

CHICA- EASTERN ONTARIO (CHICA-EO)

2008 Executive

President:	Kathleen Poole MN CIC
Past President:	Susan Cooper MLT CIC
President Elect	Bonnie Carter, RN
Treasurer/ Membership:	Dana Anderson RN CIC
Secretary:	Shirley McDonald ART CIC

2009 Executive

President:	Bonnie Carter RN
Past President:	Kathleen Poole MN CIC
President Elect:	Melanie Barbacsy PHI, BSc 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: 2008 membership increased from 70 to 76 members, plus three Honourary Life Members.

Meetings / Education:

CHICA-EO met five times in 2008, and sponsored a special summer social meeting. Most meetings are held at the Mental Health site of Providence Care in Kingston in a room that enables members in remote areas to link 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 2008 included:

- February 19: “Teacher, Teacher – Can you Teach Me?” This presentation by Jim Gauthier outlined tips for ICP’s to help them become better educators.
- April 23: “Gloves, Germs and Steel” Jason Tetro from the Centre for Research on Environmental Microbiology, University of Ottawa, presented an engaging presentation on glove use, cleaning and microbial transmission.
- June 9: *Influenza and Outbreaks* This meeting was jointly sponsored with the education provided by CIPP (Community Infection Prevention Partners) of the KFL&A Public Health who sponsored Dr. Alison McGeer’s talk. CHICA-EO, together with CIPP, provided lunch to attendees.
- July 20: The Summer Social was held at the home of Shirley MacDonald and was attended by 13 members and former members (alumnae).
- September 17: “The Economics of Infection Control – Micro, Macro, Socio and Change” Paul Webber presented this thought provoking talk on the costs of infections to the individual, families, hospitals and society. We were fortunate to hear his presentation, for many were unable to attend this at a conference in the UK the following week.
- November 19: “Grand Prix of PPE” DVD Training tool was shared with members at the meeting. The Southwestern chapter of the RICN chapters produced this. Sue Cooper shared a “Jeopardy” -like Game of Influenza at the meeting. Feedback was provided, and all enjoyed this format of providing information / education in a different format.

Highlights:

2008 was another very active year for our chapter. Some of the highlights include:

- One chapter member successfully passed the Certification Board of Infection Control (CBIC) Certification in Infection Control (CIC) exam and applied to CHICA-EO's Lois Rae Scholarship Fund for reimbursement of CBIC exam fees. This brings us to 16 members with Certification.
- A one-day conference on Environmental Cleaning issues, "*How Clean is Clean Enough*" was held in partnership with the South Eastern Ontario Infection Control Network in February. This successful conference invited not only ICP's, but also housekeepers, maintenance and environmental workers who work in partnership in our facilities.
- Our bi-annual educational conference "*Share the Message – Not the Microbe: A Call To Action*" was held September 24 & 25, 2008 at the Days Inn Conference Centre. Many chapter members were actively involved in planning and presenting at this conference. Registration - Full day: 135 registrants; Workshops: 34 and 35 registrants, respectively. Workshop fees were set at \$50.00, and conference full day fee was \$100.00.
- Policies updated in 2008 in the manual and on the CHICA-EO website include: Lois Rae Scholarship Fund and application forms; a Chapter version of the CHICA-Canada Willingness to Serve form was created; and the Travel Expense Claim.
- Certificate of Thanks: Carol Whyman, Paul Webber and Shirley McDonald were recipients in February 2008 of the CHICA-Canada award for significant contributions to CHICA-EO Chapter.
- Dr. Dick Zoutman MD will retire from the CHICA-Canada Board at the end of 2008 after completing four terms (12 years) as Physician Director. CHICA - Eastern Ontario acknowledges our chapter member as a vocal advocate for infection prevention and control and for CHICA and CHICA-EO and we thank him for being instrumental in raising the profile of Infection Control.
- CHICA-Canada Conference Scientific Planning Committee: Jim Gauthier continues to serve, and will be Chair for the 2010 CHICA annual conference in Vancouver. Amanda Knapp has just been appointed for a two-year term representing Community/Public Health.
- Carol Whyman, the first CHICA-EO archivist completed the compilation of the history of the chapter which is now available on our website. Many thanks to Carol for documenting this compilation of our history.
- Seventeen chapter members attended the 2008 CHICA conference in Montréal.
- A Letter of Understanding was drafted and signed between the South Eastern Ontario Infection Control Network and CHICA-EO. This was created to formalize the partnership in education events, and to highlight roles and responsibilities. We would like to thank SEOICN for the administrative support this organization provides in assisting the chapter with Conferences and Workshops.
- Member Shirley MacDonald requested donations of medical / infection control books for the Cameroon Book Drive: She picked up 64 boxes including 1250 books and diligently sorted and arranged for current references to be sent to Africa.
- The CHICA-EO library was merged in 2007 with the SEOICN library. The website link will be replaced with the SEOICN library website link.

Kathleen Poole RN MScN, CIC
Chapter President