



## **'Best wishes to you and your family' for the upcoming holiday season and 2014 New Year'...**

### **IFEH President Message**

*On behalf of the IFEH Council and Board of Directors including our President Elect, Regional Group Chairs, the Secretary and the Treasurer, I would like to wish all Council Members and our many partner Associations and their professional environment and health officers/practitioners, our members who are private consultants, our Sponsors, the Universities/academics and students and our many partners a Merry Xmas and Happy New Year from IFEH from Australia...remember while in some parts of the World it's snowing it's the hot season here in Queensland; it's 32 Degrees Celsius and we are all at the beach!*

Best wishes to our President Elect Henning Hansen for a busy year and the quality of our Website, to our Secretary Rod House and our long-serving Treasurer Stephen Cooper thanks to both of you for your efforts to maintain our Company requirements so efficiently. Thanks to all Board of Directors including Regional Chairs for your inputs and innovations this period. Special thanks to Graham Dukes, CEO of CIEH and our IFEH Company Secretary. I appreciate the efforts of EHA President, BOD and staff for supporting my Presidency.

**I can report we are a growing global organisation.** We have 42 full members, 6 Associate members, 23 Academic Associate Members, 40 individual members and many Students and Sponsors, and 5 very active and supportive IFEH Regional Groups. The Regional Groups of IFEH include Africa, the Americas, Europe (EFEH), Asia & the Pacific and the Middle East. The Board of Directors elaborated on the benefits of being a member of the IFEH in a recent document which targets all membership categories. We have significantly increased our membership and sponsorships in all categories. The IFEH congratulates CIPHI, The Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors as it has turned 100 years. This is truly a historic milestone in Canadian Public and Environmental Health.

IFEH progress comes from the inputs of our many volunteers, and each of our individual employers have enabled this process of volunteer engagement. For example, Griffith University, where I work provides this support. I have had the opportunity while teaching/researching to promote IFEH objectives while travelling in the Asia and Pacific Region - in Singapore, Malaysia and many Indonesian Provinces, Hong Kong/China, Japan and South Korea; and in other regions including South Africa- Kenya/Nairobi and SA/Durban and Latin America in several cities in Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico and Colombia. Environment and Public Health professionals are employed in most countries in quite similar roles; we have a common EH language across the Globe.

### **Strategic Progress in our Regions**

The Regional Groups are so important to our progress and I must thank all Regional Chairs for their hard work giving advice as Directors on the IFEH Board. Steve Cooper has worked with Croatia as one of our new members. The IFEH Europe Group - EFEH with leadership from the Regional Chair (and President Elect Henning Hansen) has recently been approved by IMPEL with 'observer member status'; a strategic outcome for IFEH. Our President Elect has presented at several OCED Congress on sustainability indicators and to promote IFEH objectives. IFEH is in communication with W.H.O. in several of their Regional Offices; W.H.O. representatives spoke highly of our organisations actions and outcomes in Vilnius last year at the 12 IFEH World Congress. Members interested in links to W.HO. could contact Dr Joshi Pranav our AP Regional Chair. Rasheed Ahmed, Middle East Regional Chair has expanded our influence in this area through enhancing our engagement in local conferences. Mel Knight Americas Regional Chair has extended our reach to Jamaica and we have new membership from Mexico. African Regional Group Chair Jerry Chaka continues to work hard for our cause.

### **World Environmental Health Day (WEHD) - 26 September 2013**

Congratulations to all our Members and Students around the Globe for your significant levels of input into activities focusing on the promotion and implementation of Environmental Health in connection with World Environmental Health Day (WEHD) - 26 September 2013; so many purposeful activities were implemented worldwide; too many to elaborate on, but I must congratulate Indonesia for all their efforts to kick-start this initiative in Bali in 2011, particularly our students from 6 Universities; students have planned and formed an International Student Special Interest Group which will interact within IFEH to our advantage (thks Yosi). This 'WEHD MOVEMENT' has grown exponentially and these activities bind us together as a diverse EH community both locally and globally.

### **12<sup>th</sup> IFEH World EH Congress attended in Vilnius**

What an informative high level 12<sup>th</sup> IFEH World EH Congress attended in Vilnius in 2012; I must thank all involved (President Victoria and Conference Convenor Andrius); the Conference Proceedings have been published.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> All African Congress in late 2012 in Durban**

Another highlight was to participate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> All African Congress in late 2012 in Durban (thanks to the African Regional Group Chair Jerry Chaka and President SAIEH Selva Mudaly); I must say the passion of EHOs across this Region continues to show the way forward and motivates all of us.

