



October 2007

Chartered Accountants of Nova Scotia

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SCAN

Introducing ICANS' 2007 - 2007 President

People love to give advice. Of course, whether you heed the advice is up to you and how it affects your life is often a matter of time and competing factors. That said, when reflecting on his election as ICANS' newest President, Don Flinn, CA, recalled some advice a partner gave him early in his career.

"He told me that 'if an organization was worth getting involved in, it was worth leading,'" recalls Don. "When I initially offered my name for election to the ICANS Council, it was to give back to the profession - just wanting to get involved. I feel truly privileged to have been elected President and fortunate to have the opportunity to lead ICANS for a year. Remembering that comment from my partner made me think about all the advice and guidance I have been give over the years from many, many CAs. What a remarkable profession."

All that aside, it was Don's own intuition that brought him into the profession. While his father was a CA, he attended university with several other vocations in mind with potentially an eye to a career in law. However, he became more attracted to the CA profession when looking at the broad range of opportunities available to CAs. Needless to say, since choosing his career path, it's been full steam ahead.

After graduating from Saint Mary's University with his Bachelor of Commerce degree, Don joined Collins Barrow (a predecessor of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP) and earned his CA designation in 1989. After a stint in industry with Cochran Communications Inc., Don returned to public practice by re-joining PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP where he is currently a partner and the firm's Audit and Assurance practice leader for the Maritimes.

"I have always found the range of responsibilities and constant learning to be a captivating part of being a CA," says Don. "In industry, I experienced this in not only the

management of the finance function, but also in operational involvement in the organization. In public practice it is the range of industries, clients, personalities, staff and issues that I have found enjoyable. Every day is different and surprisingly (to non-CAs, at least), the 'soft skills', not the technical knowledge, are what get a daily workout."

Of course, another great way to keep those CA skills in shape is to volunteer, something Don has done throughout his career. In fact, Don views volunteering as part of the profession's core values, as it aids in a CA's role to act in and protect the public interest.

"I think it is important to give back to our communities," says Don. "For many young CAs, volunteerism can serve to greatly enhance leadership and strategic thinking skills. A CA will be seen by many NPOs as a business leader where a young CA may not yet have this role in their employment

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Don Flinn
CA President

situation. Grabbing this role, leading a board through governance, finance and strategic issues, communicating with and influencing people from a variety of backgrounds and with a variety of personalities, and broadening a network of contacts all will serve as a valuable business experiences.”

Personally, Don’s volunteer experience covers everything from serving as President and a Member of the Board of Directors for the Children’s Aid Society of Halifax, to being a Board Member of the former Camp Hill Medical Centre at the time of the construction of the new Halifax Infirmary, to

coaching the Halifax Hawks Female Atom hockey team and others. Within the profession, Don has served on Council since 1998, and he’s used his strategic thinking and leadership skills to serve the Institute in many capacities including terms on the Education, Audit and Professional Standards committees.

“In volunteer roles I always try to make sure my voice is heard. Really being involved means being prepared to give frank views on issues, even if you are in opposition with the majority,” says Don.

Naturally, Don also believes in living

the CA brand. From always using the letters ‘CA’ after his name to responding, “I am a Chartered Accountant,” when asked what he does, Don practices what he preaches.

“Promoting and protecting the CA brand is critical and it’s all our responsibility,” says Don. “As CAs, we should take every opportunity to remind employers, clients, students and business colleagues that we are unique; that we have the financial expertise, strategic thinking, business insight and leadership skills to make a difference.” Now that’s sound advice!

President’s Message

As ICANS President for 2007/08, it is my pleasure and privilege to serve you, our members, and represent your interests through the Nova Scotia Institute. Not surprisingly, my goals as President will be guided by the profession’s national Strategic Plan and its four key directions of branding, education, public interest and member relations.

To this end, I feel it’s critical to maintain and enhance ICANS’ strong role and voice on the profession’s national stage. ICANS’ previous Council members, volunteers and staff have worked diligently to establish this important presence and as Canada’s business environment – and that of the world – continues to change it will be even more essential for Nova Scotia CAs to be involved at a level that can influence this change.

