IMPORTANT UPDATE RE: NOVA SCOTIA MERGER PROPOSAL

On March 27, 2013, ICANS issued a communication to its members (and an advisory to registered students) to announce that ICANS Council has voted in favour of pursuing a merger agreement with CMA Nova Scotia and adopting the new CPA certification program. Furthermore, a Steering Committee, as described in the Nova Scotia Merger Proposal for CA and CMA (the Proposal), has been established to oversee the merger process. The ICANS Council members of the Steering Committee are:

- Ted Doane, CA — President (Province of Nova Scotia)
- Grant Galbraith, FCA — Vice-President (Collins Barrow Nova Scotia Inc.)
- Doug Reid, FCA — Treasurer (KPMG LLP)

The Steering Committee members will work collaboratively with the CMA Steering Committee members and will be supported by management and staff of both organizations, along with legal counsel and other advisors as necessary. The Steering Committee will be tasked with:

- Negotiating a Merger Agreement for approval by both ICANS Council and the Board of CMA Nova Scotia;
- Preparing a submission to Government that sets out the results of the consultation process and member advisory vote, as well as terms of the proposed provincial merger of the bodies;
- Developing new CPA legislation by mid spring 2013 that will result in the addition of the matter to the province’s legislative calendar as early as the fall of 2013; and
- Planning the integration of the ICANS and CMA Nova Scotia operations.

Click here to read the ICANS member announcement; click here to read the CMA Nova Scotia member announcement. Note: we will continue to provide regular updates to the ICANS membership and welcome your comments/feedback. Also, see page 2 for more news updates on unification.

ICANS IS MOVING!!

Due to construction on the TD Bank building, ICANS is required to move. On May 2, 2013, ICANS will close its current office and the ICANS Learning Centre on the 14th floor of the TD Bank building (1791 Barrington Street, Halifax) and re-open on May 6, 2013 in the BMO Tower (5151 George Street, Halifax) in Suite 502. The ICANS Learning Centre will be located in the same building, but one floor up from the Institute’s office, in Suite 604; all spring/summer 2013 PD sessions will be held in this new location.

ICANS’ new mailing address after May 1st will be:
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nova Scotia 502-5151 George Street, Halifax, NS, B3J 1M5

Note: All phone, fax and email information will remain the same. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact the office at (902) 425-3291.

IMPORTANT DEADLINE REMINDERS

- May 1, 2013 is the deadline for Council nominations for the term 2013-2014. Note: Members are entitled to make more than one nomination. Watch for nomination forms via email soon.
- May 1, 2013 is the deadline to pay your 2013-2014 membership dues and to submit your PD hours for the 2012 calendar year. Watch for your Fee and PD Report package in early April.
- May 17, 2013 is the deadline to purchase PD passports for the spring 2013 PD session.
- June 17, 2013 is the deadline to submit requests for fee reductions.
- July 2, 2013 is the deadline to submit resignations.
NEWS UPDATES

- **NBICA, CMA NB and CGA-NB Release Provincial Merger Proposal** — CPA Canada posted an update on its website on March 22, 2013 to announce that a Unification Steering Committee, comprised of the executive members of the Boards/Councils of the NBICA, CMA New Brunswick and CGA New Brunswick, has negotiated a Unification Proposal, which contemplates the three designations joining as one under the CPA banner. The update stated that the Board of Governors/Council of all three bodies are fully supportive of this Unification Proposal and believe that it is important to ensure all members of Canadian-based accounting societies/institutes continue to be recognized as among the best in the world. Click here to read the NBICA member communication; click here to read the CMA New Brunswick member communication; and click here to read the CGA New Brunswick member communication.

- **CGA British Columbia Releases Member Survey Results** — CPA Canada posted an update on its website on March 20, 2013, to inform readers that CGA British Columbia issued a communication to its members to announce the results of their recent survey that was created to assess member support for the unification initiative after the Association rejoined discussions in February 2013. More than 40 per cent of members responded with 91.7 per cent in support of a merger between CGA-BC, the ICABC and CMABC. The CPA update stated that the positive survey results provide a clear course for the CGA-BC Board, as it moves forward with the unification of the provincial accounting bodies.

- **New Brunswick Institute of Chartered Accountants (NBICA) Releases Member Survey Results** — CPA Canada posted an update on its website on March 15, 2013 to announce that on March 14th, the NBICA Council provided its members with the results of a recent member survey concerning the proposed three-way merger of accounting bodies within the province. It indicated that an upcoming formal unification proposal addresses many points raised by members in their commentary. The results of the survey can be viewed on the NBICA website.

