

BC Water Week 2015

The United Nations once stated that “water is critical for sustainable development, including environmental integrity and the alleviation of poverty and hunger, and is indispensable for human health and well-being” (United Nations, 2015). It would seem, in this part of the world, that water is frequently taken for granted and society has simply forgotten where water comes from and how truly irreplaceable it is.

BC Water and Waste Association (BCWWA) is gearing up for BC Water Week, taking place May 3rd-9th; the theme, “There is No Substitute,” mirrors the United Nations’ assertion. In addition to this powerful message, BCWWA has chosen to expand the original scope of the awareness campaign from simply “drinking water” to incorporate the entire drinking water system. The campaign will encourage people to ask questions about where their water comes from and how it is delivered to their tap. Knowledge is power; with more information, individuals can choose to conserve and protect their water and also support their local government with all drinking water system needs (BCWWA, 2015).

The campaign website, www.valueofwater.ca, provides the opportunity to “Take the Pledge” to conserve and protect drinking water, show “Support” for water systems, and “Learn More” about inspiring others to become aware

and take action. A number of events across the province, including Dawson Creek’s “Get to Know Your Watershed” and Metro Vancouver’s “Rain Barrel Sales,” are taking place to provide local drinking water and drinking water system knowledge.

The drinking water crisis in California, while tragic, could be considered timely to reinforce the theme of this year’s campaign. Awareness is on the upswing as media paints a story of a first world country suffering the impairment of a water shortage. Bringing the issue to home has many people taking that extra moment to think, “could this be a reality for my drinking water?” During BC Water Week, in particular, be sure to promote healthy drinking water, water conservation, and drinking water system development.

Check out other resources and events for BC Water Week at www.valueofwater.ca.

Stacey Sowa, CPHI(C)



References:

BC Water and Waste Association, 2015. *BC Water Week*. Retrieved on April 23, 2015, from <http://www.valueofwater.ca/>.

United Nations, 2004. *UN Decade “Water for Life” (2005-2015)*. Retrieved on April 23, 2015, from <http://www.un.org/ga/president/63/issues/waterforlife.shtml>.



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MAY 3-9, 2015

DRINKING WATER WEEK

GET TO KNOW YOUR H₂O

BC Branch Update

Letter from the President Elect

I cannot believe it is already time for the spring edition of the BC Page! I hope everyone is having a great spring season. The executive is working hard to bring you additional educational opportunities later this year. A survey will shortly be distributed to the membership in order to solicit your feedback and ideas. If anyone has any questions, concerns, or ideas regarding CIPHI and the BC Branch, please don't hesitate to contact your local executive member or myself directly. Our contact information can be found at the end of this newsletter. I sincerely appreciate

your support for the BC Branch and our profession. Best of luck to those sitting their spring BOCs and thank you everyone!

Dale Chen



Freezing the Ground Beneath the Fraser River

By Tim Roark

A delicate operation is currently underway on, and under, the Fraser River just west of the new Port Mann Bridge. A massive drilling machine is digging a 1,000 meter long tunnel under the Fraser River

so that a new water main can be constructed to serve communities south of the Fraser. However, a problem recently arose with the tunnelling machine after having gone 800 of the 1,000 meters. According to Frank Huber, Metro Vancouver's Director of major Projects, the conveyor removing material from the tunnel got jammed and damaged.

The biggest problem was how could crews work safely so far beneath the river to repair the machine with 60 meters of water pressure in saturated ground above them? Enter the use of liquid nitrogen to freeze the earth surrounding the drill and thus holding back the pressure to allow workers to go in and conduct the repairs. As a re-

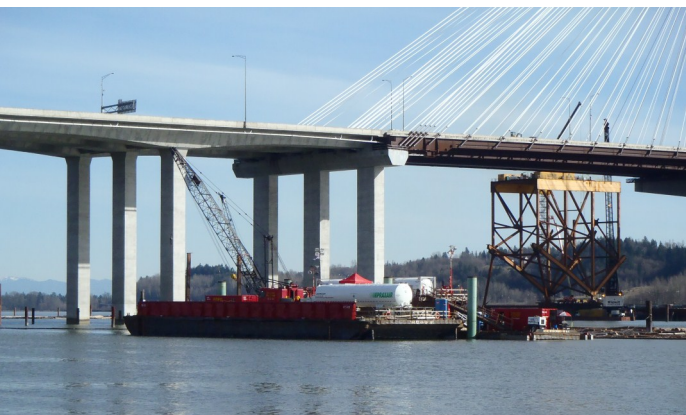


The Port Mann Tunnel's south shaft located 60 meters below the Fraser River.

sult, a floating platform was anchored in the middle of the Fraser River and crews drilled a dozen or more 'freeze holes' into the earth surrounding the drill. Liquid Nitrogen was injected in the area permitting workers to repair the drill and conveyor system.

