

MEMORANDUM TO IPAC CANADA MEMBERS

RE ELECTIONS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors of IPAC Canada is charged with the responsibility of ensuring continuity by nominating a slate of officers for positions open in 2020 (Policy 12.10). These are nominations only. **Additionally, nominations for any of the available board positions are welcomed from members of IPAC Canada.** Serving on the board of IPAC Canada is an excellent way to participate at the national level. This offers the opportunity to meet a wide range of IPAC Canada members, network with allied professional groups, and work with other motivated and experienced Board members.

Timelines for Election of Officers and Directors:

- December 19, 2019 Announcement of the IPAC Canada Nominating Committee slate of candidates
- February 14, 2020 Deadline for additional nominations from membership
- February 28, 2020 Announcement of slate of candidates for election at Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- May 6, 2020 Late nominations will be accepted at the AGM followed by the election

The Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors of Infection Prevention and Control Canada (IPAC Canada) has put forth the following candidates for positions open as of May 6, 2020.

Secretary/Membership Director
(3 year term)

Jennifer Happe BSc MSc
Red Deer, Alberta

Director (Chapters and Interest Groups)
(3 year term)

Anne Bialachowski RN BN MS CIC
Hamilton, Ontario

Director (Education)
(3 year term)

Kim Allain BScN RN MHS CIC
Halifax, Nova Scotia

CANDIDATE PROFILES



Jennifer Happe BSc MSc is a candidate for her second term as IPAC Canada Secretary/Membership Director. Jennifer has worked in infection control for 11 years. After completing a Master's Degree in Microbiology and Infectious Diseases at the University of Calgary, she began her career as a clinical researcher investigating alternative therapies for *Clostridium difficile* infections, including novel antibiotics and fecal microbiota transplants, before transitioning into the role of an Infection Control Professional. Jennifer has a varied portfolio and oversees acute care and mental health units at the Red Deer Hospital and cancer care at the Central Alberta Cancer Center. She also has experience serving long-term care and both small and large healthcare centers. Since 2015 Jennifer has represented IPAC Canada in advocating for an expanded and comprehensive national

surveillance system for Canadian acute and long-term care facilities. It has been a privilege for Jennifer to represent IPAC Canada on several Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program committees including data quality, case definitions and point prevalence studies. Jennifer has served as Secretary on the IPAC Canada Board since 2017 and as Director of Membership since 2018. When she's not busy working, Jennifer enjoys traveling and volunteering with the RCMP in the Victim Services Unit.

PHILOSOPHY: For the past three years, I have worked diligently to serve the IPAC Canada Board of Directors and our Members as Secretary, and more recently as Director of Membership. I am excited for the opportunity to continue to shape and grow a robust and relevant organization by nurturing Member engagement and fostering Member value. I will liaise between the Board, our Members and the Membership and Membership Core Committees to action the new strategic plan that was informed by our Members. On behalf of our Members, I will continue to help realize IPAC Canada as a leading organization for professional development, networking, practical resources and tools, and advocacy with policy makers and healthcare leaders in the field. Members are this organization's greatest asset and I am inspired by their enthusiasm and commitment to protect the lives and well-being of individuals, families and communities. In turn, I will bring enthusiasm and a commitment to meet the needs that Members have of our organization.



Anne Bialachowski RN BN MS CIC is the Manager of the Infection Prevention and Control Program and the Outpatient Department at St. Joseph's Healthcare in Hamilton. She obtained a Bachelor of Nursing from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia and a Masters of Nursing from D'Youville College in New York. Anne has been certified in Infection Control since 1999 and active in Infection Prevention at the local, provincial, and national level. In varied roles throughout her career, Anne has been involved in the review of IPAC related best practices, innovations and the implementation of numerous quality improvement projects. She is passionate about infection prevention and mentors learners at all levels as well as new team members. She has been able to ignite an interest and passion for the field in these individuals. She has a well-respected team who are seen to be supportive and collaborative with the clinical teams.

PHILOSOPHY: I would bring many years of experience in a wide variety of settings to the role. I have demonstrated the ability to work with both novice and expert infection control professionals as well as other professionals. I thrive working in teams and love projects involving collaboration and development of novel approaches or innovations. I have worked on numerous projects and have learned how to engage people even when approaches have been very divergent and occasionally contentious. I seek our divergent opinions and use the different ideas and approaches to make quality improvements.



Kim Allain RN BScN MHS CIC has more than 17 years' experience in infection prevention and control. Kim is currently the Quality Improvement and Safety Leader (IPAC) for the Nova Scotia Health Authority. She has also worked as a provincial infection control consultant and infection control practitioner in an acute care setting previous to her current role. She completed her nursing degree at Dalhousie University School and has a Masters in Health Studies. Kim has been board-certified in IPAC (CIC® designation) since 2005. Kim is an active member of IPAC Canada. She is a past chapter president and has been a member, co-chair and chair for the 2014, 2016 and 2017 IPAC Canada National Education Conferences. She is currently the Director (Education) on the IPAC Canada Board.

PHILOSOPHY: I have had the privilege of serving as the Director (Education) for over two years. In re-offering for this role, I hope to continue with the momentum in the work I have led and have become involved in. The Education portfolio is exciting, rewarding and full of opportunities. I will continue to be active in the Education committees, ensuring effective communication between the committees and the Board. I will be an advocate for the education strategy for IPAC Canada. I will be prepared, innovative and create in my thinking in how best to serve the membership as Director (Education).

Additional nominations from the membership of IPAC Canada will be accepted until **February 14, 2020**. Position descriptions (Section 2 Board of Directors, Policy) and nomination forms (Form 3 and 3C) may be obtained from the Membership Services Office (info@ipac-canada.org) or are available in the Members Area of the IPAC Canada website (Policies and Forms, Form #3).

Signatures of two active members are required for each nomination. Send completed nomination forms to:

Gerry Hansen, Executive Director

Email: info@ipac-canada.org

Fax: 1-204-895-9595

Deadline for nominations: February 14, 2020