

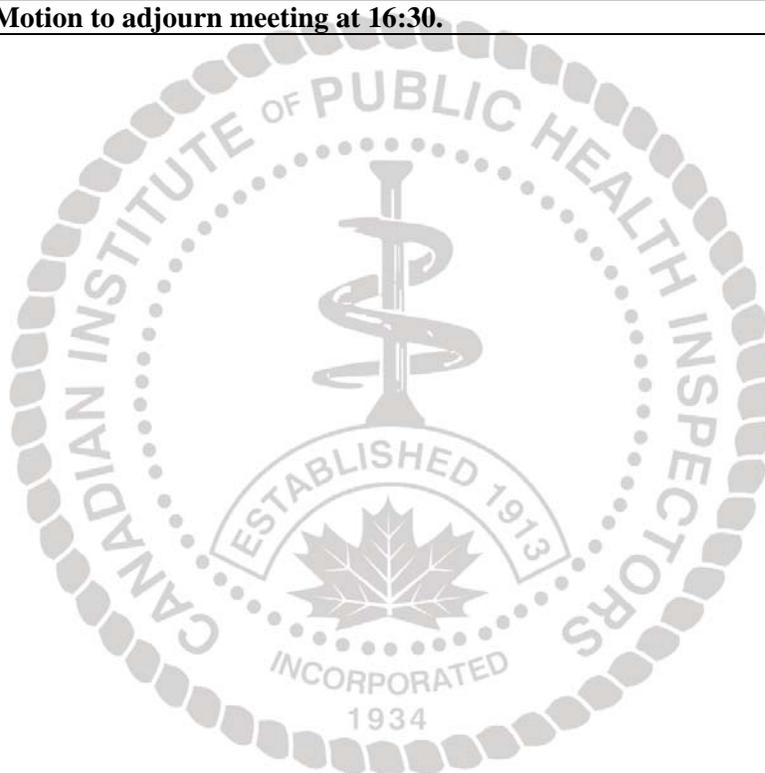
CIPHI Alberta Branch – Fall General Meeting October 4, 2007

* Membership quorum was reached. A detailed listing is appended to these minutes.

	Agenda Item	Discussion & Decision	Action by
1.0	Call to Order	15:40	
2.0	In memoriam	Jack Hostlier	
3.0	Agenda	3.1 Additions or Deletions to Agenda • 6.7 Southern Zone Report	
		3.2 Adoption of Agenda • Moved acceptance of Agenda. Seconded. Carried.	
4.0	Adoption of Minutes	Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting – May 26, 2007 • Moved acceptance of previous meeting minutes. Seconded. Carried.	
5.0	Executive Reports	5.1 President • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
		5.2 Vice President • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
		5.3 Treasurer's Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
		5.4 Secretary's Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
	6.0 Zone Reports	6.1 Arctic Zone Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
		6.2 Northern Zone Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
		6.3 Capital Zone Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
		6.4 Central Zone Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
		6.5 Calgary Zone Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
		6.6 Federal Zone Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried.	
	7.0 Committee Report	7.1 Communications Report • No report submitted	
		7.2 BOC Report • Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried. • Action: Recirculate practicum guidelines to the membership.	Completed
		7.3 Membership Report	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried. 	
		7.4 Advocacy Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report submitted 	
		7.5 EPHW Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moved acceptance of report. Seconded. Carried. 	
		7.6 Social Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verbal report – 22 golfers at annual Tournie 	
	8.0 Business Arising	8.1 Conference Sponsorship Policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This policy is still in development and will be brought forth again once completed. 	Removed
		8.2 Honorariums for Executive & Committee Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No issues to address 	Closed
		8.3 2009 National Education Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 3 – 6, 2009 Western theme, see brochures at Branch Workshop for more details. 	Continues
		8.4 Concordia Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion to accept Concordia proposal as circulated. Seconded. Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victor Mah reviewed the proposal with the donation being \$10,000. The Branch has been recognized for its contribution already on Concordia's sponsorship wall. Call the question: Carried	Closed
		8.5 Volunteer Survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has been completed and the results are within the Vice President's report. 	Closed
9.0	New Business	9.1 Auditor Volunteers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ludmilla Rodriguez and Edwina Kordyback volunteered to audit the Branch accounts. 	Closed
		9.2 Association Executive Elections <u>Zones – confirming zone selections</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arctic – still recruiting replacement Northern – Adrea Simmons Capital – Jason MacDonald Central – Garth Gosselin Calgary – Karen Clarke Southern – Andrea Hohne Federal – Jon Elliott <u>Committees</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership – Tricia Herridge BOC – Peer Mikkelsen Newsletter – No chair at this time Website – Wojciech Drobina and Jeremy Vaughan Advocacy – Jason MacDonald 	Closed

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards – to be decided by President • EPHW – Wayne Quan <p><u>Association Executive</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurer – Keith Lee (acclaimed) • Secretary – Merry Turtiak (acclaimed) • Vice President – Koreen Anderson (acclaimed) • Phi Phan (acclaimed) 	
10.0	Adjournment	Motion to adjourn meeting at 16:30.	



