

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

**FALL GENERAL MEETING**  
October 3, 2002 – 15:30 P.M.  
Bernard Snell Hall

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:**

Darcey Savage	Christine Zaporzan	Doug Drysdale
Keara Shaw	Tricia Herridge	Kosoo Ng
Dwayne Cherlenko	Stephen Parker	Kristen Kliciak
Candace Fraser	Neil Williams	David Brown
David Crowe	Elmer Spilchen	Garth Gosselin
Tony Thepsouvanh	Leona Schmidt	Diane Teoh
Lynne Bollinger	Richard Steeves	Doug Watters
Debra Langier-Blythe	Mike Walsh	Nelson Fok
Carol Sobkow Alloway	Elsion Zazulak	Ingrid Zazulak
Subhendra Dharampaul	Jeremy Spencer	Gwen Elliott
Richard Ovcharovich	Sandra Hamilton	Diane Luka
Christine Zaporzan	Andrew Brooks	Bill Hohn
Theresa Wawrykow	Simon Sihota	Keith Orlaw
Rick Leyland	Kari Engele	Raymond DeSmit
Lance Honish	Steven Probert	Ken Fujioka
Tony Mak	Kori Woodard	Mike Melanson
Gordon Corcoran		

**Executive Present:**

Victor Mah – President	Dan Richen – Past - President
David Crowe – Vice - President	Keith Lee – Treasurer
Merry Turtiak – Secretary	Rhian Harrison – Arctic Zone
Phil Callbeck – Central Zone	Cheryl Galbraith – Capital Zone
Simon Sihota – Calgary Zone	Phi Phan – Southern Zone

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion &amp; Decision</b>	<b>Action by</b>
1.0	<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	The President, Victor Mah, called the Fall General Meeting to order at 3:54 P.M.	
2.0	<b>IN MEMORIAM</b>	No names were submitted by the membership.	Carried
3.0	<b>AGENDA</b>	<p><b><u>3.1 Additions to the Agenda</u></b>            9.4 Website Discussion Board            9.5 Anne McLellan Correspondence            9.6 Sponsorship Committee Meeting            10.4 L.E. Stewart Award</p> <p><b>Late Additions:</b>            10.5 Additional Seed Money for 2003 Conference            10.6 Professional Development</p> <p><b><u>3.2 Adoption of the Agenda</u></b>            Motion to adopt the agenda as amended.</p>	<p>Victor Mah            Victor Mah            Victor Mah            Steven Probert</p> <p>Victor Mah            Victor Mah</p> <p>Carried</p>

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

4.0	<b>ADOPTION OF MARCH 23, 2002 MEETING MINUTES</b>	Motion to accept the Annual General Meeting minutes which was held on March 23, 2002.	Carried
5.0	<b>BUSINESS ARISING</b>	<p><b><u>5.1 National Education Conference 2003</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The organization of the conference is well underway and canvassing for sponsors has commenced.</li> <li>• Volunteers are needed so anyone interested please contact the conference chair, Shauna Dimock.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>5.2 Website Clearinghouse</u></b> Additional space has been purchased from our internet provider but the only Mistahia has submitted information. All regions and inspectors are encouraged to forward documents to the webmaster, Dan Richen for posting on the website.</p> <p><b><u>5.3 Constitution &amp; By-law Update</u></b> Please refer to secretary's report but work is continuing on this document with the assistance of the Past – President Dan Richen.</p> <p><b><u>5.4 Dave Davis Award</u></b> After some searching the award was found in Rob Elliot's desk and Keith Lee was this year's lucky recipient.</p> <p><b><u>5.5 Alberta Branch Membership Dues Increase</u></b> At the National General Meeting held in Fredericton, the motion was passed to increase the National Assessment from \$55 to \$65. As a result, the Branch dues have increased from \$115 to \$125.</p> <p>Comments from the membership regarding dues increase:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The amount of the increase is not a hardship to the membership.</li> <li>2. Suggested that the Branch cover the \$10 increase versus purchasing membership gifts for the 2003 membership year.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>5.6 IAQ Manual Proposal – Calgary Health Region</u></b> At this time the Calgary Health Region has decided not to submit a proposal to the Alberta Branch Executive. Note of interest, the manual is 75 – 80% complete.</p>	<p>Carried – National Education Conference Committee</p> <p>Closed</p> <p>Carried - Merry Turtiak &amp; Dan Richen</p> <p>Closed</p> <p>Closed</p> <p>Closed</p>

