



ANNUAL REPORT 2019
Infection Prevention and Control Canada

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President: Barbara Catt RN, BScN MEd CIC

Past President: Molly Blake RN, BN, MHS, CIC

President-Elect: Zahir Hirji RN, BScN, MHS, CIC

Secretary/Membership Director: Jennifer Happe BSc, MSc

Treasurer: Michael Rotstein RN, MHSc, CIC, CHE

DIRECTORS

Director (Education): Kim Allain BScN, RN, MHS, CIC

Director (Standards and Guidelines): Madeleine Ashcroft RN, BScN, MHS, CIC

Director (MD): Joseph Kim MD FRCPC

Director (Chapters and Interest Groups): Ramona Rodrigues RN, BSc, MSc(A), CIC, ICS-PCI, FAPIC

Director (Programs and Projects): Baljinder Sidhu RN, BScN, CIC, MPH

Public Representative: Stephen Palmer

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES OFFICE

Executive Director: Gerry Hansen BA

Administrative Assistant : Kelli Wagner

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VISION

No preventable infections for Canadians. Ever.

MISSION

We inspire, nurture and advance a culture committed to infection prevention and control.

VALUES STATEMENTS

Integrity: Principled, ethical and respectful in all our activities.

Collaboration: Open and inclusive in dealing with our partners and stakeholders.

Advocacy: Advancement of evidence informed practices to protect our consumers.

Innovation: Creative and responsive in meeting the membership's needs.

Leadership: Effective and accountable in proactively pursuing our mission.

IPAC CANADA - The smart way to advance infection prevention and control best practice every day.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OFFICER REPORTS

- 3 PRESIDENT
- 4 PAST PRESIDENT
- 5 PRESIDENT-ELECT
- 6 SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
- 8 TREASURER

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

- 10 EDUCATION
- 12 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS
- 14 STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES
- 15 MEMBERSHIP CORE COMMITTEE

- 16 CHAPTERS AND INTEREST GROUPS
- 18 DIRECTOR MD
- 19 PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE
- 19 CANADIAN JOURNAL OF INFECTION CONTROL
- 20 INDUSTRY INNOVATIONS
- 22 OPERATIONS REPORT

Please visit www.ipac-canada.org/annual-report.php to view chapter and interest group annual reports.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Barbara Catt RN BScN MEd CIC

2019 - A year in reflection of my role as President Elect (January to May) followed by the role of President, which I assumed at the May 2019 IFIC and IPAC Canada Conjoint Conference in historic Québec City. It was at that meeting whereby we gave a huge thank you and a sad goodbye to our Past President, Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose, and Board members Mandy Deeves and Tara Donovan. Their dedication and contributions to IPAC Canada do not go unrecognized.

Over the summer of 2019 the outline/wording of the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan was presented to the Board for approval. A graphic developed by Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose shows how communication and fiscal responsibility are embedded into the three strategic directions (Brand Awareness, Member Value/Engagement, and Advocacy and Partnership). See the President-elect and Operations Annual Reports.

2019 was a federal election year so our advocacy work such as attending Hill Day in Ottawa was postponed. Our advocacy work is supported by Impact Public Affairs (thanks to Rob LeFort and Richard Mullin). With an introduction by Past President Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose, IPAC Canada supports the work with an advocacy group named Women's' Wellness Within, which supports the treatment of hepatitis C in women's incarceration facilities.

On August 12, 2019, I attended an Organizational Summit on Certification in Chicago, hosted by CBIC. At this meeting, I represented IPAC Canada with Executive Director, Gerry Hansen, along with representatives from CBIC and APIC. CBIC presented their 2019 - 2022 Strategic Plan. CBIC also introduced a new certification designation: Associate - Infection Prevention and Control (a-IPC). The guidelines include those who do not satisfy the work experience or the education criteria of the CIC® designation. The a-IPC certification seeks to provide those individuals and others the opportunity to enter the field with a certification granted by CBIC and one that is strategically aligned with the mission and vision of the organization. This was exciting news!

I next represented IPAC Canada at the September 22nd to 24th, 2019 Infection Prevention Society's 12th Annual Conference. While there, I had opportunities to network with many IPAC United Kingdom (UK) colleagues, and came away with knowing that we all have similar issues such as poor hand hygiene compliance rates, transmission of antimicrobial resistant organisms, and healthcare associated infections, to name a few. It really was a great experience and certainly a great opportunity to network with our UK colleagues.

And as always, I am so truly grateful and appreciative of the support, guidance and leadership provided by our very dedicated Board of Directors and the support of our administration, Gerry Hansen and Kelli Wagner. The work they both do behind the scenes drives IPAC Canada as a recognized organization. Let's keep the momentum going with IPAC Canada.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Molly Blake, RN BN MHS CIC



In 2019, my role as President (January-May 2019) was filled with stimulating discussion, friendly meetings with colleagues from various associations, and the privilege of talking to so many of our members. My tenure as President was completed in May and I am very happy to have a sense of satisfaction that IPAC Canada continues to advocate for its members and the profession. At a meeting with the Certification Board of Infection Control in February 2019, it was very gratifying to see the development of a new process of recertification through continuing education and an associate designation for those who are professionally occupied with infection prevention and control but not yet ready to challenge the traditional certification exam.

It was my privilege to be involved with the hosting of our international colleagues during the 2019 IFIC/ IPAC Canada Conjoint Conference in Québec City. The dynamics of international education was an amazing aspect of the conference, along with the opportunity to meet so many interested, and interesting, international participants.

In the Past President term, I had the honour of representing the Association in different initiatives. The Chief Public Health Officer Forum AMR sub-group worked to contribute to the Pan-Canadian Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance. This plan, developed through extensive consultation involving individual experts, governments, and organizations - is based on evidence and lessons learned from Canadian and international efforts to address the challenge of AMR. It is meant to serve as Canada's blueprint to help guide policymakers and decision-makers to address the threat of AMR in a systematic, comprehensive, and coordinated way.

My term as Past President will end on May 6, 2020. It has been an enlightening and often exhilarating experience to serve on the Board. I wish Barbara Catt every success and many good memories as she embarks on her new role as President. I thank my fellow Board members for their insight, encouragement and dedication. I thank the IPAC Canada staff for their much appreciated support.

Finally, I extend my best wishes to all our members for much personal and professional success in the coming years.



PRESIDENT ELECT'S REPORT

Zahir Hirji, RN BScN MHScc CIC

With the release of the new three year strategic plan (2019-2021), 2019 was spent advancing the work to accomplish the organization's goals. More detail regarding the decisions and actions of the board of directors with regards to the strategic plan can be found in the Operations Report. In 2019 the Board identified gaps and challenges to achieving our strategic directions, which will be published in our Spring 2020 Association News publication.

