

CIPHI – BC Branch  
c/o Richmond Health Department  
Environmental Health Division  
7000 Westminster Highway  
Richmond, BC V6X 1A2

November 23, 2004

Sewerage Regulation Steering Committee

Dear Committee Members:

**RE: Inclusion of Public Health Inspector/Environmental Health Officers as “Authorized Persons”**

First I would like to thank John Rowse and the Regulation Steering Committee for inviting the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI) to the upcoming meeting scheduled for December 1<sup>st</sup>. Our organization was disappointed at not being involved in the process from the start, but is glad to have this opportunity to present an issue which impacts our members.

The issue that I wish to discuss is with the omission of PHI/EHO's as “*authorized persons*” under the proposed regulation. Our profession has and still does play a major role in the approval of sewerage systems throughout BC. As the enforcement officers of the current regulation, our members must have complete technical knowledge of sewerage systems from their design, installation, and maintenance.

So, our argument is, why are only *registered practitioners* and *professionals* recognized as qualified individuals to design, install, and maintain these systems. Has the criteria changed from yesterday to today, that would exclude our members?

It is CIPHI's position that the regulation be amended to include holders of a Certificate in Public Health Inspection (Canada) as an “*authorized person*”, alongside *registered practitioners* and *professionals*. Furthermore, I would recommend that holders of a Certificate in Public Health Inspection (Canada) hold a valid B.C. Certificate of Registration issued by the Board of Registration of CIPHI, which holds members to a professional code of ethics (attached).

I would argue that our educational background exceeds the basic requirements to design systems under the new regulation. Members graduating from Environmental Health Degree programs are equally, if not better trained, in soil analysis, sewerage system design, and maintenance than those attending a 1½ week certification course held at Royal Roads University.

For example, the following courses are part of the current Environmental Health Program curriculum at BCIT:

- ENVH 1210 Soils (15 weeks)
- ENVH 1220 Hydrogeology (15 weeks)
- ENVH 2210 Sewage Disposal Methods (15 weeks)
- ENVH 3250 Land Use (10 weeks)





It is clear that members of CIPHI have the history, expertise and knowledge base to not only enforce the Sewerage Regulation, but also act in the same capacity as a *registered practitioner* or *professional*.

Respectfully,

Steve Chong  
BC Branch President

Att.

**Code of Ethics** - As a Member of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, I acknowledge:

That I have an obligation to the sciences and arts for the advancement of public health. I will uphold the standards of my profession, continually search for truths, and disseminate my findings; and I will strive to keep myself fully informed of the developments in the field of Public Health.

That I have an obligation to the public whose trust I hold and I will endeavour, to the best of my ability, to guard their interests honestly and wisely. I will be loyal to the government division or industry by which I am retained.

That the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition.

That being loyal to my profession, I will uphold the constitution and By-laws of the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors and will, at all times, conduct myself in a manner worthy of my profession.

My signature hereon constitutes a realization of my personal responsibility to actively discharge these obligations.

\* Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Date: \_\_\_\_\_



