

Annual General Meeting March 4, 1999

1. **Call to Order**
Meeting Called to Order at 3:53 PM
2. **In Memoriam**
No names forwarded to Executive.
3. **Adoption of the Agenda**
Motion to adopt agenda as presented.
Moved: Dan Richen; Seconded: Keith Lee; Carried
4. **Adoption of the Minutes of Previous Meetings**
As the last meeting held did not have a quorum to officially have motions adopted and passed, the issues from the April 25, 1998 were tabled.
5. **Business Arising**
 - a) **Adoption of the Minutes of the April 25, 1998 Meeting.**
Motion to adopt minutes from the April/98 meeting.
Moved: Keith Lee; Seconded: Victor Mah; Carried
 - b) **Auditor's Report**
Audit of financial records was conducted by Colin Charest and Phil Callbeck
Motion to accept financial records as presented.
Moved: Keith Lee; Seconded: Bill Hohn; Carried
 - c) **Hockey Pool**
Hockey pool update was given by Dan Richen. Updates on the pool may be obtained on the Branch web page.
 - d) **Saskatoon Conference Certificate**
Registration for the Saskatoon conference was drawn by Kenning Eng with James Mcaul winning the prize. Congratulations!
 - e) **Vancouver Conference Certificate**
This certificate will be drawn in year 2000.
 - f) **Northwest Territories Zone**

President informed membership that the Alberta Branch Constitution has been amended to allow zones to be formed outside the province.

Motion to establish the Arctic Zone within the Alberta Branch.

Moved: Victor Mah; -Seconded by Debra Langier-Blythe;

Discussion: Jim Meagher inquired how expenses for travel to meetings will be covered. Keith Lee informed membership that expenses incurred by executive members are covered, therefore expenses for the Arctic Zone Representative would also be covered. Jim Meagher also inquired if membership dues would cover most of these expenses. Keith informed membership that dues collected from the Arctic Zone would not fully cover the costs to have zone councillor attend meetings.

Victor Mah informed membership that costs have been reduced by the use of Tele- conferences. Ken Fujioka inquired, as to how N.W.T.'s business affairs were handled in Manitoba. Victor Mah responded by informing membership that he did not know how their affairs have been handled in the past. Keith Lee inquired if there were any members in the N.W.T. who did not want to become Alberta Branch Members? Dan Richen responded by stating not to his knowledge. Keith Lee also inquired if we could dissolve the Arctic Zone if the members wanted to do so? Dan Richen stated we have the right to dissolve it. Bill Hohn inquired what are the benefits of having an Arctic Zone? Debra Langier-Blythe responded by informing the members that the PHI's in the N.W.T. have expertise in areas not normally addressed by Alberta PHI's, in addition to increasing our Branch membership. Bill Hohn stated he would like to see conditions set to limit the liabilities of bringing the Arctic Zone on board.

Vote results as follow:

- 17 members in favor; 14 members opposed.

- Opposed Keith Lee

Motion to establish the Arctic Zone within the Alberta Branch. Carried.

g) Spring 99 Workshop

Dan Richen requested that members fill out the questionnaire to ensure any needs for future conferences will be addressed.

Sponsors noted (ie. Gold, silver and bronze)

Motion for Capital Health and CIPHI to put on a joint workshop.

Moved: Bill Hohn; Seconded: Lance Honish. Carried

Discussion: Keith Lee inquired if the Conference Committee would set up accounts separate from the Branch. Bill Hohn stated it was not Capital Health's idea to generate monies, but to allow it's members to become active in the Branch.

6. Executive Reports

a) Presidents Report

Motion to accept President's Report as presented.

Moved: Dan Richen; Seconded: Bill Hohn. Carried
President informed members of National's financial situation.

b) Vice Presidents Report

Motion to accept Vice President's Report as presented.

Moved: Victor Mah; Seconded: Sharon Williams; Carried

c) Treasurer Report

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as presented.

Moved: Keith Lee; Seconded: Phil Callbeck. Carried

Discussion: Keith informed national still owes Branch money. Tom Shaw inquired if the outstanding debt was part of the money still owed by National to the Branch. Monies owed by National are included in the statement.

d) Secretary Report

No formal report available.

