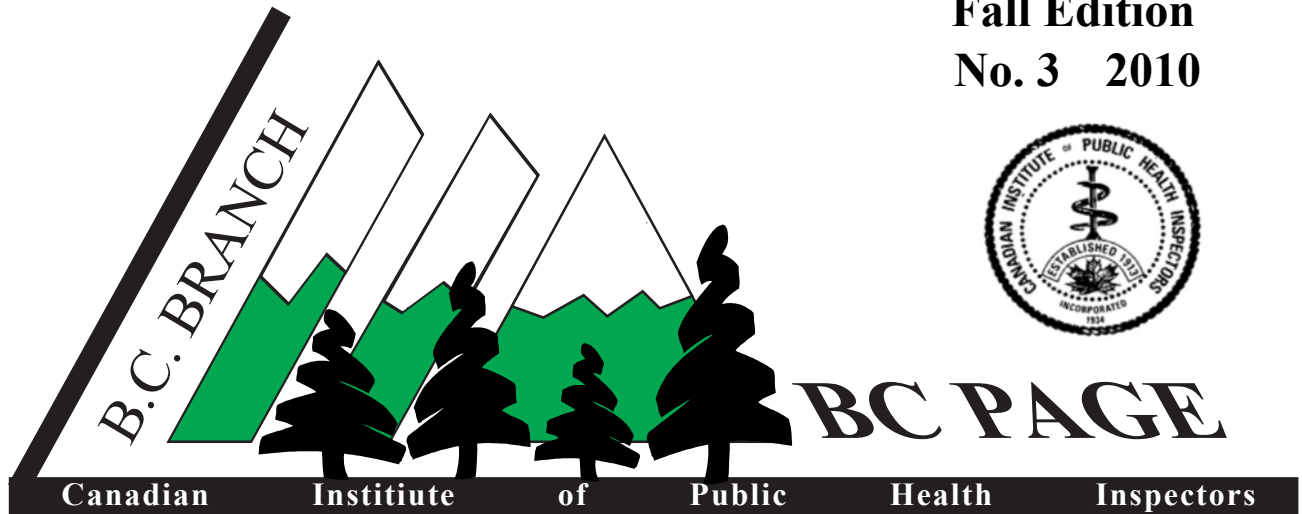


Fall Edition  
No. 3 2010



## IFEH & CIPHI Conference: Vancouver 2010 Global Health Protection From Sea to Sky

Conference Opening Ceremonies  
Photos from right clockwise: The  
view from the conference venue, the  
Westin Bayshore; chinese dragon;  
Squamish First Nation dancers



### Highlights...

Faces of BCIT	Page 4
Raw Milk Article	Page 6
BC Branch Awards	Page 9
Conference Reports	Page 11
Conference Photos	Page 19

## Message From The Editor

**I**nspired! In one word this sums up the feeling I left the International Federation of Environmental Health 2010 Conference, with.

The conference, held in Vancouver in early September, was a wonderful venue for meeting and networking with Environmental Health practitioners from around the world. Although the delegates came from a wide variety of places one thing was clear, everyone was passionate about their work and the health of their communities. The many presenters were able to demonstrate a unique view of environmental public health brought from their area of work, and the world. For example, a presentation on First Nations and how they've implemented self sustaining community water systems in remote Alaska showed solutions can be found for difficult problems.

The evening events were held at venues that showcased the beautiful city of Vancouver and were a wonderful combination of relaxation after a long day and fun social outings.

The keynote speakers were one of the great highlights of the conference. Each speaker told an interesting tale from their work and life. Dr. Dave Williams, medical doctor, astronaut, and scuba diver, gave us a new perspective on our environment with some stark realities of the impacts of humans on our planet. Larry Beasley, community planner, talked about the importance of a Healthy Built Environment and 'green' communities. The impact of the environment, both physical and built, on health is huge. As environmental public health practitioners and as global citizens we must consider this and do what we can to improve both environments.

Ashleigh McIvor, Olympic gold medalist, inspired us to realize that we can achieve what we set out to do; hard work and perseverance pay off. But for me it was to speech of Dr. Samantha Nutt, medical doctor and advocate currently with War Child Canada, which really struck me.

The room was silent as Dr. Nutt told the story of small children in war torn countries taken to fight battles not even adults should have to endure. She also spoke of women, young and old alike, who are not safe in their own communities and experience horrific violence. But through all this horror there was a glimmer of hope. We can help, we can make a difference, a change. Awareness is the first step but what we chose to do with this knowledge is up to us.



Alex Nilsson, Greta Kos and Alex Kwan are three inspirational members of our Branch who were recognized with awards at our recent AGM. Mr. Nilsson has spent his life giving back to his community and profession – if you ever get a chance be sure to have him tell you the story of his Canadian citizenship hearing! Greta Kos also gives back to her community and the BC Branch – anyone who has attended a CIPHI event in Vancouver has likely seen her beautiful work with flower arrangements. Alex Kwan was honoured with the Member of the Year award for his work and dedication to the Branch and in particular this newsletter. Not only did Alex edit the BC Page for four years he has continued on as a huge support to this editing team. Thanks Alex, you deserved this award!

