

## 2016 CIPHI National President's Award

BC's own, Gary Tam, was the much deserving recipient of the 2016 CIPHI National President's Award.

The President's Award is issued to a past member of NEC, BOC, CoPE, or EHFC who had proven to be a motivated and committed member, pushing the field of Environmental Public Health to the next level.

Gary Tam was nominated by two of our most celebrated members, Tim Roark and Keir Cordner. In his nomination letter, Keir spoke of many of Gary's contributions to CIPHI both provincially and nationally. Gary has filled many roles with the BC Branch, including Branch President and with National as the Treasurer; in all of his many roles, he has notably excelled. He has moved our professional organization forward in countless ways through building strong relationships with BCIT, fostering financial stability, and supporting the development of our BC Branch Educational Webinars.

Keir stated, "Gary was an outstanding leader for CIPHI. He was always organized, enthusiastic, innovative, and willing to take on challenging tasks." With a peer review that strong, it is not surprising to see Gary as the successful candidate for this award.

A sincere thank you on behalf of the Branch for all of your contributions and a heartfelt CONGRATULATIONS!

Stacey Sowa, Editor

Check out [Giardia's Corner \(Page 4\)](#) to get the insider scoop on Gary!



(ABOVE) Gary Tam (left) receiving the 2016 CIPHI National President's Award from Kari Engele-Carter, Saskatchewan Branch President

### HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE. . .

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Fall is in the air again and to quote one of the literary greats, “frost sharps the middle music of the seasons, and all things living on earth turn home again...” Trust me, I am not normally big into poetry but it just seemed apropos as I interpret this as enjoying your Thanksgiving with you friends and/or family and that ready or not old man winter is just around the corner. So as we prepare ourselves for the pending snow season, I would like to provide you all with a few highlights from the BC Branch from past few months and what we have left in store for you for the remainder of the year.

## **New Faces to BC Branch Executive...**

It is with great pleasure I would like to announce the addition of Ms. Janelle Kwan to the BC Branch Executive as a new Councillor and I would like to introduce Ms. Jennifer Beverly as the new BCIT Second Year Student Liaison with the Executive Council for the 2016/17 School year. I would also like to welcome quickly back after a brief respite, Mr. Gary Tam whom has been identified as our new BC Rep on the National BOC Committee. Lastly, but certainly not least I would like to formally recognise Mr. Cole Diplock whom last year agreed to volunteer as our BC Branch Representative with National Council of Professional Experience (CoPE). On behalf of the current Executive Council, I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome and appreciation for your additional commitment to the profession!

## **2016 Fall Educational Webinar Series**

It is unfortunate that the Earthquake Hazard and Public Health Inspectors in BC Emergency Management System had to be rescheduled till Nov. 30, 2016 as we had received great interest in this topic to date. We hope that this will only be a minor inconvenience for most and that this will still be a highly anticipated and well attended webinar. That being said, we have received good feedback on the Outbreak Toolkit webinar held on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup>. The next webinar is scheduled for Nov. 9 on the BCIT Student Presentation of FRESH: Farmed and Raised – Eating for Student Health.

## **2017 National Annual Education Conference...**

If you have not already heard over the past few weeks, Vancouver Coastal Health and your BC Branch are teaming up to host the 2017 National AEC in Richmond. This will be the first time back to the west coast since the joint 2010 IFEH/AEC Event was held, shortly after the Vancouver Winter Olympics. Stay tuned for further updates as the details of this great event are ironed out over the next few months.

## **2016 BC Branch AGM and Christmas Luncheon...**

For those whom are starting to get into the festive spirit, a reminder again that the 2016 BC Branch AGM and Lower Mainland Christmas luncheon will again be hosted on Thursday December 8, 2016 at the Holiday Inn Vancouver Centre. See the insert within this issue for more details.

In closing I trust you will all enjoy this latest installment of the BC Page and remind you, especially for those who have kids at home, that there is only 60 shopping days or less left until Christmas...no pressure ;)

All the Best this Holiday Season,



Gordon Moseley



# BC BRANCH CIPHI SUCCESS, FROM 1997, THAT IS STILL PAYING DIVIDENDS FOR YOU

Back in 1997, Grace MacIver, President of the BC Branch, made a presentation to the Labour Relations Board of BC. She outlined the national certification of PHIs by CIPHI and the 1995 Board of Certification requirement for a degree to enter the profession. The LRB accepted the presentation and PHIs were approved as "Paramedical Professionals".