7. Zone Reports

a) Southern Zone Report

Motion to accept Zone Report as presented.

Moved: Keith Lee; Seconded: Lorne Legare; Carried

b) Calgary Report

No formal report available.

d) Central Zone Report

Motion to accept Zone Report as presented.

Moved: Steven Parker; Seconded: Keith Lee. Carried

Correction to Report: the opening is in Vermillion not in Vegreville

e) Edmonton Report

Motion to accept Zone Report as presented.

Moved: Lance Honish; Seconded Karen Hislop; Carried

Lance Honish inquired if the name of Edmonton zone had been changed in the past. Lance Honish also inquired if a motion to change the name could be made? Ken Fujioka (Past Zone Councillor) informed members that a motion to change the name from Edmonton Zone to Capital Zone had previously been passed.

Motion to expand the boundaries of the Edmonton (Capital) zone to conform to the boundaries of Capital Health

Moved: Lance Honish; Seconded: Nelson Zazulak. Carried.

f) Northern Zone Report

Motion to accept Zone Report as presented.

Moved: Raymond De Smit; Seconded: Jim Meagher. Carried

Discussion: Gwen Elliott inquired which zone Northern Lights fell into. Dan Richen informed members that Northern Lights fell into the Northern Zone and members are welcome to attend any zone meetings. Point of information made by Keith Lee that any concerns of members should be forwarded to their zone councillor.

8. Committee Reports

a) Alberta Branch News

Motion to accept Alberta Branch News Report as presented.

Moved: Dan Richen; Seconded: Ludmilla Schmidt

Discussion: Steven Parker informed members that U.C.C.B. is the correct abbreviation for the college in Cape Breton. Dan Richen informed members that a page for students would be set up and requested students contact him for further information. Bill Chrapko informed members that report should read Dean Sargent where it states Doug Sargent.

b) Board of Certification

Report in last issue of Branch newsletter

Discussion: Bill Hohn inquired if Alex McKenzie was a member of CIPHI, and what was his association with the BOC. Executive informed members Alex McKenzie is a sitting member appointed to the BOC. Bill Hohn then inquired why a non-member was sitting on the BOC as a sitting member. Dan Richen informed members that Alex McKenzie was selected by the BOC due to his being a certified Public Health Inspector. Bill Hohn then further inquired why was he sitting when the position was intended for engineers, nurses etc. Dan Richen informed members that the executive would take this issue to the National.

c) Membership Report

Motion to accept Membership Report as presented.

Moved: Richard Ovcharovich; Seconded: Ken Dong. Carried

d) Food/Section 43

Motion to accept Section 43 Report as presented.

Moved: Lucy Beck; Seconded: Steven Parker. Carried

e) Social Committee

No formal report presented.

Discussion: Debra Langier-Blythe inquired if any member wanted to take on the golf tournament . Richard Ovcharovich inquired if the Branch could put on other activities. Keith Lee informed members if they have any ideas to put them forward to their zone councillor.

- f) Continuing Education
No formal report presented.
- g) Zone Boundaries
Discussed during reports
- h) Issues Committee
Motion to accept Issues Committee Report as presented.
Moved: Lance Honish; Seconded: Nyall Hislop. Carried
Discussion: Lance informed members that the committee was recently formed and represented the membership on issues regarding environmental health. All concerns should be forwarded to the committee in writing. Members who submit issues should be willing to commit time to the issue being brought forward.

9. **New Business**

- a) Annual Fall Conference
Motion that Capital Health work in collaboration with the Alberta Branch to host an annual fall workshop.
Moved: Bill Hohn; Seconded: Lance Honish. Carried
Discussion: Financial issues regarding this marriage were discussed. Jim Meagher inquired if this marriage would continue in the future. Bill informed the membership "yes " Capital Health would like the marriage to continue.
- b) Souvenirs
Motion that the Alberta Branch purchase golf -shirts to present to guest speakers, in addition to being available to members.
Moved: Victor Mah; Seconded: Phil Callbeck. Carried
Discussion: Phil Callbeck inquired should CIPHI be spelled out. Keith Lee inquired if it would not be better to have orders placed first. Karen Hislop inquired if pre-order form be filled out first. Victor Mah estimated cost to be approximately \$2000.00.
Motion to amend the original motion: the Alberta Branch purchase golf -shirts to a number based on a set pre-order by members, and only a few extra golf shirts purchased in advance by the Branch being made available.
Moved: Karen Hislop; Seconded: Victor Mah. Carried
Motion, as amended: Carried.
- c) Bid for 2003 Conference
Motion that the Alberta Branch make a bid for the 2003 National Education Conference.
Moved: Lance Honish; Seconded: Richard Ovcharovich. Carried