### **Accredited Short Course Training in Environmental Health and Disaster Management**

For the first time IFEH in 2012 offered International CDC (Centre for Diseases Control DC Atlanta) Accredited Short Course Training in Environmental Health and Disaster Management; with significant partnerships between IFEH/NEHA and CDC Atlanta and our Council Members. This initiative has been expanded to other regions/countries and to local communities/cities; we will increase our number of accredited trainers (thanks Martin Kalis, Tim Hatch and Ben Ryan) in the short-term and in our planning hope to offer more 2 day Courses (2012/13 in Brisbane and Kuching - thanks to the School of Environment at Griffith University and MEHA and Sarawak Institute and the Organiser - Director of Kuching Public Health College - Mr Niponi) and more 5 day Courses in (2013 Bali and Townsville, thanks to EHSAL and EHA). I am fully engaged in this initiative in both planning and teaching and can see IFEH positioning our Company as an International training organisation in partnership with our Members more often in the future. Planning in underway for courses in Redland City and Townville (for next 3 years) with EHA, in the UK, Denmark, New Zealand and Fiji in 2014 and South Africa 2015.

### **Scotland at our IFEH 2013 Council and BOD Meeting in May and the Roy Emerson Award**

IFEH met in Scotland hosted by REHAS for our 2103 Annual Meetings in Glasgow. Our Secretary Rod House arranged a great meeting for all. **The Roy Emerson Award** was established in Scotland to honour one of our founding fathers. Students who are affiliated with IFEH Member Countries or our Academic Association members are INVITED annually to submit a 2000-2500 Word Essay and accompanying power-point presentation on this year's theme: *"The Climate Change Challenge"... engaging the Environmental Health Practitioner*. The winner this year will be funded by IFEH to receive the prestigious Award in Las Vegas, USA and to present the Award Winning Essay as a Conference Presentation at the joint 13th IFEH World Congress/NEHA AEC Event from 7-10 July 2014. Bernard has resigned as Editor of the Newsletter; IFEH thanks Bernard for his work on the IFEH Newsletter over the many years.

***The 2014 International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) and the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) presents the 13th EH World Congress in partnership with the 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition July 7-10, 2014 in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.***

I'm looking forward to 2014; I INVITE you to attend our important global event when for the first time NEHA is hosting our IFEH World EH Congress. I travelled to Washington DC this year with Janet Russell President, Maurice Brennan and Peter Wright of CIEH to attend the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual NEHA Event and IFEH set up a Trade Display. Based on the success of this Conference and the warmth shown by NEHAs' President/Board/CEO and all participants (acknowledgments to the work of President Alicia Collins and CEO Nelson Fabian) the 2014 Event will be the EH highlight for the year ahead. Plenary, Break-out Lectures and simultaneous training and educational sessions will be offered at the conference covering over 20 different environmental health topics. The Congress offers two different types of learning environments at the AEC – Lecture and Learning Labs. Detailed information about the congress is posted on our site and at [neha2014aec.org](http://neha2014aec.org). The Conference will also have ON-LINE SESSIONS if you can't attend. IFEH will also host its Annual IFEH Council and Regional Group meetings, the IFEH AGM and host the IFEH International Faculty Forum for academics and students from 5 to 10 July 2014 during this Event. Special thanks to NEHA President Alicia, CEO Nelson, Conference Convenor Jill and Mel Knight, Americas Regional Chair.

## **Eric Foskett Award**

The prestigious Eric Foskett Award will be presented for the 8<sup>th</sup> time in Las Vegas next year. The award is presented at IFEH World Congresses. It is to be awarded to either an individual or an organisation. Recipients must have made a notable contribution to the work of the Federation by helping it to fulfil its aims and objectives.

## **IFEH has expanded our sponsorship base**

The Federation has received financial support in the form of a Bursary from Hedgerow Software Ltd of Canada. The Federation wishes to thank and recognize Hedgerow Software for their generous support in the creation and establishment of this Bursary; the agreed purpose of this funding is to support members from developing countries to attend IFEH Council Meetings and International Congress. Many thanks to our new sponsors and I must acknowledge Robert Bradbury our Immediate Past President for facilitating this partnership. Rob is also preparing a paper to explore other types/levels of sponsorship for IFEH, sponsorship is so important to our activities.

## **Events and Networking in the future....**

As I mentioned I'm looking forward to 2014. Please attend our important global event hosted by NEHA in partnership with the 13<sup>th</sup> IFEH World EH Congress. IFEH will also host its Annual IFEH Council and Regional Group Meetings, the IFEH AGM and host the IFEH International Faculty Forum for academics and students from 5 to 10 July 2014 in Las Vegas.

In 2015, IFEH will facilitate an International Faculty Forum International Conference and Student Conference in Portugal around the 26 September for WEHD hosted by Coimbra University and the Portuguese Society of Environmental Health, many thanks.

In 2016 we'll all be invited to Africa when Malawi will host the 14th IFEH World EH Congress, many thanks to the Malawi EH Association Members.

*In closing 'best wishes to you and your family' for the upcoming holiday season and New Year.*



**Dr Peter Davey FEHA**  
**President IFEH 2012 -2014**