

CHICA-MONTREAL

Executive 2009

President: Silvana Perna N. Msc (A) CIC
Vice President: Frederica Gaspard
Treasurer and Membership: Connie Forget Falcicchio N. MSc (A)
Secretary: Andrée Larose N, BScN

Executive 2008

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Number of Members:

Our chapter is made up of 97 members. The majority of the members are nurses, namely infection prevention and control professionals. Strategies to increase the number of members are ongoing.

Geographic Area Served:

The members of CHICA-Montreal are from the Greater Montreal area (island of Montreal, Laval and Longueuil) with the exception of five members from nearby cities in Quebec.

This year we have had some changes to our executive. The education chair resigned from the position in April and duties were assumed, in interim, by Leila Ramman-Haddad. However, at the end of the year, our executive formed an education committee including four representatives from different milieus in the healthcare setting (long term care, acute care anglophone centre, acute care francophone center and public health). This committee will be coordinated by the education chair. Since promoting education in IP&C is one of the main objectives of our chapter, the purpose of this committee is to facilitate the organization of educational events that promote the practice of infection prevention and control and offer opportunities for networking.

Recruitment continues to be a challenge for our chapter mainly due to the language barrier. However, this year we increased our membership to 97 members, a 30% increase. We are continuously searching for ways to improve this. Liaising with AIPI remains a strategy for overcoming this barrier to promote collaboration between the two associations and to increase educational opportunities for IP&C practitioners

The development of a webpage is well on its way. We have hired an IT technician to create a webpage that should be available shortly. Two members from the executive have been appointed, in collaboration with the CHICA Canada webmaster, to manage the webpage.

Due to the extensive preparation for hosting the annual CHICA conference in 2008, our chapter did not organize an education day. However, we had organized six monthly education sessions, including guest speakers from out of town. For the first time, we organized a videoconference jointly with AIPI during one of the sessions.

Meetings

Last year our executive committee met six times, excluding meetings for the preparation of the annual conference; four were teleconference meetings. In general, our executive meets on a monthly basis prior to the educational sessions and on an ad hoc basis. Teleconferences are sometimes held to discuss issues. Educational sessions include a presentation on a selected topic given by an invited speaker followed by an exchange and update of information, projects, etc for the members.

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

Date (2008)	Speaker	Topic	Comments
January 17	<i>Catherine T. Milne,</i> <i>MSN, APRN, CWOCN, CD, ANP</i> Convatec	<i>The Scoop on Poop:</i> <i>The Management of Transient</i> <i>Fecal Incontinence</i> <i>Due to Infectious Diarrhea</i>	Videoconference organized for members of AIPI. A total of 11 Multimedia connections from various cities throughout the province.
February 21	Johanne Gagné, N, IPC CHUM Hôtel Dieu	Bingo: Educational program for routine practices	
April 17	Dr Anne Marie Bourgeault, CHUM		
September 18	Rob Owens PharmD Department of Pharmacy Services and Division of Infectious Diseases at Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine	"Antimicrobial Stewardship in the 21st Century"	Organized in conjunction with the Infectious Disease Department of the SMBD Jewish General Hospital
October 16	Bruno Dubreuil, Head of Environmental Services CSSS du Sud de Lanaudière	Education program for personnel in environmental services	
December 11	Shirley Paton, RN, MN HAI Advisor, Centre for Infectious Disease Prevention and Control, Public Health Agency of Canada	"What in the World is Going on with IP&C at PHAC?"	

In November 2008, a kiosk was reserved at the Order of Nursing annual conference to represent and promote our chapter.

Highlights

Our chapter was very proud to host the annual CHICA conference in 2008. Three members of our executive (Ramona Rodrigues, Lyne St.Martin and Frederica Gaspard) were on the scientific committee. A lot of dedication and hard work was put in to collaborate in making this conference a success by these members and by other members of the executive and of our chapter.

Five scholarships of \$400.00 each were awarded to CHICA-Montreal members last year to attend the conference in Montreal.

Pearl Orenstein received the Alice Girard award from the Order of Nurses of Quebec (ONQ) for recognition of an exceptional professional career. This is the highest achievement award granted from the ONQ.

Objectives for 2009

1. Increase the number of scholarships awarded to members who do not get subsidies from their employers, to attend the CHICA national conference in 2009 and to provide funding for other educational events as well.
2. Increase the membership of our chapter and the attendance at the monthly education sessions through increased promotional activities.
 - Organize education sessions with key speakers on “hot” topics in IP&C and schedule ahead of time for the upcoming year
 - Organize teleconferences to be available to other professionals/groups who may become potential chapter members
 - Organize an annual education day
 - Promote our webpage

*Silvana Perna N MSc(A) CIC
Chapter President*