



Word Power

cerebration

(\ser-uh-BRAY-shuhn\
noun)

The act or product of thinking; the use of the power of reason; mental activity;

President's Message

There are no new reports to present at this time from the national level except that the Advocacy Committee had a teleconference meeting two weeks ago.

From those discussions, a draft guideline has been developed that will assist the committee in identifying and addressing issues and topics of importance to the membership.

As well, the committee has also developed a *position statement on Apple Cider* that was distributed to all media outlets October 15.

Members can view the position statement on the CIPHI National website, under a new tab titled [Position Statements](#).

The Alberta Branch has been a strong advocate in having the Institute develop position statements and I am pleased to see the

issuing of CIPHI's first position statement. The membership will be seeing many more in the near future.

On October 4, the Alberta Branch had its Fall General Meeting at the Edmonton Holiday Inn – The Palace. There were 54 Branch members in attendance and much was accomplished during the 3.5 hour meeting.

There was one motion passed by the membership that the Alberta Branch setup an exhibit booth at the **Canadian Drinking Water Association Conference** in April 2004. The Branch will inquire as

At The Waterside

- Phi Phan

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The Long and Winding Road

Another summer has hit the record books and now we're all left staring directly into yet another Canadian winter. El Nino can't come soon enough for some of us.

As I sit here in front of my computer, I can't help but think of the piles of paper and files awaiting my return to work on Monday. It seems that as time marches on, the amount of paper continues to grow while my ability to deal with it diminishes. The likelihood that I will be crushed to death by a looseleaf avalanche increases every day.

I'm not saying that I am unique in this situation. In fact, I am willing to bet dollars-to-doughnuts that most members of the Branch find themselves in similar, if not more dire, situations.

Why do I lament as such? No, it's not so that you feel sorry for me nor is it to garner sympathy from my employer. I want to illustrate that we are all busy in this day and age, but there are occasions that some time has to be put into causes beyond our own daily routines. I believe one of these pursuits to be the Branch and CIPHI.

Too often, I have spoken to individuals in this profession that want to have public health inspection regarded in the same light as engineers, accountants and other easily recognized professions, instead of just technicians. However, when asked what they have put forth in moving to that goal, they tell me, "Nothing. That's what CIPHI is for."

Sure, CIPHI is set up to advocate for the profession. Makes sense. However, these folks also don't believe they should pay into the organization because they feel that CIPHI hasn't done enough. *Aye, there's the rub.*

An organization is only as proactive as it's executive council and it's membership. The successes that we have seen from the activities of the Branch and CIPHI is due to the fact that there are members that have taken it upon themselves to take an active role in the development of the Branch and CIPHI into an organization that they believe will advance our field. Only through the involvement of more members will we be able to evolve.

Right now, with my 10 fingers and 10 toes, I could probably name every member of the Alberta Branch that actively participates in planning and directing Branch activities, and still have toes and fingers left over.

My challenge to the membership is to get active and become involved, so that the Branch can move forward into the future. Elections are coming up in the Spring, after all. ■

- Phi Phan, Editor



"I know that you've been working here for over 12 years, but I've been meaning to ask you something... Who are you?"

Editorial Policy

In the pursuit of the Association's objectives, the Editor is authorized to publish this Newsletter on a periodic basis, as deemed appropriate. The objectives of the Association are:

- (1) The development and advancement of environmental health, and
- (2) To support the advancement of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors.

The Association Executive Board has the authority to provide general direction respecting the content of the Newsletter and, in consultation with the Editor, to set policies regarding administrative matters of each issue. The Editor shall have the general authority to select material for publication in the Newsletter provided all material meets the criteria of being within the objectives of the Association.

Views, comments or positions within the contents of the Newsletter are those of the Editor, Editorial Staff or the author, respectively, and does not necessarily reflect those of the Association Executive or its' membership.

25-Year Recognition

At the Branch's Fall General Meeting, held on October 4 in Edmonton, a special presentation was made to a long-serving member of the Branch.

The Branch recognized Mr. **Gary Butler** for his long and illustrious career in the field of public health.

Gary has been a certified public health inspector and active member of the Alberta Branch for over 38 years. At one time Gary was even

President of the Branch.



Photo by P Phan

President Victor Mah presents a 25-year pin to Gary Butler during the FGM.

Most recently (recent being a relative term when you've been around for 38 years), Gary was the chairman of the 1997 CIPHI National Education Conference that was held in Banff.

Gary currently works out of the Calgary office of the Calgary Health Region as a Public Health Inspector with responsibility for personal service facilities.

He is also currently serving as a district board member for Calgary with the Health Sciences Association of Alberta.