President's Report
Fall General Meeting – October 4, 2007
Edmonton, AB

CIPHI National Update

The membership of CIPHI gathered in Kelowna for the 73rd Annual Education Conference during the summer of 2007 and the Alberta Branch was again well represented. Of the over 300 registrants in attendance, members from Alberta, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories comprised a significant proportion of the delegates. Thanks go to the various health organizations throughout the Branch for supporting so many staff members to attend Environmental Public Health's marquee education event in Canada. Also well represented was the 2009 organizing committee who 'branded' visitors to their booth with an air of excitement and anticipation for the 75th AEC to be held in Kananaskis Country in two years. Never let it be said Calgarians don't look great in chaps and cowboy hats.

As is par for the course, interspersed within the frivolities of the AEC, CIPHI also held its Annual General Meeting, which was once again a lively debate about several issues pertinent to members. Firstly, the position of National President-Elect was approved by the membership, which now means that at the next election of the National President in 2008, we will also be electing a National President-Elect. This new position is designed to allow for continuity of executive direction of the National Executive Council (NEC) as the National President-Elect will work alongside the National President and the rest of the NEC for their two year tenure, after which the President-Elect will then take over the Presidency upon election of the next President-Elect. Effectively, this means that CIPHI members will no longer be voting for Presidents every two years, but instead voting for President-Elects. However, it also means that there will be continuous six-year span of organization continuity (as President-Elect moves to President then to Past President), which will be definite benefit to the growth of the organization.

Another important motion that was passed will cause membership dues for all classes of CIPHI members to increase effective this upcoming year. The increase is a necessary in light of the various projects that CIPHI National has on the go including Discipline-Specific Competencies, Pan-Canadian Core Competencies for Public Health, an EPHP self-service on-line database, and Continuing Professional Competencies that are all drawing on a finite financial supply. Additionally, we cannot solely rely on external organizations (such as the Public Health Agency of Canada) to bankroll our growth, so the additional revenue that CIPHI National will receive from increased membership fees will help to offset *some* of the rising costs that these projects are creating. So, as an example a regular member within the Alberta Branch will now be assessed a \$155 membership fee. A complete schedule of fees will be available as the time for renewals draws closer.

Shortly after the conclusion of the Kelowna AEC, most members should have received notification of a survey being undertaken by Bow Valley College in Calgary whether there was an interest for a program for Environmental Health Technicians. This environmental survey was borne from the desire of certain organizations that were looking to streamline their operations by providing EH technicians in place of PHIs/EHOs for routine tasks such as water sampling, which would thereby free those same PHIs/EHOs for higher-level tasks. I hope that members took this opportunity to ensure their views were heard. CIPHI was neither supportive nor negative towards the creation of such a program, but we wanted to ensure that the membership had an opportunity to plug into the consultation process. The environmental scan would have taken place with or without CIPHI's involvement, so this was a matter of being on the bus and trying to steer it in a positive direction versus being run over by it at some point down the road.

Also with the close of summer, there was a significant change in the operation of the National Office as the NEC decided to end its contract with the office contractor. We believed that in order to move ahead to where we believed CIPHI should be in a next five years, it was necessary to ensure that there existed a sufficient infrastructure at the National office to support such growth and unfortunately we could not reasonably expect that with the way the National office had been set up. Consequently, CIPHI National has now moved its' virtual offices to a physical office at 720 – 999 W Broadway, Vancouver BC. An association management company now conducts the day-to-day business operations of CIPHI with direction from the NEC. As well, there is now dedicated staff to handle calls, process memberships and to serve the membership of CIPHI in a much more efficacious manner. Ultimately the goal is to hire an Executive Director who would handle the day-to-day operations of the organization, which would free the NEC to be a consultative body as it rightfully should be, but the Executive Director is a long-term goal and at this point-in-time it is not fiscally possible to hire such a position. However, the current set-up will be a good interim step on the road to evolving our Institution.

Alberta Environmental Health Directors' Council (DC9) Update

Since the last update, there have been two meetings of DC9. At this time there are no major updates to relate to the membership.

Concordia Professional Advisory Committee

The advisory committee has not met since the last President's update, although I am pleased to report that Mr. Anthony Mak has decided to hang up his EPH field shoes to concentrate his full energies on program administration of the EH program at Concordia. Congratulations to Tony on his new position and we wish him the best of luck.