- **CPA Canada By-Law Published - Includes Article on Protection of Legacy Rights** — On March 13, 2013, the following news item was posted on the CPA Canada website: In January 2013, CICA and CMA Canada announced the establishment of Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada) under the Canada Not-For-Profit Corporations Act. CPA Canada will support provincial accounting bodies that have unified, and all those that will unify, under the CPA banner. All members and the public have access to the CPA Canada By-Law that outlines the principles by which the national CPA organization operates and interacts with its members. To facilitate easy reference, the document has been posted to the ‘Resources’ section of the CPA Canada website and to the CICA and CMA Canada legacy sites.

- **CAs in Alberta to Provide Feedback on Unification in Member Survey** — CPA Canada posted an update on its website on March 4, 2103, to announce that ICAA members were participating in an online survey designed to obtain member input about the unification of the Alberta accounting profession. This feedback will be helpful in the ICAA’s preparation and planning for upcoming engagement activities with members about unification. The ICAA electronic survey opened to members on March 1 and closed March 11, 2013. The update stated that now that the survey has closed, the ICAA will consider the results and notify members of next steps.

- **CGA Newfoundland and Labrador Announce Positive Vote Results** — On February 27, 2013, CGA NL released the results of its member survey that ran between January 24 and February 4, 2013. The results indicate that 92 per cent of the respondents are in favour of the CGA NL Board’s proposal to merge with CMA NL and ICANL, based on the CPA unification and Newfoundland and Labrador merger proposal.

UNIFICATION DISCUSSION RESOURCES

To access unification discussion resources — including the final issue of CPA Canada Update (the new CPA member newsletter will launch next month) and an academic paper by William Lahey LLM, Associate Professor, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, which outlines potential benefits of unification for self-regulation — click on: http://cpacanada.ca/resources/
INDEPENDENCE STANDARDS – YOUR CHANCE TO WEIGH IN ON PROPOSED CHANGES

Developed by the Independence Task Force (ITF) following changes to the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued at the international level, an Exposure Draft proposing changes to the independence standards within the profession’s Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC) is open for comment until the end of May.

One of the key recommendations would, starting in 2018, eliminate the $10 million threshold that currently provides an exemption for audits of smaller reporting issuers from the more restrictive independence requirements for larger reporting issuers. The recommendations also speak to:

- restrictions around providing tax planning or other tax advice to audit or review clients
- listed entities that are not Canadian reporting issuers
- co-operatives, credit unions or caisse populaires, and social clubs
- network firms
- related entities
- partner rotation
- key audit partner compensation
- relative size of fees
- mergers and acquisitions
- recommended changes to improve clarity and enforceability of the RPC

The Exposure Draft can be found in the Protecting the Public Interest area of the About CICA & the Profession section of the CICA’s website at www.cica.ca or by clicking here. Comments on the Exposure Draft are requested by May 31, 2013.

Comments Requested
The ITF requests comments on all aspects of the Exposure Draft. As stated in the Exposure Draft, the ITF would particularly appreciate comments on the following:

1. Do you agree with the proposal to remove the threshold exemption for reporting issuers with market capitalization and total assets under $10 million?
2. Are the transitional provisions complete and appropriate?

Comments should be directed to CICA’s Independence Task Force, preferably by e-mail in Word format to: independenceed@cica.ca.

ICANS’ 2013 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Attention all families with senior high school students . . . ICANS’ 2013 High School Scholarship Award applications are now available! As per tradition, ICANS is offering four, $1,000 scholarship awards to students who are graduating in June 2013 and who will be attending university in September 2013 to pursue a bachelors degree in business or commerce. Scholarship applications have been mailed to every high school in Nova Scotia, emailed to guidance counselors and posted on the ICANS website. To access a form, click on: http://www.icans.ns.ca/news-and-events/item72178.pdf.

Note: the deadline to submit applications is April 26, 2013. Questions? Please contact ICANS’ Communications Consultant Joy Barkhouse at communication@icans.ns.ca or by calling (902) 425-3291 ext. #29.
PD ON-LINE REPORTING FUNCTIONALITY
We are pleased to inform our members that in April, we expect to provide on-line functionality for CPD reporting through the ICANS' website. This functionality will allow members to:

- View details of their ICANS’ PD learning activities;
- Report their other PD activities;
- View a log of their reported PD hours;
- View a summary of hours completed for each year in a reporting cycle, as well as cumulative totals for the three-year cycle;
- Submit their PD Report electronically; and
- Request relief in relation to a member’s inactive status, temporary leave from the workforce or extraordinary circumstances.

