

E-SCAN is a regular newsletter distributed electronically as a means of maintaining timely communication of, and encouraging a dialogue on, topics relevant to Chartered Accountants and students of the Nova Scotia Institute. Copies of recent issues can be obtained from the Institute web-site at [www.icans.ns.ca](http://www.icans.ns.ca).

## In This Issue

- FEI/ICANS Dinner — A Success
- Check Out The New ICANS Website!
- Tax Clinics - Times are Changing.....
- New IT Specialization Designation
- Public Accounting In Nova Scotia — Getting the Facts Straight
- Avoiding "Lapses of Ethics" — Understanding Their Nature
- Getting The Word Out — Check Those Radio Waves
- Membership Changes/Missing Members Alert
- Looking To Hire A CA? For A New Career?
- CA Career Opportunities On The Website
- Volunteer Opportunities/Key Dates



*J. Power CA (FEI Pres), Minister N. LeBlanc, R. Bean CA (ICANS VP) at Windows at the WTCC*

## FEI/ICANS Dinner — A Success

ICANS and the Financial Executives International (FEI) Atlantic Chapter hosted a well-attended dinner at the WTCC on January 22nd. The dinner speaker was the Honorable Neil LeBlanc, Minister of Finance, who shared his views on the Nova Scotia economy and reflected on his term as Minister of Finance with the 58 attendees (45 of whom were CAs). He was introduced by FEI member David MacAulay CA and thanked by Bob Bean CA, ICANS VP, for both his comments and the contribution made to the Province during his political career.

David Nunn CA, Chair of the Members Functions Committee sees joint events like this to be an ideal opportunity for CAs to maintain old and foster new contacts with other members and the business community in general.

## Check Out The New ICANS Website!

Found it difficult to find things on the Website? Well, that should be a thing of the past this month, as the Institute rolls out a re-engineered site which members and the public alike should find more user-friendly and navigable. While retaining its crisp, professional look and feel, the new site reflects much better navigation aids, including drop-down menus, a site map and a search facility. What is less readily apparent, but will make the site a far more valuable resource to members, is that a new content management system will allow the Institute to update and edit virtually all of the site to keep it relevant to your needs! Same address, much improved!

## Tax Clinics - Times are Changing.....

ICANS will again participate in providing senior and low-income citizens in HRM access to tax clinics, but on a different basis than in prior years. This year, the ICANS has agreed to partner with CCRA in offering this community service through the CCRA's Community Volunteer Income Tax Clinic Program. We are pleased to advise that CCRA has agreed to assist groups such as the Dartmouth Senior Center and the Spencer House, which had in the past been serviced directly by ICANS.

CAs and CA students are encouraged to volunteer a few hours with the CCRA Tax Clinic Program as a means of supporting this worthwhile activity. Please consider volunteering your time for these tax clinics by contacting **Georgina Selig** at the CCRA Tax Clinic Program at (902) 426-2710.

## **New IT Specialization Designation**

Members primarily working in an Information Technology area in industry, consulting, government, education, or public accounting may wish to consider applying for formal recognition as a CA IT specialist, thereby being entitled to use the CA•IT designation. Even if you don't want to become specialists, you may wish to become a subscribers to the IT Alliance. Applications for both—as well as additional information—are available on the IT Alliance website at [www.cica.ca/IT](http://www.cica.ca/IT).

## **Public Accounting In Nova Scotia — Getting the Facts Straight**

Many of you may have been concerned that a January 24th column by Roger Taylor in the Halifax Herald discussing recent changes made by the Public Accounting Board of Nova Scotia to the standards for licensing in Nova Scotia contained several inaccurate statements which, if left unaddressed, may have caused confusion and misunderstanding about the nature and impact of the changes. Mr. Taylor cited both the CGA President and CMA Executive Director in the column, but apparently had not been in contact with the Public Accountants Board in doing his research. Fortunately, Robert Madden FCA, Chair of the Public Accountants Board, acted quickly to address these statements in a column published on January 28th in the same newspaper. Copies of both columns can be found on the Institute website under News.

## **Avoiding “Lapses of Ethics” — Understanding Their Nature**

Ethical behaviour of CAs and other professionals is a hot topic in today's business world, and the CA profession is considering what changes, if any, are necessary to both promote and enforce ethics and integrity. A recent article in Management Ethics (Winter 2003) written by Toronto lawyer Mark Johnson provides interesting insight into the psychology of ethical lapses. A copy of this article can be downloaded from the Publications section of the ICANS website.

## **Getting The Word Out — Check Those Radio Waves**

In accordance with the strategic plan objective of increasing public awareness, ICANS has started a radio advertising campaign for a 13 week period commencing this month. In addition to the ads which appear in peak audience hours on the popular 96.5FM and C100FM stations, the Institute receives recognition as a sponsor of the IWK 100 Hours For The Kids Radiothon which will take place later this month. Listen for all three ads, which emphasize three different aspects of the CA profession, while carrying a consistent message.

