

## Love Thy Neighbour

When the rivers in southern Alberta swelled to record levels in June, flooding much of the province, VCH and Interior Health were quick to provide help for the neighbouring residents.

### Volunteers sent to High River

In late June, B.C. sent four (two from VCH and two from Interior Health) volunteers to High River, a town of about 13,000 people that was completely flooded. Since then, the team's been designated as public health inspectors for Alberta Health Services providing much-needed residential clean up, disinfection of drinking water, mould prevention as well as advising the locals on how to protect themselves from materials contaminated by dirty flood water and sewage.

One of those volunteers is Cindy Watson, an environmental health officer at VCH who will be in Alberta for four weeks.

"I really believe we're providing a useful and important health protection service," she says,

"and the people we talk to seem grateful for it despite their being overwhelmed. The team of volunteers and the Alberta Health Services environmental health officers have been great to work with."

### Residents in dire situation

Paul Markey, manager of Environmental Health at VCH says the situation in High River was dire. "The situation for residents was quite dangerous," he says. "You get a lot of conditions from mould growth and food-storage areas can become contaminated and dangerous. Also drinking-water systems can become contaminated by sewage. When wells get

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## Message From The Editor

It has been a beautiful summer across most of BC and that only seems fitting as we continue to celebrate 100 years of our Institute. It is so amazing when you think of all that has been done and accomplished in the last 100 years both inside our organization and within the Environmental Public Health field in general.

Have you taken some time to celebrate this centennial year or commemorate it in some way? This only comes along once and many will never get the chance to celebrate such a milestone.

This edition of the BC Page has been a fun one to put together. There are lots of great pieces that I hope you will enjoy. If you didn't make it to the conference in Winnipeg or want to relive some experiences, check out the conference report or photos in this issue. It sounds and looks like it was another interesting conference with lots of fun filled evenings and events.

A verdict has finally come down in a raw milk case that was before the courts here in BC. The final outcome in this case – circumvention of the law is

still breaking the law. Read more about the case in *Milk Men*.

And finally, after the floods in Alberta, EHOs from across the province of BC volunteered to go help get things back on track. We

all know the implications a flood can bring and when that flood covers entire communities the results are devastating. Read more about 4 EHOs on a trip to help the community of High River in *Love Thy Neighbour*.

These are just a few of the highlights in this issue; I hope you will enjoy them and the other articles as much as I did.



Respectfully,  
Sarah MacDougall,  
Editor

Watch for the upcoming editions where we will highlight BCs contingent of the *100 Members of Distinction* and of the *25 Notable Advocates for our Profession* who have been recognized by CIPHI as part of the 100<sup>th</sup> year centennial celebration.

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## BRANCH UPDATE

As I sit here at my desk, I can't believe that the year is half over already. The last 6 months have been a busy period for the Branch. Some of the projects that we have been working on include:

- **BC Branch Continuing Education Spring Webinar Series 2013.** CIPHI BC Branch spent the first six months of 2013 planning and implementing an innovative education platform for environmental public health professionals (EHPs) in BC. With the support of our health authorities and sponsors, we were able to host six one hour sessions from April till June. Each session was eligible for one-hour PDH.

CIPHI BC Branch invited topic experts, Environmental Health Officers and BCIT students to speak on topics ranging from the healthy built environment, food safety, communicable disease, legislation changes, and personal service establishments. The responses from EHPs were well received and CIPHI BC Branch has already started working on our Fall series which we hope to expand our scope of audience and speakers.

Stay tuned for more information on the fall series regarding times, dates, presenters, topics and how to reserve your spot. For those that wish to access archived webinars make sure check out the BC Branch website.

- **The BC Branch Centennial Website** celebrates our history by highlighting both organizational achievements and practitioner's from the past is now up and running. If you haven't already had a chance, make sure to check it out at <http://www.ciphi.bc.ca/centennial/>

Members that have interesting historical information, photos or stories that they wish to



share are still encouraged to send it to either Past President Keir Cordner or Historian Tim Roark.

- **BC Centennial Award.** The deadline to nominate a fellow coworker for the BC Centennial was July 31, 2013. This 100th anniversary award is designed to recognize notable Environmental Public Health Professionals, who has contributed significantly to the public health of BC.

The Award(s) will be jointly presented by CIPHI – BC Branch and BC Ministry of Health at the CIPHI BC Branch AGM 2013. For more information on the selection process go to [http://www.ciphi.bc.ca/Centenary\\_Award.pdf](http://www.ciphi.bc.ca/Centenary_Award.pdf)

- **CIPHI BC Branch Annual General Meeting** will be held at 4:30 pm on September 26, 2013 (Thursday) at the Jim Pattison Pavilion located in Vancouver General Hospital (855 West 12th Ave, Vancouver).