Online CPD Reporting will enable members to record their 2012 PD hours and to file their 2012 PD Report electronically. Further information will be forthcoming in your Annual Membership Fees and PD Report package. Questions? Please contact Danielle Roode, ICANS’ Membership Registrar, at droode@icans.ns.ca.

ICANS’ 2013 SPRING/SUMMER PD PROGRAM
It’s that time of year . . . the weather is starting to change and so is ICANS’ PD Program. We are moving into our spring/summer session and a new brochure should be arriving in your mail soon with a listing of courses and learning opportunities available through June. PD Passports can be purchased up until May 17, 2013. And remember, you can register on-line — just go to the ICANS’ homepage at www.icans.ns.ca and click on the ‘Member On-Line Registration’ button.

Note: There is an additional $25 + HST late filing penalty per course once the deadline date — two weeks prior to the course date — has passed. So, don’t delay — make sure you register for your preferred course while spaces are still available.

In addition, members are reminded that December 31, 2013 marks the end of the current three year PD cycle; all members should review their reported PD hours for the years 2011 and 2012, and take the necessary action to ensure that they will have met the minimum requirements: 120 PD hours, which includes not less than 60 hours of verifiable study, and a minimum of 20 PD hours in each calendar year.

PD Course Evaluations — Reminder to Provide Feedback
Completion of the PD course evaluation report is a very important step in the PD process. The evaluations are used to advise developing authors of material issues or improvements, they are used when selecting topics to offer or reoffer, and they assist with the instructor selection, as well as, providing feedback to instructors. Please complete your electronic course evaluation when received on a timely basis to ensure that your comments are included in the reports being sent to the developing provinces and instructors. If you are having issues receiving the electronic form, please complete the generic form that can be found on the ICANS website at http://www.icans.ns.ca/professional-development/item71378.pdf.

Questions? Contact ICANS’ Membership Registrar Danielle Roode (droode@icans.ns.ca) or ICANS’ Director of Professional Development Kathie Slaunwhite (kslaunwhite@icans.ns.ca). You can also call the ICANS Office at (902) 425-3291.
TECHNICAL TAX AMENDMENTS PROVIDE CLARITY

The CICA issued a media release on March 5, 2013 to announce that the technical tax amendments associated with Bill C-48 will help to improve clarity and certainty. To this end, CICA’s Vice-President, Taxation, Gabe Hayos, ICD.D, FCPA, FCA, appeared before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance in Ottawa to outline the Institute’s position on the Bill and Canada’s tax system.

“We greet the Technical Tax Amendments Act 2012 with a sense of relief,” explained Hayos.

The last technical Bill on income tax received Royal Assent in 2001.

“We would welcome having technical tax legislation tabled for review and adoption by Parliament on a regular basis,” says Hayos. “That way we would not face long legislative waits resulting in plenty of uncertainty.”

The CICA presentation also touched on the need to address the issue of tax simplification. A two-part approach was recommended. First, the federal government should establish an independent office that would advise on short-range actions aimed at easing legislative and administrative complexity of Canada’s tax system. Second, the government should set up an expert panel to explore major structural changes to the tax system over the long-term.

“We believe these twin initiatives would send a strong signal of the government’s commitment to clarity and certainty in our tax system, and would be warmly welcomed,” added Hayos.

OPTIMISM DIPS AMONG EXECUTIVE CAs AS U.S. ECONOMY REMAINS A CONCERN: CICA BUSINESS MONITOR

As announced in a media release issued by the CICA on March 8, 2013, optimism about the national economy is down among Canada’s executive CAs for the second straight quarter, according to the latest CICA Business Monitor (Q1 2013). Only 26 per cent of those surveyed in the first quarter of 2013 are optimistic about how the Canadian economy will perform over the next 12 months. That is down from 31 per cent in the final quarter of 2012 and from 34 per cent in Q3 2012. Most respondents are neutral or taking a wait and see approach (64 per cent), while 11 per cent are pessimistic about what lies ahead for the economy.

Forty-four per cent of the respondents believe the state of the U.S. economy is the strongest challenge to economic growth in Canada. Uncertainty surrounding the Canadian economy and consumer confidence both rank second at 12 per cent. It is worth noting that just seven per cent of respondents cited the European debt crisis.

