

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

In This Issue:

- Atlantic Region Officers Meet in Halifax to Discuss Governance
- The CA Competency Map
- Concern Expressed over Workers' Compensation Issues
- Supporting Junior Achievers
- President's Visits to the South Shore & Yarmouth Regions
- Golf Tournament Results in an Inaugural Donation
- Member Profile— Matt Harris, CA
- Changes/Here And There With Members/ Looking...To Hire A CA? ...For A New Career?
- CA Career/Volunteer Opportunities/ Reminder — Important Dates

Atlantic Region Officers Meet in Halifax to Discuss Governance of The Profession

The Presidents and VPs of the four Atlantic Institutes met with Pierre Brunet, CICA Chair on May 20th to exchange points of view on the overall governance of the CA profession.



While recognizing that Atlantic Canada comprises a small percentage of the overall profession, the group expressed its strong desire that both the viewpoint and particular concerns of CAs in Atlantic Canada would be respected and considered in any new model.

Sheila Gillis reported that the meeting was very productive, and that the discussions were very open and frank. Attendees were pleased that

the CICA Chair was very receptive to their concerns and expressed a strong understanding of the issues faced in the Region.

The CA Competency Map

The CA profession has recently undertaken a detailed analysis of the core knowledge and skills expected of CAs by business, government and the public. Working with members, clients and employers, many clear expectations—or competencies—of our profession have been identified. These competencies are laid out in *The CA Competency Map*. The Map is now being used as the basis for our new qualification process, and will be used in the continuing development and enhancement of our CPE Program.

The CA Competency Map provides a profile of the CA profession, not of the individual CA. It can, however, prove useful in helping shape your own CPE opportunities that will help you to meet your career goals.

As a first step, this year we will organize our Fall catalogue into the following competency areas, consistent with *The CA Competency Map*:

- Organizational Effectiveness, Control and Risk Management
- Finance
- Taxation
- Assurance
- Performance Measurement
- Information and Information Technology
- Professional/Personal Skills

Many CPE seminars, however, address more than one competency area. Look for the matrix that will be listed in the fall catalogue for guidance. To learn more about *The CA Competency Map*, please refer to: http://www.cica.ca/index.cfm/ci_id/7871/la_id/1.htm.

ICANS Expresses Concern over Possible Workers' Compensation Board Changes

ICANS recently met with WCBNS Chair **Louis Comeau**, WCB Director **Jim Melvin CA** and **Leo McKenna, CA**, the Board's CFO to discuss the "Dorsey Report" as part of the WCB's consultation process. Representatives of the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society also participated in the meeting.

The Dorsey Report contained recommendations pertaining to benefits levels and scope of coverage for employers and employees in Nova Scotia. Of particular interest to many CAs, the Report proposes "universal coverage" which would require many businesses and organizations which presently are not subject to workers compensation to be subject to premiums. While the Institute generally refrains from taking positions on public policy, it did express concern that such changes may result in what may be considered an unfair taxing of businesses, including professional firms, to the extent that such coverage may not be warranted on the basis of risk. It was pointed out that businesses presently not subject to workers' compensation provide for adequate coverage and protection of employees through private sector insurance and HR policies which would likely have to continue, and that government may find increased coverage to low premium-rated businesses to not be cost-efficient.

Supporting Junior Achievers — Building For a Strong Future



The Institute continues to support the activities of Junior Achievement in Nova Scotia in providing an opportunity for high school students to benefit from hands-on experience with business enterprise. Each of Junior Achievement's six programs introduces over 14,000 Nova Scotia students to new career opportunities while teaching them to think like entrepreneurs. In addition to the Institute itself sponsoring various programs, many individual CAs devote their time and energy to JA, serving as consultants, sponsors, and judges and all are impressed with the quality of the students.



Helena Lotherington CA, one of the judges for the President of the Year Award, observed: "We were amazed all the Presidents displayed remarkable poise and confidence for high school students. At times during the interview, we had to remind ourselves that we were not in a client meeting."

