

IPAC SOUTHERN ALBERTA

2015 and 2016 Executive

President:	Michelle Platt RN BPE
President-elect:	Vacant
Secretary:	Heather MacLaurin RN
Treasurer:	Sue Crittenden RN
Education Coordinator:	Kristine Cannon BSc MBT
Seminar/Fundraising Coordinator:	Melissa Eyben BSc MSc
Webmaster:	Wendy Runge RN BScN
Past President:	Jennifer Ellison BSc MSc - LOA

Number of Members: 92 members (increased by 10 members in 2015)

Geographic Area Served

South and South/Central Alberta. Our borders extend from Red Deer (north) to the AB/USA border (south); then from the BC/AB border (west) to the AB/SK (East) borders.

Membership

IPAC Southern Alberta (IPAC SA) membership consists of the following demographics:

- Infection Prevention and Control professionals from acute care hospital sites, assisted/supportive living sites, urban and rural community sites and pre-hospital care.
- Representatives from industry, environmental services, medical device reprocessing, educational institutions, private consultants, dental offices and individuals with an interest in infection control,

Meetings

There were eight meetings held during 2015. All meetings included two components: an education session and board meeting as per standard agenda. Meetings also included round table discussion for sharing strategies, concerns and networking.

Education and Guest speakers: Jan to Dec, 2015

Jan - IPC in Liberia during the Ebola Outbreak -A personal experience working with the WHO (Rhonda Demarco, Calgary Zone ICP).

Feb – Education featured industry: Welch Allyn, ArjoHuntleigh, AMG Medical, Sealed Air Diversey/ViroxPTS, Bowers Medical Supply

Mar - Water borne pathogen reduction with point of use filtration, by Chem-Aqua Environmental Services.

May - The role of the Microbiome in Infection Control (Heidi O’Grady, Calgary Zone IPC lab scientist).

May – IPAC SA Seminar and Social - *Tipping the boat but staying in it*. Presenter: Marlies Van Dijk

Sept - Highlights from the IPAC Canada Conference in Victoria- Presented by the Calgary Zone ICPs who attended.

Oct - New HH monitoring tool that measures hand hygiene technique (Adil Dhanani- X Inc)

Nov - IPC challenges of the temporary CT scan at the ACH (Linda Ward, Calgary Zone IPC lab technologist)

Highlights:

IPAC SA activities related to IPAC Canada’s 2010-2015 Strategic Plan Goals:

IPAC Canada Goal 1: Raise the profile of the association and its activities

- Four members completed and/or are participating in the IPAC Canada Novice Infection Control Course
- Four members pursuing higher post-secondary education levels & leadership positions: including one Program Lead for Community Health Sciences for the Hospital Epidemiology Program, Cumming School of Medicine (U of C) and one member completing their masters; two members completing PhD level degrees.
- One member completing her Masters of Global Health & Infectious Diseases at the University Of Edinburgh

IPAC Canada Goal 2: Enhance the mix of products and services

- Delivered a “needs assessment questionnaire” to members and through this discovered that members would like to use a new medium of communication at meetings as in- person ones are often difficult to attend. Microsoft LYNC was introduced and has worked successfully. In-person meetings are now held only 2-3 times per year. This chapter is represented on all IPAC Canada interest groups and core committees.

IPAC Canada Goal 3: Expand the association’s education initiatives

- Education provided to members at all monthly meetings – see Meeting section above for details
- For the fourth year, IPAC SA industry members were invited to speak about their companies, services and products to engage members and promote relationships.
- Two members successfully received their CIC Certification
- Newsletter: Quarterly IPAC SA Newsletter (including updates, education links, IPAC-SA web links etc.) published.

IPAC Canada Goal 4: Expand and develop the membership base

- Continued recruitment of new members (10 new members), now standing at 92 members.
- IPAC SA Seminar and Social May 28, “Tipping the boat but staying in it: A workshop on how to become a better Organizational Rebel”. Open Registration (attendance from various AHS departments, educational institutions/disciplines, as well as various industry representatives). Goal: to increase awareness of IPAC SA.
- Dual provincial IPAC chapter education day (via Telehealth across AB). Organized by IPAC NA. Annual Education Day Sept 18, *Weird, Wacky and Wonderful*. Free registration was offered for IPAC NA and IPAC SA members.

IPAC Canada Goal 5: Provide national and international leadership

- Twelve members attended the 2015 IPAC Canada National Conference in Victoria, BC June 14-17
- One member attended a two-day IPAC Canada Chapter Presidents Meeting in Victoria, BC June 14 – 17
- IPAC Canada Chapter Challenge in Victoria, BC June 14-17 (\$1000 prize): IPAC SA won first prize
- Two Members represent on the IPAC Canada National Conference Scientific Committees until 2017-2018.
- One member was the successful recipient of a Virox Scholarship.
- One member attended annual Provincial Education Conferences in .BC, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, sharing learnings with IPAC SA during monthly meetings round table.
- Twelve members had oral presentations and posters at various national and international conferences including the IPAC Canada National Conference. One member presented a published paper at APIC, Nashville.
- 10+ members published to various journals including, but not limited to the following: AJIC, ARIC, Canadian Journal of Infection Control, Canadian Journal of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Journal of Hospital Infections.
- One member received funding for a WHO contracted International IPC expert position in the African affected Ebola areas.
- Three members have membership to SHEA (Society for Healthcare Epidemiology)
- One member has acted as an IPAC Canada representative for the ARO Prevalence Project.
- One member is a representative of a Canadian project regarding surveillance definitions via CPSI & IPAC.

Michelle Platt RN BPE
Chapter President