d) National Financial Issue

Motion that the Alberta Branch offer a loan to National of up to \$5,000, subject to conditions developed by the Branch Executive.

Moved: Keith Lee; Seconded: Jim Meagher. Carried

Discussion: Lew Skonsby inquired what happens if no money is made at the Conference. Dan Richen responded that the Branch was sure that a profit would be generated. Merry Turtiak inquired if it would be better to give \$2500.00 to the national and waive the \$1300.00 still owed by the national. Bruce van Mulligen inquired if money was owed to other Branches why would Alberta Branch cover the national's debts.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:57 PM.

President's Report

This will be a particularly pivotal year for CIPHI and the Alberta Branch. There are a number of issues that will affect the structure and operation of our association. Our financial picture at the National level is grim, and we are operating at a deficit. This has resulted in some severe cost cutting measures in order to minimize expenses and eliminate the deficit as quickly as possible. National President, Rob Bradbury, is open to suggestions and support for methods of correcting our problems.

At the Branch level, our finances is much more stable. As a result of strict controls on expenses followed by our Executive, our development of revenue-generating opportunities, and the support of the membership, the Alberta Branch has a strong surplus. That begs the question as to how we can best utilize our budget to benefit our members and our profession, while continuing adherence to our financial responsibility.

As a Branch, we must also take an active role in advocating, promoting and protecting our profession. There are changes being contemplated and actions being implemented that could adversely affect our scope of practice. It is crucial that we take proactive steps to clearly explain our position on such issues as the use of environmental health technicians, transfer of responsibilities for food safety to "integrated" agencies, etc. The Issues Committee will be bringing forward many of these concerns for review, but it is the entire membership that must develop our position on these issues.

Finally, Public Health Inspectors and Environmental Health Officers are an integral part of the public health team. But too often we demure to other agencies in stating positions on environmental health issues. We must be willing to put some effort into developing position statements on issues that we have expertise. Several members have approached me with requests for such statements. Again, this cannot be the responsibility of one person and requires the input and involvement of the members of our association.

I have always believed that the strength of our association is its membership. I look forward to your support and your participation

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Richen
President, Alberta Branch

Alberta Branch Internet Site

The Branch Internet site is located at <http://dns.magtech.ab.ca/branch/welcome.htm>.

I am proposing to make some changes to the site in the near future, primarily related to format - not content. The site will have a new appearance, with a border on the left side containing links to other pages (similar to that of the National page). I am hopeful this will make navigation around the site somewhat easier.

The web site is intended to serve as a mechanism of communication to and for our membership. I have had several requests to include a list of members who have e-mail accounts. Anyone wishing to have their name and address listed should send a message with that information. I have also been asked to put the minutes from General Meetings and Executive Meetings on the site. This too will be done - if people send me the minutes and reports as a computer file, rather than on paper.

I really want to work with Concordia students (and those in BCIT, Ryerson or UCCB) to utilize the web site as a means of maintaining contact with the profession. I am hopeful we can set up a Concordia page on the web site, where students could leave bios, reports and maybe requests for support on subjects. This will take some time and require the support of the school(s) and students.

The primary cost associated with the site is the service provider (approximately \$350 per year for the e-mail account and web site). We pay a fee based on the storage space used - and have not really approached the allowable limit. I would like to use the web site for disseminating information, policies, brochures, etc. used by various health authorities and agencies. I propose to set up such a clearinghouse, using Adobe format documents. This will allow people to print the documents, but not edit them - so that the RHA or agency that produced the material would retain ownership (and be recognized). The software for such an endeavor is a one time cost of \$300 - \$500.

