

Regional Directors Explore UBC Option for EHO Training

You may have heard some rumblings about the possibility of a UBC-based training program for EHOs. The B.C. employers, represented by the Regional Directors of Health Protection, have participated in the Program Advisory Committee, several curriculum review committees, local recruitment efforts, the provision of sufficient practicum positions (initially 24 weeks prior to certification - now 12 weeks), and development of the program to meet current needs. Recently, it has become increasingly apparent that the “BCIT approach” may not be the only or the best approach to ensure an adequate stream of competent graduates as we move into the post-2010 period.

The Regional Directors, on behalf of their Health Authorities, provided some initial funding to have UBC generate a report on the feasibility of mounting an EHO training program that would meet the strict requirements of UBC and also meet the requirements of the Board of Certification of CIPHI. The feasibility study

(copy available on request) concluded that UBC could establish such a program (with a number of options as far as where it was housed) and that it would need to draw on a number of disciplines and faculties at UBC. A separate analysis appeared to indicate a strong potential for support at senior levels within UBC for an undergraduate program such as the one proposed, which would form a bridge to the newly-minted MPH programs in the School of Public Health. Since there are a number of internal UBC check points before this proposal even gets to the Ministry of Advance Education approval stage the earliest intake into a UBC program would be 2010 or 2011, with the first graduates able to take the national certification exam in 2014.

Background:

The BCIT Environmental Health Program has been in place since the late 1960s, starting as a 2-year diploma program and eventually evolving into a Bachelor of Technology – Environmental Health Program in the mid-1990s. This B.Tech program

continued on p. 4

Highlights...

Branch Update	p. 3	Rabies Survivor	p. 8
Dr. Blatherwick Receives Honourary Degree	p. 6	Supreme Court Decisions	p. 9
Test Wells for Arsenic	p. 7	In Memoriam	p. 13

Message from the Editor



I hope everybody had an enjoyable and safe holiday season. I can't believe 2009 is already here. It seemed like just a few months ago I was writing the editorial note and welcoming 2008. Well, no sense in looking back. It's time to look ahead. Domenic Losito has submitted an interesting proposal that discusses starting an EHO training program at UBC (cover page). If you haven't read through it yet, I suggest you take a look as it's quite interesting and should drum up some healthy discussions around the water cooler.

Dr. John Blatherwick recently received an honorary degree from UBC (page 6). Congratulations Dr. Blatherwick! We all benefit from your continued work in Public Health and support of PHI's. Speaking of Public Health, Environmental Public Health Week 2009 is just around the corner (page 9). Many of our colleagues have been preparing for this year's EPHW as they will be out in the public promoting our work and profession. Be sure to read the next issue of the BC Page for highlights of EPHW 2009.

I wish everyone all the best and a Happy 2009.

Respectfully,
Alex Kwan - Editor

Correction Notice

In the "When & Who?" section of the Fall 2008 issue, we ran some graduation photos from the BCIT Environmental Health class of 1974. We mistakenly matched the photo on the right with the name Ron Cook. This graduate's name is actually ROBERT Cook. Our sincere apologies.

-BC Page Editorial Team



Registrar to Retire

Having provided many years acting as Registrar of BC Branch CIPHI, Debra Losito has decided to retire to pursue other interests. The Board of Registration wishes to recognize the long service, and the many changes Debra has managed over this period. All the members of the Board of Registration express our thanks, and offer best wishes wherever future paths take her! Debra may be contacted at registrar@ciphi.bc.ca, or at this mailing address: P.O. Box 75264, 15180 North Bluff Rd., White Rock, BC, V4B 5L4.

David Butt - Board of Registration

BC Conference 2008 Conference Presentations Now Available on the Web

BC Branch CIPHI is committed to providing continuing education on various public health issues in Canada. We were happy to host the BC Branch CIPHI Education Conference 2008 and it was a great success. We received overwhelming support from all the delegates, various RHAs, and sponsors about the conference. Many delegates acknowledged that the presentations were essential to the daily issues Environmental Public Health Professionals face. Therefore, we have uploaded most of the presentations in the Conference to the following link:

Link: <http://www.ephcanada.info/kbase/>
Repository: CIPHI
Username: BCCConf2008
Password: RiverRock

If you have any trouble accessing the link or any presentation, please feel free to contact Gary Tam at gary.tam@vch.ca or David Butt at dfbutt@telus.net.

□ Bob Herbison Memorial Award

Pictured is Emily Ho receiving the Bob Herbison Memorial Award from Steve Chong, Past President of the BC Branch, at the November 5th, 2008 BCIT Awards Ceremony. This award is provided by the BC Branch CIPHI in honour of the late Robert Herbison who was a Life Member of CIPHI.



Pictured above: Steve Chong (Past President of BC CIPHI) presenting Emily with award.

