

Working
together
to support
certification




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“Coming together
is a beginning.
Keeping together
is progress.
Working together
is success.”
— Henry Ford

IT SEEMS LIKE just yesterday I was beginning my year as president of the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc. (CBIC), and the year is already coming to a close. We started out the year with a fresh, three-year strategic plan and hit the ground running. After updating the examination content outline and eligibility requirements to better reflect current infection prevention and control practices in 2015, we turned the focus of the strategic plan to building and strengthening our partnerships with like-minded groups and organizations.

CBIC set a goal to increase the number of certificants in alignment with the APIC strategic goal of 10,000 CICs by 2020. We are well on our way to that goal and currently have more than 6,300 certified infection preventionists (IPs). Working together with APIC and other organizations that support the CIC® credential is paramount to our accomplishment of this goal. That is why we have added new social media campaigns and toolkits to our website to feature professional groups, such as APIC and IPAC Canada chapters, and give support to other groups and organizations that are considering supporting CIC® but could use some assistance getting started.

This year, we introduced two new toolkits: the CIC® Facilitator Resource Toolkit and the CIC® Support Guide for Partners and Collaborators. The CIC® Facilitator Resource Toolkit is intended to assist a group facilitator to promote certification at their meetings or educational events. This toolkit includes instructions for setting up virtual study groups, a pre-written presentation, and ideas from other, smaller groups on ways that they support IPs working toward certification. The CIC® Support Guide for Partners and Collaborators is geared toward organizations that want to promote certification among their eligible members. Included in this guide are sections with more information on the exam and the content outline, a summary of the practice analysis CBIC conducted in 2014, and activities other organizations are doing to support certification among their members. We are excited about these toolkits and look forward to hearing how you are using them and your ideas for improvement. With these two new resources, we hope to continue to grow the support we are seeing for the CIC® credential.

CBIC has also created the Collaboration Corner on its website (www.cbic.org/media/collaboration-corner). This webpage provides an opportunity to highlight APIC and IPAC Canada chapters and what they are doing to support certification. We hope to continue to grow this page and hear more testimonials from other professional groups that are promoting certification in infection prevention and control in unique ways. Please write to us at info@cbic.org if you would like to be featured on the website, in social media, or in our e-newsletter. This is yet another way to share, network, and push infection prevention certification ideas and initiatives forward. In keeping with our mission, we are working to reduce and eliminate the spread of infectious diseases. Collaboration is key to this mission, and we hope that organizations, groups, and individuals with similar intentions will use these new resources to assist us with this goal. 



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