

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

It was a pleasure and honor to represent CHICA-Canada during my term as president. I wish to thank the staff of CHICA-Canada and the Board of Directors for their enduring support and friendship. CHICA-Canada's Executive Director was an amazing guide on the journey during this very busy year.

### **Strategic Plan**

In 2010 the main activity of the board was to develop an operational plan from the strategic plan developed in 2009. The strategic plan will continue to be reviewed at board meetings every 6 months. There are 5 Goals in the Strategic Plan:

Goal One: Raise the profile of the Organization and its activities

Goal Two: Enhance the mix of products and services

Goal Three: Expand the Association's education initiatives

Goal Four: Expand and develop membership base

Goal Five: Provide national and international leadership

My activities as president during 2010 focused on each of the goals and usually involved collaborative work with Board members and our various Committees, Chapters and Interest Groups.

### **1. Goal One and Five -To raise the profile of the association and its activities and to increase CHICA-Canada's influence and profile nationally and internationally.**

#### **a. Liaison to the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology**

As president I attended the CBIC board meeting in San Antonio, Texas in February, New Orleans in July and Vancouver in September. I also participated in several conference calls with the CBIC president and several representatives from APIC. Presentations on the activities of CHICA-Canada were presented at each board meeting. The president of CHICA-BC was invited to provide an update on certification in her chapter and identify any concerns

Discussions at the meeting included review of the strategic plan and development of an operational plan. The policy manual was discussed and it underwent major revisions over the year. The SARE practice exam became fully automated in 2010. Several groups from APIC requested that CBIC move to using CEUs instead of requiring those re-certifying to write an exam again. Several presentations were made by the CBIC board memberships on the rationale for exam based recertification. Information on all CIC certificants is now available on the CBIC website under the directory. CHICA now receives quarterly updates on CIC certificants and currently ~33% of our membership has their CIC.

Two Canadians, Dr. Kathy Suh and Kathy McGhie, continue to sit on the board and subcommittee to provide valuable input related to exam content and ensure that concerns of Canadian members are addressed.

#### **b. Canadian Patient Safety Institute**

CHICA continued to build a collaborative working relationship with CPSI and we participated in a number of initiatives.

**CPSI forum 2010-** I moderated a number of infection prevention and control sessions during the national forum. The abstract section highlighted excellent work being done by ICPs across the country. I also joined Hugh Macleod (CPSI) and Wendy Nicklin (Accreditation Canada) to launch World Hand Hygiene Day on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Launch World Hand Hygiene Day-** I attended the press conference at North York General and provided a short presentation on behalf of CHICA-Canada On May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010

**CPSI Roundtable on Patient Safety in Primary Care Settings-** I participated in this roundtable May 10th, 2010 in Toronto.

**CPSI Annual General Meeting-** Attended AGM in Halifax NS in November 2010. Meet with CPSI staff to discuss on-going collaboration efforts

**CPSI Document review-**provided input on several knowledge products developed by CPSI

**c. Public Health Agency of Canada**

We contacted PHAC to request an update on when the surveillance definitions for MRSA and C-difficile from the collaboration led by CPSI would be finalized, and a conference call was scheduled with PHAC and CPSI representatives. The definitions had been tabled at the PHN level and comments from the group were being collated. CHICA's executive director and I met with PHAC in Ottawa 18 August 2010 to discuss current projects and on-going collaboration and a number of action items came out of this meeting. They included:

1. PHAC would set up a meeting with the Network of Network interest group chairs to discuss work with provincial IPAC representatives.
2. PHAC would explore renewal of the MOU between CHICA, CPSI, Accreditation Canada and PHAC.
3. PHAC would provide regular updates to CHICA members via articles in CJIC
4. CHICA would circulate guidelines for feed-back and collate feed-back.

**d. Canadian Standards Association**

I attended the CSA steering Committee in September 2010 and provided a presentation on CHICA-Canada activities and our current relationship. We have numerous CHICA members who have been valued participants on CSA committees. Subsequent to this meeting a formal request was received for a CHICA board member to sit on the CSA Steering Committee. Dr J. Grant will be CHICA-Canada's representative.

**e. Canadian Foundation of Infectious Diseases**

I am member of the board for CFID participated in strategic planning in March, 2010 and subsequent Board meetings via teleconference. This group has been struggling and in March 2011 a new interim chair was elected and the on-going viability of this organization will be assessed.

**f. Other IPAC Organizations**

(i) **APIC-** As president I represented CHICA at the APIC national conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. The board meeting format was changed and CHICA was not invited to present on CHICA activities this year. I did attend the APIC board dinner, leadership reception and President's Breakfast and was warmly received by APIC leadership.

(ii) **IFIC-** I represented CHICA at the IFIC conference in Stellenbosch, South Africa. This conference was a collaboration between IFIC and IPCAN and many of the participants came from the African continent. I presented on routine practices with Carol Goldman and Gail Bennett and requests for the presentation were received from a number of the delegates after the conference.

A breakfast meeting was held with the presidents from IFIC, APIC and IPS to discuss a shared initiative for IPAC week. A spot for this work would be placed on the IFIC website and the other organizations would provide content.

I attended the IFIC board meeting and was able to see how the donations from CHICA are used to support scholarships to delegates from low resourced countries as well as some of the other great work that they are doing.

(iii) **IPS-** This was CHICA's second year having a representative at the IPS conference. This meeting provided an opportunity to interact with the UK infection control community and learn from their

experiences dealing with public reporting and other issues. I was asked to moderate one of their sessions and also attended their gala dinner.

Work with our international partners was very rewarding and the sharing of ideas between the leadership of these organizations should continue to be fostered at every opportunity.

## **2. Goal Two and Three- Enhance the mix of products and services and expand the associations' education initiatives**

### **a. National Education Conference**

The national education conference was held in Vancouver, BC. There were over 500 delegates in attendance including representatives from a number of international locations. A new chapter, CHICA-Peel, was inducted into CHICA and the inaugural Champion of Infection Control award was presented to Dr. Mary Vearncombe. Dr Dick Zoutman was awarded an honorary membership for his long service and incredible body of work while a CHICA board member.

### **b. Virox scholarships**

In February the executive reviewed the Virox scholarships for the 2010 and provided input for the selection of candidates. The scholarship application was revised and three categories of applicants were created to ensure that new practitioners could have an opportunity to qualify. Seventeen Scholarships were awarded to practitioners from across Canada who may not have had an opportunity to attend the conference without the funding.

### **c. 3M Champions of Infection Control**

The executive met with 3M representatives to develop this award and then to select a winner. The first award was presented at the Champions Breakfast in Vancouver. This award will continue to be presented annually at the national conference.

### **d. CHICA Audit toolkit**

I continued to participate in the audit toolkit group meetings and audit development and we launched the toolkit and interactive CDs at the conference. Three articles were written and published in CJIC. The Executive director and I met with an IT company in the UK to discuss the possibility of partnering on the development of fully interactive audit tools.

## **3. Goal Four- Expand and Develop the membership base**

**a. CHICA teleclasses-** Chaired several teleclasses to provide updates to the membership about board activities

**b. Chapter Presentations-** provided a presentation to Peel and HANDIC chapters on CHICA and activities of the president. Assisted with the review of the Personal Protective System (PPS) submitted by representatives from CHICA-Peel. Provided a videoconference presentation to CHICA Alberta chapters.

**c. IPAC delegates-** Drafted a letter to be presented to Ontario Chiefs of Police by one of our members encouraging them to support CHICA-membership for their members in designated officer roles

**d. Member queries-** Assisted membership office to answer queries from members and non-members

## **National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI)**

*Submitted by Suzanne Pelletier, RN BScN CIC, liaison member to the Committee.*

NACI is a scientific advisory committee for the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), Immunization and Respiratory Infections Division. NACI meets three times per year (February, June and October).

For 2010, NACI published 8 Advisory Committee Statements. These include:

- Update on the Use of Conjugate Pneumococcal Vaccines in Childhood
- Statement on Measles-Mumps-Rubella-Varicella Vaccine
- Varicella Vaccination Two-Dose Recommendations.
- Updated Recommendations For The Use Of Varicella And MMR Vaccines In HIV-infected Individuals
- Statement on Seasonal Trivalent Inactivated Influenza Vaccine (TIV) for 2010-2011
- Updated Statement on the use of Rotavirus Vaccines
- Update on Pediatric Invasive Pneumococcal Disease and Recommended Use of Conjugate Pneumococcal Vaccines
- Statement on the Recommended Use of Herpes Zoster Vaccine

In 2010, NACI also began revisions for the 8<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Canadian Immunization Guide (CIG). The new guide will be produced in a web-based “evergreen” format which will be posted on the PHAC website. Regular updates will be added to the online CIG as new statements are published. Launch of the CIG is scheduled for 2011.

## **Infection Control Ontario**

*The following report is submitted by Inez Landry, Chair, and Infection Control Ontario 2010*

Infection Control Ontario (ICO) is an Allied Group Member of the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA).

### **Active Members 2010**

CHICA – Eastern Ontario

Kathleen Poole

CHICA – HANDIC

Mary –Catherine Orvidas

CHICA – Northwestern Ontario

Colleen Snelgrove

CHICA – Northeastern Ontario

Isabelle Langman/Suzanne Pelletier

CHICA – Ottawa Region

Inez Landry, Treasurer, Chair

CHICA-HUPIC

Nancy Brown

CHICA-SWO

Brenda Prouse/Natalie Goertz

TPIC

Sharon O’Grady

Infection Control Ontario Terms of Reference were reviewed and revised.

### **Activities and Accomplishments in 2010**

- Kathleen Poole is the ICO representative on the Joint OHA/OMA Communicable Diseases Surveillance Protocols Committee. Inez Landry continues on this committee as an official OHA rep. The OHA/OMA Communicable Diseases Surveillance Protocols are available at [www.oha.com](http://www.oha.com).
- On request, ICO continues to provide comments to Ministry of Health & LTC on the draft best practice documents.
- ICO continues to provide feedback on Hand Hygiene and other Public Reporting indicators through the OHA Patient Safety Liaison that participates at the ICO meetings.
- ICO members provide Infection Prevention and Control expertise in the hospital setting when asked to participate on OHA education Programs.
- ICO members recommended the 2010 OHA Health Achieve Infection Prevention and Control/ Occupational Health Nurse, conference program.
  - Nancy Brown and Inez Landry represented ICO on the planning committee. Inez Landry Co-Chaired the session and the Topic presented was:

#### Hand Hygiene Challenges for Health Care Workers

- Practices, Attitudes and Beliefs – Lessons Learned
- Let's Keep our Hands Safe as well as Clean
- Inez Landry reviewed and provided comments for the OHA Hand Hygiene/PPE Education Module.
- ICO members continue to lobby for more OHA educational programs to be made available for participation via video conferencing or web casting to allow more Infection Prevention & Control Professionals to participate in the distance education programs.

#### **RNFOO SARS Memorial Fund**

*The following update submitted by Seema Boodoosingh BSc MLT ART CIC*

The SARS Memorial Fund for Infection Control Practitioners is a tuition/certification/professional development reimbursement program funded by the Molson Canada SARS Concert (2003) and sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care. The fund provides grants for Infection Control Practitioners from any discipline to support continuing education, certification/re-certification and professional development for individual Infection Control Practitioners so that they can improve their knowledge and lead Infection Control Practices within their health care settings. In addition to this The Rolling Stones/CPI Awards are funded from a donation representing the proceeds from the sales of a DVD produced at the time of the Rolling Stones 2003 SARS Benefit Concert in Toronto. The objective of the program is to support the advancement of professional practice in Infection Control. As such, the fund provides awards and grants to practicing health professionals from any discipline to support continuing education, participation in, or coordination of, conferences, projects (e.g. educational) and conducting studies/research in Infection Control.

There are 10 members who are CHICA chapter representatives in Ontario that sit on the review panel for applicants for the funds available through RNFOO. The group met four times in 2010 and reviewed about 35 applications and 29 applicants were accepted, as they met the criteria for funding.

*Anne Bialachowski RN BN MS CIC  
President*

## **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

This year as president-elect has been an interesting and challenging one, there is so much to learn about the internal operations of CHICA-Canada. Thank you to Anne Bialachowski, Gerry Hansen and other members of the board for their support. The following report summarizes my activities as president-elect as they relate to our strategic goals.

### **GOAL ONE: Raise the profile of the association and its activities**

- Attended a CHICA-SA chapter meeting to discuss CHICA-Canada activities, benefits and encourage chapter participation
- Participated on the selection committee for the inaugural “3M Champion of Infection Prevention and Control”
- Participated in the inaugural interactive Leadership Luncheon at the national conference

### **GOAL TWO: Enhance the mix of products and services**

- Contributed documents to the CHICA Audit toolkit working group

### **GOAL THREE: Expand the association’s education initiatives**

- Participated on the Virox Scholarship selection committee

### **GOAL FOUR: Expand and develop the membership base**

#### Interest Groups (IG)

- Worked with the Pediatric Interest Group to find a temporary chair and resume work on the position statement on Toy Cleaning
- Attended interest group meetings at the national conference and lead the debriefing session for interest group chairs
- Responded to questions from interest group chairs as they arose during the year and actively encouraged the posting of meeting minutes to CHICA website

### **GOAL FIVE: Provide national and international leadership**

- Chaired the Chapter President’s teleconference in January, 2010.
- Review and feedback on two Public Health Agency of Canada guideline documents
- Participated in selection of CHICA-Canada representatives to the National ARO Prevalence study team

Donna Wiens RN BN CIC  
President-Elect

## **PAST PRESIDENT**

The following summarizes the tasks of the past president:

### **1. To expand member services to meet the needs of the CHICA-Canada membership**

#### **Activities/Work Completed:**

##### **a) 2011 Annual Conference**

Participated as conference chair on the 2011 conference planning committee. The conference committee was responsible for setting up the conference educational program as well as preconference and advance/novice practitioner day. The committee was also tasked with the development of a theme for the conference and a theme for the social event.

##### **b) 2010 Virox Scholarship Applications**

- Participated in a committee responsible for the selection of Virox scholarships.
- Gave recommendations for changes to the judging criteria.

##### **c) 3M Champion of Infection Prevention and Control**

- Participated in a committee responsible for the development and selection of the first 3M Champion of Infection Control Award.
- Recommendations were given around criteria and selection process with an updated form being developed.

##### **d) Recruitment of Board Members**

Helped with the selection of new Board members. Congratulations to our new members:

- Mr. Jim Gauthier MLT CIC – President-Elect
- Ms Marilyn Weinmaster, RN BScN CIC – Secretary Membership Director
- Special thanks to Donna Moralejo for agreeing to additional 3 year term as Director of Education
- Special thanks to Bern Hankinson for her service and commitment to the organization over the past 3 years

##### **e) Meeting with CHICA-Canada Chapters**

In October 2010, attended meetings of the Maritime chapters of CHICA-Canada, CHICA-NS and CHICA-NB/PEI. Both chapters were excited to receive participation from the national board. A number of issues were discussed and asked that the following be brought back to the Board:

- The Maritimes want to host another conference in the coming years

### **2. To increase CHICA-Canada's influence and profile nationally and internationally, as a leader in infection prevention and control.**

#### **Activities/Work Completed:**

##### **a) NPSR (National Patient Safety Round Table Discussion)**

Represented CHICA-Canada as a member organization of this round table group. The meetings focused on:

- Accreditation Canada and CPSI updates,
- Roundtable reports on public initiatives and general updates,
- Report back from Roundtable subcommittees and
- Focusing on what role the committee should play in the future and future safety initiatives

##### **b) NCCID (National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases)**

A consultation was hosted by the National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases (NCCID) on *Community Acquired Antimicrobial Resistance (caAMR)* in Winnipeg during February, 2010.

The primary outcomes of the consultation were to:

- Expand understanding of the Canadian situation with respect to caAMR, including its epidemiology and interventions to reduce risk/transmission
- Identify strategies and priorities for addressing caAMR
- Clarify NCCID's role in contributing to the reduction of caAMR in Canada
- Provide opportunities for meaningful collaboration between human, animal, and environmental health experts

With the completion of this consultation, an action plan was formulated. The first action was to develop an Antibiotic Awareness Day on November 18th, 2010. Canadian experts discussed the latest information on antibiotic resistance and public health during 15-minute webcast presentations. Topics will include community education and prevention, antibiotic use and resistance in hospitals, and current Canadian programs and surveillance data.

I was appointed by the CHICA-Canada board to represent CHICA on ongoing initiatives with this group.

#### **c) CPSI (Canadian Patient Safety Institute) Forum**

Along with Gerry Hansen, co-chaired the infection control stream of the CPSI forum in Toronto in April. In general the sessions were well attended. Concerns were raised with the planning committee regarding issues with the Hotel conference booking, shuttle bus miscommunication, issues around special diet requirements, and no honorariums for session speakers. Another conference is planned for next year in a different part of the country.

Thank you all for your support of me during my three year term with CHICA-Canada. It has been a fabulous experience.

*Cathy Munford RN CIC  
Past President*

## **SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**

### **General Membership:**

It is my pleasure to report that once again membership to CHICA-Canada has increased over previous years. As of November 1, 2010, there were 1681 members of CHICA-Canada. Please refer to the attached graphs for information regarding membership by province, institution and discipline.

### **Institutional Membership:**

There are currently 267 facilities holding Institutional Membership, with over 1000 institutional representatives.

### **Corporate Members**

On behalf of the Board of Directors of CHICA-Canada I would acknowledge the continued support of our Corporate Members in 2010:

#### Platinum:

3M Canada  
BD Canada  
Virox Technologies Inc

#### Gold:

Baxter Canada  
Ecolab HealthCare

#### Silver:

ArjoHuntleigh  
Deb Canada  
GOJO Industries  
STERIS Corporation  
VernaCare  
Wood Wyant

#### Bronze:

Abbott Laboratories  
Covidien  
Ethicon (A Division of Johnson & Johnson)  
Laura Line Skin Care  
Maxill Inc.  
MedLine Canada  
Pharmax Limited  
Professional Disposables International  
Rubbermaid Canada  
SciCan  
Smith & Nephew  
Solumed, A 3M Canada Company  
The Stevens Company  
Webber Training Inc.

### **3M Chapter Achievement Award.**

Congratulations to CHICA HANDIC winner of the 3M Chapter Achievement Award for 2010. Thank-you to 3M for their continual interest and support in the educational needs of our members.

### **Chapter Challenge Award:**

Three Chapters with the greatest increase in membership were rewarded again this year. Congratulations to CHICA-Newfoundland and Labrador Chapter (91% increase); CHICA-Central Ontario Chapter (62% increase); and CHICA-Renfrew County (56% increase).

### **Virox Technologies National Conference Scholarship Fund:**

In 2010 Virox Technologies granted scholarships in the amount of \$20,000 to 18 CHICA-Canada members to assist with the costs of attending the CHICA-Canada National Conference held in Vancouver, British Columbia. Many

thanks to Virox Technologies for their continued support in continuing education for Infection Prevention and Control Professionals in CHICA-Canada.

### **2010 Ecolab Poster Contest**

The winner of the 2010 Ecolab Poster Contest was Melanie Cordoviz from CHICA Northern Alberta.

### **Honorary Membership**

Dr. Dick Zoutman was presented with honorary membership to CHICA-Canada at the conference in Vancouver. Congratulations again and many thanks for all of his hard work and dedication for the many years he has been with infection control.

