

# **Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors Retirees Advisory Committee Report to the 2020 Annual General Meeting**

## **Introduction:**

The Retirees Advisory Committee (Committee) was established in September 2005 as a joint project of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI) and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) to address the need for qualified public health inspectors to deal with potential public health emergencies; determine a framework to serve as a tool to enhance the public health system capacity; and, serve as a pilot for the establishment of retiree committee in other health disciplines. The experience and corporate knowledge of retired public health inspectors is considered an asset to the future planning of public health initiatives.

## **Mandate:**

The mandate of the Retirees Advisory Committee is to act as counsel to the CIPHI National Executive Committee (NEC) on issues related to public health capacity:

- Deliver public health services in times of a public health emergencies.
- Identify needs, promote, mentor and champion initiatives within the profession of public health inspectors and future committees of retired public health professionals.
- Support the vision, mission, and values of CIPHI.

## **Responsibilities:**

The Committee members are available to provide guidance, assistance, and advice on public health issues to the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. The Committee functions as a working and/or task group and an advisory body. Working and or task groups will be formed as necessary at the request of the CIPHI NEC through the chair of the Retirees Advisory Committee. All requests for involvement or participation of the Retirees Advisory Committee shall be made through and approved by the office of the National CIPHI President.

## **Committee Representatives:**

The following members as of September 1, 2020, represent the Branches and the Federal Government:

Name	Province
Calvin Morgan, Patrick Murray	Newfoundland and Labrador
Mark Durkee	Nova Scotia
Leonard Gallant	Prince Edward Island
(vacancy)	New Brunswick
(vacancy)	Quebec
Pamela Scharfe (Chair), (vacancy)	Ontario
Bernie Chrisp, Lesley Andrews	Manitoba
Yvonne Graff, Russell Scott	Saskatchewan
Nelson Fok, Tony Mak	Alberta
Maxine Marchenski, (vacancy)	British Columbia
Peter Rogers, (vacancy)	Federal Government

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There are current opportunities for representatives for the provinces of NB, QC, ON, BC and Federal Government. The Chair has reached out to the CIPHI Branches to assist with recruitment.

Since the last CIPHI AGM the Retirees Advisory Committee extends our thanks for their commitment and bid farewell to:

- Mary Cahill, NL
- Jim McCorry NS
- Doug Terry, SK
- William Chrapko, AB
- Ken Christian, BC
- Charlie Young, BC

The Committee also welcomed the following retired CPHI(C)s:

- Patrick Murray, NL
- Russel Scott, SK
- Nelson Fok, AB
- Tony Mak, AB
- Maxine Marchenski, BC

## **Remembering Charlie Young, CPHI(C):**



Committee member, Charlie Young was a long-time colleague, teacher and friend who died on August 10, 2020 after a brief battle with cancer. Charlie was a gentleman who was always the first to offer help for the betterment of our profession. He had such a positive and supportive attitude and was an absolute pleasure to work with and his passing will be a great loss to CIPHI. Charlie had a very distinguished career and was a CIPHI member for 58 years.

Below is a brief overview of his career and incredible commitment to our profession:

- graduated from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute (1961)
- received his certification No. 1938 in 1962
- started his career with City of Toronto Public Health and was ON Branch Councillor and served as Branch Secretary
- lived and worked in Kingston, ON
- moved to BC and became a member of the BC Branch where he was Corresponding Member for the Board of Certification, Branch Secretary and Vice President
- 1972 Charlie became a faculty instructor at BCIT for the public health inspection program
- 1975 he accepted the position of Director of Environmental and Public Health in North Shore Public Health Dept
- 1982 he went back to teaching at BCIT

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- Charlie developed a 3-year postsecondary environmental health program for Malaysia's health inspectors
- 1986 he was hired to produce a food safety program for EXPO 86 which was titled FOOD SAFE and that program while updated still exists today
- founding member of CIPHI's Charitable Division (1989) The Environmental Health Foundation of Health was a Board Trustee and held the position of Secretary for 10 years
- 1986 & 1991 he received the CIPHI BC Branch Member of the Year award
- 1992 NEHA Life Member Award
- 2000 CIPHI National Alex Cross award
- 2000 recipient along with Tim Roark the Environmental Health Review award for the educational videos Septic System Maintenance Pure & Simple and Groundwater Protection produced by The Environmental Health Foundation of Canada
- 2001 he received the CIPHI National Presidents award
- was National CIPHI President 2002-2004 and Past President for 2004-2006
- 2002 he received the CIPHI BC Branch George Elliot award
- 2003 Charlie retired from BCIT but continued to teach part-time until 2006
- Charlie received the CIPHI National highest honour of Life Member for his service to the Institute, his profession and to his community over an extended period
- 2012 Charlie received the CIPHI National 50-year Membership award
- 2013 named one of 100 Members of Distinction for the 100th anniversary of CIPHI
- 2013 Charlie joined the CIPHI Retirees Advisory Committee and was a current member representing the BC Branch. During this time, he along with Pamela Scharfe partnered with the Spa Association of Canada to produce a quality assurance inspection program with requirements over and above what is required by local public health. Charlie also carried out inspections of spa association members in BC as part of the program.

