2009 Annual Report
Who we are

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

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

Our core values

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

Executive

President: Gerald A. Evans
President Elect: Lynn Johnston
Past President: Michel Laverdière
Secretary: Sarah Forgé
Treasurer: Baldwin Toye
Medical Microbiology Section Chair: Michelle Alfa
Infectious Diseases Section Chair: Neil Rau

Councillors

Marissa Becker
François Coutlée
Todd Hatchette
Anne Opavsky
Mel Krajden
Michael Libman
## Committees

### Chairs and Co-Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nominations</td>
<td>Michel Laverdière</td>
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<td>Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance</td>
<td>Lynora Saxinger</td>
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<td>Canadian Hospital Epidemiology</td>
<td>Elizabeth Bryce, Virginia Roth, Andrew Simor (until July 2009)</td>
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<td>Gerald A. Evans</td>
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<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Baldwin Toye</td>
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<td>Christina Greenaway</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guidelines</td>
<td>Ethan Rubinstein, Conrad Liles Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Planning</td>
<td>A. Mark Joffe, Kevin Forward</td>
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### Liaison Representatives:

- **Infectious Diseases:** Lynn Johnston
- **Medical Microbiology:** Fiona Smail

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The Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada

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President’s Report

Gerald A. Evans – Kingston ON

This will be my final report as President of AMMI Canada as we move toward our annual conference in May 2010 when Dr. Lynn Johnston from Halifax will assume the leadership of our specialty society. It has been a great privilege for me to serve as President of AMMI Canada these last 2 years. AMMI Canada continues to build upon the work of many members and former Presidents of AMMI Canada, CIDS and CAMM, the latter being the founding societies that came together to form AMMI Canada in 2004.

The last two years have seen new developments in our professional association and a continued drive to define the role of AMMI Canada to its members and to the health of Canadians. We have re-defined our relationship with the Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases, which is working on its new role as an advocacy group and lobbyist for ID issues in Canada. We are in the final stages of developing an improved website, which we hope will better serve the needs of AMMI Canada members and serve as an important tool for the outside world to learn who we are and what we do. We are at the forefront of educational accreditation for specialists in Canada with our annual conference this year serving as a pilot for streamlining the addition of RCPSC credits to registered attendees. We are embarking on a new 5-year strategic plan for AMMI Canada to continue the work done previously by past councils.

Recognition by PHAC and the public of our contributions to the management of pH1N1 influenza has also been gratifying. Many AMMI Canada members contributed their expertise and time to advising PHAC and informing the public about the science and medical management of pH1N1 influenza.

Other major initiatives that have come to fruition over the last 2 years include the formation of a Human Health Resources Committee led by the ID and Microbiology Section Heads to help inform AMMI Canada about the present and future human resource needs for Infectious Disease clinicians, Medical and Clinical microbiologists. These needs are very important to AMMI Canada members and are an important part of our RCPSC accreditation. Both the Infectious Disease and Medical Microbiology specialty committees are dealing with focused reviews of their respective accreditation standards, training and evaluation mandated by the Committee on Specialties. A reinvigoration of the Canadian Journal of Infectious Disease and Medical Microbiology (CJIDMM) under Dr. John Conly’s editorship continues to see progress in increasing high quality submissions to the journal as well as online publications to meet the needs of contributors and the vagaries of printed publications in the era of declining advertising revenues.

I encourage all AMMI Canada members to consider publication of their work in CJIDMM. Finally, we have now developed a communication and public relations plan, which I think will move forward an important objective of our strategic plan to improve the visibility and recognition of AMMI Canada and its members to the public and decision makers. Increasing our opportunities to work with IDSA in the area of guidelines is continuing and hopefully will come to fruition in the next few years.

In other news a number of AMMI Canada Standing Committees will or have been given new chairs including: Education (Dr. Sarah Forgie), Guidelines (Dr. Ethan Rubinstein), CHEC (Drs. Elizabeth Bryce & Virginia Roth) and the re-named Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance Committee (Dr. Lynora Saxinger). I welcome all the new chairs to their roles and wish them much success during their terms. A new AMMI Canada Council member, Dr. Cécile Tremblay has been appointed to replace retiring councilor, Dr. François Coutlée.

I would be amiss if I did not mention that in some areas we as a society continue to face challenges. Our financial wellbeing continues to rely on the success of our annual conference and given that our expectations for the 2009 annual conference held in association with the ICC in Toronto were not realized, we will need to develop other revenue streams and encourage attendance at our annual conference to improve the financial health of AMMI Canada. Having said that, we have seen success with increasing our revenue from educational accreditation activities and through the reduction in administrative costs at the AMMI Canada secretariat. And, we have a healthy cash balance that should help us through any brief 1-2 down years. The latter is due to the awesome work of ourSkys Treasurer, Dr. Baldwin Toye from Ottawa. I have been most fortunate to have the wise (and financially conservative) counsel of Baldwin during my tenure as AMMI Canada President. He passes the Treasurer’s torch (couldn’t miss the opportunity to throw in an Olympic reference) to Dr. Mel Krajden from Vancouver this year at our AGM.

In closing, I would like to offer my thanks and recognition to all AMMI Canada members. If not for the dedication of its members, AMMI Canada would not be as successful as it is. It has been my honour to serve as President and I urge you to support Lynn during her upcoming Presidentcy.