As a direct result of the degree requirement to enter the profession, all PHIs, whether they had degrees or not, moved from Grid 7 to Grid 8 resulting in an \$1,872.00 raise in pay per year effective thereafter. This also resulted in a significant boost in the pension for future retiring PHIs.



Grace MacIver, BC Branch President,  
1995-1997

## Financial benefit incurred by PHIs based on years of service since 1997:

1 year = <b>\$1,872</b>	8 years = <b>\$14,976</b>	15 years = <b>\$28,080</b>
2 years = <b>\$3,744</b>	9 years = <b>\$16,848</b>	16 years = <b>\$29,952</b>
3 years = <b>\$5,616</b>	10 years = <b>\$18,720</b>	17 years = <b>\$31,824</b>
4 years = <b>\$7,488</b>	11 years = <b>\$20,592</b>	18 years = <b>\$33,696</b>
5 years = <b>\$9,360</b>	12 years = <b>\$22,464</b>	19 years = <b>\$35,568</b>
6 years = <b>\$11,232</b>	13 years = <b>\$24,336</b>	20 years = <b>\$37,440</b>
7 years = <b>\$13,104</b>	14 years = <b>\$26,208</b>	

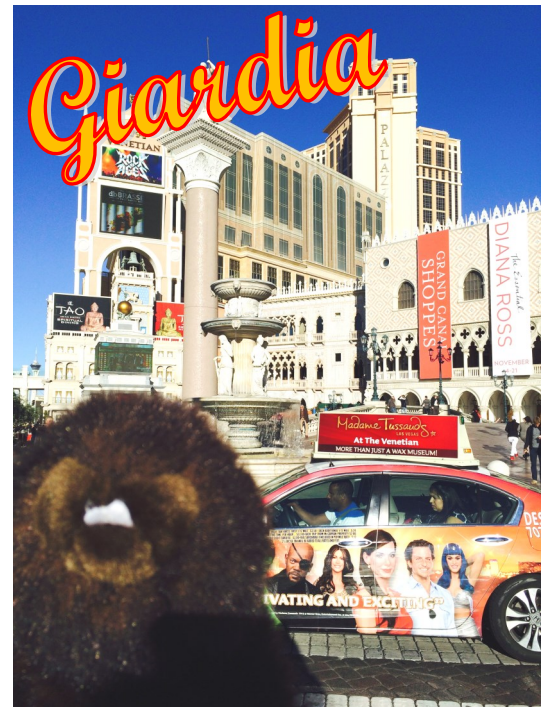
Would an increase in your pay, potentially exceeding \$37,440 and a further significant increase in your pension as long as you were alive, not be as good a reason for joining and supporting the Institute?

Tim Roark, BC Branch Historian



Hello CIPHI Members and environmental health professionals alike! Fall is settling in, the bustle of summer fairs is trickling away, and the winter rains are on their way. Watch out surface water systems! For this segment of Giardia's Corner, you have an opportunity to see a familiar face. Many of us know Gary Tam from his years of wonderful service with the Branch Executive. Today we get to know Gary as the newest BOC BC Rep.

A waiter in Sherbrooke, Quebec was arrested for criminal negligence after he served salmon to a customer who informed him that he was dangerously allergic. The victim was in a coma for several days. The crown prosecutor decided to not pursue the case and the charges were eventually dropped.



## Gary Tam—BOC BC Representative

**Q1: What school did you go to for the ENVH program? What year did you graduate?**

A1: BCIT, 2004

**Q2: Where have you worked and what roles have you been in throughout your career?**

A2: High Level Alberta as a generalist for two years before moving back to BC. Currently a generalist in VCH-Richmond.

**Q3: How have you seen the focus of Environmental Public Health change over the years?**

A3: Definitely changed a lot. EPH focuses on healthy built environment and food security to reduce chronic diseases.

