

CHICA-Montreal

2010 Executive:

President:	Silvana Perna N., Msc (A), CIC
Vice President:	Frederica Gaspard
Treasurer and Membership:	Connie Forget Falcicchio N., MSc (A).
Secretary:	Caroline Duchesne, B.Sc Inf., M.Sc. santé comm.

2011 Executive

TBA

Number of Members:

On December 2010, the number of members was 90. This is a slight decrease from the previous year. The majority of the members are nurses, namely infection prevention and control professionals.

Recruitment continues to be a challenge for our chapter mainly due to the language barrier. We are continuously searching for ways to improve this. Liaison with AIPI remains a strategy for overcoming this barrier to promote collaboration between the two associations and to increase educational opportunities for IPC practitioners. Other strategies include soliciting different groups such as the long term care and community health (CLSC) groups.

Although our membership has not increased, we have noticed an increase in the number of attendees from groups outside of the IPC domain that have been attending our educational sessions. We used the above mentioned strategies to solicit these groups in attending our educational events.

Geographic Area Served: The majority of the members of CHICA Montreal are from the Greater Montreal area (island of Montreal, Laval and Longueuil).

Meetings

The year 2010 was a better year with regards to meetings and education events. Our executive committee met six times. These were all “in person” meetings. We were able to meet our goal to have executive meetings (in person or by teleconference) prior to or following each educational session. We lengthened the duration of our meetings to 3 hours as we found that in the past 1 hour meetings were not sufficient to cover all items on the agenda. The Executive also communicates regularly by email when specific questions need to be addressed.

Education Events

The year 2010 was a very successful year with regard to education events. One of our objectives for 2010 was to explore different venues or forums for the education sessions such as having half day education sessions with 2-3 speakers, lunch provided and door prizes. We were pleased to be able to invite out-of-town experts in the field such as Dr. Gaston DeSerres and Dr. Michael Gardam. With the hard efforts of the education chair and other members of the executive, our first attempt at a half education day proved to be a true success. The attendance increased fivefold from the usual 10-12 attendees to 50 at our first session in April. We received very positive feedback from those attended.

In total, we had four education sessions in 2010, three of which were half education days.

Another incentive to increase attendance at education events was to organize an education event free of charge to members and non-members. This was done at the first event held February 25.

Below are the dates and topics of the education sessions that occurred during the year:

Date (2010)	Speaker	Topic	Comments	No. attendees
February 25	Caroline Duchesne, IPC nurse CSSS Ahuntsic Montréal-Nord	CDI surveillance in acute care hospitals in Montreal: user consultations with a view to improving data quality	Good attendance. No cost to members and non-members.	
April 23 Pandemic Fact or Fiction	Dr Gaston DeSerres, Institut national de santé publique du Québec et Université Laval	Epidemiology of H1N1 virus: Quebec, Canadian and International statistics	Very good turnout. Hot topic. Attendees appreciated the new half day format with lunch provided.	50
	Dr Stéphane Perron Direction de la santé publique de Montréal et Université de Montréal	Influenza A H1N1 in Montreal during the first wave: Survey on critical care, epidemiology and provisions for the second wave.		
	Katherine Wadas, Connie Patterson, Annique Decary, Manon Pinet, Sophie Dion: IPC nurses	H1N1 : Multi-Site Approach: Clinical experiences		
September 16 IPC Specialty: Dream or Reality	Mme S. Durand, OIIQ	IPC Specialty	Excellent turnout Topic pertinent to all IPCs. Session appreciated by attendees. Opportunity for questions.	60
	Mme M. Tremblay, <i>Direction de la protection de la santé publique</i> (MSSS)	The action plan for 2010-2015 of the <i>Direction générale de la santé publique</i> was presented.		
	Discussion Panel	Representatives from OIIQ, <i>Direction de la protection de la santé publique</i> (MSSS), AIPI, <i>CHICA</i> Montréal, who are implicated at different level for the recognition of the IPC nursing specialty, participated in a discussion forum.		
November 4, 2010 IPC Best Practice: Theory and	Paule Bernier, nutritionist at the Jewish General Hospital and Safety and Improvement Advisor for the Safer Healthcare Now! campaign,	Prevention of Nosocomial Infections: when outcome indicators are no longer sufficient.	Excellent presentation and turnout. Our best ever! The conference was videotaped and forwarded to all	76

Strategy	Dr. Michael Gardam, Infectious Diseases physician in Toronto, director of IPC at the University Health Network, physician director of CHICA-Canada and the national lead of the controlling superbugs initiative for Safer Healthcare Now!	Using Positive Deviance to Decrease Healthcare Associated Infections	CHICA members. Homage also given to Josiane Letourneau, an IPC nurse from Public Health, who retired after many years as an IPC and who was a resource person for many.
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Highlights

- A survey was sent to the members at the beginning of the year on topics and speakers of interest for educational events. The results of the survey guided us in choosing topics, speakers, and format of future educational events. Our members indicated that they would appreciate half education days.
- CHICA-Montreal is working closely with the OIIQ, AIPI and the Ministry of Health in finalizing the dossier of the Specialization in IPC in Quebec. Mme S. Durand, from the OIIQ, was invited to speak at one of our education events. This event was very successful.
- Our chapter participated in the CHICA/PHAC pilot project for the Routine Practices and Additional Precautions Educational/Risk tools.
- The chapter president continues to be a member of the Table Nationale and of the McGill University Infection Control Work Group representing CHICA. Other members of the Executive are also members of other committees such as CINQ (Comité des Infections Nosocomiales du Quebec), a Ministerial committee.
- The development of a webpage is slowly progressing. We are currently searching for another webmaster to assist us with this.
- Once again this year, our chapter awarded four scholarships of 1000.00 each to members. We anticipate awarding more for the 2011 conference in Toronto as transportation costs may be less due to its proximity to Montreal. At the education event in November, 2010 we had a draw for a free registration to the CHICA conference in Toronto, 2011.

Objectives for 2010

1. Goal One: Raise the profile of the association and its activities
 - a. Raise visibility through participation and active involvement on committees (Table, CINQ, McGill ICWG and other ad hoc committees)
 - b. Maintain and reinforce liaison with AIPI, Ministry of Health and other organizations
 - c. Finalize our webpage and use this as a communication and promotional tool
2. Goal two: Enhance the mix of products and services
 - a. Change the manner in which the scholarship funds are distributed. Rather than setting a fixed amount per scholarship, determine a total amount allocated for scholarship and award to members according to financial need and number of applicants. Provide funding for other educational events as well.
 - b. Establish a “special projects” fund to encourage members to be involved in activities that improve best practices in IPC

3. Goal three: Expand the chapter's education initiatives
 - a. Organize education sessions based on results of survey with key speakers on "hot" topics in IPC and schedule ahead of time for the upcoming year
 - b. Keep education sessions that are "free" for members and possibly for "non-members" as an incentive to join the chapter
 - c. Lobby with other groups such as l'AMMIQ (Association des médecins microbiologistes du Québec) and the LTC and CLSC groups to become members of CHICA
 - d. Use our Webpage as a tool for other educational activities

4. Goal four: Expand and develop the membership base
 - a. Increase the membership of our Chapter and the attendance at the monthly education sessions through increased promotional activities
 - b. Send invitation to our education sessions to other professionals/groups who may become potential chapter members

Silvana Perna
Chapter President