Please remember to join all our colleagues at the annual 2010 AMMI Canada-CACMID Annual Conference in Edmonton from May 5-8th. The planning committee led by Drs. Mark Joffe and Kevin Forward have put together an exciting and first-rate program in a venue that will serve to highlight a pleasant Canadian mid-spring in a vibrant and exciting city.
Secretary’s Report
Sarah Forgie – Edmonton AB

2009 was another successful year in membership enrolment for AMMI Canada. Members continue to hail from all geographic regions of Canada in pediatric and adult infectious diseases and medical microbiology. Of our 550 members, 78% are Active Members and 15% are trainees in the Associate category. We have seven sustaining members representing various organizations. Please join the council in welcoming our new active members including those who recently completed their training and advanced from associate to active membership. We wish our colleagues Drs. Franklin Jagdis and Kenneth Wagner all the best in their retirement.
Gerald A. Evans – Kingston ON
Lynn Johnston – Halifax NS

The financial health of AMMI Canada was maintained in 2009 despite concerns about the impact of meeting conjointly with the International Society of Chemotherapy and the global recession’s effect on our Annual Conference, which remains our Association’s major source of funds for its operations. For the third straight calendar year, our revenues have exceeded our expenditures, resulting in needed stability in our financial reserves. This would not have been possible without the strong effort of AMMI Canada Council and the secretariat staff in setting priorities and controlling conference/secretariat expenses. Accreditation activities continue to be an important and growing source of revenue which should more than off-set the reduced revenue associated with fewer issues of the Canadian Journal of Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology being published annually.

On a personal note, this will be my last report as Treasurer as my second 3-year term is coming to an end. It has been a privilege to serve AMMI Canada in this capacity and to work with the many talented members of AMMI Canada Council and the secretariat staff. It is hoped that the current financial resources will enable AMMI Canada to appropriately implement its priorities for the coming years.
New Active Members
Brophy, Jason Ottawa ON
Evans, David H. Edmonton AB
Hota, Susy Toronto ON
Martinez-Cajas, Jorge-Luis Kingston ON
Sabuda, Deana Calgary AB

New Associate Members
Al-Maani, Amal Toronto ON
Autmizguine, Julie Montréal QC
Bowman, Michael G. Edmonton AB
Bridge, Michelle Toronto ON
Chapman, Michael G. Vancouver BC
Chaubey, Vikas Calgary AB
D’Souza Singh, Branda E. Toronto ON
Dufresne, Simon F. Montréal QC
Elkout, Lotfia Halifax NS
Houlé, Claudia Québec QC
Lavoie, Myriam Sherbrooke QC
Murthy, Srinivas Toronto ON
Naidu, Prenilla Edmonton AB
Renaud, Christian Montréal QC
Savard, Patrice Québec QC
Teltscher, Marty Cote-St-Luc QC

Deceased Member
Stephen Vas: We were recently informed that Dr. Vas passed away in Budapest in 2006

Retired Members
Franklin Jadgis
Kenneth Robert Wagner

Honorary Member
Gerry Wright

The following doctors recently completed their training and advanced from Associate to Active membership in 2009
Alawi, Maha Ancaster ON
Al-Azri, Saleh Bosher Oman
Al-Fifi, Yahya Salim Alhsa S. Arabia
Ballia, Maida Halifax NS
Belhaj, Abdelbaset Toronto ON
Goldfarb, David Ottawa ON
Janvier, Jack Calgary AB
Oughton, Matthew Thomas Mt. Royal QC
Reyes, Romina Burnaby BC
Riberdy St-Pierre, Catherine Verdun QC
Yansouni, Cedric Montréal QC

2005-2009 Membership Details

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<td>397</td>
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<td>34</td>
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As Dr. Coleman Rotstein once said in 2003 in the wake of SARS, “our star is on the rise”.

Though we may continue to debate whether pandemic H1N1 was ultimately the Y2K of the past decade, it can nonetheless be thanked for facilitating the immediate availability of molecular diagnostic testing for respiratory viruses to most, if not all public health laboratories in Canada. In addition, the emergence of *C. difficile* may usher molecular testing in hospital-based laboratories, with further impact on the practice of both ID and MM/CM specialties.

On the AMMI Canada front, as one of our key objectives, we are working together to focus on the future collaborative roles of our MD (ID and MM) and PhD (CM) members.

Continuing with a collaborative theme, The Royal College is trying to assume a leadership role by creating additional partnerships between MDs and non-MD health professionals. For some areas of infectious diseases (HIV care, transplant care, medical microbiology, infection prevention and control, antibiotic stewardship), such collaborative interdisciplinary models are already well established. It remains to be seen whether a growing need for infectious diseases consultations (provided by a still limited number of infectious diseases physicians) will provide a new venue for collaborative models (e.g. a nurse practitioner). On the other hand, medical specialties which have adopted such models (cardiology and oncology) may benefit from the lesser variation in the range of clinical problems encountered. At a meeting that was attended by Dr. Rau, one clear consensus was evident: the pure fee-for-service model for physician remuneration does not encourage collaborative models.