In Closing

As I close this report, I would like to congratulate two CIPHI Alberta members for some significant accomplishments. Congratulations are extended to Shauna Dimock for receiving the inaugural Lilli Ann Zahara Award from the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada, which recognizes a recipient who displays the highest level of dedication, commitment, inspiration and leadership in the field of environmental health, particularly with a focus on food safety and/or health education. I would also like to acknowledge Warren Boychuk who won the 2006 Stanier Institute Opinion Paper Contest for his paper detailing the need for an EPH response as it pertains to emergency situations. CIPHI Alberta is privileged to have such individuals within our own ranks.

At this time I would also like to acknowledge the hard work of the organizing committee of the 8th Annual Fall Workshop for bringing together another stellar CIPHI Alberta event. It's many, many hours of unheralded work and although it sometimes feels like it's all unappreciated, please be assured that the membership of CIPHI Alberta are thankful of your efforts and applaud your talents and commitment.

Finally I would once again like to thank the membership for your continued support in the direction that CIPHI Alberta gone in my past two years as President. It's only through the dedication of the volunteers of your Executive and Committees that CIPHI Alberta is doing as well as it is. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Phi Phan
President

Vice President's Report Fall General Meeting - October 4, 2007

The World Series has yet to be decided, but we are already gearing up for another exciting NHL season. Dan Richen has taken up the cause again of providing Alberta Branch members with their very own Alberta Branch Hockey Pool. The deadline to enter your team is October 12, 2007, so start scouring the stats to find your best players. Or, you can do what I do – pick your favourites even though they may not be the best for point standings. Although, I have been close to last every year I have participated; on second thought, take a look at the statistics.

The CIPHI Alberta Branch Volunteer Survey was distributed in the spring. Thank you to all who took the time to complete the survey. The following are some of the highlights of the survey:

23 respondents

14 (61%) have volunteered for a CIPHI Committee, Executive or Association Executive.
9 (39%) have not volunteered for CIPHI.

For those who are not currently in a volunteer position, they were to check all reasons that apply:

Home-life too busy	12 (52%)
Work-life too busy	13 (56%)
Volunteer for other causes	9 (39%)
Do not know whom to contact	2 (9%)
Do not know the areas CIPHI (AB Branch) is looking for volunteers	5 (22%)
Not clear what type of time commitment is required	10 (43%)
Do not have the support of your employer	3 (13%)
Do not believe you have any skills to offer	3 (13%)
Do not believe that the work of CIPHI (AB Branch) is important	1 (4%)
Other	7 (30%)

4 (17%) had contacted a Committee Chair or Member of the Executive to volunteer and believe that they did not receive a proper response to their offer.

Most of the respondents did not believe that more committees were needed for the AB Branch, but that we need to make the current committees more effective.

There were many areas that the respondents would like to see CIPHI (AB Branch) take more initiative in promoting, including:

- More retired members
- The quality and applicability of the education provided by Concordia
- Staffing levels in rural RHA's
- Getting members to take on a task no matter how small
- More people being more involved in Branch business either by incorporating a training session and/or a social event.
- Mandatory membership as a condition of employment
- More on Environmental Public Health Week
- Continuing Education
- Our profession with other environmental associations and organizations
- Improve advocacy
- Provide health information for the general public
- Advocate for our profession within the health care industry where we might use our skills and abilities (i.e. infection control, occupational health)
- Wage and position parity throughout the RHA's

The respondents also had several ideas on how we can improve our volunteer base. Overall, the strongest undertone was for the Branch to increase communication to the members.

The survey responses have been very beneficial to detect areas that the Branch can improve the volunteer base. And while we may not be able to do that extra load of laundry or routine inspections to lessen your home and work load, the Branch can develop more clear outlines on our expectations and the time commitment that the volunteer can expect.

You should be seeing increased communication from the AB Branch for volunteers and the provincial committees. If anyone has any additional comments they would like to share, please see me or another member of the Executive.

Again, thank you to all those who responded to the survey. While I have not had a chance to contact individuals who provided their information, please keep in mind that you may still be contacted as the Branch looks into more detail about how to progress with some of the recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Koreen Anderson
Vice President, Alberta Branch

TREASURER'S REPORT
2007 January 01 – 2007 September 20

General Account Balance 2006 January 01 **\$ 71,257.99**

Revenue

Membership Dues	\$ 5,465.06
Interest/Investments	\$ 979.70
Awards/Tournaments/Social	\$ 2,655.00
Thermometer Sales	\$ 930.00
Zone Meeting Income	\$ 40.00
GIC Cashed and Deposited	\$ 20,000.00
Total Revenue	\$ 30,069.76