### **Champion of Infection Prevention and Control**

Dr. Mary Vearncombe was presented with the Champion of Infection Prevention and Control award which was sponsored by CHICA-Canada and 3M Canada. Congratulations to Dr Vearncombe on this achievement and many thanks for your years and influence in Infection Prevention and Control.

### **Strategic Plan**

The Membership Committee objectives are listed under Goal Four:

Expand and develop the membership base;

Increase CHICA Canada membership in targeted areas

- Continue focus on current target groups
  - Physicians
- identify and address new target groups
  - Emergency Services
  - Infection Control Designates
  - Environmental Services
  - Occupation Health and Safety
- produce appropriate resource
  - Suggestions for revisions sent to MO

Develop a mentorship program for new ICPs

- Scan mentoring programs already in use
  - Request for information on Mentorship Programs forwarded to each CHICA Chapter. No information received to date.
- Develop a CHICA-Canada specific Program
  - Awaiting feedback from Chapters
- Recruit mentors and support training, project management and association activities

Increase retention of retirees

- Pending
- Promote associate membership for retirees
- Engage retirees in succession planning, project management and association activities
  - Web Master
  - Audit Tool Kit
  - IFIC

Promote membership opportunities and involvement

- Increase communication between chapter executives and the Board
  - Chapter President's Meeting at annual conference
  - Chapter President's Teleconference
- Prepare information packages for senior management
  - Presented at Conference in Vancouver 2010
- Promote CHICA-Canada at conferences and events
  - Awards include: Chapter of the Year Award, 3M Chapter Achievement Award, Virox Scholarship Fund, Chapter Challenge Award .

**Membership Core Committee:**

Membership Core Committee met face to face in Vancouver, British Columbia. The effectiveness of regularly scheduled teleconferencing for the Core Membership was questioned and subsequently suspended in 2010 to be utilized as necessary.

The Membership Core Committee has identified Infection Control Designates / Occupational Health and Safety / Environmental Services as target groups and has investigated methods to reach these groups. Suggestions for revisions for Emergency Services have been forwarded to the Membership Office.

**On-Line Registration:**

On-line registration is up and running for both members registering for membership and the annual conference.

*Bern Hankinson*

*Secretary / Membership Director*

## **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

In 2010 CHICA-Canada was challenged with the ongoing economic crisis that has affected many not-for-profit associations. In order to increase services to members and provide funding for several projects, CHICA-Canada also increased infrastructure to provide necessary support for these initiatives. While CHICA-Canada continues to grow as an organization, an assessment of financial priorities became necessary in order to continue to meet the needs of our membership. Thank-you to the Board of Directors and Executive Director for their support and willingness to consider and implement measures to ensure our continued success.

Membership continues to grow in Individual, Institutional and Corporate Membership. On-line membership registration has certainly assisted this growth. Chapters receive a monthly electronic membership update and new members have timely access to membership resources and services. With an increase in office hours, the Executive Director and Administrative Assistant are able to reach our membership on a regular basis with timely and informative updates. Online conference registration has also proven to be beneficial.

The CHICA-Canada Distance Education Basic Infection Prevention and Control Course was launched in September 2010. While still in the process of refining protocols and ensuring appropriate and expert staffing to move the course forward, CHICA-Canada has benefited from enhanced profile and revenues that this course provides.

The Audit Toolkit is another example of a resource available to CHICA members. The toolkit is evergreen, ensuring tools meet current Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) standards and best practices. CHICA-Canada's financial and in-kind support for this initiative has continued through 2010 with funding used to ensure content consistency and formatting occurs throughout the entire toolkit.

CHICA – Canada continues to provide funding to allow members to represent the association on many organizations and committees at local, national and international levels. The Journal continues to return a profit under the direction of Pat Piaskowski. The CHICA – Canada website is continually updated and is well utilized by members and non-members many of whom are from outside Canada. We look forward to a newly revised website in 2011.

Many projects and initiatives have received support from our industry partners. The Ecolab Poster Contest, the 3M Awards, the conference and other initiatives have been able to sustain because of the financial support of industry. Education contributions include BD Canada (Roadshows and Webinars), GOJO Industries (Routine Practices E-Learning Tool), and Webber Training (teleclass).

2010 was the ninth year members were able to access the Virox Scholarship funding to attend the annual CHICA – Canada conference. In 2010, 18 CHICA members received funding to attend the annual conference. Thank you to the Virox scholarship fund members for continued educational support.

My personal thanks to Phil Romaniuk, our auditor, who continues to provide the organization with advice and expertise. In 2011 we will see changes in the flow of CHICA-Canada business designed to address the needs of our growing membership. I would also like to thank the CHICA – Canada Board of Directors, Chapter Treasurers and Gerry Hansen for patience, understanding and support.

*Judi Linden RN BN COHN(C) CIC  
Director of Finance*

## **PHYSICIAN DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT**

Throughout 2010, in my role as Physician Director, I responded to several media inquiries that had been directed to CHICA-Canada. This shows that public interest in our work continues to grow. In addition, I have provided input to key messages developed by various committees on which CHICA partners with other associations and agencies.

The CHICA 2010 conference in Vancouver was a great success and I truly enjoyed meeting with and getting to know the attendees. I look forward to continuing to present the Strut Your Stuff! Breakfast topic as an encouragement to ICPs to promote both themselves as experts in their field and initiatives in infection prevention and control.

I am pleased to note that the CHICA-Canada Physician Director will present a 'Hot Topics' session at the close of each conference. This new session is to be known as the Vernacare Lecture and will feature information on new and re-emerging IP&C events.

It is encouraging to see the growth of the list of CHICA-Canada Corporate Members. The Corporate Relations Committee did not meet in Vancouver but I hope that it will meet in Toronto. It is important to utilize this expert group to further the goals of CHICA-Canada. In return, these members receive both tangible and intangible benefits in the Corporate Member status.

The CHICA-Canada Physician Director will now be the official CHICA-Canada representative to Accreditation Canada. I thank Dr. Dick Zoutman for his work on accreditation issues and look forward to expanding on the good working relationship with Accreditation Canada.

Michael Gardam MSc MD CM MSc FRCPC  
Physician Director

**ACCREDITATION CANADA**

Report not available at time of publication.

## **CANADIAN COALITION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY**

As your delegate to CCPH21 I have had the opportunity to be involved in several public health advocacy projects over this past year.

One of the highlights of the year for our group was meeting with Dr. David Butler-Jones in Ottawa in February. This meeting gave us an opportunity to introduce the Coalition and its members as well as identification of CCPH21 platform and priorities. Included in the discussion was an examination of emerging public health priorities and a possible role for CCPH21 to support public health efforts. There was consensus on the value-added for continued dialogue between PHAC and CCPH21!

The group had a face to face meeting in June 2010 at the CPHA Conference, Toronto

Beginning in September work was done to develop two Fast Facts - Fact Sheets, titled "Injury Prevention for Children and Youth - A Public Health Issue and Interprofessional Collaboration in Public Health"

In December the CCPH21 Advocacy Committee began the review of a draft Request for Proposals for an environmental scan. This proposed ES will help the Coalition develop its advocacy and government relations plan of action, as we gear up for advocacy on the place of public health in a renewed Health Accord, a possible national election and other priority issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent CHICA-Canada as a member of CCPH21.

*Colleen Nisbet RN MHSc CIC*

## **DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

### **CHICA-Sponsored Basic Education IP&C Course**

This course had been previously offered through the University of Calgary. In May 2010, the Board approved a proposal to offer the course directly through CHICA-Canada, using an online platform. The format was revised into six distinct modules and a short practicum, which will be offered from September to June. The content was updated as per recommendations from the evaluation of the course that had been conducted in 2008-2009. Each module is led by an instructor and a discussion facilitator. A total of 40 students began the course in September 2010. It is anticipated that this format will continue, and that we will be recruiting additional instructors and discussion facilitators.

### **CHICA Endorsement of Education Courses for Novice ICPs**

The criteria for endorsing courses and the process for receiving endorsement were approved by the Board in May 2009. In 2010, three courses were reviewed and endorsed. The process has been working well. A list of all endorsed courses can be found on the CHICA website.

### **National Conference Planning**

The 2010 Vancouver conference was successful. Conference planning for the 2011 Toronto conference has been going well. The committee appointed for the 2012 conference met for the first time in November 2010. Overall, the national planning strategies, including continuity of members, summaries of topics, and a “parking lot”, are effective and will continue.

### **Education Committee**

Representatives from a number of chapters met at the Education Committee meeting in Vancouver in May. Some members for a core group were identified and two priorities were identified: a membership survey of learning priorities, and development of an orientation package for novice ICPs.

**Re: Member Learning Needs Assessment Survey:** One item listed in the Strategic Plan for Education is to conduct a membership survey of learning needs. In May 2010, a subcommittee of the CHICA Education Committee was formed to develop and conduct the survey. The survey questionnaire was developed over the summer and early fall, and the online survey itself was conducted in November 2010, closing November 19<sup>th</sup>.

There were 319 respondents. The subcommittee is now in the process of analyzing the results. Recommendations will be discussed with the Education Committee, and brought forward to the May Board meeting.

**Re: Orientation Package:** Marion Yetman and the PIC-NL group in Newfoundland and Labrador are developing an orientation package for Newfoundland/Labrador, have included representatives from two other provinces on the committee, and have consulted with other provinces. When their program has been developed, they will share it with the Education Committee, who will make recommendations re adapting it if necessary it so as to be relevant for all members who wish to use it.

*Donna Moralejo, PhD  
Director of Education*

## **DIRECTOR STANDARDS & GUIDELINES**

This year has been a year of rejuvenation for the Standards and Guidelines (S&G) committee. We have revamped our membership and reinitiated regular meetings in order to facilitate faster service for revision of documents. We have also divided into separate committees: 1. The S&G core committee, whose role is to examine and provide feedback on documents of national and international interest; and 2. The Audit Toolkits Subcommittee, which is charged with reviewing (and maintaining current) the audit toolkits generated by the audit toolkits committee.

Below is a concise summary of our activities in 2010:

### **DIRECTOR OF STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES**

Activities:

1. Chair of audit toolkit revision meetings
2. Rejuvenation of core committee
3. Chair of core committee meetings
4. Revision of Position statement requirements
5. Representative of CHICA to CSA
6. Response to specific technical questions addressed to CHICA

### **CORE COMMITTEE**

Activities:

1. Revision of Australian Infection Control Guidelines (published 2010)
2. Revision of PHAC hand hygiene guidelines (publication pending)
3. Revision of CSA construction standards (publication pending)
4. Revision of PHAC endoscopy guidelines (publication pending)
5. Revision and comment on Dialysis Interest Group practice guidelines (published 2010)

### **AUDIT TOOLKIT COMMITTEE**

Activities:

1. Revision of 32 audit toolkits

*Jennifer Grant MD CM FRCP(S)*  
*Director*

### **CANADIAN STANDARDS ASSOCIATION HEALTHCARE ENGINEERING AND PHYSICAL PLANT TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

*The following updated submitted by Karen Stockton BSc MHSc CIC and Sharon Wilson RN BScN CIC, CHICA-Canada Representatives to the subcommittee.*

Since the last report in February 2009 the Technical Sub-committee for Canadian Standards Association (CSA) document "Z800 Canadian Health Care Facilities" met multiple times via web and teleconference to finalize a draft document. The draft was released for public review in the spring of 2010. Feedback was solicited across Canada from multiple stakeholders and was reviewed at the annual CSA committee in Newfoundland in June 2010. Over 680 comments from Canadian stakeholders were received up to June and a more continued to be received beyond the deadline and were accepted for additional review.

The current Z800 draft is approximately 333 pages. The document does its best to not repeat any work or recommendations established by other standards such as the Sterilization document or the Infection Control During Construction document. Instead the document refers back to the original documents as reference.

The document's scope is to address:

- a) public health care facilities;
- b) private care facilities;
- c) new (“greenfield”) construction; and
- d) additions and renovations to existing facilities.

The intention was to avoid specifying operational recommendations and focuses entirely on the physical construction.

Each section within the document outlines recommendations surrounding the following core principles:

- a) Operations;
- b) Access to care;
- c) Safety and security;
- d) Infection prevention and control; and
- e) Sustainability.

Of specific interest the following section has been drafted to address single room accommodation in Class A facilities: Please note this is not the final but the accepted draft to date:

## **Z8000 - Canadian Health Care Facilities- Draft August 2010**

### **4.5.3 Single in-patient rooms**

All in-patient rooms in Class A health care facilities shall be single bedded rooms unless the functional program demonstrates the necessity of a two-bed arrangement.

Justification for two-bedded patient room accommodation shall include supporting documentation validating the clinical significance of this arrangement. In this arrangement there shall be one washroom per patient.

*Note: Single patient room occupancy has been shown to reduce the potential for transmission of organisms and therefore decrease exposure to infection, decrease medication errors and improve safety for both patients and health care providers overall.*

*Facilities are continually challenged in having to close rooms and/or units due to patient exposure to infections. Many outbreaks start from a roommate exposure or shared bathroom facilities. Patient placement is hampered and waiting times in emergency rooms increased, as a result of lack of appropriate rooms to place patients. “*

A meeting in Toronto in December 2010 was scheduled to finish incorporating feedback from the public review and complete a final draft that will go to editing. The goal is to have the document published in 2011 in time for it to be presented at the CHES annual meeting (September 25 – 27).

The final in-person meeting is planned for June 2011 at the CSA national conference.

Sharon Wilson is no longer participating as a CHICA representative on the committee and Karen Stockton is now participating as a healthcare administration representative but has agreed to continue to feedback information and represent CHICA until another CHICA Infection Prevention and Control representative can be selected.

## **CANADIAN NOSOCOMIAL INFECTION SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM (CNISP)**

*The following report submitted by Virginia Tirilis MLT CIC*

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the CNISP was held in Ottawa on November 15 & 16. The following is a summary of the core projects:

### **Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Surveillance project**

- Increase trend seen in the last two years not significant and are mostly colonizations not infections
- Overall pediatric MRSA rate has increased (0.75/1000 patient days) – mostly colonized
- Some adjustments will be made to the data collection protocol to include: definition clarification for ‘other health care settings’ and modify definitions to identify site location of acquisition of organism.
- Questions to be removed on non-BSI MRSA sites

### **Vancomycin Resistant Enterococcus (VRE) Surveillance project**

- 2009: 4.8% infections reported nationally
- Mean rate: 0.546/1000 pt. days
- VRE predominantly reported from Central and Western Canada with very little activity in Eastern Canada
- Survey to go out on Infection Prevention & Control (IPAC) practices, isolation and lab testing for VRE

### **Clostridium difficile-associated infection (CDI) Surveillance project**

- Cases have decreased in 2009 (4.7/1000 admissions) compared to the previous year (5.49/1000 adm.)
- Pediatric rates are 50% lower than adult rates – request for more pediatric settings to measure CDI
- PCR testing may increase detection by 15%-25% which may increase future rates
- Surveillance form modifications: addition of diagnostic testing (methods, dates, date change, repeat testing, algorithms), addition of mortality assessment tool to be filled out by two persons/site), include what treatment was prescribed on day of CDI diagnosis only
- Definition change of inclusion from 8 weeks to 4 weeks following hospitalization for development of CDI
- Bristol Stool Scale describing diarrhea to be added to definition page

### **Central Venous Line – Bloodstream Infection (CVL-BSI) Surveillance project**

- Core project since 2009
- Adult ICU rates have decreased nationally, however NICU rates have increased potentially due to skin contaminants
- Surveillance tool changes: 2B eliminated from questionnaire - no longer collecting infections/contaminants e.g. Coagulase negative Staphylococcus; ICUs to be typed i.e. adult medical/surgical/miscellaneous

The following is a brief summary of some of the ‘additional and/or new surveillance projects’:

### **Lab Confirmed Influenza Survey**

- Information is collected in collaboration with ‘Flu Watch’
- Minor changes in protocols for 2011-12
- June 1/09 – May 31/10: 28% ICU admissions, 25% mechanical ventilations, 7% total deaths, and increased uptake of oseltamivir within 3 days of onset

### **Update on Data Quality**

- Reliability audit on MRSA 2005 to be finalized and submitted to AJIC
- VRE reliability audit data 2008 showed high consistency in data fields – much better than for MRSA
- Standard hospital profile per facility (2009): 54 CHEC sites with 49 ICPs (1-3 per site) and 48 epidemiologists (EPIs)

### **Infection Control Practitioner (ICP) Working Group Session**

- Forum for discussion of ICPs and EPIs to improve CNISP activities
- Propose three teleconferences per year with objectives to: identify current process for auditing hand hygiene in Canadian health care facilities (HCFs), the tools and process used and the compliance feedback format

### **Carbapenem Resistant Gram Negative Bacilli**

Collect outpatient, inpatient and emergency data and submit quarterly isolates

Three day turn around time on genetic profiling and the National Microbiology Lab (NML) will identify the carbapenemases (NDM1, etc.)

Lab testing methodology will be reviewed as well as screening practices and IPAC procedures

### **Surgical Site Infections (SSIs)**

Surveillance on hip and knees (arthroplasties) with a goal on getting a benchmark

Primary and hemi hip or knee arthroplasties to be done using a minimum dataset to include: DOB, age, duration of procedure, ASA score, antibiotic prophylaxis, risk index

Need well defined protocol, dedicated PHAC leadership and funding

### **Costing Burden of Illness**

- No current Canadian cost of care data available (only US)
- Micro/macro costing data to be established by external PHAC funded economists to come in and do a sensitivity analysis to obtain a cost range and variance for CDI cases
- National impact for length of stay (LOS) in multiple HCFs
- Sample excess cost per pt. days for MRSA was done two years

### **Antimicrobial Utilization**

- Need for Canadian hospital data rates to compare to international data
- Antibiotic consumption to be linked with MRSA, VRE and CDI surveillance data
- Defined Daily Dose (DDD) methodology to be used
- Survey to go to CHEC members asap to be completed with pharmacy group within HCFs

### **Pediatric Viral Respiratory Infection (VRI)**

- 2009: predominant respiratory infections in children – RSV, pH1N1 and parainfluenza (5 deaths)
- Began in 2005 and currently 12 participating sites
- Questions related to pH1N1 vaccination to be removed
- Minor changes to questions e.g. mechanical ventilation, RSV

## **CANADIAN COALITION FOR IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS & PROMOTION (CCIAP)**

*The following report submitted by Marion Yetman RN BN MN CIC*

CCIAP is a partnership of national non-governmental, professional, health, consumer, government and private sector organizations with a specific interest in promoting the understanding and use of vaccines recommended by the National Advisory Committee on Immunization. The membership meets six times per year via teleconference with one face-to-face meeting in November. The work the committee has supported this year includes:

- Promotion of Adult Immunizations
- Promotion of Immunization Awareness Week
- Seasonal Tetanus Campaign
- Canadian Immunization Poster Contest 2010
- Influenza and Pneumococcal Immunization Campaign

One of the key ways that member organizations can support the CCIAP initiatives is by the promotion of immunization awareness at national and local conferences. CHICA-Canada has been actively involved in this process by the following activities:

- **Presentation at the National Education Conference Vancouver BC**
  - Immunization – What's New and What's on the Horizon?  
Monika Naus MD MHSc FRCPC FACPM, British Columbia Centre for Disease Control
  - Article in the Canadian Journal of Infection Control Spring 2010 25(1) titled: Immunization: Get the Facts
- My recommendation to CHICA-Canada are:
  - Continue to promote immunization by having a topic on the agenda of each national conference on an aspect of immunization
  - Place a quick link or include CCIAP in the knowledge resource section of the CHICA-Canada's web page

Thank you for the opportunity to represent CHICA-Canada on CCIAP.

## PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS DIRECTOR

### 1. 2011 Ecolab Poster Contest

- It is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CHICA Eastern Ontario in 2011. CHICA –EO has graciously agreed to host this poster contest.
- The theme chosen is “INfection Prevention - Are you IN? Get INVolved, provide INput, INitiate change!

### 2. Programs & Projects Working Committee

- The working committee has continued to meet regularly. Since September 2010 the P&P working committee has been acting on its mandate to provide an annual review of currently available CHICA audit tools.
- Review comments from the P&P working committee are submitted to the audit toolkit committee.
- Revisions requiring further input are submitted to Standards and Guidelines for their feedback, otherwise minor revisions are made by the Audit Toolkit Committee and the audit is posted to the website with a new revised date.
- Interest was expressed in having an on-line IP&C manual table of contents and templated policy and procedures that all could access.
- Interest expressed to have a session at Novice/Advanced Practitioner Day on developing IP&C policies and procedures.

### 3. Current projects

#### a) CHICA audit toolkit

- Since the 2010 conference the Audit Toolkit Committee has been meeting every other week as the number of audits to be completed is declining. A current list of completed audits is up on the CHICA website.
- In the spring, summer and fall editions of CJIC, articles on auditing have been written and submitted by the CHICA audit toolkit committee
- A morning presentation on auditing entitled “Closing the Loop” was held at the 2010 conference
- A post-conference presentation on auditing will be held at the 2011 national conference
- Lately the committee has been using Skype to conduct meetings with variable success (dropping of calls occurring)
- A special thanks to Standards and Guidelines in their review of the many audits in a timely fashion to make them available to our members

#### b) CHICA Booth

- Free travel drives with 17 songs, 3 games, 4 other resources and the CHICA-Canada posters for 2009 and 2010 were on the drives handed out at the CHICA booth at the 2010 national conference in Vancouver. These were well received by members.
- Interactive audit toolkit CDs were sold at the booth to CHICA members
- The total sales at the CHICA booth at the 2010 conference totaled \$1,700.00
- The CHICA booth at the 2011 conference will also have free travel drives. The content planned for this coming year is screen savers of past Ecolab Poster Contest winners, and NICW resources. Shirley McDonald will be adding links to websites e.g. [http://www.chica.org/links\\_construction.html](http://www.chica.org/links_construction.html). This would look similar to all of the resource pages on the CHICA website, only the resources will be on one USB drive that members could take and use anytime, anywhere on any computer.

## Industry Partnerships

### BD and CHICA 2011 Roadshow

- A full-day BD and CHICA 2011 Roadshow, is being planned to take place on Friday April 8, 2011 in Regina, Saskatchewan. CHICA SASKPIC will market the roadshow. The overall theme for the roadshow is **Reducing Hospital-Acquired Infections**.
- The tentative educational topics include:
  - Canadian Surveillance on AROs
  - Antibiotic Resistance – Overview and Stewardship
  - AROs – The Pharmacist Role
  - Human Factors
  - Positive Deviance
  - Case Scenarios - MRSA, C. diff, VRE
  - Concurrent sessions:
    - CR-BSIs
    - Environmental cleaning audit tools
    - NDM1/ ESBL/UTIs/AROs in Community/LTC
    - Norovirus in the Community
    - SSIs
    - Case Scenarios based on the day's topics
- Gerry Hansen, Donna Moralejo and Karen Clinker are working with SASKPIC and BD on this initiative

### 3M and CHICA Canada Educational Days – Using Social Marketing to Promote Hand Hygiene Compliance

- Anne Bialachowski, Shirley McDonald and Karen Clinker each to present a 1.5 hour session on the auditing process at the Toronto, Montreal and Halifax sessions being held in February 2011

Overall it has again been a very busy year!!

*Karen Clinker MEd BScN CCOHN CIC  
Director Programs & Projects*

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH INTEREST GROUP**

**Co-Chair:** Shelley Sing RN BScN OHN(C) CIC

**Co-Chair:** Amanda Knapp BAsC CPHI(C) CIC

**Secretary and Membership:** Risa Cashmore RN BSc CIC CCHN(C)

### **Changes in Chair**

We are pleased to announce that during our annual in-person meeting at the CHICA-Canada 2010 conference in Vancouver, Amanda Knapp, a Public Health Inspector/ Infection Control Practitioner from Kingston, Ontario accepted the position of co-chair. (The chair, Shelley Sing, was unable to attend the Vancouver conference, thus, this meeting was chaired by Risa Cashmore, secretary). On September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, the co-chairs and secretary met by teleconference. Plans for future meetings and direction for this group was discussed at this time.

The co-chair position had been vacant for approximately a year and a half. The secretary and chair have been in their positions since the inception of this interest group at the CHICA-Canada Educational Conference in Edmonton, 2007.

### **Membership**

The CHIG continues to grow with newer members coming from the area of public health. Our membership represents all provinces and territories except for Quebec, and Nova Scotia. The distribution list has 45 members from home care provider agencies, clinic settings, public health/health authorities, rehabilitation therapy, First Nations, hospitals, community services and infection control networks. Of note are some members who have retired and been replaced by colleagues in their work setting, but they continue their workplace's membership in this interest group.

### **Meetings**

This interest group met three times during 2010: teleconferences March 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 4<sup>th</sup> and the in-person meeting May 31<sup>st</sup> at the CHICA-Canada Educational conference in June. Attendance at the meetings is 11-16 members (or member representatives).

Probably like other CHICA Interest Groups, struggles we face include poor attendance at both the face-to-face meetings at our yearly CHICA conferences and at our teleconferences. Time differences and heavy workload issues are often cited. We have attempted to update our Terms of Reference through our membership; however, there has been no input to either the Chair or Secretary when requested.

This group continues to correspond throughout the year by e-mail through the distribution list. Mailers included circulated questions and notification of guidelines and/or events or opportunities.

### **Highlights**

The CHIG was asked to provide topics pertaining to the community at next year's CHICA Educational Conference 2011 in Toronto. Amanda Knapp sits on the Scientific Committee for this conference. Two sessions have been planned:

1. Cashmore, R and Lovatt, L. Are You Complying with Canadian and Provincial Regulations for the Packaging and Transportation of Clinical Specimens in the Community/Public Health Setting?
2. Garrahan, T. Correctional Service of Canada Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program – Nursing Leadership and Community Collaboration.

Our webpage has been updated to include meeting minutes, numerous community healthcare links, and pictures of attendees at our annual in-person meeting at the CHICA-Canada Educational conference. Future plans include adding pictures of the executive and enhancing links to community resources.

**Position Statement Under Development**

Our focus again this year has been working on our first Position Statement, “*The Cleaning and Disinfection of Non-Critical Medical Equipment/Devices in Community Settings*”. We have held five teleconferences this past year (February 22nd, April 9th, May 3rd, August 23rd, and October 25<sup>th</sup>) to refine our draft and seek stakeholder review. Although we missed the deadline to submit our final draft to the CHICA Standards and Guidelines Committee by the October 15<sup>th</sup> 2010 deadline, it will be completed by Spring of 2011 and ready to present at the CHICA-Canada Educational Conference 2011 in Toronto.

*Shelley Sing RN BScN OHN(C) CIC,, Chair*

*Risa Cashmore RN BSc CIC CCHN(C) , Secretary*

## **DIALYSIS INTEREST GROUP**

The Dialysis Interest Group continues to grow, currently there are 94 members. Highlights from 2010 include:

### **Dialysis Interest Group Antibiotic Resistant Organism (ARO) Screening Recommendations**

Recognizing hemodialysis patients may play a significant role in the emergence of AROs, it is in the best interest of key stakeholders to ensure all appropriate strategies are in place to prevent further transmission within our hemodialysis settings. The DIG recognizes that the approach to the prevention and control of AROs must be tailored to the specific needs of high-risk hemodialysis populations and their various individual institutions. To this end the DIG has developed a document on ARO screening recommendations for dialysis patients. These recommendations were published in the Canadian Journal of Infection Control, Summer 2010.

### **Catheter Care Position Statement**

The DIG continues to field questions from across the country regarding catheter care. In response to these concerns a smaller working group is in the process of developing a Catheter Care Management Position Statement.

### **Bacteremia Survey**

The DIG is working on the development of a survey regarding bacteremia rates across the country. A small group will be pulled together to draft the questions to be sent out to members.

### **DIG Annual Meeting in Vancouver May 29, 2010**

Our annual DIG meeting was held in Vancouver, May 29<sup>th</sup> with 17 members present. Highlights from the meeting:

- DIG communication and response will continue according to our current practice. The DIG member who poses the questions will summarize all answers, disseminate to the membership and Shirley McDonald, CHICA webmaster, will post on DIG site.
- DIG members will continue to keep their local chapters current regarding DIG information/communication

### **Future Goals discussed by the group:**

- Use of polysporin
- Use of chlorhexidine impregnated dressings
- Benchmarks-CDC has revised definitions for Central Line Infections
- Position statement for ESBLs

### **Ongoing activity**

The DIG continues to be an active and supportive group who support DIG members with ongoing hemodialysis issues and concerns.

*Faith Stoll BScN RN, Chair*

*Vydia Nankoosingh MLT CIC, Co-Chair*

## **HEALTHCARE FACILITY AND DESIGN INTEREST GROUP**

The Healthcare Facility and Design interest group met at the CHICA Canada 2010 Education Conference held in Vancouver British Columbia. The first order of business was to ask if there were any changes to the Terms of Reference. No changes were brought forward.

Agenda items were

- CSA Health Care Facilities Standard Draft for discussion and comments
- CHICA CANADA Preconference Day – half day for HCFD
- Scheduling of Meetings in 2011
- Updating the list of members

There was a lengthy discussion of the CSA draft standard that had been distributed for stakeholder review. A number of those present had seen the draft standard and some had not seen the draft. One of the members with architectural design articulated that the document may be more easily understood if specific examples were used to highlight the specific issues that the document addressed. A lengthy discussion with specific examples followed. Action item was for Barb to ask CHICA CANADA to send out a link to the document for wider stakeholder review from the membership and to ask for an extension of a few weeks for members to review. Members attending the meeting were asked to provide feedback directly to CSA due to short timelines.

The preconference half day agenda for HCFD was then discussed. Some ideas that had been suggested and discussed by Barb and Maja in preparation for the meeting were brought forth. Those in attendance suggested that some of the topics be more basic. The members felt that there was a strong need for basic information related to HCFD issues due in part to there being many new members in the field as well as the fact that so many facilities are old and requiring either renovation or a new build.

The last item was to review the membership list and update membership. There was some discussion around having some teleconference meetings. Barb will send out a request to Chapter Presidents regarding membership and the group discussed possible best day and times for teleconference meetings.

The group is looking forward to the CHICA 2011 conference and the half day focusing on HCFD.

Subsequent to the meeting at the conference, Barb emailed all chapters to provide an updated list of the main contact for HCFD as well as any other interested members.

Planning for the preconference day was initiated and speakers approached by Maja McGuire.

*Barb Shea MLT ART CIC and Maja McGuire BSc MLT CIC, Co-Chairs*

## **LONG-TERM CARE INTEREST GROUP**

The Long-Term Care (LTC) Interest Group met in Vancouver, B.C. Saturday, May 29th, 2010 with 29 members/guests in attendance. Lee Hanna volunteered to Chair the meeting in the absence of the current Co-chairs and an agenda was developed. Agenda items discussed included:

### Old Business:

- Summary of the impact of H1N1 pandemic influenza in LTCH (Long-Term Care Homes)/Continuing Care including: concerns around N95 respirator fit testing; influenza vaccine rollout; H1N1 outbreaks in LTCH
- AROs (Antibiotic Resistant Organisms): surveillance, screening and management. Request to members to forward feedback as to their protocols for AROs.
- Reference and literature regarding the use of bar soap.
- PHAC (Public Health Agency of Canada) revised documents pending
- CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) equipment cleaning- Protocol to be shared and posted on website.
- CHICA Connections Web board information- a need for an easier process to share ideas and knowledge

### New Business:

- Request for resources pertaining to New Facility design in LTCH
- Hand Hygiene programs in LTCH- sharing of programs including hand hygiene audit process
- Discussion as to proposed direction of this LTC-IG

Chair/Co-chair elections took place with Cheryl Collins accepting a 1 year term of Chair and Marilyn Weinmaster a 2 year term Co-chair. In order to foster leadership continuity, it was agreed that the chair will step down after a one year term and the Co-chair will assume Chair position and a new Co-chair will be elected at the next annual conference.

The group discussed the difficulties of lack of ongoing communication throughout the year. To address this, after the annual meeting in Vancouver, the group developed a Q&A (Question and Answer) template and protocol for circulating questions and to share resources. A newly created email distribution list, which includes 21 current chapter representatives and 42 additional members that requested to participate in this interest group, is utilized to facilitate the process. Since development, this process has been used successfully on several occasions throughout the year to broadly communicate and share resources on pertinent LTC focused questions. To date discussions have included ARO surveillance and screening; UTI (Urinary Tract Infection) surveillance and management; Personal Protective Equipment required for Foot Care providers and outbreak costing tools.

We are looking forward to regrouping and networking at our upcoming LTC Interest Group meeting in Toronto during the 2011 CHICA national educational conference. Plans are currently under way to incorporate a short educational component during this meeting with a presentation by a member on their successful implementation of a hand hygiene program and orientation package. In Toronto, we anticipate the opportunity to set innovative goals that will inspire and influence our practice throughout 2011 in the LTC/Continuing Care sector.

*Cheryl Collins BScN CIC(Chair)*

*Marilyn Weinmaster BScN, CIC(Co-chair)*

## **MENTAL HEALTH INTEREST GROUP (MHIG)**

The MHIG held their annual meeting at the CHICA conference in Vancouver British Columbia on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010 with 20 members in attendance.

Discussions involved issues in balancing Infection Prevention and Control with the mental health needs of the clients. Specific discussions around outbreak management, renovations, hand sanitizers, bed bugs, accessing infection control expertise, and unique needs of outpatient areas as opposed to inpatient needs.

The MHIG had been working on position papers, but after discussions with the president-elect during the meeting it was decided that a journal article from the MHIG would be more appropriate. The article will cover the three areas of need: ARO Surveillance, Hand Hygiene and Special Populations. All members of the MHIG would have a chance to review and comment on the article before submission to the Canadian Journal of Infection Control.

The meeting concluded with the election of two new chairs: Cathy Munford and Nancy Ross.

The MHIG remain active throughout the year through e-mail discussions of a number of topics including:

- Additional Precautions in Mental Health
- ARO swabbing versus Screening
- Identification of clean and dirty equipment
- Bed Bug policies
- New Builds and renovations
- Therapy services including recreational items such as puzzles and books and cleaning protocols
- IPAC and safety devices in Mental Health

*Cathy Munford*

*Nancy Ross*

*Co-Chairs, Mental Health Interest Group*

## **NETWORK OF NETWORKS GROUP**

The Network of Networks group has 17 members representing all regions of Canada. In 2010 the group was co-chaired by Bruce Gamage (BC) and Patsy Rawding (NS). The group met at the CHICA Conference in May of 2010 for a half day meeting. At that meeting the group discussed our provincial responses to pH1N1, hot topics and provincial activities.

Members of the group reviewed and provided feedback on several Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) guidelines including the revised Routine Practices and Additional Precautions document and Hand Hygiene Practices in Healthcare. Members of the Network of Networks group routinely exchange information by email on provincial initiatives and areas shared concern.

In November of 2010 the Co-Chairs were invited to meet with representatives from the PHAC to discuss the role of this group as an expert advisory group. Patsy Rawding also represented the group at the PHAC Steering Committee on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Guidelines.

*Bruce Gamage RN BSN CIC and Patsy Rawding RN BScN CIC , Co-Chairs*

## **ONCOLOGY INTEREST GROUP**

The group met in Vancouver at annual meeting in 2010. The chair was not at the meeting. Minutes are on the CHICA website. The group currently has 39 members.

The group has email discussion with monthly Q&A with responses from members, which are collated, and shared with everyone.

Change in chair to Jennifer Blue – Juravinski Hospital and Cancer Centre, Hamilton Health Sciences, Hamilton Ontario

*Jennifer Blue, Chair*

## **PAEDIATRICS INTEREST GROUP**

The Paediatric Interest Group met in person during the 2010 National Education Conference. Topics for discussion at the meeting were: plexiglass barriers and the issue of children making faces and kissing the glass; a reminder that measles is still around in Alberta and BC, and a reminder to "dust off the policies" and remind staff that they need to know their immune status.

The group agreed that the interest group was a worthwhile and needed group. It needs to increase its profile and encourage members to join – see the minutes posted on the CHICA-Canada web site for the action plan.

Upcoming goals:

- Guidelines on the purpose of interest groups, membership, role of the chair and co chair (see minutes for action plan).
- Review the Maternal Child Health Network Document (Ontario) re: routine practice for perinatal care, as this may be a very good resource document for this group.

*Teri Murduff, Co-Chair*

## **PREHOSPITAL CARE INTEREST GROUP**

2010 was a time of re-grouping for the Prehospital Interest Group. Due to workload pressures associated with pH1N1, the productivity of the group waned. However, by the CHICA-Canada conference in May, the group was able to re-focus and return to higher levels of productivity. Natalie Hiltz from Peel Police Service was appointed to the co-chair position, with Jennifer Amyotte. The meeting format for the conference was revised.

At the Vancouver 2010 annual conference, the draft position statement on cleaning and disinfection of emergency vehicles in the prehospital environment was presented which includes an appendix was to help emergency services evaluate new cleaning products. Group members gave an oral presentation on the development of the Personal Protection Strategy model, and presented two posters related to the development of IPAC programs in Peel Region's emergency services.

Other highlights include the invitation from the CHICA Scientific Committee for the PHCIG to present two concurrent sessions at the 2011 conference to be held in Toronto. The first presentation will be a video of a three-tiered response to a motor-vehicle collision which will ask the audience to identify incorrect IPAC practise. Peel Police and Paramedic services and Caledon Fire Department have volunteered their time, equipment and personnel for this video. The second session will present the position paper with a discussion on how to choose appropriate cleaning and disinfection products. We wish to thank the Scientific Committee and the CHICA board for this opportunity.

Other accomplishments for 2010:

- Hosted three teleconferences in 2010, each resulting in movement forward of various projects.
- Revision of the PHCIG Terms of Reference, including a new way to obtain quorum.
- Confirmation of the effectiveness of ambulance ventilation for prevention of airborne transmission.
- Provision of feedback on the RPAP document from PHAC
- Inform a presentation by the Paramedic Association of Canada to the Senate Committee on Canada's response to pH1N1.
- Creation of the Designated Officers' IPAC manual by the Region of Peel Designated Officers' Working Group which is now being shared nationally through the PHCIG.
- The creation of a national network of designated officers in law enforcement.
- Creation of a draft presentation on IPAC in PHC to be shared through our national networks.

A work plan for 2011 will include working with PPE manufacturers to better understand the special needs of emergency medical service personnel and the creation of a position statement on recommended immunization for all prehospital care providers. The group plans on meeting by teleconference in February and March to establish timelines for our current projects and presentations and develop an agenda for the PHCIG Meeting in Toronto. The group will continue to remain focused on providing support to prehospital services to advance the importance of infection control as it relates to the patient care we provide.