Although a few years late in recognizing Gary's long tenure in the field of public health and his dedication to the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, the Alberta Branch extends its appreciation and admiration to an individual that has represented the profession with class and good humour. ■

- David Crowe, Vice-President (Alberta Branch) and Phi Phan, Editor

PRESIDENT *continued...*

(Continued from page 1)

to whether the Institute wishes to participate in the exhibit as well.

The presentation by **Dr. Gerald Ollis** from Alberta Agriculture on Mass Carcass Disposal was well received by the membership. The executive will continue to consider having guest speakers at the general meetings.



Photo by P Phan

Victor presents a gift to Dr. Ollis at the Fall General Meeting in Edmonton.

Finally, if you haven't done so already, it is time again to send in your membership renewal application.

As a modification this year, when you are renewing your membership you will only have to complete the area denoted with an asterisk "*", unless your information has changed.

The National Executive Council (NEC) hopes this change to the application form makes it easier for the members to complete and renew their membership. I am open to any comments you have on the new form.

If you have any issues you would like me to forward to the NEC please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail (mahv@shaw.ca) or by phone at 780-968-3772. The next meeting of the NEC is scheduled for November 14 & 15. ■

- Victor Mah, President (Alberta Branch)

Alberta Branch's Top Rejected Gifts, 2003

This year's membership gift was a very stylish zippered portfolio. However, the annual gift has not always been up to Public Health Inspector standards. So, in honour of the now infamous Branch "Pocket Knife" of 2001, here is a list of the rejected ideas for the 2003 gift, in no particular order:

1. Metal beating stick.
2. Deafening blow horn.
3. Blinding xenon flashlight.
4. Fast snapping mouse trap/finger trap.
5. Room-clearing, scented fragrance dispenser.
6. Business cards for the difficult client.
Phil C.
Munitions expert and Convicted arsonist
(780)555-OYME
7. Bobble-head President Victor dashboard doll.
8. Grow-Your-Own-Stachy Mould Farm.
9. "Golf for Enlightenment" by Deepak Chopra
10. Clipboard vanity mirror.

Branch Golf Tournament 2003



Photo by T Thepsouvanh

On August 16th, 20 golfers converged on the Barrhead Golf and Country Club for the **32nd Annual CIPHI Alberta Branch Golf Tournament**.

Five groups of four golfers braved the challenging layout of one of Alberta's hidden gems in a stroke-play format. Many of the golfers were able to get up close and personal with nature's abundance that lined many of the holes.

One unnamed golfer from southern Alberta was heard to ask, "Just what the heck are those white things with the green tops that

my ball keeps bouncing off of, anyways?"

Golfers were treated to a buffet style steak supper. Some golfers were even treated twice to a steak supper, prompting tournament organizers to remark, "I didn't realize those Federal Guys were so malnourished..." and "I think Barrhead has a food bank, you know."

Celebrity guests included a man who by all accounts bore a striking resemblance to *Edmonton Eskimos* General Manager, Tom Higgins. The gentleman, decked out in green and gold, was rumored to be signing autographs in the parking lot for a nominal fee after the tourney.

Low gross total for the tournament went to **John O'Laney**, while low net went to **Jay Jorgensen**.

Special mention was given to **Deborah Langier-Blythe** for being the only female golfer to both register and show-up for the round. For her efforts, Deborah was awarded many prizes, and was fortunate enough to also win the draw for the generous and spirited gift basket donated by **Ogilvie and Company** Law Firm.

Tony Thepsouvanh won the putter donated by Capital Health Authority for longest putt.

The tournament organizers would like to once again thank all the people and organizations that donated prizes and to those who managed to attend, contributing to another successful CIPHI event. ■

- Phil Callbeck, Central Zone Councillor



Photo by T Thepsouvanh

Bill Chrapko



Photo by T Thepsouvanh

Rob O'Neill (L); James Murphy (R)



Photo by T Thepsouvanh

Phil Callbeck (L); Dan Richen (R)



Photo by T Thepsouvanh

Charles Hallett



Photo by T Thepsouvanh

Dave Fong



Photo by T Thepsouvanh

Victor Mah



Photo by T Thepsouvanh

Jay Jorgensen and "Special Friend"

AROUND THE BRANCH

Northern Zone

- **Tony Thepsouvanh** accepted a position in Athabasca resulting in a vacancy in the Grande Prairie office. Best of luck to Tony!
- **Nadine Amlin** is keeping the empty desk in Grande Prairie warm. Nadine recently completed her courses at Concordia and is working through her practicum in the Grande Prairie office.
- **Christine Boutilier** journeyed from Charlottetown, PEI to join the team in Peace River. She arrived in Peace River on August 24, started on September 2, and received her belongings on September 8. Better play it safe and just not move anymore. Welcome Christine!