An additional objective for AMMI Canada is to establish a metric for determining future ID and MM Human Resources needs for Canada. For some specialties, a growth in the number of new diagnoses (e.g. cancer, asthma, acute coronary syndrome) directly serves as a measurement or projection of future needs. For ID and MM, identifying the numbers of physicians and clinical microbiologists required is more nuanced, as the services we provide are, for the most part, to patients linked to other care areas. For example, a growth in the burden of diabetes, transplantation, cancer, HIV, viral hepatitis or end-stage renal disease diagnoses indirectly determines the need for ID and MM services.

Immigration also plays a role, as does population growth in general. Population growth translates over time to increases in the number of hospital beds, with associated construction and renovation projects, which then translates into the need for increased numbers of physicians and microbiologists with infection prevention and control expertise. A clearer measure of future human resources needs would inform our efforts to secure funding for more training positions for infectious diseases specialists and medical/clinical microbiologists.

An issue that continues to come up for discussion at the Royal College is whether infectious diseases and medical microbiology training programs. The two Specialty Committees have advocated for maintaining these two training programs as distinct entities. We are interested in hearing the views of section members.

We will keep you updated as these initiatives and discussions move forward.
Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance Committee

Chair: Lynora Saxinger – Edmonton AB

The mandate of the committee is in draft format, to be finalized after a shareholder review meeting (The Stewardship Summit), which is planned to take place in conjunction with the AMMI Canada Conference 2010.

Meetings:

1) ASRC - June 17, 2009: The attendees were as follows: Drs. Lynora Saxinger (Chair), Tom Louie, Gerald Evans, Allan Miller (pharmD), Mark Miller, John Conly, Coleman Rotstein and Mr. Richard McCoy

2) NCCID - Community Antimicrobial Resistance (cAMR) Consultation

This meeting included representatives from AMMI Canada, Dr. Lynn Johnston, President-elect, myself, and other AMMI Canada members including Drs. J. Conly, L. Nicolle, G. Taylor, and A. Ronald, who was a host of the meeting as a NCCID consultant. Other groups represented included Canadian Integrated Program for Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance (CIPARS), PHAC (Dr. Njoo), the National Lab, Bugs and Drugs, veterinarians, and agricultural antibiotic specialists. This meeting was a broad review and included significant discussion of antimicrobial stewardship opportunities in communities and hospitals.

Summary

Antimicrobial Stewardship is an area that is gaining traction internationally, and AMMI Canada is well positioned to take a leadership role, given that many of our members are involved in antimicrobial utilization and stewardship activities. Accreditation Canada also is developing standards for Antimicrobial Stewardship as a required organizational practice, which will provide added impetus. Given the numerous existing initiatives, a centralized approach to sharing resources under the same priorities and vision is increasingly important.

The model being developed is based on liaising with Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program (CNISP) / PHAC, with the ASRC analogous to the Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee (CHEC) of AMMI Canada in this structure. As the hospital based CNISP – CHEC model is infection control-based, additional elements to address in a stewardship network include a strong collaboration with the ID-Pharmacy Specialty Network of the CSHP, and also communication channels to veterinary/agricultural antimicrobial use groups and the Canadian Patient Safety Initiative.

The current major focus in this Portfolio is realizing the Stewardship Summit, a meeting to be attached to the 2010 AMMI Canada conference, as a forum including multiple stakeholders and self identified interested potential members. This is proposed to be a working strategic planning exercise, with subgroups identified to work on prioritizing activities for 2010-2011 in areas that may include:

1) Hospital Antimicrobial Stewardship
2) Pediatric Antimicrobial Stewardship
3) Metrics of Surveillance (including DDD’s),
4) Best Practices Inventory and Education (including development of internet based resources.)

Governance of the new body and issues that could come up in accreditation will be addressed by the whole group.

Members with interest areas in this portfolio are encouraged to contact the Chair through the AMMI Canada secretariat for information on opportunities for involvement and information sharing. The next year will be a time of challenge and opportunity to develop a supported national Stewardship group that will function in support of the health of Canadians.
The Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee (CHEC) has participated in the Canadian Nosocomial Infection Surveillance Program (CNISP), in partnership with the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), formerly Health Canada, since 1995. New Terms of Reference and a Memorandum of Understanding for transfer and ownership of isolates submitted for CNISP projects have been fully revised and adopted this year.

Compared to last year, CNISP surveillance endeavors are now proceeding on schedule and real time web-based surveillance has been implemented in all sites for MRSA. The surveillance activities have evolved over time and now include four core projects:

- Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*
- Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus
- *Clostridium difficile* infection
- Central-venous catheter blood stream infections
- As well as voluntary surveillance on:
  - Laboratory-confirmed influenza, including pH1N1 flu virus in adults
  - Febrile respiratory viruses in children
  - Cerebrospinal fluid shunt infections
  - Cardiac surgical site infections in children
  - Carbapenem resistance in selected gram-negative rods

In February 2009, CNISP performed a repeat point prevalence survey for healthcare-associated infections. The previous study, conducted in 2002, remains the only Canadian data available on the prevalence of Nosocomial infections in Canadian hospitals. Importantly, the need for a comprehensive, hospital-based surveillance system to monitor pH1N1 was recognized federally and subsequently, CNISP expanded its surveillance for laboratory-confirmed influenza to meet the additional need for timely data on patients hospitalized with pH1N1. CNISP and its CHEC members will also participate in a number of research studies to address key issues pertaining to compliance with the selection and use of personal protective equipment, use of Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) guidelines and recommendations, perceptions regarding pH1N1 and seasonal flu vaccination this year and satisfaction with the PHAC guidelines process.