*Jennifer Amyotte ACP  
Const. Natalie Hiltz  
Co-Chairs, Prehospital Care Interest Group  
Report prepared by Alexis Silverman*

## **SURVEILLANCE AND APPLIED EPIDEMIOLOGY INTEREST GROUP (SAEIG)**

The SAEIG membership is currently sixty-six members. The group met at the 2010 CHICA-Canada national conference.

The present Executive Committee includes:

Co-Chair: Bronwen Edgar, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, Toronto, ON (on maternity leave until January 2012)

Co-Chair: Myrna Dyck, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Winnipeg, MB

Secretary: Anne-Luise Winter, Infectious Diseases Branch, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Toronto, ON

CJIC Liaison: Diane Wallace, Grand River Hospital Kitchener, ON

Due to the continued response and evaluation related to pandemic influenza H1N1, some activities related to CHICA members' epidemiology/surveillance needs survey were put on hold during 2010. Pending further consultation with core interest group members, this survey will again be reviewed and finalized during 2011. The focus of 2010 SAEIG activities included planning for a half day education session at the 2011 CHICA-Canada conference. The presentations within this session have been planned to be practical and highly interactive with the audience and will bring the practice of surveillance and the use of results right to ICPs at the bedside, in both acute and long term care settings. Topics that will be covered in this session include: introductory surveillance and epidemiology, benchmarking and performance measurement, using data to affect behaviour change and communicating data to achieve action. There will also be some time set aside to network and share tools.

*Myrna Dyck, Co-Chair*

## WEB COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

### Website Activity

Website statistics for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010 showed the following:

- Number of unique website visits for 2010: 120,984 (121,625 in 2009)
- Total number of website visits (including repeats) for 2010: 286,908 (288,099 in 2009)
- Average visits per day (including weekends) for 2010: 786 (789 in 2009)
- Number of first time visitors for 2010: 77,913 (76,070 in 2009)

### Initiatives

#### A. New/Ongoing Initiatives

##### • Members Area

- Members home page revised
- Audit Toolkit – 40 audit tools with supporting materials have been posted to the website

##### • Main Website

- Began revision of entire website in collaboration with web designer, to be launched 2011
- CHICA-website increasingly used by other organizations for surveys targeted to infection control professionals
- Resources added for NDM-1
- Website used for online voting for positions on CHICA Board
- Corporate members web pages changed and updated to reflect new terminology and levels of membership
- CHICA Connections is undergoing revision (including name change to CHICA CHAT), for launching with the new website revisions in 2011

##### • Chapter Websites

- Requests for chapter websites were received from CHICA-TPIC and CHICA HUPIC
- Work was begun to migrate chapter websites into the new website design, while allowing more flexibility for chapters to personalize their websites

##### • New Web Pages

- Chapter President's web page (in Members area)
- New web page for the Network of Networks Interest Group (in Members area)

##### • Other

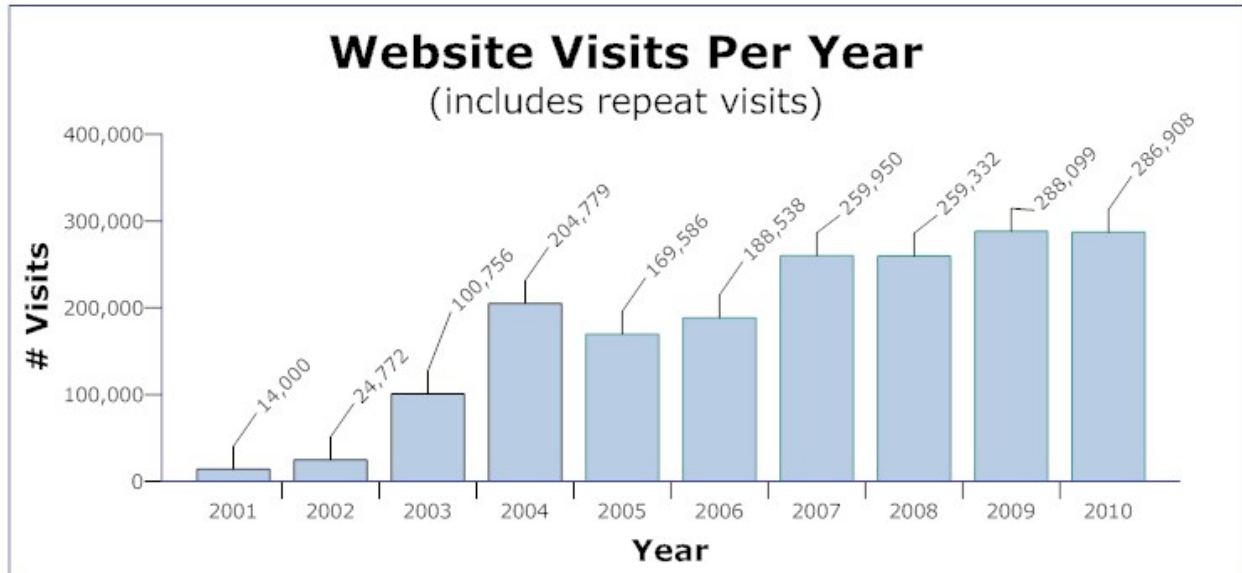
- Second meeting of chapter website liaison members/chapter webmasters at the 2010 conference in Vancouver

#### B. Future Plans

- Launch of revised website in 2011
- A third meeting of chapter website liaison members/chapter webmasters is planned for the 2011 conference, to allow networking and discussion of issues common to all chapter websites
- Continued growth of the audit toolkit with ongoing revision as required

*Submitted by Shirley McDonald*

*Web Communications Manager/CHICA-Canada Webmaster*



#### **CHICA-CONNECTIONS**

The CHICA-Connections section of the web site will be undergoing a name change with the launch of the 'new look' site. CHICA-Connections will change its name to CHICA-Chat. CHICA-Canada members are encouraged to log in, sign up, and use this area of the web site to post questions to your peers. Chapters can use their chapter-specific areas to share updates.

Our web designer is working with CHICA to make this site a little more user-friendly in terms of passwords, so stay tuned for updates in 2011.

*Jim Gauthier MLT CIC*

## CANADIAN JOURNAL OF INFECTION CONTROL (CJIC)

We continue to attract a large number of high quality articles from Canadian and international authors. As of writing this report, 18 articles have been received for 2010 with half of these awaiting publication in future issues of CJIC

The 2010 CJIC meeting held at the annual conference in Vancouver provided more feedback and ideas from those in attendance. We have reviewed our circulation lists.

Following the conference, a letter was sent to abstract presenters encouraging them to publish their findings in CJIC.

The CJIC Editorial Award was presented at the 2010 conference to the authors of *Utility of environmental sampling for the prevention of transmission of Vancomycin resistant enterococci (VRE) in hospitals*, with the award being accepted by Sandra Callery.

We are in process of renewing our listing with the National Library of Medicine. We are also exploring making CJIC available through other listing and library services.

Members and chapters are to be congratulated for continuing to provide interesting and important content for CJIC. We encourage Canadian authors to publish in CJIC to reach our many readers.

I attended the APIC meeting in New Orleans in July to promote CJIC and CHICA-Canada at our well-attended booth.

*Pat Piaskowski RN HBScN CIC*  
*Editor in Chief*

## ARCHIVIST

The 2010 National Education Conference was held in Vancouver, BC May 29 – June 3 with the theme *Golden Opportunities – Soaring to New Heights*. The attendance was excellent. The venue – Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre - the scientific program, and the hospitality were all first rate. The nationally appointed scientific program committee spent 18 months planning a program that addressed IP&C issues across the healthcare spectrum with many new issues addressed in the various sessions.

As we look ahead to being an organization of only 35 years of age in 2011 we can say that we have come a long way! In the beginning there were 39 charter members who met in Montreal in 1976. In 2010 membership was over 1600 strong and we welcomed our 21<sup>st</sup> chapter. CHICA-Peel Region received its charter at the Opening Ceremonies in Vancouver. In reviewing old minutes from the CHICA board back in the 1970s they were truly visionary about chapters being the key to CHICA's survival. In Gerry Hansen's editorial in CJIC Summer 2010 "Growing Chapters" she highlights the role of chapters and how some chapters - even with geographic challenges (CHICA-NL) - are increasing their membership by as much as 91%. Two other chapters – Renfrew County and CHICA-Eastern Ontario had increases of 56% & 62% respectively. Chapters are invaluable to members and vice versa. The pressure of work loads and at times the feeling of not being supporting can often be discouraging but being connected to peers through your chapter will replace doubts with renewed resolve to keep going. In addition to chapters, another area that is growing in strength is that of interest groups (IG) within our association. Many members are coming in early to attend these worth while networking opportunities. Many IGs meet by teleconference throughout the year to continue work on mutual areas of IP&C.

Numerous members were acknowledged for their achievements over the past year. The Best First Time Abstract Winner was: Linda Howard, Mona Williams, et al *Friends Helping Friends: Peer Auditing in the Central Supply Room: A Non- Biased Approach to Auditing the Central Supply Room*; Best Poster: *Partnerships and Collaboration Between Infection Control Professionals and Environmental Services* Helen Gibson & Nicki Saunders, et al. The Best Oral Presentation went to Laurie Boyer for *Academic Resource Kit for Infection Prevention and Control: Putting the Current Resources in the Hands of Instructors Educating Healthcare Students*. The Ecolab sponsored Infection Control Week Poster Contest was won by Melody Cordoviz, Alberta Health Services, Royal Alexander Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta with the theme "It's Simple". The 2009 Editorial Award went to Victoria Williams, Sandra Callery, Mary Vearncombe & Andrew Simor for their article *Utility of environmental sampling for the prevention of transmission of Vancomycin resistant enterococci (VRE) in hospitals* (CJIC Vol.24, No.2, Summer 2009). The CHICA Southwestern Ontario Chapter won the 3M Chapter Achievement Award.

Dr. Dick Zoutman became CHICA-Canada's newest Honourary Member. This prestigious award is acknowledgement of Dr. Zoutman's dedication to CHICA with 12 years of service on the CHICA board as the Physician Director. Among his numerous contributions to CHICA-Canada was lobbying governments (such as his input into the Romanov report) increasing the relationship of CHICA with Accreditation Canada and the Canadian Patient Safety Institute. He developed the model for the Corporate Membership policy and Corporate Relations Committee. All of these endeavors increased our profile within the healthcare arena and assisted in our financial positioning.

Another prestigious honour was bestowed this year for the first time – the Champion of Infection Prevention and Control was presented to Dr. Mary Vearncombe. Dr. Vearncombe has been a tireless advocate of infection prevention and control across all health care settings. She has been recognized for her extraordinary service to the profession. Mary has been a mentor to many practitioners and is recognized nationally as an expert on infection control issues. This award is sponsored by 3M and was presented to Dr. Vearncombe at the *Breakfast of Champions* by Dr. Maureen Cividino. The overview of Mary's career with intense dedication was both emotional and humourist. Mary's acceptance speech was inspirational and very humble.

*Mary E LeBlanc RN BN CIC*  
*Archivist*

## **INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF INFECTION CONTROL (IFIC)**

### **BOARD ACTIVITIES:**

- Biannual IFIC Board meeting: Malta, March 2010, Stellenbosch, South Africa (in conjunction with Joint IPCAN/IFIC Congress): September 2010
- Executive Committee Skype teleconferences

### **From the Objectives 2010:**

- Strategic planning exercise – **see below**
- Expand Special Interest Groups- **ongoing**
- Include a networking function on the website- **ongoing**
- Review Articles of Association—**see below**
- Updating of member society details- **ongoing- see membership below**

From the Strategic Planning process held in Malta the following changes have been approved:

**Mission:** To foster best practice in infection prevention & control through global networking within healthcare.

**Vision:** To be the leading International networking facilitator in prevention and control within healthcare.

### **Board of Trustees:**

It was agreed to make changes to the procedural process for election to the Board of Trustees. The Board will be composed of 10 trustees plus the Chair. The IFIC Chair will be deemed to represent solely the Federation. Upon taking office, s/he will cease to represent the region from where s/he was elected or to be the nominee of any society and the position vacated by the Chair will be filled by an election held for nominees from societies in the group/s from which the Chair was originally elected. All travel expenses for the IFIC Chair will be covered by the Federation.

It was proposed to have board members elected from a specified geographical region (see table below). The proposed changes will have an equal distribution of Trustee representation between developed/high resource and developing/low resource regions, each of the two groups electing five Trustees to the Board.

High resource regions incorporate the countries listed in Group A and Group B in the enclosed table:

- Two Trustees will be elected from Group A
- Two Trustees will be elected from Group B.
- The fifth Trustee will be elected following a call for nominations issued to member societies in both Group A and Group B.
- 

Small/developing/low resource regions incorporate the countries listed in groups C to G in the enclosed table.

- One Trustee will be elected from each of group

December 2010 marked the completion of the terms of office for Michael Borg and Ossama Rasslan. On January 1, 2011 the Board of Trustee membership is:

Judith Richards: Chair  
Carol Goldman: Secretary (B)  
Jane Murphy: Treasurer (A)  
Walter Popp (A)  
Emese Szilagyi (C)  
Gayle Gilmore (B)  
Akeau Unahalekhaka (F)  
Pola Brenner (E)  
Egil Lingaas (A)

**2011 Trustee Vacancies:** To begin this new procedural process, nominations for filling vacancies in the Board membership in 2011 will be drawn from Groups, D and G

In order to be more fiscally responsible for trustee expenses the board has decided to hold spring meetings in less costly venues such as in Hungary, Croatia or Malta. As well, in consideration of conference costs it was agreed that the Gala Dinner will no longer be included in the conference registration rate and unless sponsorship can be given for a Speaker's Dinner, this event will not be held.

**Goals 2011:**

1. Provide the tools to unite societies & individuals active in infection control in order to reduce the risk of healthcare associated infection globally
2. Draw on member organizations to provide help and assist with formation of national societies within countries at the early stages of infection control.
3. Provide communication via newsletter, journal, website, publications & email.
4. Maintain a liaison with WHO and other organisations that promote infection control on a global basis.
5. Promote high quality educational opportunities, materials and training at low or no cost.
6. To strengthen the internal structure of the Federation
  1. ensure full geographic representation of all global regions
7. Increase by 20%:
  1. number of corporate sponsors
  2. website hits
  3. submissions to IJIC
  4. attendance at IFIC congresses

**Committees:**

**A. The 20110 Executive:**

Judith Richards: Chair  
Carol Goldman: Secretary  
Jane Murphy: Treasurer  
Michael Borg: Past Chair and Chair Conference Committee - an ex officio board member

**Membership and Finances Sub Committee:**

Nizam Damani (Chair) an ex officio board member  
Pamela Allen (administrative assistant)  
Jane Murphy (Treasurer)

**Publications sub committee:** (to address IJIC, enews, web resources, basic concepts, translation)

Candy Freidman: Chair  
Aaron Cauchi (webmaster)  
Elizabeth Ann Scicluna (Journal Administrator)  
Smilja Kalenic Editor- IJIC 2011- an ex officio board member

**PUBLICATIONS:**

Basic Concepts in Infection Control is being revised and expected to be re-published by 2012.

**MEMBERSHIP:**

- IFIC has 79 members in 61 countries
  - 25 member societies are still unpaid for past 3 years – the board is investigating
  - Unable to trace payment for three societies- the board is investigating

**Associate Members category:** 349 members from 70 countries

As part of my duties as Secretary I have assumed the task of helping design a Patron Members Package. The Policy and Procedure Manual has been completed and will hopefully be online for the member's only site in 2011. As well I will assist in drafting a Conference Manual.

As always I thank CHICA-Canada for giving me this wonderful opportunity.

*Carol Goldman, Secretary*

<u><b>A</b></u> <u><b>Europe 1</b></u>	<u><b>B</b></u> <u><b>Others</b></u>	<u><b>C</b></u> <u><b>Europe 2</b></u>	<u><b>D</b></u> <u><b>Africa</b></u>	<u><b>E</b></u> <u><b>Americas 2</b></u>	<u><b>F</b></u> <u><b>SE Asia &amp; W Pacific</b></u>	<u><b>G</b></u> <u><b>EMRO</b></u>
Austria	USA	Albania	Algeria Angola	Antigua & Barbuda	Bangladesh	Afghanistan
Belgium	Canada	Andorra	Benin Botswana	Argentina	Bhutan	Bahrain
Denmark	Japan	Armenia	Burkina Faso	Bahamas	Cambodia	Djibouti
Finland	Australia	Azerbaijan	Burundi Cameroon	Barbados	China	Egypt
France	New Zealand	Belarus	Cape Verde	Belize	Cook Islands	Iran
Germany		Bosnia & Herzegovina	Central African Rep.	Bolivia	Korea DPR	Iraq
Greece		Bulgaria	Chad Comoros	Brazil	Korea Republic	Jordan
Ireland		Croatia	Congo	Chile	Fiji	Kuwait
Israel		Cyprus	Cote d'Ivoire	Colombia	India	Lebanon
Italy		Czech Republic	DR Congo	Costa Rica	Indonesia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Netherlands		Estonia	Equatorial Guinea	Cuba	Kiribati	Morocco
Norway		FYR Macedonia	Eritrea Ethiopia	Dominica	Lao	Oman
Poland		Georgia	Gabon Gambia	Dominican Republic	Malaysia	Pakistan
Portugal		Hungary	Ghana Guinea	Ecuador	Maldives	Qatar
Spain		Iceland	Guinea-Bissau	El Salvador	Marshall Islands	Saudi Arabia
Sweden		Kazakhstan	Kenya Lesotho	Grenada	Micronesia	Somalia
Switzerland		Kyrgyzstan	Liberia	Guatemala	Mongolia	Sudan
United Kingdom		Latvia	Madagascar	Guyana	Myanmar	Syrian Arab Rep.
		Lithuania	Malawi Mali	Haiti	Nauru	Tunisia
		Luxembourg	Mauritania	Honduras	Nepal	United Arab Emirates
		Malta	Mauritius	Jamaica	Niue	Yemen
		Montenegro	Mozambique	Mexico	Palau	
		Republic of Moldavia	Namibia Niger	Nicaragua	Papua New Guinea	
		Romania	Nigeria Rwanda	Panama	Philippines	
		Russian Federation	Sao Tome & Principe	Paraguay	Samoa	
		San Marino	Senegal	Peru	Singapore	
		Serbia	Seychelles	St Kitts & Nevis	Solomon Islands	
		Slovakia	Sierra Leone	St Lucia	Sri Lanka	
		Slovenia	South Africa	St Vincent & Grenada	Thailand	
		Tajikistan	Swaziland	Suriname	Timor-Leste	
		Turkey	Togo Uganda	Trinidad & Tobago	Tonga	
		Turkmenistan	UR Tanzania	Uruguay	Tuvalu	
		Ukraine	Zimbabwe	Venezuela	Vanuatu	
		Uzbekistan			Viet Nam	

## **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES OFFICE**

The Membership Services Office (MSO) is staffed by Gerry Hansen, Executive Director, and Kelli Wagner, Administrative Assistant. The MSO provides day-to-day assistance to the Board, chapters, members, the public, and external partners. The highlights of 2010 include:

### **Communication**

- Preparation of a monthly e-newsletter to relay association information to members
- Input into the Association side of the quarterly journal
- Preparation of a quarterly article, From the Executive Desk, for the journal
- Organization of Voices of CHICA teleclasses in March and September
- With publisher, organized the annual Member and Source Guide
- Enhancement of online membership registration and online conference registration

### **External Partners**

- Gerry Hansen represented CHICA-Canada on the Board of the Canadian Foundation of Infectious Diseases, on the planning committee of the Antibiotic Awareness Campaign (November 2010), and the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (Hand Hygiene Day)
- Attended the 2010 APIC Conference in New Orleans and coordinated a CHICA booth.
- Attended the 2010 Infection Prevention Society conference in Bournemouth, UK, and coordinated a CHICA booth. In August 2010, with Anne Bialachowski, met with Public Health Agency of Canada to discuss collaborative projects and issues of mutual interest.

