by Step course](#), which is currently undergoing redevelopment into a self-paced, self-directed format and shall be available in spring 2019.

As a knowledge translation and mobilization organization the NCCEH consults and partners with stakeholders to support them with the evidence base to make informed practice and policy decisions. While we always welcome your practice inquiries when issues emerge, we also invite you to provide us with feedback on our resources and services. Your feedback is also crucial to our evaluation, both internally and by our funder, the Public Health Agency of Canada. Our [feedback form](#) is available year-round, but now is a great time to share your thoughts about what we can do to help you in your work in the coming year.



National Collaborating Centre
for Environmental Health

Centre de collaboration nationale
en santé environnementale

Radon McMaster University—PDH Opportunity

For non-smokers, radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in Canada – it has been linked to causing the deaths of 3,200 Canadians every year. All homes have some level of radon and talking to your clients about the need to test their homes is an important part of preventing radon-related cancer.

With Radon Action Month in November, and a rising public profile on this carcinogenic gas, it's important to be prepared to discuss the risks of radon with your clients and to be ready to answer their questions.

In order to better equip you to answer your clients' questions about radon and the need for at-home testing, McMaster University, together with Health Canada, the Ontario College of Family Physicians and the Clean Air Partnership, have designed a free, certified program to provide you and your colleagues with reliable, evidence-based information on radon. It's easy to access and free. It only takes one hour to complete – which you can do in one sitting, or multiple sessions. The course is accredited for Continuing Professional Development credit by the College of Family Physicians of Canada (1 Mainpro-M1 credit) and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (1.0 hours).

For more information about radon, or to access the course, visit radon.machealth.ca

Baby Announcement



Nadia White and her husband, Henning, welcomed their new baby boy Logan Nelson Alex White on October 30th, 2018. He was born at 7:26am. He weighed 6.2 lbs.

Older brother, Zavier, will realize that this is who he will now have to share all of his toys with

Congratulations!

Wedding Announcement



Elizabeth Thomson and her husband, James, tied the knot on August 18, 2018 in Nanaimo, BC.

Congratulations!



Elizabeth (right) and retired-colleague, Bill Wrathall (left).



Casey Neathway (left) & Jessica Ip (right) presented Timothy Millard (center) with the 2018 BC Branch Member of the Year Award during the VCH-Fraser Health joint education day in November.

CONGRATS!



Jessica Ip (left picture, right) and Dr. Patricia Daly (right picture right) presented Dr. James Lu with the 2018 BC Branch Honorary Member Award during the VCH-Fraser Health joint education day in November.



VCH-Fraser Health Joint Education Day

November 13 & 14, 2018
BURNABY



Christmas Luncheons





**KELOWNA
RETIREES**



**SOUTH ISLAND
ISLAND HEALTH**



**Central Island—Island Health & First Nations' Health and Lower Mainland—
Vancouver Coastal/Fraser Health all hosted holiday gatherings as well. Apparently
too much fun was had though because not a single picture was snapped. We'll all
have to work on that for next year.....**

Holiday Happenings

The Parksville crew “Environmental Public Health-ified” their gingerbread house, complete with a septic system, well, and aquifer. It unfortunately didn’t land them a win with the office decorating contest but it raised some eyebrows!



Update from FLNRO

Existing Use Groundwater Licensing – Final Reminder

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development would like to thank the EHOs who have helped spread the word on groundwater licensing over the last few years. Most (not all) water supply systems permitted under the *Drinking Water Protection Act* require a groundwater licence if they are supplying groundwater from a well for non-domestic uses. The deadline for existing-use (i.e., used groundwater before February 29, 2016) groundwater licence applications is March 1, 2019. If an application is made before this date, the application fee is waived (at least \$250) and the user gets to keep their priority date of first use.

If an existing groundwater user does not apply but they are required to have a licence, continuation of water use after March 1, 2019 will be unlawful and they will need to apply for, and receive, a new groundwater licence before they can divert water. They will lose their priority date of first use under a new licence. There is also the possibility that their application be refused if there is not enough water available.

As you can see, it is important that existing non-domestic groundwater users know the licensing requirements and apply before March 1, 2019. To help spread this information, could you please remind your clients who are using groundwater that they may need to apply. They can learn more about licensing at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water/water-licensing-rights/water-licences-approvals/new-requirements-for-groundwater-users>. They can apply for a licence at: <http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/Start/surface-water/>.

The EOCP – Past, Present, and Future

by Kalpna Solanki BSc MBA CPHI(C)

With the 50th Anniversary of the Environmental Operators Certification Program (EOCP) in 2016, and the numerous changes the organization has undergone over the past two years, it seems to be an appropriate time to pause and reflect on the history of the EOCP, and what lies ahead.

A program for the voluntary classification of water and wastewater treatment systems and certification of Operators began in BC in 1966 and was run by a small ad-hoc group of individuals who recognized that some standards for the industry were needed – this was the first such organization in Canada. Initially, the organization was registered as the British Columbia Water and Wastewater Operators Voluntary Certification Program (BCWWOVCP). The organization has been instrumental in advocating for facility classification and operator certification leading to the recognition of ‘Environmental Operator’ as a profession, the compensation commensurate with the responsibilities of the position, and ultimately improved protection of public health and the environment.



