A Message From the President

Summer has finally come and gone to the prairies and the temperatures are pushing the mercury way up into the 30’s. That’s the amazing thing about Saskatchewan weather throughout the year, we use all the numbers plus and minus on your average thermometer, sometimes within the same week.

The SK Branch is very busy putting the final touches on the fall 2005 Branch Educational In-Service, which will coincide with the new Saskatchewan Private Sewage Disposal Guide. The SK Branch again will partner with Sask. Health to deliver this information to all PHI’s in Sask. Members and non-members will be attending the week long educational opportunity and be updated on the newest sewage systems. I would like to thank Tim Macaulay of Sask. Health, Ryan Philipation the Continuing Educational Chair, Dwayne Djkowich – Saskatoon Health Region/Alberta liaison, and the Sask. Sewage Committee for making this all possible. It was a cooperative effort and all will benefit greatly from this educational opportunity.
A Massage From the President Con’t

Jacqualine Treen the SK Branch Newsletter Editor rolled out the first issue of the reinstated Branch Newsletter and received the deserved accolades. Great work and we all look forward to upcoming issues.

All PHI’s are again busy with West Nile surveillance within the province. It seems our cousins to the East and West want to share all their extra mosquitoes with us this year. Saskatchewan has experienced perfect weather to produce not only wheat but a bumper crop of mosquitoes this year. West Nile expert Mr. Phil Curry predicts from information being gathered province wide the number of mosquitoes will be subsequently higher than experienced in 2003 and 2004. To give you an idea of these numbers, in Southeast and South central Sask. the week ending July 16th in one night’s collection from one trap 63,801 mosquitoes were captured. Deet sales are up and PHI’s are doing an excellent job gathering information. To date no confirmed cases of human cases West Nile exist.

PHI’s in Saskatchewan continue to enforce/educate the public on the newly instituted Tobacco Act. Enforcement of no smoking within enclosed public places continues to be on the agenda however with the coming of summer and the availability to smoke on outside decks compliance is increasing. Time will tell come the colder weather.

The 2006 Conference Committee is right on tract with the outline in the Conference Binder. I have to thank all the dedicated Members who are giving their spare time to make the 2006 AEC a great success. This should prove to be a very successful and well-attended educational event. I have had many emails already from PHI’s asking about various places to visit while in Sask. And yes Corner Gas will be open and filming will be taking place during the months of June to September.

I invite all to mark their calendars and plan to attend the 2006 Annual Educational Conference in Regina.

The SK Branch is offering monies to Members to attend the 2005 AEC in Toronto. The 2006 AEC Committee will be sending a delegation to Toronto to pick up some pointers and to advertise our Branches conference. At this time I must thank all the help and support I am getting from the Toronto AEC Committee – Mike and Suzie you’re fantastic. Also I’d like to thank all the Branches for their information and help. I have an excellent and dedicated Co-Chair in Rob Schuba without him I’d be floundering. Truth be told he is doing the majority of the work, with some help from me. Thanks Rob and keep up the good work. PLEASE!

I hope everyone a safe and sunny summer and safe travels to Toronto to attend the 2005 Annual Educational Conference.

Ken Cross
SK Branch President

MEET THE CONFERENCE ‘06 COMMITTEE
Rob Schuba/Ken Cross – Co Chairs
Sponsors – Dwayne Djkowich
Education – Yvonne Graff
Finance – Ron Belak
Social – Michael McCann
Publications – Jacqueline Treen
**THE MAK ATTACK**

What does a community yard cleanup have to do with good health?

It’s simple, says Derrick Mooney, public health inspector for Sun Country Regional Health Authority, “beautiful communities prevent the spread of disease and injury.”

A cleanup competition provides motivation for members of the community to remove eyesores like abandoned vehicles, derelict buildings and overgrown weeds. “Although they are often viewed as a scar on the image of a community, those things are also places that shelter vermin and cause injuries to children,” Mooney says.

Second, a competition encourages community pride. With declining rural populations and disappearing small towns, communities that have been cared for are good for the morale and mental health of their citizens.

“It is quite reasonable to suggest that beautiful communities may help morale and mental health in small town Saskatchewan. Beautiful communities motivate people to be a little more happy/content with their lives,” says Mooney.

Those are the some of the reasons public health inspectors encourage competitions - like the 13-year-old rivalry called the MAK Attack between Manor, Arcola and Kisbey. The contest was initiated by Public Health Inspection staff and is judged by a Public Health Inspector and volunteers from neutral communities.

This year, on June 17, Kisbey won the MAK Attack trophy. But the judges said it was a shame they could only pick one winner. All three communities showed strong participation from residents, businesses, service clubs, churches, schools and town employees.

The smaller communities had a tougher time because there are more vacant lots and abandoned houses but they managed to turn vacant lots into neatly mowed parks. Neighbors or town employees mowed lawns on most abandoned homes, plus the number of abandoned vehicles has steadily declined over the past few years. “This has benefited the community by reducing harbors for skunks, rats and other vermin,” replied Mooney.

> Equally important, even though there has been above average rain this year, there were no noticeable ponds, bird baths, water-filled eves troughs or other standing water sites that could become mosquito-breeding places and carry the West Nile virus, he said.

The award was presented at a luncheon hosted by last year’s winner, the Town of Arcola. About 30 guests were present including the mayors, administrators, town employees and some enthusiastic residents from each community.

