

EHFC CONTINUING EDUCATION 2019 AWARD APPLICATION

I have been a working public health inspector since 1994 after graduating with my diploma from BCIT. In my 25 years of experience I have worked in a variety of capacities in public health throughout Alberta, Yukon and British Columbia. Prior to attending BCIT, I attended the University of Regina, but I had quit after two years of biology when they cancelled the laboratory technology program I wanted. I always regretted not finishing the degree.

While most employers acknowledge years of experience as a preference, when screening job applicants a lack of a degree, I believe has been an impediment to advancement. I have missed out on career opportunities and needed a change. A colleague mentioned to me that Cape Breton University offers a 12 course, Bachelor of Health Sciences degree program. So after some contemplation I set my sites on that goal, to finish the degree I started when I was 19.

The courses I have taken brought a fresh perspective and knowledge base through doing research for the courses. I completed several of the same course topics while attending BCIT but that was 25 years ago and much has changed. I found the courses personally interesting and they have updated my knowledge relating to emerging issues in public health.

I have just finished my last course, which was toxicology, and will be graduating this summer. I will be proudly posting my degree, framed and in my office for all to see. I am delighted with my accomplishment and will be considering a master's degree in the future.

Thank you for considering my application.

Sincerely,

Heather Langemann, CPHI(c)