

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

CHICA-Sponsored Basic Education IP&C Course

The Distance Education Coordinator, Karen Dobbin-Williams, who began work in early 2008, completed an extensive evaluation of the CHICA Basic IP&C Control Course. A blueprint for revisions was developed and discussed with the original course authors. Issues to be addressed in rolling out the course to other sites have been identified. The goal for 2010 is to complete revisions and have the revised course offered in fall 2010.

CHICA Endorsement of Education Courses

The criteria for endorsing courses and the process for receiving endorsement was approved by the Board in May 2009, and publicized on the CHICA website. Letters were also sent to representatives of the courses currently endorsed, advising them of the new criteria and that their endorsement would lapse after three (3) years if not renewed as per the new conditions. Five committee members were recruited and appointed. Their terms are varied to allow staggering of new appointments. The first round of application of the new policy and procedure took place in fall 2009. The committee recommended, and the Board approved, one new course being endorsed.

CHICA Education Project: RPAP Tools Pilot Test

In spring 2009, the Board voted to support involvement of chapters in pilot-testing the Routine Practices and Additional Precautions Assessment and Educational Tools that have been developed by PHAC, specifically by a working group led by D. Moralejo and involving a number of CHICA members. In May, a subcommittee of the Education Committee volunteered to participate in a pilot test. A proposal for collaborative pilot-testing was written over the summer and approved by CHICA and PHAC, with a budget of \$9600 from PHAC and \$5765 from CHICA.

The pilot test took place in September-October 2009. Seven participants, consisting of six ICPs and one staff development educator from six provinces, were brought to Ottawa for a workshop September 10th. They then went back to their organizations to conduct two to three sessions each, with colleagues and healthcare workers, and obtain feedback on the tools. Each tool was evaluated by at least two groups, and many tools were evaluated by multiple groups. Preliminary data analysis was conducted in late 2009, but was delayed by influenza-related activities. In general, the feedback was positive, and revisions are not expected to be extensive.

Data analysis and revisions will be completed in early 2010, with work to be done by Donna Moralejo, PHAC representatives, the Tools Development Working Group and with the Pilot Test Working Group. We will then be ready to discuss dissemination.

National Conference Planning

The conference planning has been going well for the 2010 Vancouver conference. The committee appointed for the 2011 conference met for the first time in November 2009. Overall, the national planning strategies, including continuity of members, summaries of topics, and a “parking lot”, are working and should continue.

Education Committee

Representatives from a number of chapters met at the Education Committee meeting in St John’s in May. Some members for a core group were identified and three possible topics identified: Novice Day curriculum, an inventory of educational resource materials, and Routine Practices pilot test. The pilot test has been successfully completed; the other projects, and further items related to CHICA’s strategic plan, will be reviewed again in 2010.

IFIC presentation

IFIC invited societies to present a one-hour session at the Lithuania IFIC conference in 2009. Carol Goldman, Cathy Munford and Donna Moralejo each presented a talk in a 90-minute session on “Six Things to Make Routine Practices Routine”. The presentation was well received and provided an opportunity to increase visibility of CHICA and Canadian activities in IP&C. Future support for CHICA members to attend IFIC is encouraged.

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