CIPHI is an organization that depends on volunteers who are passionate about the profession, and can bring this profession forward at a steady pace. If you are interested or know of anyone who are interested in being branch

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## Branch Update continued

executives, please complete a nomination form and send it to our Past President, Mr. Keir Cordner, at [keir.cordner@viha.ca](mailto:keir.cordner@viha.ca) by August 15. The following positions in BC Branch are open for elections: President-Elect, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Councillors

- *The Mosaic Banner* has now been completed and displayed at the National CIPHI Conference. It is composed of 756 pictures of public health professionals from across Canada. To view the banner check out: <http://www.ciphi100.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/banner-secure-small.pdf>

- *National CIPHI Annual Educational Conference* was held in Winnipeg from June 23-26, 2013 at the **Hotel Fort Garry Spa and Conference Center**. The hotel as well as CIPHI celebrated 100 years in existence and the planning committee thought the majestic and beautiful hotel was the perfect backdrop to celebrate 100 years of public health distinction.

The photos taken at the CIPHI Centenary photo shoot during the national conference in Winnipeg can now be viewed by going to <http://www.ciphi100.ca/ciphi-100-photoshoot> Feel free to use as you wish. These photos can be downloaded for free but cannot be sold under any circumstance. CIPHI Manitoba Branch would like to thank all of you who took the time to participate in this event

Additional photos taken at the conference can be viewed at [https://www.facebook.com/Ciphi100#!/Ciphi100/photos\\_stream](https://www.facebook.com/Ciphi100#!/Ciphi100/photos_stream)

Crystal Brown  
President-Elect

## Alberta Floods continued

flooded, the sewage leaks in and the drinking water becomes contaminated.

When asked if she has done any work like this before, Cindy says she has, but not on this kind of scale.

“The entire town of High River was evacuated as most of the homes and streets and commercial areas were either flooded or had sewage back up – the community sewage system failed,” she describes. “Most places we have seen had both sewage and floodwater in the basements and garages for days. Most basements were filled four to seven feet with it, some main floors were flooded, and some houses were under water.”



### Emotional support for residents

Cindy says that in addition to the physical toils of walking through slippery mud and around large piles of debris and garbage, the job has its emotional challenges as well.

“We speak to people who are in distress,” she says. They’re tired, angry, sad, and overwhelmed; sometimes that is all they want to talk about, so we listen. Mental health services provided us with some support materials and contact info to distribute. It is hard to fathom what people are going through.”

“Most people we speak with thank us for our time – some share stories with us and some have kept a pretty good sense of humour. It was good to see people had not lost hope.”



# Milk Men Convicted

## *Jail threat* for distribution of raw product

By Greg Knill, Black Press

Two men found guilty of civil contempt for distributing unpasteurized milk from a Chilliwack farm will go to jail if they do it again, a B.C. Supreme Court Justice ruled in June.



*Photo by Jenna Hauch, Black Press*

Michael Schmidt and Gordon Watson were both handed three-month suspended sentences for defying an earlier court order prohibiting the distribution of raw milk from the Prairie Central Road farm. They had argued that because the milk was being offered as a “cosmetic” and labelled “not for human consumption”, the court order prohibiting the distribution did not apply.

However, B.C. Supreme Court Justice Randall Wong said there was little doubt what the two men were up to. Said Wong in his ruling released June 6: “In this case, distributing raw milk as a purported cosmetic product was patent lip service and ruse to distribute raw milk for human consumption”.

The case stems from an earlier injunction granted to the Fraser Health Authority to shut down a so-called “cow share” program initially run by Alice Jongerden. Called “Home on the Range”, the operation paid its shareholders dividends in the form of raw milk and raw milk products.

In 2010, Fraser Health sought a permanent injunction against Jongerden, arguing she had breached the

Public Health Act by packaging raw milk for distribution. Under the Public Health Act, milk that has not been processed by a licenced dairy is considered a health hazard. Despite the injunction, a year later both Schmidt and Watson had assumed operation of the farm and continued distribution of raw milk. Under a new business model”, however, the products were labelled as cosmetic and given names like “Cleopatra’s Enzymatic Alpine Lotion”. In August 2011, Fraser Health received a warrant to search the property. Nothing was seized, but Fraser Health Authority spokesman Roy Thorpe-Dorward said at the time that photographs of the farm on Prairie Central Road were being reviewed to determine if a permanent injunction issued earlier against distribution of raw milk was being obeyed by the current owner.

The two were given a three-month suspended sentence and one year probation. They were also ordered to pay court costs.



