IMPORTANT DEADLINE REMINDERS
Dear ICANS Members — Please make note of the following important deadlines:

- **May 3, 2010** (as May 1st is a Saturday) is the deadline for Council nominations for the term 2010/2011. Note: Members are entitled to make more than one nomination. To access nomination forms, click on: http://www.icans.ns.ca/media/documents/CouncilNomination.pdf or contact ICANS at (902) 425-3291.

- **May 3, 2010** (as May 1st is a Saturday) is the deadline to pay your 2010/2011 membership dues and to submit your PD hours for the 2009 calendar year on your fee notice.

- **May 14, 2010** is the deadline to purchase PD passports for spring 2010.

- **June 15, 2010** is the deadline for submitting resignations and requests for fee reductions.

ICANS’ 2010 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
As senior high school students throughout the province begin planning for the next phase of their academic experience, ICANS is once again, pleased to be offering four, $1,000 scholarship awards to those who are graduating in June 2010 and who will be attending university in September 2010 to pursue a bachelors degree in business or commerce.

- To access information about ICANS’ High School Scholarship Program and for a copy of the application form, visit: http://www.icans.ns.ca/media/documents/scholarships2010.pdf.

- Students can also download a copy of the Institute’s recruitment brochure at: http://www.icans.ns.ca/media/documents/RecruitmentBrochure.pdf, which contains info about the process of becoming a Chartered Accountant.

- We also recommend interested students visit www.decisionsmatter.ca — the CA profession’s national website, which contains news about the National Branding Program, as well as profiles on CAs who work in private industry, public practice, government, education and the non-profit sector.

- Another helpful website to visit is www.asca.ns.ca. Here, students can learn all about the Atlantic School of Chartered Accountancy (ASCA), the professional education program for CA students in Atlantic Canada.

The deadline for this year’s scholarship applications is **April 23, 2010** and if you have any questions, please contact Joy Barkhouse, ICANS’ Communication Consultant, at (902) 425-3291 ext. 25 or at communication@icans.ns.ca.

AEFNS CALL FOR PROPOSALS
The Accounting Education Foundation of Nova Scotia (AEFNS) is accepting proposals for projects, which are consistent with its objectives. Members are invited to submit ideas by **April 30, 2010** for projects/programs that will provide Nova Scotia educational institutions with the additional resources needed to strengthen the quality of accounting education in the province, improve communication with the academic community, and help attract outstanding candidates to the accounting profession. There are a wide variety of projects that fit the AEFNS mission, including: curriculum development, research assistance, teaching awards, student awards, support for accounting student activities and the sponsorship of guest speakers. Proposals should include a description of the project, the approximate amount of required funding and a project time frame. Further info is available on the ICANS’ website, through the AEFNS link, at www.icans.ns.ca or by contacting Wenda Bennett, CA, at wbennett@icans.ns.ca or at (902) 425-3291 ext. 26.
ICANS SPONSORS CHAMBER PRE-BUDGET LUNCHEON

On March 31, 2010, ICANS had the pleasure of sponsoring the Halifax Chamber of Commerce’s Annual Pre-Budget Luncheon. Held in the Nova Scotia Ballroom at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront, guests listened to Nova Scotia Finance Minister Graham Steele as he discussed the province’s current fiscal state and shared insights and expectations for its future.

Prior to giving his address, Minister Steele was introduced by ICANS President Susan McIsaac, FCA. Also representing ICANS at the luncheon were: Jim Cruickshank, CA; Ted Doane, CA; Scott Montreuil, CA; Kelly Nelson, FCA; Jennifer Nicholson, CA; Rob Richardson, FCA; Greg Simpson, CA, CPA; Jim Trussler, FCA; and Michele Wood-Tweed, FCA.

CLIENT DEVELOPMENT BROCHURES

As part of CICA’s commitment to providing a range of products and services to assist CAs as they grow their business, CICA is pleased to offer the Client Development Brochure Series. These practical resources can be distributed to current and prospective clients; helping them to assess the issues that affect their business, so that they are better prepared to discuss them with you.

Designed to support your client retention and development efforts, you can download and print copies of the Client Development Brochures for FREE; or you can purchase personalized copies from CICA, with the name and contact information of your firm printed on the back.

