VISION

Canada will be an international leader in the prevention and control of antimicrobial resistance.

MISSION

CCAR advocates for, facilitates and promotes programs related to surveillance, optimal antimicrobial use and infection prevention and control to limit antimicrobial resistance.
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The Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (CCAR) was formed in 1998 to coordinate Canadian efforts to control the development and spread of antimicrobial resistance. Incorporated in 2004, CCAR’s membership represents those government and non-government organizations that have the common goal of reducing antimicrobial resistance in Canada.

Working together on activities identified in the National Action Plan to Address Antibiotic Resistance (http://www.ccar-ccra.com/english/pdfs/Action%20Plan.Sept2004.pdf) CCAR’s main areas of interest are surveillance of resistant organisms, infection prevention and control, and optimal antibiotic use. We provide outreach to the health care and agricultural communities through a variety of activities, including professional seminars, reports and informational documents for specific target audiences and through our websites (www.ccar-ccra.org).

CCAR also works with various levels of government to develop policy and develop sustainable solutions for managing antibiotic resistance. As well, we facilitate cooperative approaches and activities among the diverse interests within both the public and private sectors.

CCAR would not be able to lead in this area of Antibiotic Resistance were it not for the generous support of the Public Health Agency of Canada.
The fight intensifies. The microbes continue to mutate into ever more antibiotic resistant forms and the need for a thoughtful, organized, comprehensive approach to this enormous public health issue is greater than ever. The Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (CCAR) continues to work on behalf of all Canadians both present and future.

The strength of CCAR continues to be in the tireless contributions of its Board Members and its unique and very fruitful intersection of the human health and agrifood sectors. Work progressed on several fronts including the development of antimicrobial curriculum for veterinary students, sponsoring an infection control guideline for small animal practice, and establishing a collaborative antimicrobial stewardship and resistance committee with AMMI Canada.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the huge contribution of Jane McIvor during her tenure as Executive Director. Her communications skills will be sorely missed. On behalf of all of the board members I thank her for all of her efforts and wish her well in future endeavors.

2007-2008 was also a watershed year for CCAR. Large changes in the structure of the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), and federal government in general, necessitated the exploration of new funding arrangements. This has promoted considerable thoughtful discussion and debate on the desired future form of CCAR and an open dialogue with PHAC. I am confident that the considerable accomplishments of CCAR will be multiplied in future with a renewed federal commitment to the management of the continuous threat of antimicrobial resistance.

There is considerably more to accomplish and I look forward to working with the many interested individuals, organizations and governments to reach our goal of being world leaders in the fight against antibiotic resistance.

Dr. Jim Hutchinson
Chair, Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance
It is with great pleasure that I assumed the Executive Director position with the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (CCAR) in September 2008. Over the course of my career I have often been the beneficiary of the excellent work done by CCAR. From the original “Integrated Action Plan for Canadians on Controlling Antimicrobial Resistance” published in 1997 to the 2004 “National Action Plan to Address Antibiotic Resistance” CCAR’s advocacy on behalf of Canadians to control the spread of antibiotic resistance has been widely felt. Whether one works in infection prevention and control; a pharmacy; coaching; medicine; veterinary science; or is a Canadian citizen wishing to expand their knowledge on antimicrobial resistance, CCAR has contributed to the growth of reference materials and scientific evidence across the board.

None of this could have been possible without the efforts of hundreds of individuals who have volunteered their time. I would like to give a tremendous thank you to all of you who have participated over the years on CCAR’s many working groups and/or the Board of Directors. A special thank you to Dr. John Conly (Past-Chair) and Dr. Jim Hutchinson (Current Chair) who have dedicated many hours ‘off the corner of their desks’ to moving CCAR towards reaching its vision and mission. Finally, I would be remiss if I didn’t also recognize the efforts of the past Executive Directors, Rick Walter (1997-2006) and Jane McIvor (2006-2008) for building and maintaining the solid infrastructure on which CCAR operates and thus have enabled me to easily step in and assume my new role.

Of course, it would be extremely difficult for CCAR to focus on the work it was created to do were it not for the continued support from the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC). From the outset the Government of Canada has illustrated its commitment to controlling the spread of antibiotic resistance through its continued funding of organizations such as CCAR. On behalf of all members of the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance we thank you for helping us, help Canadians.

It is now with great pleasure that I present to you the 2007-2008 Annual Report of the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance. Ten years have passed since CCAR published Canada’s first Action Plan for antimicrobial resistance. I know you will be impressed, as I was, with the continued energy of this organization illustrated through the accomplishments of the past fiscal year.

Yours Sincerely,

Margaret Litt
Executive Director,
Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance
The members of CCAR represent those organizations committed to working together to reduce antimicrobial resistance in both the human health and agrifood sectors. Membership is broken into four categories: Not-for-Profit Professional Societies; Not-for-Profit Industrial Associations; Government Agencies; and Associate Members.