This new tunnel is part of a \$240 million overall water supply project being constructed by Metro Vancouver to ensure the reliable delivery of drinking water to municipalities south of the Fraser. Once tunnelling is complete, a 2.1M (84") diameter water main will be installed within the tunnel located deep underneath the riverbed. The existing Port Mann water main is one of several key water supply links to municipalities south of the Fraser, and the new main will more than double its capacity. Two valve chambers, one on either side of the river, will allow Operations staff to control water flow through the tunnel. Work is underway on the north chamber, and installation of the welded steel water pipe inside the tunnel and construction of the south chamber are expected to commence in early 2015. The overall project is to be completed in late 2015.

Many thanks to Frank Huber & staff at Metro Vancouver for the photos and information regarding this important potable water supply project.



The large barge platform, anchored over the site, enabling liquid nitrogen to be injected into the ground to freeze around the drilling machine.

Alex Nilsson Award



(Left to Right) Dr. Stanwick (Island Health, Gethsemane Luttrell (FNHA), Craig Nowakowski (Island Health), Murray Fyfe (Island Health), Dr. Sobol (FNHA), Erwin Dyck (Island Health), Keir Cordner (FNHA), Christoph Moch (CRD), Sylvia Struck (FNHA), Peter Mazey (FNHA), Ann Thomas (Island Health).

In recognition of his tremendous contributions and accomplishments as a volunteer within CIPHI, the BC Branch is honoured to award Keir Cordner with the Alex Nilsson Award. The Alex Nilsson Award aims to honour a CIPHI member who devotes copious time and effort to the BC Branch and it's easy to say that Keir embodies the essence of this award. Ann Thomas, National President, presented Keir with the award on April 2, 2015 amongst colleagues new and old.

Keir joined the Executive of the BC Branch as a Councilor back in the spring of 2005. In 2009, he was elected Branch President, a position he held until the completion of his term in 2011. Keir was

Past President from 2011 to 2013. During that period of 8 years, Keir seldom missed a meeting.

As BC Branch President, Keir was also a member of the National Executive Council of CIPHI. Keir contributed to the launch of CIPHI's Continuing Professional Competency program. This included the associated online self assessment tool and PDH logging system which were developed in line with the CIPHI Member Service Center. With his acquired web designing skill, he helped contribute to the new look and the new functionality of the Member Service Center. In BC, he spearheaded the road show marketing campaign by identifying and training executive members to be champions of the CPC Program.

With the successful implementation of the CPC Program and the newly adopted BC Public Health Act, Keir lobbied Ministry of Health officials to bring the CPHI(C) credential and the CIPHI CPC program into the new Act.

Keir accepted the position as NEC Finance Committee Chair during his term as Branch President. With the assistance of the CIPHI Office and other committee members, Keir took on the monumental task of reviewing the CIPHI accounts between 2006 and 2010 and then developed a budget model for use by CIPHI in coming years.

During his presidency, he initiated the BC Branch strategic planning process and changed the role of Vice President to the President-Elect position to ensure proper succession planning and transition in the Institute. Keir was instrumental in the creation of a new BC Branch award that honours members who demonstrate ongoing voluntarism in their communities and/or the BC Branch.

As Past President, Keir led the Branch Centenary Celebration Committee by coordinating celebratory events and developing a web site that recognized the hard work of Environmental Public Health Professionals in the past hundred years.

Keir has been an active volunteer in his community and continues to volunteer with CIPHI as a new member of the Council of Professional Experience.

Thank You, Keir!!
B.C. Branch C.I.P.H.I.

BCIT Winter Awards Ceremony—February 24, 2015



Elden Chan (right) receiving the **John A. Stringer Memorial Award** from Laura Strand (center), granddaughter of Mr. Stringer, and Tim Roark (left) representing CIPHI's BC Branch.

Winnifred Lau (right) receiving the **Bill Leith Award** from Martin McLeod (left), Program Head for Environmental Health at BCIT.



An Intro to Myself: BCIT's New Program Head for the Environmental Health Program

I was born and raised in Vancouver. After graduation from UBC with a BSc in Biology and at a loose end, I travelled to South Africa to spend Christmas with my grandfather who lived in Capetown. That turned into a spontaneous yearlong adventure, hitchhiking through Africa from Capetown to Cairo. (My most bizarre experience – I was watching a movie about Idi Amin while in the lobby of a ruined luxury hotel in downtown Kampala, after he had been kicked out of

Uganda. Curfew was at 7pm and gunshots were heard all night). I mention this because it shaped my interest in public health, experiencing firsthand the lack of so many basic needs and standards we take for granted here. Upon my return I looked into working for NGO's in Africa but was advised to get a relevant skill first. That led me to the Environmental

... Continued on Page 6

BCIT's New Program Head for Environmental Health continued:

Health program at BCIT from 1982-84. After graduating in the midst of a recession and BC's 'restraint program' I found work in Maple Creek, Saskatchewan following a practicum in Regina Rural (where I met my wife). This was a great experience covering a large rural district in southwest Saskatchewan from a small one person office. I like to tell my students about the days with no computers, fax machines or cell phones and how we relied on Canada Post to get our business done.

