

February 4, 2008

Hon. Dave Hancock
Minister, Alberta Health and Wellness
#224 Legislature Building
10800 97 Ave
Edmonton, AB
Canada T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Hancock:

RE: Alberta Infection Prevention and Control Strategy and Alberta Hand Hygiene Strategy

On behalf of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI) we would like to commend the Government of Alberta for their recent release of strategies concerning infection prevention and control as well as hand hygiene. As an organization that represents professionals who work to protect the health of Canadians on a daily basis, we believe that both of these strategies are extremely timely.

As such, we would like to remind stakeholders of the important role that Environmental Public Health Professionals (EPHPs), such as Environmental Health Officers and Public Health Inspectors, can play to ensure the long-term success of these strategies. Our members have long been involved in promoting, advocating and regulatory enforcement as it pertains to hand hygiene and infection control practices in Alberta through their appointments as Executive Officers within the Regional Health Authorities.

To conclude, please find enclosed a copy of our issued Position Statement with regards to the two strategies. Our document can also be found on our website at www.ciphi.ab.ca. If you require further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us at (780)907-8698 or via email at president@ciphi.ab.ca.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phi Phan".

Phi Phan, BSc, CPHI(C)
President