BRANCH UPDATE

2008 has come to a close, and a snowy one at that! It's been a busy year for the BC Branch with several great achievements to remark upon. The Fall Education Conference held at River Rock Casino was one fine example of the great work produced by our Executive Branch committees and volunteers. The bar has risen once again for quality and diversity in providing a top-notch educational venue for our Profession. The organizing committee deserves all the accolades received. The dedication of our volunteers and Executive Branch continue to move ahead on many other frontiers as well. The Continuing Professional Competencies project rounded another important cornerstone, and will be conducting focus groups early 2009 across Canada to 'field test' the Discipline Specific Competencies developed for Environmental Public Health Professionals. BC will host two of the focus groups – one for students from BCIT, and another for practicing Environmental Health Officers. Participation by the Branch on the Sewerage System Leadership Council continues to engage in focused discussion with industry and government to review and debate the workings of the Sewerage System Regulation. The Branch continues to participate in review of the Swimming Pool, Spray Pool, and Wading Pool Regulation. There was also active participation in review of the new Health Act. Socially, our traditional Christmas lunches were again fantastic successes in Vancouver, Victoria, and Kelowna, as those who attended can attest.

The BC Branch made contributions to two BCIT Award funds this year, the John A. Stringer Award and the Bill Leith Award totaling \$730. This contribution corrected funding shortfalls and ensures the continued viability of these important awards. The Dr. Balthewick Environmental Health Scholarship fund now totals \$52,000 after receiving a contribution from the Branch of \$3,585 in 2008 as well.

We are on the cusp of 2009's Environmental Public Health Week – January 19th – 25th. Again, this is our chance to profile our Profession and make the public conscious of the important work we achieve each year in promoting and protecting their health. Please take this opportunity to do your part to get involved in promoting Environmental Health.

Congratulations to all our newly certified Environmental Health Officers, and thank you to all who participated in organizing and participating in the Board of Certification examinations. Always a stressful stepping-stone in one's newly chosen career. Kudos! Glad that one's behind me!

I will close by saying that I look forward to many more great achievements for 2009. I trust everyone had a wonderfully white Holiday Season with friends and family. The best to all of you for 2009!

Best Regards,

Keir Cordner
Vice President, BC Branch



UBC Option (continued from p. 1)

has, itself, evolved from several options (direct entry, 4-year) to a single option (various routes) of a two-year degree completion program (or after-degree program for candidates with existing recognized baccalaureate degrees). The class size has varied over the years, and has recently settled into a 32 – seat offering.

Without getting into all the pros and cons of such a move, let me highlight some of the factors that led to us exploring other options for EHO entry to practice training:

1. **“The BCIT Model may not be the one that best fits our needs”** – BCIT remains the only polytechnic institution providing training for environmental health officers. The other four accredited training centres (Concordia Edmonton, First Nations University, Ryerson University and Cape Breton University) are all universities and are all members of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) – BCIT is not and remains firm in its resolve to be a polytechnic institute.

While it’s difficult to conclude that this desire to remain a polytechnic institute has hampered efforts to improve the course and the campus, it’s interesting to note that, while BCIT has been talking about and planning a new Health Sciences Centre for many years, SFU has invested over \$60 million (in government funding and private donations) in its new Faculty of Health Sciences complex and UBC continues to build and improve its Health Sciences program and facilities.

2. **Efficiency:** there are two main options for entry into the BCIT program:

- Two years of post-secondary course work; or
- An appropriate credential, which would include:
 - Certificate from a relevant diploma program at BCIT – e.g. OH&S of Food Sciences;
 - Associate of Sciences degree from a recognized institution
 - A BSc or equivalent from a recognized post-secondary institution (e.g. UBC)

However, of late, the vast majority of students entering the program already have a degree (many from UBC) For example, this year’s intake of 27 consisted of 21 students with prior degrees, 1 student with an associate degree, 3 with 60 credits transfer, 1 with a degree transfer and 1 with a diploma. In my humble opinion, this is an inefficient use of a scarce resource (university capacity), essentially requiring 6 years to gain the chance to sit the national certification exam for “entry to practice”, when this would ideally require no more than 4 years at UBC.

3. **Recruitment** – once again BCIT has fallen short of recruiting enough candidates to fill the 32 seats; current intake of 27 based on 71 applications leaves 5 seats vacant. Given that attrition at BCIT normally reduces the number of graduates by about 10%, this means potentially 24 graduates in 2010. The national BOC certification process tends to certify 75-80% of applicants in the first attempt and 80% of the remainder in re-write exams in April. Together this means a potential entry-to-practice cohort of somewhere below 20 new graduates.