In terms of the profession’s Strategic Plan, work is well underway concerning the development and enhancement of our brand through ongoing advertising and communication efforts. Provincially, ICANS will continue to support the brand development through ‘top up’ advertising in local business publications and at the Halifax Stanfield International Airport, and through the consistent use of branding messages in all our publications and communication efforts. In addition, this fall sees the official public launch of the profession’s new logo – an important building block of the CA brand.

On the education front, By-Law changes providing for the expansion of CA experience criteria have now been approved (see E-SCAN, August 2007). Effective September 1, 2007,

we will recognize qualifying experience in approved CA firm training offices in areas in addition to audit and assurance, and in carefully selected corporations and government departments with approved CA Training Programs. This is an exciting change within the profession and I’m sure we are all looking forward to its evolution.

“my goals as President will be guided by the profession’s national Strategic Plan and its four key directions of branding, education, public interest and member relations”.

We are also looking forward to participating in the ongoing work of the Public Trust Task Force. To date, this group has been developing initiatives and discussing issues ranging from mandatory liability insurance and continuing professional development to professional standards and the discipline process. Of special interest will be the implementation of the minimum requirement changes concerning Continuing Professional Development (CPD) effective for ICANS members on January 1, 2008.

Also, in our ongoing efforts to protect the public, Council will work with CICA and the other PICAs to continu-

ally assess our standards against the expectations of provincial, national, and international markets, making sure that our standards are second to none. Legislative differences between Canada’s various provinces should not prevent best practices in the CA profession’s standards across the country; therefore, the Nova Scotia Institute’s regulatory processes are being compared and reviewed with those of other provinces and with international standards on an ongoing basis.

Furthermore, we will be monitoring changes to the Practice Inspection program, which were approved by Council in February 2007 for implementation in 2008. Chief among these changes is the move from a four-year review cycle to a three-year review cycle – a move that’s in line with those of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and other provinces – and the harmonization of Nova Scotia’s review scope and content with those of other jurisdictions. The discipline processes are also under review, with the practices in all Canadian jurisdictions being compared to identify the best practices.

In addition, Council will continue to focus on the alignment of member services. To this end, we’re pleased that the National Member Relations Task Force, chaired by ICANS’ CEO and Executive Director, Michele Wood-Tweel, continues to develop ways to enhance member services – to increase the two-way communication between members and PICAs, and between the PICAs themselves

for the benefit of all Chartered Accountants in Canada and Bermuda.

Aside from focusing on Strategic Plan initiatives, other national matters that Council will continue to focus efforts on this year include issues related to the Federal Government's competition survey of the Professions, the TILMA Agreement signed between the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, mobility of foreign credentialed professionals and the revised UFE Competency Map.

Finally, I believe that ICANS members see protection and promotion of their chosen profession as a core

responsibility of the Institute, so issues like branding, licensing and international and inter-provincial reciprocity are critically important to me as President of the Institute.

Needless to say, we will continue to keep you informed on matters related to all of these issues and more, and if you have any questions, I encourage you to contact me or any of our Council members directly. I'd also like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest Council members - Derrick Hayes and Jennifer Nicholson - both of whom bring significant experience that will benefit Council and

the decisions we make on behalf of you and the profession. I'd also like to welcome the Institute's newest staff member, Greg Crosby, CA, LLB, who will serve as our new part-time Director of Regulatory Affairs. And finally, I hope you get a chance over the course of the year to visit ICANS at its new location (the 14th floor of the TD Bank Building in Halifax) and participate in PD activities in the new ICANS Learning Centre.

All told, it should be an exciting year and I'm looking forward to serving you in the best way possible. Thank you.

Meet your 2007 - 2008 ICANS Executive

Joining ICANS' President Don Flinn, CA, on the Institute's 2007 - 2007 Executive Team are:

Leo Gallant, FCA, CFP, Vice-President



An accounting professor at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Leo joined the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nova Scotia in 1974

(prior to this, he was a member of the Ontario Institute). He was a member of Council between 1982 and 1987, and served on several Institute committees during that term. He has also been a member of the CICA Board of Examiners and Chair of the Syllabus Committee. In 1992, Leo was made a Fellow of the Nova Scotia Institute and in 2001 he rejoined Council. Currently, he is a mem-

ber of the International Qualifications Appraisal Board and he is the Past Chair of the Atlantic School of Chartered Accountancy (ASCA). In addition, he is the author of several text books and in 2000, he authored *The First 100 Years: A History of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nova Scotia*.

