

CHICA-CENTRAL ONTARIO

2009 Executive:

President: Sharon Connell RN CIC
President Elect: Teri Murduff RN BScN CIC
Secretary: Colleen Haley RN
Treasurer: Margaret Jay RN CIC
Past President: Cheryl Johnson MLT CIC
Education Committee Chair: Kelly Burns, RN
Education Committee Assistant: Joan.Rannie RN BScN

2010 Executive:

President: Teri Murduff RN BScN CIC
President Elect: Vacant, to be elected
Secretary: Colleen Haley RN
Treasurer: Margaret Jay RN CIC
Past President: Sharon Connell RN CIC
Education Committee Chair: Vacant, to be elected

Number of Members: 34 in total (an increase of 6 members from 2008)

Geographic Area Served: The southern region includes Northumberland, and Pine Ridge Districts, east to Peterborough, west to Durham Region and north as far as the Haliburton Highlands and all areas within. We also welcome all members of CHICA who are located outside of our geographic region, that wish to designate their membership or additional membership to our chapter.

Membership

Infection Control Professionals actively involved with our chapter meetings include representation from: four acute care hospitals, several long term care homes, community/home care services such as local Community Care Access Centres, and two public health units. The wide variety of work experiences provides a well rounded body of knowledge to enhance networking opportunities during chapter meetings and events.

Meetings

Four meetings were planned for 2009 as follows: February 11, May 28, September 24 and November 26. The morning meetings included a two hour general meeting coupled with a one hour educational session. The attendance ranged from 10 to 15 members per meeting. Announcements from CHICA Canada were highlighted along with news, resources and events from our Central East - Regional Infection Control Network.

Educational Sessions

The education for the May meeting consisted of reports from the attendees of the National CHICA conference sharing highlights from the sessions they attended in Newfoundland. The September meeting welcomed guest speaker Greg Buchannon MLT ART Charge Technologist of the Laboratory of Medicine at Peterborough Regional Health Centre, sharing information on 'Specimen Collection and Interpretation of Culture Results', this was well received by attending members. The final meeting was cancelled due to several member regrets related to the H1N1 pandemic workload.

Highlights

The focus of our first chapter meeting of 2009 was visioning for the future. Members clearly showed their support to keep a small chapter growing and meeting the needs of its varied members. Vacant executive positions were filled and members shared ideas on increasing involvement and attracting new members. In an attempt to increase attendance, meeting times were changed to mornings starting at nine a.m. and to be hosted in rotating locations throughout the geographic area served.

Highlights of decisions made during the meetings held in May and September were:

1. To retrieve various historical documents and download to one central USB memory stick to be passed on year after year to the newly elected executive.
2. Financial support to be provided to the chapter president to attend the annual CHICA Conference to cover up to \$1000 of expenses not usually covered by other scholarship grants such as transportation and hotel costs. Revised Terms of Reference defines parameters of funding.
3. Revised chapter brochure completed with input from members. Still discussing logo ideas.
4. Chapter members agreed that a website would be difficult to maintain at this time.

*Sharon Connell RN CIC
Chapter President*