At the conference I was surrounded by all these inspirational people it was hard not to be inspired. But it cannot end there; we all need to find something that inspires us – preferably daily. Inspiration gives us a reason to get up in the morning, that burst of energy we need for a fresh outlook or rejuvenation from the mundane of the everyday. Be inspired to make a difference in your community, personal and professional life. Just think about what we could accomplish, both as individuals and as a collective, if we just made the decision to do *something*.

Respectfully,

Sarah MacDougall,  
Editor



## President Elect Branch Update



Carving turkey, spreading gravy on mashed potatoes, joining hands to say grace, these are the great Thanksgiving dinner rituals many of us experience each year. Yes! CIPHI – BC Branch has so many things to give thanks for this year. The greatest of all is to witness how the International Federation of Environmental Health Congress 2010 unfolded after many months of planning. Having partaken in the planning process, sometimes it is easy to get distracted with numerous meticulous matters, and thus we might forget the purposes of the conference: to deepen our knowledge in environmental health, to level our competency in the profession, and to network and support Environmental Public Health Professionals around the world.

The conference began with a rich flavor of multicultural rituals to welcome guests from around the world; followed by an inspirational presentation from our keynote speaker, Dr. Williams, a Canadian astronaut who shared his out-in-space perspectives of the earth environment and human lives. Indeed, sometimes we can get bogged down by our routine cycles of inspections, investigations, policy development, research, and management; and forget how human behavior and activities can seriously affect the world; and how our work can positively change environmental health globally. Over 400 delegates from around the world were then showcased with more than 100 presentations and workshops in four days.

The presentation that struck many delegates the most, including myself, would be Dr. Samantha Nutt, the keynote speaker who is an advocate and the founder of War Child Canada. It is a non-profit organization which raises awareness and support to children affected by wars. She particularly shared her experience in Congo, Africa where children carry AK-47's and are forced to fight for rare natural resources in the country; and women in communities are undignified by young HIV-affected soldiers. Her presentation was heavy and shocking; but it initiated awareness, questions, understanding, and most importantly the action needed to help these

children and their parents during war. It also reminded us how fortunate we are to be able to live freely in a civilized and developed country.

In this season of thanksgiving, I would like to take the opportunity to thank once again the organizers and volunteers who made the IFEH 2010 Conference successful for delegates around the world. I also would like to thank our BC Branch Executives and volunteers who have taken their valuable personal time, energy, and passion for the members of this branch during the past year. As we look ahead, our social committee will hold annual Christmas luncheons in various locations of the province to celebrate this joyous occasion. It will surely be another great chance for members to connect, to share, and to celebrate achieved goals and successes in the year of 2010.

Best regards,  
Gary Tam  
President-Elect  
CIPHI – BC Branch



## FACES of BCIT

### Lorraine Woosley

Where has the time gone?

It's hard to believe that I graduated from the BCIT Diploma program in 1979. The time has flown by. Back then, there were no female EHOs in the Burnaby Health Department. I was the first female student to complete a practicum with that agency, back when George Armson was Chief EHO. In those days we did two practica and my second practicum was completed in Simon Fraser Health Unit where Frank Hartigan was Chief EHO. I then went on to work for almost 10 years in the Richmond Health Department under the direction of Chuck Watkiss, Chief EHO and Kelvin Higo, Senior EHO.

Looking back, the Richmond Health Department office was not a very healthy place to work in 1979. In that day and age there were no smoking restrictions. The Medical Health Officer, Chief EHO, Senior EHO and Head secretary were all cigarette smokers. Walking into the office in the morning meant walking into a fog bank of second-hand smoke! Thank heavens indoor air quality has improved since then.

Working at Richmond Health Department was a great experience and I especially appreciated being mentored by Kelvin Higo and Art Hamade. I thank them both for all their patience and guidance.

In 1989 a position for an Assistant Instructor came open at BCIT and I was hired on. The next year I secured a Faculty position and then took on the Program Head position in 1992. Since the early 1990s there have been many exciting and challenging projects for our program – including several BOC Accreditation Reviews and the development of our Bachelor of Technology (BTech) degree program. The first intake of 4-year students was in 1997. This was followed by the “Direct Entry” (2-year option) in 1998 that ran concurrently with the 4-year program. Eventually we made the difficult decision to discontinue the 4-year program and to only offer the 2-year program as a completion degree (applicants must have a minimum of 2 years of post-secondary education to enter the current program).

How many students have I seen graduate? As an estimate, let's say we've had an average of 20 grads per year since 1990. Over 20 years, that comes out to 400 graduates! So I hope you'll forgive me if I see you at a meeting or a conference and I can't recall your name immediately. Working at BCIT has resulted in some wonderful travel experiences. In 1997 I had the privilege of spending 2 weeks in Malaysia on a work-related project and I was able to add some vacation time on afterwards. I've been able to attend a number of very enjoyable CIPHI conferences in other parts of Canada. There have also been numerous opportunities for non-work related travel. In 1999 my husband and I travelled to the United Arab Emirates, then to Africa in 2004 and to New Zealand and Australia in 2007. The photo I selected to accompany this article was taken north of Brisbane where the sugar cane grows incredibly tall. I have some terrific photos of the lions in Africa but I'm not in any of those!

