



YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PAN-CANADIAN CONSULTATIONS ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

The Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (CCAR) and the Public Health Agency of Canada are organizing a series of consultations on antimicrobial resistance (AMR). As you are probably aware, through the generous support of the Government of Canada the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance (CCAR) has existed for over twelve years. In June 2009, the Canadian Committee on Antibiotic Resistance's (CCAR) contract ends and it is time to hold thoughtful discussions on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by soliciting input on governance and relevant technical/scientific issues from key stakeholders with the intent of effectively managing and preventing AMR in Canada in 2009 and beyond.

To this end, the objectives for the consultations have been identified as:

- To identify technical/scientific challenges/gaps in the management of AMR across Canada and identify opportunities for addressing these challenges/gaps;
- To identify key AMR stakeholders across Canada and foster positive working relationships which will extend beyond the consultation process; and
- To identify the advantages and disadvantages of potential governance models for AMR at a national level in Canada.

-There are two opportunities for you to participate in these consultations:

1. VIDEOCONFERENCING

The videoconference sessions are divided into three topic areas: surveillance, antimicrobial stewardship and education/training. Each topic area will be discussed in two 3 hour sessions, on the dates shown in the table below. The first half-day session will focus on identifying current challenges and gaps within the subject matter area. The second session, which will take place the next day, will focus on opportunities and options for responding to the issues identified in the previous day's session. In order to lessen the time and financial burdens on participants, we have chosen to hold these consultations using videoconferencing sites in key centres across Canada. The specific videoconference sites are still to be determined and will depend on the interest and availability of experts and advisors like you across Canada. We will also plan to provide teleconference access to the consultation discussions for a limited number of participants who are unable to participate via videoconference hook-up.

The dates for the videoconference consultations are:

TOPIC	DATE	TIME
Surveillance	March 30 th & March 31 st	9-12 p.m Pacific Time;
Antimicrobial Stewardship	April 21 st & April 22 nd	12-3 p.m. Eastern Time; and
Education/Training	April 30 th & May 1 st	2-5 p.m. Atlantic Time.

2. FACE TO FACE MINI-SESSION

The face to face mini-session will be held between 2:30–4:30 p.m., June 19th, 2009 at the 26th International Congress of Chemotherapy and Infection (AMMI Canada - CACMID Annual Conference) in Toronto. This session is only 2 hours in length and consequently will focus on presenting an overview on the **Antimicrobial Stewardship** gaps, issues, and opportunities identified to date via the AMR consultations. This will be followed by a brief discussion with your national and international colleagues and the opportunity to supplement the report being prepared for the Public Health Agency of Canada with any additional key information. *Note: there are only a limited number of seats for this session so please RSVP quickly if you are interested in attending*

Please let us know what session(s) you would be interested in participating in by e-mailing your response to info@ccar-ccra.com before **March 6, 2009**. Once we have confirmed your availability we will send you more detailed information about the event.