Available exclusively to CAs in both English and French, the brochure series includes the following:

- New Canadian Auditing Standards
- International Financial Reporting Standards
- New Accounting Standards for Private Enterprises
- Tax Planning

ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD UPDATES

The Accounting Standards Board (AcSB) recently released the following bulletins:

- **Final Standards for Pension Plans Issued**
  This issue will be of interest to those with a Canadian Pension Plan or those who have a benefit plan with characteristics similar to a pension plan that will be required to apply the new standards on January 1, 2011. It will also be of interest to those looking to familiarize themselves with the new standards and determine the changes that they may need to make to their current accounting and reporting practices. It’s also relevant to those keen to move forward with a transitions plan, as early application is permitted.

  “The AcSB developed the new standards for pension plans (Section 4600) based on Section 4100, *Pension Plans*, with some modifications,” said Nancy Estey, AcSB Principal responsible for the project. “Modifications include a requirement to present pension obligations on the face of the statement of financial position, a requirement to measure investment assets at fair value, not on an actuarial asset value basis, and more extensive disclosures.”

  To access the new standards for pension plans, which are in Part IV of the CICA Handbook - Accounting, go to [www.knotia.ca](http://www.knotia.ca).

- **Accounting Standards Board Proposes Amendment to Scope of New Standards for Pension Plans**
  It’s important to review this Exposure Draft to understand the proposals to expand the scope of the new standards for pension plans.

  “The Exposure Draft proposes to expand the scope of the new standards for pension plans to include an entity that is separate from a pension plan and whose sole purpose is to hold and invest assets received from one or more pension plans, but does not itself have a pension obligation,” explained Nancy Estey, AcSB Principal responsible for the project. “A master trust is an example of such an entity.”


ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD ESTABLISHES ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE ACCOUNTING STANDARDS FOR PRIVATE ENTERPRISES

The Accounting Standards Board (AcSB) issued a media release on April 7, 2010, announcing that volunteers from across Canada will serve on a new committee to advise the AcSB on future changes to accounting standards for private enterprises in Canada. The Private Enterprise Advisory Committee represents a broad cross-section of those affected by these new standards, including financial statement users, financial statement preparers and accounting professionals.

In December 2009, the AcSB issued new accounting standards for private enterprises. Private enterprises have the option to adopt these made-in-Canada standards developed specifically for private enterprises or International Financial Reporting Standards. While transition to one of these options is required for years beginning on or after January 1, 2011, early adoption is permitted and some enterprises are taking advantage of the permission to adopt the new standards.

Committee members will advise the AcSB on areas in the standards that require improvement and additional topics that should be addressed, as well as issues arising in practice where implementation guidance might be helpful. The Committee is expected to play an important role in ensuring that these new standards keep pace with the dynamic and changing needs of private enterprises in Canada.

“We are grateful to the many skilled individuals who volunteered to offer their expertise and hands-on knowledge of this vital sector of the Canadian economy,” said Brian Drayton, Chair of the Committee and a member of the AcSB. “Being able to draw on the expertise and knowledge of the Advisory Committee will permit the AcSB to ensure that the standards grow and change to meet the needs of the private sector.”

NOTE: The following ICANS members have been appointed to the Committee: Rick Cecchetto, CA, CFO, Bragg Group of Companies, Oxford, NS, and Sarah Veinot, CA, Partner, WBLI Chartered Accountants, Bedford, NS.

For further information about the Committee or new standards for private enterprises in Canada that come into effect on January 1, 2011, please contact Lisa Pretty, CICA Communications, Standards, at (416) 204-3482 or at lisa.pretty@cica.ca.
AASB EXPOSURE DRAFTS

• Reporting on Controls at a Service Organization
  This Exposure Draft provides information as to why the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AASB) decided to align the proposed Canadian Standard on Assurance Engagements (CSAE) with the AICPA Auditing Standard Board’s proposed standard with minimal changes, rather than adopt the IAASB’s ISAE 3402. The Exposure Draft will also outline how the proposed CSAE will replace existing Section 5970 and former AuG-42.

  “Our stakeholders expressed a strong desire to align the Canadian standard for reporting on controls at a service organization with the corresponding US standard, because of the integration of these types of services in the Canadian and US markets,” said Greg Shields, Director of Auditing and Assurance Standards. “The AASB believes that the proposed CSAE, which is based on the US standard, appropriately responds to the input received. We welcome your feedback on issues that are unique to Canada.”

  To access the Exposure Draft, go to: www.aasb.ca. The deadline for comments is May 6, 2010.