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

6.0	<b>Executive Reports</b>	<p><b><u>6.1 Presidents Report</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>6.2 Vice-Presidents Report</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>6.3 Treasurer's Report</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>6.4 Secretary's Report</u></b> No discussion</p>	<p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p>
7.0	<b>Zone Reports</b>	<p><b><u>7.1 Arctic</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>7.2 Northern</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>7.3 Capital</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>7.4 Central</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>7.5 Calgary</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>7.6 Southern</u></b> No discussion</p>	<p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p>
8.0	<b>Committee Reports</b>	<p><b><u>8.1 Communication – Dan Richen</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new Alberta Branch Newsletter Editor is now Phi Phan. Due to his fabulous work, the position is his for life.</li> <li>• Website: Currently the Branch cannot access the website to make changes. This may result in the entire website being erased and then reposted. To post material, please email Phi Phan, Dan Richen or via the branch email address</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.2 Board of Certification – Dan Richen</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dan Richen is taking over the role as Provincial Coordinator. Peer Mikkelsen is the corresponding member for the Branch.</li> <li>• Lance Honish, Chad Beegan, Greg Thibault, Jim Meagher, Peer Mikkelsen and Darren Barber volunteered their time to evaluate 7 students on October 1, 2002.</li> <li>• The BOC will sit meet in early November and marks are expected to be circulated the second week of November.</li> <li>• Procedures are changing to protect confidentiality and prevent the release of marks to potential employers prior to the candidates knowledge.</li> <li>• Examination dates have been set as 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of October and February</li> </ul>	<p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p>

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BOC is moving to be more proactive and looking to be consistent across the country.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.3 Membership</u></b> No discussion</p> <p><b><u>8.4 Social</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Jubilations events held in both Edmonton and Calgary were both successful and enjoyed by attendees</li> <li>• Golf tournament was a success once again.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.5 Continuing Education (Fall Workshop)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 182 delegates at this year's event that included a variety of government agencies.</li> <li>• Thanks for the great work!</li> </ul> <p><b><u>8.6 Issues</u></b> No report submitted</p> <p><b><u>8.7 Concordia Advisory Meeting</u></b> Committee has not meet since last meeting.</p> <p><b><u>8.8 Council of Managers Environmental Health – David Crowe</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permit fees</li> <li>• NCRB Presentation</li> <li>• Chemical water analysis concerns</li> <li>• Improve relationship between CMOSH &amp; CMEH</li> <li>• Next meeting: Nov 7 &amp; 8</li> </ul>	<p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p>
9.0	<b>Information Items</b>	<p><b><u>9.1 Membership Raffle – Tony Thepsouvanh</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information regarding the raffle has been circulated to all members and non-members</li> <li>• Please complete the Branch Survey!</li> </ul> <p><b><u>9.2 Newsletter Name Contest – Phi Phan</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need a name for the newsletter, please contact Phi Phan with your suggestions.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>9.3 Saskatchewan Branch Support Letter – Victor Mah</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of the letter will be circulated to the membership</li> <li>• Position vacancy is 11%</li> </ul>	<p>Carried</p> <p>Carried</p> <p>Closed</p>

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

		<p><b><u>9.4 National Website Discussion Board</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns have been raised about comments being posted on the discussion board, which include personal attacks, and derogatory comments about the profession. This does not improve our professional or public image.</li> <li>President Mah addressed concerns to the National Webmaster. Tracing the IP addresses revealed that the posting of concern were coming from an RHA in AB. The Executive has requested to be notified if the person is identified, so further follow-up can occur with that individual.</li> <li>Access to the discussion site may be restricted to combat these issues.</li> <li><b>Question:</b> How many hits on this website? <b>Answer:</b> Very popular site especially the position place and the discussion board</li> </ul> <p><b><u>9.5 Anne McLellan Correspondence</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unfortunately she is not available to open the 2003 National Education Conference in Edmonton</li> <li>EHO Week: To actually declare such a week, a private member's bill must be passed each year. Most organizations simply declare their own week.</li> <li>Recommendation to NEC: Declare EHO week in January, as this is when the Institute was established</li> </ul> <p><b><u>9.6 Sponsorship Committee Meeting</u></b> To be held after the Fall General Meeting.</p>	<p>Closed</p> <p>Closed</p> <p>Closed</p>
10.0	<b>New Business</b>	<p><b><u>10.1 Issues Chairperson</u></b> Simon Sihota has stepped forward as the new issues chairperson</p> <p><b><u>10.2 Auditors</u></b> Kori Woodard and Theresa Wawrykow have stepped forward to act as auditors.</p> <p><b><u>10.3 Winter Social Event</u></b> Interest in coordinating a winter social event such as ski event. Tony Thepsouvanh has stepped forward to make inquiries.</p> <p><b><u>10.4 L.E. Stewart Award</u></b> Nomination submitted for Mr. Bill Hohn of the Capital</p>	<p>Closed</p> <p>Closed</p> <p>Carried -Tony Thepsouvanh</p> <p>Closed</p>

