



AMMI Canada

Association of Medical Microbiology
and Infectious Disease Canada

Association pour la microbiologie
médicale et l'infectiologie Canada

www.ammi.ca

Prevention

2008 Annual Report

Who we are

The Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI) Canada is the national association that represents physicians and researchers specializing in the fields of medical microbiology and infectious diseases.

Through promotion of the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of human infectious diseases and by our involvement in education, research, clinical practice and advocacy, AMMI Canada aims to serve and educate the public and also to enhance the career opportunities of its members through professional development and advocacy initiatives.

Our core values

- Contribute to the health of people at risk of, or affected by, infectious diseases
- Promote, facilitate and support research and education in infectious diseases and medical microbiology
- Develop guidelines and policies for the prevention, diagnosis and management of infectious diseases
- Communicate with other organizations who have shared interests and facilitate interaction that will advance our mission
- Encourage excellence in the infectious disease and medical microbiology training of health care professionals through collaboration with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada and other relevant organizations

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Council and Committees

President:	Gerald A. Evans
President Elect:	Lynn Johnston
Past President:	Michel Laverdière
Secretary:	Michael Gardam (resigned November 2008) Sarah Forgie (as of December 17, 2008)
Treasurer:	Baldwin Toye
Medical Microbiology Section Head:	Alicia Sarabia
Infectious Diseases Section Head:	Krystyna I. Ostrowska
Councillors:	Christina Greenaway Todd Hatchette Mel Kraiden Michael Libman Anne Opavsky Karam Ramotar

Nomination Committee:

Chair: Michel Laverdière

Other Committees:

**Antimicrobial
Stewardship and
Resistance Committee:** Jim Hutchinson

**Canadian Hospital
Epidemiology:** Elizabeth Bryce
Andrew Simor

**Public Relations and
Communications:** Gerald A. Evans

Associate Members: Jessica Minion

Education: Gary Victor

Finance: Baldwin Toye

Grants and Awards: Marcellus Behr

Guidelines: Gerald A. Evans

Program Planning: A. Mark Joffe

Liaison Representatives:

**The Royal College of Physicians
and Surgeons of Canada
(Infectious Diseases):** Lynn Johnston

**The Royal College of Physicians
and Surgeons of Canada
(Medical Microbiology):** Fiona Smaill

President's Report

Gerald A. Evans – Kingston ON



As my first year as President comes around I am happy to report that AMMI Canada continues to move forward with the goals identified in our 2004 strategic plan. We are developing into a highly respected professional association that truly represents the best interests of its members. We are actively involving members in both internal and external committees and have an impressive number of AMMI Canada volunteers that have come forward.

AMMI Canada has proven to be a strong and growing association with a majority of the Canadian infectious disease specialists and medical microbiologists as members. Membership focus is an all-important objective and we must continue to creatively seek opportunities to increase member benefits.

We are addressing the challenges of our website, while maintaining our commitment to fiscal responsibility. The career section has been successful, however many of the intended website modifications still remain beyond our budgetary limitations, at this time.

In our efforts to keep overall budget costs down and promote less use of wood-based resources like paper, we have eliminated the printing cost of the membership directory, the annual report and the by-laws and are exploring other means of staying lean and "green". All of

this information is now readily available on the AMMI Canada website (www.ammi.ca).

The 2008 AMMI Canada – CACMID annual conference was an outstanding success that provided our members with an excellent opportunity to learn, network, and share information. With each year we have raised our standards, enhanced our programming and have created a national forum to exchange knowledge and research in the fields of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases.

AMMI Canada is one of the professional associations given the status of accrediting programs for RCPSC CME credits. We continue to be successful in this area and I draw your attention to the 2008 Education Committee Report that lists the programs accredited by AMMI Canada as of December 2008.

2008 was a new beginning for the Canadian Journal of Infectious Diseases & Medical Microbiology as AMMI Canada proudly welcomed Dr. John Conly as the new Editor-in-Chief. We also welcomed our new part-time Communications Coordinator, Ms. Gwen Lovagi, in September of 2008. As a result, our Communications and Public Relations Committee is meeting on a more regular basis and have the support to develop strategies that will raise the public profile of AMMI Canada.

As we plan for the future, we do so with a new, soon-to-be defined relationship with the Canadian Foundation for Infectious Disease. CFID has expressed a desire to explore a different relationship with AMMI Canada and are putting the final touches on defining that relationship. We wish CFID on-going prosperity and success in their new incarnation.

In closing, I would like to offer thanks and recognition to all AMMI Canada members. If not for the dedication of its members, AMMI Canada would not succeed. I would especially like to thank the former Editor-in-Chief of our journal, Dr. Lindsay Nicolle for her tireless work as the inaugural leader of CJIDMM.

Please remember to join our colleagues at the annual AMMI Canada-CACMID meeting in Toronto from June 18-21 held in association with the 26th International Congress of Chemotherapy and Infection 2009.

Secretary's Report

Sarah Forgie – Edmonton AB

2008 marked the largest membership enrolment in the history of AMMI Canada, with members from all geographic regions throughout the country in pediatric and adult infectious disease and medical microbiology. Of our 560 members, 77% are Active Members and 15% are trainees in the Associate category. We also have eight Sustaining Members representing various organizations. Please join the Council in welcoming our new members who are listed in the Membership Report. This year we also welcome our first honorary member, Dr. Gerry Wright, Director of the Michel G. DeGrootte Institute for Infectious Disease Research at McMaster University. We wish our colleagues Dr. William Albritton, Suzanne Desrosier and Sheila McDonald all the best in their retirement and we extend our condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Barrie McTaggart.



Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee

Chair: Baldwin Toye – Ottawa ON

Gerald A. Evans – *Kingston ON*

Lynn Johnston – *Halifax NS*

The financial health of AMMI Canada has continued to remain stable over the last two calendar years, with expenses maintained lower than revenues and modest growth in our financial reserves. This was made possible through the financial success of our Annual Conference, which remains the major source of funds for AMMI Canada's operations. In addition to revenues from membership dues which represent approximately 20-25% of funds needed, an additional new source of revenue was generated through accreditation activities. As per the decision made by Council, 2008 will be the fifth and final year for AMMI Canada's financial support and investment in CFID through salary support of its Director of Development as well as some of their operational activities. AMMI Canada's investments have been sheltered from the economic downturn since they are in low risk, income-generating investments mostly through TD Waterhouse.



Membership Report

Riccarda Galioto, Office Manager

New Active Members

Allen, Vanessa	Toronto	ON
Ang, Lei	Charlottetown	PE
Blondeau, Joseph	Saskatoon	SK
Vayalumkal, Joseph V.	Calgary	AB

New Associate Members

Adam, Heather	Toronto	ON
Barry, Mazin M.B.	Ottawa	ON
Burden, Julia	London	ON
Burton, Catherine E. C.	Edmonton	AB
Chan, Wilson	Edmonton	AB
Fanella, Sergio Thomas	Winnipeg	MB
German, Greg	Ottawa	ON
Hawkes, Michael	Toronto	ON
Hermann, Laura	Halifax	NS
Kanji, Jamil	Hamilton	ON
Kim, Joseph	Calgary	AB
Larios, Oscar	Winnipeg	MB
Liu, Theresa T.	Ottawa	ON
Nadarajah, Jeya	Toronto	ON
Nayan, Smriti	Hamilton	ON
Ota, Kaeda	Toronto	ON

Patel, Samir	Toronto	ON
Pernica, Jeffrey	Ottawa	ON
Peters, Laurenna	Vancouver	BC
Ricciuto, Daniel	Toronto	ON
Stuart, James Ian	London	ON
Tse, Alena W.	Edmonton	AB
Twele, Loreto	Calgary	AB
Wang, Bing	Ottawa	ON
Warren, Thomas	Mississauga	ON
Wong, Alexander	Edmonton	AB
Yansouni, Cedric	Montréal	QC

Deceased Members (1)

Barrie McTaggart

Retired Members (3)

William Albritton
Suzanne Desrosiers
Sheila McDonald

2004-2008 Membership Details

Year	Active	Associate	Retired	Deceased	Sustaining	TOTAL
2008	433	84	34	-1	8	558
2007	422	78	34	-1	11	544
2006	426	58	32	-2	12	526
2005	397	63	34	0	12	506
2004	413	54	34	0	11	512

Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance Committee

Co-Chair: Jim Hutchinson – St. John's NF

Co-Chair: Lynora Saxinger – Edmonton AB



Edith Blondel-Hill – Surrey BC

Allison McGeer – Toronto ON

Yvonne Shevchuk – Saskatoon SK

Louis Valiquette – Sherbrooke QC

Gerald A. Evans (Ex-Officio) – Kingston ON

This nascent committee was newly formed from the nidus of the AMMI Canada Antimicrobial Resistance Committee, with the addition of “stewardship” as a main focus. Its purpose has been in evolution, and the membership currently includes ID and MM practitioners and representation from antimicrobial utilization pharmacists. Over the past year the main effort was on identifying linkages with agencies with shared goals, and highlighting the need for an organization of this kind to provide an information sharing infrastructure and networking for “stewardship interested” ID and MM practitioners. The number of interested members has increased, but more are welcome as the functions of the committee are delineated.

The main activities this year were as follows:

1) Participation in AMR Consultation on Antimicrobial Stewardship. Dr. Jim Hutchinson, who also is Chair of the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (CCAR) helped coordinate cross-Canada, cross discipline AMR Consultation activities with Dr. Howard Njoo, Director General, Centre for Communicable Diseases and Infection Control of the Public Health Agency of Canada. A series of meetings (accomplished at multiple national sites through PHAC teleconferencing) were facilitated in the areas of Surveillance, Research, Antimicrobial Stewardship, Education/Training, and National Coordination and Integration. Our members, provided input in the initial survey, background document preparation, and presentations to frame the discussions on Antimicrobial Stewardship. The reports from these consultations will serve as a basis for planning a Canadian response to antimicrobial resistance at the PHAC level. The CCAR personnel and facilitators should be congratulated for a job well done. As CCAR's federal funding ends in late 2009, this activity was crucial to planning a way forward, and the interest from PHAC is heartening.

2) Securing support for Antimicrobial Stewardship training module development. Our new committee had identified the development of training materials as our first priority. I just received the welcome news that our proposal, “Development of an Antimicrobial Stewardship Modular Curriculum for Infectious Diseases and Pharmacy Residents” has been supported by a grant through CCAR. There is an urgent need to develop learning materials to enrich the antimicrobial stewardship training of infectious diseases specialists in training, pharmacists and potentially other health professionals with additional antibiotic interest and expertise - including veterinarians. The project will develop a modular, case based curriculum at the learning level of Infectious Diseases and Pharmacy trainees, which can be used by multiple groups within existing training curricula or by individual learners.

Dr. Saxinger has agreed to remain on as Chair of the committee, and welcomes the continued input and expertise from AMMI Canada members.

Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee (CHEC)

Co-Chair: Elizabeth Bryce - Vancouver BC

Co-Chair: Andrew Simor - Toronto ON

John Conly – *Calgary AB*
 John Embil – *Winnipeg MB*
 Joanne Embree – *Winnipeg MB*
 Sarah Forgie – *Edmonton AB*
 Charles Frenette – *Saint-Lambert QC*
 Michael Gardam – *Toronto ON*
 Elizabeth Henderson – *Calgary AB*
 Jim Hutchinson – *St. John's NF*
 Pamela Kibsey – *Victoria BC*
 Michael John – *London ON*
 Lynn Johnston – *Halifax NS*
 Joanne Langley – *Halifax NS*
 Mark Loeb – *Hamilton ON*
 Anne Matlow – *Toronto ON*
 Allison McGeer – *Toronto ON*
 Sophie Michaud – *Sherbrooke QC*
 Mark Miller – *Montréal QC*
 Dorothy Moore – *Montréal QC*
 Virginia Roth – *Ottawa ON*
 Kathryn Suh – *Ottawa ON*
 Geoffrey Taylor – *Edmonton AB*
 Eva Thomas – *Vancouver BC*
 Natalia Turgeron – *Quebec QC*
 William Thompson – *Moncton NB*

Mary Vearncombe – *Toronto ON*
 Joseph Vayalumkal – *Calgary AB*
 Karl Weiss – *Montréal QC*
 Alice Wong – *Saskatoon SK*
 Dick Zoutman – *Kingston ON*

CHEC has participated in the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program (CNISP), in partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), formerly Health Canada, since 1995. Since our last report, there has been some progress regarding inadequate staffing with the recruitment of three senior epidemiologists and a database analyst. A manager has been appointed and Dr. Tom Wong, Director of the Community Acquired Infections Division is directly responsible for the portfolio. New Terms of Reference have been adopted as well as a Memorandum of Understanding for transfer and ownership of strains submitted for CNISP projects. CNISP surveillance endeavors are now proceeding on schedule and an initiative to implement real time web-based surveillance is proceeding with four sites participating in a pilot project this spring. The latter, if successful, should increase efficiency and timeliness of reporting. A Data Quality group has been established to address accuracy and consistency of data entry and coordination of surveillance forms.

In the meantime, and in the past year, CHEC/CNISP surveillance has been ongoing for:

- MRSA (including CA-MRSA)
- VRE
- *Clostridium difficile*-associated diarrhea
- severe febrile respiratory infections
- CVC shunt and cardiac surgery
- central venous catheter-associated bloodstream infections (funded, in part, by CPSI)

In the past year, the following manuscripts were published:

1. Vayalumkal JV, Gravel D, Moore D, Matlow A and the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program. Surveillance for Healthcare-Associated Febrile Respiratory Infections in Pediatric Hospitals participating in the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program. Submitted to *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2008
2. Langley JM, Gravel D, Moore D, Matlow A, Embree J, McKinnon-Cameron D, Conly J, and the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program. Cerebrospinal fluid shunt-associated infections in the first year following placement: a Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program (CNISP) study. Accepted for publication by *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2008



3. Gravel D, Miller M, Simor AE, Taylor G, Gardam M, McGeer A, Hutchinson J, Moore D, Kelly S, Boyd D, Mulvey M, and the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program.
Healthcare-Associated *Clostridium difficile* Infection in Adults admitted to Acute-Care Hospitals in Canada: A Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program Study. Accepted for publication by *Clin Inf Dis*, 2008.
4. Gravel D, Gardam M, Taylor G, Miller M, Simor AE, McGeer A, Hutchinson J, Moore D, Kelly S, Mulvey M, and the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program.
Infection Control Practices related to *Clostridium difficile* infection within acute-care hospitals in Canada. *Am J Infect Control* 2009 Feb;37(1):9-14
5. Ofner-Agostini M, Johnston BL, Simor AE, Embil J, Matlow A, Mulvey M, Ormiston D, Conly J, and the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program.
Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci in Canada: Results from the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program, 1999-2005. *Infect Control Hosp Epidemiol* 2008; 29:271-274.
6. Ofner-Agostini M, Varia M, Johnston L, Green K, Simor AE, Bryce E, Henderson E, Stegenga J, Bergeron F, the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program, Gravel D.
Infection Control and antimicrobial restriction practices for antimicrobial-resistant organisms in Canadian tertiary care hospitals. *Am J Infect Control* 2007; 35:563-8.
7. Christianson S, Golding GR, Campbell J; Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program, Mulvey MR.
Comparative genomics of Canadian epidemic lineages of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*. *J Clin Microbiol*. 2007 Jun; 45 (6):1904-11.
8. Tracz DM, Boyd DA, Hizon R, Bryce E, McGeer A, Ofner-Agostini M, Simor AE, Paton S, Mulvey MR and the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program.
ampC gene expression in promoter mutants of cefoxitin-resistant *Escherichia coli* clinical isolates. *FEMS Microbiol Lett* 2007; 270:265-71.
9. Simor AE, Stuart TL, Louie L, Watt C, Ofner-Agostini M, Gravel D, Mulvey M, Loeb M, McGeer A, Bryce E, Matlow A; Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program.
Mupirocin-resistant, methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* strains in Canadian hospitals. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother*. 2007 Nov; 51(11):3880-6.
10. Gravel D, Matlow A, Ofner-Agostini M, Loeb M, Johnston L, Bryce E, Sample ML, Roth V, Goldman C, Taylor G, and the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program.
A Point Prevalence Survey of Healthcare Associated Infections in Pediatric Populations in Major Canadian Acute-Care Hospitals. *Am J Infect Control*. 2007 Apr; 35(3):157-62
11. Gravel D, Taylor G, Ofner M, Johnston L, Loeb M, Roth V, Stegenga J, Bryce E and the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program.
Point prevalence survey for healthcare-associated infections within Canadian adult acute-care hospitals. *J Hosp Infect* 2007; 66:243-8.

Grants and Awards Committee

Chair: **Marcellus Behr** – *Montréal QC*

Brian Conway – *Vancouver BC*

Michael Gardam – *Toronto ON*

Christina Greenaway - *Montréal QC*

Johann Pitout – *Calgary AB*

Baldwin Toye – *Ottawa ON*

Gerald A. Evans (Ex-Officio) – *Kingston ON*

In 2008, the Grants and Awards committee selected the following worthy recipients for these awards:

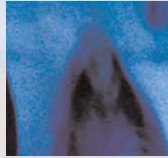
- **2008 Lifetime Achievement Award,**
Recipient - *Dr. Michel G. Bergeron*
- **2008 Distinguished Service Award,**
Recipient - *Dr. Kevin Forward*
- **2008 Dr. Juan Embil Award for Excellence
in Infectious Disease Research,**
Recipient - *Dr. Andrea Boggild*
- **2008 Canadian Journal of Infectious Disease &
Medical Microbiology Trainee Review Article Award,**
Recipient - *Dr. Darrell Tan*

The presentations will be given at the AMMI Canada –
CACMID Annual Conference 2009.



Guidelines Committee

Chair: Gerald A. Evans – Kingston ON



Ethan Rubinstein – Winnipeg, MB (incoming Chair)

David Haldane – Halifax NS

Corinna Quan – Windsor ON

Lindsay Nicolle – Winnipeg MB

Anne Opavsky – Toronto ON

Kathy Suh – Ottawa ON

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:

1. A new chair be designated to commence their term as of June 30, 2009.
2. The guidelines committee be expanded to 8 members plus the chair.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY -

Summary of Committee Activity for the Period Covering - January 2008 to June 2009

Published guidelines since last report:

C Rotstein, GA Evans, A Born et al Clinical Practice Guidelines for Hospital-Acquired (HAP) Pneumonia and Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia (VAP) in Adults* Can J Infect Dis Med Micro 2008; 19:19-53

There are a number of guidelines currently in development, many in collaboration with other Canadian and American professional societies. All guidelines to be formally endorsed by AMMI Canada are subject to committee review and the AMMI Canada guidelines process, which includes early involvement in the guideline's development. A major thrust of the committee in the coming year will be to initiate discussion with IDSA to consider developing joint guidelines that can be used in both the US and Canada. At present there is substantial involvement of Canadian and American professional members in each society's guideline development. Dr. Ethan Rubinstein will assume the Chair of this committee as of June 2009.

1. *Guidelines for Screening Immigrants and Refugees*¹
AMMI Canada Lead: C. Greenaway
2. *Acute and Chronic Rhinosinusitis*²
Lead: M. Desrosiers, G. Evans
3. *Revised Canadian CAP Guidelines*
Lead: L. Mandell
4. *Invasive Candidiasis Guidelines*
Leads: C. Rotstein, M. Laverdière, E. Bow

5. *Invasive Aspergillosis Guidelines*
Leads: S. Sanche, M. Laverdière, E. Bow
6. *Skin and Soft Tissue Infection Guidelines*³
Leads: K. Suh, J. Embil, G. Evans
7. *Intra-Abdominal Infection Guidelines*⁴
Leads: A. Chow, G. Evans, A. Nathans
8. *Guidelines for infection prophylaxis after HSCT*⁵
AMMI Canada Lead: Jan Storek
9. *Guidelines for the Diagnosis, Prevention and Treatment of Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection in Adults*⁵
AMMI Canada Lead: L. Nicolle

Associated groups for guidelines listed above:

Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel (CATMAT)
Canadian Society of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery
Canadian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology
Canadian College of Family Physicians
Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP)
Canadian Association of General Surgeons (CAGS)
Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA)

* *The HAP/VAP guideline is a joint effort with the Canadian Thoracic Society*

Nominations Committee

Chair: Michel Laverdière - Montréal QC

Anne-Marie Bourgault – Montréal QC

Mel Krajden – Vancouver BC

The 2008 Nominations Committee was comprised of the Past President as Chair (Dr. Michel Laverdière), in addition to two Active Members-at-large of the association (Dr. Mel Krajden, Dr. Anne-Marie Bourgault). The committee considered potential officers for the available positions on AMMI Canada Council, respecting the by-law requirement to have two councillors from each standing section (i.e. Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology) of the total six councillors. In addition, a distribution of officers representing different geographical areas of the country, genders, paediatric and adult specialists. In addition members with diverse areas of specialization within Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology were sought. The committee created a slate of officers that was sent to the secretariat and then circulated to the general membership, with an option for submission of additional nominations from the membership.

The following nominees will be presented for ratification at the next Annual General Meeting, June 19, 2009, Toronto, Ontario.

Members of Council, (2009-2011):

Dr Neil Rau, *Oakville: Section Head ID (1st term)*

Dr. Michelle Alfa, *Winnipeg: Section Head MM (1st term)*

Dr. François Coullée *Montréal: Councillor (1st term)*

Dr. Marissa Becker, *Winnipeg: Councillor (1st term)*

Dr. Mel Krajden, *Vancouver: Councillor (2nd term)*

Associate Committee

Chair: Jessica Minion – Edmonton AB

Greg German – Ottawa ON

Miguel Imperial – Vancouver BC

Bonnie Meatherall – Calgary AB

Joanne Salmon – Edmonton AB

Kennard Tan – Coquitlam BC

Gerald A. Evans (*Ex-Officio*) – Kingston ON

Sarah Forgie (*Ex-Officio*) – Edmonton AB

In conjunction with the 2008 AMMI Canada – CACMID annual conference in Vancouver, the Associate Members Committee organized its fifth annual Trainees' Day for residents and fellows in medical microbiology and infectious diseases. This was very well attended and we had positive feedback from our members. Speakers included Dr. Patrick Tang (speaking about New Diagnostic Technologies), Dr. Tim Brewer (speaking about Infectious Disease Surveillance), and Drs. Dale Purych and Dwight Ferris (speaking about Community Practice in Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases respectively). Planning for 2009's event is well underway and we are looking forward to hopefully another good turnout to both our afternoon session and evening social event.

We would like to thank the outgoing members of our committee who have finished their terms: Dr. Julie Carson, Dr. Jianhui Xiong and Dr. Anton Mak. Continuing members include myself, Dr. Jessica Minion, as chairperson, Dr. Joanne Salmon, Dr. Bonnie Meatherall, Dr. Miguel Imperial and Dr. Kennard Tan. We are welcoming two new members to the committee this year: Dr. Greg German and Dr. Cecilia Costiniuk.

The Associate Members Committee undertook to update and revise its Terms of Reference this year. It was decided to change the duration of terms for both the chairperson and the committee members to be more flexible and better allow participation of residents whose training programs are short (e.g. 2-year ID Fellowships). The revised terms allow committee members to commit for 1 year at a time, up to a maximum of 3 years. The chairperson must have served as a committee member for 1 year previously, and then may commit to terms of 1 or 2 years. Past chairs will be encouraged to remain on the committee for 1 year after their terms have ended to provide support and advice for the incoming chairperson.

In keeping with the goal of encouraging participation and involvement of associate members in AMMI Canada activities, we are looking into potential ways to include



resident members on select AMMI Canada committees. This may manifest as residents being observers who report back to the Associate Committee on other AMMI Canada activities, or they could act as a voice to give the sometimes unique perspective of those still in training. This would mirror the practice of many provincial and national medical associations, which aims to familiarize residents with the societies' structure and function. Upon completion of training, people who were already involved with an organization will be more likely to continue to contribute their time, and their familiarity with the organization (and the people) will enable them to feel more comfortable taking on greater responsibility. Additionally, having a peer report back to the associate members, explaining briefly what is going on elsewhere in the organization will help give associate members a sense of ownership and belonging, and will give the organization and its committees more visibility.

We appreciate the ongoing support of all the staff and members of AMMI Canada and we look forward to working together in the year ahead.

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Specialty Committee in Medical Microbiology

Chair: Fiona Smaill – Hamilton ON

Vice Chair: Marie Louie – Calgary AB

The present Nucleus Committee consists of:

Patrick Doyle – Vancouver BC

Debbie Yamamura – Hamilton ON

Karl Weiss – Montréal QC

David Haldane – Halifax NS

Lynn Johnston, *Specialty Chair in Infectious Diseases (ex-officio)* – Halifax NS

Diane Roscoe, *Chair of the Examination Board (ex-officio)* – Vancouver BC

Alicia Sarabia, *AMMI Canada representative (ex officio)* – Mississauga ON

Credential Issues and Accreditation

Two programs were surveyed in 2008 (Université de Montréal and University of Manitoba) and both received full approval. There are currently 11 programs with full approval and one program that has provisional approval, pending the final recommendation from a mandated internal review.

The Nucleus Committee provides specific input to the Committee on Specialties (COS) regarding the accreditation of individual programs. The Nucleus Committee's discipline-specific comments and questions on the pre-survey

documentation are now provided to the program director before the visit from the Royal College survey team and the responses incorporated into the final report for the Nucleus Committee to review.

The Specialty Training Requirements in Medical Microbiology (2005), the Specific Standards of Accreditation for residency programs in Medical Microbiology (2004), and the Objectives of Training and Specialty Training Requirements in Medical Microbiology (2005) are in the process of being revised. More details need to be included to ensure the training documents "define" the discipline and adequately describe the competencies to practice as a Medical Microbiologist. The Specialty Training Requirements need to be explicit in describing the type and duration of training needed to meet the educational objectives. Updating the documents is a major undertaking, but it was one of the recommendations from the Committee on Specialties that Medical Microbiology review the Objectives of Training and ensure the distinctiveness of our specialty compared with Infectious Diseases was reflected in the documentation.

Examinations

Dr. Diane Roscoe continues in the role of Chair of the Examination Board. The examination has been moved to Ottawa, where the administrative aspects of the examination are efficiently organized by the Royal College Examination Centre, but the practical component of the examination is still held on-site at the Ottawa General because of the nature of the material examined.

The number of candidates taking the examination has been steadily increasing, with 20 candidates (14 English and 6 French) scheduled to take the exam in 2009. The Royal College examination has now replaced the separate Quebec exam from the Collège de Médecin du Québec, in part, accounting for the increase in numbers. The Examination Board regularly meets in November to develop questions based on a CANMEDS "blueprint" for the examination and the exam is now fully compliant with the Royal College guidelines. In an attempt to rationalize the examination process and address concerns that the examination is too long, the Examination Board has recommended that there be a combined oral examination that covers both the laboratory and clinical components of the examination, with this change becoming effective in 2010.

Report to the Committee on Specialties

When the Committee on Specialties agreed that the specialty of Medical Microbiology should continue as a primary specialty, a resolution was passed that "... the specialty of Medical Microbiology continues its discussion with Infectious Diseases and other Laboratory Medicine disciplines to ensure the viability and relevance of the discipline to societal needs". A combined meeting of the Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Specialty Committees was held in Ottawa on 1 May 2008 to examine in detail the similarities and differences between the two disciplines and provide an opportunity for the two Committees to work together to strengthen their programs. The meeting concluded with a clearer picture of the differences between the disciplines and how these differences need to be articulated in the training documents. There was a better understanding of where there might be an overlap in training while recognizing the distinctive laboratory focus of Medical Microbiology and the importance of a background in Internal Medicine/Paediatrics in Infectious Diseases. The importance of maintaining the distinctive and separate specialties of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases was affirmed while retaining the flexibility to train in both.

Each committee agreed to look specifically at their objectives of training and revise them as necessary to ensure they represent the current clinical and societal expectations of their discipline. The Specialty Committees will work together to define the areas of common competence and along with the Chairs of the two examination boards, discuss whether these could be incorporated into a common evaluation process.



Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Specialty Committee in Infectious Diseases

Chair: Lynn Johnston - Halifax NS

There have been three changes to the Nucleus Committee since last year's Annual Report. New members are Drs. Taj Jadavji (Region 1), Stephen Sanche (Region 2), and H el ene Senay (Region 4), joining Drs. Andrew Morris (Region 3) and Todd Hatchette (Region 5). Thank you to Drs. Wayne Ghesquiere, Kurt Williams, and Jane MacDonald for their contributions. Ex-officio members are Dr. Fiona Smail (Chair, Specialty Committee in Medical Microbiology) and Dr. Nicole Le Saux, our new Chair of the Examination Board. The Specialty Committee met with the Medical Microbiology Specialty Committee on May 1, 2008 and plans to meet during the Annual Conference in Toronto in June 2009. The Nucleus Committee met by teleconference on February 12, 2009.

Credentialing Issues and Accreditation

Two programs (one each adult and paediatric) were surveyed in 2008 and received full approval. A third program (paediatric) received provisional approval with an internal review. As of March 2009 there were 17 programs with full approval (10 adult and 7 paediatric), with no inactive programs, 2 programs with provisional approval (internal review in 2 years), and 1 program with notice of intent to withdraw.

Updating of our specialty specific documents (Specific Standards of Accreditation for Residency Programs,

Objectives of Training, Specialty Training Requirements, and the FITER) has been started but still not completed.

Examination Board

Drs. Christian Sinave and Nicole Le Saux continued as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, of the Examination Board in Infectious Diseases for 2008. Dr. Le Saux becomes Chair with the 2009 examination and Dr. Wayne Gold the Vice-Chair. Members of the Examination Board in 2008 were Drs. John Embil, Joanne Embree, Wayne Gold, Andrew Johnson, Christine Lee, Michael Libman, Tim Mailman, Caroline Quach-Thanh, Annie Ruest, Valerie Sales, Lynora Saxinger, and Satchen Takaya. The examination continues in the format of two three-hour papers of short-answer questions.

Relationship between the Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology Training Programs

As AMMI Canada members may recall, the Royal College Committee on Specialties (COS) has, over the last few years, focused attention on our two specialty programs and questioned whether there should be just one. The differences between our two programs are not inherently clear to them. Initially the COS questioned whether Medical Microbiology should be folded into Laboratory Medicine.

Now, the question could, as easily be, whether the only program should be a combined Infectious Diseases/ Medical Microbiology program. Dr. Smail and I have, over the last two years, provided submissions to the COS outlining why we believe that Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases should remain separate training programs. Both specialty committees met on May 1, 2008 to explore similarities and differences, and discuss how we might make a more objective case to maintain our separate programs. Not surprisingly, there was little consensus on how we differ. Unfortunately, the status quo will not be tenable in the long term and both Committees are going to have to come to some agreement on where their differences lie, and incorporate these into objectives of training. At the same time we will be open to areas where efficiencies and streamlining may be possible, such as combined examination questions where training objectives overlap and joint administrative activities.

As always, I want to thank those who volunteer to serve on the Nucleus Committee and Examination Board. I am always ready to consider members who wish to volunteer to serve on either.



Communications and Public Relations Committee

Chair: Gerald A. Evans - Kingston ON

William Bowie – *Vancouver BC*

John Embil – *Winnipeg MB*

Michel Laverdière – *Montréal QC*

Lynora Saxinger – *Edmonton AB*

Richard McCoy – *(Staff) Ottawa ON*

Gwen Lovagi – *(Staff) Ottawa ON*

External Promotion

In an on-going effort to develop strategic partnerships, AMMI Canada had a booth at the ICAAC/IDSA 2008 conference. We continue to promote our relationship with associations such as the British Columbia Association of Medical Microbiologists (BCAMM), L'Association des médecins microbiologistes infectiologues du Québec (AMMIQ) and the International Society of Chemotherapy for Infection and Cancer (ISC). Both BCAMM and AMMIQ are two of several cooperating societies collaborating in the upcoming 2009 annual conference.

Through education initiatives such as the People to People Citizen Ambassador Programs we are in the first stages of organizing a delegation to travel to China in November 2009.

In conjunction with our website designer we are improving our website through cost effective modifications such as adding the membership directory to the members only section.

Government Relations

In June 2008 Dr. Alicia Sarabia attended the Bill C-54 stakeholders' meeting organized by the Public Health Agency's Office of Laboratory Security. Dr. Sarabia went on to represent AMMI Canada at future meetings held by the Standing Committee on Health regarding the renamed, Bill C-11 an Act to promote safety and security with respect to human pathogens and toxins.

AMMI Canada quickly responded to the appointment of the new Minister of Health, by sending a letter of welcome to the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, P.C., M.P.

Media

AMMI Canada has been sought by national reporters to comment on various topics and we have endeavoured to develop a quick response to interview requests. In a new initiative to identify AMMI Canada spokespersons, we plan to give national health reporters a listing of AMMI Canada members that are willing to comment on specific topics. We have also aspired to improve relations with the media through advanced preparations that will allow us to disseminate more regular press releases.

Internal

In September 2008 AMMI Canada hired a Communications Coordinator on a part-time basis. The Committee will be revising its Terms of Reference to include more AMMI Canada members and longer terms for both the past president and president-elect. It is anticipated that both will serve for two-years in order to provide more continuity for the committee. In addition, members-at-large will serve for 3 years.

The AMMI Canada Career Page is gaining popularity and has contributed to revenue as anticipated. Regular newsletters following an initial revamped format released after the 2008 Annual AMMI Canada - CACMID Conference, are now being produced under the editorship of Dr. Lynora Saxinger. These have proved to be very popular and informative.

Program Planning Committee

Chair: A. Mark Joffe – Edmonton AB

Gerald A. Evans – Kingston ON
 Richard Lalonde – Montréal QC
 Michel Laverdière – Montréal QC
 Nicole Le Saux – Ottawa ON
 David Patrick – Vancouver BC
 Anita Rachlis – Toronto ON
 Susan Richardson – Toronto ON
 Marc Romney – Vancouver BC
 Alicia Sarabia – Mississauga ON
 Gary Victor – Ottawa ON

The 2008 AMMI-Canada – CACMID Annual Meeting was held at the Sheraton Wall Center in Vancouver, B.C. February 27 – March 1. This combined annual meeting was the largest ever with approximately 600 registered delegates. By all accounts, this was also the most successful meeting ever. In particular, Trainees Day continues to grow and attract a large number of residents in training programs in Infectious Diseases and/or Medical Microbiology. These individuals represent the future of our combined societies and providing a successful program to this audience is vital. In response to concerns that the program has insufficient clinical content, we introduced State of the Art Clinical (START) Sessions in 2008. These are intended as focused, practical clinical

reviews of common and important topics. Three START sessions were offered and were very well received. Symposia dedicated to Tick-Borne Diseases, Tuberculosis and a selection of “What’s New and Hot” topics were included in the 2008 program. Two of the plenary lectures in the Tuberculosis symposium were delivered by Videoconference link with the World Health Organization. Experts in global epidemiology and TB diagnostics delivered superb lectures by video link. This was very successful and should be considered for future meetings. The 2008 annual conference was rounded out with a variety of workshops and sessions including oral abstracts and posters, industry-sponsored mini-symposia, a special lecture and the ever-popular clinical vignettes. An abundance of social activities were also part of the 2008 meeting, including a gala on Saturday evening to end the conference. The conference was shorter than previous ones. No symposium was offered Sunday morning as it was anticipated that most delegates would need to leave Vancouver before noon that day.

The 2009 annual conference is being held in conjunction with the International Congress of Chemotherapy and Infection in Toronto June 18-21. Planning for this meeting has been underway for 2 years and many challenges have been encountered. The scope of this meeting is much larger

than our usual annual conference. Some of the challenges encountered have included the global economic slowdown and H1N1 Influenza, both of which will significantly impact the attendance at this meeting. While we initially aimed at approximately 2500 delegates, we now anticipate approximately 1000. An excellent and diverse scientific program has been planned.

For 2010, we will revert to our combined AMMI Canada and CACMID annual conference. This meeting is scheduled for Edmonton, Alberta May 5-9. Dr. Kevin Forward has agreed to co-chair the Scientific Program Committee for this meeting and will then assume the position of Chair of the Program Planning Committee. Anticipated challenges include trying to ensure that momentum built in Vancouver in 2008 continues. Sponsorship is likely to be a challenge as changes continue in the pharmaceutical industry, particularly if the economy remains soft.

Education Committee

Chair: Gary Victor – Ottawa ON

Sarah Forgie – Edmonton AB

Heather Onyett – Kingston ON

Anita Rachlis – Toronto ON

Stuart Skinner – Saskatoon SK

Philip Stuart – Nobleton ON

Anupuma Wadhwa – Toronto ON

1. A number of AMMI Canada members expressed interest in joining the Education Committee and 2 members were chosen representing geographic regions and disciplines as potential members. These individuals were approved at the November 2008 Council meeting. We would like to welcome Drs. Philip Stuart and Stuart Skinner.
2. A needs assessment was sent out to the membership with a fair return rate. The results will be reviewed by the members of the Education Committee.
3. Our Royal College re-accreditation application was submitted and a teleconference with the review panel was very favorable.

4. CPD Activities Accredited:

- AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC, February 27 – March 1, 2008
- CHICA Canada 2008 Annual Conference, Montréal, Québec, May 29 – June 5, 2008
- New Developments in Treatment of HIV and Fungal Infections – (mini-symposium) Hosted by Pfizer, 2008 AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC
- The Next Stages in Vaccine Design and Application - (mini-symposium) Hosted by GlaxoSmithKline, 2008 AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC
- Invasive Fungal Infections – Emerging Trends, Future Direction – (mini-symposium) Hosted by Schering-Plough, 2008 AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC
- Collateral Damage: Unintended Consequences of Antimicrobial Use – (mini-symposium) Hosted by Wyeth, 2008 AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC
- New Frontiers in HIV/AIDS: Resistance and New Agents – Hosted by Pfizer
- Anidulafungin: A New Treatment Option for Invasive Candidiasis/Candidemia – Hosted by Pfizer



AMMI Canada Representatives – External Committees

National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI)	Pamela Orr	PHAC – Expert Working Group on HIV Testing & Counselling	Paul MacPherson
Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel (CATMAT)	Christina Greenaway	PHAC – Pandemic Influenza Committee – Antiviral Working Group	Gerald A. Evans
Canadian Coalition for Immunization Awareness & Promotion (CCIAP)	Shelly M ^e Neil		Todd Hatchette
Federation of National Specialty Societies of Canada (FNSSC)	Michel Laverdière	Canadian Public Health Association – Advisory Council	Shailini (Shelly) Sarwal
Canadian Medical Association – National Medical Organizations (CNMO)	Michel Laverdière	Stop TB Canada	Anne McCarthy
Canadian Tuberculosis Committee	Wendy Wobeser	Correctional Services Canada – Community Consultation Committee	Wendy Wobeser
ISO/TC 212 Working Group 4 on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing	Diane Roscoe		
CSA TC Z252 Medical Laboratory Quality Systems	Diane Roscoe		
CSA Technical Committee on Transplantation	Deepali Kumar		
CMA Conjoint Committee for Accreditation & Lab. Technology	Magdalena Kuhn		

The Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases

Raphael Saginur – Ottawa ON

“Little by Little, One Walks Far” 2008 CFID Activities Report

The Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases' evolution as a charity was challenged in 2008 by the conclusion of the administrative and financial support program from AMMI Canada. Without this investment in recent years, the Foundation could not have achieved its goals. We would like to acknowledge AMMI Canada's support.

The changes to the Foundation bylaws, begun in 2008 and continuing in 2009, will facilitate public education and advocacy initiatives and strengthen research programs and fundraising. With increased diversity in Board members, in terms of both individuals and organizations, we have the potential to increase our influence and impact in Canada.