“Uncertainty both at home and south of the border is reflected in the survey findings,” says CICA President & CEO Kevin Dancey, FCPA, FCA. “Clearly, most of the executives are waiting for a clearer picture to emerge.”

Company Performance

Just like with the national economy, the executive CAs surveyed are less optimistic about how their companies will perform over the next 12 months. Forty-six per cent of the respondents are optimistic, compared with 56 per cent in Q4 2012.

“Company optimism generally runs ahead of economic optimism in our research,” explains Dancey. “The executives have the best read on their own operations.”

Despite the dip in company optimism, some encouraging projections are emerging. Seventy per cent of respondents expect their revenues to increase in the next year and 63 per cent are forecasting an increase in profits. Turning to employment forecasts, 39 per cent of the respondents expect the number of employees at their companies to increase in the next year. Forty-one per cent anticipate no change and only 19 per cent expect a drop in employment numbers.

There is also good news for university and college graduates. Twenty-one per cent of the respondents anticipate that their company will increase the number of graduates hired, 59 per cent expect no change, and only seven per cent are forecasting a decrease. The remainder either does not know or the hiring of post-secondary graduates does not apply to their organization.

The executive CAs ranked improving productivity, reducing costs, increasing sales domestically and employee training and skill development as being most important for their companies in 2013.

The CICA Business Monitor is issued quarterly, based on a survey commissioned by the CICA. The report draws upon business insights of Canadian CAs (including Quebec CPA, CA and Ontario CPA, CA members) in leadership positions in privately and publicly held companies. For the Q1 2013 study, emailed surveys were completed by 226 of 4,277 identified by the CICA as holding senior positions (CFOs, CEOs, COOs and other senior executive roles). The response rate was five per cent, with a margin of error associated with this type of study at +/- 6.5 per cent, with a confidence level of 95 per cent. The survey was conducted by Harris/Decima Inc. from February 12 to 28, 2013. A background document is available at www.cica.ca/businessmonitor.
CICA GIVES FEDERAL BUDGET A ‘B-PLUS’ RATING

The CICA issued a media release on March 21, 2013, stating that it gives the federal government a ‘B-Plus’ rating for a budget that focuses on balancing the books while providing targeted funding to spark economic activity.

The release states that the government is committed to returning to balanced budgets by 2015-16.

“With lingering economic uncertainty, the government’s focus remains a multi-year incremental approach to balancing its books and gets its finances in order if Canada is to achieve a sustainable recovery,” explains Gabe Hayos, ICD.D, FCPA, FCA, CICA’s Vice-President of Taxation.

The budget outlines a fiscal framework that features a skills training initiative, infrastructure funding and new investments to support manufacturing and innovation in Canada. There are no significant personal or corporate tax increases, but the government is taking action to preserve its tax base. The budget looks to close tax loopholes, address aggressive tax planning, clarify tax rules, reduce international tax avoidance and tax evasion, and improve tax fairness. It also provides the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) with new tools to enforce the tax rules.

“We support efforts to maintain the integrity of the tax base, but the CICA will work closely with Finance and the CRA to ensure that casting such a broad net of actions does not result in unintended consequences,” says Hayos.

The CICA would have preferred to see more action to reduce the complexity of Canada’s tax system, making the country more attractive for investment.

The CICA welcomes greater disclosure requirements for scientific research and experimental development claims without further restricting contingency fee arrangements relating to the tax incentive program. “This is something we recommended,” stresses Hayos. “The ability to engage third-party preparers on a contingency fee basis often allows companies to increase innovation spending.”

Other measures being applauded include the government continuing to work with the provinces, territories and stakeholders to improve the foreign credential recognition processes, along with plans to improve financial literacy among seniors.

The CICA believes that helping Canadians develop financial knowledge is critical to the country’s ongoing economic strength and prosperity. “It is important for Canadians to gain the financial skills, knowledge and confidence required to make the best choices for their circumstances,” adds Hayos.
TAX NEWS - Canada Pension Plan Administrative Concession for 2012

CICA has provided the following update which may be of interest to members:

Prior to 2012, persons turning 65 were no longer able to contribute to CPP, even though they were working. Starting in 2012, persons 65 and over could continue to make contributions to CPP, if they are still working. What such seniors or their employers may not have realized, is that unless they completed form CPT30 to elect out of paying CPP premiums for 2012, premium payments must be made. In this case, seniors and their employers would be subject to an assessment for the premiums if not paid.