Bob Caswill, ICANS Executive Director, presenting the ICANS sponsored President of the Year Award to Brad Collier of Magna Sketch of Bedford and Laura Stanford of Funky Monkey Designs in Dartmouth.

President's Visits to the South Shore & Yarmouth Regions



President Sheila Gillis shares experiences with Yarmouth's 2002 graduate, Mike Zwicker CA.

It is important that ICANS continues to represent all members throughout Nova Scotia. In addition to strong representation by non-HRM members on Council, and responsive two-way communication links between members and Institute staff, the President makes it a mandate to tour various Regions each year.

Sheila was pleased with the high turnout she and the Executive Director experienced at a member luncheon in the South Shore Region and a subsequent dinner in Yarmouth. In addition to updating the members on various on-going activities and initiatives which are underway by the Institute, the meeting gave an opportunity for members to provide input and feedback on how the Institute can best serve their needs. "This is a

great opportunity to hear first hand from members on how we are performing. It is good to hear much positive feedback, but I am also glad that members are never reticent at expressing their concerns as well — especially that South Shore group!"



Despite appearances, the Bridgewater meeting was all business!



Nova Scotia's Practitioners Golf Tournament Results in an Inaugural Donation!



ICANS becomes first official donor to the United Way on the South Shore

The President's Tour provided an opportunity for Sheila Gillis to make a donation to **Mark Winfield, CA** for the benefit of the United Way of Lunenburg County, which received its charter in May 2003. A decision was made to donate the net proceeds of the annual Practitioners Golf Tournament, held this year at Osprey Ridge in Bridgewater to this worthwhile community project. Mark has played an instrumental role in the formation of the United Way in this Region.

In thanking the Institute, and especially the Practitioners Committee, Mark noted that he was particularly proud that the Institute would be recorded as the first donor to this newly chartered charitable organization.

Member Profile — Matt Harris, CA Calls A Perfect Game

Wanted:

A visionary with an eye for detail, who is also a motivator, savvy with numbers, and a team player with great organizational skills.

While many might not see this want ad as being the traditional description of a CA, **Matthew Harris'** designation and experience proved to be exactly what was needed to be the General Chairman for the Halifax 2003 Brier Host Committee – a position Matthew self-created when he approached the Canadian Curling Association (CCA) three years ago requesting that they bring the infamous Brier back to Halifax.

"I've been curling for over 30 years and I have taken a lot from the sport and have always enjoyed the Brier as a sports property," explains Matthew, Senior Partner, Ernst & Young LLP. "Being involved in running a Brier is my way of giving something back to the sport."



Matt Harris CA (left front) and the Host Committee celebrate the successful 2003 Nokia Brier

While curling has been in his blood for years, Matthew caught the bug for organizing events back in 1985, when he attended his first Brier -- just prior to receiving his CA designation while working with Clarkson Gordon. To date, Matthew has attended 14 Briers and he's held various administrative roles associated with the sport including: VP Finance of the Nova Scotia Curling Association, President of Halifax's Mayflower Curling Club, VP Finance for the local organizing committee of the 2000 Memorial Cup (Major Junior National Championship), and organizer of the 1995 Brier Patch.

"I do compete, although I took this year off . . . thank God," jokes Matthew. "The closest I came to playing in a Brier was in 1997 when my brother, Rob, and I finished runner-up in the play downs to the Kamloops Brier. I was also the alternate for Team Nova Scotia this year, but agreed to step down when the CCA determined that I could be perceived to be in conflict – you see, it's not only auditors that deal with perception of conflict issues!"

Of course, for the Harris's, there is no conflict of interest when it comes to curling – just good old family teamwork! Besides Matthew's involvement with the 2003 Brier, Rob was second on Mark Dacey's rink, which placed second overall in the competition. Rob was also



Hometown Mark Dacey's rink came close to pulling off an upset in a dramatic final but had to settle for second place. Matt's brother Rob threw second stones on Mark's rink.