As President Elect and a new member of the board, 2019 has been quite the learning experience to get up to speed with all of the initiatives of IPAC Canada. I have been inspired to be involved in reviewing scholarship applications for various awards within IPAC Canada. Our Standards and Guidelines Committee and interest groups have kept the board active in discussing and approving position statements and practice recommendations. The board spent time reviewing the successes of Hill Day 2018 to build on our momentum in 2020 and we have been planning for the future of IPAC Canada. Despite being an active member of IPAC Canada for many years at the chapter level, on interest groups, and in conference planning, I could never have imagined the depth of the conversations and scope of responsibility of our Board of Directors. It has been an absolute honour and pleasure to work alongside such a dedicated group of individuals. The work at the Board level has been inspiring, enlightening, and helped me to grow as a person.

I look forward to continuing to work for our members, and address the issues that are important to Infection Control Practitioners across Canada as we face new and greater challenges.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2021



SECRETARY AND MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR REPORT

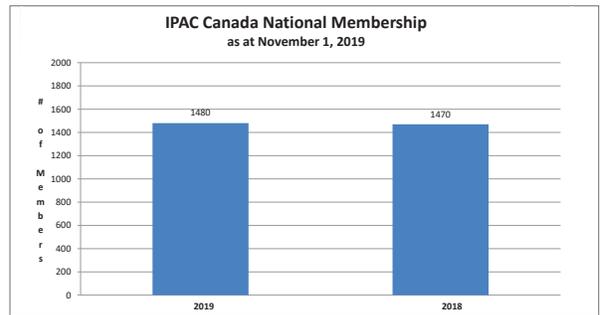
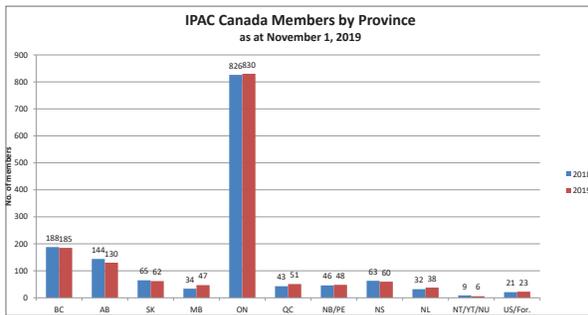
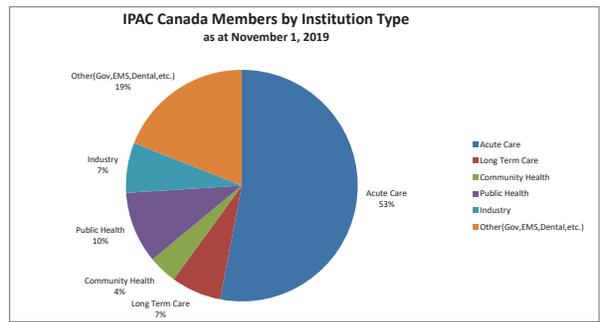
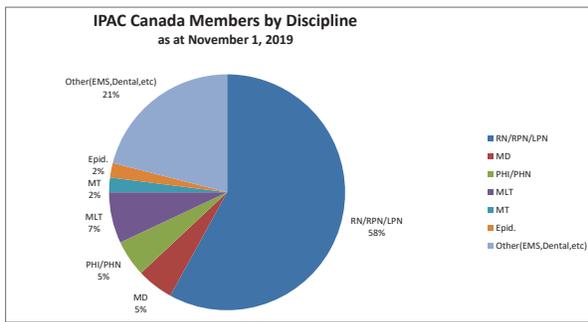
Jennifer Happe, BSc MSc



As Membership Director, I participate on the Membership Core Committee and the Mentorship Committee. I act as a liaison between these committees and the Board. It has been a very busy and productive year. Guided by the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan, efforts in 2019 focused on increasing awareness of IPAC Canada's brand, value and benefits and on increasing membership engagement for growth and sustainability. These are some highlights our organization achieved for you, the members:

- Scholarship options were expanded to include Clorox and GOJO scholarships to provide members who have demonstrated leadership in environmental hygiene education or demonstrated their dedication to hand hygiene and infection prevention and control education, respectively, to attend the annual conference. The Sani Marc scholarship was introduced to support an environmental research or innovative stewardship project, along with attendance at two conferences.
- Industry Innovations launched as a publication to highlight technological innovations offered by our industry partners to provide a comparative view of industry offerings that will assist members in making informed decisions on industry partnerships and implementation of products in their facilities.
- A national roadshow series was introduced in collaboration with Sani Marc/ Wood Wyant that is focused on environmental cleaning and disinfection of emergency vehicles and equipment. The roadshow will attend six cities between 2019 and 2021.
- A value proposition statement was established to convey to current and future members that IPAC Canada is a hub to connect professionals working in infection control in order to exchange practice expertise so we can protect our patients from infections and infectious diseases in the smartest ways possible.
- The Mentorship Program expanded beyond novice ICPs seeking support to build their foundation, to include experienced ICPs seeking to expand their skills in specialized areas like leadership and surveillance.

It has been a great pleasure to assist in the development of our organization and to watch the progress we have made. My sincere thanks go to all those whose diligent efforts served to increase member value and engagement in 2019!



As a member of IPAC Canada, you have access to the latest evidence-based information to assist you in your work in any setting. As a member of IPAC Canada you are demonstrating your commitment to professional development and maintaining a high level of competency through knowledge exchange, networking and contributing to a strong national infection prevention and control culture. I encourage every member to take full advantage of your membership with IPAC Canada.

- Have your say. Routine pulse surveys will replace the Mega Survey as a timely feedback mechanism to determine member needs and gather member opinions on issues that will help IPAC Canada move forward. Weigh in on pulse surveys to help shape our programs and events.
- Put your networking into overdrive. Volunteer for a committee, participate in education events, roadshows and the annual conference.
- Share your knowledge. Be recognized as a leader and support your professional community as a mentor or lead an initiative for your chapter or interest group.
- Take advantage of free resources. Use the Audit Tools, Guidelines, Standards and Practice Recommendations, and CJIC and Industry Innovations publications to build your knowledge base and enhance your practice.

In my role as Secretary, I participate in both Executive Officer and general Board meetings. I am responsible for recording minutes at the spring Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the in-camera portion of the fall Board meeting. I perform all other legal duties required of the Secretary of IPAC Canada. I coordinate the election process with the Executive Director at the AGM, including organizing member registration and voting cards. My heartfelt thanks go to the volunteers who helped register members at the 2019 AGM for supporting a smooth election process!

It has been a pleasure serving as Membership Director and Secretary this past year. I am fortunate to work with such a committed group of professionals on so many initiatives to build a strong and relevant organization as we advance the field of infection prevention and control. Thank you.

TREASURER REPORT

Michael Rotstein, RN MHS Sc CIC CHE



Membership is IPAC Canada's greatest asset. Not only financially, but also to establish value for all members in the form of networking, education, and sharing of knowledge and resources. Our ongoing focus on how we are able to support our strategic directions within our limited revenues and increasing expenses was effective in 2019. We saw a 70 percent decrease in our deficit compared to 2018. We must remain vigilant in our efforts to recruit new members across Canada and internationally, and more importantly, retain our members in order to continue our work.