We have been advised by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) that for the 2012 year only, an administrative concession has been adopted to deal with those who may not have been aware of this change. This administrative concession will be applicable only for the transition year 2012. For years 2013 and subsequently, the election must be filed.

For those seniors whose intent was not to contribute to the CPP for year 2012, but no CPT30 election was filed, the CRA will accept CPT30s for year 2012 dated as far back as December 2011 or as far back as they would have been able to file such an election. In order to submit a CPT30 election dated December 2011, the individual would have had to be at least 65 years of age and would have had to have been in receipt of a CPP/QPP prior to December 2011. Otherwise, the earliest a CPT30 could be dated would be the month the senior satisfied the two conditions — that of being 65 years of age and also in receipt of a CPP/QPP retirement pension, keeping in mind that the election takes effect the first of the following month.

FINANCIAL REPORTING & ASSURANCE STANDARDS HIGHLIGHTS

Below are news highlights re: financial reporting and assurance standards in Canada. To ensure you receive a complete account of the latest information from the Accounting Standards Oversight Council (AcSOC), the Accounting Standards Board (AcSB), the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB), the Auditing and Assurance Standards Oversight Council (AASOC), and the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AASB), click on: http://www.frascanada.ca/site-utilities/EmailCheck.aspx.

- **Exposure Draft - Amendments to the Introduction** — PSAB has issued an Exposure Draft that proposes adding a definition of a government component and directing certain government partnerships to follow different accounting standards given their structure and nature of operations. To learn more, click on: http://www.frascanada.ca/standards-for-public-sector-entities/documents-for-comment/item72006.pdf; stakeholders are encouraged to submit their comments, on the form provided, by May 3, 2013.

- **IAASB Consultation Paper - A Framework for Audit Quality** — The IAASB has issued a Consultation Paper that describes the key elements of audit quality. Canadian stakeholders are encouraged to provide their comments to the IAASB by May 15, 2013. For more info, click on: http://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/framework-audit-quality.

- **Request for Agenda Topics - Accounting Standards Oversight Council (AcSOC)** — The AcSOC’s next meeting will be held in Toronto on June 20 - 21, 2013. Individuals and organizations are encouraged to submit relevant and important issues for discussion by May 17, 2013.

- **AcSB Staff Commentary - Making Judgment Professional** — This commentary discusses the use of professional judgment in applying accounting standards in Parts II and III of the CICA Handbook - Accounting. To access the commentary, click on: http://www.frascanada.ca/standards-for-private-enterprises/resources/reference-materials/item72556.pdf.
- **Statement of Principles - Restructurings** — PSAB has issued a Statement of Principles that addresses the accounting and reporting of a wide range of restructuring activities among public sector entities. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit their comments, on the form provided, by May 17, 2013. For more info, click on: [http://www.frascanada.ca/standards-for-public-sector-entities/documents-for-comment/item72076.pdf](http://www.frascanada.ca/standards-for-public-sector-entities/documents-for-comment/item72076.pdf).


- **Exposure Draft - 2013 Improvements to Accounting Standards for Private Enterprises** — The AcSB has issued an Exposure Draft proposing amendments that will affect private enterprises and not-for-profit organizations. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit their comments, on the form provided, by June 1, 2013. To learn more, click on: [http://www.frascanada.ca/standards-for-private-enterprises/documents-for-comment/item73366.pdf](http://www.frascanada.ca/standards-for-private-enterprises/documents-for-comment/item73366.pdf).


### APPLYING THE STANDARDS - NEW RESOURCES

A number of new resources have been added to the Applying the Standards section of the CICA website.

#### Accounting Standards for Private Enterprise (ASPE)


#### Auditing and Assurance Standards


IFRS HIGHLIGHTS

Below are news highlights re: the IFRS Foundation (International Financial Reporting Standards) and the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). To ensure you receive a complete account of the latest information, plug into the free, online subscription service of the IFRS Foundation — eIFRS — by clicking on http://eifrs.ifrs.org/IB/Register. Also, check out the numerous documents for comment on IFRS by visiting http://www.frascanada.ca/international-financial-reporting-standards/index.aspx.

- **IFRS Discussion Group - Report on January 11, 2013 Meeting** — Read the report for details about the Group’s discussions in January 2013. Listen to the audio recordings to hear the Group’s full discussion.