- Congratulations go out to **Keith Orlaw** and his partner, Theresa on the birth of their baby boy, Alexander Philip Orlaw. Alexander was born on September 5, 2003. Both mom and baby are at home and healthy. Congratulations Keith and Theresa
- There are a couple of new faces in the region. **Les McIntosh** is working in Fort McMurray and **Rory Peever** is completing his practicum there. **Dragan Sikanja** is working on his practicum in High Level. ▣

Arctic Zone

- No update available. ▣

Capital Zone

- **Simon Sihota** got engaged over the summer to his ever-so-lovely fiancé, Jennifer.
- **Ludmilla Schmidt** now signs her letters **Ludmilla Szman** as she recently got hitched in Barbados.
- **Sharon Regimbald** has gone on maternity leave and **Karen Hislop** is soon to follow.
- **Tony Mak** has been seconded to the Bachelor of Environmental Health Program at Concordia. It will be a 0.5 FTE. ▣

Calgary Zone

- **Marcy Iwanyk** has been hired for the Service Delivery section. She will sit her BOC in October.
- Three practicum students have been hired, **Jennifer Brown**, **Jeff Kresowaty** and **Lisa Malinowski** for the upcoming months.
- **Sara Nunn** has been hired for the Planning & Program Development section. Originally, Sara is from Lancashire, UK.
- Congratulations go out to **Chad Beegan**, who got married in August to Julie.
- **Sharon Mayhew** welcomed new son Benjamin in September.
- Newly married, **Paul von Schoenberg** and his wife Noelia are expecting their first child sometime near Christmas. ▣

Central Zone

- **Pam Williams** is off work indefinitely due to an injury.
- **Tricia Herridge** is covering Camrose while on a leave-of-absence from Vegreville. ▣

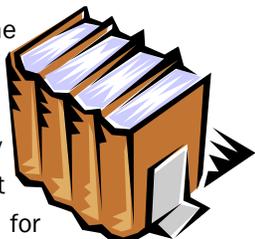
Southern Zone

- **Jennifer May-Hadford** had a baby girl, Julia, on September 20, 2003. She was about a month early and weighed in at 5 lbs 13 oz.
- Congratulations go out to **Kori Woodard**, who got hitched on July 11 to Ray Horyn at Waskesiu Lake in Saskatchewan.
- **Adam Jensen** has been hired in Pincher Creek to replace the departed Dave Brown who found sanctuary in the province of Ontario. ▣

Books... What Happens When The TV Is Broken

Here is a selection and brief summary of some interesting books that have a health inspection angle to them.

While they lack the excitement and intrigue of a Tom Clancy, they represent yet another source for the public to develop impressions and (mis)understanding of public health.



The Jungle by Upton Sinclair (Fiction)

Published in 1906, the story primarily focuses on the ups and (many) downs of the life of an immigrant family working in the Chicago stockyards in the early 1900's.

If you look past the heavy socialist views of the author, this story of life in the stockyards is very graphic and provides an interesting tale of the meat industry at that time and the appalling conditions in which meat was processed.

This was such a powerful book for its time that after President Theodore Roosevelt read it he ordered an investigation of the meatpacking industry resulting in substantial regulatory changes with the passing of the Pure Food and Drugs Act (1906) and the Meat Inspection Act (1906).

For more information about Upton Sinclair, visit the following website: <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/Jupton.htm>

An on-line version of the book can be found at <http://www.boondocksnet.com/editions/jungle/>

www.boondocksnet.com/editions/jungle/

Silent Spring by Rachael Carson (Non-Fiction)

Although not specifically directed toward the health inspection profession, this book is a must read for the proponents of pesticide use.

In light of the rise of West Nile virus, it may be worthwhile to refresh memories on the pitfalls of relying on the use of chemicals and the major repercussions of tampering with one small portion of nature. Published in 1962, this book was a major influence on the banning of the use of DDT.

For more about Rachael Carson visit <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/aso/databank/entries/dt62si.html>

Is it Safe to Eat Out? How our local health officials inspect restaurants to assure food safety...or do they? By Thomas Peacock (Non-Fiction)

Published in 2002, this is a critical look at public health inspectors and restaurant inspections in the United States.

Want to sell a book? Write a "true story" on the negatives (corruption, bribery, apathy etc.) of public health inspectors and paint a picture for the reader that this is how things are done in every health region.

