

# PICNet

## Provincial Infection Control Network – BC “Debugging Healthcare Together!”

### PICNet Launches New Web Site

PICNet is very pleased to announce the launch of our new web site, at [www.picnetbc.ca](http://www.picnetbc.ca). This web site has come together through the hard work of our Communications Leadership Group, the helpful staff at Xplorex Systems, and the PICNet management office. Thank-you to all involved in the February 20<sup>th</sup> launching of the new site! Please have a look at the new site, and explore the new features and functionality. This is a living and evolving web site, and we welcome any thoughts or suggestions as to how we can keep it fresh, up-to-date and relevant for our community of practice.

### Congratulations to PICNet Working Group Awardees

Congratulations is in order for a number of PICNet working group members who have been recognized by their peers as making a significant contribution towards PICNet activities in 2006-2007. In recognition of the work these individuals have performed, PICNet is pleased to offer a one-time scholarship for up to \$2000.00 for education/training materials and/or transportation, registration fees, accommodation, per diem and approved incidental costs to attend an educational/training conference of their choice. Peer-elected individuals include:

- ◆ Respiratory Outbreak Guidelines Working Group – Larry Gustafson/Maureen Mayhew, and Martin Petric
- ◆ Communication Leadership Group - Janice Deheer and Cathy Munford
- ◆ CDAD Working Group - Leslie Forrester and Bonnie Henry
- ◆ SSI Surveillance Working Group - Felicia Laing and Fred Roberts
- ◆ NAWG - Part 2 - Colleen Hawes and Elizabeth Bryce
- ◆ Steering Committee - Joanne Archer and Judy Isaac-Renton

### PICNet’s 2007 Educational Conference May 3-4, 2007

Thanks to the hard work of PICNet’s Conference Planning committee, preparations are well-underway for PICNet’s 2007 Educational Conference, to be held May 3-4, 2007 at the Radisson Hotel in Richmond, BC. This two-day event will include updates and highlights of the various activities and advances of PICNet’s working groups, as well as two afternoons of educational

workshops focused on surveillance and construction. As part of our efforts to make this educational conference accessible to our community of practice from across the province, there are no registration fees for this conference. Hotel accommodation, transportation, and incidentals, however, are the responsibility of the delegate. Breakfast and lunch will be included for both days of this event.

For the conference announcement, preliminary agenda, and registration form, please visit PICNet's new web site at <http://picnetbc.ca/page204.htm>

### **Call for Posters or Table Displays: "Showcasing Excellence"**

Across the province, people working in infection prevention and control are undertaking many new and innovative programs and projects. As part of PICNet's 2007 Educational Conference, we invite you to share these innovative approaches with the wider community of practice through a poster or table display at the conference.

The deadline for submitting a "Showcasing Excellence" display proposal is March 31, 2007. For further details, please contact [picnet@bccdc.ca](mailto:picnet@bccdc.ca)

### **Another Reminder to Please Submit All Travel Claims**

We are rapidly approaching the end of our fiscal year, and would like to remind all working group participants with outstanding travel claims to please submit your claims along with all original receipts to our Management Office as soon as possible. PICNet's travel claim template and instructions can be found on our new web site at: <http://picnetbc.ca/page193.htm>

Completed forms and original receipts should be mailed to:

Attn: Sarah Pugh  
Room 2083  
655 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, BC  
V5Z 4R4

### **Office of the Auditor General's Report on Infection Prevention and Control**

The release of the Auditor General's report on infection prevention and control in British Columbia is expected sometime in early to mid-March. PICNet has been busily working to coordinate our response to the report, in line with our communications plan, and in conjunction with our Steering Committee, our Communications Leadership Group, and the Ministry of Health. PICNet's response to the report, once released, will be posted on our new web site.

### **Antibiotic Resistant Organism Working Group: An Update**

The ARO Guidelines Working Group will meet for the first time on March 5th. This large and diverse group will be taking on the project of revising and updating the existing provincial guidelines

for the prevention and control of antibiotic resistant organisms in healthcare settings. At the first meeting the group will be confirming the scope of this project and setting timelines for its completion. Bruce Gamage, Infection Control Consultant, has agreed to lead this project.