- **AcSB Response - Annual Improvements to IFRSs 2011 - 2013 Cycle** — The AcSB has submitted a comment letter responding to the IASB’s Exposure Draft on this topic. For more info, click on: http://www.frascanada.ca/international-financial-reporting-standards/resources/responses-to-iasb-documents-for-comment/item55324.aspx


  In addition, the AcSB has issued an Exposure Draft that corresponds to the IASB’s Exposure Draft on this topic. Comments are also due by April 23rd; to access more info and/or a form, click on: http://www.frascanada.ca/international-financial-reporting-standards/documents-for-comment/item71801.pdf.


  In addition, the AcSB has issued an Exposure Draft that corresponds to the IASB’s Exposure Draft on this topic. Comments are also due by April 23rd; to access more info and/or a form, click on: http://www.frascanada.ca/international-financial-reporting-standards/documents-for-comment/item71812.pdf.


- **Update - Rate-Regulated Activities** — The AcSB has extended the existing deferral of the mandatory IFRS changeover date for entities with qualifying rate-regulated activities by an additional year to January 1, 2015. For more info, click on: http://www.frascanada.ca/accounting-standards-board/item64425.aspx.

APPLYING THE STANDARDS - NEW RESOURCES

A number of new resources have been added to the Applying the Standards section of the CICA website

**International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)**

- **Your Questions Answered** — This publication provides insight into a number of IFRS applications issues. In particular, this concise publication supplements an IFRS webinar series that was delivered in January, answering questions posed by webinar participants. Viewing the webinars is not necessary to find this information of interest; however, the webinars are available in archive. To learn more, click on: http://www.cica.ca/ focus-on-practice-areas/reporting-and-capital-markets/ifrs-reporting-alerts-and-resources/item73274.pdf?utm_source=PICA&utm_medium=email&utm_term=March%2B2013&utm_campaign=IFRSYQA.

(continued on page #10)
ON JUNE 17th, WHEN THE GRASS IS GREEN AND THE WIND IS FRESH AND SALTY, WHERE WILL YOU BE?

It’s time to clear your schedule and dust off your clubs as you get ready to join your colleagues and friends at ICANS’ 17th Annual Golf Tournament, being held at the Chester Golf Club.

Open to all ICANS members and CA students, registration forms are available at: http://www.icans.ns.ca/news-and-events/events/item73377.pdf

The first 124 paid players will be registered; registration deadline is June 7th; no cancellations after this date. For more info, contact Cindy Mombourquette at 425-3291 ext. 21 or at cmombourquette@icans.ns.ca.

This first place trophy is back up for grabs - organize your winning team today!
COMMUNITY CORNER

It's no secret that CAs are extremely community-minded. In fact, many of our members are involved in local/national charities and non-profit organizations, and help to coordinate important events. If you are a CA involved with a non-profit organization that's planning an event and you'd like to share this info with other ICANS members, let us know!

Send your information (title, date, location, NPO/charity name, contact) to communication@icans.ns.ca and ICANS will promote it in E-SCAN's ‘Community Corner.’

Space is limited, so submit your info early and remember, the contact person for the event must be a CA!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NEW JA PROGRAM

Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia (JA) has launched a new program across the province called, Dollars With Sense, to teach grade 8 students about financial literacy. Comprised of two, 2.5 hour sessions, the program is designed to help students learn the difference between credit and debit cards, how interest works, the difference between needs and wants, different investment options, and how to develop a budget, including both revenue and expense items. To date, Dollars With Sense has been very popular in other JA jurisdictions and the organizers hope to see a similar ‘uptake’ in Nova Scotia. However, to do this, they need volunteers!

Volunteer Commitment
From a time perspective, volunteers can expect to commit to approximately one hour of training and then there are five hours in the classroom, typically delivered in two visits of 2.5 hours each. Classes are scheduled until mid-June, and since the schedule is planned between each school and each volunteer, interested candidates are encouraged to contact the JA office in their respective region:

- Halifax School Board — (902) 454-4564
- Chignecto Central — (902) 986-5644
- Cape Breton — (902) 563-8042
- Southwest Nova Scotia — (902) 691-2233

For more info and/or if you have questions, please contact Lynn Coveyduck, President & CEO, JA Nova Scotia, atlcoveyduck@janovascotia.org or by calling (902) 454-4564 ext. 223