### **Education**

- Assisted with the launch of the CHICA-Canada Distance Education Course.
- With the CHICA-Canada Accreditation Canada Working Group, represented CHICA-Canada in the development of an Accreditation Canada Conference (November 2010). The conference was cancelled but plans are to re-schedule the conference for October 2011.
- With Director of Programs & Projects, and Director of Education, assisted in the development of the CHICA-BD Canada Roadshow in Regina (April 2011).
- With Director of Education, coordinated the development of a Routine Practices E-Learning Tool with YCommunicate Inc. and Georgian College Working Group of CHICA-Canada members are currently working on this project, expected to be launched in April 2011. Sponsorship for this project received from GOJO.

### **Member Services**

- Coordinated the Champions of Infection Prevention and Control Awards, the Virox Scholarship Awards, the 2010 Ecolab Poster Contest, and the 3M Chapter Achievement Awards.
- With Clinical Editor, negotiated with EBSCO to provide CHICA journal article references in the EBSCO Scientific Search Engine.
- Coordinated a Chapter Presidents Teleclass (January 2010) and a Chapter Presidents Teleclass (February 2010).
- Updated and posted the Member Package. This is a printed document to be used by chapters to encourage membership when a more comprehensive promotion is required.

### **Association Governance**

- Revised the Board Orientation Manual and posted to Board page on website (November 2010).
- Re-organized internal systems to provide for quicker expedition of membership and conference payments
- Negotiated higher association insurance policy limits at lower premiums
- Coordinated on-line election of new Board members.
- With the Board, reviewed initiatives to generate revenue and reduce costs. These initiatives will be further discussed at the 2011 Annual General Meeting.

I would like to express my thanks to the Board for its support during the past year and for providing a challenging and fulfilling work environment. I especially thank Kelli Wagner, Shirley McDonald, and Pamela Chalmers for their invaluable assistance in all projects during the year.

*Gerry Hansen BA  
Executive Director*

## **CONFERENCE PLANNER**

### **2010 NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

*Golden Opportunities – Soaring to New Heights*  
Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, Vancouver BC  
May 29-June 3, 2010

A very successful and well attended conference was held in Vancouver in May 2010. With the assistance of the Scientific Program Committee, Nicole Kenny, Industry Liaison; Kelli Wagner, and other industry suppliers, attendees were able to enjoy the highest quality education program along with valuable industry contacts and excellent special events. The 2010 Scientific Program Committee is comprised of Marion Yetman (Conference Chair), Jim Gauthier (Scientific Program Chair), Zahir Hirji (Scientific Program Co-Chair), Molly Blake (Acute Care Representative), Lee Hanna (Long Term Care Representative), Amanda Knapp (Community/Public Health Representative), Dr. Pamela Kibsey (Microbiology/ID Representative), and Louise Holmes and Linda Kingsbury of CHICA British Columbia.

### **2011 NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

*Innovation, Inspiration, Influence – Leadership in Action*  
Sheraton Centre Toronto, Toronto, ON  
May 28-June 2, 2011

The Scientific Program Committee developed a Preliminary Program (April 2010) and a Registration brochure (December 2010) with innovative and dynamic educational content. The Scientific Program Committee is comprised of Cathy Munford (Conference Chair), Zahir Hirji (Scientific Program Chair), Molly Blake (Scientific Program Co-Chair), Colette Ouellet (Acute Care Representative), Marilyn Weinmaster (Long Term Care Representative), Amanda Knapp (Community/Public Health Representative), Dr. Pamela Kibsey (Microbiology/ID Representative), Victoria Williams (Toronto Professionals in Infection Control), and Susan Cooper (Member at large). A highlight of the program is Designates Day, designed to provide basic IP&C information to non-ICP healthcare providers. It is anticipated that 750 attendees and 75 exhibitors taking 100 booths will make this a very successful conference.

### **2012 NATIONAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**

TCU Place, Saskatoon SK  
June 1-7, 2012

The 2012 Scientific Program Committee held its first meeting in November 2010. The Committee is comprised of Anne Bialachowski (Conference Chair), Molly Blake (Scientific Program Chair), Colette Ouellet (Scientific Program Co-Chair), Joanne Baines (Acute Care Representative), Marilyn Weinmaster (Long Term Care Representative), Alexis Silverman (Community/Public Health), Dr. Oscar Larios (Medical Microbiology/Infectious Diseases), Gwen Cerkowniak (CHICA SASKPIC Representative), and Rita Montgomery (Member at large).

### **FUTURE CONFERENCES**

Site inspections were held throughout the year at various future conference locations. These events were usually sponsored by the local Tourism board whose assistance was greatly appreciated. Announcements of future conference dates and locations will be made as plans are finalized.

Many thanks to the committees, chapter members, conference attendees, industry representatives and allied associations who work hard alongside the CHICA Conference Planning Office to ensure dynamic educational and networking opportunities. Thanks also to Kelli Wagner for her selfless dedication to the success of our conferences before, during and after the events.

*Gerry Hansen BA*  
*Conference Planner*

## **CHICA-VANCOUVER ISLAND**

### **Executive 2010**

President: Joanne Baines RN BSc(Hons) / Gayle Lohr RN BA BSN MN GNC(C)  
President-elect: Gayle Lohr  
Secretary: Kim Zboyovsky RN  
Treasurer: Susan Sinclair RN BSN

### **Executive 2011**

President: Gayle Lohr RN BA BSN MN GNC(C)  
President-elect: vacant  
Secretary: Kim Zboyovsky RN  
Treasurer: Susan Sinclair RN BSN

**Number of Members: 38**

**Geographic Area Served:** Vancouver Island, British Columbia

### **Meetings**

Unfortunately because of the distance for the chapter to travel, we have had no formal meetings this year.

### **Highlights**

- National Conference – approximately 14 members were able to take part in the May Conference held in Vancouver.
- We were able to organize one education day during “Infection Control Week” Using Vancouver Island Health Authority’s video link to various hospitals around the island we were able to provide an education for health care workers.
- We are presently planning to develop study group sessions to facilitate as many members as possible in writing their CIC’s in the coming year.

*Joanne Baines/Gayle Lohr*  
*Co-Chapter Presidents*

## **CHICA-BC**

### **2010 Executive**

President:	Robyn Hunter BSN RN CIC
President-elect:	Pawandeep (Pawan) Sindhar BSN RN
Past-President:	Coleen Reiswig RN BSN CIC
Secretary:	Stephanie Cooke HBSc, MSc CID
Treasurer:	Joy Pyett RN, BSN, CIC
Secretary-Membership:	Joanne Tench BN CIC

### **2011 Executive**

President:	Pawandeep (Pawan) Sindhar BSN RN
President-elect:	Meg Miller BSN RN
Past-President:	Robyn Hunter BSN RN CIC
Secretary:	Stephanie Cooke HBSc, MSc CID
Treasurer:	Tara Donovan MSc (Epidemiologist)
Secretary-Membership:	Joanne Tench BN CIC

**Number of Members:** 133

**Geographic Area Served:** All of BC except Vancouver Island

### **Membership:**

From across the continuum of Care

### **Meetings:**

#### *Executive Meetings*

Occur one week prior to every general meeting and are one hour in length.

#### *General Meetings*

Occur the last Wednesday of every second month; July meeting gets cancelled for summer break.

Meetings are one hour of business and one hour of education on a variety of topics.

### **Initiatives Related to the CHICA-Canada 2010-2015 Strategic Plan:**

- 1. Goal One: Raise the profile of the association and its activities.*
  - o Meetings in September and November focused on goal setting for CHICA-BC in relation to the CHICA-Canada visioning done in 2009
- 2. Goal Two: Enhance the mix of products and services.*
- 3. Goal Three: Expand the association's education initiatives.*
- 4. Goal Four: Expand and develop the membership base.*
- 5. Goal Five: Provide national and international leadership.*
  - o A joint meeting with APIC – Puget Sound in October provided an opportunity to continue the connection with international colleagues.
  - o A representative from CHICA-BC attended the CIBC board meeting to present the experience of CHICA-BC members pertaining to certification.

### **Highlights:**

- Executive members met with lead volunteers for the 2010 CHICA-Canada conference monthly from January to April and then biweekly until May and then weekly until the conference
- January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 education session - Understanding the Risk of TB by Dr. Jen Grant
- March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 education session - A Walk through the PICNet Website – taking advantage of the online education opportunities by Joanne Archer
- June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 education session – CHICA-Canada conference reports and round table discussion of conference learnings
- September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 - CHICA-BC Visioning and Strategic Plan Discussion with Coleen Reiswig

- October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – Joint Meeting with APIC-Puget Sound Chapter
  - Dr David W. Birnbaum PhD, MPH
  - Jeanne Cummings RN, BSN, CIC
  - Tara Donovan MSc (Epidemiologist)
  - Linda Adam RN, BScN, CIC
- November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 – CHICA-BC Goals Discussion

*Robyn Hunter BSN RN CIC*  
*Chapter President*

## **CHICA-NORTHERN ALBERTA**

### **2010 Executive**

President: Alan Hope  
President-elect: Ralph Ennis-Davis RN BN  
Secretary: Mary Kristal RN CIC (resigned October 2010)  
Treasurer: Marie Judd RN

### **2011 Executive**

President: Ralph Ennis-Davis RN BN  
President-elect: Julie- Ann Babiuk MLT BSc MSc  
Secretary: Kimberly Miller MLT  
Treasurer: Beverley Hanowski RN BScN OHN CIC

**Number of Members: 98**

**Geographic Area Served:** Northern Alberta

### **Membership**

CHICA-NA has a diverse group of members that include acute care, continuing care, rehab, EMS, community health, public health, dental health, industry and environmental services. Approximately 25% of our members hold CIC designation.

### **Meetings**

The chapter meets ten times per year one being a joint meeting with CHICA-SA. We meet the second Wednesday of each month from 13:00-15:00 excluding July and August. Currently we hold a one- hour education session followed by a one- hour business meeting. June and December are social meetings where a luncheon is served. Attendance averages 20 members with the Christmas function being the best attended where almost 50% of the membership is present.

### **Highlights**

In 2010 the chapter made all of our meetings available electronically with Web-Ex which allowed the membership to not only hear but view all the educational speakers. The chapter is also planning to purchase its own laptop and projector shortly which will allow the group more flexibility in holding meetings in sites or locations that do not otherwise have the capabilities of holding monthly meetings. In May some of the membership attended the national conference in Vancouver with one member winning a Virox scholarship. Three members were presenters at the conference, and each of their sessions were well attended. Melody Cordoviz won the Ecolab Poster Contest. With the restructuring in Alberta Health Services the number of group attendees was significantly lower from years past. Our chapter congratulates Bern Hankinson who has just completed her term as Secretary/Membership Director on the Board of CHICA-Canada.

This was my second term as chapter president and I would like to close by thanking all of the group members who assisted in making the year a most enjoyable one. I hope that incoming chapter president Ralph Ennis-Davis can utilize the group's wealth of experience like I have been able to do.

*Alan Hope*  
*Chapter President*

## **CHICA-SOUTHERN ALBERTA**

### **2010 Executive**

President: Wendy Runge RN BScN CIC  
President-elect: Pamela Armstrong RN OHNC BN  
Secretary: Heather MacLaurin RN  
Treasurer: Sue Crittenden RN  
Education Coordinator: Roberta McCombie MSc  
Seminar Coordinator: Marlene Montgomery RN

### **2011 Executive**

President: Wendy Runge RN BScN CIC  
President-elect: Pamela Armstrong RN OHNC BN  
Secretary: Heather MacLaurin RN  
Treasurer: Sue Crittenden RN  
Education Coordinator: Roberta McCombie MSc  
Seminar Coordinator: *currently vacant*

**Number of Members:** 70

### **Geographic Area Served:**

Southern and South/Central Alberta, extending from Red Deer south to the US border, east to the Saskatchewan border and west to the BC border.

### **Membership**

CHICA-Southern Alberta membership consists of:

- Infection Prevention and Control professionals from acute care hospital sites, assisted/supportive living sites, urban and rural community sites and pre-hospital care.
- Representatives from industry, environmental services, educational institutions, private consultants, dental offices and individuals with an interest in CHICA-Canada.

### **Meetings**

Nine meetings were held during 2010:

- One joint meeting with the CHICA-Northern Alberta chapter via Telehealth (video format) in September
- Eight local meetings with teleconferencing options for members unable to travel (October, November, January, February, March, April, May and June).
- Educational sessions at meetings included:  
February: The Mphastso Pure Water Story: Fulfilling an ICP's Dream  
March: Southern Alberta Institute of Technology – Infection Prevention and Control Course  
April: Atlanta Decennial Conference Highlights  
October: New Glove Technology  
November: Donna Wiens: CHICA-Canada Update and Open Dialogue

### **Initiatives Related to the CHICA-Canada 2010-2015 Strategic Plan**

1. *Goal One: Raise the profile of the association and its activities.*
  - Senior Alberta Health Services (AHS) administration invited to open educational seminar
  - Dialogue with AHS administration to support the networking and educational opportunities available to professionals at the local and national levels of the CHICA organization.
2. *Goal Two: Enhance the mix of products and services.*
  - No activities
3. *Goal Three: Expand the association's education initiatives.*
  - Educational seminar presented (see 'Highlights')
  - Decision by membership to include education at every local meeting

4. *Goal Four: Expand and develop the membership base.*
  - Increased education for local members
  - Invitation to environmental service providers to join CHICA
5. *Goal Five: Provide national and international leadership.*
  - Membership is represented on all CHICA interest groups. Many working on documents for publication or on position statements.
  - Representation on Standards and Guidelines audit tool working group
  - Members partnering with Safer Healthcare Now! for projects and presentations.

### **Highlights**

- A one-day seminar was held in September 2010. The seminar was entitled ‘Shake It Off and Shake It Up’, with the objectives being to review the lessons learned during the H1N1 Pandemic and to re-energize attending healthcare professionals. Overall, the attendees gave us very positive feedback. Many of the attendees stated an appreciation for the one-day format as it was easier to secure time and funding to attend this educational opportunity. The chapter made a very small profit.
- The Terms of Reference were revised. The term of President will now be a 2-year term. The President-Elect and Past President will each continue to serve 1-year terms and each will assume the same duties. In any given year there will be either a President-Elect or a Past President, but not both.
- In the process of updating the chapter website. New homepage and logo launched in December. Speaker presentations from the September 2010 seminar remain posted and can be downloaded from the Educational Events page.
- Donna Wiens came as a special guest to our November meeting. This was embraced as an excellent opportunity for the membership to connect with the CHICA-Canada organization and to have the opportunity to have an open discussion forum with one of the executive. The members were very pleased and grateful for the opportunity.
- A membership survey was conducted in the fall. Decision made by the membership to decrease the amount of business and increase education and networking/discussion forums at all chapter meetings. This format will be started in 2011.
- Accomplishments and educational conferences attended by chapter members during 2010:
  - Alison Devine and Alicia Cortright co-published an article on hand hygiene in the October 2010 edition of *Canadian Nurse*. Alicia also presented an abstract on a hand hygiene project at the Red Deer College Interprofessional Research Day.
  - Marlene Montgomery presented a poster at the CHICA-Canada conference. She also did a national teleconference presentation for Safer Healthcare Now! on prevention of surgical site infections in cardiac surgery.
  - As part of the Dialysis Interest Group, Debbie Lam-Li coauthored an article on MRSA and VRE screening in hemodialysis settings in the Summer 2010 *Canadian Journal of Infection Control*.
  - Debbie Lam-Li, Janice Stoesz and Wendy Runge successfully re-certified for CIC this year.
  - Several members attended CSA educational workshops on ‘Sterilization and Disinfection’ and ‘Maintenance and Construction’ standards.
  - Several members presented at the chapter’s September seminar. Members present to colleagues at the chapter meetings, sharing their interests, knowledge and expertise.

*Wendy Runge RN BScN CIC  
Chapter President*

## **SASKATCHEWAN PROFESSIONALS IN INFECTION CONTROL (CHICA-SASKPIC)**

### **2010 Executive**

**President:** Joy Kellen RN BN MSc  
**President-elect:** Dea Graessli RN BScN  
**Secretary:** Colleen Lambert MLT CIC  
**Treasurer:** Vi Burton RN BScN MN CIC

### **2011 Executive**

**President:** Dea Graessli RN BScN  
**President-elect:** Vi Burton RN BScN MN  
**Secretary:** Colleen Lambert MLT CIC  
**Treasurer:** Erica Pederson BScN

**Number of Members:** 61

**Geographic Area Served:** The Province of Saskatchewan

### **Membership**

Our membership is comprised of individuals from a wide range of health care specialties and industry and working across all sectors of care in the province; acute, continuing and community care, cancer care, corrections and government.

### **Meetings**

SASKPIC had two video-conference chapter meetings which were held in conjunction with an education session this year. Darlene Meeds-Montero, Community ICP for Saskatoon Health Region spoke about initiating their Community Infection Prevention and Control Program for Saskatoon at the February meeting. At the June meeting several members shared highlights from the CHICA-Vancouver national education conference.

The third Chapter meeting was held in September at the time of our annual education conference.

### **Highlights**

In April, invitations were sent to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health, Health Quality Council of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association and the University of Saskatchewan Faculty of Nursing to promote participation in the inaugural May 5<sup>th</sup> National Hand Hygiene Day.

CHICA-SASKPIC continues to partner with the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association (SRNA) to promote the Canada Hand Hygiene Challenge. SRNA has invited and accepted two articles for publication in its newsletter related to hand hygiene.

The chapter supported two members to attend the CHICA-National conference, held in Vancouver. A total of eleven members attended the national conference, and two others attended the APIC conference.

An activity of note this year was invitation to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health, at the annual general meeting, to partner to provide provincial membership to Webber Training sessions. The Ministry will be funding a 2-year membership for SASKPIC members and others interested in infection control topics to attend the webinars.

The annual education conference, held in Moose Jaw, was fairly well attended despite provincial budgetary travel constraints; the sessions were received and enjoyed by all. The Chapter's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary was celebrated by attendees with cake and refreshments.

Two members are known to have attained CIC certification for the first time this year. Meanwhile, several other members wrote the CIC recertification exam.

*Joy Kellen RN BN MSc  
Chapter President*

## **CHICA-MANITOBA**

### **Executive 2010**

President: Nina Williams RN BN  
President-elect: Janice Briggs RN BA MSN CIC  
Secretary: Ilana Warner RN BGS CIC  
Treasurer: Krista Maxwell RN BN

### **Executive 2011**

President: Janice Briggs RN BA MSN CIC  
President-elect: TBA  
Secretary: TBA  
Treasurer: Krista Maxwell RN BN

**Number of Members:** 65

**Geographic Area Served:** Province of Manitoba.

### **Membership**

Membership includes representatives from industry, public health, acute care, long term care, community, educators, mental health and personal care homes.

### **Meetings**

The chapter meets the second Tuesday of each month excluding June (in lieu of the chapter's June conference), July and August. The meeting is preceded by a 45 minute education session followed by a 90 minute business meeting.

