President's Message

In the winter edition of the *Environmental Health Review* the Editor's Message contained a statement on the importance of sharing stories about environmental public health practices as "this increases the knowledge level of all involved and can help shape future environmental public health practice." This is undeniably true and it certainly underscores the importance of maintaining our professional journal. It is also an important message coming at a time when other traditional ways of knowledge sharing become more challenging to maintain. The CIPHI Annual Education Conference is becoming increasingly difficult to sustain in its traditional format and more innovative options are currently being explored. There is also a review underway of allowing greater accessibility for members to participate in the CIPHI Annual General Meeting through an electronic meeting format, a method that has already been implemented by a number of CIPHI Branches. I encourage any innovators out there to share your ideas on how CIPHI can continue to educate, inform, and engage in our institute and the profession effectively.

On the same vein, "Innovation Beyond Inspection" is the theme for the 2016 Annual Education Conference in

Edmonton and it's a good choice. The general definition of "innovation" is a change in the way of doing something that has a positive outcome. The conference sessions and technical tours will focus on new and emerging challenges to traditionally encountered environmental public health issues and get us thinking about how we can or must change what we do to create or influence a positive public health outcome. Healthy built environments, new food processing methods, marijuana in food, new invasive body procedures, and on-line food sales are just a few examples of the issues we have in common. I hope many of you will be able to join us at the conference held on 25–28 September 2016.

Please remember you can access the CIPHI webpage www.ciphi.ca for events, member notices, and information related to the activities of CIPHI National Executive Council, Board of Certification, Council of Professional Experience, and the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada.

I wish you all a leisurely and safe summer wherever your travels take you.

Ann Thomas, CPHI (C)
National President, CIPHI