



The Board of Directors of IPAC Canada met in Toronto on November 29-30, 2019. Following are highlights of Board discussion.

- HILL DAY 2020** – After the success of Hill Day 2018 (May 4, 2018), the Board and Impact Public Affairs are preparing a multi-prong approach to advocate for funding for a national surveillance data repository to support efforts against AMRs. Hill Day 2019 was tabled because of the pending election. A 2019 pre-budget submission was made to advocate for these issues. Hill Day 2020 will be held February 25, 2020.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT TO MEMBERS: IPAC Canada continues to advocate on behalf of patients, health care and our profession. Bringing our message directly to government will increase the profile of the Association and our membership. As well, it brings awareness to the infection prevention and control issues facing Canadians and our healthcare system with the goal of ultimately driving positive change.

- MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE** – The Board reviews current membership fees every two years. In 2020, membership fees will increase to:

	Current	4% increase
Individual Member	\$214	\$223
Institutional – 1 st	299	311
Institutional Rep	129	135
Student	129	135
Retired	129	135
Corporate Member	2600	2700
Chapter Fees	31.00 per member	\$32.00 per member

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT TO MEMBERS: Previously, the Board agreed to the request of membership that membership fees would be reviewed every two years and nominal increases applied if necessary. At this time, IPAC Canada is in a deficit position with operating expenses surpassing revenue. Most of the operational expenses are fixed and pertain to the governance of the association, advocacy and education. The 2019 IFIC/IPAC Canada Conjoint Conference experienced a loss due to smaller than anticipated attendance. Revenue has not increased significantly. Although the number of new members has increased, many members are retiring, employers are no longer paying association fees, and we face both budget and travel restrictions. Corporate Membership continues to grow, speaking to the value of this partnership. The Board has made significant reductions in the 2020 budget and expenses are monitored carefully. The Membership Core Committee and the Board are working to resolve the issue of falling membership.

3. **GROUP MEMBERSHIP** – The Board has agreed to investigate changing Institutional Membership (several members at one physical site) to a Group Membership (not necessarily the same physical site but reporting to the same Direct Supervisor). Recommendations are expected to be announced at the 2020 AGM.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT TO MEMBERS: Institutional Membership was developed as a means to attract increased membership from larger facilities. It has been a great success and continues to represent over half of today's membership. In recent years, healthcare restructuring has resulted in many members, particularly in rural areas, reporting to one Direct Supervisor although they are geographically distant from the remainder of their team. The Board is investigating how to manage this significant change without further jeopardizing operating revenues.

4. **CIC® SCHOLARSHIP** – The Board approved a draft CIC® Scholarship which would provide reimbursement of certification examination fees. A committee of the Board is finalizing the criteria. It is anticipated that the new Scholarship will be launched in the late spring of 2020. The Scholarship will be funded from the revenues of Corporate Member fees. IPAC Canada thanks the members of the Corporate Relations Committee for their support.

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT TO MEMBERS: IPAC Canada endorses certification as administered by the Certification Board of Infection Control (CBIC). This certification is important to members to provide evidence to their employer that they have a strong and continuing knowledge of infection prevention and control practice. Many employers now prescribe certification of their IPAC employees within 18-24 months of hiring. This scholarship will provide a financial reward for successful certification. Based on current certification examination fees, the scholarship is expected to initially fund 10 members.

For information on these and any other IPAC Canada issues, please contact President Barbara Catt at president@ipac-canada.org , or Gerry Hansen, Executive Director at executivedirector@ipac-canada.org or 1-866-999-7111.