After one year there and newly married, I took a job at Smithers in the Skeena Health Unit. (Our honeymoon was driving to Smithers) This was also a one person office at the

time and when I arrived they hadn't had a PHI for 9 months. I found two large stacks of paperwork on my desk, one marked 'urgent' and the other 'important'. We had no Chief Inspector or MHO at the time – this was truly baptism by fire. I remain grateful to Bruce Gaunt and Ralph Savage, who calmly guided me through a steep learning curve by phone from Terrace and Prince Rupert.

After two years in the north I was hired by the Richmond Health Dept. where I covered the Steveston area and also worked as a vector control specialist. Three years later I moved to Chilliwack (where I could afford a home for my wife and two young children). I worked from the Chilliwack office for 13 years, as a generalist but heavily involved in land development,

B.C. Branch C.I.P.H.I.

which was both challenging and rewarding. In 2004, I joined the Fraser Health drinking water program based in Abbotsford, covering the eastern end of Fraser Health from Hope to the Fraser Canyon and Manning Park. During this time I decided to pursue a career in education and obtained a Provincial Instructor Diploma. In 2005, I took a year leave of absence and taught in the Environmental Health program at College of North Atlantic in Doha, Qatar. Upon my return, I completed a

Master's degree in adult education and in August 2009 was fortunate to be hired at BCIT as a full-time faculty member. In June 2014 I became Program Head following Lorraine's retirement. My wife and I have recently relocated to Langley to be closer to BCIT. Our two children are now grown up and on their own – how time flies! I have always enjoyed

travelling, hiking, tennis, soccer and lately bike riding.

Program Head is a challenging role, however we have a great team here at BCIT (Vince Crozier, Helen Heacock, Keith Herle, Bobby Sidhu, Daliha Yousuf and Fred Shaw) and I look forward to working with them to prepare the students for the changing workplace. What started for me as "5 years as PHI then I'll try something else" turned into a rewarding career with no regrets. Although I never made it to the NGO's, I think I made a difference here in BC and am grateful for that opportunity. Now I enjoy using my experience and knowledge to give back to the students who are just beginning their careers.

Martin MacLeod



Harold Catlin

It has just come to our attention that a long time member of our profession, Harold Catlin, passed away on August 12, 2012. Harold received his CSI(C) in 1946 in Winnipeg, Manitoba and then moved to BC to start his lengthy career as a Public Health Inspector. Harold moved to a number of communities during his career and was promoted to Chief Public Health Inspector for the West Kootenay Health Unit in Trail until his retirement.

“With sadness, we announce the passing of Harold Bentley Catlin on August 12, 2012 at the age of 96 at Heron Grove in Vernon. He is survived by his sons Ted (Sheila) and Bob (Sharon); Lois Catlin (mother of Jill, Julie and David), Leslie Catlin (mother of Jennifer and Steven); and seven grandchildren; Jennifer, Steven, Jill, Julie, David, Nicole and Lisa. Harold is also survived by his ten great-grandchildren; Maggie, Libby, Olivia, Ivy, Rosemary, Spencer, Khrystian, Lucas, Jesse and Hayden.

Harold was born on March 14, 1916 in Winnipeg, Manitoba to John Edwin Catlin and Alberta (Bentley) Catlin. He was predeceased by his wife Irene who passed away last year. During their 73 years of marriage, they resided at Winnipeg, Portage La Prairie, Dawson Creek, Kamloops, Abbotsford, Penticton, Sechelt, Powell River, Trail, and Christina Lake before moving to Vernon in 1985. Harold served as a Lieutenant in the Canadian Army on loan to the British Army 4th Battalion of the

Lincolnshire Regiment and fought bravely in Normandy, France and Belgium during the Second World War before being honourably discharged in 1946. Harold lived an active life during his younger and middle-aged years, enjoying camping, fishing, snow-shoeing, hunting and rock-hounding. He also enjoyed less active hobbies, including wood carving, photography, model railroads and playing with his computer. He and Irene were long term members of Emmanuel Fellowship Baptist Church where they made many friends. Harold will be remembered by his family, friends and care-givers for his great sense of humor and his wisdom.

Special thanks to the Heron Grove staff for the wonderful care they gave Harold during the past 5 years, and to Dr. Will Cawkell for the years of care he gave Harold. Funeral services were held at Pleasant Valley Funeral Chapel on August 18, 2012 with Pastor David Fairbrother presiding.”

Our thanks to Ted Catlin for sharing this information regarding his father.