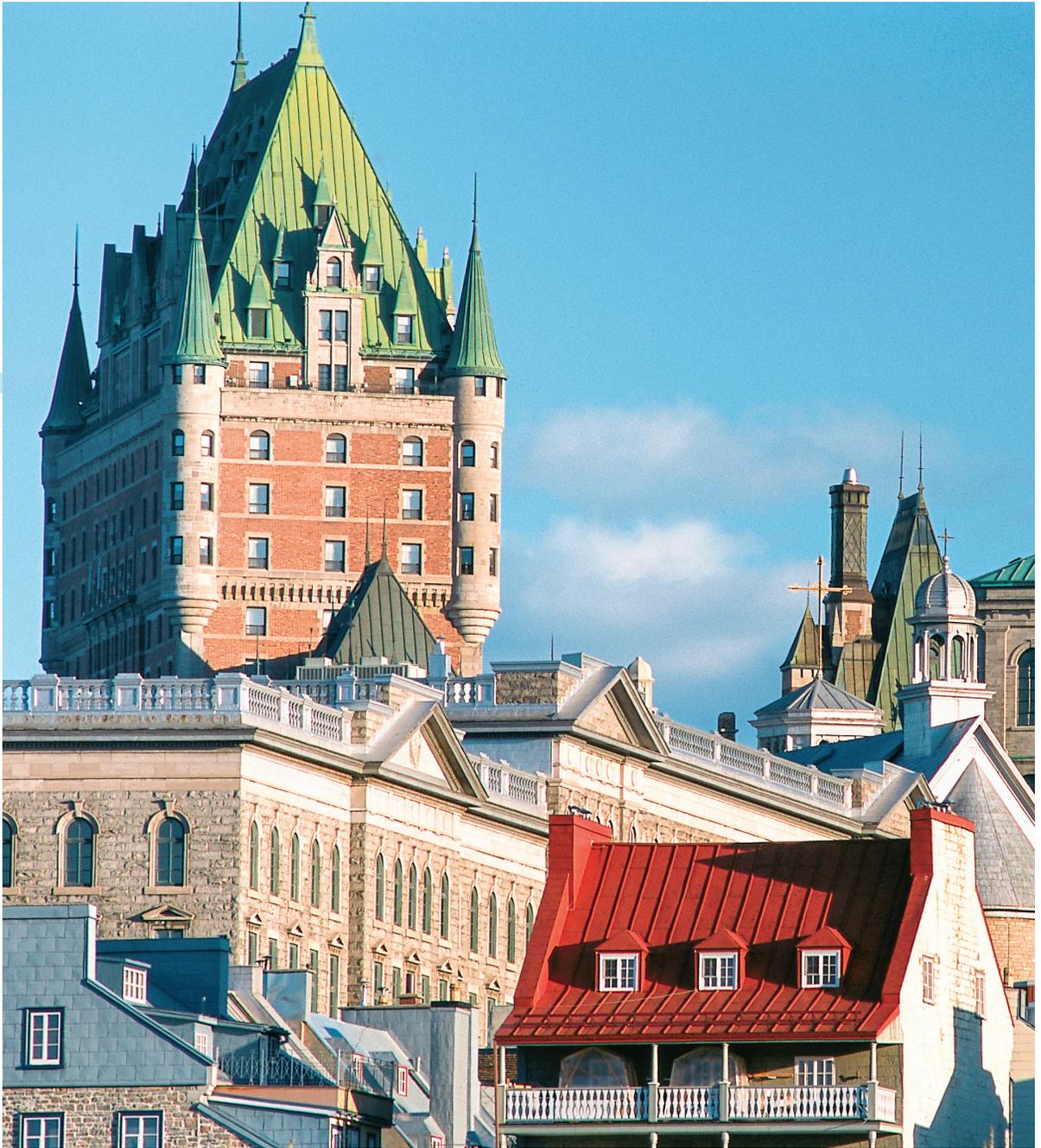
The implementation of our 2019-2021 strategic plan to inspire brand awareness, nurture member value and engagement, and advance advocacy and partnership has helped the organization focus on what is most important to our infection control professionals.

The Board has worked hard to balance priorities to facilitate the development of a reasonable budget in 2020 to continue our path towards improved financial health. We again made changes to several budget lines, particularly related to governance and advocacy, advertising, and more active solicitation of sponsorship opportunities for our key programs.

Our annual education conference continues to be one of our greatest offerings with the strong work of our Scientific Program Committee arranging for a meaningful, relevant, and educational experience for all attendees. Financially, our primary challenge related to our conference is attendance. Our success is through the support of our chapters and corporate sponsorships. You are encouraged to attend this meaningful annual event.

The finance committee, comprised of all chapter treasurers, meets regularly in order to enhance the financial status of each chapter in a consistent way. A key achievement has been implementing a standardized process for ensuring chapters are maximizing their revenues through the recuperation of HST/GST funds and allowing chapters to share their practices for revenue generation.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors, chapter treasurers, Kelli Wagner, Administrative Assistant, our auditor Phil Romaniuk, bookkeepers Cindy Pelletier and Katrina Rose, and Gerry Hansen, Executive Director for their diligence to support the financial health of our organization.



EDUCATION

Kim Allain, BScN RN MHS CIC



As Director (Education) on the Board of IPAC Canada, 2019 was another exciting and productive year. The reputation of IPAC Canada as a leading voice in infection prevention and control continues to flourish. As we head into a new year, I look forward to actively supporting IPAC Canada's renewed and innovative strategic goals for 2019-2021. I also continued to act diligently as liaison for IPAC Canada's education-related matters.

The Conjoint IFIC/IPAC Canada National Education Conference was held in beautiful, historic Québec City in May 2019. The conference program had an international flair as attendees and speakers joined us from countries all over the globe. In 2020, the IPAC Canada National Education Conference will be held in Winnipeg from May 3-6. The 2020 Scientific Program Committee (SPC) worked steadily to deliver another informative and enlightening program. In December, I participated in the inaugural meeting of the SPC for the 2021 National Education Conference. It was a privilege to watch the foundation of another exciting conference program unfold.

As part of my role, I am honoured to lead the work of the International Attendee Scholarship selection committee. In 2019, we were delighted to be able to support two scholarship winners to attend the Conjoint IFIC/IPAC National Education Conference in Québec City. In late 2019, the selection committee chose two deserving candidates who will attend the 2020 conference in Winnipeg.

Continuous advancement within the IPAC Canada education portfolio is due to the resilience and commitment of the chairs and members of the education committees. With pleasure, I continue my active role with the Education Core Committee (ECC). The ECC continues to advance the education of our members/non-members by offering timely and relevant information through a growing number of webinars and newsletter. The Endorsement Review Committee continues its work annually to validate the endorsement of infection prevention and control courses that meet IPAC Canada educational criteria. The success of the IPAC Canada's Novice IPAC Course continues to progress as the course welcomed more than 70 novice students in the fall 2019 intake. The Distance Education Advisory Committee provides support and guidance for several facets of the course, including curriculum, assessment and policies. Please refer to the committee reports for details on their outstanding work.

