



AR61978

ALBERTA
HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Office of the Minister

JUL 15 2008

Mr. Phi Phan
President
Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors
PO Box 1674
Drumheller, Alberta
T0J 0Y0

Dear Mr. Phan:

I received your June 12, 2008 letter regarding the shortage of public health inspectors in Alberta and I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

I agree with your statement that health protection is one of the cornerstones of public health. I also acknowledge the valuable contribution of public health professionals, including public health inspectors and the role they play in the prevention of disease and injury in the first place. I believe that prevention of ill-health is vital to the sustainability of Alberta's public health care system.

I encourage all health protection stakeholders, including CIPHI Alberta, to assess their current practices and to determine if innovative measures can be taken to respond to the pressures on the system. I encourage us all, government and non-government alike, to critically evaluate what we have been doing in the past and then determine if these practices will serve us well in the future. If they will not, then we must improve.

You can remain confident that Alberta Health and Wellness is committed to the prevention of disease and injury as a key element in sustaining the health delivery system of Alberta and in maintaining the health of Albertans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Liepert".

Ron Liepert
Minister of Health and Wellness