Derrick Mooney
Sun Country Health Region
MEET THE STAFF OF THE KELSEY TRAIL HEALTH REGION

Doug Terry is the Director of the Environmental Health Program. Doug graduated from BCIT and he started his career in Melfort in 1973 as a district inspector. Doug was a student member of CIPHI and has continued his membership ever since, serving as President for the SK Branch for two terms, Certification Board Examiner, Board Trustee of the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada and member of the BCIT Environmental Health Advisory Committee. Doug is married to Rose, and they have one daughter Sandra. Doug is a third term City Alderman and enjoys his cottage, sailing, motorcycling and his granddaughter Alix.

Bill Tyckon graduated from Ryerson in 1981 and has been a district inspector serving Tisdale and area ever since. Bill is a member of CIPHI. Bill and his wife, Lorraine, have three children, Paul, Laura, and Allison. His son Paul has just recently been accepted into the Environmental Health Program in Regina and will begin his studies this fall. Bill enjoys golf and gardening in his spare time.

Mike Hayduk graduated from BCIT in 1997 and started working as a district inspector serving Nipawin and area in 1998. Mike is a member of CIPHI. Mike is married to Brenda, and they have two children, Riley and Alesha. Mike enjoys golf, baseball and parenting.

Ryan Philipation graduated from BCIT in 1998 and started working as a district inspector serving Melfort and area ever since. Ryan has been a CIPHI member since 1998 and has been working as a councilor with the SK Branch since 2000. Ryan is also the SK Branch CIPHI Board of Certification Rep. Ryan is married to Lana, and they have just recently finished building their first home. Ryan enjoys hockey, baseball and biking.
A health inspector shows up at the Krusty Krab Restaurant, and while he is there, SpongeBob and Mr. Krabs see a newscast about a guy passing himself off as a health inspector to get free food. Mr. Krabs is so mad that he and SpongeBob make a Krabby Patty made with a bunch of nasty things. After it is served to the inspector - who for some reason is taste testing everything on the menu - he unceremoniously chokes on a fly and the two think he died from the patty. "Oh no! We killed the health inspector," they exclaim with great remorse. However, the inspector is merely comatose from slipping and falling against one of the tables. They later find out that he was a real health inspector, and that the imposter was caught. Now, what will SpongeBob and Mr. Krabs do with the "dead" health inspector? Oh... the suspense!

(This episode aired on March 1st, 2002)

Ryan Decker will be graduating from Cape Breton University in April, 2006, and was receiving a Saskatchewan Health Bursary from 2002 – 2004. Ryan signed a 1 year contract with the Kelsey Trail Health Region, and will be stationed in Nipawin upon graduation.

Dawn Myrheim is the Water Monitor for the Kelsey Trail Health Region. Dawn has been in this position since 2003. Dawn is married to Mark and they have three sons, Dylan, Logan and Kaden. Dawn enjoys being outside camping, golfing and doing yard work.
A Fact In History

1893 -- "Shadows from the Walls of Death, or Arsenical Wall-papers" is published in Michigan. Putting arsenic in wallpaper made a vivid green color, but it also was poisonous. The Michigan board of health, as part of its investigation, published a book of wallpaper samples and distributed it to libraries. Unfortunately, the book of samples itself caused poisoning when patrons simply thumbed through their copies. Although laws against dangerous colorants were common in Europe, industries in America claimed that the concept of public health regulation flew in the face of liberty. From the first proposals by public health advocates dating from 1872, states began passing laws limiting the amount of arsenic in wallpaper in 1900. (Shattuck, 1893, quoted in Whorton, 1974).

Thought:

Change is inevitable, Growth is Optional!

PHI GRAPEVINE

Congratulations to Kari and who got married on July 30th up in Prince Albert. May you both share a lifetime of love, health and happiness.

Welcome Aboard!!
Ryan Decker who signed on with Kelsey Trail for 1 year.
Miranda Young joins the Cypress Health Region for training all the way from Sydney, Nova Scotia.
Bill Tyckon (PHI in Melfort) is pleased to announce that his son Paul is entering into studies at the U of R -First Nations University of Canada, in the Environmental Health Sciences Program. Paul is 22 years old. He has been awarded a Saskatchewan Health Bursary as well as a Health Sciences Bursary. Following Graduation Paul will be seeking employment in the Province as part of his bursary commitment.

For other merchandise check our SK website at http://www.ciphi-sk.ca/
Contact Mike McCann at 766-7716
All purchases help to support our SK Branch.
A Saskatchewan Landscape

Assiniboine River Valley south of Canora, Submitted by John Gaudry

A Note From The Editor

Jacqueline Treen

I want to start off by saying Thank You to all who have sent articles, updates, pictures or other material for our Newsletter. It is appreciated very much and helps keeps everybody informed.

I think we are all relieved to say good-bye to outdoors pools, campgrounds and various other summertime inspections, and now it is time to shift gears and catch up on all of our other work! But none the less, it is important to keep our close communications, and therefore our newsletter is here to help assist.

So far, the electronic SK Branch Newsletter is getting a very positive response. I also sit on an editorial committee for the electronic National CIPHI Newsletter and have been getting great reviews. We are very proud of the progress and ongoing improvements in our profession.

The next SK Branch Newsletter will be out just before Christmas, so deadlines for submissions will be December 1st, or if you have any comments or suggestions, please contact me at 778-5198 or Jackie.treen@cypressrha.ca. Thanks.