

CHICA- NWO (Northwestern Ontario)

Executive 2009

President: Nancy Robertson and Diana Gowanlock RN BScN MPH (as of June 2009)
President-elect: Diana Gowanlock RN BScN MPH
Secretary: Nicole Tittley MT CIC
Treasurer: Lynne Mattila RN

Executive 2010

President: Diana Gowanlock RN BScN MPH
President-Elect: Kim Leach RN
Secretary: Nicole Tittley MT CIC
Treasurer: Lynne Mattila RN

Number of Members: CHICA-NWO has 55 members.

Geographic Area Served: Northwestern Ontario

Membership

Background of CHICA-NWO members is varied. Representation is from areas such as public health (both public health nurses and public health inspectors), long-term care, rehabilitation, mental health, acute care, community nursing agencies, First Nations and Inuit Health, Regional Infection Control Networks as well as Colleges and Universities.

Meetings

CHICA-NWO met four times over the course of 2009. Meetings were held in Thunder Bay but also available through teleconferencing for members that could not attend in person. Education sessions were held at a number of meetings and included such topics as: Invasive group A streptococcus, as well as a presentation from Ontario's acting chief medical officer of health, discussing the influenza pandemic. A number of our chapter members were able to attend the national conference in Newfoundland and brought back valuable information for the group.

Highlights

This was a very active year for CHICA-NWO with the first influenza pandemic in 40 years. Members took the opportunity to discuss and network ideas and concerns related to the pandemic at chapter meetings as well as outside of the meeting format.

Despite the pandemic we were able to hold a 1 ½ day annual conference in June 2009 and it was well received. Speakers included Clare Barry and Dr. Greg Gamble.

*Diana Gowanlock RN BScN MPH
Chapter President*