

# PICNet

## Provincial Infection Control Network - BC

Hello Everyone,

### **Third Stakeholder Summit**

I'm pleased to announce the date for the Third Stakeholder Summit. It will be held on **June 21, 2006**, so mark your calendars today!

### **Provincial Medical Services Committee**

On January 12th, PICNet presented an update to the Provincial Medical Services Committee (PMSC) (this is the committee that PICNet is externally accountable to). We are pleased to announce that PICNet's governance model was endorsed by PMSC and PICNet was congratulated on all the excellent work that it has done to date. For more information on PICNet's governance model (etc) please visit the website at: [www.picnetbc.ca](http://www.picnetbc.ca) and look at the details under Second Stakeholder Summit.

### **Webber Tele-classes**

The Provincial Infection Control Network (PICNet) is pleased to invite our community of practice in B.C. to participate in a series of tele-class educational classes offered by Webber Training (<http://webbertraining.com/schedulep1.php>). These classes address topics of interest to infection control professionals and other healthcare professionals worldwide. If you would like to participate we ask you to elect a lead from within your organization. This lead should identify group members and email this list to [PICNET@bccdc.ca](mailto:PICNET@bccdc.ca). The leads will then be notified of all upcoming tele-class sessions and are in turn responsible for notifying their group members. Each group will be assigned one line which will ensure improved sound quality by reducing the amount of single participants dialing in and will also allow more participants to join as the amount of lines available are minimal.

### **Needs Assessment Project Update**

#### **Standards/Policies/Guidelines/Educational Materials, etc**

Working with key personnel within each Health Authority we have been inventorying existing standards, policies, guidelines, reporting, and educational materials related to infection control in each region. These materials are being collected on behalf of PICNet by our consultant Christopher Corbett of CSCW. The materials are also being made available as a local, confidential, web based resource for use by health care workers involved in providing education and guidance regarding infection control practices<sup>1</sup>. This activity is taking place in parallel in each health region in the province<sup>2</sup>.

#### **Surveillance Activities**

In order to identify what health care associated infection surveillance activities are underway in the province, we are also in touch with key contacts across the province to gather this information. Presently we are restricting the focus to acute care facilities, their associates and directly funded long term care

<sup>1</sup> Regional summaries of the information CSCW has collected are available by contacting [corbett@cscw.ca](mailto:corbett@cscw.ca)

<sup>2</sup> As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006, upon expiry of PICNet's agreement with CSCW, the infection control materials contained within P2P are to be made available in electronic form to the contributing regions, upon their request. The content is to be provided in a standard database output such as tab delimited or comma delimited form and provided on a recorded DVD.

facilities. To be clear, at no point does PICNet seek or require any patient and/or professional names (i.e. case/nominal data). The information we're requesting for this needs assessment is really summary data in the area of surveillance activities. For instance, PICNet wishes to know whether an organization performs surveillance in a specific area, but does not wish to receive specific data/results from the surveillance activities themselves. The intent being to provide a "snap shot" of what surveillance activities are underway across the province.

### **Resources**

Finally, PICNet has initiated the gathering of resource information. Three separate questionnaires have been developed for the areas of occupational health, public health and infection control. The occupational and public health questionnaires are to be completed via telephone interviews with key stakeholders from across the province. The infection control questionnaire is available on-line<sup>3</sup> or via paper copy for individuals to complete. The focus of this area is to provide a high level overview for what human and fiscal resources are being dedicated to the area of healthcare associated infections.

The individual and collective regional information will be reviewed and analyzed by the PICNet Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) and a final report<sup>4</sup> will be prepared and tabled with the PICNet Steering Committee and the Provincial Medical Services Committee (PMSC) prior to wider dissemination in the spring of 2006. We expect that this needs assessment will provide PICNet and the Health Authorities with a valuable picture relating to the status of infection control activities within the province and will compliment the current review by the Auditor General.

We thank you for your cooperation with making this a comprehensive multi-disciplinary and province wide needs assessment.

### **Public Health Agency of Canada**

Attached you will find a list of guidelines that Denise Gravel, A/Manager of the Nosocomial and Occupational Infections Section, at the the Public Health Agency of Canada, informs us they are currently working on and/or have completed. (Note: the titles may not be completely accurate)

- Guidelines for the prevention of hospital acquired pneumonia
- Guidelines for the cleaning, disinfection and sterilization of flexible endoscopes
- Guidelines for classic and variant CJD
- Position paper on infection control resources
- Revision to the guideline for routine practices and additional precautions in the health care settings
- Revision to the guideline on sterilization and disinfection in the health care settings will be our next project

Additional information on the guidelines that are currently available is found on the following website:  
[http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/dpg\\_e.html#infection](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/dpg_e.html#infection)

If you have any questions on any of the information discussed above, please feel free to contact:

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<sup>3</sup> All individuals completing the online questionnaire are encouraged to keep a paper copy for their files.

<sup>4</sup> All personal/organizational identifiers from data will be removed prior to viewing by the NAWG.