MY FIRST COLUMN as the 2019 Certification Board of Infection Prevention and Epidemiology (CBIC) president was focused on exponential growth and continuing momentum within the infection prevention and control (IPC) profession. Over the past couple of months, the CBIC Board of Directors has worked hard, and with a growing sense of excitement, to deliver the 2019–2022 Strategic Plan!

In 2018, CBIC led an extensive Value of Certification study that provided the board with guidance for the future. With growth and demand for certification in mind, the CBIC Board met in February to develop CBIC’s 2019–2022 Strategic Plan, which will lead the organization over the next few years. The 2019–2022 Strategic Plan will focus on multiple areas, including:

• Continuing to leverage partnerships
• Investing in research tied to certification
• Building the brand of CBIC

Accomplishing our goals will take a collective effort by the CBIC Board, volunteers, and staff. I am confident we will be able to deliver the desired outcomes.

I am thrilled to relay that the CBIC Board has already begun initial steps toward seeing the 2019–2022 Strategic Plan transformed from paper to product. Each step will impact certification in infection control in a positive and exciting way. These new developments will be announced later in 2019, so stay tuned for more information on how CBIC plans to continue to support and grow certification. To sign up for the CBIC and CIC® newsletter, please visit http://bit.ly/CICNewsletter.

The February board of directors meeting also produced renewed CBIC mission and vision statements. These changes reflect the current scope of practice within the profession and improve the alignment between CBIC and APIC, respectively.

**CBIC vision statement:** Healthcare without infection through verifiable competency.

**CBIC mission statement:** Provide pathways to assess and maintain infection prevention competency.

Finally, CBIC is working diligently to prepare for our attendance at the Infection Prevention and Control Canada (IPAC)/International Federation of Infection Control (IFIC) joint conference in May in Quebec City, and the APIC Annual Conference in June in Philadelphia. We look forward to the opportunity to meet with many of you at these conferences and discuss certification, the CIC, and CBIC!

In closing, I want to thank you all for the unrelenting dedication to certification as the true measure of verifiable competency within the profession and your dedication to an infection-free world! 🇨🇦

Cheers,

Roy Boukidjian, MSN, PHN, CIC, NE-BC