Susan McIsaac CA, Treasurer



As a partner in a local accounting firm, Susan combines financial expertise and business insight to assist clients though her practice in Amherst, Nova Scotia, and

through her satellite office in Sackville, New Brunswick. After articling with Grant Thornton LLP, she obtained her CA designation in Nova Scotia in 1990, and she has also been a member of the New Brunswick CA Institute since 1999. Susan's involvement with ICANS extends from being a member of the Practice Review and Practitioner's Committees, to presenting PD courses for many years.

She was also a Marker and a Supervisor on the comprehensive question at the UFE Marking Centre for 10 years. Outside of the profession, Susan's current volunteer work includes being Treasurer and Audit Committee Chair of the Canadian Cancer Society, Nova Scotia Division; Treasurer for the Bridge Adult Workshop; and a Member of the Rotary Club of Amherst.

Greg Simpson, CA, CPA, Secretary



Greg earned his CA designation in 1995 - making the David Hope Honor Roll - while working with KPMG LLP in Halifax. Then, after specializing in tax for 10 years, he was

admitted to partnership, where he is now the leader of the firm's U.S. and cross-border tax practice in Atlantic Canada. In addition, Greg has been KPMG's Halifax Recruiting Coordinator for the past eight years and he is currently the HR Partner of the Halifax office and a member of the firm's Diversity Council. Using his expertise to help others, Greg has been a Board Member

and Vice-Chairman of Phoenix Youth Programs, as well as a Member of the Acadia University Alumni Association (his alma mater) and a previous member of the University's Halifax Alumni Gala Dinner Committee. He joined the ICANS Council in 2003 and has served on the Institute's Golf Committee and Audit Committee.

2007 - 2008 ICANS Council

Paul Comeau, CA

Grant Thornton LLP
Yarmouth

Bruce Densmore, FCA

Densmore Consulting
Fall River

Ted Doane, CA

Nova Scotia
Community College
Halifax

Don Flinn, CA

(ICANS President)
PricewaterhouseCoopers
LLP
Halifax

Grant Galbraith, CA, CFP

Collins Barrow Nauss
Hornby LLP
Dartmouth

Leo Gallant, FCA, CFP

(ICANS Vice-President)
St. Francis Xavier
University
Antigonish

Derrick Hayes, CA, CMA

Cape Breton University
Sydney

Susan McIsaac, CA

(ICANS Treasurer)
sj mcisaac, Chartered
Accountant
Amherst

Kelvin (Kelly) Nelson, CA

High Liner Foods Inc.
Lunenburg

Jennifer Nicholson, CA

Emera Inc.
Halifax

Greg Simpson, CA, CPA

(ICANS Secretary)
KPMG LLP
Halifax

Colin MacKinnon

(lay member) Retired
Bedford

Encouraging Early Success

Currently in its 8th year of operation, the ICANS High School Scholarship Program is an ideal opportunity for Nova Scotia CAs to impart their belief in the importance of life-long learning and community development. To date, the program has been a great success for both students and the Institute alike. This year, ICANS received 58 outstanding applications and, after reviewing each for superior academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular and community activities, this year's Selection Committee awarded each of the following four students with a cheque for \$1,000 toward their future academic studies:

Kyle MacDonald

After graduating from Strait Area Education-Recreation Centre in Port Hawkesbury, Kyle MacDonald is on his way to obtaining a Commerce degree from Queens University before following in his father's footsteps, Stewart MacDonald, CA, in entering the profession. That said, after serving as captain of various athletic teams and heading up committees, Kyle already has a leg up on developing his leadership skills. He's also proven his passion for suc-

cess and the ability to multi-task by balancing sports, extra-curricular activities and part-time work while still achieving academic excellence. As one teacher remarked, "Kyle MacDonald represents the very best of the all-round student." For that reason and more, ICANS is delighted to support Kyle as he continues his academic and professional journey.

