



# CHAIR

Coalition for Healthcare  
Acquired Infection Reduction

FOR

# IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CHAIR** IS A VOLUNTEER, NOT-FOR-PROFIT GROUP OF INDUSTRY AND HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS WORKING TOGETHER TO REDUCE HEALTHCARE ACQUIRED INFECTIONS (HAIs). WE BELIEVE MANY HAIs CAN BE ELIMINATED BY MANAGING THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT WITHIN FACILITIES.

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**“Our vision is to reduce HAIs by 80% by 2024”**

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AN 80% REDUCTION IN HAI **SAVES 8,000 LIVES**. REDUCE ACQUIRED INFECTIONS BY 160,000 CASES, AND WE CAN **SAVE \$3.2 – \$4 BILLION** ANNUALLY.

For information about CHAIR or how to become a CHAIR member go to <http://chaircanada.org>

## CHAIR Canada 2018 Leadership Award

This year's Coalition for Healthcare Acquired Infection Reduction (CHAIR) 2018 Leadership Award was announced on September 16, 2018 at the opening reception of the 38th Annual Conference of the Canadian Healthcare Engineering Society in St. John's Newfoundland.

The award program recognizes healthcare engineering professionals for their contribution to healthcare acquired infection reduction.

CHAIR's 2018 Leadership Award was given to Michael Rijavec, of Foothills Medical Centre in Calgary, Alberta. Since Michael was unable to attend, Grant Canning, a colleague of Michael's at the Capital Management Group for the Calgary Zone, accepted the award on his behalf.



Left to right: Grant Canning, colleague of Michael Rijavec's, Marian Boyer, National Facilitator of CHAIR Canada

Mr. Rijavec received this award for exemplary advocacy in educating stakeholders at Foothills Medical Centre in Calgary Alberta on the importance of implementing Engineered Infection Prevention (EIP) technology. Past awards have been for support of product trials and implementation. This year's award was for education, since it is the first critical step in reducing hospital acquired infections by implementing EIP products by 2024.