Tim Roark, BC Branch Historian



Hello CIPHI Members and environmental health professionals alike! Welcome back to Giardia's Corner with me, Giardia! We have some more tell-all interviews, so make sure you take a moment to get to know the individuals who make-up the executive of the BC Branch. If you're interested in getting involved, check out Page 10—the Branch is looking for a dedicated volunteer to fill our soon-to-be-vacated President Elect position. Also, don't forget you can still renew your CIPHI membership online at ciphi.ca!!!!

Make sure to check out BCWWA's Water Week website: valueofwater.ca

Fun Fact from BCWWA:

91% of BC residents get their water from municipal distribution systems.

(Make sure you support your local water provider)



Christine Chen—Corresponding Secretary

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

A1: BCIT, 2013

Q2: Which office do you work from? Which health authority?

A2: Courtenay Office, Island Health

Q3: Legislative recognition for CIPHI passed in Sept 2013, what do you see as the next big goal for CIPHI's BC Branch?

A3: Legislative recognition on CIPHI's Continued Education Program.

What's your favorite indoor/outdoor activity?

- YOGA

If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?

- Depending on the amount but my apartment needs a nice, big HD TV.

What do you miss most about being a kid?

- Definitely not my math class.

WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER:

Vacation in Hawaii or Alaska?

- Hawaii

Go to a comedy club or dance club?

- Dance Club

Travel by sail boat or cruise ship?

- Cruise ship

Read the book or watch the movie?

- Movie



Gordon Moseley— Recording Secretary

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

A1: BCIT, 2008

Q2: Which office do you work from? Which health authority?

A2: Vernon Health Centre, Interior Health

Q3: Legislative recognition for CIPHI passed in Sept 2013, what do you see as the next big goal for CIPHI's BC Branch?

A3: Mandatory Membership and gaining recognized professional status.

What is one of your favorite quotes?

- Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time.
We are the ones that we've been waiting for.
We are the change we seek. -Barack Obama

What's your favorite indoor/outdoor activity?

- Playing with my kids and hockey

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

- Winston Churchill

WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER:

Read on a Kindle or paperback book?

- I am old school in this fashion, so it has to be paperback!

Go to a play or musical?

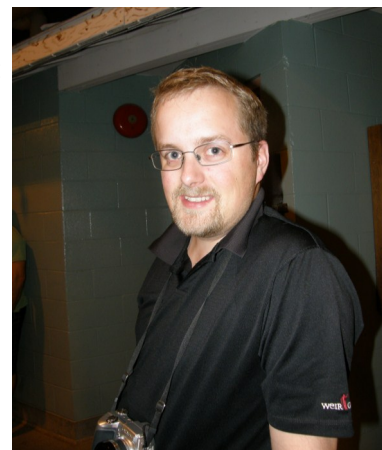
- Either is a great evening out

Have a night out or evening in?

- A night out as they are rare with having little ones at home

Swim in a pool or the ocean?

- In the Ocean



Daniel Fong—Councillor

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

A1: BCIT, 2011

Q2: Which office do you work from? Which health authority?

A2: I work in Vancouver at the National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health/BC Centre for Disease Control.

Q3: Legislative recognition for CIPHI passed in Sept 2013, what do you see as the next big goal for CIPHI's BC Branch?

A3: Ensure there's a sustainable way that EHOs across BC can share their practical experiences and develop networks.

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

- Fly a plane.

If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?

- Make a few financially good decisions then make several bad ones.

What is something you learned in the last week?

- How a 'not do' list helps manage a 'to do' list

WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER:

Vacation in Hawaii or Alaska?

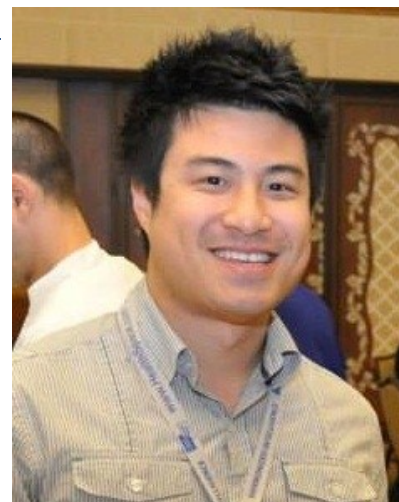
- Hawaii

Go skiing or snowshoeing?

- Skiing

Read the book or watch the movie?

- Movie



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

A1: BCIT, 2011

Q2: Which office do you work from? Which health authority?

A2: Duncan Office, Island Health

Q3: Legislative recognition for CIPHI passed in Sept 2013, what do you see as the next big goal for CIPHI's BC Branch?

A3: Boosting membership for the branch.

What's your favorite indoor/outdoor activity?

- Hockey / Gardening

What do you miss most about being a kid?

- Two month summer vacations....lucky teachers!!

If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?

- Travel, travel, travel!

WHICH WOULD YOU RATHER:

Drink a glass of Guinness or Fat Tire?

- Guinness. And by drink, I mean eat with a knife and fork.

Read the book or watch the movie?

