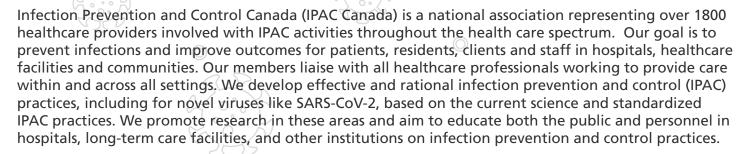
INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL CANADA







WHO WE ARE:



WHAT WE ASK:

Invest in a national, integrated surveillance system to respond quickly to all healthcare associated infections.

- IPAC Canada recommends that Health Canada collaborate with provincial and territorial health
 ministries to develop a national surveillance system with consistent case definitions from coast to
 coast to coast. This system should be accessible to all health professionals and should include data
 input by Infection Prevention and Control Professionals to ensure the people keeping Canadians
 healthy have the most up-to-date and accurate information at their fingertips.
- Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) are infections acquired in a healthcare setting and are the
 most frequently reported adverse events in healthcare delivery worldwide. To address significant
 rates of HAIs, it is vital that the government make a commitment to the health of Canadians by
 working with provincial and territorial partners in implementing a national, integrated surveillance
 system, in order to identify local or regional outbreaks and respond quickly and appropriately to
 all HAIs.

Invest in resources for IPAC programs to better support Canada's systems of care, minimize future healthcare costs, and improve pandemic preparedness.

- IPAC Canada is calling on the federal government to provide more resources to the provinces and territories to fund robust infection prevention and control activities, improve patient safety in Canada, and support our efforts to curb the rise of antibiotic resistant organisms and antimicrobial resistance—including providing additional support for long-term care, education, training, wage topups, and staffing.
- Budget 2021 included an investment of \$3 billion over the next five years to help provinces implement new adequate standards for long-term care (LTC). IPAC Canada commends this investment and recognizes that it will have a significant impact on improving the ability of LTC settings to mitigate infectious disease outbreaks and prepare for the next pandemic. In addition to establishing these standards, the federal government should also work with IPAC Canada to invest in specific programming, staffing, and resources for ICPs in LTC settings. Improving IPAC practices in long-term care and addressing long-standing issues regarding capacity constraints and low wages is critical to protecting our most vulnerable from COVID-19 and other infections.