**Q4: What is one of the most memorable moments or situations in your career so far?**

A4: Too many great moments. One of the moments was that when I was working in High Level, a property manager decided to gut the rental unit (the sidings, insulation, and wiring) while a physically-handicapped elderly with alcoholic addiction was still living in there. I had to issue an Order to condemn the unit and another Order to vacate the unit (note: they were the first two orders I issued in my career). The property manager decided to appeal both orders to the Appeal Board. After a lopsided discussion during the hearing, the Board decided to uphold the Orders.



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**Q5: As an EHO/PHI, one of your primary roles is to look for problems or issues; how have you stayed positive?**

A5: Bear in mind that this is a job that can make positive impacts in the communities if we follow the right process with the right mindset. Follow the process of education, coercion, and enforcement (with effective progressive compliance tools and communication), problems/ issues will be resolved eventually.

**Q6: On a scale of Educator to Enforcer, where would you place your health inspector style?**

A6: This is a tough question. I consider myself both depending on the situation as I can utilize either role during the same inspection.

**Q7: Legislative recognition for CIPHI passed in Sept 2013, what do you see as the next big goal for CIPHI's BC Branch?**

A7: Mandatory membership for all EHOs in BC. CIPHI CPC Program to be legislatively recognized as the continuing education program under BC Public Health Act.

**Q8: You're currently the BOC Representative for the BC Branch, what are the biggest challenges in your role?**

A8: Looking at an innovative and contemporary method to test candidates' knowledge & skills instead of using the conventional exam structure for written and oral BOC.

**What is one of your favourite quotes?**

- Success is not about how much money you make, it's about the difference you make in people's lives.

~ Michelle Obama

**What is your favourite indoor/outdoor activity?**

- Indoor—Gym; Outdoor—Photography and bringing my puppy to dog parks

**If you could witness any event past, present, or future, what would it be?**

- Back in the beginning, to see how the universe was created

**If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?**

- Surfing

**If you could meet anyone, living or dead, who would you meet?**

- My mother

**WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER:**

1. **Read on a Kindle or paperback book?**
  - Paperback book
2. **Visit Europe or Mexico?**
  - Europe
3. **Go to a comedy club or a dance club?**
  - Dance club
4. **Watch sports or play sports?**
  - Watch sports (Go Canucks Go!)
5. **Win the lottery or find your perfect job?**
  - Lottery (duh!)

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

[www.ciphi.bc.ca](http://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.

**CIPHI BC BRANCH  
2016 FALL WEBINARS**

<p><b>Enteric Outbreak Toolkit</b> September 22, 2016 09:00 – 10:00 (PDT) Christine Gardhouse – PHAC</p> <p><b>Earthquake Hazard and Public Health Inspectors in the BC Emergency Management System</b> <b>DATE CHANGE</b> – November 30, 2016 09:00 – 10:00 (PST) Kathryn Forge – BC MoH John Lavery – HEMBC</p>	<p><b>FRESH: Farmed and Raised – Eating for Student Health – FREE!</b> November 09, 2016 09:00 – 10:00 (PST) Kristen Houwers, Helen Wang, Matthew Loo, Kelson Mah – BCIT</p> <p><b>Understanding Professional Development Hours Entry – FREE!</b> November 22, 2016 09:00 – 10:00 (PST) Keir Cordner – CoPE/FNHA</p>
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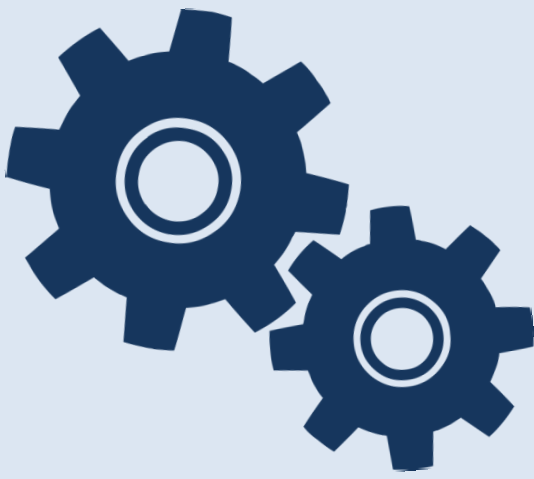




**Congratulations Atlantic Branch!!**

Congratulations to CIPHI’s Atlantic Branch who celebrated their 60th Anniversary on May 30th, 2016. In official terms, there are now three Atlantic Branches: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland & Labrador, however, these branches are still tightly knit and identify closely with their Atlantic Branch roots. Congrats on 60 years of advancements and successes with CIPHI and in the environmental public health field.