Respectfully submitted,
Dan Richen

Alberta Branch News

The most recent issue of the newsletter was mailed last month. I hope everyone received their copy and enjoyed the material.

We have to change the masthead (the logo on the front page); we do not have a PMT quality original and cannot continue to photocopy it. Unfortunately we also do not recognize the typestyle and will change the font as well.

The biggest cost associated with the newsletter is in mailing, as it costs approximately one dollar for each copy sent out. It is important that we have current mailing addresses for the membership, because we usually receive three to five returns per issue because of an incorrect address. If you move, please notify the Branch - either through your Zone Councilor or by e-mail to the Branch.

Finally, we have received enquiries from Dean Sargent about commercial ads for the newsletter (Doug is a former National President, and now represents Underwriters Laboratories). We've never received such requests, and will have to develop a process for commercial ads and sponsors.

As always, we try to put out four issues of the newsletter per year - on a somewhat consistent schedule. We could really use articles submitted from the membership, particularly relating to activities they have been involved with (outbreak investigations, arsenic assessment in drinking water, etc.). If you have any material that might be of interest, please forward a short report to the Alberta Branch, or better yet, e-mail a written copy of the report to the Branch (ab-ciiphi@telusplanet.net).

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Lee

Advisory Committee On Certification In Food Sanitation And Hygiene

The following has been accomplished since my last report:

Comments on the learning objectives and course guidelines have been received from the regions and three of the committee members are completing the final revision.

Comments were also received for the guidelines regarding exam challenges. Of particular concern was the time line. In a worst case scenario the entire process could take up to 5 months. The committee agreed that 5 months was rather lengthy but also agreed that in most circumstances the process would be straight forward and would occur much more quickly, perhaps in as little time as 2 to 4 weeks. It would only be complicated situations that could take up to five months. One of the committee members will review the guidelines again, looking for places where the timeline can be reduced and adding fax numbers where applicable.

Three of the committee members have met and worked on questions for the provincial exam. These have been distributed to the rest of the committee members and will be the focus of our next meeting on March 26th.

The next steps for the committee haven't changed much since my last report. They are: To complete the questions for the provincial exam and a system for distributing and marking the exam to ensure it's security and confidentiality.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucy Beck

Board of Certification Report

Unfortunately I am unable to provide the Branch membership with this report in person. Therefore, If you have any questions, please contact me through the AB Branch mailbox or at Headwaters Health Authority (938-4911).

In Alberta, three students took part in the BOC's examination process on February 9, 1999 in Edmonton. Lydia Stefaniw, Province of Alberta Corresponding Member and co-ordinator of the exam process, Doug Drysdale, Dr. Warren Kindzierski and Dr. Ken Hodgins graciously volunteered their time and energy to the process.

The Board of Certification will be meeting via teleconference on March 12, 1999. I will be unable to attend the meeting, as I will be out of the country that day. Many critical issues will be on the table, including the results of the recent accreditation review of BCIT's Environmental Health Program and organising upcoming reviews of Concordia University College and University College of Cape Breton. The Board is also at a crucial stage of reviewing the current objectives of the certification process in relation to the future needs of the CIPHI, the profession of Environmental Health, BOC, and the students and schools of instruction of environmental health. A minimum 2 days of meeting time is necessary to give justice to the review and implementation process of the proposed plan. However, this will not be possible due to a directive from the National Executive Council (NEC) of banning face to face meetings due to financial considerations. This directive is on the heels of terminating Mr. Rob Elliot's position as Executive Director of the BOC, due to financial considerations, without consulting the Board or Rob.

These decisions will have a very negative impact on the operations of the BOC. The executive director for the BOC plays a major role in the accreditation process of the learning institutions. This role is very time consuming and can not be performed by volunteer time. The processing of student exam applications is also enormous and once again can not be performed by a volunteer. Yet the NEC appears to believe that volunteers can operate all Institute business. As mentioned the BOC is also in the middle of crucial strategic planning which the executive director has been a major contributor in the co-ordination of proposing a proactive new direction for the Certification process. The removal of the BOC's manpower, Mr. Rob Elliot, will greatly set back this process. I am absolutely dumbfounded that the BOC was not consulted before making sweeping changes that will have tremendous negative implications for operating the Certification component of CIPHI which is the most important component of our organisation in my opinion.