Expenditures

Phones/Internet	\$ 38.88
Office Supplies	\$ 763.20
Postal/Courier	\$ 590.59
Liability Insurance	\$ 608.51
National Executive Meetings/Activities	\$ 924.86
Branch Executive Meetings/Activities	\$ 1,073.14
Branch General Meetings/Activities	\$ 1,751.92
Branch Zone Meetings/Activities	\$ 95.00
Board of Certification Meetings/Activities	\$ 80.00
2009 National Conference Activities	\$ 19,276.07
Thermometer Purchases	\$ 7,467.91
Membership Gifts (Search Lights)	\$ 6,912.08
Awards/Tournaments/Social	\$ 3,732.42
Donations	\$ 463.65
Honoraria	\$ 100.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 43,878.23

Branch General Account Balance 2007 September 20 **\$ 57,449.52**

Branch G.I.C.s 2007 September 20 **\$ 20,889.68**

Branch Scholarship Account Balance 2007 September 20 **\$ 8,022.53**

Branch Primary Workshop Account Balance 2007 September 20 **\$ 24,720.36**

Branch Secondary Workshop Account Balance 2007 September 20 **\$ 10,942.38**

Branch Workshop G.I.C.s **\$ 21,040.63**

Accounts Receivable **\$ 9,575.00**

Inventory (Thermometers) **\$ 551.36**

Total Branch Assets **\$ 153,191.46**

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Lee, Treasurer
2007 September 24

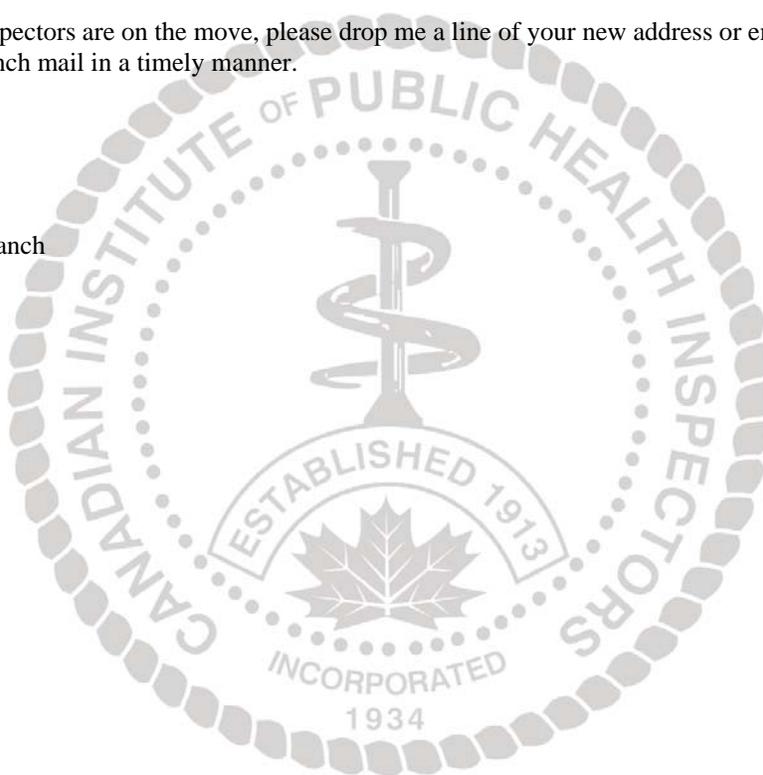
Secretary's Report Fall General Meeting – October 4, 2007

Since the last report, very little information to provide to the membership from the Secretary's position. The Branch computer is currently taking an "inconvenient vacation" due to a damaged power cord. A replacement is apparently on its way but is taking some time arriving. In the mean time, I will be sending correspondence from my work email address.

Finally, as a lot of inspectors are on the move, please drop me a line of your new address or email address to ensure you receive your Branch mail in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Merry Turtiak
Secretary, Alberta Branch



Northern Zone Report Fall General Meeting - October 4, 2007

Aspen

Aspen is happy to announce that Christine Gilham had her second baby boy, Alexander in July and is now off on maternity leave. Phil Callbeck defected from Environmental Health to infiltrate the infection control team for the eastern service area. We wish Phil all the best in his new job. Jennifer Fearnough has moved from the Athabasca office to the Onoway office. Talking over in Athabasca is Mr. Brad Dorman a recent acquirement from Ontario. Brad is a recent grad and is excitedly awaiting his BOC in October. Erin Teare a recent graduate from Concordia is currently doing her field training with the eastern service area and will be sitting her BOC in April. Jack Somers has been off on leave for a while and we all wish him the best on his time off.

Aspen has two full time temporary positions available, one in Jasper and one in Edson.

Northern Lights

Northern Lights currently has 2 vacancies and 3 posted positions, if you are looking for a job with excitement, and adventure, get your applications in! The region currently has 2 candidates awaiting the October BOC.