- Read the book

Win the lottery or find your perfect job?

- Really?! I think I'll choose easy money.



Message from BCCDC

Food Issues: Notes From The Field

“Food Issues: Notes From The Field” are a variety of food safety assessments provided to Environmental Health Officers. Example assessments include safety concerns associated with *raw carob powder in raw foods for sale in farmers’ markets* and *unwashed bakery couche (linens)*. These will be updated as additional questions come in, so be sure to re-check the BCCDC food guidelines page on a regular basis.

Link: <http://www.bccdc.ca/foodhealth/foodguidelines/default.htm>

BC Branch Historian Request!

As an ongoing initiative, our Branch historian, Tim Roark, is always collecting old pictures, artifacts, and other pieces of history to compile and share with our environmental health professionals. If you are aware of any historical gems in your local office or base-ment, please contact Tim Roark at tim.roark@shaw.ca

ARE YOU THE NEXT CIPHI PRESIDENT- ELECT?

The Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors has a vacancy on the National Executive Council for the position of president-elect. This is a great developmental opportunity for those of you interested in building leadership and organizational competencies through participation in budget management, meeting and group facilitation, problem solving and oral and written communication. Service to CIPHI at the national level provides excellent networking, professional development and travel opportunities.

In accordance with CIPHI's constitution, the national president-elect is elected or appointed at the Annual General Meeting every even year. As there were no nominations at the 2014 AGM, and the position is currently vacant, we are looking to elect a candidate at the 2015 AGM to assume office immediately following the meeting. Their term as president would become effective January 1, 2017.

The national president-elect, upon assuming the role of president, is responsible to preside at all meetings of the National Executive Council and serve as the chief executive officer for CIPHI. This means the national president is responsible for the development and implementation of strategic plans and policies as well as the general supervision of the Institute.

The total time commitment for national president is approximately two years, with an additional year of service as past-president to ensure business continuity of key projects. On a weekly basis, this represents an average of 3 to 5 hours of work with some seasonal variations. The National Executive Council currently holds monthly teleconferences and 1-2 meetings annually.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The successful candidate will be able to lead our organization through change necessary to continue momentum toward mandatory membership and the continuing professional competencies program. To lead a team of dedicated volunteers, you will need excellent organizational, facilitation and conflict resolution skills as well as the ability to think and plan strategically.

Candidates for the position must meet one of the following criteria:

Be a current member of the National Executive Council **OR**

Be a member in good standing who has been nominated to run for President Elect by their Branch Executive

Candidates who meet these criteria should advise the national office office@ciphi.ca of their intention to run for office by June 15, 2015.

If you have questions about the position please feel free to speak with your branch president, or contact president@ciphi.ca.

Sincerely,

Ann Thomas
President - Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors



Gary Tam (right), BC Branch Past President, with Mary Lo (left), Fairchild TV Host during an interview based on the role of Canadian EHOs.

BC Branch Past President, Gary Tam, was invited by Fairchild TV to speak about the diversified role of Canadian EHOs. Discussion topics included food safety, recreational water, drinking water quality, sun tanning, manicure & pedicure facilities, sewage disposal, and healthy built environment. **The talk show broadcasted in mid-April.**

Baby Announcement



**Island Health's Joanne Lum has a new baby; her third boy!
Baby Max arrived earlier than his due date on February 10, 2015 at around 8am.**

Congratulations!!



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

www.ciphi.bc.ca

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

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



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



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

Vancouver Coastal Health: Pool Smart BC



“Pool Smart BC” is a standardized pool course for Commercial Pool operators developed by Vancouver Coastal Health.

The Course consists of a colorful student workbook, interactive power point presentation, instructor’s manual, exams, and certificate. The package is available for purchase. It is THE course for Vancouver Coastal Health, Health Protection. Since its completion, we have received inquiries from industry and other provincial health departments to use this course. We have been using it for our pool operators’ training with very positive feedback.

Angela Whalen (pictured on the left) is the author and developer of **“Pool Smart BC.”** She has put in a lot of her own time as well in developing the course. We would like to share this with all of you! If you are interested in purchasing a package (and workbooks), please contact us at 604-675-3800 or email Jessica.ip@vch.ca.

Northern Health: New Regional Manager Public Health Protection

“Public Health is not doing – it’s empowering others...” A brief conversation with Doug Quibell is all that’s needed to make it apparent that he has a passion for public health. He believes that public health professionals not only have the power to have a wide impact with their work but that we also have a responsibility to develop the capacity of others to take control of their health and the health of their communities; that instilling in others a sustainable sense of empowerment will not only help an individual but also have a rippling effect on the community as a whole.

Doug sees his role as a manager through a similar lens. He believes his job is to empower his team to make the most of their careers.