Every year at BCIT brings a new class of students and a new group of graduates. It is an honour to be part of the education of so many talented individuals!



## FACES of BCIT

### Vince Crozier

Greetings to all.

I'm Vince Crozier and I have been teaching in the Environmental Health Department at BCIT since August 2001. I started my career as a PHI at the Thunder Bay District Health Unit upon my graduation from Ryerson Polytechnic University in 1994. While working at the TBDHU, I



quickly became involved in teaching the food safety courses which we taught with our partner, Confederation College. Two years later, I pitched the idea to my supervisor to take over the administration of the food safe program from the college and give the HU more flexibility in delivering this valuable educational material to operators of food premises. I completely designed our new two day level 1 and level 2 programs and imputed all the information in power point presentations and developed our own exams and class workbooks for the students. In doing so I discovered my passion for teaching and made it my goal to obtain a Master's Degree and pursue teaching at one of Canada's Universities teaching an Environmental Health Program. I obtained a Master's of Health Science, in Health Administration from the University of Toronto in 1997. From that point on (with consent from my supervisor) I was moved out of field inspection work and was given the opportunity to be a special projects inspector. I was put in charge of teaching all the foodsafe courses, any media relations involving environmental health, new health promotion initiatives like Eat Smart Program, rewarding restaurants that offered smoke free eating, food safety and health eating choices, and problem housing complaints. Then in the summer of 2001 I saw a posting at BCIT looking for a full time instructor. Needless to say I was offered the job and moved to beautiful British Columbia to start my new

continued on page 6

### Nick Potter

Biography

Nick Potter, CIPHI(C)

Faculty member, Assistant Instructor and Instructor

School of Health Sciences Environmental Health

Phone # 604 451 6712

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I graduated from BCIT in 1972, with my diploma of technology. I worked as a Public Health Inspector in the Province of British Columbia for thirty (30) years, having worked in the Northern Interior Health Unit, Central Fraser Valley Health Unit, Boundary Health Unit, Fraser Health Authority and Health Canada. Currently, I work at BCIT as a faculty member with the Environmental Health program, as an Assistant Instructor and Instructor. I have been a BOC examiner and a member of the CIPHI(c) for over 35 years. I bring a wealth of knowledge and practical experience to the class room where the students with their high level of academic knowledge learn how to problem solve and how to take the appropriate action.

I enjoy being an advocate for Public health and a program mentor. It is great pleasure that I give back to the students some of the great experiences and knowledge obtained when I was a Public Health Inspector. I have a passion for all students to

succeed in whatever field they choose.

The students are our professions future, the stronger the students the stronger the profession.

Nick Potter



**NICK POTTER**



## Distribution of raw milk for human consumption

Submitted by Tim Shum, Regional Director of Health Protection, Fraser Health

In 2008, a farm operation in Chilliwack was found to be packaging and distributing raw milk as the result of a complaint investigation. Raw milk was found to be destined for owners of the Home on the Range cow share operation. The farm operator was issued a Health Act order to immediately cease the distribution of raw milk. As the farm operator did not appeal the order, Fraser Health assumed the order was being complied with and took no further action.

In December 2009, Fraser Health was made aware that the Chilliwack farm might still be in operation as the result of a communicable disease case follow-up. The farm was inspected and found to be still packaging and distribution raw milk and raw milk products for human consumption. In addition, EHOs from Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health inspected alleged distribution depots; detained and destroyed found raw milk; and issued orders to the depot owners to cease the distribution of raw milk. Subsequent inspections found the depot owners in compliance with the issued orders.

In January 2010, Fraser Health filed a petition to the Supreme Court of BC seeking a permanent injunction order prohibiting the farm operator or anyone else in B.C., from packaging and/or distributing raw milk and/or raw milk products for human consumption.

In March 2010, the Supreme Court of BC granted Fraser Health a permanent injunction.

In July 2010, EHOs visited the Chilliwack farm and confirmed that the operator continues to package and distribute raw milk to cow share members. The operator now places a label "NOT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION" on bottled raw milk as an attempt to get around the Regulation.

Fraser Health has proceeded to seek a contempt of court order against the farm operator.