Estimates provided to BCIT PAC in November indicated that approximately 60+ positions would need filling (due to retirement or new positions) in just BC and Alberta in the coming year. While these shortfalls in enrollment may be more a symptom of the general post-secondary environment, it also reflects on BCIT’s inability to attract candidates who are interested in “public health” and working for government. It was only a few years back that BCIT proposed suspending the program for one intake due to poor enrollment numbers.

4. **The Stage is Set** – With all the work currently being carried out at various levels on core competencies and core programs, the option of a UBC-based Environmental Health Officer training program presents an exciting

opportunity to take the profession to the next level and into the next decade. CIPHI has been working closely with the Public Health Agency of Canada in the Core Competencies process and is expected to finalize discipline specific competencies in early 2009. The Public Health Association of BC (PHABC) is working (on contract with PHAC and BC Ministry of Health) on developing a set of core competencies that will assist in BC meeting our Core Program requirements (i.e. having the human resources with the appropriate competencies to implement the Core Program framework).

In addition, the provisions of the new Public Health Act around the appointment of EHOs and the requirements to be set around entry to practice and maintenance of competence play very nicely into a partnership with UBC to not only address our initial credential but also the maintenance and enhancement of our technical competencies at various levels in the organization.

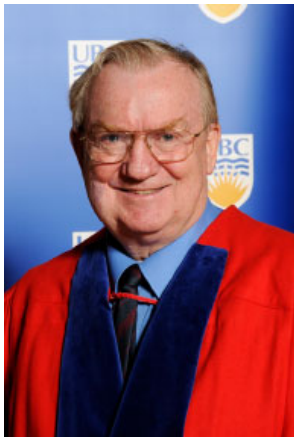
- 5. Breadth of Educational Experience** - Exposure to health promotion, social marketing, determinants of health, while a key part of how we do business now and in the future, is not there in the BCIT model at any level of significance. What is missing is the interaction between the various partners in the population health-public health continuum. If prospective EHOs were exposed to some of the concepts of social determinants of health, health promotion, social marketing and collaboration at an early stage (such as in public health practice courses that include students from all aspects of public health) they would be prepared to make greater use of these tools than the traditional health protection tool kit of progressive enforcement and sanctions. It is this instruction in a cross-disciplinary setting that would set UBC apart from the BCIT approach.
- 6. UBC offers a multidisciplinary model** – we are working more and more in multidisciplinary teams (e.g. food security, injury prevention, healthy living, trans fat regulation and tobacco programs). One of the deficits of a stand-alone EHO training program is that we're trained in isolation of our partners in public health – community health nurses, health promotion practitioners, epidemiologists etc. If we were able to share some courses with them as well as students in Food Sciences and Engineering, we'd have stronger candidates entering the field.
- 7. Ability to ladder into Masters programs (MPH, MHSc, etc)** is a benefit both to the institution (providing a cohort of graduates prepared for entry into the Masters program at UBC) and to the employers (we have a definite shortage of Masters-prepared candidates to step into specialist and management positions. BCIT's reluctance to change the credential from BTech and their non-membership in the AUCC is an obstacle towards a routine entry into graduate studies.

Summary:

In summary, the regional directors of health protection in BC firmly believe that it's time to actively consider options to the BCIT model, including a UBC program, to train prospective environmental public health professionals in preparation for entry to practice, and ultimately to provide, with others, the training required to maintain and enhance competencies at the field and specialist/supervisory levels. We are in a time of significant change, with the adoption of core and discipline specific competencies for our profession just around the corner. These initiatives will be challenging the status quo, as does this initiative to explore other options for entry to practice training for EHOs. Yes, it's uncomfortable for some, and many of us, including me, have strong ties to BCIT (student, alumnus, instructor, Program Advisory Chair). However, when an opportunity presents itself to improve how we train our future graduates, we would be remiss if we did not at least test out that option.

Submitted by
Domenic Losito

Dr. John Blatherwick Receives Honourary Degree



Above: Dr. Blatherwick

I am very happy to advise you that Dr. John Blatherwick (Honourary Chair of the EHFC) has been awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws by the University of British Columbia. Attached is a copy of his nomination plus a great photo of John with the President and Chancellor of UBC. Please join me in congratulating John on receiving this significant award for his years of contribution and service in the field of Public Health. Three Cheers for John. As you know John has been a long time supporter of PHIs and the field of Environmental Health. He is also an Honourary Member of CIPHI.

Tim Roark
Trustee & Treasurer
Environmental Health Foundation of Canada

Madam Chancellor:

It is a privilege and honour today to recognize the outstanding contributions Dr. Francis John Blatherwick has made to improving the health of Canadians and to serving his country.

Dr. Blatherwick is Canada's longest-serving medical health officer. He has served as a B.C. medical health officer for 36 years and as the Chief Medical Health Officer in Vancouver for 23 years.

