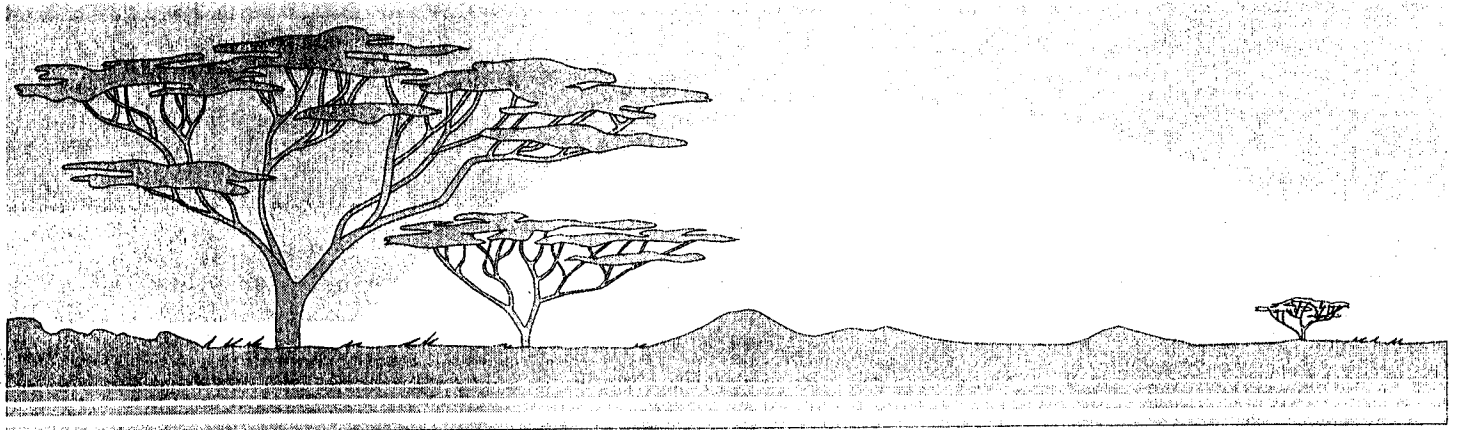


Alberta Branch News



A NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

ALBERTA BRANCH

Summer Update 1996

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AROUND THE INSTITUTE

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, Alberta Branch

by PEER MIKKELSEN, BRANCH PRESIDENT

It's hard to believe that 6 months have passed since the Branch held its fall annual general meeting and Christmas lunch in Edmonton. This of course can only mean that it's time for the Alberta Branch to hold an **Annual Spring General Meeting**. The meeting will be held in Ponoka at the Health Unit Building located at 5900 Highway 2A on Saturday July 20, 1996 at 10:00AM. The Meeting will be particularly important as it is election time for your Branch executive (in which several candidates have expressed interest in running for office), and executive recommendations for the future role of the Branch will be presented.

The **Annual Branch Golf Tournament** will follow the General Meeting at 2:00PM at the Ponoka Golf and Country Club. I believe this is the first time our group has ever been invited back to a golf club. I would also like to remind all members that have not been out to this Branch social function, that strong golfing skills are not a prerequisite for playing in this tournament. So come out to the spring meeting and stay the afternoon and have some fun with your fellow inspectors (friends and spouses are always welcome).

Nationally, a couple of big changes have taken place in the operation of the Institute. In March our contract with **Skylark Technical Resources** (aka **Jim Bradley**) was terminated. As a result, our very own **Rob Elliott, Greg Thibault, and Lissa Braseth** have taken over the duties of the Executive Director which has turned into a very daunting task.

The second large change took place on May 31, 1996 when the **Nova Scotia/PEI Branch** suspended the membership of **Mary Belliveau** (our National President). Section 14 of the Constitution allows a Branch to suspend a member whose conduct is deemed to be derogatory to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the Institute. On June 5, 1996 the **National Executive Council** accepted the Branch's recommendation of suspension, resulting in the removal of Mary as President of the Institute. **Charlie Young**, Acting Past President, will be responsible for the duties of President until the Annual General Meeting at Chicago in July.

The suspension is a result of Mary Belliveau spearheading a human resource development strategy that recommends Nova Scotia Environment technical staff be cross-trained to perform the traditional environmental health duties that PHI's are currently doing for the Department of the Environment. This was found to conflict with the Institute's position on Certification requirements for individuals performing PHI tasks.

Closer to home, the **Board of Certification** did not approve **Concordia College's** application at their meeting in March. The Board recommended that the school perform a needs assessment for their **Environmental Health After Degree Diploma** program and reapply to the BOC for approval.

Concordia has apparently been making political noises of having the **Qualification of Inspectors Regulation** repealed. This of course, would not be in the best interests of their students, the Health Authorities, or our profession, and is very unlikely to occur. However, your executive is monitoring the developments closely. The Branch position continues to be supportive of the efforts of the BOC and Concordia, to bring a viable and accredited program to Alberta.

