

## An Evening in Italy

In support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel (BBBSP)

Come out and be entertained in true hospitable Italian fashion at this fundraising gala with net proceeds from the event going to support BBBSP.

Enjoy the company of fellow CGAs, students, their families and friends while getting an opportunity to mingle with local, provincial and federal government officials and prominent members of the local business community. The evening will be full of fun: live entertainment, delicious dinner, dancing, an auction, raffle and prizes.

**Date:** Saturday, March 27, 2010  
**Event ID#:** 2010-0327f  
**Time:** 6 p.m. – Reception  
**Cost:** \$75 per person (cash bar)  
**Venue:** Speranza Banquet Hall  
510 Deerhurst Drive, Brampton

Registration will be open through CGA Ontario's website for CGA students and members. For details please go to [www.cga-ontario.org/EventReg/search.aspx](http://www.cga-ontario.org/EventReg/search.aspx).

Sponsorship and advertising opportunities and corporate tables are also available to advertise your business or employer. For further information regarding this, please contact Resty del Rosario, CGA, at [resty.delrosario@rogers.com](mailto:resty.delrosario@rogers.com) or Leslie Davidson, CGA, at [ldavidson@wajax.com](mailto:ldavidson@wajax.com).

Be sure to register for this exciting event in support of a great cause!

## The Wedding Singer

It is 1985 and rock-star wannabe Robbie Heart is New Jersey's favourite wedding singer. He's the life of the party, until his own fiancée leaves him at the altar. Shot through the heart, Robbie makes every wedding as disastrous as his own.

**Date:** Sunday, May 9, 2010  
**Event ID#:** 2010-0509f  
**Time:** 11 a.m. – Buffet  
12:30 p.m. - Show  
**Cost:** \$48.42 per person  
**Venue:** 5400 Dixie Road, Mississauga

To register, please go to [www.cga-ontario.org/EventReg/search.aspx](http://www.cga-ontario.org/EventReg/search.aspx).

## Volunteers Required for Tax Preparation Services

Peel Chapter's government and public relations committee volunteers contributed to the community by preparing and filing more than 600 tax returns free of cost for seniors and lower income groups last year.

Each year during the months of March and April, volunteers contribute their time and skill on weekends at different agency locations in Mississauga and Brampton, assisting their clients in the tax preparation and e-filing of tax returns.

We are looking for students in the CGA program of professional studies who passed the TX1 course or CGAs who are not in professional practice. If you are interested in volunteering your time and expertise to help those in need and are available on weekends in March and April, please send your name and contact details to Peel Chapter at [peel@cga-ontario.org](mailto:peel@cga-ontario.org) or [ramvenkat@sympatico.ca](mailto:ramvenkat@sympatico.ca).

Together we can make a major difference in projecting the CGA brand in the community by participating in this service.

## Laptop Donation Request for Tax Preparation Services (TPS)

Peel Chapter is requesting donations of laptops to be used for the TPS in March and April. The laptop would have preferably Windows 98, the capacity to load the UFile tax program, Excel, Word, printer connection capability and internet. If you have any unused laptop and wish to donate to the CGA Peel chapter please contact Peel chapter at [peel@cga-ontario.org](mailto:peel@cga-ontario.org) or [ramvenkat@sympatico.ca](mailto:ramvenkat@sympatico.ca).

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**Keeping In  
Touch**

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by email at [peel@cga-ontario.org](mailto:peel@cga-ontario.org).

# Tax Preparer's Responsibilities (Part 1)

**By Rakesh Dewan, CGA**

We are on the verge of a new tax year. Filing season for individuals generally runs from March through June each calendar year, while corporate returns may be done year-round. Each year, through their work and through local TPS, CGAs and students in the CGA program act as tax preparers and professionals by preparing and filing thousands of tax returns. Tax preparers are professionally skilled and trained in preparing tax returns.

The following table presents some interesting data related to the filing of T1 tax returns for the year 2007 (by filing method):

(In millions)

Method of Filing	Filed by Tax Preparers	Self-prepared	Total of T1s
E-Filed / Net-filed	9.6	4.3	13.9
Tele-filed	0.0	0.5	0.5
Computer-printed	2.7	2.7	5.4
Hand-prepared	0.1	4.4	4.5
Total	12.4	11.9	24.3

Source: Canada Revenue Agency's website.

Analyzing the above table shows that there were a total of 24.3 million T1 tax returns filed nationwide using all different filing methods. Of this, 13.9 million (57 per cent) tax returns were e-filed and net-filed. Another 5.4 million (22 per cent) tax returns were computer-prepared using the certified tax preparation software but were mailed rather than submitted electronically. There is a small number of 0.5 million (2 per cent) that used the tele-filing method. The balance 4.5 million (19 per cent) were hand-prepared and mailed.

12.39 million (51 per cent) of the total tax returns filed were completed by professional tax preparers, and the balance 11.9 million (49 per cent) were self-prepared and submitted.

Now, many valuable deductions can be made from these findings:

1. A majority (57 per cent) of the taxpayers have already switched from paper filing to electronic filing of their tax returns.
2. Another 22 per cent are just a step away from being electronic-filers. These taxpayers are already using the certified tax preparation software to prepare their tax returns but are printing and mailing them instead of e-filing them.
3. The balance (21 per cent) comes from the "self-preparing" category and should be encouraged to switch over to the electronic-filing method.
4. The self-preparing group of taxpayers who are paper filers (4.4 million) present an opportunity for CGAs and students in the CGA program who are tax preparers to help them file their tax returns electronically.
5. The future of filing tax returns is almost completely shifting to electronic-filing – whether prepared and e-filed by a tax preparer or self-prepared and then e-filed.

That brings us to the issue of responsibilities of tax preparers and tax professionals. Tax preparers are the important link between taxpayers and Canada Revenue Agency. Regardless of whether they perform their duties for fees or free of charge, tax preparers have the same responsibilities towards their clients and Canada Revenue Agency.