I consider myself very privileged to work alongside such an incredible group of professionals on IPAC Canada's Board of Directors. Your ingenuity and commitment to the organization makes me proud to stand alongside you. I would also like to extend my gratitude to the committee chairs Natalie Bruce, Devon Metcalf and Trevor Johnson for their continued leadership over the past year. I extend my thanks to Heather Candon and Jane Van Toen for continuing to drive the outstanding success of the Online Novice IPAC Course. In addition, I would like to express my appreciation to all the committee members, course coordinators, instructors, facilitators who worked tirelessly in 2019 to drive the success of the education portfolio of IPAC Canada.

'Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire' - W.B Yeats

Education Endorsement Review Committee

Chair: Devon Metcalf MSc PhD CIC

The goal of the committee is to assess basic education course in Infection Prevention and Control for endorsement in accordance with IPAC Canada's policies and procedures.

Committee Members: Eric Devine, Murtuza Diwan, Janine Domingos, Deb Paton, Lorinda Stuber, Robin Johnson, Eduardo Fernandez

For the 2019 calendar year, the Education Endorsement Review Committee granted continued endorsement for the following courses:

- IPAC Canada - Annual Review
- Queen's University - Annual Review
- University of British Columbia - Annual Review
- Centennial College - Annual Review

One new committee member was provided with an orientation to the activities of the committee and is now an active member. The Terms of Reference were updated and the committee has begun to revise the full review checklist. The committee will continue to review education programs for their annual or full endorsement reviews in 2020. The committee will also complete the revision of the full review checklist and complete the development of a review process for practicum-based IPAC courses.

Distance Education Advisory Committee

Chair: Trevor Johnson A-EMCA CIC

Committee Mandate: To ensure that the Novice ICP course remains current and based on best-practice and meets the educational needs of novice Infection Prevention and Control Practitioners.

Committee Members: Merlee Steele-Rodway, Barb Catt, Michelle Varty, Erica Susky, Sindhu Pillai, Heather Candon (course coordinator), Jane Van Toen (course coordinator), Kim Allain (Education Director)

Committee Membership and Meetings:

- There have been changes to the membership of the committee in the last year. Previous Chair Leslie Forrester departed upon her retirement, and we welcomed Erica Susky and Sindhu Pillai.
- Chair and Course Coordinators meet on a quarterly basis to review student evaluations and any issues related to staffing, course management and content. Meeting summaries are sent to the AC membership and Executive Director, IPAC Canada.
- The Advisory Committee meets a regularly a minimum of twice a year and at other times if required.

Course Instructors/Facilitator Contract Renewals

All course instructors/facilitators returned this year.

Course Management and Content:

- We received the expected number of applications (approximately 120) for the 2019-2020 class, with the expected variety of backgrounds and geography.
- As requested by the board, more students (70) were offered spots and this student enrollment had been maintained.
- We transitioned from Pro Site to the Open LMS learning platform over the summer. The new platform is more "mobile" friendly and offers a number of additional features e.g. glossary, easier to add video content, range of online quiz types.
- The course coordinators received training and orientation for the new platform and continue to "fine tune" the technical aspects of the platform. The implementation was launched with minimal upheaval.
- With the new learning platform, we were able to incorporate a self-reflection/survey. This is submitted anonymously at the end of each module and students receive 5 points for completing. This increased survey feedback to over 90%.
- Changes were made regarding the tuition process, i.e. tuition payment dates and the administrative fee associated with withdrawing from the course, and were approved by the Advisory Committee. This was deemed necessary to help offset administrative costs associated with a student withdrawal and filling the newly opened spot with another student.
- The new on-line application process was initiated for the 2019-20 class and made the entire application review and acceptance process more efficient. The process will be used again for the 2020-21 course intake.

Goals for 2020

- Continue to explore and implement other options and functions available in Open LMS
- Use the improved reflection/survey format to collect and summarize student feedback. Summaries are reviewed at the end of each module. With the increased submission compliance, anonymous submissions and ease of generating reports, meaningful information can be collected to assist in our efforts to continue to improve the course and student experience.
- Continue to encourage students to become members of IPAC Canada and to attend the annual conference.
- Submit the required full course endorsement form to the review committee.

PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Baljinder Sidhu RN BScN CIC MPH



The role of the member of the Director (Programs & Projects) is to act as Board liaison with the Programs & Projects Core Committee. Currently the Director is chairperson of that committee.

Programs & Projects Core Committee (PPCC)

- New chairperson of the Programs & Projects Core Committee is Bal Sidhu. Past Director Mandy Deeves has offered to stay as participatory member and minute taker for the meetings until recruitment of new members is undertaken in 2020.
- A new self-assessment tool, based on IPAC Canada's Core Competencies for ICPs has been approved. The tool is currently being formatted before being posted to the Audit Tool webpage. This tool will replace the current self-audit tool in the IPAC Canada audit toolkit.
- 2019 Ecolab poster contest was hosted by IPAC North Eastern Ontario with the theme of, Infection Prevention and Control in Every Season. Our focus may change, depending on the season but our IPAC best practices need to be maintained year round. It reminds us that nothing is forever, seasons are always changing and IPAC practice is always evolving.
- A PowerPoint presentation was created for the purpose of promoting existing IPAC Canada products and resources. This was delivered at the January 2019 chapter presidents meeting, with the intent it be delivered to chapters by the chapter presidents at an upcoming chapter meeting.
- The Emergencies & Disasters Toolkit is under review.
- There has been discussion on revising the Hand Hygiene Toolkit, the copyright for which has been transferred to IPAC Canada from the Canadian Patient Safety Institute. A committee will be formed in 2020.
- In conjunction with the Membership Core Committee, Programs & Projects promoted interest in IPAC Canada during the 2019 conference through on-site prize draws and social media. We will continue to promote resources and products, and the benefits of membership at the 2020 conference.

To provide more interest in IPAC Canada through its website, the committee will be working with the Executive Director to develop an 'Our Story' link from the home page.

Audit Tool Committee

Faith Stoll, Audit Tool Committee Secretary has retired. The new Secretary is Amanda Dennis. We thank Faith for her many years of support. The Audit Toolkit Committee continues to review and revise existing audit tools, liaison with HandyMetrics re the continual updating of the audit tool app, and formatting new tools which are developed by the Program & Projects Core Committee.

To date, there are 52 tools available to members on the IPAC Canada website. These tools are updated routinely; (every 3 years). In response to this and interest in improving user experience, in 2019 a short survey was conducted to better understand what tools continue to be of interest and provide value. Results of this summary were published in the fall 2019 Association News. Feedback was positive. Suggestions for improvement have been noted. The audit toolkit committee will continue to review and update the toolkits based on new evidence and feedback from the field. There has been some discussion with the audit toolkit committee about potential options for improvements to the toolkit relating to ease of use and maintaining currency. This discussion will continue taking into account feedback on the newly released Audit Tool App, which was released in collaboration with HandyMetrics. The app is available at no cost to Canadian IPAC Canada members affiliated with an organization which provides healthcare directly to patients.

