

Chapter Newsletter  
ISSUE 03 December 2018



### Message from the CEO

*I want to thank each of our members for such a warm welcome since I started at CHIMA a few short months ago.*

*As a national association, the certifying body for the Health Information Management (HIM®) profession, and an advocate for HIM® across Canada, we are excited about what you are asking of CHIMA and the new path that our strategic plan charts.*

*What I've heard from members so far is that you are looking for more from us in terms of engagement, opportunities for advancement, and recognition of the profession and of the individuals in it.*

*This path positions CHIMA in a unique place as a connector and catalyst between industry and talent, building on our culture of leadership and of innovation.*

*With this in mind, I'm looking forward to visiting Atlantic Canada in the spring to engage our members and stakeholders from across the region and reinforce that we are fortunate to have both chapters and staff across the country. Jessica MacDougall, Director of Accreditation and Certification, calls Nova Scotia home and we are grateful to have such a strong group of leaders in the region.*

*From all of us at CHIMA, we wish you a safe and Happy Holiday season and Happy New Year!*

Sincerely - Jeff

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### Do You Know Where to Find Us??

Each CHIMA Chapter has  
its own webpage—  
visit ours at

[www.nspe.echima.ca/home](http://www.nspe.echima.ca/home)

### Have Questions? Email Us

[NSPEchapter@echima.ca](mailto:NSPEchapter@echima.ca)

### Follow Us



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CHIMA

# What does CHIMA do for me? What does CHIMA give me?

*Jennifer Currie, CHIM, NSPE Chapter Chair*

# Opportunity

This is a question that comes up quite frequently, especially around the time of year that membership renewals go out to our members. When I am asked this question, the simple answer I give is “OPPORTUNITY” - one word that contains endless possibilities.

♦ **The OPPORTUNITY to improve yourself through a multitude of CPE sessions**

At the 2018 CHIMA National Conference, the following facts and figures were shared. Since the Chapter Model launch in 2016, there were 26 Chapter-hosted education sessions held and **15,468** CPE credits earned from those. An additional **7,621** CPE credits were earned on CHIMA-hosted sessions—more than 23,000 CPEs earned in just over a two-year period.

♦ **The OPPORTUNITY to obtain advanced certifications**

CHIMA offers several options to members who wish to seek advanced certification including the Coding Specialist Program, the Clinical Documentation Improvement Specialist Program, and a Graduate Certificate in Health Terminology Standards.

♦ **The OPPORTUNITY to volunteer**

CHIMA encourages members to join us on our Chapter Committees, our subcommittees, and to participate in a variety of task teams and committees at a national level.

♦ **The OPPORTUNITY to network**

With ever-limited budgets in the workplace, the opportunity for HIMs to network may seem to have decreased over the last few years; however, the potential still exists and can have extraordinary benefits. Being able to network with your peers on a local, Chapter, national or even international level can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your career, whether it is in-person or virtual networking.

♦ **The OPPORTUNITY to have a voice**

CHIMA is a member-driven Association – your opinion matters! CHIMA and the Chapters are always looking for membership input and direction. If you get a survey, if you are asked to provide feedback – give it to us. CHIMA is your Association – you have a voice – you just need to use it.

***Opportunity is there for all of us with CHIMA and the Chapters—It's yours for the taking!***

## NSPE Chapter Committee Welcomes two new Directors

### Raven Wilson, CHIM

Raven graduated with Honors from the Health Information Management Program from the Centre for Distance Education based in Sydney, NS, in 2016.



She was a Health Records Manager and Assistant Office Manager for a local family practice while in school.

After graduation, Raven worked at the QEII Hospital in Halifax as a Coding Classification Specialist (DAD) until the summer of 2018, when she took a new position as Database Coordinator for the Health Records Department.

She is a military spouse with a fast growing teenage son and adorable fur-babies. Raven joined the NSPE Chapter Committee in 2018.

## NSPE Members—Pinnacle Award Winners



### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

NSPE Members take home Pinnacle Awards!



#### ***2018 Tribute to Excellence***

Janice MacNeil

#### ***2018 Chapter Volunteer of the Year***

Jennifer Currie



### Julie Hurlburt, CHIM



Julie has been working in Health Information Services since 2009 and has been a member of CHIMA since 2012.

She began her professional career as a Health Information Clerk with South Shore and Capital Health. Working closely with members of the coding department, her interest in coding grew, leading to her decision to attend the Canadian Healthcare Association's HIM program.

She worked as a Coding Classification Specialist at the University of Alberta Hospital, Alberta Health, for four years. Upon returning to her home province, Nova Scotia, Julie obtained a position as a Coding Classification Specialist with NSHA.

Julie is married with two children, Elizabeth and William and spends most of her free time doing home renovations and catching up with her family. Julie joined the NSPE Chapter Committee in 2018.