## **Initiatives:**

**COVID-19 Pandemic Response:** Our Committee was formed as a joint project of CIPHI and the Public Health Agency of Canada to address public health emergencies and be in a position to connect with our CPHI(C) retirees who may be able to assist due to a public health surge capacity issue. The Committee extends our thanks to the founding members who had the foresight 25 years ago to prepare us for this moment.

On April 10, 2020, the Committee reached out to retirees on behalf of the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada (PHAC) and the CIPHI National Executive Committee (NEC). This was to inform retirees who may not be signed up for the CIPHI Listserv to share the correspondence from the PHAC call for volunteers. The letter outlined the process of recruiting staff in response to the first wave of COVID-19 infections and to connect volunteers with Federal and Provincial public health officials to carry out rigorous contact tracing around the cases of COVID-19. We also asked retirees to forward to any retiree colleagues they are in contact with as it is better to receive information more than once than not at all.

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**Retiree Contact Directory:** The Committee continues to maintain and update a list of retirees and as part of the PHAC request also asked that retirees provide us with their most up-to-date contact information in addition to email to ensure our files are up-to-date for retirees who are not retired members of CIPHI. We receive an annual retiree membership list from the CIPHI Office to update our retiree directory.

**CIPHI Board of Certification Exams:** The Committee discussed during our March 2st teleconference meeting, the postponement of the April 2020 BOC exams and how retirees could assist to fill any examiner vacancies during times like a pandemic and during normal times as examiners, back-up for examiners who have to cancel at the last minute and to assist the Exam Coordinator on the day of the exam. Our concern was if public health continues to be challenged and surge capacity is an issue in the fall, the BOC may face not having enough examiners. We also discussed ways that recent retirees who have not received the required BOC examiner training could be trained through webinar coordinated by the Retirees Advisory Committee and the Board of Certification.

Through communication between the RAC Chair and the BOC Chair there is recognition that when a CIPHI member retires the profession loses a wealth of knowledge and experience. The BOC have added a clause to their policies to allow former BOC members to help the Board with projects for up to three years after they leave the Board. Given how small our organization is it does not make sense not to utilize retiree expertise. The two Committee chairs plan to continue discussions on this initiative.

**Senator Forum Newsletter:** A 2019/2020 newsletter will be posted on the CIPHI Listserv this fall. The Committee extends our thanks to long-time Editor of the *Senator Forum*, Jim McCorry who stepped down from the Committee earlier this year.

**Terms of Reference:** This fall the Committee will begin work reviewing the Terms of Reference with specific attention paid to:

- **Membership** – length of terms of members and the Chair
- **Accountability** – develop a long-term strategic plan that includes an annual review of priorities

**Letters of Congratulations for Retirees and Letters of Condolences:** The Committee continues to send out on behalf of the Branches and the NEC letters and appreciate the information that continues to be provided by the Branches. Details should be emailed to the Chair, Pamela Scharfe at [ciphiretireeschair@gmail.co](mailto:ciphiretireeschair@gmail.co). Committee member Yvonne Graff, SK has taken on the responsibility of sending out letters which was previously carried out by William Chrapko.

This information of those who have died is also shared with the National CIPHI Office to assist with the preparation of an “In Memoriam” list to be included in the AGM binder. The Committee continues to volunteer to produce a power point presentation to be shown during “In Memoriam” portion of the AGM of photos of CPHI(C)s that have died to assist with memorializing them.

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**Email Address:** A dedicated email address [ciphiretireschair@gmail.com](mailto:ciphiretireschair@gmail.com) has been created for the Committee which can be utilized by future Chairs.

**Facebook Page:** The Committee have created a dedicated Facebook group (by invitation) [CPHI\(C\) Retirees](#) for those retirees interested in networking with retired CPHI(C)s. Also, for the Committee to use to request contact information on CPHI(C)s that we have lost contact with and to promote retired membership in CIPHI.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Pamela L. Scharfe*

Pamela L. Scharfe, CPHI(C)  
Chair,  
Retirees Advisory Committee