That fact this book was written by a registered sanitarian from California unfortunately gives credibility to his views. This book is an alarmist collection of stories that will make the public suspicious about the

government's ability to protect them and fearful to dine outside of the home.

Thomas Peacock's homepage is located at <http://home.earthlink.net/~tfpeacock/>

Dr. White - Jane Goodall (Children's)

Okay, for those of you with children, do NOT read them this book.

Although the health inspector is not the primary character, this book is worth mentioning. Published in 1999, this is a story about Dr. White, who spends his time visiting sick children in a London children's hospital.

One day while innocently going about his work a health inspector bans him from the hospital. What heinous crime did the good doctor commit to be subject to such banishment? I guess I forgot to mention... he's a DOG!

The children and dog pine for each other in vain until one special child changes the health inspector's mind. This is based upon a true story and although charming, may alienate your children from you and the profession. Otherwise it's not too bad.

Buy the book at <http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/073581063X/secondstartother>

■

- Stephen Parker, Project Team Leader (Alberta Health & Wellness)



AEC Appreciation Dinner

To acknowledge the efforts of Branch members that volunteered their time to make the 69th Annual Education Conference such a success, the Conference Organizing Committee felt some gesture of appreciation was needed.

Organized by **Jody Tom** and **Shauna Dimock**, the reward turned out to be a deli-



Photo by P Phan

Foreground, Clockwise (L to R) - Sharon Regimbald, Frances Fong, Koreen Westly, Dave Fong, Victor Mah

cious buffet at the Holiday Inn Palace in Edmonton in early September.

Attended by approximately 20 people, the night was filled with food, friends and even prizes. Thanks to everyone who attended! ■

- Phi Phan, Editor

BRANCH BUSINESS

Fall General Meeting 2003

As was mentioned in the President's Message, the Fall General Meeting was recently held in Edmonton at the Holiday Inn (Palace) on Gateway Boulevard.

With over 50 people in attendance, the membership from across the province was well represented.

Additionally, there were more-than-a-few students from the Environmental Health Program at Concordia in attendance, which was nice to see.

Those members who attended received their 2003 Branch keepsake, which was a stylish and functional portfolio. Those not in attendance should receive their gifts via their respective zone councilors.

A presentation regarding mass carcass disposal by **Dr. Gerald Ollis** from Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development was well received, even if it was given in the lethargic "after lunch" time slot.



Photo by P Phan

Bill Hohn presents a cheque to the Branch on behalf of the 2001 Fall Educational Workshop.

In addition to the presentation and general meeting, the Branch was also presented with cheques from both the 2001 and 2002 Fall Education Workshops that were held in Edmonton.



Photo by P Phan

Edwina Kordyback presents a cheque to the Branch on behalf of the 2002 Fall Educational Workshop.

Bill Hohn and **Edwina Kordyback** presented substantial cheques to the Branch on behalf of the Workshop Committees.

Overall, the meeting was quite productive and it was good to see so many people out to support the Branch. The minutes will

be posted to the website shortly. ■

- Phi Phan, Editor

Where Did That Come From?

"CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH" - (healthy, in good shape). This popular expression derives from the certificate once issued by a port authority confirming that no member of a ship's crew suffered from a reportable contagious disease, and that no contagion was known to be present in the ship's port of departure.

Where there was infectious disease aboard a ship or in port, the authorities issued a foul bill of health. As the term 'a clean bill of health' has come ashore, it generally means 'in good shape,' as when a company is given a clean bill of health on its financial dealings."

From "When a Loose Cannon Flogs a Dead Horse There's the Devil to Pay: Seafaring Words in Everyday Speech" by Olivia A. Isil (International Marine/Ragged Mountain Press, McGraw-Hill, 1996)



Photo by M Turliak

This fellow, who attended an Edmonton fair during summer, fell ill to food poisoning a few days before.

PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

In order to publish a quarterly edition of the Alberta Branch News, it is necessary to receive materials several weeks before publication.

This lead-time is needed to allow for layout, revision, editing and any modifications that may be required.

To the right, you will find the submission deadline for items and articles for each upcoming edition of the ABN.

The cooperation and assistance of the membership is continued to be greatly appreciated. ■

- Phi Phan, Editor



Submissions Deadline	Publication Date
December 2003	January 2004
March 2004	April 2004
June 2004	July 2004
September 2004	October 2004
December 2004	January 2005
March 2004	April 2005
June 2004	July 2005
September 2004	October 2005

UPCOMING EVENTS

Calgary Tattoo and Arts Festival

February 14, 15 and 16, 2004

Noon to 10 PM, Daily

Westin Hotel

Calgary, AB



The Calgary Tattoo and Arts Festival 2004 is a meeting of some of the world's best tattoo artists.