AEFNS CALL FOR PROPOSALS

It's that time of year again . . . the Accounting Education Foundation of Nova Scotia (AEFNS) is accepting proposals for projects which are consistent with its objectives. Members are invited to submit their ideas by April 30, 2013 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, atwbennett@icans.ns.ca or at (902) 425-3291 ext. 26.
EVENTS OF INTEREST

ICANS/FEI DINNER FEATURING NOVA SCOTIA’S MINISTER OF FINANCE

Once again, ICANS is pleased to sponsor an upcoming FEI Atlantic Canada dinner. Being held on April 17, 2013, at The Halifax Club, this year’s dinner will feature a presentation by Nova Scotia Minister of Finance Maureen MacDonald. The event starts at 6 pm with a reception, followed by dinner at 6:45 pm. Tickets are $92 ($80 plus $12 HST).

All ICANS members are invited to attend — to register, click on: http://www.icans.ns.ca/news-and-events/events/item73499.pdf; the deadline to register is April 12.

JA COMPANY PROGRAM AWARDS GALA

As a sponsor of Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia’s (JA Nova Scotia) Company Program, ICANS is pleased to announce that the Program’s Awards Gala will be held on April 28, 2013 from 3 to 5 pm at Saint Mary’s University. Open to all JA Company Program achievers, volunteers, sponsors and parents, ICANS’ Recruitment Committee Chair Catherine Johnston, CA, will be there to present the VP Finance of the Year Scholarship Award. Participating on the pre-event judging panel are ICANS’ Recruitment Committee members Donna Bourque, CA and Lisa Jardine, CA. For more info, please contact Chauntelle Brewer at cbrewer@janovascotia.org or at (902) 563-8040.

UPCOMING CAFE EVENTS

The following events are being offered by the Nova Scotia Chapter of the Canadian Association of Family Enterprise (CAFE):

- May 3, 2012 - Peter Wilson Dinner with Mickey and Colin MacDonald
- June 13, 2013 - HR Basics—Host: Shelley Alward of HR on the Go

For more info and/or to access registration forms, click on: http://www.cafecanada.ca/chapters/nova-scotia/events

UNDERSTANDING THE MULTI-GENERATIONAL WORKFORCE — A FREE WEBINAR

Created by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario (ICAO), this webinar provides an opportunity to consider the research on various generation groups and to better understand what motivates them in the workplace. By understanding the different generations, you will be in a better position to get your message across to team members of all ages, and to understand their messages to you. This two-hour program was recorded on May 11, 2012 in Toronto and is available for viewing, at no charge. To learn more, click on: http://www.snwebcastcenter.com/custom_events/icao-20120511/site/.
MORE EVENTS OF INTEREST

CICA CONTINUING EDUCATION

The gateway to your continuing education is just a click away! Click through CICA’s web communities and what you’ll find is a diverse range of in-class and on-line learning in core areas such as income tax and financial reporting, and in unique practice areas and industries such as information security and corporate finance. Moreover, you’ll find weekly information updates on key tax, technology, financial reporting, practice management and other topics, easy registration options, and improved access to hundreds of hours of verifiable CPD credits in convenient, easily accessible and affordable e-Learning formats, including the current and always popular Xtensions products, new corporate finance modules, the Select Series of information technology topics and new e-Learning courses.

Coming up . . .