Web Communications Manager and Webmaster

Tanya Denich, Web Communications Manager and Pamela Chalmers, IPAC Canada Webmaster

- Continued yearly training of all new Chapter Webmasters, training sessions and yearly conference meetings
- Custom support to both brand new and more experienced webmasters using GoToMeeting. allows remote connection and hands on, one:one training.
- Streamlining of webpages to increase visibility of resources and enhance functionality
- Revision of Quick Links Resources and Publications, CNISP, AMR Resources webpages
- Total Revamp of Audit Tool Webpages and Guidelines and Standards Webpages in progress
- Addition of new and updated resources (ie. Novel coronavirus, Lyme Disease, links to CSA Documents, Ebola)
- Streamlined log in process
- Improved synchronization between website, email and social media platforms
- Supported event/webinar registration by creating registration platforms and evaluations for 38 events/webinars · Supported PHAC's 2019 Point Prevalence Survey with meeting/planning, survey set up and results tabulation

Future Planning:

- Revamp of Standards and Guidelines Webpage planned to enhance searchability and end-user experience
- Addition of One Health Webpage as a new focus in IPAC
- Work with CJIC editor to offer individual journal articles on website, with archived material being accessible
- Event Registration and Payment for all Chapter Websites
- Continue discussions with OSM to improve search engine on Website
- Re-engagement/re-vitalization of Chapter Websites through use of social media and other tools

Social Media Manager

Kelsey Houston BSch MPH

I assumed the role of IPAC Canada Social Media Manager mid-way through 2019, taking over this role from the former manager, Helen Evans. I thank Helen for her past efforts in increasing our online presence on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube. I have learned much during this transition, and have had the opportunity to engage with so many people in the online community. In fact, I would describe my approach to this role in exactly that way: community engagement. Although it is important to use our platforms as a means of information dissemination and education via the sharing of outbreak updates, academic articles, and upcoming webinars and events, I also began posting about topics which encouraged engagement through responses, answers, re-tweets and shares from around the world. By posting eye-catching (and sometimes witty) information, our followers engage with us more often.

This year we gained over 200 new followers on Twitter and on Facebook. Twitter 'mentions' increased 120%, and Facebook posts often amass a large volume of engagements. We now have over 2700 followers on Twitter. In order to also engage our members at large who are not on social media, we email out a Weekly News Roundup, capturing the text from the week's social media posts with website links to pertinent articles, recalls, and world events.

In the coming year, my goals are to present social media webinars for members, and explore more ways to enhance the content on our YouTube channel.

STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

Madeleine Ashcroft, RN BScN MHS CIC



In my role as a Director of IPAC Canada, I serve as liaison with the Standards and Guidelines Committee. I concurrently serve as the Chair of the Standards and Guidelines Committee. In 2019, the committee met bi-monthly by teleconference as well as in person at the national conference in Québec in May. As the Core Committee report below describes, important new position statements and practice recommendations were developed and existing ones reviewed and updated. In addition, the committee agreed upon and implemented a standardized process to add scientific rigor to our documents. Increasingly the documents generated or reviewed by the committee are the result of collaboration with other professional organizations.

Facilitation of the interaction between the Board and the Standards and Guidelines Committee results in timely review and finalization of resources and publications and dissemination to members and external stakeholders, as well as ensuring that the Board is aware of the materials coming forward from interest groups and aligning these with the IPAC Canada mission, vision, values, and strategic and operational plans. In 2019, I participated in board member orientation, one board teleconference, and a two-day in person board meeting in Toronto. I also had the opportunity to review the applications for the GOJO scholarship related to hand hygiene improvement projects, to support attendance at the 2020 conference.

Standards and Guidelines Standing Committee Chair: Madeleine Ashcroft RN BScN MHS CIC

Mandate/Goal of Committee: To recommend to the IPAC Canada Board of Directors an official position on standards and guidelines which have an impact on infection prevention and control, and to promote IPAC Canada representation on expert panels and liaison with other professional organizations.

Membership of Committee: Core members from practice sites across the country and one representative from each Chapter (President or designate).

Activities During the Year: Bi-monthly networking meetings via teleconference on February 11, April 8, May 27 (also in person at national conference), July 15, September 9, and November 12.

2019 Initiatives:

- Continued to address process and schedule for position statement and practice recommendation creation and review.
- Communicated and applied a standard reference validation process for position statements and practice recommendations.
- Reviewed and updated webpage wording and all Committee policies as well as Core membership.

Completed review and update of existing Position Statements (PS) and Practice Recommendations (PR):

- VRE Screening and Contact Precautions (PS)
- Reprocessing of Critical and Semi Critical Devices in Community Healthcare Settings (PS)

And new:

- Surveillance in Long-Term Care (PS)
- Essential Oils in Healthcare Settings (PS)
- Infection Prevention and Control Related to Foot Care in Healthcare Settings (PR) (pending Board approval)

Reviewed updates to Audit Tools from the working group.

Goals for the Coming Year:

- To continue to ensure all existing statements and recommendations are reviewed at least every 3 years.
- To continue to utilize our validation process to ensure our statements and recommendations are as scientifically rigorous as possible.
- To continue to work with the Board to facilitate timely review and approval.



MEMBERSHIP CORE COMMITTEE

Jacqueline Hlagi RPN BPH CIPC

Committee Members: Jennifer Happe, Jeffrey Eruvwetaghware, Annie Lord-Stephens, Vicky Willet, Heather MacLaurin.

The mandate of the committee is to develop and promote communication methods and offerings to increase and maintain IPAC Canada membership. Upon request from the Executive Director and/or the Board, we also provide input on special initiatives and projects. The Core Committee meets with the Membership Committee by teleconference call and in-person at the national education conference. The Membership Committee is comprised of one representative from each chapter (normally the chapter Membership Director).

In 2019, the Core Committee held monthly teleconference meetings; published two newsletters; discussed and promoted initiatives to recruit and retain members, and held an in-person meeting with chapter Membership Committee representatives during the national education conference in Québec City. Prior to the national conference, the committee also had several teleconference meetings with representatives from the IPAC Canada Programs and Projects Committee to plan engaging promotional/ social media participation for conference attendees who visited the IPAC Canada booth. We sincerely thank committee members who volunteered to staff the IPAC Canada booth during the national conference, and assist in promoting the association.

The IPAC Canada 'Bring in a New Member' contest continues to be a popular method to recruit new members, as does the continued offering of a First-Time New Individual Member discount on membership fees. This special discount continues to result in well over 100 new members joining the association each year. We thank all members who promote membership in the association to their colleagues and staff! Most new members indicate that they joined IPAC Canada because of a colleague's encouragement.

The Core Committee also reviews and updates membership-related documents, brochures, infographics and flyers, both on the IPAC Canada website as well as printed materials which are sent on request to chapters to display at continuing education events and meetings.

