

IPAC NOVA SCOTIA

Executive 2015

President:	Kimberly Rafuse BScN RN DOHN
President-elect:	Daphne Murray RN CIC
Past President:	Kim Allain BSc RN MHS CIC
Secretary:	Elizabeth Watson BScN RN CIC
Treasurer:	Tammy MacDonald BScN RN MBA CIC
Education Coordinator:	Sheila Lee RN CIC
Membership and Marketing:	Duane McOnie
Webmaster:	Faith Stoll BScN RN CIC

Executive 2016

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Number of Members: 84 members.

Geographic Area Served: The province of Nova Scotia.

Membership

The majority of members represent acute and long-term care settings. Members include infection control professionals (ICPs), environmental services and administration as well as representation from government, home care, correction services, dentistry, industry and infectious diseases.

Meetings

The chapter met five times in 2015. Meetings were held on Friday afternoons within the Halifax area. Member participation is supported through the use of Lync. Meeting format consists of on-site Education Committee meeting in the morning, a networking lunch followed by a business meeting. An education session is provided after the regular business session. The following education sessions were provided:

February: *Ebola Virus Disease Update: A Personal Protection Equipment Primer.* Presented by Suzanne Hennessey and Daphne Murray (President-elect), ICPs from Capital District Health Authority and members of IPACNS.

April: *My Infection Control Experience in Saudi Arabia in 2012.* Presented by member Mary LeBlanc.

June: *Long Term Care Infection Control Guidelines – A Provincial Update.* Presented by Kim Allain (Past President), Infection Control Consultant with the Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness and member of IPAC NS.

September: *IPAC NS Goes National: Presentations from the 2015 Conference.* This education session was dedicated to the oral and poster presentations that were accepted at the IPAC Canada national conference in June. Four IPAC NS members who received chapter bursaries to attend the conference each provided a twenty- minute presentation.

November: *Innovation in Hand Hygiene Measurement: Comparing Research with the use of a Free App.* Presented to members using Lync, with Eve Moore from Handymetrics.

Highlights

Support for member education continued this year as the chapter awarded funding to three members to participate in the IPAC Canada “The Art of Teaching” webinar in January, the cost of registration for the IPAC Canada national conference to five members, and registration coverage to our IPAC NS Annual Educational Symposium to three members.

The abstract of one member was approved for poster presentation at the national Accreditation Canada conference in Toronto.

On behalf of membership, a letter was forwarded to the Certification Board of Infection Control regarding eligibility and accessibility challenges faced by members in attaining certification in infection control.

The chapter was notified that Tele Health could no longer be used to support chapter meetings and education sessions. Although initially challenging to use, a trial of Lync proved successful in supporting attendance. New technology has been purchased by the chapter and chairpersons have changed the manner in which meetings are conducted. Approximately 40% of members now attend via Lync while the remainder attends in person.

In June of 2015, IPAC Canada approved our revised chapter Terms of Reference (ToR).

Two members attended the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology national conference in Nashville. The abstract of one member was approved for poster presentation at the conference.

To ensure consistency in the chapter response to member life events, guidelines for Life Events Determination were approved.

A successful two-day IPAC NS Annual Education Symposium was held in Truro with 26 vendors registered and over 150 attendees participating. Registration fee was waived for our member and current President of IPAC Canada, Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose, to attend the conference and provide an opening address to attendees.

To recognize members who have received certification in infection control for the first time and those who have re-certified, a tribute was added to our Annual Educational Symposium recognizing all members and presenting newly certified members with a gift on behalf of the chapter.

The chapter approved new ToR for the Education Committee in response to a new position for an industry representative. The position was trialed during the 2015 Annual Education Symposium planning and proved to be a valuable resource. An expression of interest has been forwarded to IPAC NS industry members to fill the new position in the interim until elections are held in the autumn of 2016.

On behalf of membership, a letter was sent to IPAC Canada Executive Director seeking clarification of the role between IPAC Canada and the Canadian Patient Safety Institute.

The executive approved the attendance for a member at large to attend our 2016 spring strategic planning retreat as we continue to explore innovative ways to attract new members to future chapter executive positions.

Kim Rafuse BScN RN DOHN
Chapter President