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

		<p>Health Authority.</p> <p><i>Motion: Mr. Bill Hohn is the 2002 recipient of the L.E. Stewart Award. Carried</i></p> <p>Mr. Hohn will be presented with the award at the commencement of the second day of the fall workshop.</p> <p><b><u>10.5 Additional Seed Money for 2003 Conference</u></b>  <i>Motion: The conference committee requests an additional \$10,000 to assist in organizing the conference.</i></p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This amount is to be considered an expense to the committee</li> <li>• Losses are shared between National and the Alberta Branch.</li> </ul> <p><i>Motion Carried.</i></p> <p><b><u>10.6 Professional Development</u></b>  The membership requests that the AB Branch promote our profession not only to attract individuals to the field, but also to further and maintain the education of professionals currently in the field. In addition, to educate the public about whom we are and what we do.</p> <p>Response: Meetings of inspectors including zone, the fall workshop and national conferences have helped promote continuing education. Telehealth is being used now by all RHAs for the Capital Info-shares.</p> <p>As to educating the public, EHO week may be the first step in that direction.</p>	<p>Closed</p> <p>Carried - Alberta Branch &amp; National Executive</p>
11.0	<b>Adjournment &amp; Next Meeting</b>	<p>Proposed to move the Annual General Meeting to a more central location provincially to improve attendance.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned: 17:06</p>	

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## **President's Message**

### **Fall General Meeting - October 3, 2002**

The 68<sup>th</sup> CIPHI Annual Education Conference (AEC) has come and gone. This year it was hosted in Fredericton (known by the locals as "Freddy Beach"), New Brunswick with a sizable contingent of 12 members from Alberta out of the 260 confirmed registrations. Nelson Fok and Lance Honish were just two of the many speakers providing valuable information to the delegates.

Highlights from the 68<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting involved many changes for next year such as increasing membership dues to all categories: Regular Members (\$10 increase); Retired Members (\$30); Affiliate Members (\$250); and Corporate Members (\$600).

The Board of Certification has moved the examination dates to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in April and October and no supplemental examination. The reason for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday is that this was more inline with other post secondary school examination scheduling and would also allow students additional time to submit their written reports. The Board will also be trying to make itself more visible and place more information about the certification process for both students and their supervisors through the CIPHI website.

Ms. Stacy Kelly, from New Brunswick has been chosen as the Institute's first recipient of the CIPHI-NEHA Sabbatical Exchange program. Ms. Kelly will spend 2 weeks south of the 49<sup>th</sup> with all her expenses covered by Underwriter's Laboratories. Ms. Kelly will be present at our conference next year to discuss about how our colleagues are involved in bio-terrorism.

CIPHI has developed a partnership with Health Canada to provide to the membership further education in the area of epidemiology and public health surveillance. Further information about the program can be found on the website [www.healthsurv.gc.ca](http://www.healthsurv.gc.ca).

CIPHI has written or will be writing a response to the Saskatchewan Minister of Health to highlight the value of public health inspectors in that province which will hopefully aid our colleagues in the fight for comparable wages in other provinces. The Alberta Branch has submitted a separate response in support of our Saskatchewan colleagues.

Recipients from the Awards Luncheon were as follows: Alex Cross Award (Mr. Nick Losito); Alexander Officer Award (Workplace Health and Public Safety Programme – Health Canada and Capital Health Region – Vancouver); Honorary Membership Award (Mr. Errol Borsky); President's Award (Mr. Richard Bader); and Life Member Award (Mr. Murray William Lewis). It is interesting to note that Mr. Lewis was also on the Alberta Branch executive when he worked in our province.

Finally, the AEC scheduling for CIPHI in the next 3 years is as follows: Edmonton, Alberta (2003); Prince Edward Island (2004); and Toronto, Ontario (2005).



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Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

The Alberta contingent certainly made their presence known in Freddy Beach and I believe you will see why in the summer edition of the Branch Newsletter thanks to our unofficial Branch photographer, Tony Thepsouvanh.

Respectfully,

Victor Mah  
President, Alberta Branch



Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## **Vice-President's Report**

### **Fall General Meeting – October 3, 2002**

If the year wasn't busy enough. G8, floods, 0% rental vacancy rates and ambient air quality issues kept members busy throughout Alberta. Most recently however, the implementation of the fee for permit system have kept RHA's and their phone systems hopping. Let's hope that all the efforts are worth it and the monies acquired from this new system go back into improving Environmental Health programs throughout the province.

Both the Edmonton and Calgary Jubilations events were well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Many attendees showed why they wisely, haven't quit their day jobs as inspectors to seek out careers in live theatre.