VP Volunteers for the 2003 event, he organized the volunteers for the 1995 Brier Patch and the 2000 Memorial Cup, and he currently administers the Atlantic Curling Tour and the Curl-East web site. In addition, Matthew's older brother, Graham, chaired the 2002 Canadian Mixed Play downs and was VP Facilities on the 2003 Brier committee.

In short, it seems Harris family ties are a key ingredient to Canadian curling success and, by all accounts, the 2003 Nokia Brier was just that! Total attendance surpassed 158,000 -- the fifth highest total in the event's history and the highest attendance figure for an event held east of Saskatchewan.

"We planned the Brier for success at all levels -- organizational, operational and financial," explains Matthew. "We established very aggressive goals and I believe that we achieved them all."

Today, bolstered by the success of this year's competition and a life-long love for curling, Matthew already has his sights set on 2004, when the 75th Brier plays out in Saskatoon. "I don't think that I will ever stop doing these events," says Matthew. "The satisfaction of giving something back

to the community, while forming friendships that will last a lifetime is worth every bit of the effort."

Membership Changes

Gerard Adams, David Murray Aulenback CA and Martha Lea MacRae-Monteith CA have been admitted to membership through affiliation with the Newfoundland, BC and Ontario Institutes respectively.

The following members have resigned from the Institute effective April 30th (most members who resign reside outside Nova Scotia and are prime members of another Institute):

- Philip Chandler
- Danielle Cumming
- Michael Kinley
- Michael Pickup
- Kenneth Rumbolt
- Janice Toner
- Jenny Watson

In Memoriam

Gerald A. Amey CA on March 15, 2003.

Here And There With Members

Mark Anderson CA, formerly with Grant Thornton LLP in Truro is now the Financial Manager with the Municipality of the County of Colchester.

Joseph Barron CA is now with Internal Audit, Bank of Nova Scotia, in Toronto, ON.

David Bezanon CA has left the Public Service Pensions Board and is now with KPMG LPP in Halifax.

Andrew Brathwaite CA, previously with PricewaterhouseCoopers in St. Michael, is now with R. S. Kirby & Co. Ltd in Christ Church, Barbados.

Kimberley Bustin CA has left NSPC and is now Manager of Financial Planning and Analysis with the Atlantic Lottery Corporation, Moncton NB.

George Carter CA, previously with National Bank Financial, is now with BMO Nesbitt Burns, Halifax,

David Dipersio CA is now with Canada Bread Company Limited in Etobicoke, ON.

Here And There With Members (cont'd)



Anthony Fielding CA has started his own practice under the name of Bluenose Accounting & Tax Services Ltd. in Hubble.

Dean Mullin CA has now transferred to the Saint John NB office of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

Bernica Thibodeau CA has left Grant Thornton LLP in Yarmouth and is now with the Université Sainte-Anne-College de L'Acadie

Donald Wolsey CA has left Grant Thornton LLP and is now a partner with Flaim Wolsey, Chartered Accountants in Halifax.

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:

- Controller — The Diocese Of Nova Scotia And Prince Edward Island
- Financial Accountant — Local CA firm
- Senior Controller — large Halifax company

Position Wanted

CA with 15 Years Experience is seeking Part-time Position

Other career opportunities, together with information and guidance on career counselling, etc., can be found at CA Source, on the [CICA Website](http://www.cica.ca) (www.cica.ca).

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer Opportunities can be found on the ICANS website. The following positions are currently open:

- Treasurer — YWCA
- Treasurer — Planned Parenthood Metro Clinic

Reminder — Important Upcoming Dates

June 15, 2003

Deadline for comments on Rule 206
Luncheon with Abraham Briloff

August 4, 2003

UFE Application deadline

September 16-18, 2003

Uniform Evaluation (UFE)

June 2003,
Page 5

CA

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