A generous gift from the Astellas USA Foundation will be invested in the development of a new database program that allows CFID to communicate directly with Canadians via the CFID and NIDD websites. You can support the CFID research program and public education activities by joining the Foundation at www.researchid.com or www.nidd.ca.

National Infectious Diseases Day

A 3-year plan for a National Infectious Diseases Coalition was developed in 2008 and approved by AMMI Canada, CACMID and CHICA Canada. Financial commitments were received from several industry partners.

On October 23, 2008 Canada's 2000 infectious disease experts and practitioners asked Prime Minister Stephen Harper and the Government of Canada to invest \$200 million in a National Strategy to bolster the capacity of the Canadian healthcare system to diagnose, prevent, control and treat known, new and emerging infectious diseases in hospitals.

A Battle We Can Win: Reducing Healthcare Associated Infections by 50%, our report that a Canadian National Healthcare Associated Infection Strategy will directly reduce the \$1 billion annual cost to treat **250,000** Canadians whose hospital stays are prolonged by HAIs is available at www.nidd.ca

Several other organizations, including patient advocacy groups, have expressed interest in joining NIDD. The decision by AMMI Canada and CACMID to withdraw has the potential of decreasing the influence of ID physicians but also makes for a more diverse coalition.

Bill Lowthian Golf Tournament

The personal cost of infection was demonstrated in London in June at the first Annual Golf Tournament to honour Bill Lowthian who died of CA-MRSA in 2005. His family and friends have made a positive outcome of their tragedy by organizing the tournament to fund CFID's Novel Alternatives to Antibiotics Research.

Contact CFID Tel: 613-822-9994
Email: cfid@researchid.com
P.O. Box 3711, Station C
Ottawa ON K1Y 4J8

Financial Statements

Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008

	(With unaudited comparatives for year ended December 31, 2007)	Unaudited
	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 479,090	\$ 532,409
GST receivable	-	3,769
	\$ 479,090	\$ 536,178
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 10,133	\$ 4,420
Due to AMMI Canada	72,307	35,459
Deferred revenue	52,755	81,467
	135,195	121,346
NET ASSETS		
Restricted for endowment purposes	318,722	312,411
Internally restricted	72,262	80,797
Unrestricted	(47,089)	21,624
	343,895	414,832
	\$ 479,090	\$ 536,178

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

	FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008	Unaudited
	2008	2007
REVENUE		
Donations	\$ 3,299	\$ 47,552
Contributions in kind from AMMI Canada	-	35,017
Investment income	4,067	8,427
NIDD - financial support	79,527	33,500
Strategies for Life (SFL) and antimicrobial resistance	50,000	55,000
Other	748	3,570
	137,641	183,066
EXPENSES		
Programs		
Awards	82,500	149,752
NIDD project	85,928	43,665
Strategies for Life (SFL) and antimicrobial resistance	50,000	55,000
Administration and fundraising		
Meetings	2,291	157
Office administration	2,450	15,336
Salaries and benefits	4,220	6,357
Services in kind from AMMI Canada	-	35,017
	227,389	305,284
Excess of expenses over revenue for the year	\$ (89,748)	\$ (122,218)

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Auditors' Report on 2008 Summarized Financial Statements

**To the Members of the Association of Medical Microbiology
and Infectious Disease Canada (AMMI Canada)**

The accompanying summarized statement of financial position and summarized statements of revenue and expenses are derived from the complete financial statements of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada (AMMI Canada) as at December 31, 2008 and for the year then ended on which we expressed an opinion without reservation in our report dated February 11, 2009. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

These summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes. For more information related to the organization's financial position and results of operations, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.

Watson Folkins Corey LLP

*Chartered Accountants
Ottawa, Ontario
February 11, 2009*



Financial Statements

Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI Canada)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 490,147	\$ 697,784
Accounts receivable	85,737	69,966
Due from CFID	72,307	35,459
Prepaid expenses	3,574	93,151
Capital assets	883	5,835
	\$ 652,648	\$ 902,195
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 29,921	\$ 75,114
Deferred revenue	86,696	450,337
	116,617	525,451
NET ASSETS		
Internally restricted	252,894	208,409
Invested in capital assets	883	5,835
Unrestricted	282,254	162,500
	536,031	376,744
	\$ 652,648	\$ 902,195

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008	2008	2007
REVENUE		
Membership dues	\$ 94,773	\$ 89,577
Conference	764,087	648,721
Accreditation	11,000	-
Investment income	7,333	10,526
Miscellaneous	1,000	1,150
CJIDMM and advertising	32,405	31,138
ESBL risk assessment, WEBSS projects & Pfizer-HIV projects	4,750	34,473
	915,348	815,585
EXPENSES		
Awards	5,247	3,155
CJIDMM	22,036	22,464
CFID	-	35,017
Conference	405,493	350,780
ESBL risk assessment, WEBSS & Pfizer projects	22,433	34,473
Meetings	10,104	6,480
Office administration	40,275	71,536
Professional fees	26,265	3,710
Rent & Services	25,747	22,517
Salaries and benefits	189,106	191,449
Travel	9,355	13,172
	756,061	754,753
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEARS	159,287	\$ 60,832

Sponsors

AMMI Canada gratefully acknowledges the continued support of the following:

Abbott Laboratories Ltd.
Astellas Pharma Canada Inc.
Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals
BD Diagnostics
BioMérieux
GlaxoSmithKline Inc.
InterMedico
Inverness Medical Innovations
Iroko International LP
Janssen-Ortho Inc.
Merck Frosst Canada Inc.
Pfizer Canada Inc.
Roche Diagnostics
Schering-Plough Canada
Siemens Canada
Somagen Diagnostics
Starplex Scientific Inc.
Wyeth Pharmaceuticals



Association of Medical Microbiology
and Infectious Disease Canada

Association pour la microbiologie
médicale et l'infectiologie Canada

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