As most people know by now, the Board of the Westview Region, was dissolved by the Health Minister. All our thoughts are with our friends in Westview as they await word on how their Region will be divided up and who they will eventually be working for.

The Branch has been busily preparing a submission to the Romanow Commission, based in part on the contents of the "Blue Book". As well the Branch executive presented a letter to the Saskatchewan CIPHI branch, supporting their efforts to retain qualified health inspectors in their province.

No doubt most people have had a chance to review the stunning (and somewhat revealing) pictures from this years golf tournament, in our nicely polished electronic fall edition of the Alberta Branch News. Three cheers to all who continue to aspire to be the next Tiger Woods or ChiChi Rodriguez. Many attendees were wowed by the new form of "extreme golfing", being practiced in Camrose nowadays.

The Fall Education Conference, by all appearances, will be a success as usual, with attendance confirmed among inspectors from throughout the province, as well as from other agencies with an interest in Safe Water. Planning continues for the **69<sup>th</sup> CIPHI Annual Education Conference**, to be held in Edmonton so stay tuned to the EHR, the Alberta Branch and CIPHI websites for regular updates ([www.ciphi.ca/events.htm](http://www.ciphi.ca/events.htm)). Congratulations and the thanks of all Alberta Branch members go out to the many volunteers working on both conferences. Keep up the good work; your tireless efforts make the Alberta Branch the envy of other branches throughout the country.

Stay tuned for further updates. As always the executive is interested in receiving your comments.

Respectfully submitted,

David Crowe  
Vice-President, Alberta Branch



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Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**2001 September 01 – 2002 August 30**

**General Account Balance 2001 September 01**

**\$ 22,186.60**

**Revenue**

Membership Dues	\$ 4,116.75
Interest/Investments	\$ 506.36
Reimbursements	\$ 10,727.58
Awards/Tournaments/Social (Jubilations; Golf)	\$ 4,405.00
Promotional Items - Thermometers	\$ 19,744.00
Branch Conference/Workshop	\$ 7,825.46
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 47,325.15</b>

**Expenditures**

Administration	- Phones/Internet	\$ 293.76
	- Office Supplies	\$ 330.76
	- Postal/Courier	\$ 907.33
	- Banking Services	\$ 88.93
	- General Administration	\$ 27.13
	- Liability Insurance	\$ 190.69
	- Equipment Purchases	\$ 435.00
National Executive Meetings/Activities		\$ 832.03
Branch Executive Meeting/Activities		\$ 619.06
Branch General Meetings/Activities		\$ 8.38
Branch Zone Meetings/Activities		\$ 91.56
Board of Certification Meetings/Activities		\$ 519.47
Provincial EHS Meetings/Activities		\$ 545.24
National Conference Activities		\$ 2,000.00
Branch Conference Activities		\$ 68.00
Promotional Items	- Thermometers	\$ 14,265.24
	- Pocket Knives (2001 Gift)	\$ 1,936.17
	- Lanyards (2002 Gift)	\$ 1,272.51
	- CIPHI Ball Caps	\$ 100.00
Awards/Tournaments/Social (Jubilations; Golf)		\$ 4,692.28
Donations (2002 CIPHI National Conference)		\$ 200.00
Bursaries/Grants		\$ 3,682.85
Term Deposits		\$ 11,219.42
Reimbursements		\$ 545.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$ 44,870.81</b>

**General Account Balance 2002 August 30**

**\$ 24,640.94**

**Term Deposits**

**\$ 11,219.42**

**Branch Scholarship Account (2002 August 30)**

**\$ 3,097.28**

**Branch Workshop Account Balance (2002 August 30)**

**\$ 18,120.58**

**Inventory (121 Thermometers)**

**\$ 744.46**

**Total Assets**

**\$ 57,822.68**

Respectfully submitted,

**Keith Lee, Treasurer**  
**2002 August 30**

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Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## **Secretary's Report**

### **Fall General Meeting – October 3, 2002**

Work on the bylaws and constitution continues, as it has come to the attention of Alberta Government Services that some issues are not being addressed in our current bylaws. My apologies to the membership as this process continues to take some time.