# YOU KNOW WHAT REALLY GRINDS MY GEARS . . .

When a restaurant operator states: “This food is completely safe because it doesn’t have meat or dairy in it”

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](mailto:stacey.sowa@viha.ca). Let’s all share in the hilariously annoying joys of our environmental public health experiences.

*BC Lower Mainland*

*CIPHI Christmas Luncheon*

*Join the CIPHI Christmas Luncheon for some holiday cheer!*

Thursday, December 8, 2016

12 noon – 1:30 pm

Holiday Inn

711 W Broadway, Vancouver, B. C.

Branch or Retired Member \$30/Non-Member \$35/Student \$25  
Register and pay your designated rep in each HSDA by November 24

Vancouver – Jessica Ip  
Richmond – Gary Tam  
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi – John Pickles  
Fraser Health – Daisuke Serizawa  
BCIT – Jennifer Beverley





# Highlights from Edmonton: 2016 CIPHI Annual Educational Conference

# 2016

CIPHI ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE



(ABOVE) Richard Taki (center) receives the Hedgerow Software Ltd. Award, on behalf of Angelo Kouris. Neil Grinwis (right), President of Hedgerow Software presented the award; Klaus Seeger (left), Vice Chair of the EHFC was also present.



(ABOVE) First Nations Entertainment.



(LEFT) First Nations Entertainment—throat singer. (RIGHT) Keir Corder (left and Tara Hluchy (right)).

(BELOW) The National Executive Council taking a “break” from their CIPHI duties; photo including Ann Thomas (4th from the left), National President and Dale Chen (left), BC Branch President



(ABOVE) Gary Tam (left) and Keir Corder (right) hanging out at the evening festivities.



## Baby Announcements



Jas Sajan, her husband San, and their daughter Aykta welcomed brand new baby boy Saivyk on July 24th! Saivyk donned a full head of hair!

**Congratulations!**

Judy Juatco and her husband Len welcomed little baby boy, Dax Lee Juatco, a wee bit early on July 29th! Dax was 6lbs 4oz.

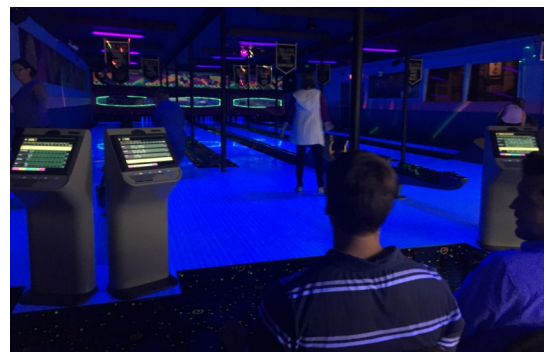
**Congratulations!**



## News from Island Health



At their recent all staff meeting, the Island Health crew had to postpone their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mini-Golf tournament due to heavy rainfall. As an alternative, they entered into a grueling battle of Cosmic Bowling! The highest score award went to Paul Cseke, who won the lowest score title in mini-golf last year. A big thanks to CIPHI who sponsored the event!



# Wedding Announcements



Janelle Kwan and her husband Chad tied the knot on  
October 1, 2016 in Vernon, BC.

Congratulations newly weds!



## Update from NCCEH

**We are looking for your input!**

### **NCCEH online survey on environmental health needs and gaps**

The National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health (NCCEH) promotes the use of scientific knowledge to strengthen public health practice, programs, and policies in Canada. To do so, we seek input from stakeholders on current and emerging environmental health issues and knowledge gaps relevant to environmental health practice.