Doug began his post-secondary education with a degree in Biology but it was the Public Health program at Ryerson University that piqued his interest. Having always felt a strong sense of social justice the program and potential impact of the work aligned well with his core values. Following graduation, and after a brief stint in Stratford, the mountains and ocean of the west coast enticed Doug and he moved out to Terrace. It was a fit from the beginning working with a supervisor who gave him the autonomy he needed to get the job done. Becoming increasingly interested in empowering others, Doug made a big move and headed to Qatar where he founded and developed their national school for public health. This was a fascinating time in which he worked to develop not only the program

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Northern Health: New Regional Manager Public Health Protection continued:

but also the culture through empowering students. He started an underground debate club for students and watched them become more empowered to think and act outside the box. After some reassurances, the debate club went public, and became www.thedohadebates.ca. This out of the box thinking is vital to public health as it allows us to look at communities individually

and form an approach that is best suited for that community and the results we want to achieve. After 5 years in the Middle East it was back to Canada to manage a public health team in Kitchener/ Waterloo. This was another great fit for Doug as this

public health team focused much of its time and resources into working to develop healthy communities and empower the population.

In 2009, Doug accepted the position of managing the northwest team of EHOs out of Terrace. This move would allow him to bring all his learnings about healthy communities to a health authority that embraces *A Population*

Health Approach as one of their Strategic Plan pillars. It also gave him and his family the opportunity to be back on the coast where they could sail out of Prince Rupert and ski the local mountains, both of which are family passions. Doug began his work managing the team and leading the way for Northern Health's work towards healthy communities.

Over the past year, Northern Health has done some restructuring to their public health department and Doug

was successful in the new role of Regional Manager for Public Health Protection. He is now busy working to finalize the structure and refocus the team in their work. It's a new way of doing things but it's based on an environ-



mental scan and comments from the staff and as Doug puts it, "who knows best how to do the work than the people out doing the work."

Congratulations on the new position Doug!

Sarah MacDougall, BC Page Past Editor

2015 CIPHI Annual Educational Conference

September 13 – September 16, 2015



Northern Health Public Health Protection Involvement in the 2015 Canada Winter Games

By: Paula Tait

Prince George had the privilege of hosting the 2015 Canada Winter Games (CWG) in February. Held every two years, alternating between summer and winter, the Canada Games are a key event in the development of Canada's young athletes. As the best in their age group, these young competitors come to the Games having trained long and hard to be among those chosen to represent their respective province or territory. The games were held from February 13th to March 1st with 19 official games sports, 20+ sport & non-sport venues, 18 days of games activities, 18 evenings of arts & culture, 15000 visitors to PG, and an economic impact between \$70 & \$90 million.¹



Northern Health's "Spirit" the Caribou & Prince George's "Fraser" the Moose pictured in front of the 2015 Canada Winter Games Flame

Public Health planning for the CWG started in January 2014 when the North Interior HSDA Medical Health Officer brought together the CWG Public Health Task Group with representation from Public Health Protection (PHP) and Preventive Public Health. A "Public Health Plan for the 2015 Canada Winter Games" was developed and has served as our guide throughout the last year. The plan included a surveillance component that



Some of the 2015 CWG Surveillance Team at the CWG Medical Command Center (L-R: Pie Kamoso (PHAC), Lauren MacDonald (BCCDC), Shirley Rempel (PHAC), Dr. William Osei (MHO), and Rob Stewart (CWG))

focused on early detection of various syndromes for the duration of the CWG and to ensure timely response for prevention and control of possible outbreaks or disease clusters. A surveillance team was established with participating Field Epidemiologists from BCCDC and the Public Health Agency of Canada.

In the year leading up to the games, PHP focused efforts on increasing food and water inspections in the Prince George area with a risk based approach. We were able to make special arrangements to have staff come from other parts of Northern Health to help with the increased workload in the PG area. In addition to these inspections, the team incorporated enhanced hand hygiene messaging with the use of a "Hand Washing Report Card". We felt that targeting hand hygiene in the community was a great way to make large infection control impact with limited resources.

The PHP team also developed two resources that were mailed out or delivered to all restaurants and hotels in the PG area in advance of the games; "Northern Health Food Digest Special CWG Edition" and "Health Protection Tips for the Hospitality Industry." These facilities were reminded to contact our PHP department with any questions, plans for changing their businesses during the games, or to let us know about any unusual illness in their facilities.



Environmental health resources were developed to help local facilities deal with increased patronage during the 2015 Canada Winter Games

The 2-3 months immediately prior to the games were very intense and demanding. Many of the food contracts for the games were not finalized until the few weeks before the games, which required the PHP team to do a lot of last-minute consultations and investigations ensuring all CWG food providers were in good communication with PHP and had temporary safe food service under control. The 2 weeks of the games were very busy, but we stayed focused with daily huddles and our planning paid off with no major public health incidents reported. The long track speed skating event was moved to Fort St. John last minute and the PHP team there were eager to step in where needed.