It has come to the attention of the Branch, that we may have members out there who have paid their dues late and as our listings come from national on a quarterly basis, they may not be getting notices from the Branch to upcoming events. So please contact your zone councillor to ensure your name is on the membership list. To remind everyone, the zone councillors are as follows:

- |                                   |                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Arctic Zone – Rhian Harrison    | E-mail address: <a href="mailto:Rhian.Harrison@hlthss.gov.nt.ca">Rhian.Harrison@hlthss.gov.nt.ca</a> |
| • Northern Zone – Koreen Westly   | E-mail address: <a href="mailto:Koreen.Westly@peacehealth.ab.ca">Koreen.Westly@peacehealth.ab.ca</a> |
| • Central Zone – Phil Callbeck    | E-mail address: <a href="mailto:pcallbec@aspenrha.ab.ca">pcallbec@aspenrha.ab.ca</a>                 |
| • Central Zone - Jay Jorgenson    | E-mail address: <a href="mailto:jjorgens@aspenrha.ab.ca">jjorgens@aspenrha.ab.ca</a>                 |
| • Capital Zone – Cheryl Galbraith | E-mail address: <a href="mailto:cgalbrai@cha.ab.ca">cgalbrai@cha.ab.ca</a>                           |
| • Calgary Zone – Simon Sihota     | E-mail address: <a href="mailto:ssihota@telusplanet.net">ssihota@telusplanet.net</a>                 |
| • Southern Zone – Phi Phan        | E-mail address: <a href="mailto:pphan@mail.chr.ab.ca">pphan@mail.chr.ab.ca</a>                       |

Nationally, Tony Mak, Charly Ranu, Wilbert Dy and myself have been working on an electronic copy of the booklet "In the Beginning" which details the history of CIPHI. This document is quite an interesting read and explains how our membership and profession has grown and progressed. Look for it soon on the national website.

Finally, congratulations to the organizing committee of the Alberta Branch Workshop for doing a wonderful job yet again!

Respectfully submitted,

Merry Turtiak  
Alberta Branch Secretary

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## **Arctic Zone Report**

### **Fall General Meeting – October 3, 2002**

As always the summer has been quite busy for Nunavut and NWT Environmental Health Officer's. Housing still remains a problem as the oil and gas exploration and expansion of the diamond mines has created a growing demand.

Inuvik is once again fully staffed with the promotion of Chris Beveridge to Chief Environmental Health Officer and the addition of Bob Mellett from Vancouver.

Pool Safe course was offered to all pool operators in the NWT and went with great success. All Territorial Environmental Health Officer's (TEHO's) were able to attend.

From July 7-10<sup>th</sup> the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) National Conference "Our Environment, Our Health" was held in Yellowknife. The TEHO's hosted the "Fun Night" and barbecued traditional northern foods for the conference attendants.

There is now an online water quality database, which was put together by Department of Public Works in conjunction with the Department of Health and Social Services. The website lists all water quality tests (both bacteriological and chemical) for each community in the NWT and is open for public viewing.

The site can be found at <http://www.pws.gov.nt.ca/WaterAndSanitation/Index.htm>

In Nunavut, Wanda Poirier is moving to Iqaliut, so there is now a vacant position in Rankin Inlet.

That's all that's news from above the 60<sup>th</sup>

Respectfully submitted

Rhian Harrison  
Arctic Zone Councillor

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## **Northern Zone**

### **Fall General Meeting – October 3, 2002**

As Heather Wagner prepares for her wedding, October long weekend, a new zone councillor Koreen Westly was elected at the recent Northern Zone Meeting held on September 19 & 20. Welcome Koreen!

At the zone meeting, a variety of topics were covered including mould remediation and health effects, pest management legislation, CFIA recalls, the new Drinking water field manual and a speaker from Alberta Environment. The fearless Tony Thepsouvanh who did an excellent job organized all this!

#### ***Keeweenok Lakes***

- Hopes to have all facilities in the region inspected by Christmas, but did not specify which Christmas ☺
- They have decided to maintain their FoodSafe schedule and are offering 3 courses in the fall to meet demands.
- The Town of Slave Lake was issued a “Don’t Drink the Water” advisory on September long weekend due to blue-green algae concerns in the town’s water source. The advisory was lifted after the long weekend once satisfactory lab results came back.
- Fee for Permits has provided the Environmental Health Department enough money for an additional 0.8 clerical position, which they hope will enable them to do more fieldwork.

#### ***Northern Lights***

- Frank Hamilton is involved in air quality studies similar to what was conducted in Grande Prairie & Lethbridge.
- Sunil Beeharry is leaving the region for a Federal position in Lethbridge. So there is once again a vacancy in Ft. McMurray

#### ***Northwestern***

- Keith Orlaw is the new public health inspector for the region and has been joining many committees within the region.
- So far he has heard mainly positive response from the public in regards to Fees for Permits.
- Northwestern is currently looking for someone to fill the management position.

#### ***Mistahia***

- Invoices not yet sent for Fee for Permits. The region obtained Hedgehog Inspector and has found some kinks that still need to be worked out.
- The region is now holding FoodSafe in hotels due to the popular demand for the course where as many as 75 participants can be hosted. Two more courses will be offered this fall.
- Blue-green algae was found in a small recreation lake. The region is taking an educational approach and has been posting educational information at recreational lakes.