## Vince Crozier continued

career. My first year of teaching just about killed me (LOL). I instructed the students in Introduction to Environmental Health, Environmental Health Legislation, Applied Law, Water Quality, Outdoor Air Quality, Risk Assessment, and Soils. I then moved into teaching Research Methods and Applied Research with my co-instructor Helen Heacock, and dropped teaching Soils, Risk Assessment and Outdoor Air Quality. What a privilege and honour it is to teach students who want to make Environmental Health their careers. I love what I do, instructing young people in the field of environmental health. In sharing my experiences in the field with entry to practice education is a rewarding experience each and every year with new students. Keeping up with all the changes made to legislation and new emphasis for PHI's

job duties in BC is no small task. The students coming into our field now usually have previous degrees in a variety of science backgrounds. This means they are incredibly bright and keep instructors like me on our toes at all times. This coming year I look forward to incorporating the valuable feedback our program received from the field regarding our curriculum review. Also coming this year is BCIT accreditation with the BOC Board. Our program always strives to better the educational experience of our students. I look forward to this year's crop of young minds I can help mould in the incredible and ever changing field of Environmental Health.

Blessings

Vince Crozier

COMING SOON...  
the new and improved

for the CIPHI **M**ember  
at your **S**ervice  
your career management **C**entre

connect with your professional counterparts  
contribute to the growth of the profession  
collaborate with like-minded professionals



## Interior Health Loses Over 100 Years Experience

Three long-time Public Health Inspectors retired recently from IHA taking with them over 100 years of key experience in areas such as public and private water supply protection, sewage system control and subdivision approval. Pat Holmes, Steve Pope and Serge Zibin all retired recently. Steve indicated he is still doing some part-time work and continues to be quite involved in union matters. We wish Serge, Pat and Steve all the best for a long and enjoyable retirement.

## CIPHI's Member Service Centre

CIPHI began development of its Member Service Centre in 2006 to provide members with online career management tools, online membership registration capabilities, event management functions, and online Board of Certification features. Development of a National CIPHI database with such functionalities was an ambitious and substantial undertaking; especially so for a volunteer organization. Following the launch of the CIPHI Member Service Centre (MSC) it became apparent through user feedback that the needs of members were not being satisfied with the product we had produced. We have maintained records of user feedback and complaints, and we have looked at specific feedback from our member satisfaction survey in our efforts to identify areas for improvement.

Recognizing some of the shortfalls of the MSC, CIPHI created a new committee to review the Member Service Centre and to make improvements to it based upon our member's feedback. Difficult navigation, challenging password security, challenging membership renewal processes were some of the issues that members brought forth. Over the last year significant changes have been made to the Member Service Centre. The user interface has been reconfigured with the member's usability as the focus. You should find the features you want more prominently available on your member landing page. Your Member Profile is easily populated with the information you choose to enter, even uploading of personal images is an easy addition to your member profile if you so desire. Membership renewal is prominent and is easily navigated right to confirmation of payment –

please try it out with an online renewal this year.

The tools our members need to participate in the Continuing Professional Competencies program have been incorporated. Members can complete and maintain online records of their professional self assessment, as well as maintain records of their Professional Development Hours each year. We have put much effort into making these tools simple and easy to use. Please try them out and let us know how they work for you.

The Events module allows organizers of conferences, workshops, social events, etc. to create, promote, and manage events within the MSC. The Events module also allows members to locate these events on the MSC Events Calendar, search the detailed event information, then proceed to register online for events they are interested in.

Looking for a lost colleague, or perhaps a specialist in a field of practice? Use the member search functions to find these colleagues or specialists. We hope that this is another tool to help our members connect and collaborate Canada wide. The new MSC includes the availability of business communities. Do you participate in a working group that reviews, shares or develops policy, regulations, or educational materials? The MSC communities are designed to allow such groups to collaborate directly within private, semi-private, or public community groups. Work in communities locally, provincially, or nationally enjoying the benefits of real time resource sharing, within a secure private community, or in a public member's community with full interaction and accountability to those members interested in participation.

Social and professional networking is an important part of our National organization. Bringing members closer together makes CIPHI stronger. Blogs, wikis, and discussion forums have been integrated into the new MSC for just that reason – connecting members better. These are members forums within our professional community – professionals to professionals – moderated by professionals. We are excited about the new MSC and we sincerely hope our members will be as well. The re-development of the MSC with its new features and enhanced usability is expected to be of great benefit to members and to CIPHI as an organization. It's exciting, and it's newly developed, and it continues to be a work in progress. We look forward to your feedback and we will continue to respond to your feedback in our efforts to create a national members service that meets your needs. Beta testing of the MSC is occurring throughout late October by a group of sixty plus EHO's nationwide, from a variety of computer skill levels, and on a variety of browsers. We will utilize feedback from these testers to make final improvements, repair any glitches, and to ensure the service centre works as expected. After these final tweaks we expect to be going live to all members in late November. Let's work together to grow the MSC into Canada's best resource for Environmental Public Health Professionals – another great benefit of membership in CIPHI. Stay tuned for the announcement of the MSC re-launch ! ...and remember "It takes a Nation of Members to build a Profession."

Keir Cordner  
CIPHI BC Branch President



## BC Branch Awards

### CIPHI (BC Branch) - Member of the Year Alex Kwan



Congratulations to Alex Kwan on receiving the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (BC Branch) Member of the Year Award! Alex has worked for Fraser Health as an Environmental Health Officer in New Westminster for the past 10 years. He has also been actively involved as editor of the BC Branch's electronic newsletter, "BC Page". Alex's commitment to Public Health, demonstrated leadership qualities and willingness to help out wherever needed make Alex a most deserving recipient of this award.