In the past year the following manuscripts were published:


Grants and Awards Committee

Chair: Christina Greenaway – Montréal QC

The Grants and Awards Committee is pleased to announce 2 new Post Residency Fellowships, one from Astellas and another from Pfizer that will begin in 2010. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of Dr. Michel Laverdière, who through his contacts and skilful negotiations was able to secure these two fellowships. Each fellowship will be funded for a total of $140,000 and will be awarded as either a one 2-year fellowship or two 1-year fellowships. The objective of these fellowships is to support bright young Canadian trainees and provide them with post-graduate funding to launch their research careers and make them competitive for academic university positions.

I would like to thank Dr. Marcel Behr for his years of service (2003 to June 2009) as chair of the Grants and Awards Committee. Over this time there were many changes in the different funding opportunities and evaluation structures. At the end of his tenure the two new fellowships mentioned above were created and a new relationship with CFID was established resulting in the AMMI Canada Grants and Awards Committee assuming sole responsibility for the evaluation and ranking of research proposals funded and managed by AMMI Canada. With this groundwork laid an important goal of the committee in the future will be to try to increase funding opportunities for all levels of training, from studentships to fellowships as well as for young investigator awards.
Guidelines Committee

Chair: Ethan Rubinstein – Winnipeg MB

Conrad Liles (Vice-chair) – Toronto ON
David Haldane – Halifax NS
Lindsay Nicolle – Winnipeg MB
Corinna Quan – Windsor ON
Gerald A. Evans (Ex-Officio) – Kingston ON

Summary Of Committee Activity For The Period Covering - June 2009 To June 2010

Published since last report:

1. Canadian Practice Guidelines for Surgical Intra-abdominal Infections: Co-Chairs (listed alphabetically):

In process:

1. AMMI Guidelines for Invasive Aspergillosis –Comparison of existing guidelines: Dr E Bow, Dr. M. Laverdière, Dr. C. Rotstein, Dr. J. Fuller
2. Acute and Chronic Rhinosinusitis Lead: M. Desrosiers, G. Evans
3. Invasive Candidiasis in Adults Leads: C. Rotstein, M. Laverdière, E. Bow
4. Guidelines for Screening Immigrants and Refugees AMMI Lead: C. Greenaway
5. Pregnancy Planning Guidelines (endorsed by SOGC). Authors: Mona Loutfy and Shari Margolese

Soon to be published:

Gary Garber – Ottawa ON
Susan Richardson – Toronto ON

The 2009 Nominations Committee was comprised of the Past President as Chair, Dr. Michel Laverdière, in addition to two active, Members-at-large, Drs Susan Richardson and Gary Garber.

The committee considered potential officers for the available positions on AMMI Canada Council, respecting the by-law requirement. The committee created a slate of officers that was sent to the secretariat and then circulated to the general membership, with an option for submission of additional nominations from the membership.

The following nominees will be presented for ratification at the next Annual General Meeting scheduled for May 6th, 2010 in Edmonton, Alberta:

President-Elect     Mark Joffe – Edmonton AB
Treasurer          Mel Kradjen – Vancouver BC
RE-NOMINATION for a second term (2010 - 2012):
Sarah Forgie – Secretary
Todd Hatchette – Councillor
Michael Libman – Councillor
Anne Opavsky – Councillor
The present Nucleus Committee consists of:

Patrick Doyle – Vancouver BC
Debbie Yamamura – Hamilton ON
Karl Weiss – Montréal QC
David Haldane (designated AMMI representative) – Halifax NS
Lynn Johnson, Specialty Chair in Infectious Diseases (Ex-Officio) – Halifax NS
Diane Roscoe, Chair of the Examination Board (Ex-Officio) – Vancouver BC

Credential Issues and Accreditation

One program was surveyed in 2009 (McMaster University) and received full approval. While most programs have little difficulty meeting the specialty training requirements, teaching the non-medical expert CanMEDS roles has been identified as an area for improvement. There are 11 programs with full approval and one program with provisional approval. Since 2004, there has been a 30% increase in the number of trainees in Medical Microbiology (from 40 to 65).

The Specialty Training Requirements in Medical Microbiology, the Specific Standards of Accreditation for residency programs in Medical Microbiology, and the Objectives of Training and Specialty Training Requirements in Medical Microbiology are being revised to ensure the training documents define the discipline and adequately describe the competencies to practice as a Medical Microbiologist.

The Specialty Committee is also considering how Medical Microbiology might use a STACER (Structured Assessment of Clinical Encounter Report) as a tool to improve the in-training evaluation of performance.

Examinations

Dr. Diane Roscoe will complete her term as Chair of the Examination Board next year. In 2010, the written examinations will take place in the home city prior to the oral and practical examinations in Ottawa. The overall length of the examination will be reduced to only one oral examination combining both clinical and laboratory components. The examination board and specialty committee have been asked to consider alternatives to the present practical exam because of the logistics of conducting the exam and concerns about its sustainability.