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***Peace Health Region***

- Taking advantage of the Fee for Permits by updating all facility files. Hedgehog Inspector is the new computer program for the Environmental Health Program. Invoices have yet to go out to clients.
- One Food Safe course is being offered in November
- Dealing with many rental dwelling complaints with mould.

Respectfully submitted,

Koreen Westly & Merry Turtiak  
Northern Zone Councillor & Branch Secretary

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## **Capital Zone Report**

### **Fall General Meeting - October 3, 2002**

#### **Staff News**

It was a busy summer for Capital Health this year. This summer Capital Health was without practicum students. This made for an extra busy time dealing with the many festivals and events that are held in the region throughout the summer. Kara Bascom accepted a position with Calgary and moved there in July. Another new family member arrived in Steve Probert's family, Max, the Norwegian elkhound.

Nyall Hislop has returned to school this fall as he continues his course work for a Masters in Epidemiology. Lance Honish is now working on his thesis towards his Masters degree. Tony Mak has been accepted into a long-distance learning PhD program in Public Health. He has been thinking and calculating the pros and cons since August. Will he or will he not?

We will be seeing some new faces in Capital Health with the implementation of the fee for food permits. Eight new positions were created and filled recently.

#### **Workshops/Conferences**

The fall workshop committee has been working hard again under the leadership of Edwina Kordyback. At the time of this report, 140 delegates have registered from almost every regional health authority in Alberta. Good work!

The 2003 CIPHI conference committee is getting ready for next July. Plans are coming along. Shauna Dimock attended the conference in Fredericton armed with pins to hand out. Nelson Fok and Lance Honish were presenters this year at the conference.

Info share continues to take place every first Tuesday of the month. The September session was broadcasted through telehealth. Regions from across Alberta could participate through the Internet. There are plans to conduct the presentations this way more frequently.

#### **Noteworthy Experiences/Events**

- There have been 27 enteric outbreaks in the capital health region since January. The largest outbreak being from a restaurant with 145 persons ill from Norwalk.
- The media gave a lot of attention to the restaurant in which charges were laid against this summer. Heard of Marco Polo? A global fine of \$22,000.00 was handed down: \$1000 to each of the cooks, and the remainder split between the manager, the owner, and the numbered company. Default time was several months in jail. This restaurant had a history that included a lot of inspections, closure at one time, and an administrative hearing. Problems returned or never improved and charges were laid: 9 counts against each of the cooks and 11 counts against each of the manager, owner and numbered company. Nyall is planning his next trip to Costa Rica! (More coffee please).

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

- Elson Zazuluk has been acting as an expert witness in 2 court cases in the United States involving suits against hydrotherapy tub manufacturers. Five lawyers cross-examined him for 8 hours for court deposition. By the way, Elson got a trophy elk on his last hunting trip! This was a much-desired achievement for Elson!
- Housing issues have been in the media frequently, Nick Skippings has been quoted occasionally.
- Mold is the word on the streets. 90% of the information requested on indoor air quality is on mold. A first time event for Capital Health was the recommendation of closure of a private health clinic due to significant mold growth.
- School Indoor Air Quality project data is collected and a report is in the works at the U of A. Next step is to take information and work with the School Boards to implement Health School Policy.
- Tony Mak is working on the "School Environmental Health Manual". Input from all PHIs/EHOs to this manual is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Galbraith  
Capital Zone Councilor



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Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## **Central Zone Report**

### **Fall General Meeting – October 3, 2002**

Since our March 2002 update, the new fee-for-permit requirement under the Food Regulation has provided much discussion between the public and public health inspectors, who cringe when the telephone rings these days.

The inaugural (it was so long since the last one, that we might as well call this the first) Central Zone Workshop and Zone Meeting was held in May at the WestView Health Center in Stony Plain, Alberta. The workshop was relatively well-attended, with representation from Aspen, Capital, East Central, and WestView Health Authorities. Guest speakers from Alberta Health and Wellness (Stephen Parker), Alberta Environment (Dave Lapp) and Alberta Municipal Affairs (Roland Tomuschat and David Ramsay) presented information on health, contaminated sites remediation, and interregional sewage disposal standard enforcement, respectively. Another Zone Workshop will hopefully be held again in the spring of 2003.

I would like to welcome Philip Callbeck to the Central Zone Councillor fold; the two of us will be splitting the councillor duties, such as sifting through copious amounts of Alberta Branch Executive e-mail, trying to arrange Zone Workshops, keeping in touch with Regions, and selling membership raffle tickets. Have you purchased your tickets yet? A free 2003 CIPHI membership is up for the taking.

**ASPEN:** Inspectors are preparing for their upcoming media awareness classes in response to the deluge of media attention surrounding local lake water quality. Greater public awareness of these conditions has resulted in a remarkable increase in private well water sampling within the region. Coincidence or not, Aspen has recently started charging fees for private water sample submissions.