The membership should also be aware that the BOC has always operated separately (at arms length) from interference from the NEC. Although recommendations for change can be made to either committee, the NEC should not be directing the Board on how to hold a meeting. BOC meetings are held in Calgary. Therefore, the cost of holding a meeting is very low due to the geographical proximity of its members (mostly from the west). The NEC in its financial wisdom appointed its 2 sitting members from Ontario and New Brunswick. In fact the BOC typically operates well within its budget allotment. Perhaps the

NEC members should get their house in order first. Lets be honest, it is difficult to operate a National organization on \$65 a member when 4 of the branches have to be heavily subsidised to attend national meetings and those same branches only charge \$25 in branch fees. Reform of the NEC and BOC is needed. The BOC has been doing its part.

To conclude, if I have been too subtle so far, as the Corresponding Member to the BOC, past AB Branch President and NEC member, and current member in good standing, I am very disappointed in the collective wisdom shown by the members of the National Executive Council regarding financial initiatives. In my opinion they are irrational and short-sighted. There were many less drastic options that could have been considered with fewer negative implications on the BOC. I can't help but wonder if nine villages across this great country are missing their favourite idiots after the Circus Institute of Public Health Inspectors passed through town.

Respectfully submitted,
Peer Mikkelsen
Corresponding Member, Board of Certification

Issues Committee Report

At the October General Branch Meeting, the Branch President called for the formation of a Branch Issues Committee, for which I was pleased to be volunteered as the Chair.

The purpose of the issues committee is to act as an advisory body and working group for the Alberta Branch Executive, for issues which impact Alberta Branch members. At this point, the committee consists of six core members--Lance Honish (chair and Branch Executive representative), Stephen Parker, Phil Callbeck, Tammie Ramsay, Bill Hohn, and Nelson Fok. Additional ad hoc members will be recruited from time-to-time for work on specific issues identified by the committee.

The first committee meeting was held on December 14 in Edmonton. At that time, several issues were identified (both outside and inside the institute) that require some form of response/action by the Alberta Branch. It was agreed that much information gathering is required to properly respond to identified issues, which was delegated to committee members. Each member will report their findings at the next issues committee meeting on March 5. Action plans will then be put into place for these identified issues, as well as any new issues brought to the attention of the committee.

Input from members is welcomed and encouraged--please contact me at (780) 413-7923 with comments/questions/suggestions/issues for review.

Respectfully submitted,
Lance Honish
Chair, Issues Committee

Southern Zone Report

Chinook Health Authority

The Chinook Health Region is committed to continue working in partnership with other agencies on the Oldman River Basin Study throughout 1999. The objectives for this year are to determine the existing water quality of the Oldman River Basin, relate water quality data with land use practices and measure water quality changes as a result of practice changes being implemented.

Some key findings from last years sampling noted greater amounts of parasites found upstream, and increased amounts of bacteria down stream Lethbridge. Furthermore, 97% of samples detected at least one pesticide compound and in a provincial comparison the sampling showed a higher frequency of pesticide detection here than in other agricultural and nonagricultural areas of the province.

Chinook Health Region is also taking steps in establishing a study with cooperation of Dr. Bernie Hill of Agriculture Canada looking at herbicide deposition from rain water and possible health effects.

Another air quality study is also in the planning stages for Southern Alberta which would look at possible health effects of odour emissions from I.L.O.'s on nearby residents.

Ordered owners of a dwelling that was occupied by an elderly gentleman along with five dogs and 78 cats to clean, sanitize and remove all offensive matter from the house. The dwelling had to be gutted to comply with our requirements and is currently for sale at a good price for anyone interested.

Jennifer Todd has reached a mid-life crisis just before her 46th birthday. She went on a shopping spree and bought some hippie clothes and a Volkswagen Beetle. Right on Jen.

John Byrne is going grayer and Blake "Groovie" Gruszkie got a new hairdo.

Setting up a child care facility education course with Social Services, Public Health and Community Health.

Palliser Health Authority

The only exciting news we have to report is that Darrell Prokopishin is coming back to Brooks effective March 1, 1999. We are pleased to welcome him back. We are also dealing with several housing issues and indoor air quality issues (just like everybody else in the province.)