Mentorship Program Working Committee

The Mentorship Program Working Committee is a subcommittee of the Membership Core Committee. Chaired by Jeffrey Eruvwetaghware, committee members are Jacquie Hlagi, Anne Bialachowski, Alison Devine, Mandeep Atwal and Jennifer Happe (ex officio). The committee meets by teleconference several times a year to review applications received from both prospective mentors and mentees, and where possible, facilitate a match. The committee receives many applications from prospective mentees working in a wide variety of healthcare settings. Please consider volunteering to serve as a mentor.

CHAPTERS AND INTEREST GROUPS

Ramona Rodrigues RN BSc MSc(A) CIC ICS-PCI FAPIC



This year two Chapter Presidents meetings were held by webinar: a Chapter Presidents Spring Orientation held in January, and a Chapter Presidents Fall Update in November. These were in addition to the in-person meeting held at the National Education Conference. In addition, the following webinar opportunities were offered on topics to assist with chapter operations:

- January 2019 - Tutorial Webinar on Using the Adobe Connect Tool
- June, 2019 - Informational Webinar on Chapter Governance and Policies
- September, 2019 - Tips on Developing Chapter Education events
- November 2019 - Strategic Plan 2019-2021

Chapters also had the opportunity to share information, resources, and membership initiatives. IPAC Canada developed a PowerPoint presentation to assist chapters in promoting IPAC Canada. It includes an Organizational Chart, a list of chapters, interest groups, and internal and external committees. Details of these meetings and resources shared can be viewed on the IPAC Canada Committee website under Chapter Presidents Committee.

Interest Group Chairs and Co-Chairs were invited to attend an orientation webinar in July, on The Role of an Interest Group Chair, and a November webinar which served as a fall update on Board Activities and a networking opportunity. Interest Groups were also afforded in-person meeting space at the 2019 National Education Conference. Interest group members were also invited to the January, 2019 webinar on using the Adobe Connect Tool. Details of these meetings can be viewed on the IPAC Canada Interest Group Website.

The Chapter Council meetings have continued with Council Representatives whose mandate is to support and provide input on behalf of chapters they represent. Council Representatives help chapters resolve issues, stimulate engagement, and raise issues for discussion at Council meetings. Two meetings were held in 2019, in September and in November. The Council focused its fall discussion on membership engagement, and its winter discussion on education and conference volunteers. After each meeting a Chapter Presidents Newsletter is published, which summarizes discussions, provides updates of IPAC Canada activities, Tips on Chapter Governance, and important deadlines for Chapter Presidents. Details can be found on the IPAC Canada Committee website under Chapter Council.



Much of our involvement in pursuing IPAC Canada goals is based on volunteerism. I salute all Chapter Presidents, their executives, Chapter Council members, and Interest Group Chairs and Co-Chairs for their continual leadership in pursuit of membership engagement and IPAC Canada promotion. IPAC Canada continues to support your initiatives. I encourage you to read the Chapter and Interest Group Annual Reports on our website, where you can see the many fruits of success achieved by our leadership in 2019. Congratulations, kudos and thank you to all Chapter Presidents and Interest Group Chairs for your outstanding contributions to our members in 2019.

As a Board member I attend meetings held by tele-conference and in-person throughout the year. In addition to my Board obligations, I had also served as a member of the Scientific Program Committee for the IPAC Canada - IFIC Conjoint Conference in Québec City; represented IPAC Canada and contributed to the development of the Canadian Standard Association (CSA) Cleaning and Disinfection Standard Z317.12 in Health Care; and represented IPAC Canada at the 41st Annual Conference of L'Association des infirmières en prévention des infections (AIPI), held May 5 - 7th, 2019 in Charlevoix, Québec.

As this is my last and final term on the IPAC Canada Board, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to share and grow professionally, for allowing me to bring my passion, insight and experience to the table. A special thank you to Gerry Hansen for all her support throughout my Board experience and to Kelli Wagner for answering any of my questions promptly. To each of the Board members with whom I have had the privilege to serve, thank you for the experience in helping move our organization forward. It was my privilege and my honor to be with you on the Board these past few years.

DIRECTOR (MD)

Joseph Kim MD FRCPC
Chair, Corporate Relations Committee



As the Director (MD) on the Board, I provide a physician's perspective (clinical and academic) on matters pertaining to IPAC. One of my highlights is to present the Vernacare Lecture on Hot Topics in Infection Prevention and Control. This past year, I had the privilege to do so at the joint IFIC/IPAC Conference in Québec City. At the upcoming Hill Day 2020, I will be part of the IPAC Canada team connecting with various members of the federal government to highlight the issue of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and lobby for more effective national AMR surveillance.

This past year, the Corporate Relations Committee (CRC) met twice. The first meeting occurred in person at the annual conference. It was decided that the second meeting in the fall would be done via conference call in order to improve participation. Both meetings were well attended, with good discussions to highlight better corporate partner engagement and initiatives. We continue to explore new partnerships and recognize contributions made by current corporate members. We would like to acknowledge Daniel Heché from Hygie Canada who finished his term as the Industry Liaison on the CRC, and welcome André Côté from Sani Marc/Wood Wyant as the new Industry Liaison. There were several new CRC initiatives including a new scholarship to be funded by CRC membership funds. This scholarship will be given to successful candidates completing their CIC certification exam. At the time of this writing, the details are being finalized with an anticipated launch for late 2020. We also established a new IPAC Canada Corporate Member logo, which will help better recognize our CRC members and improve communication from our corporate partners.

There is never a dull moment in IPAC as evidenced by the recent novel corona virus outbreak. It is at a challenging time like this that we need IPAC Canada to help support one another in the everyday work we do for our patients. And I'm grateful to IPAC Canada and the Board for allowing me to engage in this integral community.



PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE

Stephen Palmer

As Public Representative for IPAC Canada, my role is to provide input on various matters, with specific interest in issues that have a public impact. Of utmost concern is the voice of the patients, their families and those impacted by the challenges IPAC Canada works to address.

2019 was a challenging year for the IPAC community and the board really dug in to align our activities and initiatives with the newly implemented Strategic Plan, in order to bring added value to the work we do. Our conference in Québec City was outstanding. We are so grateful for the support of our corporate sponsors and partners. Scholarship opportunities continue to grow thanks to our sponsors' generosity. I had the pleasure of serving on several scholarship evaluation panels. Of significant interest to me in my role as Public Representative, was the awarding of the 2019 Prescient Patient, Patient Family or Caregiver Scholarship, given to two candidates who were able to attend the 2019 conference. They were awed by the scope of our education and the networking opportunities. In return, they pointed out to all of us the reason why Infection Prevention and Control Professionals do the work they do.

Owing to the fall Federal election, we moved our next Hill Day to 2020 but are encouraged by the efforts of many MPs to understand more about AMRs and the value of our message to the constituents they serve. We continue to advocate on behalf of our members while working hard to add value. We encourage our members to become IPAC evangelists when it comes to recruiting new members and sharing the value of our organization with them.

It is such an honour to be your Public Representative. Thank you for that privilege.



