

**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 2021 (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 18, 2020 Announcement of the IPAC Canada Nominating Committee slate of candidates
- February 19, 2021 Deadline for additional nominations from membership
- February 28, 2021 Announcement of slate of candidates for election
- May 20, 2021 Announcement of results of 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 20, 2021

President-elect (2 year term; President 2 year term; Past President 1 year term)	Colette Ouellet RN BN MHA CRM CIC Orleans, Ontario
Treasurer (3 year term)	Sonalben Shah MSc CIC Woodstock, Ontario
Director (Physician) (3 year term)	John Embil MD BSc(Hon) FRCPC FACP Winnipeg, Manitoba

CANDIDATE PROFILES



Colette Ouellet RN BN MHA CRM CIC began her career as a nursing officer in the Canadian Armed Forces, and was fortunate to have experienced postings in Winnipeg, Halifax, Ottawa and Germany during her military career. Through these postings, she acted in various roles in medical and surgical units, outpatient centres and Emergency Rooms as well as having an opportunity to work in Nursing Education. It was at the end of her military time that Colette was exposed to the world of Infection Prevention and Control. As a civilian, Colette was hired into a team of Infection Control Professionals at the Civic Hospital in Ottawa. With an excellent and knowledgeable mentor and supportive colleagues, she learned the intricacies and details of this broad and immensely interesting specialty area of healthcare. She became the Manager of the program in 1999, and then moved on to become the inaugural Network Coordinator for the Champlain Regional Infection Control Network in 2005. During her tenure, Colette has the most remarkable opportunities to network with and befriend some of the brightest leaders in Infection Prevention and Control in Canada. This period of her career stimulated a further interest in the management of healthcare in a broader sense and led to her pursuit of a Masters degree in Health Administration. She then went on to achieve certification in Canadian Risk Management which notably supports and integrates extremely well with the ongoing development and oversight of an IPAC program. Colette is now the Director of IPAC, Quality, Patient Safety and Risk management at a 280-bed community hospital in Ottawa.

PHILOSOPHY: As the President-elect of IPAC Canada, I would bring my knowledge and experience from 25 years of Infection Control practice and my education and experience in Risk Management to the organization. My goals as President-elect and ultimately President of IPAC Canada are four-fold: to proudly and effectively represent IPAC Canada nationally and internationally; to have an opportunity to support the continued growth and metamorphosis of the infection control profession and our national association; to offer

opportunities for members of the association to share in new knowledge and the generation of new ideas; and to learn from the incredibly dedicated and talented members of this renowned organization.



Sonalben Shah MSc CIC is an Infection Control Professional in Woodstock General Hospital, a 178-bed acute care facility. In her role, she is actively engaged in surveillance, outbreak management, IPAC education, Projects and Policy & Procedure writing. Her role also entails communications with stakeholders such as the Health Unit, Public Health Ontario, Physicians/Surgeons and regional ICPs, among others. Sonal has her Masters in Microbiology and CIC® Certification. Her professional journey encompasses vast additional experience including Medical Lab Tech in Kenya, QC Manager of a pharmaceutical manufacturing company in Kenya and Pharmacy assistant in retail pharmacy in both Kenya and Canada. She has also had the privilege of experiencing and integrating diverse cultures into her life: she is an Indian origin, brought up in Kenya and settled in Canada. Sonal has been in the IPAC Southwestern Treasurer role since 2016 and that of Parent Council in the school her two kids attend since 2012. Her inherent quality of wanting to be thorough in her work drives her to take up such additional duties. Sonal has climbed Mt. Logonot and Mt. Kilimanjaro as well as completed numerous outward-bound courses in Kenya. She embraced a new craziness in 2018 when she did her first half marathon and now she just RUNS! She would rather use her smile over her Orange Belt in Karate training! Sonal takes pride in her cultures: she enjoys yoga and Bollywood music.

PHILOSOPHY: Being nominated for the Treasurer position by the Board of Directors IPAC Canada meant that time had come to spread my wings from chapter to National level. I am a team player, disciplined to follow rules, have an understanding of the financial outlook of non-profit organizations, can provide fiscally sound advice to the Board of Directors, and can guide chapter treasurers while fulfilling my duties and responsibilities in the role. I look forward to serving in the role and advance the great work done by the former treasurers.



John Embil MD BSc(Hon) FRCPC FACP is a Professor of Medicine, and a specialist in Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases at the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. He is the Medical Director of the Infection Prevention and Control Program for the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority. John is a member of working groups for the management of the diabetic foot for the Canadian Diabetes Association, International Working Group for the Diabetic Foot and the Infectious Disease Society of America. John has been involved in the drafting of guidelines for all of these organizations. John's research interests include: The diabetic foot, blastomycosis, hospital infection control, and clinical trials for new anti-infective agents and wound care therapies.

PHILOSOPHY: As a member of the Board of Directors of IPAC Canada, I intend to use my knowledge and experience to advise the Board on actions pertaining to the practice of infection prevention and control. I will use pragmatism as well as creativity to forward the goals of IPAC Canada. I look forward to working with the Board in whatever role would be useful in contributing to the growth of the association and advocacy for our members.

Additional nominations from the membership of IPAC Canada will be accepted until **February 19, 2021**. 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:

Jennifer Happe, IPAC Canada Secretary
Email: info@ipac-canada.org
Fax: 1-204-895-9595

Deadline for nominations: February 19, 2021