Finally, since this is my last Branch News Report, I would like to thank Ken and Dwayne for the excellent Newsletter they produce, and my fellow executive members for their support and efforts in improving our Branch and profession during the past two years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Obituary

George Burdess

On Tuesday, December 26, 1995, Mr. George Burdess of Edmonton passed away at the age of 92 years.

He was predeceased by his wife, Pearl in April, 1993 and is survived by his loving family; son, John (Joyce) of Winfield, B.C.; two daughters, Margaret (George) Baker of Edmonton, Mary (Leighton) Perry of Calgary. He is also survived by 11 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren as well as his sister, Laura (George) Whitely of North Yorkshire, England; numerous nieces and nephews.

Memorial contributions may be made directly to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Alberta, 10985-124 Street, Edmonton, AB T5M 0H9

Mr. Burdess was a Public Health Inspector with the Edmonton Board of Health.

FUTURE CONFERENCES

1997: April 27-30 National Educational Conference in *Banff, Alberta*

1998: (Open)

1999: National Educational Conference in *Saskatchewan*

2000: National Educational Conference in *Vancouver, B.C.*



Graduation Ms. Geraldine Grigg, Environmental Health Officer

Geraldine (Geri) graduated this spring from Concordia College in Edmonton with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science. She presently works for the Capital Health Authority.

Mr. Gordon Corcoran, Public Health Inspector

Gordon graduated this spring from Concordia College in Edmonton with a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science. He presently works in the East Central Regional Health Authority.

Welcome

With the Sherwood Park region joining the Capital Health Authority, the Public Health Services division increases in size with the addition of inspectors

Mr. Stan Schurman (Director)

Mr. Rick Leyland

Ms. Edwina Kordyback



CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE - 1997 REPORT TO ALBERTA BRANCH MEMBERS DECEMBER 5, 1995

By Gary Butler - Chair, 1997 Conference Committee

The 1995 CIPHI Conference in Victoria, hosted by the British Columbia Branch from September 25 to 28, has been reported to have been one of the most successful of any which this association has hosted. Our congratulations to the B.C. Branch members and Conference Committee for a job well done! The 1996 Conference is scheduled as a joint conference with NEHA, to be held in Chicago, June 30 - July 4, 1996. The '97 Committee has a real challenge to meet following these two Conferences.

At this time, planning for the conference is well underway with committee chairs having identified areas of responsibility and timelines tentatively established. A number of PHI's have expressed a desire to help in the planning, organizing and delivery of the program. However, more volunteers are needed in order to make the workload more manageable for all subcommittees. If you have any interest please contact any member of the organizing committee.

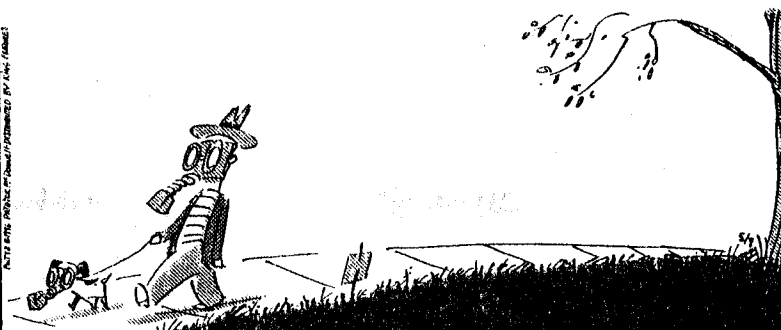
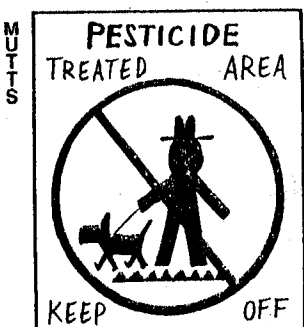
In addition to keynote addresses at the conference, the program will highlight three primary tracks in presentations: risk assessment, information systems, and health promotion. Members are encouraged to take part as presenters or to suggest potential presenters to the committee. With the possibility of as many as 25 concurrent sessions we hope to provide a wide selection of presentations from which delegates may select their daily activities. Obviously there is much work to be done in attracting and organizing such a large number of speakers; any and all suggestions are valuable to the committee. Get those thinking caps on and get your ideas in!

Financial considerations are always a major part of any conference. Advertising and exhibitor space sales are vital to a successful conference. Plans are well underway in this area and the committee welcomes any suggestions as to potential advertisers, exhibitors or sponsors. Also in the planning is an auction sale for which we require items to be donated.

The degree of success which the Alberta Branch has in the hosting of the 1997 Conference will be a result of the involvement of its members. The more involvement by more members the more likely we are to surpass the success we have had in hosting these conferences in the past. I hope that all members will do whatever they can to assist the committee in preparing for 1997!