Report to the Committee on Specialties

Medical Microbiology was reviewed by the Royal College Committee on Specialties (COS) in October 2009. The COS identified several areas of concern, including a need to re-examine the distinction between the disciplines of Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology and reassess the specialty training requirements (STR), as well as a need to review and understand the health human resources for the discipline. The COS was also concerned about the “educational infrastructure” and laboratory resources for residency training. Because of these recurring concerns, the COS recommended Medical Microbiology proceed to a “Focused Review” and the Specialty Committee is working with the Office of Education to address these issues.
There has been only one change to the Nucleus Committee since last year’s Annual Report. Dr. Neil Rau replaced Dr. Krystyna Ostrowska as the National Specialty Society representative to the Committee. Current Nucleus Committee members are Drs. Taj Jadavji (Region 1), Stephen Sanche (Region 2), Andrew Morris (Region 3), Hélène Senay (Region 4), and Todd Hatchette (Region 5). Ex-officio members are Dr. Fiona Smaill (Chair, Specialty Committee in Medical Microbiology) and Dr. Nicole Le Saux, Chair of the Examination Board. The Nucleus Committee met by teleconference on February 2009 and the entire Specialty Committee met during the Annual Conference in Toronto in June 2009.

Credentialing Issues and Accreditation
Four programs (two each adult and paediatric) were surveyed in 2009 and one adult program underwent a College mandated internal review. One paediatric and one adult program received approval. The other adult program received provisional approval with internal review and the decision on the second paediatric program is pending as of this report. As of November 2009 there were 16 programs with full approval (9 adult and 7 paediatric), 3 programs with provisional approval (internal review in 2 years), 1 program with notice of intent to withdraw (surveyed in 2009, decision pending), and no inactive programs. Updating of our specialty specific documents (Specific Standards of Accreditation for Residency Programs, Objectives of Training, Specialty Training Requirements, and the FITER) has been started but still not completed. In 2009 the subspecialty of Infectious Diseases was reviewed by the Royal College Committee on Specialties as part of its regular review process. We have yet to receive its report. Future directions will see increased emphasis on more specific teaching and assessment of the non-medical expert CanMEDS competencies.

Examination Board in Infectious Diseases
Dr. Nicole Le Saux became Chair of the Examination Board for the 2009 examination and Dr. Wayne Gold was appointed as Vice-Chair. Members of the 2009 Examination Board were Drs. Karen Doucette, John Embil, Joanne Embree, Wayne Gold, Andrew Johnson, Rupert Kaul, Christine Lee, Craig Lee, Michael Libman, Caroline Quach-Thanh, Sophie Robichaud, Joan Robinson, Lynora Saxinger, and Louis Valiquette. The examination continues in the format of two three-hour papers of short-answer questions. Twenty-nine of a potential thirty-nine candidates took the 2008 examination with a 78% pass rate for adult ID and 57% for paediatric ID, compared to 79.7% for all disciplines. We are always eager to find members for the Examination Board. If it has been 5 years or more since you completed and passed your ID subspecialty exam and you are interested in being on the Exam Board, please contact me.

Relationship between Infectious Diseases and Medical Microbiology Training Programs
As AMMI Canada members may recall, the Royal College Committee on Specialties (COS) has, over the last few years, focused attention on our two specialty programs and questioned whether there should be just one. The differences between our two programs are not inherently clear to them. There has been essentially no further action in this regard over the last year. It is expected that once we have finished our specialty documents, the differences between our training programs and our graduates will be clear.
I thank those who volunteer to serve on the Nucleus Committee and Examination Board.
In 2009 the Communications and Public Relations Committee held a total of 5 teleconferences as well as 1 meeting during the AMMI Canada annual conference.

Council approved our revised Terms of Reference in May 2009. Changes included increased terms for the past president and the president elect, to a full two-year term, in order to provide more continuity for the committee. In addition, members-at-large will serve for 3 years. We also increased the number of members-at-large to a total of 5 and at this time have several vacant positions on our committee.

**External Promotion**

The Communications and Public Relations Committee recommended to Council that AMMI Canada register our trademark with the Canadian Intellectual Property Office to give our association the exclusive legal right to use the AMMI Canada acronym and logo.

The Committee has adopted a proactive approach to position statements and press releases. We created a list of the most important ID/MM topics for our committee members to develop. The basic press release or statements will be prepared in advance and when a related topic appears in the news, our statements will be ready for release.

**Government Relations**

AMMI Canada was actively involved in the discussion surrounding Bill C-11 an Act to promote safety and security with respect to Human Pathogens and Toxins, specifically with regards to certain provisions within the legislation. The Human Pathogens and Toxins Act received Royal Assent in June 2009.

Dr. Alicia Sarabia represented AMMI Canada at a Presentation to the Standing Committee on Health regarding Bill C-11 in March 2009. In June 2009 Dr. Sarabia submitted the AMMI Canada Bill C-11 Position Statement to the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology.

**Internal**

Our committee continues to work towards improving and updating the AMMI Canada website. We devoted a teleconference to determining the high priority items of the site. As a result, we developed a priority list and requested an itemized quote from our web designer. The list was then submitted to the AMMI Canada Finance committee for consideration and we now have a budget to use for website renovations.

