

PICNet

Provincial Infection Control Network - BC

Hello Everyone,

It was great to see so many of our stakeholders at the third stakeholder summit held on June 21st. We had 65 attendees and the presentations, questions, and breakout group discussions have generated a lot of useful guidance to take PICNet forward in the following year. Our thanks to all who attended.

Third Stakeholder Summit Report – “Full Steam Ahead”

The goal of the summit was: “To enable PICNet’s community of practice to gain an understanding of the activities underway within PICNet and engage in the development and implementation of future priorities.”

The objectives are as follows:

- To provide highlights of PICNet’s progress to-date
- To review PICNet’s structure and processes in support of its mandate and direction
- To initiate the development of deliverables as they relate to PICNet’s key themes
- To showcase recent infection control initiatives within British Columbia

A complete report of the summit is available on the PICNet web site at www.picnetbc.ca. All presentations are also available for download.

Evaluations for the summit have been collected and analyzed. Of those who responded 87% scored 4 or 5 out of 5 on all questions. A summary of the evaluations and comments received are posted to the web site.

Needs Assessment Project Update

The results of the needs assessment survey were presented at the stakeholders summit for the attendees input and validation. The final report of the needs assessment working group will include the feedback from the sessions. The next steps will be to propose the formation of working groups to address the main themes arising from the needs assessment. These proposals will be taken forward to the PICNet priority and Planning committee for consideration this summer.

Seasonal Febrile Respiratory Illness Outbreak Prevention and Control Guidelines

PICNet stakeholders have identified as a priority strategic planning for the prevention and control of febrile respiratory illnesses (FRI). Valerie Schall, a graduate student in the faculty of Health Care and Epidemiology at UBC, has been reviewing guidelines related to the control of respiratory outbreaks collected from all of the regions of British Columbia, as well as expert advisory reports, epidemiology reports and current literature. She is now inviting experts, decision-makers and stakeholders in Public Health, Occupational Health and Infection Control, to take part in a working group to develop the guidelines. The main goal is that these guidelines will reflect a collaborative and integrated consensus of evidence-informed practices related to the prevention and control of respiratory outbreaks for British Columbia.

If you would like to participate in this working group, please contact Bruce Gamage (bruce.gamage@bccdc.ca) or Valerie Schall (valerie.schall@bccdc.ca) as soon as possible. The first meeting is planned for mid July.

Webber Training Debrief

Since February 2006 the Provincial Infection Control Network of BC (PICNet – BC) 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 healthcare professionals worldwide. The charts below list the topics of interest, the outlines, the name and affiliation of the presenters, for the upcoming teleclasses in the month of July.

July

Date:	Topic of Interest:	Teleclass Outline:	Presenter:
July 18th, 2006	Surveillance Strategies in the UK	This teleclass will explore the status of infectious disease surveillance in British healthcare facilities, and future plans.	Dr. Alan Johnson, Surveillance Unit, Health Protection Agency
July 27th, 2006	Dermal Absorption of Alcohol Hand Disinfectants - Cultural and Safety Implications		Prof. Axel Kramer, University of Greifswald, Germany

Upcoming PICNet Meetings

	July	August	September
Steering Committee			September 12
Surgical Site Surveillance WG			TBA
Priority and Planning Committee	July 27	August 24	

Surgical Site Infections Surveillance Working Group

This small but active group will be working to put together a report on their findings and recommendations by the end of the year. The presentation by the co-chairs given at the stakeholders summit June 21st is available on the PICNet website.

Communications Leadership Group

Thank you very much to the following PICNet members who have volunteered to sit on the PICNet Communications leadership group:

Terry Dickson
Cathy Munford
Diane Moran
Deanna Hembroff
Janice Deheer

As was mentioned at the Stakeholders Summit, this is not an "ad hoc" working group, but a standing PICNet Committee under the Management Office. The responsibilities include policy development and leadership to the PICNet Management Office with regards to communications priorities and activities. This group will be meeting this month to begin the vital work of reviewing and updating the PICNet web site.

New Opportunities within PICNet

The PICNet management office is looking for a volunteer to participate on an HR committee. This group will assist in the selection of staff/contractors engaged by PICNet. Anyone interested should contact Margaret Litt at Margaret.litt@bccdc.ca.

The PICNet Management office is also actively looking for an energetic person to take on the position of Administrative Officer (the job description is posted on our website at <http://www.picnetbc.ca/index.php?sc=6&id=4>). Our current officer, Johanna Ledesma, will be returning to Nursing School at the end of the summer. Please forward the job description to anyone who may be interested in this position.

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