



Richard Dixon

**Education Day
Biographies 2019**

Richard has 37 years of experience in senior administration, planning, design, construction, commissioning plus infection prevention & control of health facilities in Canada.

Richard has been a significant contributor to the Canadian Standards Association and other organizations:

- Chair – Cleaning and Disinfection Committee (Z317.12)
- Past Vice Chair of the Infection Control during Construction, Renovation or Maintenance in Health Care Facilities Committee (Z317.13), plus has taught the CSA Infection Control and Design standards to hospitals, consultants and contractors throughout Canada and in the Middle East
- Chair of the CSA Wayfinding standard (Z317.14).
- Past Member - Health Care Facilities Committee (Z8000),
- Member - Health Care Facilities Operations & Maintenance Committee (Z8002),
- Member - Health Care Technical Committee,
- Member - CSA Regulators Committee,
- Member - CSA Plumbing Committee (Z317.1),
- Long standing member of the Canadian Healthcare Engineering Society (CHES); education coordinator for CHES 2017 conference in Niagara Falls plus Richard has written several articles in the CHES national magazine.
- Co-founder of the non-profit organization CHAIR (Coalition Healthcare Acquired Infection Reduction) Canada. This unique organization researches Engineering Infection Prevention (EIP) solutions, promotes these solutions and provides education & research in Canadian healthcare facilities

What drives Richard to do all these things?? Only one thing**Making healthcare safe for patients!**

Kathy Chilton is the Vaccine Educator with the Communicable Diseases and Immunization Services at the BC Centre for Disease Control. Kathy has 13 years of public health nursing experience working as a Communicable Disease Nurse Coordinator and as an Infection Prevention and Control Practitioner in Fraser Health Authority, Katharine has a strong interest in the control of communicable diseases. Currently, as the Vaccine Educator at BCCDC, she is committed to bring easily accessible immunization education to all healthcare providers to help facilitate best practice when working with clients and families.



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Stephanie Meier is the Public Health Resource Nurse within the Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service at the BC Centre for Disease. Stephanie has been a registered nurse for 19 years, and has worked in public health for the last 16 years. Her role at the BCCDC is responsible for the drafting and revision of the provincial immunization guidelines within the BC Immunization Manual, as well as the maintenance and revision of the online BCCDC Immunization Competency Course and exams.

Dr. Srigley has been interested in infectious diseases ever since seeing the movie *Outbreak*. She completed residency in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, and Medical Microbiology at McMaster University, followed by a clinical fellowship in infection prevention and control and a Master of Science in health services research at University of Toronto. She is currently a medical microbiologist at BC Children's & Women's Hospitals and the medical director of infection prevention and control for the Provincial Health Services Authority.

Shelly Garcha is an infection prevention and control specialist at Fraser Health Authority. She has been with Fraser Health since 1999, first worked as a registered nurse at Surrey Memorial Hospital Surgical unit and Maternity unit, and then moved to Public health where she worked as a Public health nurse, and Communicable disease nurse coordinator. Shelly joined infection prevention and control in 2013. She supported infection prevention and control in acute care and Jim Pattison outpatient and surgical centre in Surrey. Shelly's current portfolio supports Long Term care, Public Health, Primary care, Hospice and Community Dialysis units. Her role includes education, consultation, IPC best practice assessment, and Surveillance of health care associated infections. She completed BSN at University of Victoria and MPH at University of Newcastle Australia.

Dr. Aamir Bharmal is a Fraser Health Medical Health Officer, Medical Director for Communicable Disease and Harm Reduction, and a Clinical Assistant Professor with the School of Population and Public Health at UBC.

Prior to his public health training, Aamir was a rural family physician at Ontario's most remote hospital in Moose Factory where we provided full-scope primary care to 6 Cree communities along the western coast of James Bay. He completed medical school at the University of Alberta and residencies in Family Medicine and Public Health and Preventive Medicine at the University of Toronto during which time he completed a Master of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University.



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Dean Waisman is the President of Westech Cleaning Audit Systems as well as the Director of Education for the Canadian Association of Environmental Management. Dean has over twenty-five years of experience working directly in Canadian Healthcare relating specifically to improving cleanliness. Dean is extremely proud of the fact that since 2005 to the present, Westech has audited every hospital in British Columbia and has seen a 20% decrease in the number of sites falling below the acceptable benchmark score. Under Dean's leadership Westech has also performed hundreds of thousands of cleaning audits across Canada, and setup audit systems with certification training where the focus is inspiring, coaching and educating Housekeeping professionals to key in on problem areas and to follow best practice cleaning techniques.

Dr. Titus Wong is a Medical Microbiologist and the Regional Medical Director for Infection Prevention and Control at Vancouver Coastal Health. He has a special interest in the clinical epidemiology of healthcare-associated infections and has a Masters of Health Sciences from the UBC School of Population and Public Health. Along with the dynamic VCH IPAC, Microbiology, and QPS teams, his clinical and research interests are to investigate and promote and implement novel infection control strategies in our Healthcare settings. Outside of work, he is a proud father of a rambunctious son, and enjoys going to the gym to lift heavy things just to put them back down again.

Gerry Hansen

GERALDINE (GERRY) HANSEN has been the administrator of IPAC Canada since 1988, holding the position of Executive Director since 2009. Her role is to manage staff and committees in the day-to-day operations of the association, and to foster good working relationships with external stakeholders, vendors and the media. Gerry has facilitated many significant changes within the association, including new by-law changes, ensuring compliance with respect to Canada's Not – for Profit Corporations Act, Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation and the legal administrative implications of the association's name change in 2014, and the restructuring of the IPAC Canada Board as it evolved from being a Working Board to a Strategic Board