We surveyed our membership and found very favourable results regarding AMMI Canada Members Connect Newsletter readership. A total of 68 members participated in the survey, 71% read the newsletter regularly. Of those, 90% indicated they would continue to read the newsletter in digital format. In our efforts to be environmentally conscious and reduce printing cost, the newsletters are being produced only in digital format as of mid 2009.

Our committee worked in conjunction with Dr. Greenaway and Dr. Laverdière to distribute promotional announcements and information on both the Astellas and Pfizer 2010 fellowships. Council members were invited to participate in a ½ day of Public Relations Training organized by our committee and held the day prior to the November 2009 Council meeting in Ottawa.

**Media**

We have successfully developed a method for quick response to media requests. First our committee approached AMMI members and asked if they would be willing to act as a spokesperson and if we could release their name to the media. Then we finalized the list of spokespersons and sent a short message to national health reporters listing AMMI Canada members that are willing to comment on specific topics.
AMMI CANADA SPOKESPEOPLE
John Conly – Calgary
Karl Weiss – Montreal
Stephen Shafran – Edmonton
Jim Hutchinson – St. John’s Nfld
Lynora Saxinger – Edmonton
Susan Richardson – Toronto
Gerald Evans – Kingston
Andy Simor – Toronto
Michel Laverdière – Montreal
William Bowie – Vancouver

Announcements and Press Releases - 2009
- ID Specialists encourage everyone to be vaccinated against pH1N1 - October 27, 2009
- Announcing a brand new fellowship sponsored by Pfizer! 2010 AMMI Canada / Pfizer Post Residency Fellowship - September 15, 2009
- 2010 AMMI Canada / Astellas Post Residency Fellowship - July 19, 2009
- Conference Promo - H1N1 Influenza A. The most significant scientific and public health challenge since the SARS outbreak. - June 15, 2009
- Public Health Concerns Surrounding the Swine Influenza - April 29, 2009
- Canadians to Feel the Impact of Infectious Disease Specialists Shortage – February 16, 2009

Lobbying – 2009
- Bill C-11 An Act to promote safety and security with respect to human pathogens and toxins - April 2009
Though global economic realities and the emergence of the first influenza pandemic in 40 years affected travel plans of many, we were thrilled to host over 1400 delegates to this international conference. Sponsorship for the meeting also proved to be a major challenge. The global economic downturn, mergers of some of the pharmaceutical giants, perception of this meeting as a Canadian meeting, rather than the international meeting that it was, all conspired to reduce anticipated sponsorships. The ISC’s international influence unquestionably enhanced the scientific program of the 2009 meeting but produced unique challenges in the planning process. A special thank you is owed to all the members of the 2009 Planning Committee for conquering these challenges and for organizing a large international meeting that attracted delegates from around the world. On behalf of the Planning Committee, I would like to thank Dr. Ray Saginur, President of the 26th ICC Meeting, for his patience and perseverance over 3 years of planning. Dr’s. Tim Karnauchow and Susan Richardson for their tireless efforts reviewing abstract submissions, Dr. Coleman Rotstein and Mr. Ron Rosenes for their heroic efforts in leading our sponsorship committee and, in particular, Riccarda Galioto and the AMMI Canada secretariat, without whom our annual meeting (and especially this one) would never come together.

With the international meeting of 2009 behind us, we look forward to the 2010 AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference in Edmonton, Alberta May 6-8, 2010. Plenary sessions scheduled for this meeting include: Influenza: What Just Happened and What Did We Learn?; Review of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Disease: What’s New? What’s Hot?; and, Transplant Related Infections: From Bench to Bedside. We look forward to continuing the AMMI Canada - CACMID traditions including the ever-popular Clinical Vignettes. State-of-the-Art (START) Clinical Lectures, introduced at the 2008 Annual Conference in Vancouver, are included in the program with 3 exciting topics and superb speakers: Infection Control in Healthcare: What was catchy in 2009? (Dr. Lynn Johnston); PK/PD in Antimicrobial Use: 10 Studies that will change your practice (Dr. Lynora Saxinger); and, Biofilms and Joint Replacements – Pathogenesis, Epidemiology and Treatment of Prosthetic Joint Infections (Dr. Robin Patel). This year, START lectures will be integrated into oral abstract sessions with relevant abstracts to be presented in conjunction with the lecture. We also look forward to a Closing Dinner at the fantastic and brand new Art Gallery of Alberta.

The future will bring significant challenges to ensure that our annual meeting remains vibrant, viable and the place “Where Canada’s experts in Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Meet.” Chief among these will be:

- Sponsorship of the annual conference has become a major challenge; alternative meeting structures and funding strategies may have to be considered.
- Ensuring that the annual conference is the venue of choice for interest groups and collaborators to meet will help to ensure relevance and viability.
- Continued commitment to a strong Trainees Day will involve new members at an early stage of their careers while establishing a tradition of getting together with their Canadian colleagues at an annual conference.