The region is also happy to welcome David Lee as the new Regional Manager for the Environmental Health program.

Peace Country

This summer our program changed its name from Environmental Health to Environmental Public Health. In July the Environmental Public Health program participated in the corporate family softball tournament, and having stacked the team with as many ringers as possible we managed to beat all other teams and take home the trophy!

Apparently Koreen did not see the movie Runaway Bride, because after a night of pole dancing lessons at her stagette, she married Ryan and ran off to Jamaica for a wonderful honeymoon. We wish Koreen and Ryan all the best in their new life together. Jason Lee a graduate from the First Nations University is currently wrapping up his training with the region and will be sitting the October BOC.

The program is currently trialing some new tablets for doing inspections and in Terry Scott's words, "you will have to pry it from my dead hands", Terry never was very good at sharing.

Our program is also getting used to the new “space maximization” policy at the health unit in Grande Prairie. Having the most difficult time adjusting are Terry and Elmer who have not only had to give up their own offices but also had to downsize their desks. So far, there have only been threats of violence toward noisy offenders, although you can often see foam fish and other stuffed animals flying around the office in times of frustration.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrea Simmons
Northern Zone Councilor

Capital Zone Report

Annual General Meeting – October 4, 2007

This will be my first report as CIPHI Capital Zone Councilor since I accepted the nomination this spring. I would like to take this time to thank my peers and colleagues for giving me this opportunity. Although I am admittedly newer to this role, I look forward to representing the members in this zone, and to helping the Institute grow during my tenure. Of course, we all want to thank Rebecca Johnson for her contributions in this role over the last several years.

Tony Mak retires!

After 30 years and two days of employment as a health inspector in the Edmonton area, Tony Mak is off to greener pastures. Tony will continue to mold the minds of future EHO's at Concordia, and has invited everyone to come and visit him in his new campus office. Coffee is on him.

Thank you....

- Wayne Quan has stepped forward to help out on the 2008 CIPHI Environmental Health Week Committee. Thank you for representing the Capital Zone in that important endeavor.
- The fall conference is going to be a wonderful time to learn from one another, but none of it could have happened without the many hours of time and effort put forth by all of the volunteers and organizers. Shauna Dimock, Keara Shaw, Phi Phan and Sharon Regimbald were often seen working tirelessly in an effort to ensure this conference is a success. Thanks again to all who made this week possible.

Our Members

The Capital Region continues to be a great place for our zone's members to develop their careers. A few exciting examples would be:

- Wojciech Drobina and Glenn Jenkins have continued their Masters program course work.
- A team of four inspectors now perform swimming pool inspections in the over 300 pools in Edmonton.
- Several members of our food inspection team, including Mike Sidra, Ambrose Law and Richard Reive participated in an inspection program of perishable foods from farmer's markets.
- Nyall Hislop was able to assist in helping out with a GI outbreak in Barbados.
- Maria Precup will be assisting Karen Emde in the role of Water Officer.

Our members have also had the fortune of new arrivals. Be sure to congratulate Richard Reive, Rob Mahabeer, Keara Shaw, Sharon Regimbald, and Rebecca Johnson on their newborn children.

Lastly, best wishes to all of the Capital Zone members who will be partaking in the B.O.C. examination later this month. I'd say good luck, but you will not need it.

Sincerely,

Jason A. MacDonald

Capital Zone Councilor – CIPHI, Alberta Branch

Central Zone Report

Fall General Meeting – October 4, 2007

As the new Central zone councilor it's my pleasure to provide you with this report.

East Central

The gang in East Central has been working hard to meet the requirements of the auditor general and the blue book. Assisting in the task are a few new faces Sarah Dreger started in the Camrose office on March 5th. Sarah is also engaged to be married with wedding plans for July next year. Wayne Button also began the same day. Wayne is working out of the Sedgwick office and covering the MD's of Wainwright and Provost. A fresh new rookie inspector by the name of Kevin Mcleod has taken on the Water For Life project and will be helping out for the next couple of years. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them all to the central zone.

David Thompson Health Region

In the DTHR things have been changing as well. Most notably we are pleased to have David Brown come on board as our new manager. David will lead us in our efforts to satisfy the Governor General. David comes to us from North Bay Ontario but many of you may remember him from his days in Pincher Creek. Dan Richen has taken on the job of Senior Advisor and with Dan's enthusiasm and experience we are looking forward to having him support and move the program forward in a whole new way. We are having a bit of a baby boom these days. Our food permit administrator Lisa Johnston welcomes a new baby boy. Adam Jensen and his wife are expecting their first child very soon, and Diane Luka and her husband are also to be blessed with a child any day now. If we can convince them all to become inspectors we will fill most of our current vacancies, here's hoping. We are have a couple of new faces around the office these days. Lindsay Morgan a student from First Nations University in Regina has been with us a few months and is set to sit the BOC's this fall, good luck Lindsay, and Janine Steinke has recently joined us from Concordia, we look forward to our days ahead with her.