# BC Ferries Sewage Pump Ashore program

## *Protecting our marine environment*

Tatiana Irimia, P.Eng., AECOM

Peter Takacs, P.Eng., AECOM

BC Ferries provides a year-round ferry transportation system that is comprised of 25 routes and supported by 36 vessels and 47 terminals. Regulatory changes that come into effect on July 2, 2012 will require equivalent-to-secondary treatment of blackwater that is discharged to the marine environment from its fleet of vessels. As an alternative to providing onboard treatment, BC Ferries decided to pursue on-shore discharge of blackwater, where it could be more easily dealt with, either through conveyance to the local municipal sewerage system, or through treatment at a BC Ferries-owned treatment plant. Implementation of this project had numerous challenges, including meeting the requirements of the receiving utilities, managing high salinity discharge for vessels with saltwater flush systems, treatment of blackwater where no receiving utility was available, and managing odour impacts at the terminals and downstream conveyance systems.



discharge of blackwater from vessels into the marine environment have changed. Effective July 1, 2012, BC Ferries must provide equivalent-to-secondary treatment for any blackwater that is discharged into the marine environment from its fleet.

The on-shore pumping and treatment systems were designed by AECOM. The project included a membrane bioreactor (MBR) treatment plant to treat high salinity blackwater at the Langdale terminal. The MBR plant was supplied and is operated by CORIX. Program management was provided by BC Ferries. Implementation of this program has effectively eliminated the discharge of vessel blackwater to our marine environment for the select ferry routes.



### Changing regulatory environment

On July 1, 2007, the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001 (CSA 2001)* replaced the *Canada Shipping Act (CSA)* as the principal legislation governing safety in marine transportation and recreational boating, as well as the protection of the marine environment. Under this Act, regulations for the

In order to comply with this change in the regulations, options available to BC Ferries included either upgrading its existing onboard treatment units (marine sanitation devices), or pumping the blackwater ashore to either an existing local municipal sewerage system or to a new BC Ferries owned and operated treatment plant. For various reasons related to capital, operations and maintenance, shore-based pump ashore systems were the preferred alternative for the major ferry routes, at seven terminals.

BC Ferries pursued and was successful in securing Infrastructure Stimulus Funding (ISF) for its proposed sewage pump ashore program. The receipt of the ISF funding came with a requirement to fast-track completion of the works by March 31, 2011 (subsequently extended to October 31, 2011), a full year ahead of the date required by the new regulation.

### Pump ashore system

In 2009, BC Ferries retained AECOM to provide engineering design and construction services for the implementation of pump ashore systems at seven terminals:

- Tsawwassen – pump ashore to the Corporation of Delta's sewerage system. The system included five berth connections, a shore-based holding tank, odour control, upgrades to two sanitary lift stations, and a six kilometre-long sanitary forcemain along Highway 17.
- Duke Point – pump ashore to the Regional District of Nanaimo sewerage system. The system included one berth connection, a protected forcemain along the marine structure, and upgrades to the existing sanitary lift station.
- Departure Bay – pump ashore to the Regional District of Nanaimo sewerage system. The system included three berth connections, protected

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## BC Ferries Sewage Pump Ashore program continued

- forcemains along the marine structures, and a direct tie-in to the Nanaimo Interceptor sewer.
- Nanaimo Harbour – pump ashore to the Regional District of Nanaimo sewerage system. The system included one berth connection and a direct tie-in to the Nanaimo Interceptor sewer.
- Langdale – pump ashore to a new Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) that replaced the existing and outdated Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC) terminal WWTP. The system included two berth connections, a dedicated sanitary lift station, a dedicated MBR WWTP, and sludge dewatering systems, as well as modifications to the existing marine outfall.
- Westview – pump ashore to the City of Powell River sewerage system. The system included one berth connection and a tie-in to a City lift station.
- Bear Cove – pump ashore to the District of Port Hardy system. The system included one berth connection, upgrades to the terminal lift station, a shore-based steel holding tank with mixer, odour control via chemical dosing, pumps, and tie-in to the Port Hardy system.



MBR to treat high salinity blackwater

For the Langdale Terminal, a new wastewater treatment plant was designed and installed. The Langdale Terminal had an existing RBC WWTP. While this was adequate for the treatment of the existing terminal wastewater, it was inadequate for treatment of the additional volume of high strength wastewater. The unit was also at the end of its operating life.

For the six terminals discharging to existing municipal sewerage systems, the design included vessel connections at the berths, land-based pump ashore works, downstream conveyance systems, and connections to the local municipal sewerage systems. Holding tanks were also designed and constructed at two



of the seven terminals to allow BC Ferries to modulate the rate of discharge to match the existing capacity of the downstream municipal sewerage systems. Odour control systems, including carbon scrubbers and chemical dosing, were designed and installed at several terminals to mitigate concerns over potential odours in passenger waiting areas, as well as impacts of the high strength blackwater on the downstream municipal systems.

An MBR WWTP was selected at Langdale in order to meet the more stringent 10/10 BOD/TSS effluent discharge requirements of the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) – which exceeded the 45/45 BOD/TSS requirements of the provincial Municipal Sewage Regulation (MSR). The Langdale MBR WWTP was supplied by CORIX. The new WWTP has the capacity to treat up to 252 m<sup>3</sup>/d of ferry blackwater, with an average BOD concentration of 275 mg/L. The MBR is unique in that it has to treat blackwater with high salinity content (around 25,000 mg/L TDS) as the vessels on the Horseshoe Bay - Langdale route have saltwater flush toilets. In order to treat the high salinity blackwater in the MBR, the reactor biomass was acclimated to the salinity level by gradually introducing high salinity blackwater from the vessels to the WWTP over a number of weeks. This commissioning approach produced a stable process that consistently meets the effluent requirements.

In addition to the new treatment plant, the work also included an upgrade and deep water extension of the existing marine outfall at the Langdale Terminal in accordance with the MSR. The new 100mm HDPE outfall extends to a depth of 17 metres into Howe Sound.

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## BC Ferries Sewage Pump Ashore program continued

### System operation

With the exception of the Langdale WWTP, the pump ashore systems are operated by BC Ferries personnel. Key requirements of the system were ease of use and safety – the vessel deck crews connect and operate the pump ashore system on a daily basis. A control panel at the berth connection point allows the crew to monitor both flows and levels in the downstream sewer system. Safeguards to prevent accidental overflows are designed into the system. The standardized connection and operating logic incorporates a saltwater flush prior to the pump out to ensure that all connections are sound and 'leak free.' Prior to disconnecting from the vessels, the piping is automatically flushed and evacuated of all liquid at the end of the cycle.

Several of the systems at isolated terminals feature a SCADA system for remote monitoring and control. Data such as the vessel discharge volume, levels in tanks and wet wells, and the discharge to downstream systems is monitored. Additionally, alarms on key components such as pumps, lift stations and heat tracing systems are monitored.



### Summary

The project was delivered on schedule and on budget, and most of the systems were partially funded through the ISF. There were multiple construction contracts at multiple sites (six contracts over seven sites). Six of seven terminals currently have pump ashore in full operation. The seventh location, Nanaimo Harbour (a late addition to the program), is currently under construction.

While every terminal presented unique challenges, a standardized approach was used to the maximum extent possible. The use of a standardized approach for both equipment and controls will minimize the long-term operations and maintenance costs of the installed assets. The Langdale WWTP is a unique installation that treats high salinity sewage using an MBR process. The plant was designed to exceed provincial effluent guidelines. Odour control facilities were provided at several terminals for both ambient and downstream odour control.

The BC Ferries Sewage Pump Ashore program has effectively eliminated the discharge of vessel blackwater to our coastal marine environment through the implementation of a standardized design approach. The end result is that BC Ferries has pump ashore wastewater systems that are robust, easier to operate and maintain than ship-based marine sanitation devices, and are in compliance with the new *CSA 2001* requirements, while protecting our marine environment.

A special thanks to the BCWWA for allowing us to reprint this article which was originally published in *Watermark*.

# Hedgerow

## Software Ltd.



## CIPHI Centennial Coins



The CIPHI Centennial Committee has worked to have a coin struck to celebrate the 100 Anniversary of CIPHI. The front side is the CIPHI crest and the reverse side is the Centennial design.



They are available from Jim McCorry for \$5.00 each plus tax and postage of about \$2.50.

Jim can be reached at [jmccorry@eastlink.ca](mailto:jmccorry@eastlink.ca)

## FOODSAFE certificates now have expiry dates

RESEARCH SHOWS THAT OF PEOPLE WHO TOOK **FOODSAFE LEVEL ONE** 5 YEARS AGO OR EARLIER 95% WOULD NOT PASS THE EXAM IF THEY WROTE IT TODAY

Starting July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013, all FOODSAFE Level 1 certificates issued in BC will have a five-year expiry date. Any existing certificates will expire July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018.



TIM ROARK  
*President*



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# A Report on the 79<sup>th</sup> National Education Conference in Winnipeg June 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013

*-Celebrating 100 years of distinction in public health protection-*

Submitted by Bill Wrathall

My first job as a Public Health Inspector was with the City of Winnipeg Health Department in 1988. I worked with an incredible group of dedicated, passionate, supportive, and zany PHI's who remain good friends. I was thrown to the wolves in the Housing and Environment Division where enforcement was "the only option". I was hooked. The camaraderie, guidance and support of my fellow PHI colleagues was inspiring and has steered me through 25 years of a rewarding career. So here in Winnipeg, my career in public health was launched.

We were hosted in the allegedly haunted and stately Fort Gary Hotel – coincidentally, also celebrating their 100 years of service.

Sunday was check-in day, followed by an evening welcome reception with the exhibitors. There was lots of information on the latest resources available, along with stuff-we-all-get (SWAG).

The conference officially kicked off Monday with a welcome address from Theresa Oswald, Manitoba Minister of Health, who provided a brief view of public health 100 years ago and how far we have progressed, largely due to front line public health initiatives. She stated, *"What I absolutely know for sure, is that the work that you are doing to make sure that people are not getting sick in the first place, is absolutely the foundation on which everything is built. So I commend you and congratulate you on 100 years"*.

The keynote speaker was Laurie Garrett, who is a leading expert on global health. Her comments were thought provoking, citing the global financial crash in 2008 as a severe detriment to global health support. Inevitably, this will lead to an increase in new emerging and re-emerging diseases posing a global risk of an outbreak.

The breakout sessions I attended were well organized and diverse. These included:

*Understanding Disinfectants in PSE's.* You no longer need to classify disinfectants by their active ingredients. There is a simple four-step method to choose an appropriate disinfectant by looking at the product label. The Drug Identity Number, the word disinfectant (low level), the word mycobacterium or a TB claim (intermediate level) or the word sporicidal (high level).

*Food Safety at Temporary Events.* This addressed some the challenges dealing with the many cultural and ethnic diversities of food preparation. A hands-on food safety training program was developed. Participants moved to different work stations every 15minutes. This proved to be far more successful in comprehending basic food handling practices.

*Hooka: Emerging Public Health Issue.* Also known as water pipe smoking for tobacco or herbal products. Research is showing that Hooka tobacco and herbs have the same level of toxins as tobacco smoke. Toxins are not filtered out by the water bowl and there is a greater increase to secondhand smoke due to longer smoking sessions. There is also a risk to infectious disease transmission due to sharing the pipe/mouth piece.

*This Full House: A Strategy to Address Hoarding in Older Adults.* Is a Winnipeg program that assists older adults with Hoarding Disorder.

Other sessions I attended included, *Improving Conventional Investigations of Legionnaire's Disease; Inspection Direction; Beach Monitoring and From Environmental Health Profession to Humanitarian.*



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## NEC Report continued

The Annual General meeting was held in the afternoon. The only motion on the agenda was the Special Resolution Notice. In short, Corporations, including CIPHI, that do not make the transition by the deadline of October, 2014 will be assumed to be inactive and will be dissolved. The motion was unanimously passed.

The Winnipeg Art Gallery was the venue for the first social event. We were entertained on the penthouse deck of the gallery by the Grace Hrabí Jazz Trio followed by a buffet dinner, then a guided tour of the gallery featuring the 100 Masters.

The keynote speaker on Tuesday was Bruce Clark. Mr. Clark is an attorney with extensive background in food and waterborne-illness litigation, ranging from large-scale high profile cases outbreaks to individual cases. He pointed out that it is rare that a contaminated leftover food can be located by the time investigators arrive and definitive conclusions can be difficult.

At the Award's Luncheon, our very own Keir Cordner was presented with the President's Award. Well deserved!

A centenary group photo was arranged at Winnipeg's Memorial Park. Whoever organized this had enough foresight to realize that it really does take two hours to herd 250 EHOs together for a picture.

The President's Banquet closed the day. Dinner was followed by an array of incredible non-stop live entertainment showcasing the cultural diversity of Winnipeg. The host band also encouraged group participation that identified some really talented EHOs out there!

John Hindle was Wednesday's keynote speaker. John is a CPHI but no longer practicing. He is a professional speaker, baseball coach and author of several books. Using personal experiences, he focused on the power of connecting with people by listening, investing time in people and respecting those we come in contact with.

The 79<sup>th</sup> CIPHI Education Conference was a tremendous success. The knowledge gained at this conference was acquired, for the most part, from the expertise and practical experiences of fellow Environmental Public Health Professionals - knowledge that is difficult to acquire outside of our unique and diverse field of occupation.

This, in my opinion, further justifies and enforces a commitment from Health Ministries and Authorities to professionally and financially support our participation at CIPHI education conferences, or at any educational opportunity that benefits not only the public but the employer and employee. It is a small price to pay in the name of public health.

I would be remiss not to acknowledge the tremendous amount of hard work, dedication, enthusiasm and above all, the obvious passion displayed by our colleagues in Manitoba to ensure the success of this conference. To this extent, it is that same determination and commitment that forms the foundation of CIPHI.

Lastly, my sincere appreciation is extended to the BC Branch for covering the registration costs.