Philip Callbeck and his wife Laura became proud parents again in June with the birth of their second child, daughter Jillian Marie Louise. So far, the most noticeable change has been more diaper changes, and less golf.

In other news, congratulations go out to our newlywed Susanna Tay (formerly Ma) and her spouse Allan. We wish them all the best in their future together (can you believe Susanna offered an open bar at the reception, with PHI's in attendance?). In the March update, Susanna was with WestView, but came back to work in Aspen, in the Westlock office. There are also rumours that a new public health inspector position will be created in Aspen, but even we don't know the details of this yet.

Lastly, I (Jay) will be going overseas for two months to vacation in Thailand and the Philippines, and to gain a better perspective on "public health" or lack thereof, in those countries.

**CROSSROADS:** Inspectors in Crossroads are relieved to know that the Wetaskiwin vacancy will be filled later this month. Gordon Watt will be coming in with his family from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan to start working October 15th in the greener environmental health (not farming) pastures of Alberta. A decrease in local water table levels has created an increase in reported background growth in microbiological water samples this summer, and Natural Resource Conservation Board application reviews have kept inspectors busy at the same time.

Just recently, as schools have started again, Alberta Infrastructure informed Crossroads that a school in Falun, Alberta showed evidence of *Aspergillus* and *Penicillium* mold growth in some classrooms. Along with the Medical Officer of Health, inspectors have been holding public forums while acting as consultants in the situation. Rooms are in the process of being cleaned, and once this process is completed, additional indoor air quality surveys will be conducted. This situation will likely result in several more schools looking for mold problems, and may likely call upon inspectors to participate in those processes as well.

**DAVID THOMPSON:** Inspectors are reported to be in a normal and manageable state of confusion, with the issuing of food establishment permits. The process has been relatively well-received, but at the time of writing, businesses had not yet received their invoices. The region is fully prepared for what lies ahead with food permits, and will likely add an inspector position in its Food Program to handle the workload.

**EAST CENTRAL:** PHI's are currently in competition with Canada Post and UPS as they hand-deliver all food establishment permit letters to food permit holders in the region. Unconfirmed rumours state that some PHI's have set up delivery contracts with local fast food establishments in attempt to corner the delivery business market. Greg Ward (Vermillion) and his wife (mostly his wife) are expecting sometime in the next month, and we wish them both well during this exciting time.

**LAKELAND:** The region is valiantly forging ahead with the food permit fee issues, while handling normal inspection duties. There were a number of boil water orders and advisories over the summer, relating to algal blooms on local water sources, along with sporadic and recurring water turbidity concerns. Lois Wiberg left Vegreville in August to move to St. Albert with her family, as her husband, Neil, was recently transferred to Edmonton to assume his Chief Crown Prosecutor position.

**WESTVIEW:** Well, the group here is putting forth a brave face despite the recent announcement of the upcoming dissolution of that RHA. While they await the next official statement, PHI's continue to address the burning issues of the day. Recent highlights include the addition of Ms. Candace Fraser on August 1, 2002, a recent Concordia Grad and Concordia Bursary recipient for the 2000-2001 school year. Candace has put some lovely touches on the former file storage room as she adjusts to her new office. Other news includes lake water quality issues, and many calls regarding mould and mould-related issues; and the emergence of Feefer *foodpermitus*, a quirky virus that confines PHI's to their chairs, ties up phone lines for hours, and has been linked to temporary tinnitus of the ear.

With the CIPHI 2003 National Conference being held in Edmonton, we encourage all inspectors in the Central Zone to become Alberta Branch members – you'll save 100 dollars on the registration at the conference, a worthwhile investment.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Jorgensen  
Central Zone Councillor  
jjorgens@aspenrha.ab.ca

Philip Callbeck  
Central Zone Councillor  
pcallbec@aspenrha.ab.ca

30 September 2002

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Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## **Calgary Zone Councillor's Report** **Fall General Meeting – October 3, 2002**

Greetings Everyone

Things in the Calgary area have been quite hectic in the last little while with the G8 Summit, Stampede and numerous other summer activities. I'm happy to report, that for the most part, the G8 Summit went off without any major incidents from an ENVH standpoint.

The Environmental Health Program at the Calgary Health Region recently underwent an organizational restructuring which saw a few staff members taking on new roles within the department. The restructuring has resulted in the formation of three sections within Environmental Health. These sections include Service Delivery, Planning and Program Development and Risk Assessment. All three sections are being kept busy as the City of Calgary continues to grow at a very rapid pace.

