



South East IPAC Hub Update

Our Hub team continues to engage and support the IPAC Programs of congregate living settings within our region. We are saddened to announce that one of our IPAC Hub Coordinators, Nicole Winters, who covered homes within LGL, KFL&A and HPE, has moved out West to embark on a new adventure. We are grateful for her contributions and currently recruiting to her role.

Our next CoPs are scheduled in August, with more information to follow. The Hub team has the pleasure of working with IPAC leads across the region, and the goal of the CoPs is to deliver relevant topics that matter to the leaders in order to provide a platform for further discussion and networking. We hope to empower leads to share their experiences, successes and challenges as we continue to support one another to build IPAC Programs.

Our Hub team continues to support long-term care, retirement homes and congregate care sites such as group homes. If you have not had a supportive site visit and would like one scheduled, please reach out to SEhubintake@kingstonhsc.ca.

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Congratulations Corner



Emma Brookes

Village Green LTC
LTC-CIP

Faith McGee

Helen Henderson LTC
LTC-CIP



Jamie Girouard

Wellington House LTC
LTC-CIP

Jessica Graf

Arbour Heights LTC
LTC-CIP

Mark Your Calendar! Upcoming Education & Events

August

- **August 8/9, 12/13 or 26/27:** Virtual 2-day CSA IPAC & Construction course
- **August 21:** IPAC CEO Chapter Workshop: Policy & Procedure Development

September

- **Sept 1st:** Hybrid Long-Term Care Certificate Course
- **Sept 17th:** Ethical IPAC Decision-making Framework

October

- **Oct 24th:** CBIC Update 2024 Webinar
- **Oct 30th:** IPAC EO Education Day (open to IPAC Canada members and non-members)



We love to hear your good news!

Get a shout out in our 'Congratulations Corner' or featured in our 'IPAC Spotlight'. To share your IPAC successes and projects you are working on to support or enhance your IPAC Programs, please email: SEhubintake@kingstonhsc.ca

BUG WATCH:

Legionella

(genus)



Incubation: 2-10 days

Key Preventative Measures

- Routine practices
- Implement a 'Water Safety Plan' including temperature and flow management
- Routine maintenance and disinfection of water-cooling towers, whirlpool bathtubs, humidifiers, ice machines and plumbing systems (faucets, water heaters and showers)
- Adequate treatment of supplied water where sources have been implicated
- Avoid use of materials that harbour *Legionella* growth (e.g., aerators, rubber washers)
- Removal of plumbing dead legs

Signs & Symptoms of Legionellosis

Legionnaire's Disease

Pontiac Disease

- anorexia/loss of appetite
- malaise
- myalgia

- headache
- productive cough

- fever >39°C

- fever >37.5°C

- pneumonia
- chills
- nausea
- diarrhea



Causative Agent: *Legionella pneumophila*

What is *Legionella*?

- Gram-negative, rod-shaped bacteria
- May cause Legionnaire's disease (severe type of pneumonia) or Pontiac Fever (mild respiratory disease)
- Can reproduce within natural environment and grow inside building's plumbing and survive in biofilms
- Can enter building's water system through external construction, water main breaks and/or water pressure surges
- Optimally grows in water temperatures between 25°C and 45°C and in areas of low-flow or water stagnation

***Legionella* must be reported immediately to your Public Health Unit**

How is *Legionella* spread?

- Inhalation or aspiration into the lungs of aerosolized droplets or mist containing bacteria from contaminated sources

Who is at risk of developing *Legionella*?

Individuals with:

- declining immunity due to age
- pre-existing medical conditions (e.g., chronic lung disease or cancer, diabetes, renal disease)
- swallowing difficulties due to increased risk of pulmonary aspiration

For More Information

ANSI/ASHRAE Standard 188-2018 - [Legionellosis: Risk Management for Building Water Systems](#)

Ministry of Health - [Appendix 1: Case Definitions and Disease: Legionellosis](#)

Public Health Ontario: [Legionellosis \(Legionella, Legionnaires Disease\) Webpage](#)

PHO Rounds: [Legionella Outbreak Investigations: A Practical Approach](#) (webinar)

IPAC SPOTLIGHT

MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



Moira Place

IPAC Lead:
Jeannette Larsen

Moira Place is a 128-bed Long-Term Care Home located in Tweed, Ontario within the Hastings Prince Edward region. The home's IPAC Program is led by Jeannette Larsen who has also been an RN for 30 years. In collaboration with the staff, Jeannette formed and leads an IPAC Committee which has representatives from different disciplines including a Life Enrichment Aide, Restorative Care Aide, a front-line PSW, PSW and RN Supervisors, Social Services Worker, Director of Dietary Services, and Administrator. All members of the committee have completed Public Health Ontario's IPAC Core Competencies education and support audits with feedback in hand hygiene, PPE, point-of-care risk assessments (PCRA) and the correct implementation of additional precautions. The team meets quarterly and more often if needed to give respective updates, review IPAC surveillance data and formulate action plans for improvement. Their ratio of management and front-line staff support IPAC as an interdisciplinary effort.

Thank you to Jeannette and the Moira Place IPAC Committee for making a difference in IPAC!

Contact the Hub: SEHubIntake@kingstonhsc.ca



Service requests

Our Team is available for a variety of services, including on-site visits, staff education, outbreak management, IPAC policy review, IPAC resource development and other supports to help enhance your IPAC program.



IPAC-related questions

Our IPAC Coordinators are happy to provide advice on your IPAC-related questions and direct you to best practice resources. There are also numerous resources and presentations available [on our website](#).



We want your feedback!

We value our partner suggestions and feedback. If the Hub has provided your organization with services, please take a moment to complete our [feedback survey](#) to help us improve our program.