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Northern Health Public Health Protection Involvement in the 2015 Canada Winter Games continued:



Some of our Public Health Protection Team during a morning huddle (L-R: Catherine Sun, Dale Chen, Neelam Hayer, Michael Truong, Jim Green, Yvonne Liang, Daisy Tam, and Paula Tait)

Effective communication strategies were the key to our success. Throughout the planning process we kept CWG staff and our partners in the loop regarding our plans and asked that they do the same. Our Public Health & Surveillance plans were shared with stakeholders. Regular meetings were held with increasing frequency as the games approached. Daily surveillance reports

were shared with key stakeholders. The increased Public Health Protection presence in the community helped keep communication pathways open and we were alerted to potential environmental health issues before they had the potential to cause problems. In the end, the 2015 Canada Winter Games gave us the opportunity to build team spirit and we made many valuable relationships with community partners in the process.

Reference:

CWG "Games 101" Presentation, delivered January 14, 2015 in Prince George



Environmental Health Officers enjoying some badminton action after a hard day's work (L-R: Daisy Tam, Yvonne Liang and Debby Peng)



Spirit high-fiving women's hockey players



Yvonne and Debby with Spirit



Spirit cheering on some short track speed skating



Festivities in Prince George's Games Village

Retirement—Greg Ritchey



Greg Ritchey and his wife, Janet

The Arbutus Club in Vancouver was the site for a great send-off party for Greg Ritchey last fall. Many of Greg's licensing staff and colleagues were in attendance including Kathryn Small, Karen Rehbein, Brian Standing, Brian Buday, Kelvin Higo, Glen Embree, Art Hamade, plus Dr. Patricia Daley & Dr. John Blatherwick.

Kind words were said by Dr. Patricia Daley who commented when she took over the Chief MHO job from Dr. Blatherwick, one of her fears was her lack of knowledge about the community care licensing division. Those fears were soon allayed due to Greg's strong leadership and knowledge as well as his excellent staff. She also acknowledged Greg's expertise in helping to write the licensing regulations which Victoria very much appreciated.

Richard Taki also spoke highly of the contribution that Greg has made to the department especially in the licensing area. He told about Greg's history growing up in small communities like Barriere, Lumby, and Maple Lake before the family settled in the peaceful Village of Fauquier. They didn't have any schools in Fauquier so Greg had to attend school in Nakusp. This was a 57 kilometer bus ride 5 days a week for most of his life. In 1971 Greg attended UBC where he spent 2 years in the Faculty of Pharmacy. During the summer of 1973 Greg met his wife-to-be, Janet, who was working at a forest service camp for the summer. After marriage Greg and Janet moved to Nakusp where Greg was employed by the Department of Highways. In 1974 Janet gave birth to their first son Gordon. Greg decided to go back to BCIT shortly after. In 1977 Greg graduated from the Environmental Health program and moved to work as a public health inspector in Vegreville, Alberta. This became home to Greg and Janet's second son David in 1978. In Vegreville, he managed to keep out of trouble despite having to work with the infamous Kevin McLeod and fellow Vancouver inspector Arnaud Zondag. But the constant reminder of fresh air, tall trees, majestic mountains and the roar of the ocean lured the Ritchey family back to BC.



Greg and Richard Taki

Greg started as an EHO/LO with the Burnaby Health Department in 1981. At least he sort of recalls starting since he only worked a month before having to go out on strike for the next three. In Burnaby, he found his love for the Licensing Program. In 1989 Greg accepted a job with Richmond Health Services as the Chief Licensing Officer. Greg blossomed in Richmond under the leadership of Kelvin Higo. His work was also noticed by then Director Nick Losito and Chief Medical Health Officer John Blatherwick. In 2005, Greg was rewarded for the work that he did and was offered the position of Regional Manager of CCFL, a position he held until his recent retirement. Through his hard work, the Licensing program was officially recognized as a Regional Program in 2011 and is considered one of the best in Canada.

Dalton Cross, with whom Greg had worked for many years, closed out the evening's speeches with many anecdotes and advice (as he is wont to do)!

Greg responded and thanked all of his staff as well as the many medical health officers he has worked with. He especially thanked his wife and children for their support during his career. They have now settled in Sechelt where he and Janet will be renovating and fixing up their new home.

Many thanks to Kelvin Higo, Glen Embree and Richard Taki for the information they provided and John Blatherwick for the great photos.

Tim Roark, BC Branch Historian



Greg and colleagues



Greg and John Blatherwick



Greg and Karen Rehbein



Greg and colleagues

Retirement—Brian Johnston



Dr. Patty Daly (left), Chief MHO in Vancouver, giving a speech and thank-you for Brian (right).