### Not-for-Profit Professional Societies
- Canadian Association of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (CACMID)
- Canadian Hospital Epidemiology Committee (CHEC)
- Canadian Medical Association (CMA) - observer
- Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS)
- Canadian Pharmacists Association (CPhA)
- Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA)
- Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA)
- College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC)
- Community and Hospital Infection Control Association (CHICA)
- Do Bugs Need Drugs (DBND)
- University of Calgary – Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance (CAR)
- Groupe contre la Resistance aux Anti-Microbiens (GRAM)

### Not-for-Profit Industrial Associations
- BIOTECanda
- Canada’s Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies (Rx&D)
- Canadian Animal Health Institute (CAHI)

### Government Agencies
- Alberta Health and Wellness
- British Columbia Ministry of Health
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- Canadian Public Health Laboratory Network
- Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health
- Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
- Public Health Agency of Canada

There are over 40 registered Associate Members in addition to those individuals participating on the Board and/or on a Working Groups (see pages 8-9).
CCAR's Board of Directors are recruited from across Canada because of their knowledge, expertise and interest in controlling antibiotic resistance.

Edith Blondel-Hill – Interior Health Authority, Kelowna, British Columbia
Nora Boyd – Erie St Clair Infection Control Network, Windsor Ontario
John Conly – University of Calgary and the Foothills Medical Centre, Calgary Alberta
Susan Fryters – Alberta Health Services, Capital Health, Edmonton, Alberta
Paul Hasselback – Interior Health Authority, Kelowna, British Columbia
Greg Horsman – Saskatchewan Public Health Laboratory
Jim Hutchinson (Chair) – Memorial University, Newfoundland
Scott McEwen – Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Ontario
John Prescott – Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Ontario
Christian Blyth - 3M Health Care

Official Observers: Shirley Paton and Rebecca Irwin
Public Health Agency of Canada
PROVIDING CONCEPTS, PLANNING AND LEADERSHIP FOR CCAR ACTIVITIES

Clare Barry, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Ontario (retired)
Nora Boyd, Erie St Clair Infection Control Network, Windsor Ontario
Nan Cleator, VON Canada
John Conly, University of Calgary and the Foothills Medical Centre, Calgary Alberta
Brenda Dyck, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Elizabeth Henderson, Calgary Regional Health Authority
Linda Kingsbury, Vancouver Coastal Health
Marg McKenzie, Emergency Response, Edmonton, Alberta
Judy Morrison, Public Health Agency of Canada (retired)
Patsy Rawding, Infection Control, Nova Scotia
Liz Van Horne, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Toronto, Ontario
Rick Wray, Hospital for Sick Children

Andy Simor, Canadian Association of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases
John Conly, University of Calgary and the Foothills Medical Centre, Calgary Alberta
Greg Horsman, Canadian Public Health Laboratory Network
Jim Hutchinson, Memorial University, Newfoundland
Jim Kellner, Associate Member
Allison McGeer, Associate Member
Mike Mulvey, Public Health Agency of Canada
David Patrick, BC Centre for Disease Control
Susan Richardson, Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Canada
Karl Weiss, Groupe contre la Resistance aux Anti-Microbiens (GRAM)

John Conly, University of Calgary and the Foothills Medical Centre, Calgary Alberta
Carole Bair, Public Health Agency of Canada
Rebecca Irwin, Public Health Agency of Canada
Scott McEwen, Ontario Veterinary College, University of Guelph, Ontario
Karl Weiss, Groupe contre la Resistance aux Anti-Microbiens (GRAM)
CURRENT AND ON-GOING ACTIVITIES / UPCOMING INITIATIVES

The ‘Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices for Long Term Care, Home and Community Care including Health Care Offices and Ambulatory Clinics’ were published in June 2007 and have quickly become one of CCAR’s most accessed document on the CCAR website. The document was translated into French for release at the CHICA National conference in Montreal in May 2008. The translation was accomplished with assistance from the North Eastern Ontario Infection Control Network and the Champlain Infection Control Network.

With the completion of the document, Towards an International Report on Antimicrobial Resistance, in 2006, the Centre of Coastal Health, in partnership with CCAR, and under the leadership of Dr. Craig Stephen, Centre for Coastal Health, began to develop a summarized version of the report for peer review.

While the report’s conclusions highlighted the difficulties and challenges in producing an international report card, it did provide lessons which will allow for greater gains in Canada’s progress toward understanding and controlling rising rates of antimicrobial resistance through coordination of existing efforts to create synergies and efficiencies in data collection. The full report can be downloaded from www.ccar-ccra.org (from the International Report Card Working Group page). A summarized version was published in the Dec 2007 issue of Microbial Drug Resistance (Vol. 13, No. 4: 251-260).
In addition to endorsement of the *Bugs and Drugs* book, CCAR undertook *A Community Program for the Wise Use of Antibiotics*, which evaluated the effectiveness of the 20 page *Do Bugs Need Drugs? Parent Guide* and translated materials.