This might be an appropriate time to start encouraging those who have allowed their membership to lapse to re-enter active status in the organization or to promote membership to those who have not been members before.

Gary Butler



CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

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Are you taking advantage of CIPHI's *Esso Credit Card Discount Program*? You could be saving \$\$\$\$ on every gasoline, auto fluids and car wash purchase. You could save as much as your entire membership dues! Call or FAX us for an application. There are no fees.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to serving you in 1996.

Chinese food 'villain,' MSG now rated safe

The Associated Press

Washington

MSG, the flavor enhancer popular in Chinese food, is safe for almost everyone to eat, a U.S. government report concluded Thursday.

But high levels may cause brief, generally mild reactions in a small number of people, and some asthma patients are susceptible, said the report by scientific advisers to the Food and Drug Administration.

The report infuriated some people who say MSG, or monosodium glutamate, makes them severely ill.

"When an individual only reacts when they ingest MSG, it's pretty clear" what is to blame, said Jack Samuels, 60, of Chicago, who says MSG causes his blood pressure to plummet to life-threatening levels.

MSG is a salt form of an amino acid called glutamate present in almost every food. MSG is commonly added to Oriental cooking, snack chips and other processed foods as a flavor enhancer.

MSG has been blamed for headaches and numbness or tingling, to asthma, seizures and even death. But in 1980, scientists began declaring MSG wasn't the culprit.

The FDA hired a panel in 1992 to check the facts and decide if strict warning labels were required.

The report found MSG safe for everyone except asthmatics and people sensitive to high doses — three grams, or five times the amount the average person eats in a day.



New high chair kills germs on contact

Hasbro's Playskool division has developed a high chair that kills germs on the tray before babies can spread them around playing with their food.

By adding the Microban plastic tray to Playskool's 1-2-3 High Chair the company hopes to attract health conscious consumers.

Microban is a process where antibacterial additives are locked into a product for life and stop the spread of bacteria including E. coli, staph, strep and salmonella.

Reprinted from the Edmonton Journal
May 23, 1996

Prevention in the woods

BEARS—Prevention: Carry a noisemaker-alert the bear to your presence, but be particularly cautious if you're travelling into the wind-they may not hear it. Stay away from dead animals and berry patches—they're food sources for bears.

Confrontations: Don't run! Don't throw anything either. Keep calm and make a wide detour.

If you are attacked: by a grizzly— play dead; by a black bear— escape to the security of a building or vehicle.

ELK—Prevention: Keep at least a 30-metre distance. Don't park your vehicle near a bull elk and his harem.

Confrontations: Wave your jacket over your head. Put a tree or large rock in between yourself and the animal.

COUGARS—Prevention: Always travel in a group and carry a walking stick. Leave your family pet at home.

Confrontations: Stop, stand upright and don't run!

Education is the key to prevention —find out what animals live in the area where you are travelling.

Reprinted from the Edmonton Journal
September 1, 1995

Reprinted from Injury Prevention News, Vol 8 No 4, May 1995
University of Alberta Hospitals

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS (ALBERTA BRANCH)

I hereby make application for

- REGULAR membership in the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. \$125.00
 STUDENT membership in the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. \$ 20.00

This application implies that membership will continue until resignation is tendered or until membership is discontinued under conditions in the By-laws of the Institute.

RENEWAL: YES NO

Name: (Print Name in Full)	Date of Birth: (Month/Day/Year)
Address:	
Home Phone:	
C.P.H.I.(C) or C.S.I.(C) Certificate number:	Date Issued:
Employer:	
Employer Address:	
Office Phone:	Office Fax:
Method of Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> cheque <input type="checkbox"/> Visa card #	Exp. date:

Annual membership in the Alberta Branch remains at \$125.

Payment: Annual dues may be paid by VISA by simply providing your VISA card number and expiry date. A payroll deduction plan is also available, but arrangements must be made between your employer and the National office. Cheques should be made out to Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors.

Additional information on the Branch or on becoming a member of the CIPHI can be obtained from Pat(1 Stark at (403) 942-3801.

PURCHASE A BRANCH INSTITUTE ITEM:

- | | | |
|----|--------------|---------|
| 1. | Golf T-Shirt | \$25.00 |
| 2. | Hat | \$ 6.00 |
| 3. | Mug | \$ 5.00 |
| 4. | Pin | \$ 6.50 |

Most of these items can be obtained by contacting Greg Thibault at the Wetoka Health Unit (403) 352-3337.
 If you have initially joined the Alberta Branch in the last two years, you are entitled to receive a free mug; Please contact Greg.

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspector pins can be purchased from Dan Richen (823-3341).

Change of Address

Please include your full name, address, postal code, and EFFECTIVE DATE: _____

Previous Address

New Address

Address all correspondence to:

**C.I.P.H.I. ALBERTA BRANCH
 Box 72045, 1600 - 90 Avenue S.W.
 Calgary, Alberta T2V 5H9**