As one of British Columbia's best-known public health advocates, Dr. Blatherwick has been a catalyst, innovator, and the driving force behind a number of important public health initiatives. These include: leading Vancouver's public health response to the SARS epidemic; advocating for harm reduction programs for injection drug users which resulted in the opening of the first supervised injection site in North America; and campaigning against exposure to tobacco smoke which led to the establishment of municipal smoking bylaws and reducing population exposure to second-hand smoke – to name just a few.

He is also the recipient of an impressive set of awards including the Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia for his work in public health, the George Elliot Award for lifetime contribution to public health in British Columbia and the Silver Medal of Service from the BC Medical Association.

Dr. Blatherwick has served for 39 years in the Canadian Forces Reserves. He represented Canada at NATO as the head of the Canadian Forces Reserve Medical Group for six years. He is the Honorary Colonel of 12 Vancouver Field Ambulance. He has written 20 books, mainly about Canadian orders, decorations and medals, and airplanes. He is a father of four and an active participant in community sports.

Madam Chancellor, to recognize his outstanding leadership in public health, his unyielding dedication to improving the health and wellbeing of citizens locally, nationally, and internationally, and for his relentless courage to tackle controversial issues in trying times, I ask you to confer the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, upon Francis John Blatherwick.



*Above: Dr. Blatherwick speaking at UBC Award Ceremony
Below: Dr. Blatherwick with UBC President and Chancellor*



Nomination and photos courtesy of Ms. Eilis Courtney - Director, Ceremonies Office at the University of British Columbia.



NEWS RELEASE

August 20, 2008

Test Wells for Arsenic: Medical Health Officer

All owners of private wells are being encouraged by Fraser Health to regularly test their drinking water for arsenic and other contaminants. The request follows a recent study of wells in the Langley-Surrey area which detected arsenic in more than 80 per cent of 98 wells sampled.

"A \$30 test for arsenic is a wise investment to protect against exposure that can lead to an increased risk of cancer," says Medical Health Officer Elizabeth Brodtkin.

Health Canada's Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality state the maximum acceptable concentration (MAC) of arsenic as 0.010 milligrams per litre, which is equivalent to approximately one teaspoon of arsenic in an Olympic-sized swimming pool. Arsenic in drinking water can have serious health effects. Long term exposure to arsenic has been shown to increase the risk of some cancers.

Arsenic can be found naturally occurring in several locations throughout BC, and can leach into water systems from the surrounding bedrock or soil. Within the Fraser Health region, arsenic has also been found in well water in areas of Chilliwack and Mission. Arsenic has no odour or taste, and is detected by a chemical test. Public drinking water systems are monitored regularly, while the majority of private wells are not tested routinely for water quality or contaminants.

"Most well owners think if the water's clear it's good," says Bill Oldham a well owner in Langley who participated in the study. "Getting your well water tested is a good idea, and not just for arsenic" adds Oldham.

Private operators and land owners are responsible for testing water quality in their private wells for contamination by bacteria and by chemicals such as arsenic. All private well owners whose drinking water has detectable levels of arsenic are encouraged to treat their drinking water to reduce the concentration. Treatment methods include a variety of types of filters and distillation units.

A recent study of 98 wells in the Langley-Surrey area showed arsenic concentrations exceeding the MAC guidelines for drinking water in 43 per cent of the wells. A further 40 per cent of wells tested had arsenic concentrations at levels that may still pose a health risk over the long-term. The study was commissioned by Fraser Health and the Ministry of Environment, and was conducted by UBC's Institute for Resources and the Environment.

For a complete copy of the report visit: www.fraserhealth.ca/health_protection.
Information on the health effects of arsenic is available on the BC Healthguide web site:
<http://www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles/hfile49c.stm>

Media Contact: Communications 604-450-7881 (pager).
Visit our Web site www.fraserhealth.ca for more health news and information.

1/1

Rabies Survivor

In January 2005, Jeanna Giese, a 15-year old girl from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, became one of only six people known to have survived rabies after the onset of symptoms. All of the other five received vaccination before symptoms developed. Giese had symptoms of full-blown rabies when she sought medical help, 37 days after being bitten on the hand by a bat in St. Patrick's Church in Fond du Lac. At that time of the bite the 5 millimeter long wound was only washed with hydrogen peroxide and no immediate treatment was sought after. On October 15, 2004, Giese arrived at the hospital with the disease already too far progressed for the vaccine to help, and she was considered too weak to tolerate it. Over a five day period, Giese had developed fatigue, tingling and numbness in her left hand, slurred speech, double vision, an unsteady walk, nausea, vomiting and fever. Giese also started salivating profusely causing the doctors to place a breathing tube into her to prevent aspiration pneumonia.

Doctors at the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin in Wauwatosa, a suburb of Milwaukee, achieved her survival with an experimental treatment that involved putting the girl into a drug-induced coma, and administering a cocktail

of antiviral drugs. The physician stated they performed an "informed gamble" of letting Jeanna Giese's immune system fight the disease while medicine was administered to protect her brain as she slept. Giese regained her weight, strength, and coordination while in the hospital. The physician who led her treatment team during almost 80 days of hospitalization said he had never seen an "evolution of healing" like this, nor had his colleagues at other national and international medical institutions. She was released from the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin on January 1, 2005, becoming the first known instance of a person surviving rabies without vaccine treatment.

Since Jeanna was discharged, modified versions of the coma therapy have been tried without success. Alan C. Jackson, an expert on rabies from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario stated this is "a real milestone in terms of managing patients with human rabies" but stresses, "the real fundamental question is: Why did this patient survive?" The theory is being challenged by some experts, in which they question: the lethality of the strain that Jeanna received; or is Jeanna an unusual case since her immune system moves faster, creating rabies-fighting antibodies sooner than others with the virus; or was the therapy not as important as good medical care. A published paper on Jeanna's treatment is available in the *New England Journal of Medicine* with an accompanied editorial written by the world expert on rabies Mr. Jackson.

By Isher Deol

Reference:

Lawrence K Altman. *An unlikely cure*. New York Times
Darryl Enriquez. *Rabies survivor leaves hospital*.
Journal Sentinel. January 2, 2005



Above: Jeanna Giese



Left: Jeanna and her family after she was released from the hospital.

Supreme Court orders cement company to pay \$15M in damages

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/11/21/que-cementplant.html?ref=rss>

Last Updated: Friday, November 21, 2008 | 10:54 AM ET

Canada's highest court has ordered an Ontario company to pay \$15 million in damages to 2,000 people who lived near one of its cement plants in Quebec City. The Supreme Court upheld a Quebec Superior Court decision ordering St. Lawrence Cement Inc. of Concord, Ont., to pay the damages. The operator of cement plants in Ontario and Quebec was responsible for making life difficult for people living near one plant in Beauport, a borough of Quebec City, even though it didn't intend to cause harm, the court said. The case stemmed from a class action lawsuit filed in August 1994 by neighbours who complained about noise, smoke and dust coming from the cement plant, which has since closed. Although the Quebec Superior Court upheld the claim and ordered the company to pay \$15 million in damages, the Quebec Court of Appeal had reversed the decision, concluding that nuisance claims could not be brought as a class action proceeding and that only landowners could participate.

SUPREME COURT OF CANADA: THE ENVIRONMENT

Polluters liable for 'annoyances,' even if they have broken no laws

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20081121.QUARRY21/TPStory/?query=cement+company+class+action>

KIRK MAKIN-JUSTICE REPORTER November 21, 2008

Polluters can be successfully sued for emitting annoying odours, dust or noise - even if they are in compliance with government regulations, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled yesterday. In a landmark ruling favouring the environmental movement, the court allowed a class action launched by 2,000 citizens near Quebec City who suffered for half a century from an irritating blanket of dust and odour emanating from a St. Lawrence Cement Inc. plant that was located in their midst. The court said polluters must pay "based on the annoyances suffered by the victim being excessive, rather than on the conduct of the person who allegedly caused them." The 6-0 ruling applies specifically to Quebec - which has a distinct Civil Code. However, the broad principles enshrined by the court are expected to quickly spread across the country in future rulings.

"This is a massive victory for the environmental community and for citizens in Canada, particularly Quebec," said Will Amos, a lawyer for the environmental group Ecojustice. "It is going to make it much easier for citizens to make environmental-nuisance complaints," Mr. Amos said in an interview. "They are not going to have to prove fault or wrongdoing. They have only to prove that an abnormal annoyance occurred. That is absolutely critical."

The court delineated two separate streams of potential liability in environmental lawsuits. The first relates to cases in which actual wrongdoing can be proved. The second relates to emissions which, despite being legal, exceed reasonable levels of tolerance in a community. "Even though it appears to be absolute, the right of ownership has limits," Mr. Justice Louis LeBel and Madam Justice Marie Deschamps wrote for the court.

They said that plaintiffs "do not require evidence of wrongful conduct to establish the liability of an owner who has caused excessive neighbourhood annoyances."

Yesterday's decision realized the worst fears of St. Lawrence Cement and other companies caught up in disputes with their neighbours. Judge LeBel and Judge Deschamps said that the plaintiffs symbolically represent a multitude of others across the country in an era when citizens no longer accept noxious pollutants as an acceptable irritant. "Dust they are, and unto dust they shall return, yet human beings have difficulty resigning themselves to living in dust," they said. "Sometimes, weary of brooms and buckets of water, they are not unwilling to turn to the courts to get rid of it. This case is proof of that."

