



### Chair's Report

This is a bittersweet time of the year; as much as I can sigh with relief that the year is over in terms of workload, it is also time to part with friends and benefactors who have supported me with sound advice, guidance and solid work throughout the year. I could not have asked for a better bunch of volunteers that made up the board during the year and a past chair whose presence was a source of reassurance. I received assistance from the office whenever I needed it and valuable advice on any contentious issues that came up during the year.



I want to thank Shirley Taylor, CGA for her sincere engagement as past chair during the year. I also want to thank the executive committee members for their support and the entire board and the recording secretary for their exemplary work in making 2009-10 an outstanding year.

Best Wishes!  
Anton Karunakaran, CGA  
Chair, Toronto Chapter

During 2009-10 our work comprised the following:

We offered a number of professional development seminars, social and networking events and community services for CGAs and their guests. We reviewed how we offered our tax preparation services (TPS) to determine if we were able to prepare more returns electronically instead of paper. Our objective was also to concentrate on areas where the TPS were most needed, and to coordinate our services with those spearheaded by MPs and MPPs in the GTA. As well, we:

- Provided relevant financial information seminars within the community, designed to promote the CGA designation and its presence in the GTA.
- Continued to work with Ted Wigdor, CGA Ontario's vice-president, government and corporate affairs, and his staff to support their action plan towards obtaining full public practice rights for all qualified CGAs within the province.
- Made every effort to support students in the CGA program with their studies and encouraged and facilitated networking and other social and professional activities among them.

I am confident that Toronto Chapter will continue to good work in 2010-11, and that Nick Pawliwec, CGA will do a supreme job as the new chair.

### Communications Committee

The communications committee's mandate is to publish an interesting and informative chapter newsletter as a vehicle for communicating professional, educational and social information to Toronto Chapter members and students.



The committee met on a monthly basis to edit and format articles and insertions for upcoming events submitted by the various chapter committees. The information was communicated to the membership through the publication of our monthly e-newsletter the Communigram and monthly e-bulletins and the event registration section of CGA Ontario's website.

Thank you to the staff at CGA Ontario for their patience and support and for providing information to the chapter membership in a professional and timely manner.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Irina Soeson, CGA, vice-chair of the committee, for her dedication and support throughout the year. I would also like to thank our wonderful team of committee volunteers: Angela Cheung, CGA; Christo De Silva, CGA; Carmine Ferrari, CGA; Sabrina Huang, CGA; Dominica Mele, CGA; Roger Munroe, CGA and Martin Ong, CGA.

Joanne Beaton, CGA  
Chair, Communications Committee

### Executive Committee



Nick Pawliwec, CGA  
1st Vice-Chair



Edmund Tin, CGA  
Vice-Chair



Mark Markandu, CGA  
Vice-Chair



Carol Pipka, CGA  
Secretary



Danica Jaklin, CGA  
Treasurer



Shirley Taylor, CGA  
Immediate Past Chair

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## Community Relations Committee

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The mandate of the community relations committee is to provide service to the community during the tax season, to enhance the profile of the chapter and CGA Ontario and to support CGA Ontario's government relations initiatives.



We achieved our mandate by providing our annual free tax preparation services (TPS) and by partnering with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), Community Volunteer Income Tax Program.

In partnership with CRA, three evening sessions of tax updates and two full-day, in-depth training sessions were provided to our tax volunteers. In addition, we were able to secure two sessions of hands-on training on UFile Tax Software from the CRA, Toronto East District Office. The committee also arranged for CRA to provide UFile tax software and two laptops for our volunteers this year.

This year, we held TPS at over 70 locations. Our number of volunteers also grew in response to the higher demand and increased the number of income tax returns that were completed this year. We volunteered at various community centres, libraries, seniors homes and MPP/MP offices, including the Hon. Judy Sgro, Hon. Frank Klees, Hon. Gerard Kennedy, Hon. Michael Prue, Hon. Maria Minna and Hon. David Caplan.

We continued our community awareness campaign with the distribution of posters and flyers for our centres. We encouraged the centres to display our CGA posters and flyers and distribute them to their clients and residents.

I would like to express my sincerest thanks to my committee members for their dedication, unwavering commitment and support:

Clara So, CGA  
Shanaz Karimullah, CGA  
Partha Chakrabarty  
Cristina Dobrin, CGA  
Khaled Emam, CGA  
Hirut Gutema, CGA  
Daniella Inoescu, CGA  
Lucita Leger, CGA  
Ricardo Salvador, CGA

My special thanks and appreciation to our hard working tax coordinators:

Karina Au, CGA  
Rainbow Chan, CGA  
Ruby Chui, CGA  
Andrei Diatchenko, CGA  
Jean Dell'Agnes, CGA  
Danica Jaklin, CGA  
Sadiq Lakhani, CGA  
Ivy Li, CGA  
Phyllis McLeod, CGA  
Peili Miao, CGA  
Eric Ng, CGA  
Paurushp Patel, CGA  
Darinka Pejic, CGA

Leslie Pataky, CGA  
Marina Piao, CGA  
Sharmini Ratnasingham, CGA  
Maria Ruscetti, CGA  
Kimaya Shah, CGA  
Lin Shen, CGA  
Nada Stojkovic, CGA  
Manchula Srikaruna, CGA  
Kelvin Teeluksingh, CGA  
Shanaz Withana, CGA

Our endeavours would not be possible without our hard-working volunteers who freely gave their time, talent and effort to prepare free tax returns for lower income seniors, families and individuals. Without these dedicated volunteers, we would not have achieved our goals. To all our volunteers...thank you for volunteering...thank you for your time and efforts... thank you for making a difference.