In the past few months we have had a number of new additions to the team here in Calgary, so without further adieu I would like to welcome the following people to the Calgary Health Region and the City of Calgary; Ivan Rukavina, Jacqueline Fisher, Kara Bascom, Jennifer Jacobsen, Karen Tofflemire, and Jason Feltham.

The dinner theatre night at Jubilations last month was a great success. Some attendees, from department partook in the theatrical side of things with a little dancing and singing. In other news, PHAB recently upheld an Executive Officers Order, issued in relation to a homeowner keeping pigeons and the respective health related issues. Marco the "Mad Russian" was found guilty on numerous offences under the Public Health Act and total fines ranged around \$35,000.

Sincerely,

Simon Sihota  
Calgary Zone Councillor

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Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

## Southern Zone Report Fall General Meeting – October 3, 2002

As with every fall season, all regions are continuing in their efforts to educate the populace through FoodSafe, ServSafe and Meat Sanitation courses. And of course, “wrassling” with permit fees and charitable organizations have just added to the fun.

### ***Chinook***

It’s been a blustery and wet summer this year in Chinook. Flood calls skyrocketed in early June when a diluvial downpour over 3 days turned the parched soils to muddy bogs across the region. Members were kept busy responding to a staggering, nay, a whopping 14 Boil Water Orders, hundreds of flooded basements and oodles of requests for mould remediation information. Even with the extra work foisted upon them, the staff remains the same, save the departure of our summer student, Sean Robison, who helped maintain the level of sanity during this period by picking up the slack.

### ***Palliser***

The Southern Zone Infoshare and Meeting went without a hitch in Brooks back in April, with the attendants enjoying a provided lunch and interesting presentations ranging from bio-terrorism to Cryptosporidium outbreaks in swimming pools. No changes in staffing at this time, but a position remains available in Brooks.

### ***Headwaters***

It’s business as usual in the picturesque setting of Headwaters Health Authority. Recently, two new positions have been created, based in Okotoks and Canmore, to alleviate some of the workload of the current staff.

### ***Health Authority 5***

A certain member of the HA5 family has now become a landlord in the bountiful peaks of British Columbia. It is unclear as to whether the local health authority knows about the existence of these particular accommodations. We’ll see. Garth Gosselin and his wife, Amanda, are expecting an addition to their family this month. And finally, Dan-o from *Hawaii 5-0* fame has accepted the responsibilities of Provincial Exam Coordinator for the Board of Certification. He is under the superlative tutelage of Mr. Mikkelsen and will take over coordination at the next sitting in April. Speaking of which, he needs examiners, so start de-listing your phone numbers now.

Respectfully submitted,

Phi Phan  
Southern Zone Councilor

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Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

September 05, 2002

Honorable John Nilson, Minister of Health  
Legislative Building  
2405 Legislative Drive  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4S 0B3

Re: Letter of support for Saskatchewan Public Health Inspectors/Environmental Health Officers

The Alberta Branch of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors recognizes and supports the Saskatchewan Branch of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors efforts to recruit and retain health inspectors in your province.

We strongly acknowledge how difficult it would be for Environmental Health professionals in Alberta, to do our job were it not for the continued presence of a comparable program in Saskatchewan. Their competence and professionalism in dealing with public health issues has been a benefit to inspectors in Alberta. As clearly evidenced during the North Battleford, *Cryptosporidium* outbreak, Public Health issues do not stop at borders.

Many health inspectors in Alberta have interacted with our colleagues in Saskatchewan when following up on reports of food-borne or water-borne illness, enteric disease, communicable disease and other public health concerns and complaints. A strong Environmental Health program in Saskatchewan benefits all Canadians.

The North Battleford Inquiry clearly outlined the critical role played by Health Inspectors in Saskatchewan, in regards to investigation of communicable disease. The inquiry also acknowledged the shortage of Public Health Inspectors in Canada which resulted in the recommendation, "That the provincial government take steps to ensure a better supply of public health inspectors in the province of Saskatchewan."

The Alberta Branch of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors supports and commends efforts by the Saskatchewan Branch that serve to enhance and strengthen Environmental Health programs in your province. Improving recruitment and retention of Public Health Inspectors / Environmental Officers will go a long way to achieving this desirable end.



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Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Alberta Branch)

If I may be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me at (780) 968-3772 or by e-mail at [mahv@shaw.ca](mailto:mahv@shaw.ca) or you may contact the Saskatchewan Branch President, Mr. Ken Cross at (306) 842-8625 or by e-mail at [kcross@schd.sk.ca](mailto:kcross@schd.sk.ca).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victor Mah". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Victor Mah, President  
CIPHI – Alberta Branch

cc: Mr. Ken Cross, President, CIPHI – Saskatchewan Branch  
cc: Ms. Louise Simard, President, SAHO  
cc: Mr. Scott McLean, President, Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors