



**AMMI**  
**Canada**

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Association of Medical Microbiology  
and Infectious Disease Canada  
Preventing and Treating Infectious Diseases

l'Association pour la microbiologie  
médicale et l'infectiologie Canada  
Prévenir et traiter les infections

**COLLABORATION | TRANSPARENCY | COMMUNITY BUILDING**

# WHO WE ARE

## Vision Statement

Fewer infections. Fewer outbreaks.  
Healthy Canadians.

## Mission Statement

We advance the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of infections.

AMMI Canada is the national specialty association that represents physicians, clinical microbiologists 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. ●

<b>AMMI Canada Council</b>	3
<b>President's Report</b>	4
<b>Secretary's Report</b>	5
<b>Membership Report</b>	6
<b>JAMMI</b>	
Journal of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada	7
<b>Grants &amp; Awards Committee</b>	8
<b>CHEC</b>	
Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee	9
<b>Education and Continuing Professional Development Committee</b>	10
<b>Communications and Public Relations Committee</b>	11
<b>Guidelines Committee</b>	12
<b>ASRC</b>	
Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance Committee	13
<b>Nominations Committee</b>	14
<b>Program Planning Committee</b>	15
<b>IHC</b>	
Indigenous Health Committee	16
<b>Paediatric Committee</b>	17
<b>Royal College Specialty Nucleus Committee in Medical Microbiology</b>	18
<b>Royal College Specialty Nucleus Committee in Infectious Disease</b>	19
<b>Infectious Disease (ID) Section</b>	19
<b>Medical Microbiology (MM) Section</b>	20
<b>Members-in-Training Committee</b>	21
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	22

## STRATEGIC PLANNING GOALS AND INITIATIVES

### Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance

The goal is to reduce the incidence and prevalence of antimicrobial resistant microorganisms through strategies that monitor antimicrobial resistance and improve antimicrobial use.

### Infection Prevention and Control

The goal is to reduce the impact of healthcare-associated infections through infection prevention and control.

### Education and Knowledge Translation

The goal is to reduce the impact of infections and antimicrobial resistance through guideline development, networking, and education.

### Advocacy

The goal is to support efforts to reduce the impact of infectious diseases world-wide, achieved by equitable access to health care and immunization, through advocacy and strategic collaboration.

### Human Health Resources Planning

The goal is to ensure the sustainability of clinical microbiology, infectious diseases, and medical microbiology in Canada.

### Research

The goal is to promote and support research in infectious diseases and microbiology in Canada.

# AMMI CANADA COUNCIL

**President:** Caroline Quach  
**President-Elect:** Todd Hatchette  
**Past President:** Daniel B. Gregson  
**Treasurer:** Andrew Simor  
**Secretary:** Terry Wuerz  
**Medical Microbiology Section Chair:** Susan Poutanen

**Infectious Disease Section Chair:** Jennifer Grant  
**Members of Council:** Isabelle Chiu  
 Christian Lavallée  
 Stephen Sanche  
 Yoko Schreiber  
 Daniel Smyth  
 LeeAnne Luft

## AMMI CANADA COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS

**Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance Committee**  
 Andrew Morris and Edith Blondel-Hill

**Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee (CHEC)**  
 Charles Frenette and Joanne Langley

**Communications and Public Relations Committee**  
 Daniel B. Gregson

**Education / Continuing Professional Development Committee**  
 Anupma Wadhwa, Joanne Salmon and Isabelle Chiu

**Finance Committee**  
 Andrew Simor

**Grants and Awards Committee**  
 Donald Vinh

**Guidelines Committee**  
 Gerald A. Evans and Donald Vinh

**JAMMI Management Committee**  
 Daniel B. Gregson

**Members-in-Training Committee**  
 Nancy Matic and Lisa Li

**Nomination Committee**  
 Daniel B. Gregson

**Paediatric Committee**  
 Earl Rubin

**Program Planning Committee**  
 Isabelle Chiu and Titus Wong

**Indigenous Health Committee**  
 Yoko Schreiber

## LIAISON REPRESENTATIVES

**The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (Infectious Diseases)**  
 Cheryl Main

**The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (Medical Microbiology)**  
 David Haldane

## AMMI CANADA REPRESENTATIVES ON EXTERNAL COMMITTEES

**Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Task Group on Infection Prevention and Control**  
 Caroline Quach

**Canadian Alliance of Laboratory Medicine (CALM)**  
 Tony Mazzulli and Paul Van Caesele

**Canadian Medical Association – Specialist Forum**  
 Daniel B. Gregson

**Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS) Infectious Diseases and Immunization Committee**  
 Jane McDonald

**Canadian Pandemic Influenza Plan - Task Group**  
 Soren Gantt

**Canadian Standards Association – Technical Committee on Transplantation**  
 Deepali Kumar

**CanTravNet**  
 Michael Libman

**Expert Advisory Group on Antimicrobial Resistance (EAGAR)**  
 Caroline Quach

**HealthCareCAN**  
 Gregory German

**Immunize Canada**  
 Jennie Johnstone

**Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) – Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel (CATMAT)**  
 Jeffrey Pernica

**Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) – Infection Prevention & Control Working Group**  
 Nisha Thampi

**Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) – National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI)**  
 Anne Pham-Huy

**Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) – Guidelines Committee Liaison Member**  
 Jennifer Grant

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Caroline Quach - Montréal, QC

These past two years as the President of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease, Canada have flown by at a whirlwind pace. It was an honor to serve our community and to see all the great ideas emerging from membership come to life. Because AMMI Canada is the national association representing Canadian physicians, clinical microbiologists, laboratory technologists, and other members, whose roles are to prevent, diagnose, and treat infections, we have really aimed at making our association inclusive –on its committees, but also in its leadership and have aimed to serve the various needs and interests of membership. We have also aimed (although less glamorous) to streamline processes, which means that terms of reference for committees have been reviewed and harmonized, and we have aimed to increase transparency in decisions.

In the past year, we have created two new committees: the Paediatric Committee (Dr. Earl Rubin, chair) and the Indigenous Health Committee (Dr. Yoko Schreiber, chair). The Paediatric Committee includes infectious diseases physicians, medical microbiologists, and clinical microbiologists with an expertise in paediatrics. It was created with the goal of making AMMI Canada their (our) “home”. After only one year, the Paediatric Committee has successfully published *Choosing Wisely Declarative Statements*, which can be found [here](#). I invite you to read Dr. Rubin's report on the committee's activities. The Indigenous Health Committee started, last year, as a working group – Dr. Schreiber had the idea, recruited interested colleagues and stakeholders and, one thing leading to the next, felt that this working group needed to morph into a full-fledged committee of AMMI Canada. The committee is now created, and members have ensured that Indigenous Health interests are represented in all of AMMI Canada's activities: this year's annual conference is the living proof of their engagement.

Your Association has continued to aim for increased visibility, ensuring that we are the “one-stop-shop” on all issues pertaining to infectious diseases in Canada. Relationships built over the past few years with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) have continued and AMMI Canada was invited to join the Chief Public Health Officer's Professional Forum that included associations and societies who's objectives are to “facilitate enhanced relationships and synergy across public health professions, advance strategic and horizontal public health issues of national importance, and improve responsiveness and public communication on emerging public health and population health issues.” This Forum identified the following priorities as key: Indigenous health (with focus on cultural awareness), problematic substance use and linkages to mental health; antimicrobial resistance/infectious

disease prevention, seniors/dementia/chronic disease prevention, and Lyme disease. Although not all priorities align with AMMI Canada's, our priorities were heard. We have also continued to partner with the Canadian Patient Safety Institute, the Canadian Institute for Health Information, the Public Health Agency of Canada, IPAC Canada, and HealthCareCAN to ensure that healthcare-associated infections surveillance and reporting is performed adequately and have been invited to participate in the 5th National Patient Safety Consortium. We have also aimed for antimicrobial resistance and stewardship to stay at the forefront: AMMI Canada was invited to testify at the House of Commons' Standing Committee on Health (HESA) hearing on antimicrobial resistance. Please read the report from Drs. Morris and Blondel-Hill on the activities of the Antibiotic Resistance and Stewardship Committee.

AMMI Canada has partnered with the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (ESCMID) discussing priorities for guidelines development. As you will see, ESCMID will be present at our annual conference, co-developing a session but also participating in a new format bringing us the “Best from ECCMID” – without requiring us to travel to Europe! AMMI Canada had partnered with ESCMID to submit suggestions for talks and topics at ECCMID 2018, ASM Microbe 2018 and ESPID 2018. Moving forward, AMMI Canada will continue to submit ideas – with Canadian speakers – to those various forums.

AMMI Canada's Lyme Disease working group has been quite active, developing a survey about Lyme disease that aimed to identify knowledge gaps from membership, which will be used to create training tools. The working group has also collated cases of patients with persistent symptoms attributed to Lyme disease based on alternative laboratory testing or clinical diagnosis that were ultimately diagnosed with another cause for their symptoms, aiming to identify those who have been diagnosed with treatable conditions and highlight their outcomes. The goal was to compile the cases into a case series for publication.

Research was identified as the one area where more activities was needed. AMMI Canada is still acting as the knowledge user for grants submitted to CIHR by Canadian research teams and has provided letters of support. Continuing on our goals from last year, we are pleased to say that an AMMI Canada research working group is starting at this year's annual conference. Dr. Nick Daneman has agreed to lead the way. We wish him all the success this committee and our membership deserve.

*Continued on page 5*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Finally, I want to personally thank Dr. Dan Gregson (past-president) and Dr. Todd Hachette (president-elect) without whom AMMI Canada's accomplishments for the past year would not have been as brilliant. Dr. Gregson has continued to lead the JAMMI (now publishing volume 3) management committee and Dr. Hachette has been leading the Lyme disease working group. Passing on the torch to Dr. Hachette, I will continue being involved and lend a hand (if he asks). I would also like to thank our Council members for their responsiveness. The entire Council and executive is working on a voluntary basis – yet, everyone has given thoughtful input in a timely manner, allowing AMMI Canada to move forward for our membership. I would also like to sincerely thank all the committees' chairs who have taken their task to heart, with dedication and vision: under their leadership, we can now look back over the past year and see that things got done! Committee members must also be thanked – in the end, they were doing the work! A

special thank you to our annual conference Program Planning Committee: if we have a great conference, it is because of your hard work. I invite you to read through each of the committee's reports contained herein.

AMMI Canada only has three permanent staff members who should be recognized and whose work should be fully acknowledged. Melanie Desjardins, our newest recruit whose presence has been highly valued, has supported our committees. Paul Glover remains the heart and soul of our conference planning. Paul is calm and rigorous in his work, is attentive to details and has a heart of gold. He also oversees the membership and website. However, I would not have survived my terms as president if Riccarda Galioto, our Executive Director, had not been there. She is devoted to our Association, we are lucky to have her, her values represent ours: honesty, integrity and hard work, among other things. Dear Riccarda, thank you so much for being there – I will miss our weekly calls. ●

# SECRETARY'S REPORT

Terence Wuerz - Winnipeg, MB

Greetings and salutations! As incoming Secretary for AMMI Canada, it has been an honour to have the opportunity to continue the work of Dr. Deborah Yamamura, and others who came before her, to grow our membership. It has been a pleasure to meet Mr. Paul Glover and Ms. Riccarda Galioto; they run a tight ship, and I look forward to continuing to work with them and other members of council in coming years.

I am happy to report that over the last year, our membership has grown by 8.2%. At the end of 2017, we had 681 members – an increase of 52 members from 2016. Member categories are as follows: 503 Active members, 71 Members-in-Training, 63 Retired members, 41 Supporters, and 3 Honorary Members. Membership category by specialty consists of 270 in infectious diseases, 124 in medical microbiology, 160 in both infectious

diseases and medical microbiology, 73 in paediatric infectious diseases and/or medical microbiology and 54 with other specialties including PharmD, infection control practitioners, and research scientists.

If you know of residents, colleagues, or any other health professionals affiliated with infectious diseases or medical microbiology in Canada who are not members, now is a good time to encourage them to join. Membership benefits include annual conference discounts, reduced publication fees to JAMMI, an opportunity to serve on one of AMMI Canada's several committees and working groups, national mentorship program, and more: <https://www.ammi.ca/?ID=4&Language=ENG>

Let's get the word out! ●

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**Paul Glover**, CMP, Meetings and Membership Coordinator - *Ottawa, ON*

The following members recently completed their training and advanced from Member-in-Training to Active membership in 2017:

Thamer Alenazi - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Danielle Brabant-Kirwan - *Hanmer, ON*  
 Catherine E.C. Burton - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Marthe K. Charles - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Justin Chen - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Rachel Dwilow - *Winnipeg, MB*

Ramzi Fattouh - *Hamilton, ON*  
 Lee W. Goneau - *Toronto, ON*  
 Kathleen Gregory-Miller - *Hamilton, ON*  
 Michael Groeschel - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Lei Jiao - *Hamilton, ON*  
 Shazia Masud - *Burnaby, BC*

Trong Tien Nguyen - *Montréal, QC*  
 Muhammad Rehan - *Hamilton, ON*  
 Shannon Turvey - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Diana Whellams - *New Westminster, BC*

## NEW MEMBERS:

### Active

Kevin Afra - *Surrey, BC*  
 Nooshin Almassi - *Tehran, Iran*  
 Isaac I. Bogoch - *Toronto, ON*  
 Justin Chan - *Long Island City, NY*  
 Saugata Choudhury - *Singapore*  
 Juthaporn Cowan - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Kaveri Gupta - *Dorchester, ON*  
 Shahid Husain - *Toronto, ON*  
 Shobhana P.P. Kulkarni - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Pierre Lebel - *Montréal, QC*  
 Hugues D. Loemba - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Cesar E. Orellana - *Toronto, ON*  
 Xiaoli X.L. Pang - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Ashley D. Roberts - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Manish Sadarangani - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Christie L. Vermeiren - *Toronto, ON*  
 Stephen R. Walsh - *Boston, MA*  
 Sarah Wizman - *Côte-Saint-Luc, QC*  
 Gerasimos J. Zaharatos - *Montréal, QC*

### Members-in-Training

Sara M. Belga  
 Monteiro Pereira - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Ana Cabrera - *Toronto, ON*

Tiffany Chan - *Toronto, ON*  
 Antoine J.J.M. Corbeil - *Toronto, ON*  
 Vincent Deslandes - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Eric Eckbo - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Jasmine Gosal - *Brampton, ON*  
 Amir Hadzic - *Hamilton, ON*  
 Catherine Hogan - *Montréal, QC*  
 Ling Yuan Kong - *Montréal, QC*  
 Stephen Lee - *Burlington, ON*  
 Lynne (Ying) Li - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Sean H. Ling - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Clayton A. MacDonald - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Caitlyn Marek - *Saskatoon, SK*  
 Alexandra McFarlane - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Michaeline McGuinty - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Joanna Merckx - *Montréal, QC*  
 Ruchi Murthy - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Glenn M. Patriquin - *Halifax, NS*  
 Rupeena Purewal - *Winnipeg, MB*  
 Candace D. Rypien - *Calgary, AB*  
 David J. Speicher - *Hamilton, ON*  
 Jennifer Tam - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Alastair S. Teale - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Alejandra Ugarte Torres - *Calgary, AB*  
 Yasmeen M. Vincent - *Mississauga, ON*  
 David Waldner - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Catherine A. Zanoia - *Pittsford, NY*

### Supporter category

Melanie Bernstein - *Côte Saint-Luc, QC*  
 Kathryn Bush - *Calgary, AB*  
 Rita Dhami - *London, ON*  
 Susan R.M. Fryters - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Karen J. Goodman - *Edmonton, AB*  
 J. Mariah Hughes - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Varpreet Kaur - *Chandigarh, India*  
 Sharlyn Z. Khan - *Burnaby, BC*  
 Alexandra King - *Saskatoon, SK*  
 Malcolm King - *Saskatoon, SK*  
 Justin Kosar - *Saskatoon, SK*  
 Michele M. Mousseau Bailey - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Valerie J. Murphy - *Halifax, NS*  
 Cesilia Nishi - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Eli Nix - *Thunder Bay, ON*  
 Sunil Patel - *Milton, ON*  
 Aimee S. Paterson - *Toronto, ON*  
 Stéphanie Perrault - *Chelsea, QC*  
 Casey A. Phillips - *Regina, SK*  
 Andrew C. Pursell - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Alicia C. Rahier - *Prince George, BC*  
 Suzanne Rhodenizer Rose - *Halifax, NS*  
 AnnMarie Tyson - *Toronto, ON*  
 Niluni M. Wijesundara - *Halifax, NS*  
 Sam K. Wong - *Edmonton, AB*

	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Active	503	492	464	451	436
Member-in-Training (formerly "Associate")	71	66	84	122	130
Retired	64	56	52	48	38
Deceased	-1	0	-1	-1	-1
Supporter	41	12	0	n/a	n/a
Sustaining	n/a	n/a	0	5	6
Honorary	3	3	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>611</b>

# JAMMI

Official Journal of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada | Journal officiel de l'Association pour la microbiologie médicale et l'infectiologie Canada

As membership is aware, our Journal is wholly owned by our association. We thank all members who have submitted articles over the last two years for their patience and support during the transition period.

The University of Toronto Press (UT Press) was selected as our new publisher for the next 3 years, and our Journal website can be found at (<https://jammi.utpjournals.press>). We encourage frequent visiting and downloading articles of interest. All submissions are now uploaded through an on-line submission service (ScholarOne Manuscripts™). All members have a profile set up in the UT Press system. The email address on file with the AMMI Canada secretariat is the login. For those who have not activated their account this can be done by following the link <https://mc04.manuscriptcentral.com/jammi>, enter the email address on file with the secretariat as the User ID and then click the Reset Password button.

Revenue to support the Journal for the last year has been through submission fees and page charges, alone. **Full Members of AMMI Canada receive a discounted publishing rate per page.** Non-member page charges are consistent with those charged by other journals. The current fee structure has allowed us to break even over the last year, but the Journal is still in a deficit due to costs associated with our transition from prior publishers.

Four issues were published in 2017. Two of these issues and one supplement were republication of articles published by our prior publisher (at AMMI Canada's expense) as part of our separation process.

Readership Metrics - Between May and December 2017

- 3,118 Article downloads
- 1,476 Table of Contents views

Based on early 2018 numbers, we project that 2018 metrics will double compared with 2017.

We are currently aiming to publish 4 issues in 2018 plus the annual conference abstracts as a supplement. Articles that are accepted by our editorial team should be in press within 4 months of the required forms and fees being submitted to the publisher. **Accepted articles with incomplete release forms or unpaid charges will be held in que pending receipt of these documents/fees. Authors should strive to complete these requirements as soon as possible after acceptance to ensure the earliest publication date.**

Guidelines for advertising have been developed. The secretary will be actively seeking revenue through this stream to help support the Journal and be able to reduce page charges for members.

Journal indexing will be obtained as soon as we reach the minimum requirements for this. ●

**Editor-in-Chief:** Gerald A. Evans - *Kingston, ON*

## Editorial Board (2017/2018)

Byron M. Berenger - *Calgary, AB*  
 Cora Constantinescu - *Calgary, AB*  
 Curtis Cooper - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Peter Daley - *St. John's, NL*  
 Sameer Elsayed - *London, ON*  
 Jennifer Grant - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Susy Hota - *Toronto, ON*  
 Jennie Johnstone - *Toronto, ON*  
 Susan Kuhn - *Calgary, AB*  
 Deepali Kumar - *Toronto, ON*  
 Philippe Lagacé-Wiens - *Winnipeg, MB*  
 Kevin Laupland - *Kamloops, BC*  
 Nicole Le Saux - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Joan Robinson - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Ameeta Singh - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Louis Valiquette - *Sherbrooke, QC*  
 Donald Vinh - *Montréal, QC*

## JAMMI Management Committee

**Chair:** Daniel B. Gregson - *Calgary, AB*

## Committee Members:

Vikas Chaubey - *Kelowna, BC*  
 Matthew Cheng - *Montréal, QC*  
 Isabelle Chiu - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Joanne Salmon - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Andrew Simor - *Toronto, ON*

# GRANTS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Donald Vinh - *Montréal, QC*

**Committee Members:**

Jeffrey Fuller - *London, ON*

Jim Kellner - *Calgary, AB*

Annie-Claude Labbé - *Montréal, QC*

Andrew Simor - *Toronto, ON*

Caroline Quach - *Montréal, QC (Ex-officio, President)*

Donald Sheppard - *Montréal, QC (Ex-officio, Past Chair)*

In February 2017, the candidates for the AMMI Canada awards 2016 were selected. The winners were announced at the Awards Ceremony of the AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference, on Thursday, May 4, 2017 and Saturday, May 6, 2017 at the Sheraton Centre Toronto.

The recipient of the **2016 AMMI Canada Distinguished Service Award** was **Dr. Mark Joffe**, for his longstanding professional achievements and dedicated service to AMMI Canada.

The recipient of the **2016 AMMI Canada Lifetime Achievement Award** was **Dr. Allison McGeer**, for her important contributions to infectious disease research, through the investigation and control of emerging infectious diseases at the local, national and international level.

The recipient of the **2016 AMMI Canada Trainee Research Award** was **Dr. Derek MacFadden**, for his manuscript entitled "*Impact of Reported Beta-Lactam Allergy on Inpatient Outcomes: A Multicenter Prospective Cohort Study*".

The **2016 AMMI Canada Young Investigator Award** was presented to **Dr. Isaac Bogoch**, for his work in developing practical, applied approaches to communicable disease control, and diagnosis and treatment of diseases that impact vulnerable populations.

The **2016 AMMI Canada/bioMérieux Fellowship in Medical Diagnostics** was not awarded. The funds will be held in trust in the hopes of being able to award two fellowships in 2018.

No candidates were submitted for the Honorary Membership and thus, this award was not presented.

The call for proposals for the 2017-18 grants and awards competition was posted on the AMMI Canada website in December 2017, as well as distributed to all Canadian program directors. There were changes in the grants and awards offered for this cycle, notably, the re-institution of the **JAMMI Trainee Review Article Award**. Terms of reference for all awards were revised and accepted, as were criteria for standardization of application packages and evaluation.

In the upcoming year, the Committee will be exploring different avenues of industry-sponsored trainee/fellowship grants. As well, new members will be invited to replace those who have completed their terms. The Committee thanks these latter individuals for their diligent contributions. ●



# CHEC

## CANADIAN HOSPITAL EPIDEMIOLOGY COMMITTEE

**Co-Chair:** Joanne Langley - *Halifax, NS*

**Co-Chair:** Charles Frenette - *Montréal, QC*

**Committee Members:**

- Alice Wong - *Saskatoon, SK*
- Allison McGeer - *Toronto, ON*
- Chelsey Ellis - *Moncton, NB*
- Christian Lavallée - *Montréal, QC*
- Deanna Hembroff - *Prince George, BC*
- Dominik Mertz - *Hamilton, ON*
- Elizabeth Ann Henderson - *Calgary, AB*
- Elizabeth Bryce - *Vancouver, BC*
- Geoffrey Taylor - *Edmonton, AB*
- Gerald A. Evans - *Kingston, ON*
- Gregory German - *Charlottetown, PE*
- Ian Davis - *Halifax, NS*
- Jerome Leis - *Toronto, ON*
- Jessica Minion - *Regina, MB*
- Joanne Embree - *Winnipeg, MB*
- Jocelyn Srigley - *Vancouver, BC*
- Johan Delpont - *London, ON*
- John Embil - *Winnipeg, MB*
- Joseph Vayalumkal - *Calgary, AB*
- Ka Wai Leung - *Sudbury, ON*
- Kathy Suh - *Ottawa, ON*
- Kevin Katz - *Toronto, ON*
- Marie-Astrid Lefebvre - *Montréal, QC*
- Natalie Bridger - *St. John's, NL*
- Nathalie Turgeon - *Québec, QC*
- Nisha Thampi - *Ottawa, ON*
- Pamela Kibsey - *Victoria, BC*
- Paula Stagg - *Corner Brook, NL*
- Susan Richardson - *Toronto, ON*
- Susy Hota - *Toronto, ON*
- Valerie Wood - *Kelowna, BC*
- Yves Longtin - *Montréal, QC*

We had a very successful meeting in October 2017, when all CNISP projects were reviewed and renewed. We welcome quite a few young AMMI Canada - CNISP members succeeding to long standing collaborators. Salient initiatives undertaken in the last few months include:

- Revision of the terms of reference for CNISP and CHEC membership have been approved by all stakeholders. We are currently in the process of choosing a new CHEC-CNISP co-chair.
- Revision of the MRSA/VRE surveillance programs to concentrate on blood stream infections, but as well to include MSSA – BSI.
- An initiative to collect yearly antibiogram data in participating hospitals, along with participation in the WHO Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS).
- Creation of a surveillance working group around an emerging infection, *C. auris*, with a survey of current practices that we hope to send to all AMMI Canada sites.
- The annual report on antimicrobial resistant organisms and hospital acquired infections based on 2012-2016 CNISP data should be released by the end of March by PHAC.
- A national point prevalence study on nosocomial infections was repeated in 2017 and will be presented at the 2018 annual conference. Data will be compared to the previous two surveys and to a new point prevalence survey done in non-CNISP community hospitals.
- Based on strategic planning at annual meeting, planning future, surveillance of nosocomial BSI on targeted units such as Hematology/Oncology, or the Dialysis units.
- The CDI working group is very active and has published the CNISP data correlating the evolution of strain types and rates of infection. A study on community acquired cases is on-going.
- The Carbapenemase Producing Organisms working group has done a survey of Laboratory and Infection Control practices of all Canadian hospitals.
- A survey of the emerging infection *M. chimaera* was completed and accepted for publication.
- The AMU group has finally reviewed AMU for the 2012-16 years and data will also be presented at 2018 annual conference.

Overall, four abstracts will be presented at the 2018 AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference and two manuscripts were accepted for publications. Finally, even though CNISP is a large venture of regrouping over 60 Canadian hospitals, we are attempting to expand participation to more AMMI Canada members and site. We would welcome any AMMI Canada members who would like to participate in AMMI Canada-CHEC to contact either Charles Frenette or Joanne Langley. Although some projects require funding, and funding is currently limited, many other projects and more limited versions of current projects are being studied; closer collaboration with IPAC Canada and CPSI has also been accomplished in the last year. ●

# EDUCATION AND CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Anupma Wadhwa - Toronto, ON

**Vice-Chair (accreditation):** Isabelle Chiu - Edmonton, AB

**Vice-Chair (education):** Joanne Salmon - Vancouver, BC

**Committee Members:**

Julie Carson - Calgary, AB

Yoko Schreiber - Aylmer, ON

Malika Sharma - Toronto, ON

Stephanie Smith - Edmonton, AB

Karen Doucette - Edmonton, AB

Karina Top - Halifax, NS

Vincent Deslandes - Ottawa, ON

Allison Mah - Vancouver, BC

Kathy Malejczyk - Regina, SK

Ashley Roberts - Vancouver, BC

Jennifer Tam - Vancouver, BC

Caroline Quach - Montréal, QC (Ex-Officio, President)

The existing membership and regions of Canada represented were reviewed, as well as the need for membership from our Members-in-Training and to balance the members' clinical specialties. Targeted requests were sent to individuals who were felt to be particularly well-suited for the committee. As a result, we now have 4 new enthusiastic members.

Joanne Salmon agreed to take on the role of Education and Continuing Professional Development Committee Vice-Chair (education).

We continue our ongoing training of committee members with respect to accreditation standards and creation of effective education offerings at our meetings. Review of how to accredit programs and an in-service on preparation of effective MCQ evaluations were done this year. Upcoming meetings will continue to include portions dedicated to this training.

Joanne Salmon and Riccarda Galioto attended the RCPSC annual CPD conference. Implementation of the new standards of education accreditation were discussed as was the RCPSC Competence by Design initiative.

Committee members have drafted a "National Curriculum Needs Assessment" Survey document that is being finalized and will be sent to the general membership (with focus on those involved in education) within the first half of the 2018.

Committee members have drafted and circulated a "National Mentorship Program" Survey document to membership involved in trainee education. The results will be used to promote discussion during a session at the AMMI Canada-CACMID Conference Trainees' Day 2018 and to start building a useful program.

A committee member has joined the Lyme disease Working Group in order to collaborate in the creation of education offerings instigated by the output of that group.

In collaboration with the Indigenous Health Committee, plans are underway to create a series of educational offerings. As of now, the first one is proposed to be piloted in conjunction with the 2018 AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference.

Plans for AMMI Canada re-accreditation with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada due November 2018 are underway.

## CPD ACTIVITIES ACCREDITED AND CO-DEVELOPED BY AMMI CANADA IN 2017:

**AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference 2017**

May 3-6, 2017 Sheraton Centre Toronto, Toronto, ON

**26th Annual Canadian Conference in HIV/AIDS Research – CAHR 2017**

April 6-9, 2017 Hôtel Bonaventure, Montréal, QC

**Quality Clinical Investigator Practices (QCIP) Training Program (accreditation renewal)**

**Integrated Symposium (part of the AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference 2017)**

- Current CMV treatment Options and Management Strategies (May 4)

**Workshops (part of the AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference 2017)**

- Changing Landscapes of STI Diagnosis in Canada (May 4)
- Management of MRSA/VRE Endocarditis in the Challenging Patient, a Case-based Discussion (May 5)
- Antimicrobial Stewardship: Rapid Phenotypic Antibiotic Susceptibilities in Management of Patients with Bacteremia (May 5) ●

# COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Daniel B. Gregson - *Calgary, AB*

**Committee members:**

Byron Berenger - *Calgary, AB*  
John Embil - *Winnipeg, MB*  
Gerald A. Evans - *Kingston, ON*  
Todd Hatchette - *Halifax, NS*  
Bayan Missaghi - *Calgary, AB*  
Glenn Patriquin - *Halifax, NS*  
Lynora Saxinger - *Edmonton, AB*  
Caroline Quach - *Montréal, QC (Ex-Officio President)*

The committee held two teleconferences in 2017, June 29 and December 7 and have communicated via email. The committee was unable to meet in the first part of 2018.

## THE COMMITTEE COMPLETED AND FINALIZED DECISIONS ON THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

1. The decision was made that recognition of members who receive national awards and in-memorandum notifications will be provided through the President's monthly update rather than other means.
2. A survey of membership indicated interest in returning to the quarterly newsletter as was previously provided by AMMI Canada. The cost for production exceeded those of what would be required for page publications in JAMMI our journal. Once the journal is on stable financial ground, this issue will be brought back to the committee for further discussion and development of an update section in the journal.
3. External committees now have their own page in the member section on the website. Reports will be uploaded to the page, as they become available following meetings, so that membership can be kept informed.
4. The website has been updated with drop down menus. The committee has made a recommendation that info graphics be developed for the public facing pages to provide a more user-friendly interface.

## FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE IN PROCESS:

1. A survey is in development to ascertain from members' how they use social media and to better understand memberships needs and to determine if Twitter is the best platform for AMMI Canada to be using.
2. Decisions are ongoing regarding policy and process of who to follow and what to "Tweet" or "Retweet". Maintaining a truly active Twitter account may require more resources than the office is currently able to dedicate to this.
3. Internal committees are to have their own secure discussion forums. This should be set up by the time of the annual meeting.
4. Once the secure discussion forums are set up, a system will be developed so that members can be notified (e.g.: text or email) that comments are being made and new discussions have been set up.
5. Discussions regarding which world health days to support, either through media releases or social media are ongoing. Once this is finalized the plan is to have a position statement on each world health topic that can be updated as needed and released to the media or "Tweeted" about on the appropriate day.
6. Dr. Gregson, will finish his term as Chair of the Communications and Public Relations Committee, in May 2018. Dr. Caroline Quach, will be become the Chair, for a two-year term. ●

# GUIDELINES COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Donald Vinh - Montréal, QC

**Committee Members:**

Rabia Ahmed - Edmonton, AB  
William Bowie - Vancouver, BC  
Isabelle Chiu - Edmonton, AB  
Jennifer Grant - Vancouver, BC  
Todd Lee - Montréal, QC  
Atreji Mukherji - Hamilton, ON  
Samir Patel - Toronto, ON  
Deana Sabuda - Calgary, AB  
Ranjani Somayaji - Calgary, AB  
Abdu Sharkawy - Toronto, ON  
Valerie Waters - Toronto, ON  
Caroline Quach - Montréal, QC (Ex-Officio President)

**Mandate of the Committee:** to oversee and guide the development and dissemination of guidelines and position statements on behalf of AMMI Canada.

**Committee Activities:** In September 2017, Dr. Donald Vinh transitioned to Chair of the Guidelines Committee, as the outgoing Chair, Dr. Gerald Evans, assumed the role of Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada (JAMMI). The Committee would like to recognize and thank Dr. Evans for his direction and contributions to this Committee since 2013.

Two meetings of the full committee have taken place: a face-to-face meeting during the annual conference in Toronto, ON, May 6 and a teleconference July 15. The committee started to review the results from 2016 guidelines needs assessment survey to determine next steps.

## STATUS OF GUIDELINES AND POSITION STATEMENTS

### Completed

1. Endorsement of "SHEA's Expert Guidance: Duration of Contact Precautions for Acute Care Settings."  
*Note: Dr Jennifer Grant AMMI Canada's liaison to SHEA was part of the development group.*
2. Review and approval of AMMI Canada Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance Committee (ASRC) position statement on "Asymptomatic bacteriuria"
3. Review and approval of AMMI Canada Paediatric Committee "Choosing Wisely Canada – Paediatric ID and MM – Top Four Declarative Statements"
4. Endorsement of "Canadian PrEP/nPEP guidelines".
5. Review and approval of AMMI Canada's "Guidance on Use of Antiviral Drugs given Potential Low Vaccine Effectiveness for the 2017-18 Influenza Season".
6. Review and approval of AMMI Canada's " Treatment Practice Guidelines for *Clostridium difficile* Infection"

### Documents in Development

1. Joint IDSA – AMMI Canada Guideline on the management of Lyme disease. (AMMI Canada Rep. Dr. William Bowie) – *In development; expected date of completion 2018*
2. Update on The Management of Chronic HCV: 2017 Consensus Guidelines in collaboration with CASL – *Final revision from author group completed. Awaiting Council endorsement.*
3. Position Statement on Direct to Consumer Advertising of Antimicrobials – Lead Jennifer Grant

### Proposed Documents not yet Underway

- Update on CAP – Leads G. German/R. Somayaji
- CMV Diagnostics – Lead D. Vinh
- Bartonella Diagnostics – Lead S. Patel/V. Waters
- Diagnostics of *C. difficile* – Lead TBD ●

# ASRC

## ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP AND RESISTANCE COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Andrew Morris - *Toronto, ON*

**Vice-Chair:** Edith Blondel-Hill - *Kelowna, BC*

### Committee Members:

Kim Abbass - *Sydney, NS*  
 John Conly - *Calgary, AB*  
 Bruce Dalton - *Calgary, AB*  
 Nick Daneman - *Toronto, ON*  
 Linda Dresser - *Toronto, ON*  
 Sergio Fanella - *Winnipeg, MB*  
 Gregory German - *Charlottetown, PE*  
 Jennifer Grant - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Yoav Keynan - *Winnipeg, MB*  
 Tim Lau - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Nicole Le Saux - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Jamie McDonald - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Caroline Nott - *Ottawa, ON*  
 David Patrick - *Vancouver, BC*  
 Yvonne Shevchuk - *Saskatoon, SK*  
 Genevieve Soucy - *Québec City, QC*  
 Daniel Thirion - *Montréal, QC*

The ASRC has had another busy year, continuing to develop the two high priority initiatives undertaken in 2016; to create an educational toolkit for an approach **to asymptomatic bacteriuria**, and a **business case** for healthcare leaders seeking funding for an antimicrobial stewardship program.

### ASYMPTOMATIC BACTERIURIA

The ASRC undertook to address the inappropriate use of antibiotics in asymptomatic bacteriuria. A working group of committee members was established (Kim Abbass, Gregory German, Tim Lau, Caroline Nott, David Patrick, Genevieve Soucy, and Edith Blondel-Hill (chair)). The group requested input from the AMMI Canada membership for an asymptomatic bacteriuria campaign catchphrase and came up with "Symptom-Free Pee - Let It Be". The working group also developed a bilingual tool kit for long term care facilities and healthcare professionals. The focus of the tool kit materials was a traffic sign theme of Stop/Wait/Go including the following materials:

- PowerPoint presentations in English and French on asymptomatic bacteriuria
- Posters outlining the major messages of the campaign
- Myths and Truths PowerPoint
- Myths and Truths handout
- Form letter to residents and family members
- Rehydration log

All materials are downloadable from the [AMMI Canada website](#) and were promoted during Antibiotic Awareness week by AMMI Canada, PHAC and NCCID.

The working group also wrote a Position Statement on Asymptomatic Bacteriuria which will be published in [JAMMI](#) in early 2018.

### BUSINESS CASE

The ASRC undertook to author a Business Case document package for Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs. The intent of this initiative was to facilitate healthcare leaders in acquiring the necessary resources from healthcare administrators to launch or improve their own antimicrobial stewardship programs. A working group of committee members was established (John Conly, Bruce Dalton, Nick Daneman, Linda Dresser, Sergio Fanella, Jennifer Grant, Yoav Keynan, Nicole Le Saux,

Jamie McDonald, Yvonne Shevchuk, Daniel Thirion and Andrew Morris (chair)). The toolkit consists of documents in an open source format in both English and French:

- A Business Case Proposal template for ASPs in Microsoft Word format
- A Business Case Financial Analysis for ASPs in Microsoft Excel format
- An accompanying FAQ to help get started

A short survey was created in 2017 to ask for feedback on the tools, so that updated, and revisions can be made to enhance the documents.

Dr Nicole Le Saux, wrote a [Blog for CMAJ](#) – Getting on top of antimicrobial resistance: how to make a business case for inpatient antimicrobial stewardship program.

Dr Andrew Morris participated in an NCCID Webinar: Making the Case for Stewardship – The AMMI Canada Business Case and Essentials for Program Establishment – [Archived Recording](#). Committee members, led by Dr. Nicole Le Saux and Bruce Dalton, published an article on the Business Case in the Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy. Another manuscript regarding the Business Case has been submitted for peer review.

### LEADERSHIP

Dr. Andrew Morris has completed 3 years as Chair of the AMMI Canada ASRC. He feels fortunate to have served on this committee whose members have achieved much in those 3 years. Because he has been asked to chair the SHEA Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee, it would be seen as a conflict if he continued to represent AMMI Canada. Accordingly, he is stepping down from his Chair Position. He will stay on as a member of the ASRC and hopes to forge stronger connections between AMMI Canada's and SHEA's antimicrobial stewardship committees. As of May 4, 2018, Dr. Edith Blondel-Hill will become the chair of the committee, with Dr Gregory German taking on the role of vice-chair. ●

# NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Daniel B. Gregson - *Calgary, AB*

**Committee Members:**

Jennifer Grant - *Vancouver, BC*

Deborah Yamamura - *Hamilton, ON*

The 2017-2018 Nominations Committee was appointed at the 2017 AMMI Canada Annual General Meeting. The committee was comprised of Past-President Daniel Gregson as Chair, and two members-at-large: Jennifer Grant (Vancouver, BC) and Deborah Yamamura (Hamilton, ON).

The committee held teleconferences and communicated by email in the fall of 2017 to identify positions that would be vacant following the 2018 Annual General Meeting and to recruit individuals who would be willing to serve.

The terms of office of the following Council Members will expire at the 2018 Annual General Meeting on Thursday, May 3, 2018.

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Dr. Caroline Quach     | <b>President</b>                                  |
| Dr. Susan Poutanen     | <b>Chair,<br/>Section of Medical Microbiology</b> |
| Dr. Jennifer Grant     | <b>Chair, Section of Infectious Diseases</b>      |
| Dr. Christian Lavallée | <b>Director</b>                                   |
| Dr. Stephen Sanche     | <b>Director</b>                                   |
| Dr. Yoko Schreiber     | <b>Director</b>                                   |
| Dr. Daniel Smyth       | <b>Director</b>                                   |

## PAST-PRESIDENT

The bylaws of AMMI Canada stipulate that the Director elected to hold the office of President-elect shall hold such office for a period of two (2) years immediately following which he or she shall automatically hold the office of President for an additional two (2) years for a total of a four-year term. Following this four (4) year term, the President shall serve an additional term of two (2) years as a Director and Past- President, subject to re-election by the Active Members.

Dr. Caroline Quach **Past-President**

The Committee recommends the following candidates who have agreed to stand for a second term of office to the AMMI Canada Board of Directors for the term 2018 – 2020:

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Dr. Susan Poutanen | <b>Chair,<br/>Section of Medical Microbiology</b> |
| Dr. Jennifer Grant | <b>Chair, Section of Infectious Diseases</b>      |
| Dr. Stephen Sanche | <b>Director</b>                                   |
| Dr. Yoko Schreiber | <b>Director</b>                                   |

The Committee recommends the following candidates who have allowed their names to stand for election to the AMMI Canada Board of Directors for the term 2018 – 2020:

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Dr. Sarah Forgie | <b>President-Elect</b> |
| Dr. Yves Longtin | <b>Director</b>        |
| Dr. Karina Top   | <b>Director</b>        |

The Nominating Committee's slate of candidates for AMMI Canada Council positions was sent to membership for review and consideration on January 23, 2018. At that time membership was provided the opportunity to nominate alternative candidates. The deadline for submitting alternate candidates passed with no additional nominations put forward. ●

# PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Isabelle Chiu - *Edmonton, AB*

**Vice-Chair:** Titus Wong - *Vancouver, BC*

**Committee Members:**

Edith Blondel-Hill - *Kelowna, BC*

William Connors - *Miami Beach, FL*

Gerald A. Evans - *Kingston, ON*

Todd Hatchette - *Halifax, NS*

Jennie Johnstone - *Toronto, ON*

Nancy Matic - *Toronto, ON*

Matthew Oughton - *Montréal, QC*

David Patrick - *Vancouver, BC*

Susan Poutanen - *Toronto, ON*

Earl Rubin - *Montréal, QC*

Anupma Wadhwa - *Toronto, ON*

Caroline Quach - *Montréal, QC (Ex-officio, President)*

Thanks to all those who attended, AMMI Canada enjoyed another very successful meeting this year in Toronto! It was a little cool and rainy in Toronto but that did not deter the 550 delegates who attended the conference. All were rewarded with a top notch scientific meeting as well as great culinary, arts and shopping experience that Toronto is famous for. Evaluations from conference attendees were very positive – citing high caliber speakers and relevant topics, giving the Conference another “thumbs up”. The Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel hosted our conference. It is ideally situated in downtown Toronto, which allowed conference attendees to explore the many restaurants, landmarks and entertainment venues nearby. Thank you to the delegates who stayed at the host hotel, enabling us to fill our room block, thus keeping our conference cost down, which benefits all of us.

As soon as the 2017 meeting wrapped up, members of your Program Planning Committee started planning the 2018 meeting, which will be back in Vancouver, BC May 2 – 5, 2018. Through the summer, fall and winter, the Committee held many teleconferences, exchanged numerous emails, volunteered countless hours to put the 2018 program together. As this report goes to press, we are still hard at work, putting the final touches on the co-developed symposium and workshops. I would like to welcome our new members to the Program Planning Committee and thank all our members (old and new) who work so tirelessly, donating their time so generously, to ensure every meeting is of the highest caliber.

Through collaboration with the Education and Continuing Professional Development Committee, we, once again, incorporated the findings from AMMI Canada’s Needs Assessment into the program planning process. We also listened to our attendees’ feedback. As a result, we believe we have developed a program that reflects the needs of our members and conference attendees of various backgrounds. There will be something for everyone – Public Health, Adult and Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Infection Control and Prevention, Clinical Microbiology, Laboratory Technologists, Bench Scientists, Trainees etc. There are many exciting topics this year that are a little “out of the box” but we are confident that you will find it timely and interesting.

The Conference will begin with the ever-popular Trainees’ Day and CCM Workshop on May 2, 2018. The formal program will start on May 3, 2018 and will feature three Plenary Sessions and three State of the Art Clinical Lectures. You can look forward to our first ever plenary on Indigenous Health and Infectious Diseases, followed by Clinical Controversies in Infectious Diseases and Diagnostic Microbiology the next day, which is co-developed with the Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases (CFID). The What’s Hot Plenary will round out the plenaries on Saturday May 5, 2018. We will feature speakers on Adult and Paediatric Infectious Diseases, Infection Control and Diagnostic Microbiology. The State of the Art lectures will feature a presentation from the Canadian Medical Protective Association on Medical-legal Pitfalls in Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology, offering tips to help clinicians and patients, as well as a lecture on Therapeutic Drug Monitoring.

We are excited to announce our first ever collaboration with the European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) during the 2018 conference! We have co-developed two sessions with ESCMID: A State of the Art Lecture on Point of Care Testing in Microbiology and a special lunch time presentation focusing on Highlights from the 2018 ECCMID conference! The Incubator has been a huge success the last two year, but we have decided to take a hiatus in 2018, to allow more time for all of you to “incubate” your ideas! Look for The Incubator’s return in 2019. This year’s Special Lecture is entitled “Inside Pandora’s Box: Stopping Probable Predatory Journals” – a very timely topic indeed, especially for AMMI Canada! Poster and oral presentations will continue, as will the ever-popular Clinical Vignettes, albeit with a new format.

Co-developed Integrated Symposia and workshops will round out the outstanding lineup of presentations this year, many of which will incorporate case studies, debates and panel discussions in their formats. There will also be time to reconnect with your colleagues from across the country and abroad at our Exhibit Hall, Welcome Reception and throughout the 4-day conference.

*Continued on page 16*

## PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

In addition to planning the AMMI Canada – CACMID Annual Conference, the Program Planning Committee is also responsible for co-developing programs with other physician organizations such as the Canadian Immunization Conference and the Canadian Association for HIV Research. There is definitely enough work to keep everyone on the Committee very busy!

I would like to thank those members of the Program Planning Committee as well as our counterparts at CACMID who have volunteered so much of their time to put together such a great meeting for you. Finally, none of our work would be possible if it weren't for the amazing team at the AMMI Canada Secretariat – thank you for keeping us on track – Riccarda, Paul and Melanie.

**See you all in Vancouver!** ●

# IHC INDIGENOUS HEALTH COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Yoko Schreiber - *Sioux Lookout/Ottawa, ON*

### Committee Members:

Alexandra King - *Saskatoon, SK*  
 Malcolm King - *Saskatoon, SK*  
 Michelle Mousseau Bailey - *Ottawa, ON*  
 Eli Nix - *Thunder Bay, ON*  
 Pam Orr - *Winnipeg, MB*  
 Kundle Sanyaolu - *Calgary, AB*  
 Bohdan Savaryn - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Malika Sharma - *Toronto, ON*  
 Stuart Skinner - *Regina, SK*  
 Shannon Turvey - *Edmonton, AB*  
 Marina Ulanova - *Thunder Bay, ON*  
 Wendy Wobeser - *Kingston, ON*  
 Tom Wong - *Ottawa, ON*

Over the last year, the Indigenous Health Working group has morphed into a formal AMMI Canada committee with its own Terms of Reference. This opens opportunities for collaboration with other committees, to ensure that issues specific to Indigenous Peoples are being considered and addressed in AMMI Canada's various activities. To date, members of the IHC have assisted the Scientific Planning Committee with this year's programme, represented AMMI Canada at discussions at the NRC on Haemophilus type a vaccine development, and have actively reached out to the broader community in order to diversify committee membership and ensure inclusion of Indigenous perspectives. One major project undertaken by the IHC in collaboration with the Education Committee is the development of a pilot module on Indigenous Health for the National Curriculum. This module will be presented at the annual conference for member feedback.

### SHORT TERM GOALS:

1. Continue to develop a process of consultation and engagement with Indigenous groups and leadership.
2. Identify opportunities within AMMI Canada where the IHC can contribute and raise awareness about the unique needs of Indigenous populations, specifically in the areas of antimicrobial stewardship, infectious diseases surveillance, and education.
3. Inclusion of members across Canada, specifically the Territories, Atlantic Provinces and British Columbia, recruitment of Members-in-Training, as well as representation of Indigenous Peoples on the committee. Interested members please contact the AMMI Canada secretariat. ●



# PAEDIATRIC COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Earl Rubin - Montréal, QC

## Committee Members

Julie Autmizguine - Montréal, QC  
 Ana Blanchard - Toronto, ON  
 Jeannette Comeau - Halifax, NS  
 Soren Gantt - Vancouver, BC  
 Marie-Astrid Lefebvre - Montréal, QC  
 Jane McDonald - Montréal, QC  
 Christian Renaud - Québec City, QC  
 Susan Richardson - Toronto, ON  
 Joan Robinson - Edmonton, AB  
 Otto Vanderkooi - Calgary, AB  
 Anu Wadhwa - Toronto, ON  
 Caroline Quach - Montréal, QC (Ex-Officio President)

The committee serve as a national resource for the members of AMMI Canada who are Paediatric Infectious Diseases Specialists and/or Microbiologists for the ongoing optimization of Continuing Medical Education as it pertains to paediatric topics; to follow the Royal College mandates as they pertain to training programs in Paediatric ID; to facilitate communication between Canadian Paediatric Infectious Disease and Microbiology specialists; to help publicize scientific advancement and contributions of our Canadian Paediatric Infectious Disease and Microbiology communities; to ensure adequate representation of the paediatric population on all AMMI Canada committees.

In 2016 the committee undertook to develop AMMI Canada paediatric specific Choosing Wisely Recommendation. After numerous teleconferences, emails and consultations with AMMI Canada membership, including a face to face meeting in Toronto May 6 the final 5 was decided on, approved by council and submitted to CWC. The committee encounter some struggles with one of Choosing Wisely Statements.

The controversy surrounded our statement that insisted on testing for Group A strep prior to starting antibiotics for a pharyngitis. Because this was contrary to practices in the family medicine community (they only use a score) and contrary to the CWC statement by the ER group that indicates not to treat uncomplicated pharyngitis, the CWC decided it was best to drop that statement.

On February 12th, 2018, at 10 am, Choosing Wisely Canada had the official release of the AMMI Canada Paediatric ID/Microbiology statements. In addition, CWC made Tweets/Posts:

**En:** *New #choosingwisely list released! @AMMICanada lists 4 things physicians and patients should question in #pediatric #InfectiousDiseases & Medical Microbiology!*

**Fr:** *Nouvelles recommandations #ChoisirAvecSoin de @AMMICanada en Microbiologie médicale et infectiologie #pédiatriques!*

As well, CWC has links to the list on their website that went live after 10am on Monday February 12th, with our list appearing at the top of the page:

En: <https://choosingwiselycanada.org/infectious-disepadase/>

Fr: <https://choisiravecsoin.org/infectiologie/>

In addition, AMMI Canada sent out a message to the AMMI Canada membership at large as well as tweeted.

The next step would be to discuss publishing the CWC, likely in JAMMI.

In terms of our next initiative, 4 proposed areas to explore were discussed and debated, (Approach to congenital CMV, Practical approach to work up and follow up for children receiving Biologic therapy, Approach and work up for myocarditis, and Approach to diagnosis of congenital infection). In the end, it was decided to start with Congenital infections. Soren Gantt volunteered to take the lead on this, and it was decided to make the working group multidisciplinary. To that end, the following people were approached by members of our Paediatric executive and agreed to participate:

Working group of AMMI Canada Paediatric Committee for the work up of Congenital infections:

Isabelle Boucoiran - OB/Gyn  
 Soren Gantt - ID (chair)  
 Fatima Kakkar - ID  
 Millan Patel - Genetics  
 Christian Renaud - ID/Micro  
 Joseph Ting - Neonatology

In 2017, the committee welcomed a Member-in-Training, Ana Blanchard to the committee. She is currently in her 3rd year of ID training at Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. She did her Paediatric residency at Hospital Ste. Justine, and her Medical school at McGill. ●

# ROYAL COLLEGE SPECIALTY NUCLEUS COMMITTEE IN MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY

**Chair:** David Haldane - *Halifax, NS*

**Vice-Chair:** Tony Mazzulli - *Toronto, ON*

**Committee members:**

Romina Reyes (*Region 1*)

Paul Van Caessele (*Region 2*)

Cheryl Main (*Region 3*)

Danielle Rouleau (*Region 4*)

Peter Daley (*Region 5*)

**Ex-officio members:**

Deborah Yamamura (*Chair, Examination Board in Medical Microbiology*)

Cheryl Main (*Chair, Specialty Committee in Infectious Diseases*)

Susan Poutanen (*National Specialty Society Liaison*)

The committee met once by teleconference (March 21st) and twice in face to face meetings (May 5 at the AMMI Canada meeting in Toronto and November 13 at the Royal College in November). David Haldane, as Chair, attended a workshop for Specialty Committee Chairs in November at the Royal College. The membership cycle of the nucleus committee has been put on a schedule to change in odd years. Tony Mazzulli will, however, become Chair in July 2018, as David Haldane has completed his term.

The Objectives of Training were completed and were updated to the CanMEDS 2015 format. The FITER was also completed, and the Specific Standards of Accreditation in its new format were endorsed. These documents are expected to become active after July 1, 2018. These new documents will help to prepare the specialty for the change to competence by design, scheduled in 2019. Many programs have started introducing competency committees. The Specialty Committee will be central to the process of change over to CBD, and through the NSS Representative, Susan Poutanen, will keep AMMI Canada executive informed of developments. There will be discussions with Dr Karpinski at the Royal College closer to the im-

plementation date about having the same Clinician Educator and Education Writer for both Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases as both specialties go through the process simultaneously.

The committee was involved in surveys of four programs this year: University of Laval, University of Ottawa, University of Alberta, and University of Calgary. There are now 12 programs across the country.

Deborah Yamamura continues in the position of Chair of the Examination Board in Medical Microbiology. The exams were held in May. One area that has been identified as needing more attention for residents is safety. In November, Makeda Semret completed her term as vice-chair of the Exam Committee, and Christian Lavallée will be taking her place. The format of the exam has changed with the practical component subsumed into the OSCE that is used to replace the Oral component. We are grateful for the work of the Chair, Vice-Chair and all the members of the Examination Board, for this important contribution to the specialty. ●

# ROYAL COLLEGE SPECIALTY NUCLEUS COMMITTEE IN INFECTIOUS DISEASE

**Chair:** Cheryl Main - *Hamilton, ON*

**Vice Chair:** William Ciccotelli - *Kitchener, ON*

**Committee Members:**

Alissa Wright (*Region 1*)

Yoav Keynan (*Region 2*)

Anu Wadhwa (*Region 3*)

Marty Teltscher (*Region 4*)

Daniel Smyth (*Region 5*)

The committee has had another busy year with one face to face meeting and lots of work going on behind the scenes. The updated Objectives of Training (OTR) almost completed and will align with the recently updated Specialty Training Requirements (STR) and Specific Standards of Accreditation (SSA). This updated document suite will be helpful to the specialty as we transition to competency based medical education (CBME). We additionally completed two adult regular survey reviews and one pediatric review in 2017.

The committee has undergone a few membership changes again this year. We would like to thank Marissa Becker for her contributions to the committee over two terms as the representation of Region 2. She stepped down from this role in the fall and Yoav Keynan from the University of Manitoba has moved in to fill the gap. We are also saying goodbye to Sharyon Smith, the Royal College administrator for the specialty committee, who will be retiring May 11, 2018. Sharyon has done an

excellent job keeping things organized for us and she will be missed. A new administrator will be in place before she retires.

The Infectious Disease Examination committee has a new acting chair, Louiselle LeBlanc, and vice chair, Nishma Singhal who were appointed in June. They will be directing the 2018 examination and filling these roles until Anu Wadhwa returns from parental leave. There have been no significant changes in exam development methodology for the 2017-2018 or 2018-2019 cycles. The 2017 psychometric review showed that all questions performed well with good discrimination indices.

The coming year poses a number of exciting challenges for the Infectious Diseases Specialty Committee, the most significant of these being the transition to CBME. The initial planning meetings will begin later this year with the official start of 2019. More details will follow in next year's report. ●

# INFECTIOUS DISEASE (ID) SECTION

I have now completed two exciting years as the ID representative for AMMI Canada. Twenty seventeen has been a productive year for infectious diseases in Canada and it has been interesting to follow developments in the revision of training requirements and the discussion of the upcoming conversion to Competence by Design training. That change is anticipated in 2019 as it is implemented. As representative to the SHEA guidelines committee I have also had the opportunity to coordinate an endorsement of the SHEA duration of

**Chair:** Jennifer Grant - *Vancouver, BC*

contact precautions document available at <https://www.shea-online.org/index.php/journal-news/website-highlights/560-shea-expert-guidance-duration-of-contact-precautions-for-acute-care-settings>. We have continued work on evaluation infection control in anesthesia and management of penicillin allergy. There are additional developments in stewardship, hospital epidemiology, guidelines and JAMMI, all of which will be discussed by the chair of those committees. I wish everybody the best for a wonderful 2018. ●

# MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY (MM) SECTION

**Chair:** Susan M. Poutanen - Toronto, ON

**Education/Training:** Effective July 1, 2018, Tony Mazzulli will be taking over for David Haldane as chair of the Royal College Specialty Committee in Medical Microbiology. The specialty committee is waiting for approval and release of revised *Objectives of training in Medical Microbiology, Subspecialty Training Requirements* and the *Final in-Training Evaluation Report* which are in the queue for final approval and implementation July 2018. The Examination Committee led by Debbie Yamamura reported that the separate laboratory practical component of the examination was eliminated in the 2017 exam and there were two unmanned stations. The short answer questions format remained. There were 19 candidates in 2017 and the pass rate was 89.5%; based on performance, the topic of "safety" was identified as an area of weakness. There will be no major changes to the exam format for 2018 but a rest station will be considered, and an answerless reviewer will challenge the exam and provide feedback of relevance to the committee. The implementation of a *Competence by Design* program for medical microbiology is scheduled to be in Cohort 6 expected to go live in July 2021. In order to prepare, workshops will be organized at the Royal College in 2019 for the Specialty Committee led by a clinician educator with the support of an education writer. Given the overlap in scope and practice between the Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Specialty Committees, consideration for combined Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases workshops or a common clinician educator and educator writer is being considered.

**Career/Employment Opportunities:** Job opportunities for both Medical and Clinical Microbiologists continue to be posted across the country.

**Choosing Wisely:** The Paediatric Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology Choosing Wisely Working Group created Choosing Wisely recommendations which were accepted and published online at <http://www.choosingwiselycanada.org> on January 2018.

**Canadian Nosocomial Infectious Surveillance Program (CNISP) Antibigram Working Group:** A CNISP working group focused on creating a national antibiogram using

existing antibiograms using existing CNISP participating hospital sites has been created and is headed by Greg German. For all existing CNISP sites, participation in the antibiogram project is encouraged.

**The Canadian Leadership Council on Laboratory Medicine (CLCLM) and the Canadian Alliance of Laboratory Medicine (CALM):** Andrew don Wauchope, the lead of CLCLM and CALM, was contacted requesting re-initiating sending invitations to AMMI Canada representatives, Tony Mazzulli and Paul van Caeselle, who previously represented AMMI Canada at CLCLM and CALM but have not been invited in recent years. CLCLM was organized by the RCPSC in 2011 to address issues such as quality management, workload, and new technologies and education within laboratory medicine. This is a broad-based group which includes many interested groups beyond just physicians practicing laboratory medicine. CALM was formed at the same time with the mandate to cooperate on issues of mutual interest in laboratory medicine, including but not limited to quality assurance, resources and education; to create working groups to address particular issues; and to advocate for Laboratory Medicine. Both groups meet at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Pathologists.

**Working Group Regarding Biosafety Practices related to Specimens with Query Prions in the Diagnostic Laboratories:** The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has a new process for updating guidance documents. A proposed plan to update their archived guidance related to biosafety practices related to specimens with query prion disease has been discussed with PHAC and a written proposal has been sent to PHAC for consideration. Upon approval, a call-out to interested AMMI Canada members will go out to invite interested members to participate in a prion working group to review documents and provide advice to PHAC.

**Online Forum/Email Listserv for Microbiology-related Q&A:** An online discussion forum open to all AMMI Canada Members has been discussed and approved at council and is in the process of being developed. ●

# MEMBERS- IN-TRAINING COMMITTEE

**Chair:** Nancy Matic - *Toronto, ON*

**Vice-Chair:** Lisa Li - *Vancouver, BC*

**Committee Members:**

Vincent Deslandes - *Ottawa, ON*

Eric Gaudreault - *Québec City, QC*

Clayton MacDonald - *Edmonton, AB*

Inna Sekirov - *Vancouver, BC*

William Stokes - *Calgary, AB*

Jennifer Tam - *Vancouver, BC*

Alejandra Ugarte - *Calgary, AB*

Joanne Salmon - *Vancouver, BC (Ex-Officio Education/CPDC Liaison)*

Isabelle Chiu - *Edmonton, AB (Ex-Officio Program Planning Committee)*

This committee is formed by enthusiastic Members-in-Training who represent residents and trainees in the Association and at the AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference.

Trainees' Day 2017 was held in Toronto, ON with record-breaking attendance. Sessions included: Navigating Relations with the Pharmaceutical Industry, Exploring Job Opportunities, Effective Large Group Presentations, and Academic Writing Skills. Feedback regarding the day was very positive and attendees in particular appreciated sessions with opportunities for interaction.

Due to large attendance numbers, a suggestion was made at Spring 2017 AMMI Canada Council Meeting to introduce a fee for any non-members-in-training wishing to attend Trainees' Day. The Central Planning Committee proposed a fee of \$100 for all non-members-in-training. 2018 is the first year that this fee will come into effect.

Looking forward to 2018 Annual Conference, a call to membership was made and a total of eight (8) Members-in-Training

were named on this year's committee. A large teleconference took place on Sept 27, 2017 to brainstorm topics for Trainees' Day 2018 and form working groups. A follow-up teleconference for all working groups occurred on October 26, 2017, confirming the sessions for this year will be: Research Productivity in Residency, Career Advice Break-Out Sessions, and Mentorship is a Two-Way Street. Several working groups had additional teleconferences in October and November 2017 to further discuss details. In November 2017, Lisa Li (Vancouver, BC) was ratified as Vice-Chair of the committee. Currently, all speakers have been confirmed and we are looking forward to an innovative, interactive Trainees' Day 2018.

We are grateful for all AMMI Canada staff and Members-in-Training who have helped plan this year's conference, and to those who have served as speakers at Trainees' Day.

**Good luck to all trainees writing their certification exams this year! ●**

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Andrew E. Simor – Toronto, ON

The 2017 AMMI Canada budget has been finalized and reviewed by our auditor. The year-end budget closed with a deficit of \$93,227, and net assets of \$923,106.

Most of the revenues in the past year came from membership dues (\$110,385) and from revenues generated from the annual joint AMMI Canada /CACMID conference (\$477,688).

The major reason for the budgetary deficit in 2017 is attributable to ongoing decreased net income derived from the annual conference held in Toronto (\$121,229 this past year, as compared to \$159,508 in 2016, and \$219,973 in 2015). The primary reason for this shortfall is due to decreased income from corporate sponsorships (only \$195,000 this past year, as compared to \$290,435 in 2016). Some of the loss in revenues from decreased sponsorship was offset by increased revenue from higher registration fees. It is clear that there will be fewer opportunities for generating conference income from sponsorship fees for the foreseeable future, and this will need to be taken into account when planning future conference budgets.

The University of Toronto Press (UTP) has begun to publish our Association's journal, Journal of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada (JAMMI). However, there were legal costs and start-up and republication expenses in the past year associated with the launch of our journal. It may take a few years before the Association's journal becomes cost-neutral or generates net revenues.

There have recently been changes at the Association's Secretariat that have increased expenses. In recognition of her skills, expertise, and evolving role profile, Riccarda Galioto has been promoted to the position of Executive Director (with an associated increase in her salary and benefits). In the past year the Secretariat also recruited Melanie Desjardins as an Executive Assistant and Committee Coordinator.

Although the current deficit will be covered by funds coming from the Association's assets (investments), it is of great concern that this is the second year in a row with an operating deficit. Clearly, we cannot continue to operate each year with an operating deficit, and the Association's Council will have to make important decisions about how best to contain expenses if there is no increase in revenues generated. ●



# FROUIN GROUP

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON 2017 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 and cash flows are derived from the complete financial statements of the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada (AMMI Canada) as at December 31, 2017 and for the year then ended on which we expressed an opinion without reservation in our report dated April 4, 2018. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guidelines of the Canadian Auditing Standards, 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 accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes. For more information related to the organization's financial position, results of operations and cash flows, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.



**Frouin Group Professional Corporation**  
Licensed Public Accountants

Ottawa, Ontario  
April 6, 2018



**FROUIN GROUP PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION**  
**CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS**  
2301 Carling Avenue, Suite 101, Ottawa, ON K2B 7G3  
Tel: 613-230-1022 Fax: 613-230-2954

## ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE CANADA (AMMI CANADA)

### SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	\$ 163,385	\$ 89,406
Investments	693,767	782,257
Accounts receivable	817	20,926
Other assets	65,137	53,349
	<b>\$ 923,106</b>	<b>\$ 945,938</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 31,498	\$ 34,150
Deferred revenue and deferred contributions	208,688	135,641
	<b>240,186</b>	<b>169,791</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Internally restricted and invested in capital assets	372,099	378,905
Unrestricted	310,821	397,242
	<b>682,920</b>	<b>776,147</b>
	<b>\$ 923,106</b>	<b>\$ 945,938</b>

### SUMMARIZED STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Fellowship	\$ 0	\$ 70,000
Membership dues	110,385	90,633
Conference	477,668	526,400
Accreditation	11,755	39,088
Other	11,740	35,856
JAMMI/CJIDMM and advertising	28,302	5,945
	<b>639,850</b>	<b>767,922</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Accreditation	10,505	20,997
Awards	5,585	8,652
JAMMI/CJIDMM	31,260	41,645
Conference	356,439	366,892
Fellowship	0	70,000
Meetings	41,590	47,189
Office administration	44,269	46,603
Professional fees	18,660	32,462
Rent & services	29,356	29,516
Salaries and benefits	188,207	154,400
Travel	7,206	4,424
	<b>733,077</b>	<b>822,780</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>\$ (93,227)</b>	<b>\$ (54,858)</b>

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2017	2016
Provided by (used in) operating activities	\$ (14,510)	\$ (130,034)
Investing activities	88,489	(10,176)
Cash, beginning of year	89,406	229,616
<b>CASH, END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 163,385</b>	<b>\$ 89,406</b>