CANADIAN JOURNAL OF INFECTION CONTROL

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Mandate of Committee:

Continue to develop the CJIC as an indexed peer review journal

Activities:

- 17 manuscript submissions, 11 (65%) Canadian authorship
- Development of a publication ethics and malpractice statement
- Application for indexation in Scopus submitted, decision pending
- DOI number obtained and assigned to articles published in 2019

INDUSTRY INNOVATIONS: WHERE PRODUCT INNOVATION MEETS BEST PRACTICE



Madison Moon MPH CIC, Editor, Industry Innovations

Industry Innovations had a successful first year of publication releasing two issues published in print and electronic format. The publication contains whitepapers describing current, timely, and relevant innovative technologies, authored by industry partners, assisting the prevention and control of infections in healthcare facilities. Industry Innovation's editorial direction and submission guidelines are led by Madison Moon MPH CIC, an IPAC Canada member serving as Editor, while revenue management, layout, and design is led by publication partners Craig Kelman and Associates c/o Publishing Partner Mr. Al Whalen.

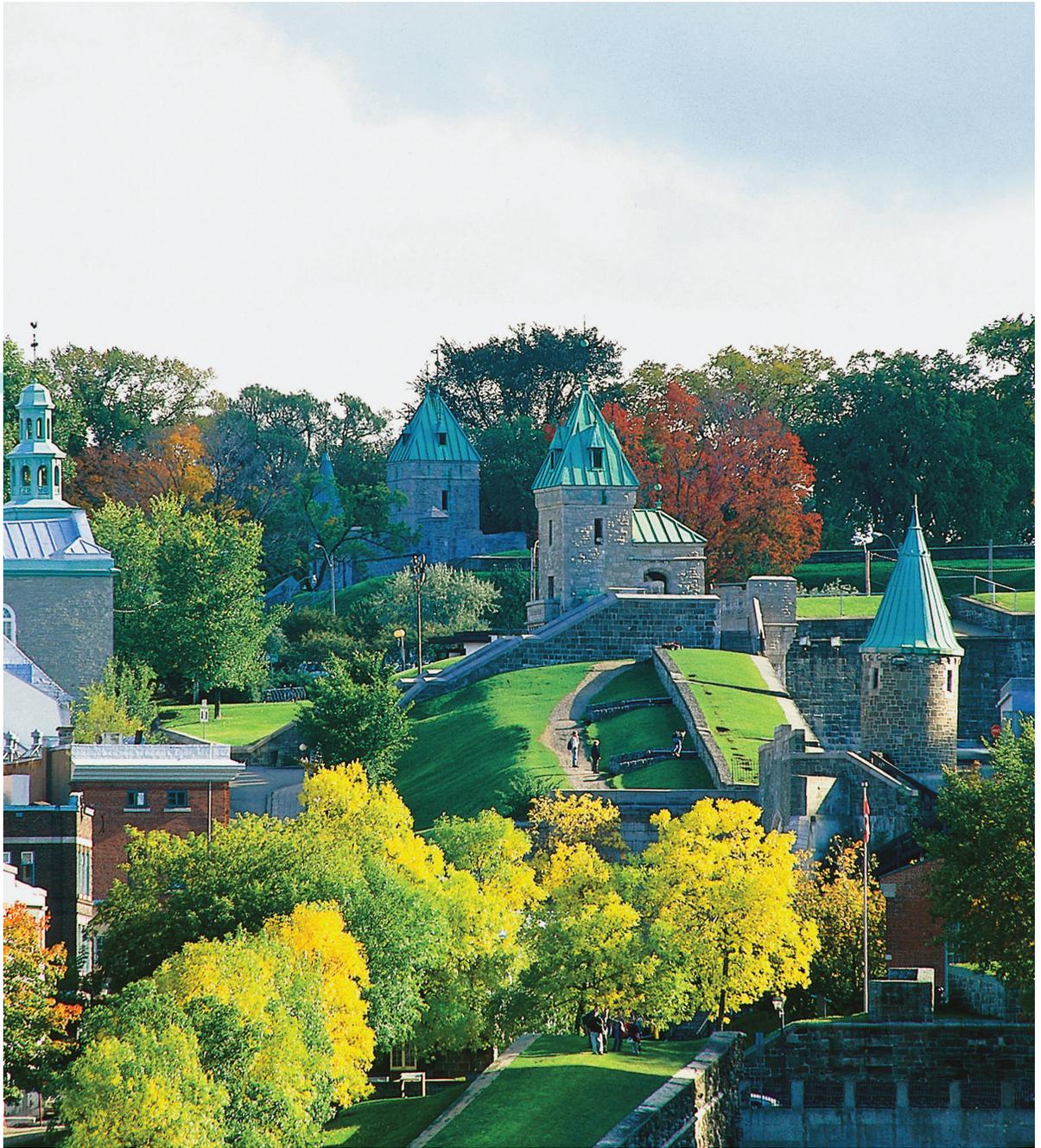
The white paper publication was titled through a contest open to members of IPAC Canada. The winning title was submitted by Jean Robson and Lori Schatzler.

In October, 2018, the IPAC Canada Board of Directors selected Mr. Madison Moon to develop the publication's introduction to IPAC Canada members by producing submission guidelines and advertising materials. Industry Innovations is a standalone publication, not aligned with CJIC. In January 2019, notification regarding open submission of white papers was made to IPAC Canada members and industry partners.

In February 2019, a dedicated page was developed for Industry Innovations on IPAC Canada's website. Mr. Moon participated in the 2019 conference in his role as Editor of Industry Innovations. During this conference, he made valuable contacts to help move the publication forward.

In summer 2019, Industry Innovations, Volume 1, Issue 1 - Electronic Monitoring of Hand Hygiene Compliance was published. It contained four whitepapers describing industry products providing the autonomous surveillance of hand hygiene compliance, four full page advertisements, and one sponsored case study. In winter 2019, Industry Innovations, Volume 1, Issue 2 - UV Disinfection was published. It contained three whitepapers and five full page advertisements describing industry products providing medical device disinfection and room scale disinfection capabilities using UVC technology.

In 2020, publication of Industry Innovations will resume on a biannual basis. Expected in summer 2020 will be Industry Innovations, Volume 2, Issue 1 - Waste Management and Resource Stewardship; expected in winter 2020, Industry Innovations, Volume 2, Issue 2 - Infection Control Surveillance.



OPERATIONS REPORT

Gerry Hansen BA



This annual report relates to the 2019-2021 Strategic Plan strategic directions. It is not possible to list all the work completed or underway but highlights are contained in the report. Our many volunteer leaders, and our staff support, are incredible in their desire to move the association and their profession forward.

NURTURE MEMBER VALUE AND ENGAGEMENT

To clarify value of IPAC Canada membership and increase engagement for growth and sustainability.

In response to the Strategic Plan, a Value Proposition statement was developed by the Board, announced and published. IPAC Canada: The smart way to advance infection prevention and control best practice every day.

Chapters have been encouraged to influence their members to take on a mentor position. There are many mentees waiting to be matched to an expert member in the same setting. The IPAC Canada Editorial Board is available to act as mentors to those wishing to submit a manuscript to our journal. A one-page infographic has been prepared for chapters to use during their meetings and education events.