Logo from 1966

In 1973, the certification bodies from several jurisdictions came together to create an organization to harmonize their activities and provide mutual benefits to their members. The EOCP was one of the Charter Members of this organization, the Association of Boards of Certification (ABC), and remains an active contributing participant of the ABC. Currently, ABC provides most of the examinations that are used in BC and Yukon, and ABC has become the international standard for classification and certification throughout North America, the Caribbean, and parts of Europe.

In 1981, the organization’s first constitution was approved by its membership. This constitution was then updated in 1991, and then again in 2009.

In 1993, 27 years after the formation of the EOCP, the BC Ministry of Environment, Lands, and Parks (MELP) made the classification of municipal wastewater treatment facilities and the certification of their operators a requirement of the permits under which they operate.



Logo from 1995

In 1995, the Society’s name was legally changed to the Environmental Operators Certification Program (EOCP). This name change helped delineate the role of the Society as an entity distinct from others in the province, and to facilitate the expansion of new services in the future.

The promulgation of the BC Municipal Sewage Regulation by the Ministry of Water, Land, and Air Protection in 1999, further increased the responsibilities of the EOCP. Subsequently, in 2001, there was the enactment of the BC Drinking Water Protection Act and Regulation requiring the classification of water treatment facilities and the related certification of the operators working in these facilities. An additional development was the promulgation of the Public Health and Safety Act in 2007, by the government of Yukon, which also mandated the classification of water and wastewater facilities and the related certification of operators who maintain these

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EOCP— Past, Present, and Future Continued...

facilities. In 2015, the BC Municipal Sewer Regulation was replaced with the BC Municipal Wastewater Regulation and required wastewater collection operators to become certified.

These strides by the EOCP, over the past 52 years, established its role for facility classification and operator certification and helped close the loop between ‘watershed to tap’ and ‘drain to watershed’ to enable the prudent management of water and wastewater in BC and Yukon.

In February 2015, the Ministry of Health completed a ‘Directions Report’ that outlined potential changes to the EOCP and its role regarding the governance of water and wastewater facilities and systems.

Then, in 2016, the Ministry of Health contracted MNP LLP to conduct a strategic review of the EOCP’s role and authorities, its governance and function, accountability, and sustainability.

Over the past two years the EOCP has undergone significant change, to enable the organization to better meet the needs of its membership and keep up with technological changes in the industry. The changes have been significant and each change has had a purpose behind it:



1. The new Constitution and Bylaws for the Society were ratified by its membership. The goal of this change was to:
 - a. Better delineate the role of the staff and the board;
 - b. Have regular board renewal by limiting the length of board terms and the number of terms;
 - c. Increase the diversity of the EOCP’s directors – whilst the majority of directors are operators, other stakeholders are represented as well.
2. Development of new classification models for Water Treatment, Water Distribution, Wastewater Collection, and Wastewater Treatment were developed, and implemented. Compared to the old models, the models introduced in 2017 better reflect:
 - a. Operational complexity
 - b. Operational sensitivity
 - c. Operator attention and maintenance
 - d. Consequence/s of failure
 - e. Impact to water/effluent quality
3. A new Customer Relationship Management System was implemented. This has been the largest project ever undertaken by the EOCP and was primarily in response to the need to:
 - a. Become compliant with FOIPPA requirements;
 - b. Link classification, certification, billing, and career management through one portal;
 - c. Allow for the ability to add increased functionality as needed.

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EOCP— Past, Present, and Future Continued...

4. Stricter measures on what constitutes ‘Certification’. This measure was implemented to ensure that qualified operators work at facilities and where operators are not maintaining certification, their employers and the relevant ministries are informed of potential impacts on their liability;
5. Expiring certificates of classification are being issued, with ALL facilities having five-year expiration dates;
6. Working with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change to develop a compliance model that enables better monitoring and compliance with the applicable regulations;
7. Ongoing public relations and communications efforts to increase the awareness of the profession;
8. Development of processes to ensure consistency in policies and procedures;
9. Increase in the number of training and examination opportunities for Operators; and
10. Regular strategic planning sessions involving EOCP directors, staff, and government agencies to map out a path for the future of the EOCP.

Fifty-two years later, the EOCP continues to grow, work with its stakeholders, and evolve to ensure that the needs of operators and employers are met, while continuing to work in the public interest.



**YOU KNOW WHAT
REALLY GRINDS MY
GEARS . . .**

“Oh that? We installed that used, residential UV bulb a few months after you inspected the system last....what’s a Construction Permit?”

Please submit your “heard it a thousand time before one-liners” that you hear in the field over and over to stacey.sowa@viha.ca. Let’s all share in the hilariously annoying joys of our environmental public health experiences.

Retirement—Ginny Jorgensen

Friends gathered recently to celebrate the career and retirement of Ginny. After graduating from BCIT in 1990 and receiving her certification, Ginny started with the City of Vancouver. She worked closely with Randy Ash for 6 years in districts that included Chinatown, Gastown, and the Down Town East Side (DTES). Randy indicated he really enjoyed working with her. He noted that back when they were still involved in housing she worked tirelessly to improve conditions for residents in the DTES and could always be counted on to go above and beyond to help those in some pretty awful situations. In addition, Ginny did extensive work trying to resolve issues of the sale of rice wine by many of the retail food dealers in the DTES to people struggling with alcoholism. Her compassion for the residents was wonderful. Randy also spoke of her dedication in a Vibrio outbreak while on vacation at her cabin she was engaged in reconnaissance of the oyster farms. She took to kayaking out into the area



Ginny (left) and Dr. John Blatherwick (right).



Ginny (left) and Gloria Bailey.

Dr. John Blatherwick has also stated, “Ginny was one of the extra special people I worked with in Public Health. She always had a smile for everybody and always did a great job in a variety of settings. Added extra stress to her work and home life by taking her Master’s Degree but still managed them all. I wish her all the best in her impending retirement.”

We understand Ginny now spends lots of time enjoying life on Hornby Island.

Tim Roark
BC Branch Historian



Tracey Au-Yeung (left) and Ginny (right).

In Memoriam—Kenneth James Nashlund

With his wife at his side, Ken passed away peacefully from dementia. Born to Scandinavian parents Helge & Saimi, he is predeceased by sister Ann and brother Verner. Ken is survived by his second wife, Conchita, ex-wife Barbara, sons Nikolaus (Nonie) & Henrik, and grandchildren Rebecca, Benjamin, & Megan. He loved music, movies, dancing, wine, traveling, and saving money. Ken graduated from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in 1973 and received his CPHI (C) shortly thereafter. Ken was a PHI with the Vancouver Health Department for a number of years before moving to the Richmond Health Department where he worked until his retirement.

Our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Nashlund and their family.

Tim Roark, CPHI(C)
Branch Historian



Kenneth James Nashlund
January 15, 1940 - December 30, 2018

2019 BC Branch Membership Renewal Drive

Keep an eye out! For those of you who paid your Annual CIPHI Membership fee by January 31st, 2019, you will be entered to win a prize!!

- 1st Prize: free membership for 2019 *or* free delegate fee to 2019 CIPHI AEC at the discretion of the recipient
- 2nd Prize: free membership for 2019



BC Branch Executive 2018

www.ciphi.bc.ca

President	Casey Neathway	250-851-4831	Casey.Neathway@fnha.ca
President Elect	Vacant	###-###-####	-----
Past President	Dale Chen	250-645-6474	dzdche@yahoo.com
Treasurer	John Pickles	604-983-6879	john.pickles@vch.ca
Executive Secretary	Vacant	###-###-####	-----

Councilors

Daniel Fong	604-829-2543	daniel.fong@bccdc.ca
Jessica Ip	604-675-3803	jessica.ip@vch.ca
Janelle Rimell	250-549-5758	janelle.rimell@interiorhealth.ca
Paul Cseke	250-519-3632	paul.cseke@viha.ca
Gethsemane Luttrell	250-363-0249	gethsemane.luttrell@fnha.ca
Michael Wu	604-698-5547	michael.wu3@vch.ca
Tiffany Chu	604-661-3867	tiffany.chu@fnha.ca
Elizabeth Thomson	250-947-8222	elizabeth.thomson@viha.ca
Vacant	###-###-####	-----
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Branch Appointees

BC Page Editor	Stacey Sowa	250-947-8222	bcpageeditor@ciphi.bc.ca
BC Branch Historian	Tim Roark	778-574-1188	tdroark@shaw.ca
B.O.C. Coordinator	Kuljeet Chattha	604-675-3831	kuljeet.chattha@vch.ca
B.O.C. Member	Gary Tam	604-675-3845	bocbcbranch@gmail.com
Webmaster	Elden Chan	###-###-####	EldenLChan@gmail.com
CoPE National Chair	Jenny Brown	587-774-5198	cope@ciphi.ca
CoPE BC Representative	Stacey Sowa	250-947-8222	stacey.sowa@viha.ca

BC Branch Address

c/o Casey Neathway
1200-601 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4C2
FAX: 604-736-8651
info@ciphi.bc.ca

Editorial Team

Associate Editor

Casey Neathway (FNHA)
#770 – 175 2nd Avenue
Kamloops, BC V2C 5W1
Casey.Neathway@fnha.ca

Associate Editor

Tim Roark
3301-164A Street
Surrey, BC V3Z 0G5
tdroark@shaw.ca

Associate Editor

Vacant

Editor

Stacey Sowa (Island Health)
489 Alberni Highway
Parksville, BC V9P 1J9
stacey.sowa@viha.ca

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The objective of this newsletter is to keep the members of the BC Branch and other colleagues informed of the local and national events that are of interest and importance to them.

The views, comments, or positions of the BC Page are those of the Editorial Team or the author and do not necessarily reflect those of either the BC Branch or the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors.

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