I am grateful to the Program Planning Committee representatives from both AMMI Canada and CACMID whose dedication continues to ensure a very high quality annual conference. I am very pleased that Dr. Kevin Forward has agreed to co-chair the 2010 Annual Conference for AMMI Canada and will then assume the position of Chair of the Program Planning Committee.
Associate Committee

Chair: Greg German – Ottawa ON

Vikas Chaubey – Calgary AB
Jamil Kanji – Calgary AB
Jeya Naidiah – Toronto ON
Prenilla Naidu – Edmonton AB
Jocelyn Srigley – Hamilton ON
Alena Tse – Edmonton AB
Sarah Forgie (Ex-Officio) – Edmonton AB

The committee’s theme for this year, 2010 is “Cultivating a mentorship environment.” We are gaining momentum through our Trainees’ days, cyberspace, and outreach.

Trainees’ days

In Toronto, our 6th Annual Trainees’ day utilized the 2009 international theme. Dr. Anne McCarthy and Dr. Kevin Kain inspired over 50 trainees with wisdom on international education and research opportunities, respectively. Then, the two of them joined Dr. Don Low, Dr. Stephanie Smith, and Dr. Gerald A. Evans to form a stimulating career panel. This panel covered issues such as how to negotiate a staff position, develop a work-life balance, and a future prospectus on employment. Considering this was the largest attended Trainees’ day to date it felt very cozy and exclusive. Praise must be given to last year’s committee members, who are retiring and include Dr. Bonnie Meatherall, Dr. Miguel Imperial, Dr. Joanne Salmond, and most notably Dr. Jessica Minion our Chair for the last two years.

For the Edmonton conference, the Annual Trainees’ day preparation is well underway. We will have an extended Trainees’ day that will start at 10 AM and include a complementary lunch. Throughout the day we will have three invited speakers each from a different discipline and each a different point in their career. They are slated to be Dr. Lilly Miedzinski (Adult-ID), Dr. Sarah Forgie (Peds-ID), and Dr. Julie Carson (Med. Micro.). It is said, “A Mentor is someone whose hindsight can become your foresight!” We are looking forward to capturing insight on medical education and career development and learning how to better cultivate a mentorship environment.

Cyberspace

We have launched two web based tools to enhance the mentorship and networking among the Associates of AMMI Canada. The first is a Facebook webpage for AMMI Canada Trainees’, which allows us to share pictures, develop a more dynamic social network, and discuss topics of importance to all the physicians interested in microbes and humans.

Secondly, the Associate Committee has developed a Google Groups private discussion forum and protected website to collaborate more effectively and with more brainstorming potential. The forum will also serve as a record for future Chairs and committee members and function as a mentorship tool by providing hindsight.

Outreach

We have four outreach arms this year. The first is within AMMI Canada and the various committees where we hope to increase committee strength with Associate involvement. We recognize that by serving on other AMMI Canada committees we solidify our leadership and develop an automatic mentorship environment with the other committee members such as the education and guidelines committee.

Secondly, we serve as a collection of chief and senior residents who have to advocate for residents and our training environment. We are acutely aware that centralization of laboratories and health services are economic realities that MAY have drastic effects on training and employment opportunities and we are strengthening our surveillance across Canada. Furthermore, as the training and career tracks for Medical Microbiologist and Infectious Disease subspecialists overlap to a considerable extent our committee is actively searching for role models whether they are individuals or institutions where there is a highly positive service and learning environment.

Thirdly, we also outreach to medical students not only for medical education but career education as well. Our committee is working on a document listing the Top Ten Reasons to pursue a career in Medical Microbiology, which has been successfully piloted at the University of Ottawa.

Lastly, we hope to outreach to the community by coordinating Café-scientific sessions in multiple centers across Canada. These evening sessions for community members chaired by experts are located at local establishments where infectious disease and public health topics are explored, debated, and enjoyed. Search cafescientifique.ca for a list of sessions currently available, our committee will apply for funding and if successful add to this list starting next year.

Bearing in mind our above report on conference, cyberspace, and outreach endeavours, is there another reason why we are spotlighting mentorship this year? Well, after intellectual stimulation, influence of a MENTOR was cited as the second most important factor in the career choice of a 121 Medical Microbiologists and Infectious Disease Specialists replying to the 2004 CMA National Physician Survey. MENTORSHIP like other relationships requires energy and creativity. When mentorship relationships are cultivated this leads to more finely tuned careers, increased well-being, and innovation. Our long-term health the long-term health of our profession depends on mentorship success!
Education Committee
Chair: Gary Victor – Kelowna BC

Sarah Forgie – Edmonton AB
Karen McClean – Saskatoon SK
Heather Onyett – Kingston ON
Anita Rachlis – Toronto ON
Stuart Skinner – Saskatoon SK
Philip Stuart – Nobleton ON
Anupama Wadhwa – Toronto ON
Gerald A. Evans (Ex-Officio) – Kingston ON

1. A new member has been approved at the November 2009 Council meeting. We would like to welcome Dr. Karen McLean to this committee. The terms of two of our members will be ending as of May 2010. These members will be asked if they wish to continue or be replaced in the near future.

2. A needs assessment is in the process of being written and will be sent to the membership at the start of 2010.

3. Our Royal College re-accreditation application was reviewed and a final decision relating to this application has been deferred until June 2010 pending additional information relating to this application.