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## In Memoriam - Ron White



Ronald George White, the former Chief Public Health Inspector for the South Okanagan Health Unit, passed away peacefully at home on June 14, 2013 at the age of 70 with his wife of 43 years, Erika, by his side. Ron is also survived by his son Ross (daughter in-law Andrea), daughter Heather (son in-law Martin), grandchildren Jane, Noel and Robyn, and sister Dorothy. A consummate storyteller and debater, he loved nothing more than lively conversation, and we who were fortunate enough to have known him look forward to remembering and retelling those stories with a good dose of laughter. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Kelowna Food Bank. An informal celebration for family and friends was held at Ron and Erika's house on

Saturday June 22nd. A casual afternoon of storytelling and remembering Ron was enjoyed by those who attended.

Ron started his career as a Public Health Inspector in training back in 1966 in the Vernon office of the North Okanagan Health Unit. He received his Certificate in Public Health Inspection (Canada) #1733 in 1967 and started work in Fort St. John at the Peace River Health Unit during 1968, 69 and 70. After serving the expected period of time in the "north" Ron moved to the Quesnel office of the Cariboo Health Unit. Vancouver Island started to look pretty good to Ron and his next move was to the Ladysmith office in the late 1970s.

When Fred Alcock retired as Chief PHI in sunny Kelowna, Ron concluded that was the place for him. He was the successful candidate and became the new Chief PHI for the South Okanagan Health Unit, a position he held for over 20 years. Ron stepped down in 2000 to enjoy a well deserved retirement.

Ken Christian, former Regional Director of Health Protection for the Interior health Authority of indicated, "I enjoyed working with Ron when we both served on the Chief Public Health Inspectors Council. His true dedication and professionalism were often masked by caustic and dry humor! He made the South Okanagan a healthier and safer place and always did what was right and honorable." Ron will be deeply missed by his family and many friends.

TR

My thanks to Bob Smith, Norm Gallant & Ken Christian for their input.



## BCIT Class of '88 Reunion



*The Class of 88 held their 25th anniversary in Sicamous, BC, on May 24-26. We just sat around and read technical reports. Yeah right!*

*L-R sitting: Clark Blythe (husband of Deb), Debra Langier-Blythe (St. Albert), Ann Thomas (Victoria), Kirt Sellers (Invermere), Shendra Brisdon (Delta).*

*L-R standing: Paul Ross (Prince Albert), Brian Gregory (Salmon Arm), Warren Boychuk (St. Albert), Peter Ross (Prince Albert), Marc VanHoutteghem (Calgary), Kevin Touchet (Kamloops), Bill Wrathall (Parksville).*

*Begging: Moca (Calgary)*

### New BOC Coordinator

CIPHI BC Branch is delighted to announce that Ms. Gundie Volk from Kelowna is the successful candidate for the BOC Examination Coordinator position. She will assume the role starting in October 2013 for three years. On behalf of CIPHI BC Branch, we thank Ms. Tara Hluchy for her dedication, valuable time and professionalism in this role since 2010; and we congratulate and welcome Ms. Gundie Volk to the position!



# In Memoriam - Dr. Cortlandt Mackenzie

## CIPHI Honorary Member Dies at 92

Dr. Cortlandt John Gordon Mackenzie: M.D., C.M., D.P.H., F.R.C.P.C., F.R.S.H.; September 6, 1920 to May 16, 2013. Born and raised in Toronto he was the only child of Henry J. G. Mackenzie and Marjorie née Campbell. He had a distinguished career as an officer in the Royal Canadian Navy during the Battle of the Atlantic and was a corvette Captain by war's end. He married Jean, daughter of Lt.-Col. William Barker VC, on January 6, 1945. He was



conferred the degree of M.D. in 1951 from Queen's University in Kingston. That year the Mackenzie's moved to B.C. and he became a GP in private practice in Victoria. In 1954 he began a career with the Ministry of Health: first as Director of the Peace River Health Unit, later of the West Kootenay, Selkirk, and Central Vancouver Island health units. He continued to study and was granted the FRCPC in 1962 from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Public Health. Dr. Mackenzie joined UBC faculty in 1963 and rose to the rank of Professor and Acting Chairman of the Department of Health Care and Epidemiology. He was Head of the Department from 1973 to 1980. The CJG Mackenzie Prize for Excellence in Teaching was named in his honour by his former department.

He was President and a leading light of the Family Planning Association of B.C., and Director and Vice-President of the Family Planning Federation of Canada from 1970-1974. He played an active and important role in environmental health issues in B.C. and elsewhere. While a Medical Health Officer he spoke publicly about his concern for safe public drinking water and proper sewage disposal. He was appointed a member of the Pollution Control Board of B.C. from 1967 and its Chairman from 1977 to 1982. He was Chairman of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Use of Pesticides and Herbicides, 1972 - 1975. He headed the Task Force on Arsenic in Yellowknife 1977-1979. In 1986 Dr. Mackenzie received the Canadian Public Health Association's highest honour, the R.D. Defries Award and Honorary Membership.