**Congratulations Alex!**

Gord Stewart accepted Alex's award at the BC Branch AGM on his behalf. Alex Kwan was then presented his award by Gord Stewart at an award ceremony in their office.

Pictured Above: Gord Stewart presenting the BC Branch Member of the Year Award to Alex Kwan

Pictured Right: BC Branch President Keir Cordner presenting the BC Branch Member of the Year Award to Gord Stewart who accepted on behalf of Alex Kwan



## BC Branch Awards



### BC Branch Honourary Member

**Alex Nilsson**

The Honourary Member award is presented to someone who has performed or rendered some outstanding service to public health and to society. Mr. Alex Nilsson has certainly met this criteria with his lifelong commitment to serving his community.

**Congratulations Alex!**

### Alex Nilsson Award

**Greta Kos**

The Alex Nilsson Award was created to commend one hard-working volunteer who has given considerable time, skill and effort to the BC Branch, CIPHI, and/or his or her community and has had a positive impact in British Columbia and/or Canada. Greta Kos, the first ever recipient, meets all the qualifications with her hard work and dedication to our Branch and Organization and her devotion to and active volunteering in her community.

**Congratulations Greta!**

**Pictured Above: Alex Nilsson giving his acceptance speech after receiving the BC Branch Honourary Member Award**

**Pictured Right: Alex Nilsson presenting the Alex Nilsson Award to its first recipient Greta Kos.**



# A Great Conference - THE IFEH - CIPHI 2010

**By Tim Roark**

The conference started for me Saturday morning when I attended the National Executive Council meeting. There I spoke briefly regarding key issues in two reports – first my Historian’s Report and second the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada annual report. Both presentations seemed to have been received well.

Sunday started off bright and early with a planning meeting for members of the Board of Trustees of the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada. In the afternoon I was invited to join the IFEH Council meeting to speak on a matter of serious concern to me. Currently there is an annual Calderon Dolphin/Pilot Whale hunt in the Faroe Islands of Denmark. A large number of these mammals are herded into a bay and then most brutally hacked to death. It is a festival where all residents including children come to watch. The bay runs red with blood and alcohol runs freely. A “tradition” they call it. The local Medical Health Officer has told the citizenry not to eat the meat due to toxic level of metals in the flesh but they ignore all reason. After my presentation, including sharing several brutal photos, I was very pleased to see strong support for a call to stop the barbaric killing. The Danish association stated they would take no position and would not be offended if the IFEH took a position against the hunt. The IFEH approved a motion to write to both the Danish National and Faroe



local government expressing grave concern about this barbaric procedure and encouraging it to be stopped immediately. This was a great start to the conference for me. I have attached one of several photos I have so that you can appreciate my concern.

Sunday continued with two further meetings of the EHFC including the EHFC AGM. These were excellent meetings accomplishing a great deal including the election of a new Chairman, Mr. Ron de Burger who is a former National President and Life Member of CIPHI. Other incumbents were re-elected as officers including myself as Treasurer.

Sunday evening’s Welcome Reception was the first of four very enjoyable social events throughout the week including the Civic Reception at the Vancouver Aquarium, the tour of the Olympic Oval in Richmond followed by the Tailgate Party on the deck and lastly the President’s Banquet and dance. All these events created a great opportunity to meet old friends, make new friendships with folks from across Canada plus IFEH delegates from around the world.

After the Monday keynote speaker I and members of the CIPHI Retirees Advisory Committee (known as the Senators), met with Phi Phan, CIPHI National President and a representative of the Public Health Agency of Canada to discuss a broad range of issues such as the CIPHI 100<sup>th</sup> year Centenary in 2013 and a project we have initiated to have Canada Post create a stamp to recognise 100 years of public and environmental health protection by Sanitary Inspectors, PHIs and EHOS across Canada. Other issues such as retaining members in the institute when they retire and providing a surge capacity to assist health agencies in Canada in the event of a major regional or national disaster were two of several important issues which were discussed.

**continued on page 12**



## Tim Roark's Conference Report continued

Two sessions on the serious potential environmental health consequences of the new field of "nanotechnology" were of particular interest to me. Recently I had written Christina Chociolko with the National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health urging them to investigate this issue and thus be able to avoid potentially serious consequences which could arise in Canada if industry is not properly regulated. My concerns were well supported by the speakers which was most gratifying.

The Technical Tours were a great part of the conference and helped pull together the various presentations with the reality of our cities and their key infrastructure. The Seymour Water Treatment Plant was of particular interest to me because of my former involvement in the Ministry of Health water quality program and my work in drafting the Safe Drinking Water Regulations for the Ministry in the late 1980s. The plant is definitely state of the art and very environmentally friendly. We in Metro Vancouver are very fortunate to have this plant which can supply very high quality water to us even during adverse events such as landslides which can cause huge turbidity spikes.