In 2015-2016, the NCCEH completed the first stage of the assessment in the northern regions of Canada. For this project, northern Canada includes Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and regions north of the 50<sup>th</sup> parallel in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and Newfoundland and Labrador. The project involved interviews with key informants which included a representative sample of medical health officers, environmental health program directors and managers, consultants and other specialists, and senior public health inspectors.

Northern Canada is characterized by its unique geography and climate, which pose additional challenges for environmental health practitioners. Over 40% of the population in the three territories live in rural, remote, and isolated communities; 26% of the population in Yukon and over 50% of the population in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut identify as Aboriginal. In contrast, 4.3% of the total Canadian population identify as Aboriginal. This highlights the need for innovative approaches and considerations when developing evidence-informed interventions to address environmental health issues in the north.

Based on an analysis of interview responses from northern key informants, the most frequently mentioned issues

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## UPDATE FROM NCCEH Continued

were overcrowding (79%), climate change and potential environmental health impacts on northern communities (74%), substandard housing infrastructure (68%), wildfire smoke (58%), small drinking water system issues (58%), and contaminants in country and traditional foods (53%). Further details on the needs assessment methods and findings were summarized in the [Environmental Health Review article](#).

The NCCEH is continuing the next phase of the environmental health needs assessment throughout the rest of Canada in a similar manner. Key informant interviews in the Atlantic region of Canada have now been completed, and data is currently being analyzed.

An online needs assessment survey has been developed to gather perspectives from public health inspectors across Canada. This survey allows practitioners to share their thoughts and suggestions regarding emerging or challenging environmental health issues and knowledge gaps. An added goal is to determine user opinion on our information products. Your input is important to us and we invite you to submit your response in the [NCCEH online survey](#). The survey will remain open until November 15, 2016. If you have any questions, please contact Tina Chen, Knowledge Translation Scientist at the NCCEH, at [Tina.Chen@bccdc.ca](mailto:Tina.Chen@bccdc.ca).

## “Getting to Know You” - Island Health Leadership



Island Health's Leadership Crew: (left to right) Charlene MacKinnon, Craig Nowakowski, Ann Thomas, Shaun Malakoe, Joanne Lum, Cole Diplock

### Ann Thomas – Regional Manager, Health Protection & Environmental Services

Ann Thomas had been a member of CIPHI prior to graduating from the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) and subsequently received her CPHI(C) in 1988.

Her career began in Fort St. John, British Columbia followed by several years in Hay River and Inuvik in the North West Territories. Eventually she returned to northern BC as a Chief Environmental Officer followed by a move to the Ministry of Health in 2000 to the position of Manager – Environmental Health. Since 2003 Ann has held the position of Regional Manager for Health Protection for the Island Health Authority.

Ann has participated in various CIPHI activities and committees over the years including:

- Editor for the “BC Page” newsletter from 1989-1999.

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- Member of the Board of Certification (BOC) 2001-2002
- BOC representative on the BCIT Environmental Health Advisory Committee from 2002-2004
- Chair of the BOC from 2002-2010
- President CIPHI January 2015 - present

Ann considers her involvement with CIPHI to be one of the most rewarding aspects of her career and feels privileged to be given the opportunity to support the profession as a member of the National Executive Council.

## Charlene MacKinnon – Team Lead Environmental Health—North Island

Charlene was one of the first graduating class members from the Environmental Health Program at Cape Breton University in 1998. She moved to Campbell River, BC from Cape Breton after graduation, and since then all her wages have gone to buying plane tickets to fly back east to visit family and friends. Charlene helped start up an Occupational Health and Safety consulting business with a partner after arriving in Campbell River, until she landed her first job in Environmental Health in Dawson Creek, BC with Northern Health. She has worked with Island Health in Campbell River since 2000, and has been the Senior Environmental Health Officer for the past ten years. Charlene constantly feels the pressure of having to repeat herself to her fellow management colleagues because they never seem to be able to interpret her well preserved east coast accent.

## Cole Diplock – Leader of Operations Support

Cole graduated from BCIT in 2007 and started working on Vancouver Island out of the Courtenay office. With the ninety-minute commute from Ladysmith to Courtenay seriously compromising his sleep, Cole strategically moved to the Port Alberni office and, after amassing a serious Mr. Potato Head collection, moved into the Duncan office in 2009. In 2011, Cole took on the role of Regional Environmental Health Consultant, overseeing the Food, Recreational Water, and PSE programs for Island Health. He has recently moved into a new Leader of Operations Support position in Nanaimo.

