



President

Elaine Huesing
Huecorp Enterprises Limited
Edmonton, AB

Vice President

Gary Zatko
IBM Global Services
Edmonton, AB

Secretary

Linda Miller
Alberta Health and Wellness
Edmonton, AB

Treasurer

Mark Rivette
TELUS
Calgary, AB

Past President

Don Newsham
Sierra Systems Group. Inc.
Edmonton, AB

Director at Large

Gerry Slusar
Slusar Consulting Inc.
Edmonton, AB

Secretariat

Kelly McGallan
Alberta Health and Wellness
Edmonton, AB

Kelly.McGallan@health.gov.ab.ca

ANHIX Dispatch

- ELAINE HUESING, PRESIDENT -

Elaine Huesing is the Marketing Director of Huecorp Enterprises Ltd. In Edmonton, Alberta.



In preparation to write the “dispatch” I took sometime to read through some old articles that were written in respect to where we were and where we are going in IT/IM Healthcare delivery. These articles focused at a national level; one even quoted from the 1974 Marc Lalonde report. What sparked my interest was that current reports (i.e. the Mazankowski report) cite the same problems. Over 20 years later, we are still identifying the same issues. The question then would be why?

In the past, our Healthcare leaders have indicated that we need more effective leadership, innovative technology, clearer businesses cases, adequate training..I am certain you are familiar with the list, as mentioned - it is at least 20 years old. But let’s stop to see if we have progressed.

- * Effective Leadership - you bet we have it, we may or may not agree with the leadership all the time, but it is growing and becoming more effective
- * Innovation - robotic surgery is an excellent example. We can certainly utilize the technology to meet our needs, we can build a business case and know that IT will meet the requirements or be able to be built to meet them.
- * Business cases - with more experienced consultants in our industry, this has improved without doubt
- * Inadequate Training - we are consistently improving project management, which only improves components such as training.

We have advanced, so why do the reports come to the same conclusions, it’s been 20 years after all. Is it that we keep waiting for the perfect timing, the right conditions and keep going back to check if the analysis was correct? Could be. Many would tend to lean towards the argument that we haven’t managed to develop expectations from “the people” when it comes to technology in our industry or the necessary funding support.

In the last issue of HIM&CC, Brendan Seaton, Past President of COACH and Security and Confidentiality Guru of Canada, wrote his last COACH Column, entitled “Just One Word - “Genetics””, it is a well-written column on what the next ride will be, and it is big. Brendan informed us that it will come and waiting to see what happens isn’t going to cut the mustard. Perhaps it is time that we move towards accepting certain expectations and standards and move ahead.

Alberta’s CIO’s are focused on Security as a result of the Security Framework that will be required by we//net and Alberta Health and Wellness. The framework is comprehensive and the cost of implementing it is likely going to be an issue. They are also challenged with concerns for creating more collaboration between the regions, the Mazankowski Report findings, and Infrastructure renewal and “ever-greening”.

Vendors that have a vested interest in the Alberta Market place are busy with their sales cycle as the POSP, The Physician Office System Program, deadline approaches and as the PIN, the Pharmaceutical Information Network moves forward. They may have concerns about what responsibilities that they will have to champion in the Security Policies of Alberta Health & Wellness.

ANHIX Events

Make sure to mark your calendars for the fall ANHIX event, which will be held in Calgary on November 14, 2002. Feel free to contact our ANHIX Secretariat, Kelly.McGallan@health.gov.ab.ca for further information and regular updates on ANHIX, your network for health information eXchange in Alberta.