The Education Core Committee has developed 8 to 10 education webinars each year. Additional education webinars are provided by industry, which focus on practice recommendations, not product promotion. See the Director (Education) Annual Report.

Webinars specific to Chapter Presidents have been presented: Governance and Policy, Developing Education, and the IPAC Canada Strategic Plan. Orientation webinars have been held for Chapter Presidents, Chapter Treasurers, Chapter Secretaries and Interest Group Chairs/Co-Chairs.

IPAC Canada has worked with several chapters and interest groups to resolve their problems with lack of member engagement and succession plans. Sadly this has resulted in the disbanding of chapters who have struggled to correct the situation for many years. In December 2019, IPAC Simcoe-Muskoka was disbanded. Members have found new 'homes' for chapter networking and communication. The positive effect is the increase of membership in other chapters which should help with keeping members engaged and willing to take on executive roles.

A Board Working Group convened to discuss distribution of quarterly surveys that would determine our members' needs and opinions on various topics. Standing committees were asked, given an opportunity to have a survey, what survey questions would help them the most. Quarterly short surveys will commence in 2020.

The Routine Practices e-learning tool continues to be a success through the collaboration of IPAC Canada, Georgian College, and Ycommunicate Inc. The Hand Hygiene modules have been revised to be more user-friendly and appealing. To date, over 48,000 users have completed the hand hygiene modules since IPAC Canada became owner of the modules. The revision was supported by GOJO and Hygie Canada.

The Audit Tool App was launched in May 2019. Development of the app has been provided at no cost to IPAC Canada by HandyMetrics. This is a free mobile app for Canadian members employed in a healthcare institution that provides care directly to patients. Pick up has been slow to date. IPAC Canada and HandyMetrics are to review marketing and messaging in 2020.

INSPIRE BRAND AWARENESS

Increase the awareness of IPAC Canada's brand, value and benefits internally and externally for clarity and impact.

Kelsey Houston was appointed as the IPAC Canada Social Media Manager in the summer of 2019. She has created an interesting and interactive approach to social media feeds. She works with Impact Public Affairs on execution of a viable Communication Plan. IPAC Canada thanks Helen Evans, the former Social Media Manager, for her expertise and support during her tenure.

The Editors and Publisher of the Canadian Journal of Infection Control are working to index the journal in PubMed. Significant advances have been made over the past few years but it will still be some time before we qualify for PubMed indexing. The biannual Association News and the biannual Industry Innovations were published in 2019.

The Membership Core Committee has worked to introduce the benefits of membership to many non-traditional settings, e.g. dental settings, students. We have noticed an increase in interest from dental settings as we periodically provide webinars of interest to that setting. The Membership Core Committee works with its Chapter representatives to continue to develop unique and creative strategies to encourage membership.

Corporate Members are provided with a logo confirming their membership in IPAC Canada. This logo may be used in advertising and in communication related to infection control. Corporate Membership continues to increase based on the benefits provided to those members. We are grateful for the support of our Corporate Members.

The CSA Group sponsored a series of webinars on the new Z317.12 Cleaning & Disinfection Standard. The webinars, hosted by IPAC Canada, reached members and their colleagues through national and local webinars/town halls.

In 2019, IPAC Canada contributed editorials to Macleans, Hospital News, Media Space, the journal of the Ontario Dental Hygienists Association, and Denturism Canada. In addition, we supported the Canadian Patient Safety Institute in development of 2019 Stop! Clean Your Hands Day. Our member, Davenna Conrod presented in a Clean Hands podcast.

ADVANCE ADVOCACY AND PARTNERSHIP

Strengthen advocacy and partnerships for increased influence and impact.

The communication and support of Industry Partners has increased through the publication of Industry Innovations, scholarships and awards, and industry presence at our annual conference. Our partners sponsor scholarships and awards that are a benefit of IPAC Canada membership and add further interest to the significance of IPAC Canada. Awards from Diversey, GOJO, Sage, and Prescientx were allocated in 2019. Two new scholarships were announced: the Clorox Scholarship and the Sani Marc Environmental Research and Innovative Stewardship Scholarship.

IPAC Canada is asked to participate at several tables including the Chief Public Health Officer Health Professions Forum, the Public Health Agency AMR committee, Indigenous Health, and Discovery Day (partnering with CPSI, AMMI, PHAC and CIHI). Advocacy continues for adoption of Pan-Canadian case definitions and a national surveillance platform. "Discovery Day" is the catch phrase for efforts by our partners to cooperate in the development of a data collection, analysis and distribution system for both CNISP and non-CNISP hospitals. Our partners in this initiative are CPSI, PHAC, AMMI Canada, and CIHI. Hill Day 2019 was postponed because of the pending national elections.

New communication has been created with the Canadian Association of Foot Care Nurses, Foot Canada Training, Doctors Without Borders, and Women's Wellness Within (Nova Scotia). In December 2019, IPAC Canada became the first professional association member of the Biomedical Innovation AMR Working Group.

IPAC Canada was the first of allied health professional associations to receive recognition as a nursing practice specialty by the Canadian Nurses Association. Work is ongoing to achieve cross recognition of the CIC® Certification exam.

In 2018/2019, IPAC Canada supported two education nodes in Africa, with the support of a private sponsor. In addition, GOJO provided funding for a Board member to attend the 2019 Infection Control Africa Network (ICAN) conference in Cape Town.

IPAC Canada hosted an international conference in collaboration with the International Federation of Infection Control. Their objective was to learn from us on conference planning. The next IFIC conference will be held in Serbia and much time has been spent with those organizers to develop checklists and documentation for planning.

IPAC Canada's national profile has increased at the government and media levels. Impact Public Affairs, our government and media relations consultants, have been instrumental in introducing IPAC Canada and its initiatives. It is our vision that the IPAC Canada name will become as familiar as the C.N.A, C.M.A, and C.D.A and will be recognized as 'THE VOICE' of infection prevention and control in Canada.

Volunteer Support

IPAC Canada enjoys the engagement of many of its members to take volunteer positions on various committees and projects. Our members who volunteer for internal and external committee positions are the strength of our organization. It is our members who provide an extraordinary service to the association and colleagues, and play a major part in the recognition of IPAC Canada as an association of dedicated and expert professionals. The following list demonstrates in a non-inclusive list where IPAC Canada representation has been placed in 2019.

- Accreditation Canada
- Biomedical Innovation AMR Working Group
- Canadian Nurses Association Network of Nursing Specialties
- Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program
- Canadian Patient Safety Institute
- Canadian Standards Association
- Chief Public Health Officer Health Professions Forum
- Discovery Day Working Group
- Immunize Canada
- International Federation of Infection Control
- National Collaborating Centre for Infectious Diseases
- National Patient Safety Roundtable
- Public Health Agency of Canada - AMR Task Group
- Sinai Health System/UHN Antimicrobial Stewardship Program

IPAC Canada thanks its volunteer members, its hard-working Board of Directors, its staff, and professional support.

