July 2015

Dear Mayor

Re: Environmental Public Health Week 2015

On behalf of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI), I am writing to request that you proclaim the week of September 21-25, 2015 as Environmental Public Health Week in your municipality. Celebrated for the past 12 years, Environmental Public Health Week recognizes the important work that Environmental Public Health Professionals (EPHPs) such as Public Health Inspectors, Environmental Health Officers and other allied environmental public health occupations across Canada carry out in our communities. The week is also an opportunity to improve awareness of our profession within the public health family and amongst the general public.

This year’s theme is “Looking Back, Moving Forward; Building on a 100 years of success”. EPHPs are health advocates; promoting public health in its broadest form. Public health is influenced by many factors outside of the health care system and responding to a society’s changing needs is vital when preparing to face the future. New challenges to public health emerge all of the time and a strong system is built both on its past successes and the reduction of the burden of illness in the near and distant future.

Within the Canadian spectrum of health care, EPHPs are an integral and important component. The opportunity for health begins where we live, work and play. Public health advances such as safer and healthier foods, control of infectious diseases, healthier environments and the recognition of tobacco use as a health hazard have contributed significantly to Canadians living longer. The commitment and leadership in activities that address the broad determinants of health has never been stronger.

EPHPs work within federal, provincial and local governments, First Nation Tribal Councils and also within the private sector. We are involved in inspection, enforcement and education in a wide range of programs and services, including but not limited to: food safety, recreational water, healthcare and childcare facilities, personal service settings, drinking water systems, land use planning, sewage system evaluation, air quality analysis, radon strategies, school safety and the implementation of controls on disease and health hazards.

In recognition of the important role of EPHPs have in protecting the health of the public, we respectfully request that you join us by officially proclaiming September 21 to 25, 2015 as Environmental Public Health Week within your municipality.

Thank you for your assistance in making this initiative a success. If you should require further information please contact me at president@ciphi.bc.ca or 250-719-6500

Sincerely,

Crystal Brown
CIPHI BC Branch President CPHI(C)