As time permitted he was involved in extensive consultation and teaching overseas, including Pakistan, India, Malaysia, Australia and the Cook Islands as well as a Professor at the University of Papua New Guinea for two academic years.

His avocations were many, including organizing Unitarian Fellowships, hobby farming with horses, cider making, and wooden boat building. He devoted his retirement to nature conservation and animal welfare causes. He

retired from playing polo only to take up scuba diving, and continued diving until well into his advanced years. This experience and his nautical background helped make him a passionate defender of the marine environment, and he was a founder and chairman of The Canadian Marine Environment Protection Society (CMEPS).

While at UBC during the 1960s he worked with the Executive of the BC Branch, CIPHI to establish a degree program for Public Health Inspectors at UBC. When this appeared unattainable, he contacted BCIT and worked with the BC Branch and health agencies in BC to establish a diploma program there. The program accepted its first class in the Fall of 1967. Dr. Mackenzie continued to be involved as the UBC representative and Chairman of the BCIT Public Health Technology Advisory Committee for several years after the program was established. The work that Dr. Mackenzie did to help establish the PHI Program at BCIT has paid great dividends over the years with the ultimate success, finally, in 1997 with the approval of a degree program in Environmental Health at BCIT. As Dr. John Blatherwick has affirmed, "Dr. Mackenzie was always a strong supporter of Public Health Inspectors both when he worked as a MHO and while at UBC."

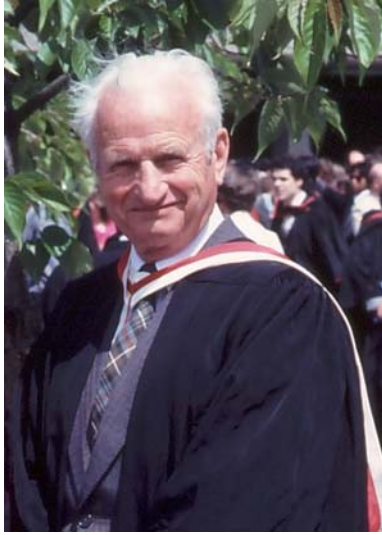
On May 5, 1977, Dr. Cortlandt Mackenzie was made an Honorary Member of the B.C. Branch of CIPHI in recognition of his efforts to establish a degree

continued on page 15



## Dr. Cortlandt Mackenzie continued

program for PHIs at the University of BC; for his assistance in developing and implementing the original Environmental Health Program at the BC Institute of Technology; and for his continuous support of PHIs over the years. In 2000 Dr. Mackenzie was made an Honorary Member of CIPHI National for his support of Public Health Inspectors and his significant contribution to environmental health protection.



In 2013 Dr. Cortlandt Mackenzie was recognized by CIPHI and awarded a place as one of the 100 Members of Distinction in the Institute over the past 100 years.

He remained sharp and engaged until the very end. He is survived, and sorely missed, by his son David and his children, Mary, Henry, and Rob; by his son Ian and his partner Andrew; by his son Alec and his wife Marlene.

*A more detailed review of the life and career of Dr. Cortlandt Mackenzie can be viewed in The Globe and Mail, Obituaries, Saturday, June 22, 2013.*

Compiled by Tim Roark  
BC Branch Historian  
August, 2013



## Dean Scovill

After 21 years with the Fraser Health Authority (15 years in drinking water), Dean Scovill will be joining water operations with the City of Surrey. His new position will be Engineering Assistant. Dean's role will be to provide support to senior staff in administrative responsibilities, and technical work in engineering activities and projects specifically related to water operation and infrastructure management. The scope of his work will include reviewing designs and contracts prepared by consultants, processing engineering applications, performing field inspections, responding to inquiries from staff, contractors and the public, and collection and analysis of data.

Dean has worked with water operators for a number of years as an Environmental Health Officer with the Fraser Health Authority. His scope of work has included inspection of water systems, investigating public complaints, analysis of water system data, consulting/working with a public health engineer, and participating in public forums and presentations. Dean has also been involved with BCWWA in instructing several courses which included Water Distribution 1, Water Treatment Level 1 and 2, Small Water Systems, Managing Small Water Systems, Supervisory and Leadership, and Source Water Protection. His background in water system management and networking with operators all over the province has afforded him the opportunity to work in water system engineering operations. Dean is excited with his new role and welcomes all those who he has come in contact with over the years to keep in touch. His personal email in [mdscovill@shaw.ca](mailto:mdscovill@shaw.ca).