That about wraps up the news for the central zone. I have enjoyed my first few months as councilor and look forward to the road ahead.

Respectfully Submitted

Garth Gosselin

*Calgary Health Region-Zone Report
Fall General Meeting - October 4, 2007*

Breaking News

- A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 2nd to discuss transfats with all district inspectors. Following a letter that was sent out to all food facilities in the Calgary Health Region, many questions have been raised, and will hopefully be answered, as to our future involvement in the monitoring and enforcement of transfats in our food establishments. As everyone can imagine, a lot of speculation, complaints, and rumours have been flying, so we're all looking forward to attending tomorrow's meeting.
- June 18-20 was this year's National CIPHI Conference in Kelowna. Calgary was again represented by a very large delegation, including Tina Turner (aka Peer Mikkelsen) who took time out of her busy schedule to entertain us with a stirring rendition of "Proud Mary".

Changing of the Guard

- After over four decades, Gary Butler is "retiring" from his position as a Public Health Inspector. Through his many different roles over the years, he has had a profound impact on the way our program has developed and we will all miss seeing him sitting at his desk in the biggest, most comfortable chair in the office.
- Several other long time employees have also left us, Sujata Patel, who has decided to leave us for bigger and better pursuits and Norm Kruesel, who, despite the question WHY?, has now moved to the province of Saskatchewan.
- In addition to our losses, we have welcomed several new members to our team. In Banff and Canmore we now have Lindsay Sullivan (former student) and Brigette Noren (Manitoba). Airdrie welcomes Greg Thibault, who has moved from Canmore. The urban districts have added Carol Brittain (former student) and Salima Kassam, who was formerly with Vancouver Coastal. Finally, in our enterics department, we were pleased to add Raminder Sandu (coming to us from Brooks).

Enforcement/Prosecutions

- The past few months have been very active for Prosecutions and Enforcement. BabaKaDhaba, a restaurant, was served a Queen's Bench Order to comply with a closure order and eventually fined \$14, 950. Kafta Hut Enterprises, owners of three Regal Beagle franchises were prosecuted and charged for years of non-compliance. Sentencing was set at \$20 410. Leung Ky Meats were sentenced \$20 700 on September 10th. Alberta Restaurants Inc., owners of a NW Pizza Hut who opened in violation of a Closure Order, were sentenced to a fine of \$11 500. Yeung Shon, owner of a sushi/vietnamese sub manufacturing establishment was issued a Queen's Bench Order on Sept. 17 to comply with a Closure Order. And finally, Conrad Spring, owner of two rental properties in the SW, was also issued a Queen's Bench Order to comply with a Repair Order.

Office Games

- July saw the end of the summer soccer season for our primarily CHR dominated team. I am pleased to announce that Dale Nelson is finally off of his crutches and everyone else seems to be in one piece. Our participation in the winter indoor season is still being debated as we are weighing out the health benefits vs. the high injury rate. (haha)
- Our annual baseball game and picnic was scheduled for the end of August, but due to rain, was cancelled.
- September has fast turned into a gambling free-for-all with a large # of us participating in the office Survivor China pool. Needless to say, this has made Friday morning conversations very interesting. As well, the women in the office are embarking on our 2nd annual hockey draft, with the fearless Al Kettler as our co-ordinator and leader. Although he compared last year's experience to that of trying to herd cats, we're optimistic that this year will be much better...or not.

Personal Events

- We are, as usual, very excited to announce our new additions. This summer, Theresa Wawrykow gave birth to a baby girl, Madeline Summer and Freya Volstad also had a baby girl, Morgan Elizabeth.

Federal Zone Report Fall General Meeting – October 4, 2007

There has been a lot of shuffling at First Nations and Inuit Health. Our biggest change has been the retirement of Skattar Sandhu. This is what was said about Skattar's epic career:

Skattar Sandhu has never apologized for putting public health first.

After more than 27 years working for Health Canada and a lifetime devoted to public health, Skattar is leaving his post as the regional manager of First Nations and Inuit Health's (FNIH) environmental health program.

Skattar's dedication to public health began in India. He received his diploma in public health from London Royal Society of Health in Bombay, India. In 1974, he earned his another diploma in public health from Ryerson in Toronto. From there he went on to be a public health officer in Montreal, for the City of Westmount where he earned his certified public health inspector (Canada) (CPHI(C)) designation, which is necessary to practice as an environmental health officer. He stayed in Montreal for a year but then the west beckoned and in 1975, he moved to Hanna Alberta and worked as an Environmental Health officer (EHO) for the Big Country Health Unit.