The court noted that its ruling stems from accepted principles of both Quebec civil law and Canadian common law. "What is more, such a scheme is consistent with general policy considerations, such as the objective of environmental protection and the application of the polluter-pay principle," it said. St. Lawrence Cement opened its Beauport plant in 1952. By 1955, the company and the community were at war over noise, odour and airborne pollutants, which the inhabitants alleged were damaging their property and enjoyment of life. While the class action was launched in 1994 and the plant ceased operating in 1997, the litigation lived on. In another victory for environmentalists, the court ruled that damage awards can vary within a community, since citizens may suffer differing degrees of harm. The other concurring judges were Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin, Mr. Justice Morris Fish, Madam Justice Rosalie Abella and Madam Justice Louise Charron.

**LIVING
TO ADVANCE
SCIENCE.**

**WORKING
TO PROTECT
CANADIANS.**



CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

RECREATIONAL WATER

CHILDCARE

WASTE MANAGEMENT

INFECTION CONTROL

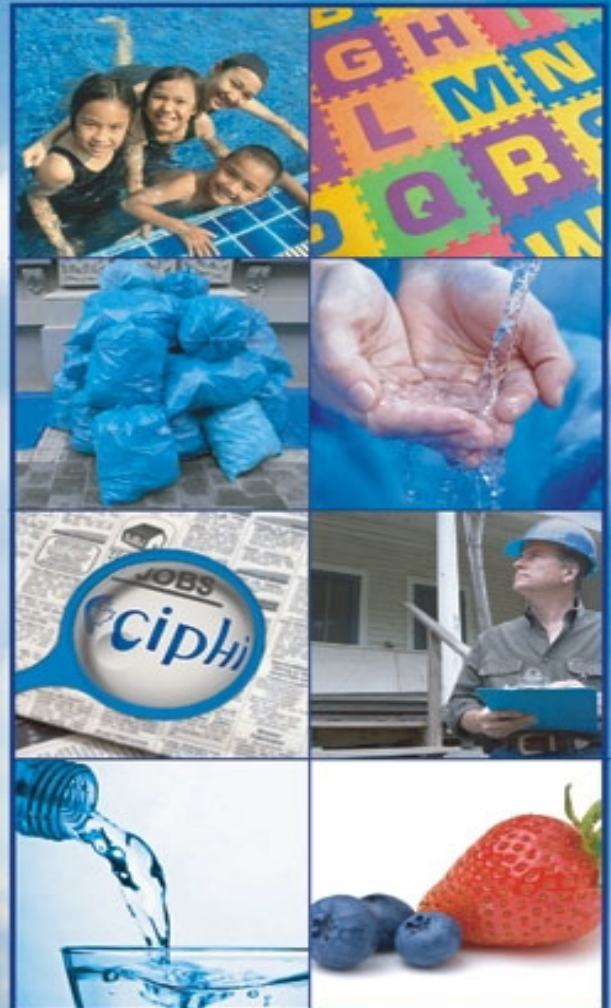
AIR QUALITY

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

HOUSING INSPECTION

DRINKING WATER

FOOD SAFETY



ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

for career opportunities

www.ciphi.ca

January 19-25, 2009

LOWER MAINLAND CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

We had a beautiful Christmas Luncheon yesterday at the Croatian Cultural Center in Vancouver. The room that we rented was perfect - table linens and all. In addition, Greta Kos and two of her assistants (Patricia Tymiak and Donna Hardy) created the most amazing center pieces for all the tables. We had a great turnout and the food was tasty (and plenty). The feedback received was very positive. A HUGE THANK YOU to:

Paul Markey and Greta Kos: For making the booking at the center and sorting out the menu and other details

Ashleen Nadan: For creating the lovely invitation

Greta Kos, Patricia Tymiak and Donna Hardy: For making the most beautiful flower arrangements (that we raffled off at the end of the lunch)

Sabrina Sandhu: for sorting out registration

Isher Deol, Tracy Au-Yeung, Steve Chong, Paul Markey: for selling 50/50 tickets (and making the winning BCIT student very happy)

Paul Markey: for helping Tim out with his car at the end of it all

I hope those of you that attended the luncheon enjoyed it.

Cheers,

Jasmina Egeler



VICTORIA CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The BC Branch Christmas Luncheon in Victoria was held again at the 5th Street Bar and Woodfire Grill.

Twenty colleagues participated in the annual event. As usual the food and service were great. The 50-50 draw raised \$94.00 dollars in total with Michael Riefman, a long-standing member of CIPHI being the big winner of \$47.00. The other \$47.00 will be donated by the BC Branch to the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada. Numerous additional prizes consisting of various boxes of chocolates were also raffled off to lucky attendees. Those who didn't win a prize were presented chocolates so all went home winners and thus all seemed to enjoy themselves at the luncheon. Many thanks to Maxine Marchenski who arranged the luncheon and Dan Moreau for helping me with the raffle.

