

Nomination of Shawna Stevens for the Clifford E. Van Alstyne Communication Award

Shawna Stevens has undeniably shown the highest level of commitment to the Profession of Environmental Public Health throughout her career and is most deserving of the Clifford E. Van Alstyne Communication Award.

Shawna has been the face of our department for many years with several news appearances promoting the TEAM SCRUB program which she developed to educate young students of the importance of handwashing. Her appearance on CTV morning news highlighted how teachers could access the program to use in their classrooms to promote handwashing with the aim of reducing incidence of illness in the school system. The program she developed included designing stickers, posters and educational programming specifically aimed at elementary school aged children. It is the hope that this information is then shared within the homes of these students thus having a large societal impact.

Shawna is also currently our lead for the Personal Services programming, sitting on the provincial task force to review and improve the Best Management Practices for the province. Shawna is also responsible to disseminate this information to all personal services facilities in our region using various communication tools including website development, emails and in person consultations. Her approach to regulating personal services in our region has shown great innovation by utilizing all available communication tools to ensure consistent messaging of regulatory requirements not only to the public but to other public health inspectors in our region and in the province. Personal Services regulation/education has been greatly improved by Shawna's hard work and commitment.

Shawna has also taken on responsibility for maintaining ensuring our Environmental Public Health website is up to date, easy to use and meets all functional requirements for the EPHS program. Her work on the website has paid off by allowing inspectors to easily provide information on all our service areas which means the inspector can focus more of their time on Inspection activities. The entire program runs more efficiently due to Shawna's dedication to ensuring effective communications to the public via website design. This is a thankless job often done behind the scenes which takes countless hours and often goes unnoticed. Shawna has shown unwavering dedication to this task regardless.

Another large portion of her time is dedicated to developing and promoting the Temporary Food program. She currently sits on a provincial task force, responsible for changing how temporary food events are reviewed and inspected in Saskatchewan. Her goal is to achieve consistency in the province seeking to achieve fairness in the process while protecting the public from potential risks involved in temporary food service.

There are numerous other activities which Shawna has been a part of which would not fit within the limits of this nomination, including numerous media interviews for leader post and news outlets promoting our On-line inspection reports, informing the public of what we look for when inspecting restaurants and the list goes on. I think my colleagues would agree that Shawna is very deserving of this award.

Thank you

Lindsay Freistadt