### **Highlights**

Manitoba chapter has experienced membership changes over the past year. There have been a number of long standing members leave the group and a number of newer members join us. Change in membership has resulted in a need to review how the chapter is meeting the needs of its members. Increased education and networking opportunities have been identified as a need of the current membership and is necessary to attract new members. To address these requirements the executive has embarked on a revision of the existing meeting format to include a journal review and a change in round table discussion. All members attending a meeting are encouraged to participate in journal review and member volunteers present an article that they have selected. The article is made available to the membership prior to the meeting to allow them to review it. A topic is selected for round table discussion which is sent out to the members with the agenda. This allows members to prepare for round table discussion. Members are encouraged to discuss their experience with the topic, difficulties they have encountered and solutions they have developed. If they have other topics they would like to introduce that is encouraged. With these changes the knowledge sharing is increasing and membership is expressing that the format changes are positive.

Members of the chapter responded to several education requests by volunteering their time to conduct Routine Practices sessions for occupational therapy students, lab technicians and health care aides. It was identified that members regularly participate in education sessions for outside agencies but it has previously not been recorded. The Education Committee has been tasked with keeping a record of these requests and reporting members' volunteer activities back to the chapter through their annual report. This should streamline requests and allow members to network for the delivery of education and show member activity on behalf of the chapter.

A chapter fundraiser was organized at Rumour's Comedy Club in March. This was attended by 111 members and guests.

Nine CHICA Manitoba members attended all or part of the national CHICA Conference in Vancouver in 2010. Three members presented educational sessions.

Two CHICA Manitoba members were able to attend the APIC 2010 Conference in New Orleans.

The CHICA Manitoba bylaws were revised and have been renamed “Terms of Reference”. These include job descriptions, which have been reviewed by the membership and will be presented for approval at the upcoming chapter Annual General Meeting.

#### **Educational Presentations at the Monthly Meetings:**

January 2010- Jonny Hinz presented on Environmental Management

March 2010 – Adriana Trajtman presented on UV Marker – A Tool to Evaluate Environmental Cleaning

April 2010 – Louise Buelow-Smith presented on Monitoring Quality Assurance in Sterile Processing

May 2010 – Dr. Heather Adam presented on VISA/VERSA/hVISA

September 2010 – Myrna Dyck presented on Disaster Relief – Nursing Outside the Nursing Role in the 2004 Tsunami.

October 2010 – Corinne Adams presented on Influenza Update 2010/11

November 2010 – Dr. Steven Theriault presented on Phage Work with *Clostridium difficile*

December 2010 – Brenda Dyck presented on Making the Business Case for Infection Control

#### **Journal Review**

December 2010 – Ivy Turner reviewed “Treatment with Monoclonal Antibodies against *Clostridium difficile* Toxins” published in the New England Journal of Medicine, January 21, 2010 volume 362, number 3.

#### **Annual Chapter Conference**

The chapter’s annual conference was held on June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the Victoria Inn in Winnipeg. The theme of the conference was “Infection Control – Our Decade to Shine”. Speakers included:

- Dr. Phillippe Lagace-Wiens who spoke on Antibiotic Stewardship
- Dr. Lindsay Nicolle who spoke on Asymptomatic Bacteriuria in the Elderly
- Louise Buelow-Smith who spoke on Reprocessing Requirements prior to Purchasing Medical Equipment
- Dr. Pierre Plourde who spoke on Working in “Difficult Partnership” Countries and participated in the panel discussion regarding the H1N1 Pandemic Response
- Dr. Nathalie Bastien who spoke on the H1N1 Pandemic and participated in the panel discussion regarding the H1N1 Pandemic Response
- Dr. Paul Vancaesele who participated on the panel discussion regarding the H1N1 Pandemic Response
- Genevieve Thompson who participated on the panel discussion regarding the H1N1 Pandemic Response

*Nina Williams RN BN*

*Chapter President*

## **CHICA-NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO**

### **2010 Executive**

President: Diana Gowanlock  
President-elect: Kim Leach  
Secretary: Nicole Tittley  
Treasurer: Lynne Mattila

### **2011 Executive**

President: Diana Gowanlock  
President-elect: Kim Leach  
Secretary: Nicole Tittley  
Treasurer: Lynne Mattila

**Number of Members:** 52

**Geographic Area Served:** Northwestern Ontario

### **Membership**

The background of CHICA-NWO members is varied. Representation is from areas such as public health (both public health nurses and public health inspectors), long-term care, rehabilitation, mental health, acute care, community nursing agencies, community support services, First Nations and Inuit Health, regional infection control networks as well as colleges and universities.

### **Meetings**

CHICA-NWO met four times over the course of 2010. Meetings were held in Thunder Bay but also available through teleconferencing for members that could not attend in person. Education sessions were held at all but one meeting. Speakers included Diana Gowanlock speaking on CJD, Kay Cranston on RSV and Darlene Harrison describing a pilot program called "Bridges to Care" that deals with early diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia in long term care facilities.

### **Highlights**

This past year CHICA-NWO did not hold a conference and has decided to plan for an educational conference every second year.

Several members were able to attend the annual conference in Vancouver this past year and brought back some valuable information. Our chapter supported several members financially for their CIC exams and recertification.

*Diana Gowanlock, RN MPH CIC  
Chapter President*

## **CHICA-HUPIC**

### **2010 EXECUTIVE:**

President: Bev Morgan MLT  
President elect: Barb Schmidt RN BScN  
Secretary: Brenda Tanner RN CIC  
Treasurer: Nancy Brown MLT BSc

### **2011 EXECUTIVE:**

President: Barb Schmidt RN BScN  
President elect: Vacant  
Secretary: Brenda Tanner RN CIC  
Treasurer: Nancy Brown MLT BSc

**No. of Members:** 28 CHICA Members, 9 Associate HUPIC members

**Geographical Area Served:** CHICA-HUPIC membership is available to those persons residing in the surrounding area of Huron, Bruce, Perth, and Grey and surrounding counties

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Our membership consists of a variety of professionals with various backgrounds. The majority of members are employed by acute care hospitals, local health units and long term care facilities. Our small chapter membership has the advantage of having members with many facets of knowledge and practices of Infection control. To encourage new members, our chapter has offered one-year associate membership with all participants in our past Education Day on Oct 27<sup>th</sup>, in which they can come to the CHICA-HUPIC meetings, to learn more of Infection Control. We also encourage them to join CHICA-Canada to receive full benefits of networking and resources.

### **2010 Meetings/Highlights/ Education**

Meetings are held quarterly which are held alternately in two locations 50 km apart because of geographical area served. An additional full day dedicated to education was on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 held at the Grey Bruce Health Unit.

Our meetings have become a communication tool to inform each other of current community events. For those members who have limited institutional resources and dedicated time for infection control, our membership supports those persons with assistance in problem solving, education and the sharing of resources. Our membership is also strongly supported and attended by our Regional Infection Control Network Coordinator and educator (RICN-South West). At each meeting, a guest speaker is invited to share topics related to Infection Prevention and Control.

### **Summary of October 27<sup>th</sup> CHICA-HUPIC Sponsored Education Day: “Preventing Illness & Infection”**

Our audience was a diverse mixture of disciplines from long term care, acute care and public health. Sixty-seven participants registered, including four physicians, two pharmacists, and representation from environmental services, directors of care, staff educators, long term and acute care facilities. The Regional Infection Control Network supported our chapter education day in reimbursing half of our luncheon cost.

The Education Day Participants: 21 were HUPIC members and 44 non HUPIC members were offered one year associate membership to our chapter. We also had 24 vendors present and demonstrated their products and also supplied door prizes to our participants.

This was our chapter's first time registering for Physician Accredited Mainpro 1 credits, to encourage local physicians to attend, as we had three well known physicians as speakers.

### Speakers:

Dr. Michael Gardam- A New Approach to Controlling Superbugs

Dr. Alison McGeer- Strategies to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections: Should we be spending our time targeting high-risk pathogens?

Dr. Marina Salvadori- Clostridium difficile: Microbiology and Challenges

Laura Farrell- Stem the Tide: Best Practices for the Management of Clostridium difficile in Long Term Care.

The CHICA-HUPIC executive was very pleased with the guest speakers, vendors, great food and location for this event. We received a very positive feedback from our participants and vendors. Because of the time commitment, our executive decided that our next education day will be October 2012.

**Other 2010 Events:**

- The HUPIC chapter supported our president, Bev Morgan, to attend the CHICA conference in Vancouver last June. The chapter president was one of the Virox Scholarship recipients, which assisted in half of the conference expenses.
- Our advertising brochure was re-designed by president elect Barb Schmidt.
- Our president elect Barb Schmidt has taken the role of web master and will be getting our chapter on-line in 2011.
- CHICA-HUPIC Terms of Reference reviewed and revised.
- Two members of the chapter received their CIC certification in 2010
- CHICA-HUPIC has six members participating in CHICA-Canada Interest Groups

**Date & Location of 2010 Meetings**

**March 18, 2010:** Grey Bruce Health Unit, Owen Sound (Guest speaker: Debbie Minielly-World TB Day)

**May 20, 2010:** Hanover & District Hospital, Hanover (Guest speaker: Cathy Coburn - Shingles and New Vaccines)

**September 30, 2010:** R Villa, Long Term Care, Ripley, Ontario (Guest speaker: Tamasine Prong- Samples Made Simple)

**October 27, 2010:** EDUCATION DAY: "Preventing Illness & Infection" at the Grey Bruce Health Unit, Owen Sound

**November 10, 2010:** The Village Community Long Term Care, Hanover, Ontario (Guest speaker: Bev Morgan - C difficile Outbreak at Hanover & District Hospital)

*Bev Morgan MLT  
Chapter President*

## **CHICA-HANDIC**

### **Executive 2010**

**President:** Risa Cashmore RN BSc CIC CCHN(c)  
**President-Elect:** Mark Jefferson RN BScN CIC  
**Secretary:** Andrea Iacurti RN CIC  
**Treasurer:** Connie Gittens-Webber BSc MLT ART CIC  
**Past President:** Barbara Shea MLT ART Microbiology CIC

### **Executive 2011**

**President:** Risa Cashmore RN BSc CIC CCHN(c)  
**President-Elect:** Mark Jefferson RN BScN, CIC  
**Secretary:** Cheryl Collins RN BScN CIC  
**Treasurer:** Connie Gittens-Webber BSc MLT ART CIC  
**Chapter Webmaster:** May Griffiths-Turner MLT CIC  
**Educational Committee Chair:** Tamara Johnson RN  
**Past President:** Barbara Shea MLT ART Microbiology CIC

**Number of Members:** 137

**Geographic Area Served:** Hamilton and Neighbouring Districts (Hamilton, Halton, Burlington, Oakville, Milton, Mississauga, Cambridge, Fergus, Guelph, Brantford, St. Catharines, Niagara, Haldimand-Norfolk)

### **Membership**

The CHICA-HANDIC membership includes novice and experienced professionals from varying disciplines: nurses, public health inspectors, medical laboratory technologists and industry representatives of varying backgrounds. The majority of members hold positions and/or responsibilities in infection prevention and control in acute care, long term care, community health, public health and regional infection control networks (RICNs).

### **Meetings**

Full day meetings are held on the third Friday of February, April, July, September and December. Our morning is devoted to chapter business, updates and questions, followed by a networking lunch. Afternoon sessions have an educational component provided by an invited guest or chapter members. Standing agenda items for chapter business include: celebration of CIC and SARE successes, alerts and outbreak reports from members as well as reports from the president, treasurer, interest groups, CHICA-Canada, Infection Control Ontario and the RICNs.

### **Initiatives Related to the CHICA-Canada 2010-2015 Strategic Plan**

#### **GOAL 1: Raise the profile of the association and its activities**

- Hosted our 14th annual educational day attended by 374 health care workers from all sectors.
- Representatives from EMS are now active members.

#### **GOAL TWO: Enhance the mix of products and services**

- Development of a new CHICA- HANDIC logo (an update from our original logo) consistent with the updated CHICA-Canada branding. A logo contest was held. Cheryl Collins created the winning design.
- Minutes and agendas are posted to the members area of our Chapter website.
- Our new "Welcome brochure" is posted to our web site for new members.
- Our annual education day presentations are videotaped and housed in our library for lending. (Note: our library is located in the Central South Infection Control Network Office, in the facility in which we meet.)

#### **GOAL THREE: Expand the association's education initiatives**

- Development of a "mentor" system for new chapter members.
- Development of an inventory of educational tools & resources that were shared with participants at the annual education day. Educational tools include signs, posters and fact sheets for families, patients/residents/clients, health care workers and visitors. These resources are available from the CHICA-HANDIC library

#### **GOAL FOUR: Expand and develop the membership base**

- Retention of retirees:
  - Diane Thornley, a founding member of CHICA-HANDIC, donated funds for an “Out of the Box Award”. Diane was invited to attend our November chapter meeting and presented the award to Trish Hutton, the first recipient of the award. The winning project was “Nurse Jackson”, an application of a positive deviance initiative.
  - Initiation of a “Retirement Certificate” which recognizes members who have retired: “Long May She Wash Her Hands!”
  
- Plans for next year include seeking out members from correctional services, funeral homes, industry, etc.
- Encouragement of creativity and innovation with our “Out of the Box Award” and “Hygeia Award”
- CHICA-HANDIC provides financial support for our member’s Infection Control Week activities. This is very popular with our membership.
- CHICA-HANDIC funds attendance to the annual CHICA-Canada educational conference. Applicants must attend chapter meetings regularly to be eligible.
- CHICA-Canada is promoted at a booth at our annual education day; pamphlets are distributed about the benefits of membership.

#### **GOAL FIVE: Provide national and international leadership**

- The president, president-elect and past president serve two years in each role, thereby serving as succession planning.
- CHICA-HANDIC has developed a CHICA-HANDIC Chapter Executive Manual including each executive member’s role, job description, executive function and timelines. This is in the form of an electronic manual to provide information to members who may be interested in a chapter executive role as well as assisting new executive members. Forms and templates are also available plus a calendar of important events and deadlines for CHICA-Canada and CHICA-HANDIC.
- CHICA-HANDIC works collaboratively and in partnership with the local Ontario Regional Infection Control Networks (RICNs) to promote and support the annual CHICA-HANDIC educational day.
- Our community linkages extend to inviting industry vendors to have booths at our annual CHICA-HANDIC educational day. Because of the large number of participants at our conference, vendors are eager to assist and support this venture with many returning year after year.
- Four of our CHICA-HANDIC members have become CHICA-Canada presidents: Sandra Callery, Adrienne Brown, Joanne Laalo, and Anne Bialachowski.
- CHICA-HANDIC supports the chapter president to attend the annual CHICA-Canada conference. It was recently voted and passed by the membership for the president-elect to also be supported to attend the annual CHICA-Canada conference
- Chapter membership extends to five public health units, two RICNs and industry partners.
- Three of our chapter members attended the IFIC conference in Lithuania.
- Members from our chapter are represented on the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care/Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion Core Competency Development Working Group.
- Some of our chapter members are members of Ontario’s Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committees.

#### **Highlights**

- Our CHICA-HANDIC 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Education Day held June 18<sup>th</sup> at a local convention centre. Entitled: “All In the Family”. Topics included:
  - a. IPAC Challenges in Day Care Settings
  - b. IPAC Horrors in the Home
  - c. Cultural Fads and their Infection Control Implications
  - d. Bed Bugs
  - e. Challenges and Strategies for dealing with Cognitive Impairment, Non-Compliance and Mental Health Risks
  - f. Positive Deviance
  - g. IPAC Tips, Tools and Take-Aways

- Chapter Educational sessions included
  - Our IFIC Experience in Lithuania by Virginia Tirilis and Debbie Valickis (chapter members)
  - Primary Care for Physicians Event – videotaped sessions by Dr. Neil Rau, Dr. Barbara Yaffey, Dr. Monir Taha and Dr. Eileen DeVilla. Topics included planning for H1N1, Routine Practices, etc.
  - Dr. Cheryl Main presented ESBL and NDM1
  - Out of the Box Award Presentations and selection
- Development, update and adoption of a new chapter logo – as above
- Revision of our chapter website is in progress.
- Our Hygeia Award recipient was May Griffiths-Turner. She was presented with the award at the CHICA-HANDIC annual educational day.
- The Out-of-the-Box award was initiated and presented to the winner at our November meeting.
- Certificates are presented and/or sent/distributed to retirees, award winners and “great idea” (logo contest) winners.
- Journal submission for the Winter newsletter was submitted by the CHICA-HANDIC executive and Lois LaCroix (chapter member).
- Our chapter terms of reference had not been revised since 2006, thus were reviewed and amended. Changes included expanding the executive, financially supporting the president-elect to attend the annual CHICA-Canada conference, and addition of a chapter webmaster. The changes will be forwarded to CHICA-Canada for acceptance and posting.
- Our chapter received the 3M Chapter Award in 2009. In February 2010, our chapter celebrated by meeting at a local winery to enjoy wine and cheese and a talk by guest speaker Dr. Basidur, whose topic was “Creative Thinking”
- Approximately 20 of our members attended the CHICA-Canada Educational Conference in Vancouver
- Members' special accomplishments include:
  - An article published in The Canadian Journal of Infection Control Vol. 25 No. 4 Winter 2010 by May Griffiths-Turner: “Documentation Tool for Infection Prevention and Control”
  - Various posters and talks at the CHICA-Canada Educational Conference in Vancouver
  - Various presentations at other Infection Prevention and Control related conferences
 (Note: Our chapter is submitting a 3M chapter award, thus, more details regarding the above and other accomplishments will follow.)
- Development of our “Welcome Brochure” and associated electronic manual/binder is in progress
- Updating the CHICA-HANDIC website is in progress
- Our Chapter Executive Manual is in final drafts

*Risa Cashmore RN BS CIC*  
*Chapter President*

## **CHICA-PEEL**

### **Executive 2010**

President: Alexis Silverman RN BScN CIC  
President-elect: Const. Natalie Hiltz BA Hons, CRIM  
Secretary: Debbie Valickis RN BScN CIC  
Treasurer: Arlene Sterling RN BScN MAEd, CIC  
Webmaster: Kim Baker RN BScN CIC

### **Executive 2011**

President: Alexis Silverman RN BScN CIC  
President-elect: Const. Natalie Hiltz BA Hons, CRIM  
Secretary: Debbie Valickis RN BScN CIC  
Treasurer: Arlene Sterling RN BScN MAEd, CIC  
Webmaster: Kim Baker RN BScN CIC

**Number of Members:** 36

**Geographic Area Served:** Region of Peel including Mississauga, Brampton, Caledon municipalities. Borders include Etobicoke Creek and 427 (east), #9 highway and Caledon/Garafrax Town Line (north) and Winston Churchill and Ninth Line (west).

### **Membership**

Long term care; public health; acute care; fire services; police service; paramedic service; industry ( e.g. Virox, Wilshire Works Solutions, Ecolab); correctional services, community; regional infection control networks; Ontario Agency for Health Promotion and Protection.

### **Meetings**

CHICA-Peel met seven times in 2010 from January to November with a hiatus from May to August to accommodate both the CHICA conference and summer schedules. The CHICA-Peel executive met in August and ensured that Chapter goals and CHICA's goals were congruent.