Headwaters Health Authority

We have now entered the 21 Century with our brand new snazzy lap tops. No longer will we be the hillbilly neighbors to the north and west. We expect to be able to start

implementing the PHIRES system soon. Hopefully this will cut down on the amount of paper and we will be able to dig Peer out of his office before New Years 2000.

Richard has purchased a new car (new to him), a Chrysler New Yorker. I guess the K car decided to give up the goat at 350,000 km, impressive.

Health Authority 5

No Response, but I have a good indication someone from Region #5 may be at this meeting to give an update.

Respectfully submitted
Jennifer May-Hadford
South4ern Zone Councilor

Central Zone Report

Aspen

The region continues to work on developing internal/department policies, guidelines and resources including a regional water hauling policy. FOIP and Y2K are issues here as they are not doubt everywhere else and staff are working on how to minimize any effects/incidents that may arise. Of note to anyone looking for employment, the Whitecourt office currently has a vacancy for one PHI since the departure of Al Stirling.

Crossroads

The region recently heard a waiver in January for a private well to be located within 250 metres of 2 inactive landfill sites. A record review of routine chemical water analysis in the region found a drastic increase in chlorides in the last 20 years. Monitoring of several parameters is continuing in order to eliminate the landfill sites as a source. The waiver was denied on the basis of the chemical results and that the applicant had the option of installing a Cistern or connecting to city water.

The region is also preparing to develop a playground inspection program in the next year with implementation planned for 2000 (no Y2K embedded chips in playgrounds to deal with!). The Hedgehog computer system has also been purchased with plans to implement some of the modules into day to day life in the next few months.

David Thompson

As always a great deal is happening in the region. Structurally Rob Elliot has taken over responsibility for both PHN's and PHI's resulting in more of a team atmosphere in public health. For those of you working in health units we all know the progress that can be made in this pairing. The PHN's and PHI's have recently done work with the production of several fact sheets. Also in the structural format the PHI's in the Red Deer office have begun to take a specialized approach to their workload. This will allow inspectors with a particular interest or ability to excel and make the team stronger in areas such as housing, food, projects and industry. The aenteric's" contact is Scott Budgell who recently compiled enteric statistics for the last year with 355 cases investigated. The region is also working on a protocol for the cleaning of hydrotherapy tubs. Something I'm sure a lot of regions would be interesting in seeing when complete.

East Central

The region has a vacancy (still/again) in the Vegreville office and would ask that if anyone knows any prospective candidates, to pass this on to him or her. The most interesting thing to happen in the region recently was a complaint handled by David Fong about a tooth that was found in a chicken. A dentist identified the tooth as "a human tooth-second primary mandibular molar" believed to from a 9-10 year old. All the appropriate parties were made aware of the findings and follow-up continues. David assures me the chicken is not an evolutionary "missing link".

Lakeland

Lew Skjonsby made it out of the EUB hearings in Cold Lake alive, and can now get back to business. Arsenic in groundwater has been a hot issue, so the Lakeland region, along with Aspen and Keeweenaw Lakes have begun a groundwater study to monitor levels to determine difference between natural and man-made sources.

Also, as many people are aware, the entire RHA board has been of major concern to the region. The impact on EHS and other departments and how long it will be without a board remains to be seen.

With respect to staffing, on a March 15 Ludmilla Schmidt joins Capital Health full time while on April 1 Hoa Thai is scheduled to fill the vacancy.

Westview

Now that the region has successfully undergone the accreditation process the focus now is kicking into high gear for the Y2K planning process. Contact lists have been updated and lines of communication are being established with local municipalities. As the year progresses facilities designated for disaster plans will be reevaluated to ensure they are suitable for the purposes intended.

They have also hired Public Health Inspector, Kathy Moore, on a casual bases out of the Spruce Grove Office. The department has recently updated its inspection tools and purchased the Environmental Health Inspection Program "PHIReS" from Hedgehog Systems Inc. and is looking forward to using it in March.