• Dating of the Practitioner’s Report for Review and Other Assurance Engagements
  This Exposure Draft provides information re: the proposed changes to standards for assurance engagements and applicable guidelines that address matters related to the dating of the practitioner’s report.

  “The Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AASB) believe that there is a need for guidance on how the concept of ‘substantial completion’ is applied to dating of the review engagements report,” said Svetlana Berger, Principal, AASB. “The proposed changes will make concepts related to the dating of the practitioner’s reports on assurance engagements and matters affected by such dating, consistent with Canadian Auditing Standards.”

  To access the Exposure Draft, go to: www.aasb.ca. The deadline for comment is May 15, 2010.

EXPOSURE DRAFT - PROPOSED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS FOR NOT-FOR-PROFITS

The Accounting Standards Board (AcSB) and the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) issued individual exposure drafts on proposed changes to accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (NFPOs). Developed through extensive consultations with stakeholders, the proposed changes would result in different financial reporting foundations for NFPOs in the public and private sectors.

Currently, NFPOs follow the CICA Handbook – Accounting. The PSAB proposes that government NFPOs follow the CICA Public Sector Accounting Handbook. The AcSB proposes private sector NFPOs be given a choice to follow either new accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations or International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs). Both private and public sector NFPOs would continue to use the current 4400 series of standards.

The AcSB and the PSAB request that NFPOs share their views on the proposals. To access the exposure drafts, click on: http://www.cica.ca/notforprofit/index.aspx. The deadline for comment is July 15, 2010.

GET READY FOR THE NEW CANADIAN AUDITING STANDARDS

New Canadian Auditing Standards, applicable to all financial statement audits, come into effect for periods ending on or after December 14, 2010.

New quality control standards, applicable to all audits of public sector entities, come into effect December 15, 2009.

For more information and support, go to www.cica.ca/CAS.

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT THE STATISTICS CANADA WEBSITE LATELY?

Whether it’s social, economic, health or other statistical information you need to support your objectives, reference to the Statistics Canada website can yield current, reliable data on countless different topics. Moreover, there are many free products and services available.

The StatCan website (www.statcan.gc.ca) provides access to articles, reports, data tables, definitions, maps, etc. Some of the more popular research topics include: census, community profiles, crime, employment, GDP, immigration, income, inflation, population and poverty.

In an outreach effort to organizations like ICANS, StatCan invites you to discover the wealth of information available to you and your organization and your clients.
ICANS' SPRING 2010 PD BROCHURE
Getting the most out of your ICANS learning experience is easier than you think! Step 1 - make yourself a nice cup of coffee or tea; Step 2 – settle into your favourite reading chair; Step 3 - open up your ICANS’ Spring 2010 PD Brochure and take note of the courses/sessions that best meet your learning needs; and Step 4 - register early to secure your spot. Updated course info is also available on the Institute’s website at www.icans.ns.ca or by contacting Cheryl Arsenault at carsenault@icans.ns.ca or Kathie Slaunwhite at kslaunwhite@icans.ns.ca or by calling ICANS directly at (902) 425-3291.

UPCOMING PMI NOVA SCOTIA SESSION
On April 22, 2010 at One Government Place, 1700 Granville Street, Halifax, NS, PMI Nova Scotia and Breton Project Management have partnered to offer a two-day course entitled, Establishing a Project Management Foundation using Microsoft Office Project 2007. This course will be of interest to anyone who manages projects using Microsoft Office Project 2007 whether in an enterprise or desktop-only environment. The course is targeted at the needs of full-time project managers, as well as those who function as project schedulers or project support technicians. For more info, visit www.pmi.ns.ca.

CFP EXAMINATION REMINDER
The next sitting of the Financial Planners Standards Council’s (FPSC) Certified Financial Planner™ (CFP) Examination will be on June 12, 2010. Completed applications, eligibility documentation and payments must be received at the FPSC office on or before the registration deadline of May 12, 2010. Applications will not be accepted after this date. Candidates can register for the CFP Examination through the FPSC online service at: https://www.fpsconlineservices-ca.org/Login.aspx?returnUrl=/Default.aspx. Or, for more info, visit: http://www.fpsc.ca/, where you will also find news re: changes to the CFP certification process.

