2021 Young Professional Award

Jessica Fullerton
M.Sc., CIC

In recognition of unwavering commitment, leadership, and advocacy for the development of health care standards
As an infection control professional dedicated to health care design and construction for the past nine years, Jessica Fullerton has been a committed advocate for patient safety and health care facility standards.

Over the past seven years, Jessica has participated at multiple levels of standards development. Currently, she is Chair of the Technical Subcommittee (TSC) for Infection Control During Construction, Renovation and Maintenance of Health Care Facilities (Z317.13), a member of the Technical Committee (TC) on Health Care Facilities, and also a member of various other related TSCs, including: Design and Construction of Canadian Health Care Facilities, Special Requirements for Plumbing Installations in Health Care Facilities, Patient Lifting Devices, and the Provincial/Territorial Regulators Forum on Health Care Facilities. Apart from standards development, Jessica is a member of the training faculty for CSA Z317.13 certification, traveling the country to promote uptake and adherence to the standard. She consistently engages her peers and colleagues to solicit front-line feedback, thereby ensuring standards are relevant and usable, all with the end goal of ensuring health care facilities are planned, designed, constructed, and maintained in the safest manner possible.

Jessica has also played an active and integral role in CSA-led research initiatives, acting as a member of the research advisory panel for studies such as Infection Prevention and Control in health care facility design and Testing the effect of faucet flowrate on handwashing efficacy.

In the face of the global pandemic, Jessica has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to CSA Group and standards while maintaining essential front-line health care service. Jessica’s ability to support her organization through the pandemic while still managing to attend, contribute and lead various TC, TSC, and working group meetings has been nothing short of admirable and worthy of this recognition.

Jessica is an Infection Control Professional and Construction Lead with The Ottawa Hospital. Her role focuses on ensuring spaces are designed to support infection prevention and control best practices while also safeguarding building occupants from the risks associated with construction-related activities. Jessica has provided Infection Prevention and Control expertise on a wide range of acute care, rehabilitation, ambulatory care, community health, and long-term care projects. Her passion lies in bridging the gap between health care design and construction and how this can influence the safety of patients, visitors, and staff.