

CHICA-NORTHERN ALBERTA (CHICA-NA)

Executive 2008:

President: Alan Hope
President Elect: Samantha Woolsey RN BScN CIC
Past President: Liz Werner RN
Secretary: Melody Cordoviz RN BSc BScN CIC
Treasurer: Shelley Winton RN BScN

Executive 2009:

President: Samantha Woolsey RN BScN CIC
President Elect: Denise Sorel RN BScN CIC
Past President: Alan Hope
Secretary: Melody Cordoviz RN BSc BScN CIC
Treasurer: Shelley Winton RN BScN

Number of Members: 93

Geographical Area served: Northern Alberta

Membership:

CHICA-Northern Alberta increased its membership to 93 members. The membership includes representation across the continuum of care, industry, occupational health & safety, microbiology, and education. We have been excited to have new members join our group and saddened to see several retire from Infection Prevention and Control, and some who have moved from the region.

Meetings:

CHICA-Northern Alberta held nine meetings in 2008 as well as one joint meeting with CHICA-Southern Alberta. A different member at alternating facilities hosts meetings each month. Education sessions make up the first hour of meetings with the balance being the business portion.

The annual meeting held in September with our sister chapter, CHICA-Southern Alberta was well attended and was held the day before the two-day conference hosted by CHICA-SA. Members from both chapters presented their poster presentations from the National Conference.

CHICA NA education sessions resumed in October with round table discussions and IPC week. The annual Christmas luncheon in December is an opportunity to complete the business of the year, to network and to celebrate, and to say goodbye to those members retiring and leaving the group.

Highlights 2008:

- The Province of Alberta has created one board, what role the CHICA Chapters will have has not been clearly defined as of yet.
- The chapter continued with a formal Strategic Plan to assist in maintaining focus in order to move toward meeting annual objectives.
- Teleconferencing was provided at six of the nine meetings. From one to four members who otherwise would not have been able to participate, were able to take advantage of the service at those meetings.
- Four of our members successfully completed their recertification in infection control, and another has successfully written for the first time.
- A Member Satisfaction Survey was distributed to the membership in October/November. Results of the 35% who responded and outcomes were discussed early in 2008.
- Work has been completed on the chapter web page and was posted on the CHICA-Canada website in early 2008.
- Denise Sorel from our chapter was given an award from APIC for Heroes of Infection Control
- Work is in progress to complete a comprehensive list of past members of the Executive of this Chapter.
- The chapter continues to look for opportunities to increase awareness in the community.

Thank you CHICA Canada and the membership of CHICA Northern Alberta for allowing me to be the first industry representative to hold the position of chapter president. It has been both an honour and a privilege to fulfill the duties as president, and I would like to thank all my membership for the guidance and invaluable assistance throughout the year.

Alan Hope
Chapter President