As always lots of activity throughout the region with issues that cross regional boundaries. Keep your eyes and ears open, there s no need to "re-invent the wheel" when a colleague in the Central Zone may have already done the work for you. Remember, participation in your zone and with your branch will make our profession stronger.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Parker, CPHI(C)
Central Zone Councillor

Northern Zone Report

Northwestern Health Region

1. Air quality surveillance program being conducted in High Level by Alberta Health is still ongoing. The goal of the program is to obtain a baseline for the background levels of particulate matter present in the air and how they effect human health. 2. Art is in the process of approving potable water haulers within the region, in addition to conducting his winter work camp inspection campaign.

Peace Health Region

1. PHIs are conducting their winter work camp inspection campaign. 2. Region has also started issuing Food Permits to the potable water haulers within their region.

Mistahia Health Region

1. PHIs are conducting their winter work camp inspection campaign, with the largest problem still being observed is the use of water from non-approved sources. 2. The region is still very busy with new development taking place, particularly in the County and City of Grande Prairie areas. 3. The region has now a full PHI staff, with Terry Scott who started on November 09, 1998, and it's newest staff member Michael Melanson who starts on March 08, 1999. Welcome Aboard Gentlemen!

Keeweenok Lakes Health Region

1. PHIs are conducting their winter work camp inspection campaign. 2. The region is involved in a study being conducted by Alberta Health, in which arsenic levels in well water are being monitored to determine if the levels present are higher than those found in other parts of the province. 3. The region will possibly soon be looking for an additional health inspector, as Howard Masters is moving on to Prince Albert.

Respectfully Submitted,
Raymond De Smit
CIPHI Northern Zone Councillor

Arctic Zone Report

Greetings all. Sorry we couldn't send a representative this time around. So please accept this written report.

I'm not yet sure about a "regional report" per se. We have six distinct regions and each region is about as diversified as our various programs. But I will attempt to limit this to the abridged version of some common points of interest. So first on the list.

In case you haven't heard where a large portion of your tax dollar is going (has gone), on April 1st, the Northwest Territories splits into two separate territories, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories, however, some people have suggested we adopt the name, Restavut (Rest-of-it).

We do not expect this split to have a significant impact on existing environmental health programs and it certainly will not affect zone membership. The EHOs in Iqaluit, however, will be very busy as the population increases, placing an extra burden on municipal services, food premises and accommodation.

Speaking of membership, of 15 potential members, 12 NWT TEHOs have paid in full. We can boast 80% zone membership. The Inuvik Regional Health & Social Services Board (IRHSSB) has also recently applied for affiliate membership to CIPHI.

Yellowknife has recently hired another much needed EHO. His name is Craig Nowakowski from Calgary. Craig starts work on March 22. Another zone member for us! This increases Yellowknife's complement to 3 EHOs for the region.

It's a bit early, so I'm not sure of our representation at the CIPHI conference. Saskatchewan in May. I can probably say at least 2 or 3 arctic types.

We are toying with the idea of publishing an environmental health calendar for the year 2000. We already have funding approval and general consensus from all TEHOs. So it's design and content we have to work on. Basically, the intent is to come up with an environmental health theme for each month. Content will include items like food safety, playground safety, rabies vaccinations, indoor air quality, etc. We're receptive to innovative ideas if you have any.

The IRHSSB will be sponsoring an EHO student this year. This will be the 8th consecutive year for monitoring practicums. Two of our students, Nicole Ritchie & Bonnie Segal, now work as EHOs in Baffin Region.

Last year at our annual TEHO meeting in Yellowknife we put together a priority ranking of environmental health programs by region. This was published in the GNWT Department of Health & Social Services newsletter, EPI North. It was an interesting exercise and as the results show (attached), there is quite a regional variation of priorities.

Other items that are underway at the Department of Health & Social Services level include a new set of Food Premise Regulations, Guidelines for the Management of Deceased Persons, funding negotiations with the federal government regarding tobacco enforcement in the NWT and the development of an interagency uniform inspection system which will allow wild game to be sold across borders.

Please make a point of reading the article on our Human Blood Contaminants Monitoring Program in the current issue of the Environmental Health Review. Also in the EHR, is an appeal for books for Tanzania. Would anyone care to take us up on a challenge or perhaps challenge other branches?

This concludes my report. Have a great meeting. How about next year in Yellowknife?

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Wrathall