UPCOMING CICA PD OPPORTUNITIES
- May 31 - Jun. 3 in Toronto - IFRS Immersion 1 Course — http://cpd.cica.ca/IFRSImmersion/about.cfm
- Jun. 6 - 11 in Niagara-on-the-Lake — CICA In-depth GST Course — http://cpd.cica.ca/IDGST/about.cfm
- Aug. 4 - 6 in Ottawa — CICA National Conference for SME Advisors — http://cpd.cica.ca/SMEAdvisors/about.cfm
- Aug. 16 - 19 in Halifax — IFRS Immersion 1 Course — http://cpd.cica.ca/IFRSImmersion/about.cfm
- Aug. 21 - 25 in Whistler — CICA In-Depth Tax Course (Part 3) — http://cpd.cica.ca/Part3/about.cfm

ICANS’ ANNUAL MEETING, GOLF TOURNAMENT & BARBEQUE
Mark your calendar now, because on June 14, 2010 we hope to see you at the Chester Golf & Country Club to participate in ICANS’ Annual Meeting and Golf Tournament. Open to all ICANS members and CA students, the cost to golf is $130 per person and remember . . . the deadline for registration is May 31st and only the first 124 paid players will be accepted - no cancellations after this deadline. Individual or team registrations are accepted. For more info, contact Cindy Mombourquette at (902) 425-3291 ext. 21 or at cmombourquette@icans.ns.ca or contact Jack Gorrill, CA, ICANS Golf Committee Chair, at (902) 420-4827.

XTENSIONS LEARNING
Did you know that CICA has a 24/7 online learning centre for your training and information needs? Just click on: http://www.softconference.com/CICA/default.asp. Here, you will discover how you can use this tool to earn valuable CPD credits; access event media products (flexible alternatives to full conference modules provide just-in-time learning, plus you can refresh your technical skills); access the select series (enhanced, interactive modules offer verifiable CPD, many with self-assessment).
HERE AND THERE WITH MEMBERS
Jillian MacDonald, CA, previously with KPMG LLP in Halifax, NS, is now the Manager of Investor Relations with Emera Inc. in Halifax. The Province of Nova Scotia has appointed Elaine Sibson, FCA, as the new Chair of the Nova Scotia Workers’ Compensation Board. The appointment is for a five-year term with the possibility of reappointment.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS
As respected business leaders, CAs are often sought for their opinions on issues. To this end . . .
Gillian Scott, CA, CFA, Managing Director, Castle Hall Alternatives, was featured in an article that ran in the Chronicle Herald (March 23, 2010, p. C1), outlining her company’s plans to expand in Nova Scotia.

CONGRATULATIONS TO . . .
Jim Power, CA, who received the 2009-2010 Sobey School of Business Part-time Professor of the Year (student choice) Award; the Dalhousie Student Union 2009 Award for Teaching Excellence (student nominated & voted upon); and the Dalhousie University 2009 MBA Professor of the Year (1st year students).

RECRUITMENT BROCHURES
If you are interested in having copies of ICANS’ Recruitment Brochure to distribute to students, contact Cindy Mombourquette at cmomborquettet@icans.ns.ca or by calling (902) 425-3291 (ext. 21)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ON THE WEB
Employment and volunteer opportunities can be found at http://www.icans.ns.ca/events.asp?cmPageID=192.
Check out the following:

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
Accountant - The SCRI Society
Treasurer - Chisholm Youth Services
Treasurer - Kidney Foundation of Canada, Nova Scotia Branch

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Senior Accountant/Leader
- Sydney, NS
Controller/Accountant
- Halifax, NS
Manager, Financial Planning & Control
- Halifax, NS
Controller
- Halifax, NS
Director, Costing
- Dartmouth, NS
Business Manager
- Halifax, NS
Controller
- Halifax, NS
Controller
- Halifax, NS
IFRS Implementation/Assistant Controller
- Bedford, NS

Note: Other career opportunities, together with valuable information and guidance on career counseling, etc., can be found at “CA Source,” on the CICA website.

ARE YOU ON THE MOVE?
If so, be sure to update ICANS with your new address. Just email your info to ICANS’ Membership Registrar, Cheryl Arsenault, at carsenault@icans.ns.ca.

REMINDERS AND IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES
◆ Scholarship Application Deadline
  April 23, 2010
◆ AEFNS Proposals Deadline
  April 30, 2010
◆ CFP Examination Registration Deadline
  May 12, 2010
◆ ICANS Annual Meeting & Golf Tournament
  June 14, 2010 - Chester Golf Course