## **Membership Changes**

Mr. John Foster Cameron has filed notice of personal bankruptcy and has been suspended from membership in accordance with Bylaw 41(A)(2).

## **Here And There With Members**

Adam Shepanski, formerly with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP's Halifax office has now transferred to that firm's Phoenix, AZ office.

Jason Varner, previously with MacTara Limited, has now accepted a position with Crossley Carpet Mills Limited in Truro.

## **Missing Members Alert**

ICANS has lost contact with the following members:

- Frederick H. Keating (Halifax NS)
- Shawn MacMullen (Halifax NS)

If you have information on their status or whereabouts, please let us know or have them contact Soula at the Institute ([skeramaris@icans.ns.ca](mailto:skeramaris@icans.ns.ca)).

This is also an appropriate time to remind members to contact the Institute about any address changes on a timely basis. You can provide this information by telephoning or e-mailing the Institute, or by using a form on the website. Keeping the Institute informed with up-to-date contact information saves valuable administrative time and ensures that you receive important communications on a timely basis.

## **Looking To Hire A CA? For A New Career?**

Consider posting your opportunity on the website as well. CAs can also post their availability for a reasonable fee as well. Check out the website for further details.



### Career Opportunities On The Website

Check the site for recent career postings which are added to the site on a weekly basis. Current postings are:

- Chartered Accountant — Hemming Weir Casey Inc., Halifax
- CA Managers — Grant Thornton LLP, Calgary, Edmonton and Wetaskiwin, AB
- Senior Professional Accountant — Myers Norris & Penny, Peace River, AB
- Professional Accountants — Myers Norris & Penny, Humboldt and Melfort, SK
- Professional Accountant or Student — Belliveau Veinotte, Shelburne and Barrington Passage
- Team Leader, Capital & Disbursements — Halifax Regional Municipality, Halifax

### Get Prepared Now For Your Annual CPD Report

Fee statements will be mailed early next month and will again include an annual declaration on CPD activities completed during the 2002 calendar year. If you haven't kept a log of your eligible activities throughout the year, you can download a copy of a worksheet from the website at

A few minutes now may make your filing that much easier, and avoid the need to scramble for information when your time is even scarcer.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer for a few hours at a **Community Tax Clinic!** Contact Georgina Selig at the CCRA Tax Clinic Program at (902) 426-2710.

Clean Nova Scotia is looking for a board member to serve as Treasurer. For 15 years, Clean Nova Scotia has worked cooperatively with individuals, businesses, government and other organizations to secure a sustainable, environmentally healthy society for future generations to enjoy. If you are interested in learning more about Clean Nova Scotia, please visit their website at [www.clean.ns.ca](http://www.clean.ns.ca). Please call or email the current Treasurer, Jim Cruickshank CA at 420-3394 or [jcruickshank@smss.com](mailto:jcruickshank@smss.com), to discuss this opportunity.

Other Volunteer Opportunities can be found on the ICANS website at [icans.ns.ca](http://icans.ns.ca).

### Reminder — Important Upcoming Dates

**February 8, 2003**

Convocation Dinner and Dance

**June 9, 2003 (correction of date in last SCAN newsletter)**

Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament

### At-a-glance

- ICANS was established in 1900 with just ten founding members. Today, our members number over 1,750, including students registered with the Atlantic School of Chartered Accountancy.
- The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, together with the provincial and territorial Institutes/Ordre, represents over 76,000 CAs and students in Canada and Bermuda.
- Research indicates that more than 50% of companies listed in the *Report on Business* ROB 1000 for the past several years have had at least one CA in the top five positions; CEO, President, CFO, COO or Corporate Secretary. Even more important is the contribution that CAs are making to their companies. ROB 1000 companies that had a CA as their top officer have consistently performed better.  
*Source: Multiple ROB 1000 Listings*

**E-SCAN is a monthly publication of the Chartered Accountants of Nova Scotia, and is sent to members by e-mail.**

**Copies of current and past issues are available on the Institute's website at [www.icans.ns.ca](http://www.icans.ns.ca)**

Institute of Chartered Accountants  
of Nova Scotia

1791 Barrington Street  
Suite 1101  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3L1  
Tel: (902) 425-3291  
Fax: (902) 423-4505  
[icans@icans.ns.ca](mailto:icans@icans.ns.ca)  
[www.icans.ns.ca](http://www.icans.ns.ca)

Executive Director  
Robert Caswill, CA  
[rcaswill@icans.ns.ca](mailto:rcaswill@icans.ns.ca)

Director of Professional Standards  
Wenda Bennett, CA  
[wbennett@icans.ns.ca](mailto:wbennett@icans.ns.ca)

Director of Professional Development  
Kathie Slaunwhite  
[kslaunwhite@icans.ns.ca](mailto:kslaunwhite@icans.ns.ca)

Membership Registrar  
Soula Keramaris  
[skeramaris@icans.ns.ca](mailto:skeramaris@icans.ns.ca)

Administrative Assistant  
Cindy Mombourquette  
[cmombourquette@icans.ns.ca](mailto:cmombourquette@icans.ns.ca)