Tim Roark



IN MEMORIAM



Robert Howard Stickland, Captain (Ret'd) RCAF, CPHI(C) was born on Nov. 24, 1928 in Port Alberni, BC. The family moved to Parksville at age 5 where he grew up with his 4 siblings and learned to appreciate and love the outdoors. He started his working life as a faller for McMillan Bloedel and then served in the Air Force for 25 years. In 1974 he received his Certificate in Public Health Inspection (Canada) and commenced his 2nd career with the Capital Regional District in Victoria, retiring as a Senior Public Health Inspector in 1993. He was a long-standing and strong supporter of the CIPHI having been a Councillor on the BC Branch Executive for a number of years. Bob passed away on Feb. 12, 2008 at 79 years, 80 days.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years Lucy, daughter Pat, son-in-law Brian, sister Charlotte, brother Glen, many nieces and nephews and 'adopted' families. Special thanks to the wonderful staff with Maple Special Care at the Oak Bay Lodge who cared for Bob for almost 3 years. As a passionate fisherman, Bob was a member of the Golden Rods & Reels. A celebration of Bob's life was held at McCall Bros. Floral Chapel, in Vancouver. Donations in Bob's memory

may be made to the BC SPCA or the Alzheimer Society.

"God give me strength to catch a fish, so big that even I, when telling of it afterwards, have no need to lie."



EWAN Morven It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Morven on October 11, 2008. He is survived by his wife of 58 years Fran, daughter Ginny (son-in-law Ted), son Mark (daughter-in-law Kathy), and grandchildren Angie (Brad), Mark, Matt and Kirsten. Morven was born on November 1, 1919 in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. At an early age, the family moved west, residing in Hope for a short period. The family settled in New Westminster and lived at "Pen Row", which were homes for staff of the B.C. Penitentiary. He attended Trapp Tech and joined the City of New Westminster in 1940 as the city's first Public Health Inspector. During the war, he served in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps as a Staff Sergeant and was stationed at Camp Borden in Ontario. Returning from military service, he married and built two homes in "Victory Heights", one on Chestnut

Street and another on Massey Street. Morven and Fran moved to Regina Street to the home they lived in for over fifty years. Morven became Chief Public Health Inspector and Continuing Care Licensing Officer. He was active in the development of the Public Health Inspection Program at BCIT, and throughout his career delighted in working with students. In 1985 he was granted Life Membership by the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. Morven loved his work and enjoyed helping people. He had a heart for people who were lonely and isolated. He was involved in many areas of service including: St. Mary's Hospital, Kiwanis Care Centre, Family Court Committee, the Western Society for Senior Citizens and Julien House. Civic life also included participation in May Day as an escort and dancing as a Lancer for approximately forty years. His service to the community was acknowledged in 2001 when he was named New Westminster Citizen of the Year. Upon his retirement in 1985, he was the longest serving civic employee with nearly 45 years of service. A capstone to his career was returning to public health to work in the planning and operation of Expo '86. Morven had an active role in several church congregations, and in later years at First Presbyterian Church, and took great joy in singing in the choir. Morven was a fly fisherman. He regarded the Thompson River Valley at Shaw Springs the most beautiful of places and he knew the river like a friend. We extend our highest appreciation to Dr. Carol Pheffercorn and to the staff of the Salvation Army Buchanan Care Centre. You are special people. In lieu of flowers, a donation to Julien House would be welcomed. The care and service provided to women by Julien House exemplifies Morven's compassion and giving spirit. There will be a graveside service for immediate family. He was a kind and

gentle man whose love of people and family was inspiring and we will miss him profoundly. "All is Well"

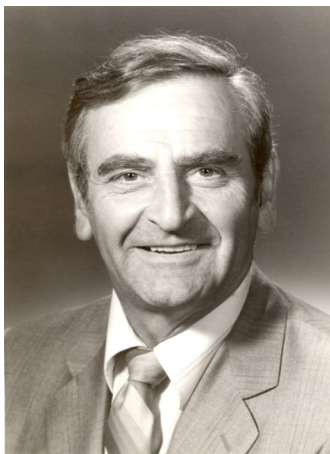
Published in the Vancouver Sun and/or The Province on 10/15/2008.