4. CPD Activities Accredited and co-developed by AMMI Canada

A. Not conference related:
   - Prevention and Treatment of Invasive Fungal Disease on the Road to Best Practice. Educational Program – November 2009.
   - Managing CV Risk in HIV. Educational Program hosted by Bristol – Myers Squibb, November 2009.

B. 26th ICC-09 AMMI Canada–CACMID Annual Conference accredited activities Toronto, ON, June 18 – 21, 2009
   - Hitting Hard & Fast: Antibiotic Strategies to Optimize Outcomes in RTI (integrated Symposium) Sponsored by Daiichi Sankyo
   - The Evidence for Combination Antifungal Therapy – Wishful Thinking vs. Prudent Practice (integrated Symposium) Sponsored by Pfizer
   - Bad Bugs, Some Drugs: Resistance Trends, New Antimicrobial Strategies and Stewardship (integrated Symposium) Sponsored by Janssen Ortho
   - Fungal Infection in Patients with Hematological Malignancies: How Good are we at Early Diagnosis, Treatment, and Ultimately Saving Lives? (integrated Symposium) Sponsored by Schering Plough Canada
   - Alternative Strategies in the Battle of the Gram-negative Bugs. (integrated Symposium) Sponsored by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals
AMMI Canada Representatives – External Committees

National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI)  Pamela Orr
Committee to Advise on Tropical Medicine and Travel (CATMAT)  Christina Greenaway
Canadian Coalition for Immunization Awareness & Promotion (CCIAP)  Shelly McNeill
Federation of National Specialty Societies of Canada (FNSSC)  Michel Laverdière
Canadian Medical Association – National Medical Organizations (CNMO)  Michel Laverdière
Canadian Tuberculosis Committee  Wendy Wobeser
ISO/TC 212 Working Group 4 on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing  Diane Roscoe
CSA TC Z252 Medical Laboratory Quality Systems  Diane Roscoe
CSA Technical Committee on Transplantation  Deepali Kumar
CMA Conjoint Committee for Accreditation & Lab. Technology  Magdalena Kuhn

PHAC – Expert Working Group on HIV Testing & Counselling  Paul MacPherson
PHAC – Pandemic Influenza Committee – Antiviral Working Group  Gerald A. Evans
Stop TB Canada  Todd Hatchette
Correctional Services Canada – Community Consultation Committee  Anne McCarthy
Canadian Public Health Association – Advisory Council  Wendy Wobeser
PHAC - Plan Flu Lab Preparedness Network (PILPN)-Canadian Pandemic Influenza Working Group  Shelly Sarwal

The Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada
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, 2009 and for the year then ended on which we expressed an opinion without reservation in our report dated March 12, 2010. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

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

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

Watson Folkins Corey LLP
Chartered Accountants
176 Gloucester Street, Suite 300
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0A6
Phone: (613) 244-6090
Fax: (613) 562-4666
www.wfc-ottawa.ca
# Financial Statements

## Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI Canada)

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

**AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2009**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$387,733</td>
<td>$246,184</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>410,553</td>
<td>243,963</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>122,907</td>
<td>85,737</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due from Canadian Foundation for Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>72,297</td>
<td>72,307</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>42,552</td>
<td>4,457</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,036,042</strong></td>
<td><strong>$652,648</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
<td>$28,171</td>
<td>$29,921</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>419,251</td>
<td>86,696</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>447,422</strong></td>
<td><strong>116,617</strong></td>
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**NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Assets</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internally restricted and invested in capital assets</td>
<td>298,132</td>
<td>253,777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>290,488</td>
<td>282,254</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$588,620</strong></td>
<td><strong>$536,031</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES</strong></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership dues</td>
<td>$86,978</td>
<td>$94,773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>764,087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th ICC</td>
<td>268,632</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accreditation</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>20,190</td>
<td>13,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CJIDMM and advertising</td>
<td>23,230</td>
<td>32,405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$439,030</strong></td>
<td><strong>$915,348</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>EXPENSES</strong></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>5,203</td>
<td>5,247</td>
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<tr>
<td>CJIDMM</td>
<td>18,092</td>
<td>22,036</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>405,493</td>
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<tr>
<td>26th ICC</td>
<td>43,101</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>WEBSS &amp; Pfizer projects</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>22,433</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>10,698</td>
<td>10,104</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office administration</td>
<td>45,614</td>
<td>40,275</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional fees</td>
<td>21,814</td>
<td>26,265</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rent &amp; Services</td>
<td>25,826</td>
<td>25,747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
<td>203,457</td>
<td>189,106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>10,136</td>
<td>9,355</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$386,441</strong></td>
<td><strong>$756,061</strong></td>
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</table>

**EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For the Year</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>$52,589</strong></td>
<td><strong>$159,287</strong></td>
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</table>
Sponsors

AMMI Canada gratefully acknowledges the continued support of the following:

Abbott Laboratories Ltd.
Astellas Pharma Canada Inc.
Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals
Bristol Myers Squibb
Gilead Sciences Canada
Inverness Medical Innovations
Janssen-Ortho Inc.
Merck Frosst Canada Inc.
Pfizer Canada Inc.
Roche
Schering-Plough Canada
Somagen Diagnostics
Wyeth Pharmaceuticals
Contact

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Communications Coordinator
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Administrative Assistant / Membership
Kimberly Wannamaker - Ext 103
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