



Chair's Message

Charles Darwin, the well known naturalist who is commonly credited with evolutionary theories related to the survival of the fittest, said: "It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the ones most responsive to change."

I think that as CGAs, we have proven our ability to respond positively to change over the past few years. Let me list a few of the major examples:

- the program of professional studies
- the examination requirements
- online event registration
- a new chief executive officer
- introduction of e-bulletins
- a whole new division dealing with business development
- the "more than numbers" ad campaign
- website revised

and now — no more paper-based chapter newsletters.

The Niagara Grapevine joins the ranks of electronic communication.

This seems to mark another turning point — and for many reasons, the move to electronic newsletters is a great one. Besides reducing the CGA Ontario carbon footprint, it also allows for speedier turnaround times, links to events and articles and it is estimated that the savings from printing and postage for newsletters in Ontario would have been \$120,000 in 2008-09. So, to keep up with this latest change, it is my hope that you, the members of Niagara Chapter, will take time to read through the electronic newsletters that will be sent your way in the future and feel free to send comments, articles and news about fellow CGAs to be shared with others in our chapter.

I look forward to communicating through this new venue.

Marian Heil, CGA
Chapter Chair

Events at a Glance

We wish everyone the best of summer and we look forward to seeing everyone at the first scheduled event in September:

Breakfast Meetings

Dates: Thursday, September 17, 2009
Thursday, October 22, 2009
Thursday, November 19, 2009
Location: Falls Manor – Lundy's Lane
Time: 7:30 a.m.
Cost: Your breakfast

Work & Learn Weekend 2009

Date: September 18 and 19, 2009
Location: Casablanca Winery Inn – Grimsby, Ontario
Time: Registration at 8:30 a.m., September 18, 2009
Cost: Please go to www.cga-ontario.org for further details

Students in the CGA Program BBQ

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2009
Location: Club Italia (Corner of Montrose Road and Mountain Road), Niagara Falls
Time: 5 to 9 p.m.
Cost: No Charge

We are also planning to hold more regular Lunch & Learn meetings — a schedule of future events will be forthcoming.

We will hold another fund raising event in 2010, in sponsorship of our charity of choice, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada (BBBSC). We are looking forward to another successful event and seeing all our volunteers and participants again.

Additional professional development seminars are being scheduled and we will inform you of names, dates and locations as those become available. With our new delivery format you are now made aware of new additions, changes or cancellations in a more timely fashion.

Going Green

It is the dawning of a greener era for CGA Ontario's communications. This issue marks the beginning of a more effective means of communications that will maximize timeliness and cost efficiencies. CGA Ontario's chapters will transition from a print to online newsletter format. As this transition from print to online newsletters proceeds, CGA Ontario will continue to seek ways of maximizing communications content, efficiencies and delivery.

The undertaking of this initiative follows a consultation process with chapter officials. The decision to move forward with this transition will help CGA Ontario align with the best practices of the not-for-profit sector. It is also a natural extension of the socially-conscious and environmentally-friendly practices that we have been implementing for a number of years now. And with the unveiling of the new CGA Ontario website (www.cga-ontario.org) now is the perfect time to make the move to e-delivery.

In order to make this transition a success it is important for all CGAs to provide a current, working email address. Please confirm that the primary email address listed in your account at www.cga-ontario.org is both valid and preferred as your delivery option.

Statements will continue to provide CGAs and students with pertinent information through a print format.

Annual General Meeting 2009

Friday, May 29, 2009

Rockway Glen Golf Course & Estate Winery

Niagara Chapter's annual general meeting (AGM) was held on May 29, 2009, at Rockway Glen Golf Course & Estate Winery and it was a huge success this year. With 26 members, spouses and honoured guests, attendance was one of the highest in recent years.

Frances Lettieri, from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada St. Catharines, presented an award to Debbie Davis, CGA, for the most funds raised by a CGA in the St. Catharines' Annual Bowl for Kids Sake. This was the first award of its kind and we are all very proud of Debbie's achievement. We are looking forward to next year's Bowl for Kids Sake and seeing the participation expanded by getting more teams entered in all five BBBSC locations in the Niagara Region. The t-shirts were a big hit with all and provided obvious branding of CGA Ontario with BBBSC; we can see the t-shirts once in a while at other events. Also in attendance was Ron Bartlett, bringing greetings as chairman of BBBSC Niagara.



The guest speaker was Bernie Keim, CGA, vice-president of member services and regulatory affairs, who gave a talk on the current state of education within CGA and was quite gracious in answering questions posed by the students in the CGA program of professional studies who attended the AGM. We are quite grateful that Bernie took time out of his busy schedule to provide us with insights on important updates and information.

We were also pleased to welcome Pat Winstanley, CGA, as a 25-year member; she was presented with a gift to acknowledge this wonderful accomplishment. Please join me in congratulating Lori Chappelle, CGA, Michael Lewis, CGA and M. Ruth White, CGA, in reaching this milestone event as well. These members were not in attendance but the gift was personally given to them at a later date.

CGA Ontario Governor, Janice Charko, FCGA, led the meeting in reciting the oath of obligation.

There were plenty of door prizes awarded such as golf admission to Lochness Lochs for the BBBSC Welland tournament to be held August 12, 2009.

Once the order of business was completed and the speeches were done, a wonderful meal was provided. This was followed by an informative tour and wine tasting at Rockway Glen's facilities, which was much appreciated by our members.



We look forward to next year's AGM; let's see if we can attract more members to attend as this event was reasonably priced and is an exceptional value.



The board of directors for 2009-10 is as follows:

Marian Heil, CGA	Chair
Lina Doyle, CGA	1st Vice Chair
Sandra Harding, CGA	2nd Vice Chair
Laura Hills, CGA	Treasurer
Stacey Dean	Secretary
Judy Hill, CGA	Past Chair
Tara Carll, CGA	Director of Education
Ronalyn Meier	Director of Communications
Lorrie Romanelli, CGA	Privacy Director

New members of the board:

Deborah Davis, CGA	Director of Professional Development
Deeshwarie Goberdhan, CGA	Director at Large



Please join me in welcoming the new members and thanking all of the Niagara board members for generously donating their time to ensure that all our members are informed and educated.