# BCIT SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM **2013 GRADUATING CLASS**



**Back Row (L to R):** Zac Der, Ildiko Herr, Ryan Olivier, Barb Culbard, David Ho, Chris Morse

**3rd Row (L to R):** Diana Tesic-Nagalingam, Karin Lai, Nimret Rai, Polly Tsao, Matt Garrod, Carmela Santorelli, Katrina Halkett, Jonathan Kwan

**2nd Row (L to R):** Catherine Sun, Talina Almeida, Katie Hobor, Janille Uy, Tiffany Chu, Vanessa Ip, Sepehr Shahablou

**Front Row (L to R):** Stacy Mah, Nova Do, Jennifer Cheng, Ann Hoang, Judy Nguyen, Jannine Kowalchuk, Pouria Mojtahedi

**Missing:** Christine Chen



**National Collaborating Centre  
 for Environmental Health**

**Centre de collaboration nationale  
 en santé environnementale**



Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors  
L'Institut canadien des inspecteurs en santé publique

July 26, 2013

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

To: Stakeholders of the Sewerage System Regulation Improvement Coalition (SSRIC)

Dear SSRIC Stakeholders:

**Re: Dissolution of the Sewerage System Regulation Improvement Coalition (SSRIC)**

The SSRIC was established in 2007 as a result of identified shortcomings in the Sewerage System Regulation (SSR) that came into effect on May 31, 2005. Concerning to the BC Branch of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI) was the massive shift from government oversight to an untested industry self-regulation and outcome-based approach and a lack of prescriptive standards, including distance setbacks.

As a stakeholder in the SSRIC, CIPHI attended many meetings of the Sewerage System Leadership Council and held firm on its concerns. The SSRIC hired the University of Victoria, Environmental Law Clinic resulting in Law Clinic research and ultimately the production of the Coalition's submission March 2009 *Reforming the Regulation of BC's Sewerage Systems: An Urgent Need to Protect Public Health*.

Following release of the above-mentioned 2009 submission to government, several amendments were made to the SSR, and both CIPHI and the SSRIC should feel they contributed to those outcomes. Previously the SSR contained no distance setback criteria to a drinking water well and a Health Officer could only apply corrective actions to a physical sewerage system. Now, the SSR contains sewerage system/drinking water well setback provisions and the ability for a Health Officer to halt construction at the filing submission stage if, in their opinion, a health hazard may result. Sadly, many concerns the Coalition identified in its submission remain within the SSR. For example, there is still no distance setback criteria to fresh or salt water, critical standards are still lacking, and highly subjective industry-focused oversight remains a concern.

The Sewerage System Leadership Council no longer meets and to our knowledge has been disbanded. CIPHI therefore feels that it is time to formally dissolve the SSRIC. This step does not close the door to any Stakeholders wishing to bring forward SSR concerns to CIPHI or the Ministry, or even to re-establish the Coalition should the need arise again in the future.

CIPHI extends a sincere thank you to all SSRIC Stakeholders for all their efforts in achieving improved Sewerage System Regulation for BC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gary Tam", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Gary Tam, B.Sc., B.Tech., C.P.H.I.(C)  
President – CIPHI BC Branch

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Health Protection: Cornerstone of Public Health  
Promotion et Protection de la Santé: Fondement de la Santé Publique



# National Education Conference Photos Winnipeg, 2013



Pictured right, Phi Phan, National President, accepting on behalf of CIPHI, the Manitoba Historical Society Centennial Award recognizing CIPHI for its 100 years of operation and formation in Manitoba back in 1913.



Pictured above are 10 Life Members of CIPHI. This is the largest group of Life Members that have ever been together. L to R are Doug Terry – Sask., Dean Sargeant – Man., Ron de Burger – Ont., Klaus Seeger, Ont., Al Atamanchuk – Man., Mark Allen – N.B., Murray Lewis – N.B., Mark Durkee – N.S., Bernie Chrisp – Man., Tim Roark – B.C., Nic Losito – B.C.



Pictured left, Katrina Halkett, Student Delegate from BCIT, enjoying the great social evening at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.



Pictured left are John and Alex Officer grandchildren of Eben Officer and great grandchildren of Alexander Officer as well as Arlene and Heather Cross, grandchildren of Alex Cross. Alexander and his son Eben Officer and Alex Cross were key Founding Members of the Institute from Winnipeg.



Left: The music and dancing went on late into the evening with The Danny Kramer Event Band accompanying numerous individual and group karaoke singers. As can be seen many of the audience joined in dancing in time with upbeat music.



Above right: Winnipeg's ethnic communities provided great entertainment after the President's banquet including this Chinese dragon and musicians, Irish as well as Ukrainian dancers plus Brazilian drummers and dancers.

# BC Branch Executive 2011

[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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