I was able to attend both the CIPHI National AGM and the BC Branch AGM. The Branch AGM was most memorable with the presentation of Honorary Membership to Alex Nilsson of Creston BC. He gave a very thoughtful acceptance speech and then when President Keir Cordner announced that Greta Kos was the first recipient of the Alex Nilsson Award for exceptional volunteerism he did a lovely job of congratulating Greta for receiving the first award. It was also great that Alex Kwan was awarded the

BC Branch 2010 Member of the Year Award for all his time and commitment as Editor of the BC Page. Certainly not to be forgotten nationally was Steve Chong receiving the President's Award, Claudia Kurzac receiving the Alex Cross Award for displaying the highest standards of professional practise and Nick Losito receiving Life Membership in CIPHI for his years of commitment to the Institute and the profession culminating with his work in Chairing this IFEH Congress.

All in all it was a great conference and getting my picture taken holding an Olympic Gold Medal with Ashleigh McIvor was the icing on a great cake. Many thanks to the Executive of the BC Branch for supporting my attendance at this conference through the payment of my Retirees Registration.

Respectfully submitted,

*Tim Roark*

Tim Roark, CPHI(C), REHO  
September 27, 2010



**7x**

**The number of times you should wash your hands daily to increase the likelihood of staying healthy.**

*Source: Professor Marilyn Lee, Occupational and Public Health, Ryerson University, Toronto.*

# IFEH, 11<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Environmental Health & CIPHI 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference and Exhibition

## Sept. 5 – 10, 2010, Vancouver, BC

I was excited when I found out I was going to attend the 11<sup>th</sup> IFEH World Congress and 76<sup>th</sup> CIPHI Annual Education Conference in Vancouver. Being in my first year of employment as an EHO for the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA), Duncan Office, I felt my chances for approval were slim. But with help from colleagues who informed me of other avenues of funding I successfully acquired the additional resources I needed to attend. I would like to thank VIHA, BC CIPHI and BCGEU for the funding to attend this conference.

The conference was held at the Westin Bayshore, Vancouver from Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> with approximately 500 delegates from around the globe in attendance. The conference was reminiscent of the 2010 Olympics including the opening dance ceremonies, a performance by Mark Donnelly (who sings the anthem at the Vancouver Canuck games) singing the anthem and the passing of the flag at the closing ceremonies. There were approximately 30 exhibitor's onsite with the latest products and information on display. This was the largest conference I have ever attended, despite lower than expected attendance which reflects the present global economic state. Nonetheless, it was a great experience for delegates to network, learn and reunite with past colleagues and classmates.

The theme of the conference was "Global Protection – From Sea to Sky" which was reflected in the keynote speakers presentations, educational seminars and workshops. Healthy Built Environments (HBE) was a new and exciting aspect of our profession that was introduced to me at the conference. Community/Municipal developers, such as Larry Beasley - one of the keynote speakers, are recognizing the importance of including Public Health Professionals in development and upgrading plans for communities. Dr. Larry Frank's (University of British Columbia) research has provided evidence that

"urban sprawl" and the single family dwelling that we have become so accustomed to, has played an integral role in the obesity epidemic evident in today's society. The economic burden that this has on our health care system when dealing with the resulting diabetes, chronic heart diseases and others is dire. Through working together, community developers and health care professionals have transformed Vancouver into one of the most sustainable and green cities on the globe. Now if we can work together to overcome the challenges of affordability.

I also had the opportunity to attend my first CIPHI National Annual General Meeting (AGM), where I was appointed Sergeant at Arms; an interesting experience – but well suited to my manly physique. Nic Losito was honored with the Life Member Award for his recognized service to the profession and community of public health. I also attended the CIPHI BC Branch AGM, where I was elected as a Councilor. I look forward to learning more about the Branch and how I can provide my service to improve our profession in any way possible. Alex Nilsson was presented with the BC Branch Honorary Membership award for his many contributions to both the profession and his community. The many hats he has worn and the number of community boards for which he has served was impressive.

The social events topped each day providing opportunity to divulge in a few well deserved beverages, professional networking and socializing. The Vancouver Aquarium, the Richmond Olympic Oval, and Lithuania Night were a few of the venues at which delegates enjoyed some drinks and dance. The Banquet and Dance was held at the Westin Bayshore and was a huge success. A plated diner followed by drinks, music and dance capped off the evening.

continued on page 14

## Branch President Meets with Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

BC Branch President, Keir Cordner travelled to Victoria to meet with Tim Lambert, Executive Director for the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport (MHLS) on October 15, 2010. This meeting was initiated by the BC Branch to build and strengthen our relationship with the Ministry and to discuss the Continuing Professional Competencies program and its relationship to the role of (Environmental) Health Officers under BC's Public Health Act. Cheryl Martin, Director, Public Health Planning Corporate Support, Planning and Legislation also joined the meeting to discuss competencies development for BC. "It was a great meeting and a fantastic opportunity to engage in important dialogue on our newly developed Continuing Professional Competencies program, I am hopeful that this dialogue will continue" stated Keir.



