

January 19, 2008

To: Environmental Public Health Professionals

**RE: CIPHI ANNOUNCES ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK 2009**

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On behalf of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI) I am pleased to announce the launch of Environmental Public Health Week 2009. Each year during the third week of January, our organization celebrates the work and dedication of Environmental Public Health Professionals across the country by asking its members to draw attention to the contributions that PHIs make to their communities. This is our opportunity to make the Canadians aware of the ways in which you and your colleagues have risen to the challenge to keep the general public, their neighbours and families safe and healthy on a daily basis.

Your CIPHI National Executive Committee (NEC) has been working diligently to meet the challenges that our growing membership has generated. 2008 was a very productive year for the NEC; your Executive coordinated a complete change in administrative support, continued development of a Pan-Canadian Core Competencies project which includes a nearly finalized draft of Discipline Specific Competencies. Another key initiative that will be unveiled and implemented at the end of January is the much anticipated membership database, officially named The Member Service Centre. The Member Service Centre will be the on-line environment where CIPHI members can undertake such tasks as renew their membership and register for conferences and events, all with the convenience of an online payment option. As well as expediting registrations and payments, this new service will enable the organization to easily distribute information concerning your career as well as maintain and manage continuing education updates.

The Member Service Centre can be introduced thanks to five years' worth of hard work by the National Executive Council and the devotion of numerous CIPHI volunteers; the result is a major step forward for the profession of Environmental Public Health. It is our vision that the Member Service Centre will improve service to all our members and that it will enable CIPHI to analyze and aggregate workforce statistics like never before.

More details will be made available ahead of the official launch of the Member Service Centre, and the NEC office staff will provide the required support to guide our members through this new and exciting transition.

If there is one crucial action that you as members can take in recognition of Environmental Public Health Week 2009, it is to renew your membership! Lead by example in taking an active role in the advancement of our profession through your support of CIPHI, and seize all opportunities to promote the benefits of our organization to those colleagues who have let their membership lapse. Remember - supporting CIPHI is supporting the advancement of our profession!

Enjoy Environmental Public Health Week 2009!



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