

## **CHICA-MANITOBA**

### **Executive 2008**

President: Betty Taylor RN BN MScA  
President-elect: Monique Liarakos RN BA BN  
Secretary: Janice Brigg, RN BN MSN  
Treasurer: Maureen Matheson RN BN

### **Executive 2009**

President: Monique Liarakos RN BA BN  
President-elect: Nina Williams RN  
Secretary: Janice Briggs RN BN MSN  
Treasurer: Krista Maxwell RN

**Number of Members:** 61.

**Geographic Area Served:** The province of Manitoba

### **Membership**

Membership includes those who work in positions at urban and rural Manitoba acute and long term care facilities, rural health complexes/health centres, Manitoba Health/public health/Health Canada FNIB, regional health authorities, community colleges, community health clinics, rehab center for children, Cancer Care Manitoba. Membership also includes consultants and industry representatives.

### **Meetings**

The Chapter meetings were held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month with the exception of June, July, August, and November. Meetings consist of a one hour education session and a two hour business meeting.

### **Highlights**

- CHICA Manitoba Chapter members worked towards accomplishing initiatives that were developed in the strategic plan. The actions taken included education sessions, developing job descriptions for key positions, forming a study group for certification, continuing work with Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety in planning for National Infection Control week.
- The CHICA Manitoba Chapter, with the support of Manitoba Institute of Patient Safety, worked very hard to promote Infection Control Week. Our slogan was “Clean it up, Stop the Spread of AROS”. Campaign materials included an infection control week campaign letter, media release, posters, tent cards and a toolkit. The campaign materials can be found on the CHICA-Manitoba website. Manitoba Health submitted a letter commending CHICA-Manitoba and the support of Manitoba Institute for Patient Safety for promoting greater awareness to activities health care professionals and the public can do to help prevent the spread of AROS. The president and president elect went on the local Big Breakfast TV Channel on October 20, 2008 to promote Infection Control Week.
- The chapter continued to participate in Webber Teleclasses making access available from Riverview Health Centre.
- The CHICA–Manitoba chapter received several requests for routine practices-hand hygiene education. Some of the chapter members have volunteered their time to provide this education. Education has been provided to occupational therapy students, health care aides, laboratory students, and Manitoba Hydro.
- CHICA-Manitoba Chapter arranged to have a booth display at Bug Day, an education day for health professional held on October 21, 2008.
- CHICA-Manitoba chapter supported five organizations by giving a small donation to each.

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

The following educational presentations were given to membership by guest speakers:

- Roberts Rules
- Microbiology: Lab Related Issues
- Regional Pandemic Influenza Update

- Email Etiquette
- Scabies –Video
- Overview Incident Command System

**CHICA-Manitoba Chapter Conference:**

The CHICA-Manitoba Chapter Infection Prevention & Control Conference was held on June 20, 2008 at the Victoria Inn with approximately 180 attendees. The conference was open to infection prevention and control professionals and other health care professionals interested in the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections, communicable diseases, and health issues in acute, long term and community care.

Topics included: Emerging Pathogens-presented by Dr. John Embil; Collecting a Proper Specimen, presented by Dr. Paul Van Caesele; Cleaning and Disinfection, presented by Christine Bowes; *Clostridium difficile*, presented by Dr. Greg Hammond; Pets Visits-Therapy & Research, presented by Dr. Legace-Weins; and Ask the Expert – a panel of experts from across the spectrum of health care.

We recruited one new member from this conference.

**CHICA National Conference:**

The following members attended the 2008 CHICA National Conference in Montreal, Quebec: Betty Taylor, Brenda Dyck, Molly Blake, Davenna Conrad, Shari Szeremley, Judi Linden, Karen Retha, Monique Liarakos, Elizabeth Omeniuk, Genevieve Thompson.

**CHICA Manitoba Retreat Day:**

CHICA Manitoba Retreat Day was held on November 7, 2008. This day is planned as an education day for CHICA Manitoba Chapter Members. Topics for this year’s retreat included: TB from a National/Laboratory/ Clinical perspective; Anti-vaccination Movement “Vaccination Why Some People Refuse”; Listeria; and a fun session with a life coach: “Learning How to Take Care of Yourself”

**CBIC:**

Three members wrote the CBIC exam and became certified. We continue to encourage those not certified to gain certification.

*Betty Taylor RN BN MScA  
Chapter President*