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Kathleen O'Reilly

After graduating early from Northeast Kings Education Centre in Canning, Kathleen O'Reilly traveled throughout Europe, learning some

vital business insight from the head of H&M, an international clothing store. Today, she is plying her newfound knowledge toward her studies at Memorial University, where she is enrolled in the five-year Co-op Commerce program, with future plans to become a CA. However, Kathleen's interest in business began back in Grade 7 when her cotton candy business turned a profit at her school's Independent Development Unit Fair. She then gained further experience by participating in a Junior Achievement Titan Team. This, combined with a history of sports participation, community fundraising and academic success has given Kathleen a 'portfolio of experiences' to draw upon as she pursues her dream of a career in business. Needless-to-say, ICANS is honored to assist Kathleen with her future endeavors.

Amanda Robinson

A graduate of Avon View High School in Windsor, Amanda Robinson has all the makings of a future Chartered Accountant. Enrolled in the Bachelor of Commerce program at Saint Mary's University she

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is eager to realize how her past accomplishments and skills will contribute toward her future development. As an above average academic student, who has led sports teams and school committees, who has volunteered in her community and maintained part-time employment, Amanda is familiar with the challenges and rewards possible with a career as a CA. In turn, ICANS is privileged to support Amanda's efforts and we wish her every success in the future.

Brigitte Stennett

Having graduated from Middleton Regional High School, Brigitte Stennett is enrolled in the Bachelor of Business Administration program at Acadia University. An energetic and focused teen, Brigitte is a natural multi-tasker. Balancing school work that consisted of advanced

curriculum, with volunteer placements, employment and numerous extra-curricular activities, Brigitte's work ethic is second-to-none. In turn, she has received several recognition awards including the Lieutenant Governors Award. All this,

combined with her natural leadership skills guarantee Brigitte future success and we are delighted to support her dreams with an ICANS scholarship.

Again, congratulations to all our scholarship recipients and a special thank you to all the students who submitted an application to this year's program. Remember - the ICANS High School Scholarship Program is open to all Nova Scotia students. As recipient Kyle Stewart indicated in his 'thank you' letter to the Institute: "It is awards like this, which allow many students to attend prestigious institutions with a smaller financial burden. This allows us to focus on our studies and future careers rather than having to cope with both school and a job . . . Personally, I am more grateful than I can express and I hope you will continue to support students like myself in the future."

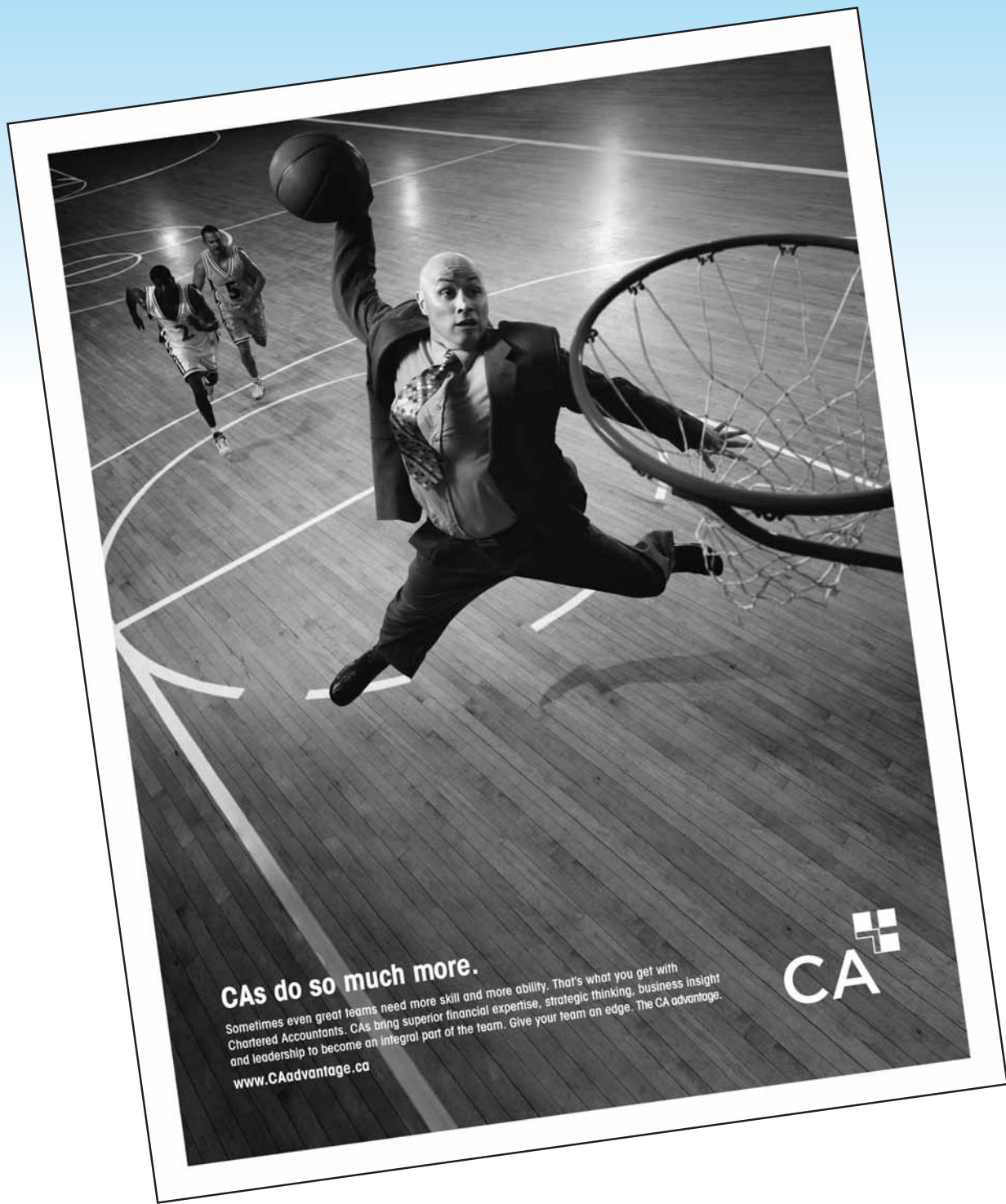
For more information on ICANS High School Scholarship Program, please visit www.icans.ns.ca or call the Institute at (902) 425-3291.