## Craig Nowakowski – Supervisor Environmental Health

Craig graduated from BCIT in 1995 in what will probably go down as the best class of all time! Back to his home province of Manitoba, Craig worked as a student and then EHO for just over a year in Winnipeg. Looking for a change from the keystone province, Calgary was the next stop where he was the Health Education Lead for three years until 1999. Onward and northward, Craig moved to Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories where he learned to properly fish... and work as an EHO, and then Senior EHO for the next 7 years. Enough of the cold and snow and further west to Victoria, BC in 2006 where he started as the Communicable Disease Consultant for four years, Senior EHO for five, and now is the Supervisor of the Health Protection program at Island Health. During his time in Victoria, Craig has been involved with CIPHI as the Chair for the Council of Professional Experience (CoPE).

In his time away from work, Craig is working on his next career as a craft beer brewer....and taster!

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## Joanne Lum – Team Lead Environmental Health—South Island

Joanne Lum is a Senior Environmental Health Officer with Island Health (Victoria), leading a team of eleven EHOs. She has been in the Environmental Health profession for sixteen years. After fourteen years of being in Vancouver, where she worked for Vancouver Coastal Health, she decided to uproot and settle in the City of Gardens.

Born and raised in Victoria BC, Joanne enjoys being back in her hometown with her family. She appreciates the nature, community and lifestyle this once “small town” offers. Though busy with three young children, she and her husband enjoy being a tourist in their own town. They have a passion for travelling, and look forward to one day be able to pack a suitcase with their own belongings, instead of just diapers. She also enjoys tennis, volleyball, photography, cooking, and playing superheroes with the kids.

## Shaun Malakoe – Team Lead Environmental Health—Central Island

Shaun is the Senior Environmental Health Officer for Central Vancouver Island. Shaun grew up in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and attended BCIT’s Environmental Health program. He returned to Saskatchewan where he “cut his teeth” in rural prairie towns, until moving back out west, where he worked for the Fraser Valley Health Region. Once he got sick of wearing a tie, he moved to Nelson to become a hippy and was promoted to Senior Environmental Health Officer. Shaun made the move over to the Island and hasn’t looked back.



[foodsafety.ca](http://foodsafety.ca)

### FOODSAFE Level 1

In person, online, correspondence

### FOODSAFE Level 2

In person, online

### FOODSAFE Level 1

#### Online Refresher

For those who have previously taken BC FOODSAFE Level 1

### MarketSafe

In person, online **\*NEW\***

FOODSAFE and MarketSafe materials are available from [crownpub.bc.ca](http://crownpub.bc.ca).

### Where to Find Courses

In Person (BC): [foodsafety.ca/course\\_search](http://foodsafety.ca/course_search)  
[foodsafety.ca/marketsafe\\_course\\_search](http://foodsafety.ca/marketsafe_course_search)

Online: [openschool.bc.ca/info/foodsafety/index.html](http://openschool.bc.ca/info/foodsafety/index.html)

Correspondence: [go2hr.ca](http://go2hr.ca)

Worried about getting your PDHs in on time?

Concerned about your continuing competencies?

Wanting to strangle your BC CoPE Rep?



Your PDH submissions are due **January 31st**. If you have any questions about inputting your professional development hours, give CoLE a call at 250-740-6988.

## BC Branch Executive 2016

www.ciphi.bc.ca

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## Editorial Policy

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.

The Editorial Team reserves the right to edit material submitted, solicited or unsolicited, for brevity, clarity, and grammatical accuracy.

## Advertising Policy

The BC Branch will accept advertising relating to health & environmental issues, products, and services. Advertisements that the editorial team concludes are contrary to good public health practice or environmental protection goals, or those deemed offensive or not in good taste, will not be accepted.

### Advertising Rates

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There is a 25% discount for a commitment of at least six consecutive issues. Changes can be made in the ad format or content during this period. Ads should be camera-ready; any extra costs necessary to prepare the ad material may be charged to the advertiser.