- **May 21 - 22** in Toronto, ON — Debt & Equity in Corporate Finance  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/CorporateFinance/CFCourses/](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/CorporateFinance/CFCourses/)
- **June 3 - 6** in Toronto, ON — IFRS Immersion 1 Course  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/IFRSImmersion/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/IFRSImmersion/about.cfm)
- **June 3 - 7** in Toronto, ON — CICA Advanced HST/GST Course  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/AHST/](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/AHST/)
- **June 5 - 6** in Calgary, AB — Financial Reporting Conference for the Oil and Gas Industry  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/OilGas/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/OilGas/about.cfm)
- **June 9 - 14** in Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON — CICA In-Depth HST/GST Course  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/idgst/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/idgst/about.cfm)
- **June 10 - 11** in Toronto, ON — IFRSs for 2013: Four Standards in Two Days (NEW for 2013!)  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/IFRSNew/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/IFRSNew/about.cfm)
- **July 20 - 24** in Whistler, BC — CICA In-Depth Tax Course (Part 3)  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/part3/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/part3/about.cfm)
- **Aug. 12 - 15** in Halifax, NS — IFRS Immersion 2 Course (New for 2013)  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/IFRSImmersion2/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/IFRSImmersion2/about.cfm)
- **Sept. 9 - 11** in Niagara Falls, ON — Practice Development Retreat Workshop for SME Advisors (New for 2013)  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/PDRWSA/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/PDRWSA/about.cfm)
- **Sept. 9 - 11** in Ottawa, ON — Public Sector Financial Reporting and Accounting Course  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/PSABCourse/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/PSABCourse/about.cfm)
- **Sept. 23 - 24** in Toronto, ON — Valuation in Corporate Finance  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/CorporateFinance/CFCourses/](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/CorporateFinance/CFCourses/)
- **Sept. 24 - 25** (optional workshop on Sept. 26) in Toronto, ON — Financial Reporting and Accounting Conference  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/frac/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/frac/about.cfm)
- **Sept. 25 - 27** in Toronto, ON — In-Depth Brokers and Investment Dealers Course  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/Brokers/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/Brokers/about.cfm)
- **Sept. 30 - Oct. 1** (optional workshops on Sept. 29 & Oct. 1) in Ottawa, ON — CICA Commodity Tax Symposium  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/cts/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/cts/about.cfm)
- **Oct. 2 - 3** in Calgary, AB — Valuation in Corporate Finance  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/CorporateFinance/CFCourses/](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/CorporateFinance/CFCourses/)
- **Oct. 16 - 17** (optional workshop on Oct. 18) in Toronto, ON — CICA’s National Conference on Income Taxes  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/cit/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/cit/about.cfm)
- **Oct. 21 - 22** in Toronto, ON — Debt & Equity in Corporate Finance  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/CorporateFinance/CFCourses/](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/CorporateFinance/CFCourses/)
- **Oct. 23 - 24** in Ottawa, ON — Public Sector and Not-for-Profit Financial Reporting Conference  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/PublicSector/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/PublicSector/about.cfm)
- **Oct. 24 - 25** in Toronto, ON — Essentials of Audit Committee Membership Workshop  
  [http://www.cpd.cica.ca/EACMW/about.cfm](http://www.cpd.cica.ca/EACMW/about.cfm)

For information on all CICA Continuing Education courses and products, please visit: [www.cpd.cica.ca](http://www.cpd.cica.ca).
HERE AND THERE WITH MEMBERS
Paul Belliveau, FCA, Partner, Belliveau Veinotte Inc., was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of Nova Scotia Business Inc.

David Reid, CA, previously with Citigroup in New York City, US, has transferred to the company’s office in London, UK, to join the EMEA Accounting Policy team.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS
The following ICANS members were featured in the March 2013 issue of the Halifax Chamber of Commerce’s Business Voice magazine:

Paul Bent, CA, Partner, Grant Thornton LLP, Halifax, was highlighted for his role as the Chamber’s Provincial Affairs Committee Chair and his pre-budget consultation meeting with Nova Scotia Finance Minister Maureen MacDonald (page #35); and,


NEW MEMBERS
The following individuals were admitted to membership through affiliation:

Thomas Casey, CA
Kelly Fleming, CA
Kristina King, CA
Cayla Leger, CA
Allan Melvin, CA

IN MEMORIAM
We regret to inform you that the following member has passed away:
Hugh John Tweedie

REMINDERS AND IMPORTANT DATES

◆ ICANS’ 2013 High School Scholarship Application Deadline
   April 2
6
◆ ICANS/FEI Dinner
   April 17, The Halifax Club
◆ AEFNS Call for Proposals Deadline
   April 30
◆ ICANS’ Annual Meeting & Golf Tournament
   June 17, The Chester Golf & Country Club (registration deadline = June 7)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ON THE WEB
Employment and volunteer opportunities can be found at http://www.icans.ns.ca/members/career-opportunities/item69073.aspx.
Check out the following:

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
Treasurer - Sierra Club (Atlantic Canada Chapter)
Board Treasurer - Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre
Board Member - Canadian Council of Human Resources Association
Mentor Accountant for Cambodian Children’s Charity - Accounting for International Development (AfID)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
Director, Admin. & Group Controller
- New Brunswick
Senior Director, Commercial Investments & Financial Analysis
- Halifax, NS
Director, Financial Reporting
- Halifax, NS
VP Corporate Services
- Dartmouth, NS
VP Finance
- Halifax, NS
Chief Financial Officer
- Halifax, NS
Chief Financial Officer
- Truro, NS
Accountant
- Sydney, 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 contact information. Just email your info to ICANS’ Membership Registrar, Danielle Roode, at droode@icans.ns.ca.

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