But Skattar wasn't finished moving. In 1976, he moved to Taber and worked until 1980 as an EHO for the Alberta department of health. Then the big move came in 1980 when he finally made his home Edmonton. That's when he started working for Health Canada. At that time, there were only two EHOs, one for the Northern part of the province and one for the south. To put this into perspective, today there are 11 EHO's who cover the whole province and it's still not enough.

Skattar's dedication to First Nations health is second to none. When reflecting on his career, Skattar talks about the people. "I'm going to miss the all the people especially the First Nations people who are so keen to improve the quality of their lives," he says.

When asked what he would like to leave as a legacy to the people who will follow in his footsteps, Skattar say people should be totally committed to finding the root causes of the issues that affect public health and then do something to help.

Since Skattar has been with Health Canada, he has won numerous awards including a Deputy Minister's award for Excellence, Concordia University College of Alberta Recognition of Significant Contribution, Outstanding Achievement Award from INAC and Golden Jubilee Medal just to name a few.

Skattar's dedication to his work does not stop at Health Canada. He has been involved very closely with the Portage College Community Health Representative (CHR) program. He has taught many CHRs the importance of public health. His record is so successful, that some of his students have gone on to become chiefs, councilors or health directors.

Skattar, it has been a pleasure to work with you; enjoy your retirement.

In addition to Skattar's retirement, Charles Hallett also decided to take a new step in his professional life by joining the wastewater division of Zeebest plastics, a sewage system design, fabrication and installation company. After attending BCIT, Charles spent three years as an EHO in Whitecourt and the next 14 years with Health Canada in Edmonton. During this time, Charles has shared his public health knowledge with many EHOs and also devoted much of his time to act as a BOC examiner. Although I no longer hear his laugh each morning, I am fortunate to continue working with him as he installs systems in First Nations communities throughout Alberta.

There have also been additions to Health Canada. Joan and Brian Yee are pleased to welcome their second daughter Isabelle. She joined us on August 31. Congratulations.

Additionally, I married Lisa, my wonderful girlfriend of seven years on September 15th. So congratulations to her, as well. Ha.

I would also like to congratulate Simon Sihota, Acting Regional Environmental Health Manager and Chris Kelly, Acting Senior Environmental Health Officer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Elliott
Federal Zone Councillor



Southern Zone Report

Fall General Meeting – October 3, 2007

CHINOOK HEALTH

Inspectors in the Southern Zone had an exceptionally busy summer this year with holidays and vacation time in play. Chinook welcomes Pam Hodgkinson to the team for a fall student practicum placement.

Food Related Items

- An operator in Pincher Creek converted a bus into a "Burger Bus" and was selling burgers and other food items. The bus ended up being a stolen vehicle and was seized by the RCMP. The owner has since obtained another bus and is preparing burgers again.
- A multi-agency committee has been initiated in Lethbridge to conduct inspections of local night clubs, lounges and bars. Agencies include environmental health, fire inspection services, city police, development services, AGLC, etc.

Other Public Health Related Information

- September 13, 2007 - Chinook Health charged Nicole and Brian Vandenberg with several charges under the Public Health Act in regards to rental accommodations.
- Suspected norovirus outbreak at Waterton National Park – Parks Peace and Partnership Conference. A large number of delegates became ill during the duration of the event. This was an international conference and delegates from around the World were affected.
- Fire bans were in effect for a good portion of the summer months. Campgrounds and other facilities could not be inspected during that time. Further, water was an issue due to extreme heat and low precipitation. Well water quality decreased significantly.
- Bed bugs complaints in regards to rental accommodations in the Region have increased dramatically over the summer months.

Staff Related Information

- Our two summer students are now working full time in our Region and will sit the BOCs this October. Gaileen Williamson is stationed out of the Lethbridge Office and Dan Vujevic is stationed out of the Cardston Office.
- Mike Swystun and Sean Robison both turned the magic 30 this year!! Here's to their next 30 years!

PALLISER HEALTH REGION

Water and housing related issues continue to be high demand in the Palliser Health Region.

Miscellaneous Information

- The department has now moved to the new location in the penthouse suite of the River Heights Professional Centre – Suite 200 88 Valleyview Drive SW Medicine Hat T1A 8N6. All of the phone numbers remain the same with the exception of reception which is now (403) 502-8205.

