

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

### **Executive 2007**

**President:** Susan Cooper MLT CIC  
**Past President:** Jim Gauthier MLT CIC  
**President-elect:** Kathleen Poole MN CIC  
**Treasurer/Membership:** Dana Anderson RN CIC  
**Secretary:** Shirley McDonald ART CIC

### **Executive 2008**

**President:** Kathleen Poole MN CIC  
**Past President:** Susan Cooper MLT CIC  
**President-elect:** Allyson Davis RN MSc CIC  
**Treasurer/Membership:** Dana Anderson RN CIC  
**Secretary:** Shirley McDonald ART CIC

**Geographic Area Served:** Eastern Ontario from Trenton to Brockville, Lake Ontario north to Bancroft

**Membership:** 2007 membership remained steady at 70 members

### **Meetings:**

CHICA-EO meets five times annually including a special summer social meeting. All meetings are held at the Mental Health site of Providence Care in Kingston. Meetings are made available to members in remote areas via both videoconference and teleconference. All meetings consist of a business portion, including round table discussion, as well as an education session organized by our education chair Paul Webber. Topics presented in 2007 included:

- February: Webber teleclass- “Best Practices for Hospital Construction Management” presented by Andrew Streifel
- May: “Gastroenteritis- a fly ball you DO NOT want to catch” presented by chapter member Jim Gauthier
- July: “Silly Questions” (as presented at CHICA conference in Edmonton) presented by Jim Gauthier
- September: reports by chapter members on committee and interest group meetings from CHICA conference in Edmonton
- November: “ Outbreak Management” presented by guest speaker Colette Ouellet , Network Coordinator, Champlain Infection Control Network

### **Highlights:**

2007 was another very active year for our chapter. Some of the highlights include:

- Ten members of the chapter successfully passed the Certification Board of Infection Control (CBIC) Certification in Infection Control (CIC) exam raising the number of certified chapter members from 5 to 15.
- Chapter policy manual was reviewed and revised by the Executive and presented to the chapter membership for approval in February
- Videoconferencing of all meetings was made available to members
- The chapter made the decision to house the CHICA-EO library in a permanent home at the South Eastern Ontario Infection Control Network (SEOICN) offices in Kingston. The contents remain accessible to all CHICA-EO members upon request. A listing of the contents of both the CHICA-EO library and the SEOICN library is available on the CHICA-EO website

- Carol Whyman was appointed the first CHICA-EO archivist
- Past President Jim Gauthier served on the Scientific Planning Committee for the 2007 CHICA annual conference in Edmonton. He will continue as a committee member until 2009
- Ten members of the chapter made the trip to Edmonton to attend the annual education conference
- The Chapter President also attended the APIC National Educational Conference in California in June
- The Lois Rae Scholarship Fund was established in 2007 with the blessing of the Rae family. In memory of the late Lois Rae, a CHICA-EO founding member, the fund was established to reimburse exam fees to chapter members upon successful completion of the certification or re-certification (CIC) exam. Lois was a strong supporter of certification and the chapter was delighted to be able to establish this fund in her name. Ten members became eligible for funding in 2007. It is hoped that this scholarship will continue with funds being added from future educational events.
- Two members of the chapter attended a September meeting of the Heart of New York (HONY) APIC chapter in Syracuse New York. Discussion at this meeting illustrated that infection control issues and problems are very similar on both sides of the border. Invitations were extended and accepted for some of their members to attend a CHICA-EO meeting in 2008.
- CHICA-EO was represented at National Infectious Diseases Day activities in Ottawa by Chapter President Susan Cooper , Life Member Janet Allen, chapter member Dr. Dick Zoutman, and many other CHICA members including CHICA-Canada President Joanne Laalo
- An Honourary Chapter Lifetime Membership was awarded to Shirley McDonald at the November meeting of the chapter. Shirley is a valuable member of our Chapter Executive, serving her second consecutive term as Secretary, but also voluntarily acting as Chapter Webmaster, maintaining the CHICA-EO website. Over the years, Shirley has acted as a mentor to new members, given many hours to planning educational events, served on the planning committee for several conferences and has even opened her home to CHICA-EO social events. Even in retirement, Shirley continues to be an extremely active member of not only our chapter but also CHICA on a national level. A well deserved honour for a remarkable lady. This brings to three the number of Honourary Lifetime Chapter Members in CHICA-EO, with Shirley joining Carol Whyman and Janet Allen, both of whom are still very active in the chapter.
- Plans are well under way for two educational events to be held in 2008. A one-day conference on Environmental Cleaning issues, "How Clean is Clean Enough?" will be held in partnership with the South Eastern Ontario Infection Control Network in February and our bi-annual educational conference will be held in September. Many chapter members are actively involved in the planning and in presenting at both of these conferences

*Susan Cooper MLT CIC  
Chapter President*