ARMSTRONG, Dan - It is with much sadness that we announce the sudden death of Dan Armstrong on December 31st, 2008. Dan was born in Fort St. John on September 10, 1959. He spent his early years in Tomslake, Chetwynd, and Ocean Falls, before moving to Kelowna with his family when he was 13. His favourite activities as a youth included being part of the swim club in Ocean Falls, wrestling, skiing, and riding his motorcycle. When he was 19, he went traveling and had many adventures in Australia, Indonesia, India, England, and other countries. His round-the-world tour lasted a year and a half and gave him a great love of traveling and a deep respect for other cultures. When he returned, he went to UBC where he got a degree in Environmental Studies. While there, he managed to convince the Totem Park residence to let him be the first man to stay on a girls' floor. This happened to be where his future wife, Elda, was staying and the two quickly became inseparable. Dan always let Elda know how proud he was of her and encouraged her to use her talents to her fullest. Dan then got a diploma in Environmental Health at BCIT.

After spending 2 years in Burns Lake, Dan and Elda moved to Prince George

in 1990 where Dan has been an Environmental Health Officer for the last 19 years. Dan was overjoyed to be the father of Luke and Ben and was happiest when the whole family was doing something together, whether it be time at the cabin, kayaking, playing a board game, or having dinner together. He had great hopes and plans for his family. Dan will be greatly missed by his beloved wife Elda and sons Luke and Ben, his parents, Dan and Sharen, his sisters Diane (Kelly) and Terry (Gary), his parents in law Barrie and Barbara Sones, Elda's siblings Bill (Laurie), Kim, and Rose, five nieces and nephews, many extended family members, his church family at St. Giles and friends. Dan was a deeply committed Christian and his life reflected this. He believed in using his talents to help others. He was a talented woodworker; he enjoyed drawing and doing pottery; he wrote many poems; he was able to successfully re-fit any part of an old house and turn into something of beauty; and he was a walking encyclopedia about most subjects. He loved reading magazines, watching old movies and sitting in the sunshine. We will always remember him for the love he expressed daily to us. A memorial service was held Wednesday, January 7, 2009, at St. Giles Presbyterian Church in Prince George. In lieu of flowers, friends so wishing can make a donation to Hope International.



Dennis Cocke was the NDP MLA for New Westminster for a period of 17 years

in both the BC Government and Opposition. His passion was the health care system and as a result he served as Minister of Health during the Dave Barrett Government. It was in this capacity that he made the greatest mark on the province introducing the first public ambulance system in B.C. authorizing the reconstruction of Royal Columbian Hospital and the building of Queens Park Hospital. After his retirement from politics Dennis became the Executive Director for the New West Minster area Legal Services Society and served on numerous boards and community groups including IWA/Community Savings Credit Union, the YMCA, the Legal Services Society and as Chair of the Fraser Health Board. He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Yvonne, four daughters and their families. A celebration of Life was held at Queens Avenue United Church.

Dennis Cocke 1924 – 2008

Editors Note: Dennis Cocke was most interested in supporting the public health system and is likely the only Minister of Health to have ever toured the health units across BC to meet with and listen to the concerns of the staff. He annually met with a delegation from the BC Branch CIPHI and was the first government official in BC to indicate his support for an "Act of Registration for Public Health Inspectors". Mr. Cocke subsequently agreed to present it for approval but unfortunately the Barrett government was defeated prior to the "Act of Registration for Public Health Inspectors" being presented to the Legislature in 1973.

Tim Roark
Historian
BC Branch CIPHI

BC Branch Executive 2008

www.ciphi.bc.ca

President	Jasmina Egeler	604-675-3810
Past President	Steve Chong	604-233-3172
Vice President	Keir Cordner	250-334-5472
Treasurer	Kuljeet Chattha	604-233-3174
Recording Secretary	Isher Deol	604-983-6864
Corresponding Secretary	Gary Tam	604-233-3217

Greg Baytalan
Paul Markey
Ingo Frankfurt
Ashleen Nadan
Nigel Headley



Councillors

Barb Haworth
Sonia Hundal
Grace MacIver
Shawna Bicknell
Sarah Nicklason

Board of Registration	David Butt	250-428-3605
Registrar	Vacant	
Corresponding Member B.O.C.	Gord Stewart	604-870-7932
Webmaster	David Butt	250-428-3605

BC Branch Address:

c/o Jasmina Egeler,
1200 - 601 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4C2
FAX: 604-736-8651

Editorial Team

Associate Editor:

Tim Roark
3301 - 164A Street
Surrey, BC V3S 0G5
Tim.Roark@shaw.ca

Associate Editor

Isher Deol
Vancouver Coastal Health Authority
5th Floor - 132 W. Esplanade
N. Vancouver, BC V7M 1A2
isher.deol@vch.ca

Editor:

Alex Kwan
Fraser Health Authority
537 Carnarvon St.
New Westminster, BC V3L 1C2
alex.kwan@fraserhealth.ca

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.

Advertising Policy

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

Advertising Rates

FULL PAGE.....\$75 per issue
HALF PAGE.....\$50 per issue
QUARTER PAGE.....\$30 per issue
BUSINESS CARD.....\$20 per issue

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