Staff Related Information

- Larry Butts will be coming out of retirement to work two days a week starting in October.
- Kristen Dykstra is completing her practicum in the Region and will be sitting the BOC in Spring 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Hohne
Southern Zone Councilor

Alberta Branch Corresponding Member to the BOC Report
Fall Meeting
October 4, 2007

The following is an update on BOC activity:

Examination

- In September, Dale Nelson and I sat on the expert panel that selects the exam questions for the October 2007 oral examination. The panel audits the questions and answers that will be used in the examination. The exams are scenario based and are designed to evaluate the candidate's knowledge and problem solving skills at an entry level to the field of environmental health.
- As you are aware, the passing score of the oral exam was increased from 60% to 70% starting with the April 2006 exam. The pass mark of 70% was evaluated by the BOC during their meeting in June (the failure rate of the past two exams was higher than historical averages). The evaluation included analysis of the questions being used, the question format and pass mark requirement. The evaluation also included a survey of different stakeholder groups regarding setting the pass mark at 60%, 65% or 70%. The percentage of responses received from stakeholders was very high. The majority (75%) of respondents (especially CIPHI members) were in favour of retaining the pass mark at 70%. The BOC concluded that they are on the right track with the changes made to enhance the National Exam process and that the membership had spoken strongly on retaining the 70% pass mark.
- The written report component of the exam will likely be reviewed this winter. Concerns have been raised regarding the written report process in regards that it may not accurately reflect the written skills required of PHI's and does not guarantee standardized grading.
- Examiner training in each province (including Alberta) through a train the trainer process or other alternative was raised at the BOC meeting in June (as requested at our AGM this past Spring). More frequent training in the provinces (assessed by local branch needs) and an on-line examiner training program for the CIPHI website will be pursued.
- To assist schools in assessing their environmental health program, feedback will be provided to each school regarding the results of the different question components. For example, X% passed the food component, X% passed the communicable disease component etc. The information will not contain information about the individual candidates, but will reflect the overall mark achieved by the candidates from each school on each exam component.

Practicum

- To improve practicum consistency, practicum guidelines have been developed. This has been a major project for me. The guideline is designed for coordinators, mentors and the trainee. I'm hoping that training agencies will find the document to be comprehensive. It includes training hours for the various components of the 12-week practicum, examples of mock oral questions and a new proposed trainee evaluation

form. Feedback on the evaluation form and the document is greatly appreciated. The document is available on the BOC Web page.

Board Membership Terms

- Board membership was reviewed with the NEC. The current list of Board members contains many positions that are inactive (primarily, provincial corresponding members and some branch corresponding members from the smaller branches). The Board would like a membership that is active and functional. The Board recommended a maximum membership list of 16. The list would consist of 3 sitting members that are all PHIs (including the chair), 5-8 members from the Branches (BC, AB, MB, ON and 1-3 from Atlantic Canada to represent NS, NB, NL with preference given to exam coordinators), 2 members appointed by the NEC, 1 member from the CDN Forces and 2 non-PHIs (ie MOH or other appropriate professional). The list is similar to the current membership list but it would formalize the relationship with the branches (BC, AB and ON are already active members) and the CDN Forces (active member with no official relationship with the Board). I support the proposed list but would limit the Atlantic Branch representation to one rotational member from their 3 branches (their Branches are very small and the expense associated with travel from the Maritimes is significant). Provincial corresponding representation is very inactive and is not required. We have other methods of communicating with the provinces.

Concordia

- Concordia's Environmental Health Program received their accreditation review in July.

Finally, I would like to let my name stand for one final term as the AB Branch Corresponding Member to the BOC. It has been rewarding to work with the Board in becoming a more professional body and significantly improving the certification process of our valued certificate. I would like to transition the position to Dale Nelson over the next term. I believe this works well given that we work in the same office and he will be an excellent addition to the Board and representative of the AB Branch.

Respectfully submitted,

Peer Mikkelsen

**Membership Committee Report
Fall General Meeting - October 4, 2007**

Membership numbers continue to increase. Membership numbers as of September were as follows:

Zone	Affiliate	Fraternal	Corporate	Life	Regular	Retired	Student	Total
Arctic	0	0	0	0	9	0	0	9
Calgary	2	1	0	0	51	3	2	59
Capital	1	0	0	0	65	2	13	81
Central	0	0	0	1	24	1	0	26
Federal	0	0	1	0	11	0	0	12
Northern	0	0	0	0	27	0	1	28
Southern	0	0	0	1	14	1	3	18
Total	3	1	1	2	201	7	19	234

Congratulations to the winners of the membership raffle at the Spring General Meeting. The winners of a free membership were Doug Everett, Ron Pillidge, Scott Budgell, Subhendra Dharampaul, and Kori Woodard. Ed Gee won a free membership to the NEC to be held next spring in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Once again we will be having a membership raffle. See your zone councilor to purchase tickets. The last day to purchase tickets is Feb. 29, 2008. The draw will be made at the spring general meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Herridge
Alberta Branch Membership Committee Chairperson