



Strengthening  
the profession  
—one certified  
IP at a time



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2015 CBIC PRESIDENT

**AS MY TERM** as CBIC president draws to a close, I find myself reflecting on the many accomplishments of the CBIC Board this year. We have implemented fundamental changes that we believe have helped strengthen the certification examination and the CIC® credential. After an extensive practice analysis in 2014, both our examination content outline and eligibility requirements have been updated to better reflect the changing landscape of the infection prevention and control profession. We have also made the decision to implement a single method for recertification. Beginning in 2016, all CICs must recertify through the online, self-paced recertification examination currently known as the Self-Achievement Recertification Exam (SARE). This allows our CICs to use the recertification examination as a learning opportunity that promotes individual growth as infection preventionists (IPs), while maintaining the integrity of the initial certification examination as the base measure of competence for the first-time applicant. The CBIC staff and volunteer Board of Directors have worked very hard this year to facilitate transformation of the certification and recertification processes to ensure continued relevance and growth.

In addition to participating in these important changes to CBIC policies and procedures, I was privileged to represent CBIC and to promote certification at the APIC, IFIC, and IPAC Canada annual conferences this spring. While there, I was able to reconnect with colleagues and to meet many of you for the first time. This past fall, we hosted the

Organizational Summit where CBIC leaders met with our colleagues from APIC and IPAC Canada to discuss opportunities for new and ongoing collaboration on common goals. Our partnerships with these organizations are valued and integral to our success as we work toward achieving our mission of protecting the public through the development, administration, and promotion of an accredited certification in infection prevention and control.

In an earlier column this year, I encouraged you to take the first step toward certification; to commit, to prepare, and to gain confidence in your knowledge. Your commitment to this career pathway has been demonstrated throughout the year by capacity attendance at the certification preparation workshops held in Nashville, Tennessee, and Victoria, British Columbia, and through conversations with you at our conference booths and phone calls to our office.

Guided by the expert education resources provided by our partners, APIC and IPAC Canada, many of you have been successful at attaining the CIC® credential. As posted on our website on September 22, 2015, the number of currently certified IPs in our database was 6,158, well on the way to meeting APIC's goal of 10,000 certified IPs by 2020.

In parting, I offer my sincerest congratulations to each one of you who has achieved initial certification or who has recertified this year. It has been my pleasure to serve as your CBIC president in 2015. **IP**

**“If you want to  
go fast, go alone.  
If you want to go  
far, go together.”**

—*African proverb*