### **Highlights**

- Jan 21: Anne Bialachowski, President of CHICA, presented on CHICA–Canada and the benefits of membership
- Feb 25: Natalie Hiltz presented the Personal Protection Strategy as used by Peel Police
- Mar 25: Tricia Hutton, ICP with Trillium Health Centre, presented on their CDAD outbreak
- Apr 29: Kim Baker, IPAC consultant with CWICN, presented on the long-term care 'Just Clean Your Hands' campaign
- CHICA-CONFERENCE:
  - Three posters and one oral presentation were presented at the 2010 CHICA Conference in Vancouver by members of CHICA-Peel.
  - CHICA-Peel was recognized as the 21<sup>st</sup> CHICA-Chapter
  - Alexis Silverman received a Virox Scholarship
- Aug 19: The position of webmaster was made an executive position at the executive meeting
- Sep 22: CHICA-Peel logo chosen, and Justin Mausz, paramedic with Peel Paramedic Services, presented on how to start a journal club.
- Oct 28: CHICA-Peel's first journal club, led by Anne Augustine, ICP with Headwaters Health Centre.
- Nov 25: Christmas meeting

*Alexis Silverman RN BScN CIC  
Chapter President*

## **CHICA-TORONTO AND AREA PROFESSIONALS IN INFECTION CONTROL (TPIC)**

### **Executive 2010**

President:	Vydia Nankoosingh MLT CIC
President-elect:	Lillian Kariko-Braithwaite MLT BHA CIC
Secretary:	Charmaine D'Souza RN CIC
Treasurer:	Seema Boodoosingh BSc MLT ART CIC

### **Executive 2011**

President:	Lillian Kariko-Braithwaite MLT BHA CIC
President-elect:	Natasha Vrhovnik BSc BASc CPHI
Secretary:	Kyla Van Dusen RN
Treasurer:	Seema Boodoosingh BSc MLT ART CIC

**Geographic Area Served:** Greater Toronto Area (GTA) bounded by Mississauga (West), Barrie (North), and Oshawa (East).

**Membership:** There are 328 TPIC members as of November 2010. The membership is comprised of individuals from diverse educational backgrounds and work experiences such as: acute care, long term care, complex continuing care and rehabilitation, community care, public health, corrections, government, the Regional Infection Control Networks (RICNs), and industry. On average in 2010, 75-100 members participated in the meetings. This is an increase from previous years and mostly due to a change in format. Four of seven meetings in 2010 were videoconferenced through the 6 RICNs within our geographic area. This was facilitated by the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP).

### **Initiatives Related to the CHICA-Canada 2010-2015 Strategic Plan:**

Goal One: Raise the profile of the association and its activities

- TPIC members take advantage of CIC certification and recertification learning opportunities through the RICNs
- TPIC members are actively involved in teaching the Centennial course for infection control
- TPIC members are mentors for those taking the Centennial course
- TPIC members are on provincial committees such as the Provincial Infectious Disease Advisory Committee and work for Toronto Public Health, the Ministry of Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada
- TPIC members participate in the Canadian National Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program (CNISP) and other studies such as the Antibiotic Resistant Organism Point Prevalence study in the fall of 2010
- TPIC members have published in CJIC and the chapter will continue to promote this

Goal Two: Enhance the mix of products and services

- TPIC members are actively involved in teaching the Centennial course for infection control
- TPIC members are mentors for those taking the Centennial course
- TPIC members are involved in the CHICA endorsement of infection control courses
- TPIC members are involved in the development of CHICA audit tools

Goal Three: Expand the associations education initiatives

- TPIC members take advantage of CIC certification and recertification learning opportunities through the RICNs
- Videoconferencing of 4 of 7 TPIC meetings has allowed for greater opportunities for active participation in TPIC and CHICA initiatives
- TPIC gives financial support to members for attendance at the CHICA conference
- TPIC members are involved in the development of infection control core competencies through the OAHPP

Goal Four: Expand and develop the membership base

- Videoconferencing of 4 of 7 TPIC meetings has allowed for greater opportunities for participation in TPIC and CHICA initiatives
- TPIC continues to engage industry as members by promoting membership and allowing opportunities for vendor participation in education days
- TPIC allows free attendance at the first TPIC meeting and encourages membership for regular attendance
- TPIC members regularly present at international conferences such as APIC, SHEA and IFIC
- TPIC has an annual long term care education day which will help to expand membership to other sectors

Goal Five: Provide national and international leadership

- TPIC members are chairs of CHICA interest groups and are participants in CHICA conference planning committees
- TPIC is co-hosting the 2011 CHICA conference and TPIC members are invited speakers, volunteers, moderators and members of the Scientific Program Committee.
- TPIC regularly engages the RICNs in meetings and educational opportunities
- TPIC continues to engage industry as members by promoting membership and allowing opportunities for vendor participation in education days

**Meetings:** Seven meetings were held in 2010:

- January 19- standard meeting format
- February 16- full education Day
- April 13- standard meeting format
- June 22- summer get together/barbecue
- September 15- Chica conference planning meeting
- October 26- standard meeting format
- December 15- holiday social

Standard meeting format:

Committee Meetings 0900-1000 (Executive, Education)

Business Meeting 1000-1100 (includes any CHICA committee members present, updates from executive committee, education committee, RICN and Public Health)

Networking 1100-1200

Lunch (informal networking) 1200-1300

Education Session 1300-1600

Guest Speakers:

<b>January 10</b>	<b>Topic:</b> Physician compliance on hand hygiene. <b>Presenter: Dr.A.Belhaj</b>
<b>February 16</b>	<b>Topic:</b> TPIC-RICN 1 <sup>st</sup> annual education day <b>Presenters:</b> Leading a program to Excellence- Clare Barry Powerful Presentations and Effective Persuasion- Jo' Ann Alderson Welcoming Change into Your Life- CJ Calvert Infection Control and the Media- Ioanna Roumeliotis Strategies to Get Buy-in at the Senior Management Level- Dr. Kevin Katz Moving from Police to Support- Dr. Michael Gardam
<b>April 13</b>	<b>Topic:</b> Epidemiology, Management and Diagnostics of Norovirus <b>Presenter:</b> Anne Louise Winter
<b>June 22</b>	<b>B.B.Q</b> <b>Topic:</b> No Formal Presentation

<b>September 15</b>	No presentation- this meeting focused on Chica conference planning for Toronto 2011
<b>October 26</b>	<b>Topic:</b> Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamases <b>Presenters:</b> Allison McGeer and Matthew Mueller
<b>December 14</b>	<b>Holiday Social</b> <b>Topic:</b> Infection Control Around the World <b>Presenters:</b> Anne Bialachowski, Rebecca Yu, Judy McCarten

### 2010 Highlights

The meeting format was changed this year in order to facilitate participation of a greater number of members without the commute to downtown Toronto. Four meetings were videoconferenced from the OAHPP to the RICNs within our geographic area. As a result, the number of members participating has significantly increased. We continue to have face to face meetings 3 times a year to facilitate networking with the larger group.

In addition, TPIC, with the help of the RICNs, had an annual education day in February. We had 150 participants and 10 industry sponsors. Participant and sponsor feedback suggests a very successful day. Planning has already begun for the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual TPIC-RICN education day in February 2011.

Chapter members have been actively involved in various facility, local, regional, provincial and national initiatives, throughout 2010.

- Members continue to provide instruction and mentorship to the Centennial College Infection Prevention and Control course
- TPIC in conjunction with Toronto Public Health and the Regional Infection Control Networks held its annual Long Term Care Infection Control Education Day in September 2010
- At the provincial level TPIC members continue to participate in the Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (PIDAC) and work within the MOHLTC providing input on many best practice guidelines.
- TPIC members attended a number of national and international conferences including CHICA, APIC, and SHEA.
- TPIC members continued to participate in CHICA Canada through committees and interest groups.

Plans for 2011 include the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual TPIC-RICN education day in February, continuing with the videoconferencing format and planning for the 2011 CHICA-Canada conference in Toronto. There are also plans for further collaboration with the RICNs.

*Vydia Nankoosingh MLT CIC*  
*Chapter President 2010*

## **CHICA-SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO**

### **2010 Executive**

President: Laura Fraser RN BScN CIC  
President-elect: Brenda Prouse RN CIC  
Secretary: Amanda Procter RN  
Treasurer/Membership: Dianne Merkley RN  
Knowledge Transfer: Joanne Dow RN BScN  
Long Term Care Representative: Harriet Potters RN CIC  
Education Chairs: Jo-Anne Vandierendonk ART CIC and  
Yasmine Chagla BScN MLT MSc CIC

### **2011 Executive**

President: Brenda Prouse RN CIC  
President-elect: Natalie Goertz RN BScN  
Secretary: Ellen Otterbein BScN RN CIC  
Treasurer/Membership: Dianne Merkley RN  
Knowledge Transfer: May Abdalla  
Long Term Care Representative: Rahim Charania RN  
Education Chairs: Jo-Anne Vandierendonk ART CIC and  
Yasmine Chagla BScN MLT MSc CIC

**Number of Members:** 167

**Geographic Area Served:** Southwestern Ontario (Windsor, Sarnia, London and part of Waterloo Wellington area)

### **Membership**

Our membership consists of Infection Control Professionals from acute care, long term care and public health.

### **Meetings**

The chapter meets five times a year. Four of the meetings are face to face meetings held in London, Ontario at the West Haven Golf Course. The meeting in February is held by videoconference to avoid travelling in the winter weather.

#### **February 12th Meeting** (videoconference):

Surveillance - Sandra Callery, MSN CIC

#### **April 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

Ready or Not - presentation with clickers and CIC questions

Joanne Habib MLT CIC, Coordinator for the Central East Infection Control Network

and

Costing Out an Outbreak

Jo-Anne Burt RN BA CIC, Manager of IP&C Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences

#### **June 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting:**

Invasive Group A Streptococcal Disease

Bryna Warshawsky, MD, Associate Medical Officer of Health and Director, Communicable Disease and Sexual Health Services, Middlesex-London Health Unit

and

Survivor of Flesh Eating Disease

Catherine Mulvale

A Real Life Experience

### **September 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

Managing your Emotions...Emotional Intelligence and Effective Communication  
Dene Elligsen, Corporate Facilitator for Organizational Development & Learning Services  
St Joseph's Health Care

### **November 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

Infection In Forensic Pathology Practice  
Michael Shkrum, MD, Medical Leader of Autopsy, London Health Sciences Centre  
and  
The role of the Ministry of Labour Infection Control Consultant  
Denise Madsen RN BScN CIC, Infection Control Consultant, Ministry of Labour

### **Initiatives Related to the CHICA-Canada 2010-2015 Strategic Plan**

*Describe the projects or initiatives that your chapter has undertaken that will enhance the goals of the CHICA-Canada Strategic Plan.*

#### **1. Goal One: Raise the profile of the association and its activities.**

- CIC is promoted at every chapter meeting by announcing those that have recently achieved their CIC
- RICNs (SWOICN, ESCICN and WWICN) in partnership with CHICA-SWO promote their study groups for CIC and resources for CIC at each meeting
- One of our education sessions this year was a CIC study review
- One way leadership is acknowledged in our chapter is through the Betty Bannerman award where a member that has shown outstanding leadership in infection prevention and control can be nominated for the award by peers and receive this award
- We speak to the CHICA Conference at meetings in order to encourage members to attend
- CHICA SWO promotes the role of the ICP by encouraging members to submit abstracts to CHICA in order to promote the work they do. See highlights for the abstracts submitted and accepted to CHICA and then shared with the membership at CHICA SWO

#### **2. Goal Two: Enhance the mix of products and services.**

- We have a professional designed (membership approved) CHICA SWO logo that is used on all correspondence
- We have promoted the audit tools that have been created through CHICA and will dedicate an education session to them at our February 2011 meeting
- We provide our chapter with an updated website for easy access to chapter information
- CHICA SWO Partners with the Regional Infection Control Networks: at each meeting 3 of the Networks that attend the meetings promote the education and services that they have to offer ICPs

#### **3. Goal Three: Expand the association's education initiatives.**

- A need assessment was completed to find out what the needs and interests were for education offered at the meetings
- The education offered (see above) was based on the membership response to this need assessment
- Turn out of members (and non members) at meetings was excellent this year
- Members are asked to evaluate the education sessions and they are reviewed by the education committee.
- We have included into our program a half hour of networking where members write down on a sticky note random ICP questions/concern and the group discusses this.

#### **4. Goal Four: Expand and develop the membership base.**

- A needs assessment was completed at the beginning of the year to find out the education our membership would like at the meetings
- The chapter meetings were promoted at other events such as the infection prevention and control committee meetings at the health units.
- A flyer is created for each meeting for promotion and for distribution.

- Save the Date flyers of the education days for the year were distributed to the members and non members so they could save the dates in advance
- We promote a non member fee on the flyer
- At each meeting we ask if there are any first time visitors and refer them to the executive and the membership person if they would like more information on CHICA membership
- We use the CHICA brochure to hand to visitors that inquire about membership as it explains details about CHICA membership

**5. Goal Five: Provide national and international leadership.**

- CHICA SWO maintains a connection with APIC GD through attendance and networking at their meetings and advertising our meetings at their events
- Every year the roles of the executive positions that are up for election are sent to members for review. Members are encourage to participate in the organization
- CHICA SWO participates in the IFIC run that is held annually at the CHICA Conference by sponsoring a member that is dedicated to attending that event. Those that won't be attending the Conference do have an opportunity to support IFIC.

**Highlights**

May 2010 CHICA Conference CHICA-Southwestern Ontario was the winner of the chapter achievement award.

Members of CHICA SWO who achieved their CIC in 2010 (members are acknowledged at the chapter meetings):

Rhodora Laylo, St. Joseph's Health Care  
 Marlene Jantzi-Bauman from Wellington Dufferin-Guelph Public Health  
 Betty Gregg from Grey Bruce Health Services  
 Ashley Marchini from the Sarnia Lambton Health Unit  
 Anna Hunt for re-certifying for the 4<sup>th</sup> time  
 Cathy Coburn from Grey Bruce Public Health Unit  
 Joanne Dow from Middlesex London Health Unit

Members that submitted abstracts and presented oral or poster presentations at the national CHICA conference from our chapter included:

May Abdalla, Windsor Regional Hospital

- Follow the Yellow Dot and Armband
- Talking Digitally Between IPAC and ER Department

Nora Boyd & Laura Fraser, ESCICN

- Developing Competencies for an E mentorship program
- It's in the bag; Specimen Collecting like a Champion (with DVD companion)
- IPAC Resource Manual for Residential Hospice Settings (manual to be published in the fall)
- LTC Tool Kit – developed an e-learning program for LTC with DVD/CD companion

Yasmine Chagla, London Health Sciences Centre

- engaged staff in order to improve hand hygiene and ABHR usage

Abdul Chagla, Laura Farrell, Tim Cronsberry, Christine Moussa, Norma Reese, Marina Salvadori, South Western Ontario Infection Control Network, St Marys. Ontario,

- In-Services on Demand, a Useful Educational Tool for Infection Control Practitioners

\* These members brought their poster and oral presentations back to the chapter to present.

Members that were speakers at the CHICA Conference 2010:

Nora Boyd and Laura Fraser: Pass the CIC Here's How

*Laura Fraser RN BScN CIC  
 Chapter President*

## **CHICA-OTTAWA REGION**

### **2010 Executive**

President: Nancy Todd-Giordano RN BScN CIC  
President-elect: Vacant  
Secretary: Katherine DeFalco RN BScN CIC  
Treasurer/Membership: Judy Dennis RRT CIC

### **2011 Executive**

President: Nancy Todd-Giordano RN BScN CIC  
President-elect: Judy Dennis RRT CIC  
Secretary: Katherine DeFalco RN BScN CIC  
Treasurer/Membership: Linda Howard RN BScN COHN(C) CIC  
Education Coordinator: Josée, Shymanski RN BScN CIC  
Communication Coordinator: Suzanne Rowland RN BScN CIC

**Number of Members:** CHICA Ottawa-Region has total of 93 members.

**Geographic Area Served:** Ottawa, Ottawa Valley and the Outaouais Region.

### **Membership**

CHICA Ottawa-Region's membership includes representation from acute care, long term care, community care, paramedics, industry, federal government, federal corrections, public health, and Champlain Infection Control Network. Approximately 31 of our 94 members are CIC certified and five members attained certification in 2010.

### **Meetings**

The chapter met five times throughout the year for a half day. The standard agenda consisted of business arising, CHICA Ottawa-Region executive reports, CHICA Canada reports, external partners reports and members' round table. A 1-hour education session was held at all five meetings. The executive committee met an additional three times over the course of the year. Video conferencing was available for meetings as requested.

Post meeting education sessions were:

- Tuberculosis and Public Health Management with Lori Royea from Ottawa Public Health,
- 2013 CHICA National Conference Planning with Gerry Hansen from CHICA Canada,
- Syndromic Surveillance with Cameron McDermaid from Ottawa Public Health,
- Routine Practices and Additional Precautions Assessment and Educational Tools with Katherine DeFalco from the Public Health Agency of Canada
- PIDAC's Environmental Cleaning for Prevention and Control of Infections and The Challenges for Implementation with Francis Leblanc from ARAMARK Canada

### **Initiatives Related to the CHICA-Canada 2010-2015 Strategic Plan**

This past year was exciting and challenging for CHICA Ottawa-Region. In September 2010 a strategic planning day was held to review the CHICA Ottawa-Region vision, mission, short term and long term goals with the intention to align our activities and efforts with the national goals while meeting local needs. Twelve chapter members participated in the half day event. The results were very successful and many activities and workgroups have been established to carry out these activities. The following goals were identified as priorities.

#### **Goal: Raise the profile of the association and its activities.**

CHICA Ottawa Region has developed a Communications Coordinator position on the executive for a 3-year term to develop a workgroup that will proceed with the development of the website and CHICA Ottawa-Region banner. CHICA Ottawa Region members will be promoting their participation with CHICA when presenting to groups.

#### **Goal: Expand the association's education initiatives.**

CHICA Ottawa Region has also expanded its Education Committee to include a coordinator and a few members. We have increased our education conference days to take place on a yearly basis. In the spring of 2010 CHICA

Ottawa Region partnered with CHICA Renfrew and provided a full day of education “The Pot Pourri of Pathogens” in Arnprior Ontario, half way between Ottawa and Renfrew. The day was sponsored by corporate members and non-members and was a sold out event. In order to assist CHICA Renfrew with their educational initiatives CHICA Ottawa Region agreed to provide CHICA Renfrew with any of the profits from the day, as a result CHICA Renfrew is planning another full day event in the spring of 2011. The two chapters look forward to another opportunity to work together.

CHICA Ottawa Region is planning a conference day for the spring of 2011; the planning committee for this event was selected in December 2010.

**Goal: Expand and develop the membership base**

The CHICA Ottawa Region strategic planning day identified target groups to focus on for increasing membership such as long term care homes, retirement home community as well as community and home care groups. We have also identified that engagement and commitment by the membership in the chapter as key initiatives to help promote CHICA.

CHICA Ottawa Region was well represented at the National 2010 Conference in Vancouver with approximately 18 members registered. Approximately five chapter members contributed to the conference as presenter for either oral or poster presentations. We provided financial support for 5 chapter members and one of our members won “First Time Abstract Submission Award”.

*Nancy Todd-Giordano RN BScN CIC  
Chapter President*

## **CHICA-CENTRAL EAST ONTARIO**

### **2010 Executive:**

President: Teri Murduff RN BScN CIC  
President-elect: remained vacant  
Secretary: Colleen Haley RN  
Treasurer: Margaret Jay RN CIC  
Past President: Sharon Connell RN CIC  
Education Committee Chair: Leanne Harding RN

### **2011 Executive**

President: remains vacant and until it is filled Teri Murduff will remain in the position  
President-elect: Denise Kearsey  
Secretary: Janessa Dee  
Treasurer: Sharon Connell, RN CIC  
Past President: Teri Murduff RN BScN CIC  
Education Committee Chair: Leanne Harding, RN

**Number of Members:** 35 members with the addition of invited guests at specific meetings

**Geographic Area Served:** The southern region includes Northumberland and Pine Ridge Districts, east to Peterborough, west to Durham Region and north as far as the Haliburton Highlands and all areas within. We also welcome all members of CHICA who are located outside of our geographic region that wish to designate their membership or additional membership to the CHICA CEO chapter.

