

## City Proclaims Environmental Public Health Week

**Parksville, BC** – Mayor Marc Lefebvre has proclaimed the week of September 25 to September 29 as "*Environmental Public Health Week*" in the City of Parksville.

Celebrated for the past 14 years, Environmental Public Health Week recognizes the important work that Environmental Public Health Professionals (EHPs) such as public health inspectors, environmental health officers and other allied environmental public health occupations across Canada carry out in our communities. The week is also an opportunity to improve awareness of our profession within the public health family and amongst the general public.

This year's theme is "Honouring Traditions, Inspiring Innovation," which acknowledges the previous traditions in the environmental public health field, while highlighting the advances made in both procedures and technologies in public health. It is important to recognize the significance of past public health practices and use this knowledge for the future of environmental public health.

Within the Canadian spectrum of health care, environmental public health professionals are an integral and important component. Public health advances such as safer and healthier foods, control of infectious diseases, healthier environments and the recognition of tobacco use as a health hazard have contributed significantly to Canadians living longer.

Environmental public health professionals are employed by federal, provincial and local governments, First Nation Tribal Councils and also within the private sector and are involved in the inspection, enforcement and education of a wide range of programs and services, including but not limited to food premises, recreational water, healthcare, childcare facilities, personal services, drinking water systems, land use, sewage systems, air quality, institutions and the control of health hazards within the community

Mayor Marc Lefebvre said, "The valuable inspection and education services provided by environmental public health professionals in our community help our residents stay safe and healthy. We are pleased to recognize the Environmental Public Health Week initiative."

More information about the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors can be found on their website at <http://www.ciphi.ca>.

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