Keir Cordner, BC Branch President (left) with Tim Lambert, Executive Director of the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport

## Rory Beise Conference Report continued

This was both an exciting and educational experience for me and I strongly recommend that anyone who has not attended a CIPHI conference do so in the near future. Networking with other people involved in your profession/career is an excellent opportunity to further your own development and connect with other like minded people. Although we all work in separate countries, provinces and Health Authorities we all strive for the same objectives: Protection of Public Health. The experiences gained from attending educational conferences and networking with others involved in your field help in achieving these objectives.

Rory Beise  
September 24, 2010



Rory Beise (far right) with Raymond Lam Fraser Health, Burnaby Office)(left) and Dan Moreau (VIHA, Gateway Office Victoria)



## Are you ready for CPC year end ?

CPC, self assessment, PDH's, Discipline Specific Competencies...not just new government jargon, nor another CIPHI make work project. Year end 2010 marks the finish of our first year of the Continuing Professional Competencies program. This year will be remembered as a significant turning point in the evolution of Environmental Public Health Professionals (EPHP's), and our profession, in Canada. Every CIPHI member should stand proud in recognition of this accomplishment and its impact on the future of EPHP's nationwide. Now... do you remember what it is you need to do as a CIPHI Member participating in this new program? Well if your memory is a little fuzzy, let's go over a few of the salient items you might wish to note. The CPC program requires CIPHI members to participate in ongoing education throughout their careers. It actually requires that members obtain a minimum amount of professional training each year, and that they keep records of the training taken. The units of measure for your professional ongoing training are professional development hours, commonly referred to as PDH's. You may recall that PDH's can be accumulated in a variety of ways which range from active practice as an EPHP, to student mentorship, to academic courses, to workshops, to community service, etc. Recording of your PDH's is self managed. Throughout the year as you participate in PDH activities you simply keep record of these activities on what is called a "Detailed Activity Record" – basically keeping track of the date the course or activity occurred, the course or activity name, who offered the course or activity, and the amount of PDH's the activity is worth. You'll need to accumulate a minimum of 80 PDH's over the course of the year, 50 of which are accumulated through your active professional practice at the equivalent of 1 PDH for 15 hours of work. The remaining 30 PDH's can be accumulated through activities identified in the other categories including formal activities, informal activities, participation, presentations, contributions to knowledge and reflective practice. Presently the Detailed Activity Record is available in word format at the CIPHI website, but we are actively pilot testing a fully interactive form will be available to all members at our Members Service Centre following our re-launch in November.

Completing a self assessment is an important part of self directing your career through ongoing education. There is a "self assessment tool" available at the CIPHI website that helps members reflectively evaluate their discipline specific competencies. This helps to identify learning and professional development opportunities that support your desired career growth. Completing the self assessment actually qualifies for 5 PDH's. The self assessment has been integrated into the Member Service Centre and is also scheduled to go live in November of this year - watch for announcements. There is a new arm of CIPHI that is overseeing the CPC program called the Council of Professional Experience. The Council, commonly referred to as CoPE, is responsible for the day to day operation of the CPC program and ultimately reports to the National Executive Council of CIPHI. Members are required to submit their "Detailed Activity Record" to CoPE before December 31<sup>st</sup> each year to demonstrate their participation. Each year CoPE will randomly select five percent of members in order to conduct an audit review of the selected members PDH activities. CoPE will provide results of the audits directly to these members, and will work with those members who fail to attain their 80 PDH's in establishing commonly agreed to remediation strategies. Where remediation strategies cannot be agreed to, or fail, members will be referred to the National Executive Council. CoPE also takes responsibility for reviewing professional development activities and setting appropriate PDH values. If you are unsure of the applicability of a course to qualify for PDH's, or if you are unsure of the PDH value for a course, please contact CoPE directly. CIPHI will continue to message out to members about the Continuing Professional Competencies program and your Professional Development Hour submission requirements as we head towards year-end. Please refer to the CPC Program Reference Guide Release 1.1 for further details. The guide is available electronically at <http://www.ciphi.ca/pdf/cpc/cpcguide-full.pdf>

Keir Cordner  
CIPHI BC Branch President

## In Memoriam

### Larry D'Andrea



Larry D'Andrea passed away on Oct. 22, 2010. In the last few weeks of his life, Larry had been transferred to the UBC Hospital because the Shuswap medical staff weren't able to diagnose his illness. At the UBC Hospital, it was determined that he had a rare form of lymphoma (cancer of the lymphatic system) that had previously gone undetected.

Larry was born in Trail BC to Italian immigrants. Larry worked as a journeyman carpenter at Teck Cominco Limited prior to entering the 2 year Public Health Inspector program at BCIT in 1971. He graduated from BCIT in 1973 with Ken Cooper (Environmental Health, BCCDC). Dennis Wahoski (Federal EHO) also graduated the same year and he and Larry both

ended up in Salmon Arm when Larry moved there in 1988 to work as the local PHI (EHO). Prior to his PHI position in Salmon Arm, Larry worked as a PHI for 15 years at Courtney on Vancouver Island.