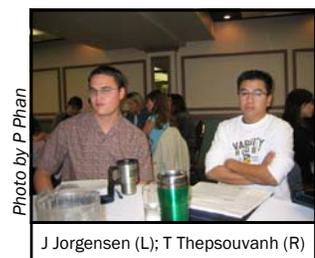
The convention floor will be open to the public for tattoo appointments and contests. Seminars will be offered in tattoo techniques and sterilization.

Ticketmaster Charge by phone 403.777.0000 or visit <http://www.ticketmaster.ca/> or <http://www.calgarytattoos.com/>

ADDITIONAL AEC PHOTOGRAPHS



FGM PHOTOS





Membership/Renewal Application Form 2004

I hereby make application for Membership (see list below) in the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. This application implies that membership is to continue until resignation is tendered, or until membership is discontinued under the conditions contained in the By-laws of the Institute. (Complete sections with a "*" only unless information has changed.)

* Name: _____ * Date of Birth: _____
Surname First Middle Day Month Year

Home Address: _____
Street City Province Postal Code

Phone #: _____ / _____ E-mail address: _____
Area Code

Work Phone #: _____ / _____ Fax #: _____ / _____ E-mail address: _____
Area Code Area Code

Present Employer: _____
Agency Street Address

Employer Address: _____ Postal Code: _____
City/Town Province

C.P.H.I.(C) Certificate #: _____ Year Issued: _____ How many years have you been a member of CIPHI? _____

Code of Ethics - As a Member of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, I acknowledge:

That I have an obligation to the sciences and arts for the advancement of public health. I will uphold the standards of my profession, continually search for truths, and disseminate my findings; and I will strive to keep myself fully informed of the developments in the field of Public Health.

That I have an obligation to the public whose trust I hold and I will endeavour, to the best of my ability, to guard their interests honestly and wisely. I will be loyal to the government division or industry by which I am retained.

That the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition.

That being loyal to my profession, I will uphold the constitution and By-laws of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors and will, at all times, conduct myself in a manner worthy of my profession.

My signature hereon constitutes a realization of my personal responsibility to actively discharge these obligations.

* Signature: _____ * Date: _____

* Please check the type of membership you require:
 Regular **Student** \$30.00 **Retired** \$30.00 **Fraternal** \$90.00 **International** \$75.00

* Please indicate branch you wish to belong to: _____
(Province in which you reside unless you live in Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Yukon or outside Canada)

*** Note that GST is no longer being charged.**

British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia/PEI	Nfld/ Labrador
\$145.00	\$125.00	\$115.00	\$110.00	\$125.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00

(Includes Registration)

* Payment is made by:

Cheque Money Order Payroll Deduction Post-dated Cheques
(dated before March 31, 2004)

Credit Card: Visa or MasterCard
 Number on Card: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____
 Expiry Date: ____ / ____
 Name on Card: _____
 Signature: _____

Please make cheques payable to C.I.P.H.I. and forward your application by postal service to:
C.I.P.H.I., PO Box 75264 - 15180 North Bluff RD, White Rock BC V4B 5L4 Canada
 Fax: 604-543-0936 or Phone: 604-543-0935 (Toll free: 1-888-245-8180)



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alberta branch news

alberta branch news is published quarterly by the Communications Committee of the Alberta Branch to provide current information on the many activities of the Alberta Branch. The newsletter is distributed to members and friends of the Alberta Branch.

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alberta branch news

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IS THAT RIGHT?

Safer Food With Smiley Faces

By Oresund Food Excellence (<http://www.foodoresund.com/>)

DENMARK — The outcome of Danish authorities' food inspections will now become available on the Internet. It is the next step in the "smiley-approach", introduced in 2001.

All of the Danish retail and catering establishments are smiley-inspected one to four times a year. These include supermarkets, groceries, bakeries, butchers, greengrocers, kiosks, restaurants, pizzerias, canteens, hot-dog stands and kitchens in hospitals and elderly homes.

Four smiley-faces symbolise the result and tell consumers how well shops and restaurants comply with the food regulation:

 The Inspector had no remarks.

 It has been emphasized that certain rules must be obeyed.

 The establishment has received an injunction or prohibitory order.

 Received an Fine, Reported or an approval has been withdrawn.

All retail establishments have to make the smiley face and enclosed report visible to the consumers and consequently shops and restaurants get an extra incentive to comply with the rules.

The results from the latest four inspections are visible on each Inspection Report, which gives consumers the opportunity to see how well a particular shop or restaurant has done over time. Via the Internet, the information will be more easily accessible to the consumers. ■