The Bugs and Drugs PDA Working Group, tasked with investigating opportunities for an electronic version of the highly successful Bugs and Drugs, developed a business plan to provide a comprehensive look at resources needed to produce an effective PDA format. The plan looked at aspects such as software development and maintenance (for a variety of electronic formats), content maintenance, sales fulfillment and a comparison to existing products in terms of subscription pricing and market share. Working with Capital Health Region and authors and CCAR Directors Edith Blondel-Hill and Susan Fryters, CCAR has recommended that third parties with existing infrastructure and experience in this field be invited to propose on a partnership to develop the book. (www.bugsanddrugs.ca)

Following up on the workshops held in May 2007, a final curriculum was released in December 2007. The Curriculum Working Group are currently implementing some of the recommendations, including the collection of teaching materials. The final curriculum is available on the CCAR website (www.ccar-ccra.org).

Jim Hutchinson, Chair of CCAR, agreed to chair the Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease (AMMI Canada) Canada’s Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance Committee. One of the initial projects is the development of an antimicrobial stewardship curriculum.

CCAR Director, Dr. Edith Blondell-Hill, is in the process of developing an updated guide to be available later this year. CCAR will provide assistance on distribution and communications when ready.
CCAR Director, Dr. John Prescott, is providing leadership to translate the document earlier produced by Nora Boyd (Infection Prevention and Control Best Practices) into a manual for Veterinary Clinics.

CCAR continues to be active in a number of other areas, including participation in educational sessions and relevant conferences such as:

The Community and Hospital Infection Control Association – Canada (CHICA) - Canada’s National Education Conference 2007 held in Edmonton, Alberta, June 9 - 14, 2007. (http://www.chica.org/)

Dr. Hutchinson chaired the AMMI Canada “Antimicrobial Stewardship and Resistance Committee Meeting” and as the CCAR Chair presented on “Antibiotic Misuse - A Stewardship Storm is Brewing”. As well, Dr. Hutchinson chaired a Wyeth supported lunch symposia entitled: “Collateral Damage” Unintended Consequences of Antimicrobial Use”. The conference was held in Vancouver on February 2008. (http://www.ammi.ca/annual_conference/2008presentations.php)
Over the past year, CCAR also supported its fellow professional organizations as they prepared to and/or launched the following campaigns:

Safer Health Care Now, Phase II Campaign
(http://www.saferhealthcarenow.ca/)

and the

National Infectious Disease Awareness Day
(http://www.nidd.ca/index.html)
In January 2009, the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance is hosting a national conference on Antimicrobial Resistance. The conference will provide a forum for professional and government organizations that are committed to decreasing the rates of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in Canada to come together and determine mechanisms for strengthening areas such as the epidemiology and laboratory interface and the human and animal interface.

The following are the proposed objectives for the meeting:

- To understand the current status of AMR in Canada
- To understand the current status of AMR internationally and how various countries are organized(ing) to manage AMRs
- To review the current AMR infrastructure in Canada
- To identify gaps/overlaps in the current management of AMR and in the infrastructure supporting this management
- To propose next steps relating to AMR management and infrastructure in Canada

Plan to regularly visit the CCAR website for updates on the conference (www.ccar-ccra.org).
## Statement of Operations
For the Year Ended 31 March 2008 (unaudited)

### Revenue
- Public Health Agency of Canada funding $178,461
- Interest 25
- Other income 1,029

**Total Revenue** $179,515

### Direct expenses
- Executive director 80,004
- Project expenses 5,648
- Subcontractors 3,401
- Travel and living expenses 6,886
- Rent 4,732
- Printing and reproduction 5,628
- Website -
- Telephone and fax 1,868
- Translation 3,255
- Postage and delivery 634
- Materials and supplies 3,743
- Hygiene best practices 637
- AMR curriculum 25,000
- VET IPC best practices 30,000

**Total Direct Expenses** $171,436

### Excess of revenues over direct expenses
$8,079

### Administration expenses
- Insurance 1,800
- Legal 30
- Bank charges 29

**Total Administration Expenses** $1,859

### Excess of revenues over expenses for the year
$6,220

## Statement of Financial Position
For the Year Ended 31 March 2008 (unaudited)

### Assets
#### Current
- Cash $66
- Accounts receivable 185,456

**Total Current Assets** $185,522

### Liabilities
#### Current
- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities 68,878
- GST payable 465

**Total Current Liabilities** $69,343

### Net assets
$116,179

### Balance - beginning of year
$109,959

### Excess of revenues over expenses
$6,220

### Balance - end of year
$116,179
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