Larry was a steady influence during the turbulent times when we were inundated with sewage disposal applications. He was always able to find some humour amongst the chaos. He was a big Canucks fan and we used to have fun acting as arm chair GMs. He took meticulous notes and he was very organized and this helped my transition to Salmon Arm in Dec. 1991. He was a good mentor and a gentleman. I will greatly miss my former EHO partner and friend.

A memorial service was held at Bower's Funeral Home in Salmon Arm on October 28, 2010. In lieu of gifts, donations can be made to the BC Cancer Foundation.

Brian Gregory



Larry & good friend Brian Gregory at the Health Unit in 2004

A memorial page with the BC Cancer Foundation has been set up in Larry's honour. Visit at the following link:

[http://donate.bccancerfoundation.com/site/TR?type=fr\\_tribute\\_fund&fr\\_id=1340&pxfid=8621&post\\_id=24201bpg=rlist&pg=fund#p24202](http://donate.bccancerfoundation.com/site/TR?type=fr_tribute_fund&fr_id=1340&pxfid=8621&post_id=24201bpg=rlist&pg=fund#p24202)

## Student Attendance at the IFEH/CIPHI 2010 Conference

Environmental Public Health students from across the country took the opportunity to come out to the IFEH/CIPHI conference held in Vancouver, BC this past September. The student attendance rates were 40 from BCIT, 10 from Concordia University College of Alberta and 2 from Cape Breton University.



BCIT & Concordia students are pictured left with BCIT Program Head Lorraine Woolsey and Environmental Health Foundation of Canada reps Tim Roark, Klaus Seeger, Len Gallant and Pam Scharfe. The EHFC contributed \$5,000.00 to assist EH students attend the CIPHI-IFEH 2010 Conference.

Pictured right are Cape Breton University students Margaret McGrath and Lindsey Smith with RCMP Officers at the IFEH - CIPHI Conference







*Forging Partnerships, Changing Lives*

August 4, 2010

Mr. Tim Roark  
Trustee and Treasurer  
Environmental Health Foundation of Canada  
3301 – 164A Avenue  
Surrey, BC V3S 0G5

Dear Tim,

Please accept our sincere thanks to the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada for your generous \$1,000 contribution to support BCIT public health inspector students' participation in the upcoming IFEH World Congress on Environmental Health in Vancouver.

As requested, we will ensure that each student who receives funding will be advised that the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada, a division of CIPHI, is contributing to the special Bursary they are receiving.

Your Foundation's support of a number of initiatives at BCIT (the CIPHI Bob Herbison Memorial Endowment in 1997 and the Dr. John Blatherwick Endowment in 2008) is truly appreciated. BCIT and your organization share a deep commitment to education and we thank you for partnering with us.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 604-432-8868 or email [susan\\_walters@bcit.ca](mailto:susan_walters@bcit.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Walters', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Susan Walters,  
Awards Coordinator

Encl.

cc: Lorraine Woolsey, Program Head, Environmental Health Technology  
Angie Chan, Coordinator, BCIT Student Financial Aid & Awards



# Conference Speakers

## *Educate, Innovate, Advocate*

Photos from right clockwise: Dr. Samantha Nutt, medical doctor, public health specialist and advocate for War Child Canada; Ashleigh McIvor, Olympic Gold Medalist; Larry Beasley, community planner with Nic Losito; Dr. Dave Williams, Canadian Astronaut, medical doctor and scuba diver





# Conference Photos





# Conference Photos



Photos from above clockwise: John Blatherwick with Gary Tam; CIPHI Life Members; Congress Committee; sunset over Vancouver harbour, Sonia Hundal, Ross Adamson, Patricia Symiak, and Ralph Sears.



### Congress Committee

- Top: Jasmina Egeler, Greta Kos, Shelley Beaudet and Claudia Kurzac
- Next: Jessica Ip, Virginia Jorgensen, Cindy Krins, Tara Hluchy and Iam Stewart
- Next: Kimiko Banati, Nick Losito, Karen Cummings, Joanne Lum and Brigitte Baumann
- Next: Marta Jaekel, Jennifer Montgomery, Olga Bitzikos, Pam Rydings and Tracy Au-Yeung
- Bottom: Patricia Tymiak, David Lee, Isher Deol and Barbara Peters
- Missing: Arne Faremo, Jas Sajan, Jennifer Flaten, Gary Tam, Heather Langemann, Lis Vallaster, Mark Ritson, Pam Cross, Randy Ash, Roopy Khatkar, Sabrina Sandhu, Salima Kassam, Shawn Parhar, Sonia Hundal, Steve Chong, Vanessa Karakilic and Wilbert Dy

# BC Branch Executive 2010

[www.ciphi.bc.ca](http://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 local and national events that are of interest and importance to them.

The views, comments, or positions within the contents 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.

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