Meet your 2007 - 2008 ICANS Executive

Joining ICANS' President Don Flinn, CA, on the Institute's 2007 - 2007 Executive Team are:

Volunteers are one of ICANS' most valuable assets. Whether you serve on Council, provide advice regarding membership and conduct issues, or help in organizing our annual golf tournament, the time and expertise you contribute to developing and promoting our profession is greatly appreciated. In particular, we want to thank the following members who volunteered with the Institute during 2006 - 2007:

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Gary Armstrong | Ted Doane | Elizabeth Hicks | Elaine Morash | Randall Smith |
| Daniel Avery | Murray Doehler | Eugene Hurlbert | Barbara Morton | Ronald Smith |
| Alan Barkhouse | Elizabeth Duncan | Glenn Hynes | John Nash | Stanley Spavold |
| Tanya Boudreau | Scott Ellison | Cheryl Inman | Peter Nash | Gary Stafford |
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| Peter Boyd | Joseph Flinn | Claudette Kehoe | Jennifer Nicholson | Robert Teale |
| Alan Bruce | Marc Furlotte | Carl Kent | Mary Oxner | Maura Timmons |
| David Bruce | Grant Galbraith | Ross Landers | Susan Payne | Gerald Trites |
| Gordon Caldwell | Leo Gallant | Brad Langille | Malcolm Pitman | James Trussler |
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| Roger Carroll | Phillip Gaunce | Ira MacInnis | Lawrence Roche | Kent Williams |
| Susan Carson | Michele Gerrard | John MacKinnon | Jane Roy | Michele Williams |
| Claude Carter | Maureen Gillis | Tanya MacNeil | Carol Semple | Paul Willison |
| John Carter | Paul Goodman | Kenneth Mader | Stephen Shupe | Mark Winfield |
| Ferdinando Colaiacovo | Jack Gorrill | Susan McIsaac | Elaine Sibson | Kathy Wolfe |
| Paul Comeau | Andrew Hare | Jacklyn Mercer | Gregory Simpson | Troy Yeo |
| Alan Conrod | Ronald Harnish | Gordon Moore | Donna Singleton | Nicola Young |
| Kevin Dean | William Hayward | Steven Moore | William Slattery | David Yuill |
| Bruce Densmore | | | | |



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ICANS Mission Statement

“To protect and serve the public and our members by providing exceptional services and resources within a well-regulated profession, and enable Chartered Accountants of Nova Scotia to be the obvious choice for financial management, assurance and other specialized services.”

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