**Membership:** CHICA CEO chapter members are infection control professionals that represent several acute care hospitals, long term care facilities, community/home care services such as local community care access centres, two public health units and one regional infection control network.

### **Meetings**

CHICA-CEO chapter meetings were booked in various locations through out the geographic area with attention to locations that did not have parking fees or if parking fees were in effect then the chapter paid the cost. CHICA-CEO chapter members gathered for four half days throughout 2010; timed from 9-12 and included refreshments. Format consisted of a set meeting agenda that included treasurer's update, business arising, new business, regional infection control network update, round table networking and an educational component. After the conference our agenda changed to include an opportunity to share from various interest groups and/or committee information. Throughout the year the education component varied for each meeting: January meeting guest speakers from the local Canadian Mental Health Association were invited; their topic was "Whistle While You Work" and featured many ways to deal with both personal and professional stress. April's meeting was a great networking opportunity that provided insight into various topics. June's meeting provided an opportunity to share the CHICA conference experience and finally the November meeting involved reviewing the environmental services educational tool that had been created by the Regional Infection Control Networks and providing feedback to them. Attendance at meetings was varied but our networking component did continue to be a good venue to share information. Acute care representation did tend to dominate the members in attendance however it has been refreshing to see more LTC members in attendance. First meeting planned for 2011 will provide the members with an opportunity to hear from our LTC sector as they present their challenges with public health directives on MRO's.

### **Initiatives Related to the CHICA-Canada 2010-2015 Strategic Plan**

#### *1. Goal One: Raise the profile of the association and its activities.*

- continue to promote importance of CIC and support all members seeking CIC
- continued promotion of the CHICA website and utilization of CHICA connections
- maintain members list and utilize the local RICN mailing list for continued communication

#### *2. Goal Two: Enhance the mix of products and services.*

- retained a graphic designer for chapter logo development

- utilized the CHICA logo within the design
  - chapter website is being planned – Shirley McDonald has provided the necessary information to get us started
  - participate in review and evaluation of Environmental Services Best Practice Guideline provided by the RICNs
  - promote CHICA audit tools and offer support to members
3. *Goal Three: Expand the association's education initiatives.*
- promote best practice documents from Provincial Infectious Diseases Advisory Committee (Ontario) and offer support to members
  - promote CHICA endorsed IC courses and offer support to members
4. *Goal Four: Expand and develop the membership base.*
- chapter name has been changed to better reflect the geographic area
  - chapter logo has been developed utilizing the CHICA branding
  - chapter brochure to be updated to reflect all of the changes above
  - utilizing the RICN network mailing list has proven effective
  - exploring the use of videoconferencing technology to entice member meeting attendance
5. *Goal Five: Provide national and international leadership.*
- explore ways of being a sister chapter – have sought guidance from Carol Goldman and Zahir Hirji

### **Highlights**

Celebrated several new certified members throughout 2010 and shared the success at each meeting. CEO was able to celebrate a free membership draw after the National Conference as one of three CHICA-Canada chapters which achieved the most significant increase in membership (62%) in 2009-2010.

*Teri Murduff RN BScN CIC  
Chapter President*

## **CHICA-RENFREW COUNTY**

### **2010 Executive**

President: Rita Montgomery RN CIC  
President-elect: Colleen Musclow RN BN Sc  
Secretary: Connie Robinson RN  
Treasurer: Leona Veley-Dagenais RN

### **2011 Executive**

President: Rita Montgomery RN CIC  
President-elect: Colleen Musclow RN BN Sc  
Secretary: Connie Robinson RN  
Treasurer: Leona Veley-Dagenais RN

**Number of Members:** 23

**Geographic Area Served:** Renfrew County Ontario

### **Membership**

Two (2) members also belong to CHICA-Ottawa.

Our members represent hospitals, community care, long term care, home health care, industry, and public health.

### **Meetings**

Local meetings are held in March, June, September and December.

### **Education**

Construction and Renovation in Health-care Facilities presented by Rita Montgomery RN CIC  
Meningococcal Disease presented by Colleen Musclow RN BN Sc

### **Initiatives Related to the CHICA-Canada 2010-2015 Strategic Plan**

#### ***Goal One: Raise the profile of the association and its activities***

Education conference planned for April 2011. Posters and registration details will be forwarded to all health care facilities via the Regional Infection Control Network.

### **Highlights**

- Plans in progress for Educational conference in Renfrew Ontario April 15, 2011
- Rita Montgomery will represent CHICA-Renfrew as the Member at Large for the Scientific Committee Annual Conference 2012
- Spring education Conference co-hosted with CHICA Ottawa, Held in Arnprior, was a huge success
- Rita Montgomery successfully completed Certification Exam in December 2010

*Rita Montgomery RN CIC  
Chapter President*

## CHICA-NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO (CHICA-NEO)

### 2010 Executive

<b>President:</b>	Suzanne Pelletier RN BScN CIC
<b>President-elect:</b>	(interim) Laurie Boyer RN BSN Med (cand) CIC CNOR CPN(c)
<b>Secretary:</b>	Rachelle Swayne RN
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Vicky Willet RN CIC

### 2011 Executive

<b>President:</b>	Vicky Willet RN CIC
<b>President-elect:</b>	Isabelle Langman RN CIC
<b>Secretary:</b>	Suzanne Pelletier RN BScN CIC
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Natalie Marcello RN

### Geographic Area

Northeastern Ontario is the second largest region in Ontario in terms of land area, spanning 31% of the provincial total. Four cities have populations greater than 40 000: Timmins, North Bay, Sudbury, and Sault Ste. Marie. These four make up less than half of the overall population, with the remainder based in smaller centres, most of which have populations less than 5 000 people. The total population is just under 600,000 with a population density just over 2 persons per square kilometer compared to over 100 in southern Ontario

### Membership

In 2010, our membership grew to 72 members. The membership is comprised of individuals from diverse educational and professional backgrounds such as nurses, public health inspectors, first responders, front line workers or administrators. These represent a variety of sectors including acute care, long term care, complex continuing care, community/public health, mental health, government (regional infection control network) and industry.

### Meetings

All CHICA-NEO chapter meetings are offered via videoconference. Four meetings were held in 2010: February 25, May 13, October 15 and December 9. Meetings generally include both a standard agenda and education components. 2010 Education Highlights:

Meeting	Topic	Presenter
February	Just Clean Your Hands Update	Clare Barry, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
May	Renovation, Construction and Mould in Health Care Facilities Summary of Ontario Hospital Association Medical Devices Conference	Bryan Wilson, Golder and Associates Brenda Wehbe, Hôpital de Sudbury Regional Hospital
October	PIDAC Best Practice Guidelines Update New Environmental Cleaning Education Toolkit	Isabelle Langman, Laurie Boyer Northeastern Ontario Regional Infection Control Network
December	Management of Carbapenem-resistant Gram-negative Bacilli Public Health's Role in Institutional and Facility Outbreak Prevention and Control	Brenda Wehbe, Hôpital Regional de Sudbury Regional Hospital Diane Pustina, Porcupine Health Unit

Standing agenda items provide members with an opportunity to share challenges and successes as well as receive updates from the executive, CHICA-Canada and the Northeastern Ontario Infection Control (NEOINC). Partnership with the NEOINC is strong and ongoing. The support of the network in terms of teleconference access, sharing of resources, educational tools, mailing lists, etc. is invaluable.

## **Highlights**

- In February, CHICA-NEO members were invited to participate in an online interest survey. The objective of the survey was to obtain members' feedback on chapter issues such as meetings, educational needs, future events, etc. Response to the survey was positive.
- The chapter was well represented at the CHICA-Canada 2010 National Education Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia.
- Planning for next year's chapter educational conference is underway. The two-day event will be held in Sudbury in September 2011.
- During the fall recruitment campaign, the Executive successfully enlisted three new members for the positions of membership director, conference coordinator, and treasurer.
- CHICA-NEO chapter members continue to actively participate in CHICA-Canada through committees and interest groups.

*Suzanne Pelletier RN BScN CIC*  
*Chapter President*

## **CHICA-EASTERN ONTARIO (CHICA-EO)**

### **2010 Executive**

**President:** Melanie Barbacsy BSc CPHI CIC\*  
**President-elect:** Sally MacInnis RN BScN CIC  
**Past President:** Bonnie Carter RN OHN  
**Secretary:** Susan Cooper MLT CIC  
**Treasurer/ Membership:** Dana Anderson RN CIC

\*Due to a change in employment and the resulting schedule changes Melanie Barbacsy was unable to continue in the role as chapter president. Her resignation was regretfully accepted by the executive in September 2010. Sally MacInnis agreed to begin her term as president early. She took over the role in September 2010 and will serve as president through 2011. Bonnie Carter agreed to remain in the past president role through 2011.

### **2011 Executive**

**President:** Sally MacInnis RN BScN CIC  
**President-elect:** Shirley McDonald ART CIC  
**Past President:** Bonnie Carter RN OHN  
**Secretary:** Susan Cooper MLT CIC  
**Treasurer:** Dana Anderson RN CIC  
**Membership:** Christine Weir RN MSc CIC

**Number of Members:** 96

**Geographic Area Served:** Eastern Ontario - as far west as Trenton to Cardinal on the east and as far north as North Bay, and bounded by the St. Lawrence River on the south.

### **Membership:**

Our membership includes physicians, nurses, medical lab technologists, public health inspectors, and vendors. We cover all varieties of health care: from acute care, long term care, mental health, community, first responders, armed forces bases, and correctional facilities.

### **Meetings**

The chapter has a full day meeting in Kingston 5 times per year. We offer video conferencing to our members. Paul Webber organizes our educational events for each meeting.

June: Dr. Michael Gardam spoke on positive deviance

September: Craig Lawrie, Infection Control Consultant for the Ministry of Labour

### **Highlights**

- April 21st - over 150 local ICPs and Environmental Services staff and managers attended a full day workshop and trade show based on the new PIDAC environmental cleaning document. The workshop was co-hosted with the South Eastern Ontario Infection Control Network. Guest speakers included: Liz Van Horne, Dr. Dick Zoutman, Paul Webber and a panel of local Environmental Services Managers.
- Several members on the scientific committees for the National Conference 2010 and 2011.
- Dr. Zoutman received Honourary Membership Award at the National Conference in Vancouver.
- Chapter member Susan Cooper awarded a Virox Scholarship to attend the 2010 National Education Conference in Vancouver.
- The chapter held a contest to design a banner to be used for future chapter events. The winning entry was submitted by Sheila Chartrand from Quinte Healthcare. She received registration to the 2011 national conference which can be used by any member of the Quinte IPAC team.
- NICW events included:
  - booths at two shopping malls. manned by volunteers from the chapter
  - attendance at some municipal meetings for hand hygiene demonstrations.
- Jim Gauthier elected as president-elect for CHICA Canada for 2011
- Developed the theme for the Ecolab poster contest.

- Committee chosen to coordinate events for 2011 celebration of CHICA-EO 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary

*Sally MacInnis RN BScN CIC*  
*Chapter President*

## **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  <b>IPC Best Practice: Theory and</b>	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

<b>Strategy</b>	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.
-----------------	--	--	---

### 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*

## **CHICA- NEW BRUNSWICK/PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

### **2010 Executive**

President: Mary Woodworth BN RN  
President-elect: Stacey Burns RN BN CIC  
Secretary: Kellie McLean RN BN  
Treasurer: Bernadette DeMone MN

### **2011 Executive**

President: Stacey Burns RN BN CIC  
President-elect: Bernadette DeMone MN  
Secretary: Kellie McLean RN BN  
Treasurer: Bernadette DeMone MN  
Education Coordinator: Jane Stafford RN BN CIC

**Number of Members:** 53

### **Geographic Area Served:**

The provinces of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island

### **Membership**

The membership for the NB/PEI chapter is comprised of Infection Prevention & Control Practitioners, representatives from acute care hospitals, long term care facilities, mental health, and public health settings.

### **Meetings**

The NB/PEI chapter meetings are scheduled twice a year, fall and spring. The meetings are planned for one day. The morning portion of the meeting is scheduled for chapter business; the afternoon session is for educational purposes and round table discussions.

### **Highlights**

- Review and Revision of chapter's Terms of Reference.
- Funding criteria established for members attending educational conferences.
- Education Coordinator is a new position in the chapter's executive. Members believe continuing education is an important aspect of our practice.
- Working towards creating a chapter webpage and having a logo designed.
- Many members were able to attend the National Conference in Vancouver.

*Mary Woodworth RN BN  
Chapter President*

## CHICA-NOVA SCOTIA

### 2010 Executive

President:	Faith Stoll BScN RN
President-elect:	Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose RN BScN CIC
Secretary:	Terry Charlebois RN
Treasurer:	Danielle Henri RN
Membership Director:	Patsy Rawding RN BScN CIC
Education Chair:	Elizabeth Watson RN BScN CIC
Webmaster:	Lori Jessome-Croteau BScN RN CIC

### 2011 Executive

President:	Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose RN BScN CIC
President-elect:	Kim Allain RN BScN CIC
Past-President:	Faith Stoll BScN RN
Secretary:	Elizabeth Watson RN BScN CIC
Treasurer:	Danielle Henri RN
Membership Director:	Daphne Murray RN
Education Chair:	Kim Rafuse RN BScN DOHN
Webmaster:	Lori Jessome-Croteau BScN RN CIC

**Number of Members:** CHICA NS consists of eighty-nine (89) members. The majority of members are from acute care or long term care settings. We are also fortunate to have members from home care, industry, and public health.

**Geographic Area Served:** The Province of Nova Scotia

## MEETINGS

The chapter met five times in 2010. Meetings were generally held on Friday afternoons in a healthcare site near Halifax. Members travel from all areas of the province to attend with some travelling up to four hours one way. Meeting format consists of committee meetings in the morning, a business meeting and networking lunch and a one hour Education Session.

In 2010 Education Sessions included:

**February:** Cleaning Audits: Peter Crouse from Swish.

**April:** Facilitating Adult Learning: Mary Thibault, Manager for Learning and Development, Isaac Walton Killam (IWK) Health Center, Halifax.

**May:** CHICA NS hosted a Novice Education Day in Cape Breton NS for novice Infection Prevention and Control Practitioners.

**June:** Conference Insights from CHICA Canada's 2010 Conference in Vancouver including short presentations from Kim Allain ICP and Patsy Rawding ICP.

**October:** A visit with Cathy Munford, Past President CHICA Canada and Tools for Standardizing Forensic Infection Prevention and Control Practices: Dean Smith ICP.

**November:** CHICA NS annual Education Symposium, "It's all About the Bugs". This annual education conference includes a day and a half with education sessions, poster presentations, networking, and a wine and cheese with vendors. The keynote speaker was Joanne Braithwaite: Managing the 4 PM Phone Call! Other speakers included Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed Nova Scotia Ministry of Health: Outbreak Management the Public Health Perspective; Dr. Mike Clory: Community-Acquired MRSA; Kathleen Vollman "Bugs Be Gone", sponsored by Sage; Kim Allain and Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose: Managing IPC Change Effectively; Dr. Ross Davidson: Water Bugs - What Will Water Testing Tell You; Elizabeth Watson: Talks on Pox; and Sheila Shepherd: Bed Bugs and Other Creepy Crawlies!

The Symposium was a great success; we had record numbers attending the conference and had to close registrations the week before. During the conference CHICA NS raised funds for the Stephen Lewis Foundation and were able to donate over \$800.00 for AIDS relief in Africa.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- In May 2010, CHICA NS hosted a one day education conference in Cape Breton NS, at no cost to participants. The objective was to bring Infection Prevention and Control education into other areas of the province as well as deliver education to more disciplines, especially long term care. As this was so well received, we are exploring the feasibility of using this as a travelling “Road Show” to all areas of the province.
- Our annual CHICA NS conference was supported by 23 vendors from industry who set up exhibits for both days of the conference. The conference had 154 in attendance.
- The Executive and Education Chair met in April for an annual planning session, revising the Terms of Reference and revisiting our strategic plan. The revised Terms of Reference were approved during our meeting in October 2010.
- Several CHICA NS members were able to take part in the CHICA Canada national conference in Vancouver. CHICA NS awarded seven sponsorships for members to attend the conference. Three CHICA NS members were recipients of a Virox scholarship for 2010.

## **CHAPTER GOAL AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2011:**

- Development of Interest Groups, especially long term care within the province, in association with the CHICA - Canada Interest groups.
- Continue to increase educational learning opportunities for novice Infection Control Practitioners.
- Increase support and educational sessions by utilizing our more experienced CHICA NS members and our industry partners.
- To continue to provide financial support to CHICA NS members pursuing education in Infection Prevention and Control.
- Increase membership with the formation of a Membership and Advocacy Committee.
- Continue with strategic planning.
- Increase the visibility of CHICA Nova Scotia within the province and explore opportunities to further inform the public of our role.
- Increase the advocacy role of CHICA NS at the provincial and national level.

*Faith Stoll BScN RN  
Chapter President*

## **CHICA-NEWFOUNDLAND LABRADOR**

### **2010 Executive**

President: Merlee Steele-Rodway RN  
President-elect: Beverley Pittman RN  
Secretary: Lola Gushue RN CIC  
Treasurer: Lynn Mercer BN

### **2011 Executive**

President: Beverly Pittman RN  
President-Elect: Lola Gushue RN CIC  
Secretary: Alisa Cuff RN  
Treasurer: Lynn Mercer BN CIC

**No. Of Members:** 47

**Geographic Area Served:** The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador

### **Membership**

We are a small but very active and energetic group. Our membership spans the continuum of care, from community/public health to acute care and long term care. We are fortunate to have representatives from clinical nursing staff, physicians, laboratories and industry as well. Many of our members work in regional health authorities which serve large geographical areas. Our group includes members from acute care, long term care, outreach, community, personal care homes. Our members are very engaged in expanding our membership base. Members also play active roles in the Special Interest Group meetings.

### **Meetings**

Meetings were held on a monthly basis last year through the provincial teleconference system. Teleconference meetings usually consist of a business session followed by an educational regional report.

### **Education**

Northern chapter members of CHICA-NL hosted a very successful provincial conference this year. Dr. Michael Gardam addressed the group on Positive Deviance. This was very well received. Other speakers include Dr. Donna Moralejo, members of our chapter, Dr. G. William Fitzgerald, Clinical Chief of Staff for Dr. Charles S. Curtis Memorial Hospital-St. Anthony.

Several of our industry members sponsored our conference.

Webber Teleconferences are provided to the CHICA-NL membership by the provincial government. We have great attendance at these.

Several ICP's have completed the Queen's University program for Infection Prevention and Control last year and one new ICP is enrolled in CHICA-Canada's ICP Course.

### **Government**

- The provincial Infection Prevention and Control Team, PIC-NL, has been meeting on a monthly basis to develop provincial policies and standards for infection prevention and control programs.

I would like to thank all CHICA-NL members for their support over the last two years and wish Bev Pittman success and encouragement as the 2011-2012 CHICA-NL Chapter President.

*Merlee Steele-Rodway RN  
Chapter President*