



### **Current Year's Executive 2021**

**President: Kim Houde**

**President-elect:**

**Secretary: Joseph Kaunda**

**Treasurer: Kris Cannon**

### **Next Year's Executive – elections to be held in the fall**

**President:**

**President-elect:**

**Secretary:**

**Treasurer:**

**Number of Members: 68**

### **Geographic Area Served**

We serve the south and central Alberta (AB) areas. Our borders extend from Red Deer (north) to the AB/USA border (south); then from the BC/AB (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.
- Staff and physicians from Primary Care Network clinics and health services clinics within the zone
- Representatives from industry, environmental services, medical device reprocessing, educational institutions, private consultants, dental offices and individuals with an interest in Infection Control

### **Meetings**

Usually there are 6 meeting held annually, 4 virtually via MS Teams and 2 “face to face” out of 4 sites across Southern Alberta, held via telehealth to support live viewing of members congregated at each site. In 2021 there were 2 meetings held in the winter with all other meetings suspended to allow members to focus their efforts on COVID efforts as various waves and unprecedented challenges in terms of patient numbers and staff shortages spread across Alberta.

### **Initiatives Related to the IPAC Canada 2019-2021 Strategic Plan**

IPAC SA was very busy in 2021 responding to the everchanging challenges that responding to the SARS CoV 2 pandemic presented to our province. The executive team met throughout the year, assessing the ability to resume meetings and activities and felt that in light of the severity of the pandemic the additional burden of IPAC work/initiatives would have been inappropriate. Plans continue to be made for 2022.

### **Highlights**

Similar to last year, we had few responses when our request for activities and accomplishments went out to our membership. Work continues with our colleagues to respond to the various challenges experienced throughout the pandemic. Below is a list of publications provided by a few of our members:



Joseph Kaunda, Tamalee Anderson, John Conly : [SARS-CoV-2 Shedding in Dialysis Patients With COVID-19 - ScienceDirect](#)

Jennifer Ellison Submitted the following publications and conferences both for herself and other IPAC-SA members who work in Surveillance and Standards, Infection Prevention and Control for AHS:

**Publications:**

Shen Y, Ellison J, Leal J, Bush KR, Chandran AU, Fathima S, Conly JM. The use of laboratory-identified event surveillance to classify adverse outcomes due to *Clostridioides difficile* infection in Canadian long-term care facilities. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol.* 2021; 42(5):557-564. <https://doi.org/10.1017/ice.2020.1269>

Ellison, J., Boychuk, L., Chakravorty, D., Chandran, A., Conly, J., Howatt, A., . . . Bush, K. (2021). A comparison of surgical site infections following total hip replacement and total knee replacement surgeries identified by Infection Prevention and Control and the National Surgical Quality Improvement Program in Alberta, Canada. *Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology*, 1-7. <https://doi.org/10.1017/ice.2021.159>

**Conference presentations (abstracts):**

CNISP PHAC, Mitchell R., Frenette, C., Thampi, N., Brooks, J., Ellison, J., ... Pelude, L. (2021) Risk factors for severe outcome in patients hospitalized with COVID-19 in a network of Canadian acute care hospitals, [poster presentation], AMMI conference 2021, virtual

CNISP PHAC, Mitchell R., Frenette, C., Thampi, N., Brooks, J., Ellison, J., ... Pelude, L. (2021) Characteristics of healthcare personnel hospitalized with laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 in a network of Canadian acute care hospitals, [oral presentation], IPAC conference 2021, virtual

CNISP PHAC, Mitchell R., Frenette, C., Thampi, N., Brooks, J., Ellison, J., ... Pelude, L. (2021) The Epidemiology of Long Term Care and Retirement Home Residents Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19 in a Network of Acute Care Hospitals, March 1 2020 to March 31, 2021, , [poster presentation], IPAC conference 2021, virtual

Mitchell, R., Chow, B., D'Arpino, M., Ellison, J., Hansen, G., Hunter Gutierrez, E. (2021) COVID 19 Surveillance- Reporting, learning and sharing from the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Programs [Webex presentation], CPS