### **Clostridium difficile Working Group: An Update**

The CDAD surveillance working group met for the first time on February 1st. At that meeting the group reviewed the goals and objectives of the project and set some timelines. The major goal for this group is to create the first province-wide surveillance report on CDAD by the end of 2007. In order to reach this goal the group will be working with the six Health Authorities to establish data sharing agreements with PICNet to allow them to share aggregate data on CDAD cases. The second milestone will be the development of a web-based IMIT system to allow secure, two-way transfer of data, as well as data storage, analysis and reporting. PICNet has contracted an IMIT consultant, Praveen Johal, to help us move this project forward. We are pleased to announce that Leslie Forrester, Hospital Epidemiologist for Vancouver Coastal, has agreed to lead this project.

### **PICNet's Ad Hoc International Planning Committee: An Update**

The first meeting of the Ad Hoc International Planning Committee took place on February 9<sup>th</sup>. This group is working towards establishing its terms of reference and the scope and direction of an international infection control related initiative through PICNet. Currently, the group is exploring opportunities for international partnerships, and will meet again in mid-March to move the planning forward.

### **Communications Leadership Group: An Update and call-out for new members**

The Communications Leadership group met by teleconference on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The web site was reviewed one final time before the official launch date, and a number of new policies and procedures relating to the maintenance and review of the web site was approved by this group. The CLG also reviewed some of the key communications materials being prepared for the release of the Auditor General's report on infection prevention and control in the province.

The CLG also voted to recruit new individuals to be a part of this important PICNet working group. If you are interested in joining the CLG team, please contact the PICNet Management Office at [picnet@bccdc.ca](mailto:picnet@bccdc.ca)

### **Needs Assessment Working Group: An Update**

We are pleased to announce that PICNet's "An Assessment of Infection Control Activities Across the Province of British Columbia" (2006) will shortly be posted to PICNet's new web site. The "Needs Assessment" research was undertaken between November 2005 and March 2006, and the report is the result of many months of research, writing, and cooperative effort.

As a follow-up on this document, the Needs Assessment Working Group identified some next steps in moving forward with addressing some of the key issues identified in the report. Part Two of the Needs Assessment work, entitled "Framework for Staffing and Training, Infection Control Programs," explores

staffing ratios and education and training for infection prevention and control in BC. This report will also soon be posted to PICNet's web site at [www.picnetbc.ca](http://www.picnetbc.ca)

### **Surgical Site Infections Surveillance – An Update**

The Surveillance of Health Care Associated Infection Program for British Columbia (SHAIP-BC) proposal, included in the SSI Surveillance Working Group's Strategic Plan and Options Paper Report is currently with the Ministry of Health for review. We are presently awaiting a response to the proposal.

### **Respiratory Outbreak Prevention and Control Guidelines – An Update**

PICNet's new Respiratory Outbreak Prevention and Control Guidelines are now posted online at [www.picnetbc.ca](http://www.picnetbc.ca). PICNet is currently inviting comments and feedback relating to these guidelines, with a deadline of March 31, 2007. Please forward your feedback to [picnet@bccdc.ca](mailto:picnet@bccdc.ca). Once again, many thanks to everyone involved in this successful endeavour.

### **Webber Training debrief**

Since February 2006 PICNet has hosted educational classes offered by Webber Training (<http://webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php>). These classes address topics of interest to infection control professionals and other health care professionals worldwide. The chart below provides an overview of the upcoming teleclasses in the month of March.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Topic of Interest:</b>	<b>Presenter:</b>
<b>March 6, 2007</b>	<b>(British Teleclass) Tuberculosis in the Modern Age</b>	Evonne Curran, Health Protection Scotland
<b>March 8, 2007</b>	<b>Voices of CHICA</b>	CHICA-Canada Board and Guests
<b>March 22, 2007</b>	<b>A Year of Cleaner, Safer Care – A Worldwide Experience</b>	Dr. Didier Pitter, WHO, Geneva
<b>March 29, 2007</b>	<b>Environmental Control Strategies for C. difficile</b>	Dr. Lynne Schulster, CDC

## Upcoming PICNet Meetings

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>
ARO Working Group	March 5
Steering Committee	March 6
2007 Educational Conference Planning Committee	March 7
CDAD Working Group	March 9
Communications Leadership Group	March 14
Ad-Hoc International Planning Committee	March 15

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