Congratulations to Brian Johnston for his 31 years of service. Brian retired as a Senior Environmental Health Officer for Vancouver Coastal Health. A retirement party was held on October 17, 2014 at Narrows Pub in Deep Cove, the entire upstairs area was filled with colleagues to give Brian a fond farewell. Alongside Brian was his wife Corinne. Dr. Patty Daly, MHO spoke and thanked Brian for his years of service and dedication, she gave examples of his willingness to assist at a moment's notice. Richard Taki, Director of VCH, also spoke regarding Brian's history as an EHO with some memorable stories. Karen Cummings and Kevin Kouris, Tobacco Enforcement Officers, spoke and presented gifts to Brian. A photo album was presented as well with staff comments for Brian to cherish.

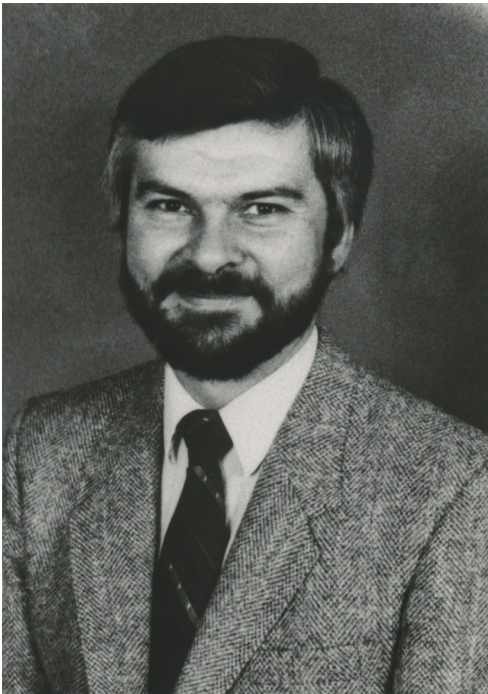
Brian took the mic and gave a heartfelt and memorable speech, touching on his appreciation for the great memories with all the staff he has worked alongside in his 31 years of service. You will find Brian spending his time now at his cabin in Manning Park or planning his next trip abroad. From the BC Page staff and CIPHI, good luck on this new chapter in your life!!!

A business card for Ken Christian Consulting Ltd. The top half features a photograph of vibrant orange and red autumn leaves against a white background. Below the photo, the text reads: "KEN CHRISTIAN CONSULTING LTD." in a bold, serif font. To the right, it says "KEN CHRISTIAN Principal" in a smaller, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the contact information is listed: "2651 Nechako Dr, Kamloops BC V2E 2K1", "kenchristian@telus.net", and "250-828-1030 or 778-257-0898".



Karen Cummings (left) presenting Brian (right) with a gift from the Tobacco Control Department.

A large advertisement for the CIPHI Continuing Education Webinar Series 2015. The background is a scenic landscape with a blue sky, white clouds, and a body of water in the foreground. On the left, the CIPHI logo is displayed, featuring a stylized blue maple leaf and the text "ciphi british columbia". To the right of the logo, the text "CONTINUING EDUCATION WEBINAR SERIES 2015" is written in a large, blue, sans-serif font. Below this, it says "coming to Environmental Public Health Professionals this FALL" in a mix of black and white fonts. At the bottom, it reads "watch for topics dates times" and "www.ciphi.bc.ca".



After 37 years of service, Doug Quibell, Regional Manager in Northern Health, referred to Bruce Gaunt as Public Health Protection Royalty. Congratulations to Bruce who retired on February 27th!

Bruce's interest in Public Health peaked during a stint working with BC Ferries food facilities; he fondly recalled being the cover-man when Tim Roark, Health Inspector, was aboard the ship! He pursued his public health training and graduated from BCIT in 1977. Shortly after, Bruce began his long career with Northern Health (originally Skeena Health). Throughout the years, Bruce has been an EHO, Chief EHO, Public Health Planner, and most recently Lead EHO.

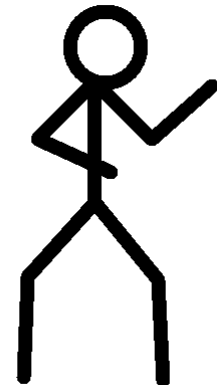
Bruce is acknowledged for his considerable influence to the field of public health through mentorship of rookie EHOs and contribution to the health and safety of the communities he served.

From the BC Page staff and CIPHI, good luck on this new chapter in your life!!!



Early Bird Registration Prize

The 2015 Early Bird Registration Prize, of a free 2015 CIPHI membership, has been won by Harry Dhaliwal.



No Picture Available



Hot off the Press!

Peter Lee, CPHI(C), recently had his memoir published. Look for **“Health Inspector, Eh? - Memoir by a Health Inspector”** from Friesen Press Publishing ©.

Peter recaps his long career as a public health inspector; hilarious tales and helpful hints provide insight into the life of public health professionals.

Upcoming Events:

May 3-9, 2015

BC Water Week

May 4-10, 2015

Safe Kids Week

September 13-16

CIPHI Annual Educational
Conference

BC Branch Executive 2014

www.ciphi.bc.ca

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Editorial Policy

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

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

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

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