Zennie Bernardo, CGA  
Chair, Community Relations Committee

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## Events Committee

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The committee's mandate is to organize professional development and social activities for our members by partnering with neighbouring CGA Ontario chapters and other professional associations to broaden our networking circle.



In compliance with this mandate, we organized a successful combination of social events and interesting seminars as well as provided opportunities to network and promote relationships with other professional associations.

In August 2009, Toronto and Peel chapters organized a fun-filled trip to the Niagara Region for CGAs, students in the CGA program and guests. This year's coach trip included a tour and wine-tasting at Konzelmann Estate Winery and Joseph's Estate Winery. The tours were followed with shopping and sightseeing at Niagara Falls.

In October 2009, new CGAs were welcomed at the annual "Salute to New Members" gala at the Toronto Marriott Bloor Yorkville. The new CGAs had an enjoyable evening networking with fellow CGAs as well as Toronto Chapter board members and CGA Ontario governors.

In November 2009, Peel and Toronto chapters organized a joint event at Woodbine Race Track. Participants enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch and an afternoon of horse races with friends and family. It was an excellent opportunity to meet and get to know our fellow CGAs living in the west end of the GTA.

In February 2010, we had our Annual Joint Symposium together with Peel, Huronia and Durham chapters at the Old Mill Inn. The usual six sessions were reduced to four in an effort to increase the amount of technical content presented. Topics presented included IFRS, the harmonized sales tax and an income tax update.

In May 2010, Toronto and Peel chapters organized The Wedding Singer event at Stage West which included a buffet lunch and a live show.

The final event for the 2009-10 year is the annual general meeting to be held on June 3, 2010, at The Toronto Marriott Bloor Yorkville. It will be an evening of music and fun for our members and guests.

I would like to thank the members of the events committee for their efforts throughout the year:

Lisa Allen, CGA (Co-chair)  
Allan Borins, CGA  
Elizabeth Melo, CGA  
Andy Henderson, CGA  
Phil Russo, CGA  
Jeevan Trehan, CGA  
Jay Gondhalekar  
John Fernandes, CGA  
Sylvestor Pih, CGA  
Saeed Siddiqui, CGA

Our special thanks also to the CGA Ontario staff for all of their support throughout the year.

Randy O'Malley, CGA  
Chair, Events Committee

## Information Technology Committee

The mandate of the information technology committee is to provide relevant information and to stimulate effective use of information technology by providing an understanding of their applications and limitations in corporate/business environments.

During the 2009-10 year, the committee provided a total of 16 information and training seminars in support of its mandate. The committee presented a series of hands-on full-day computer courses at Seneca College in Markham. These courses included Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint and Microsoft Access. I am happy to advise that most of these courses were sold out and were attended by CGAs from Hamilton and Barrie, as well.

In addition to the hands-on courses, we responded to the needs of chapter members with regard to the fast changing world of information technology by presenting the following seminars:

QuickBooks  
What Hackers Know That You Don't  
Windows 7  
The Wireless Landscape in Canada  
Preparing T1 Returns in a Paperless Environment  
Tackle Accpac Financial Suite v.5.6  
Unleash Accpac Operation Suite  
Technology for CGAs  
Basis Inventory System

Also, in partnership with the student education committee, we presented a seminar on Microsoft Excel hints and tips.

I would like to thank my fellow committee members:



Max Lobo, CGA  
Kurbie Chow, CGA  
Eddie Jimenez, CGA  
James Tang, CGA  
Sardar Khan, CGA  
Manchula Srikaruna, CGA  
John Mastrangelo, CGA  
Jenny Lo, CGA

I would also like to thank the CGA Ontario staff, the Toronto Chapter executive committee and my fellow board members for their patience and support during the year.

Emmanuel Dizon, CGA  
Chair, Information Technology Committee

## Member Resources Committee

The mandate of the membership resources committee is to act as an administrative and informative resource to members of the Toronto Chapter, its board of directors and committees. Primarily, the role of the committee is to maintain and develop a database of the board and committee members to meet the information needs of the Toronto Chapter board. This was an easily attainable task with the cooperation of the board and the numerous chapter volunteers. Thank you to all volunteers who sent their member information so promptly. It was wonderful to see how many dedicated members with diverse experience we have and I believe that speaks volumes about our chapter.



I would also like to thank Randy O'Malley, CGA and the events committee for allowing me to participate and assist with the coordination of some of their activities this past year.

A sincere thank you to everyone for an excellent 2009-10 year.

Lisa Allen, CGA  
Chair, Membership Resources Committee

## Professional Practice Committee

The professional practice committee has a mandate to provide a forum for all members with an interest in public practice to meet, share ideas and access resources through professional development activities, as well as to communicate the concerns of public practitioners to CGA Ontario. I am happy to report that the committee has met its mandate for the 2009-10 year and concluded another successful year.

The committee strives to identify topics of interest and relevance for public practitioners and this year a total of eight seminars and nine public practitioner's breakfast meetings were hosted. Seminar topics included capital gains taxes, identity fraud, EHT top10 audit issues, T1 & T2 tax updates, forensic accounting, tax & family business succession planning, enterprise risk management, and non-residents providing services in Canada.

The seminars were well-attended by CGAs, students and their

guests and the feedback provided by attendees was both informative and gratifying. The comments from each seminar evaluation are used in the identification of new topics to be pursued in the coming year as well as to validate the efforts of the committee on the type and quality of seminars presented.

These events would not be made possible without the volunteers and speakers who provided their time and expertise to present on the various topics. I would like to thank the members of the professional practice committee: William Campbell, CGA (former chair); Kin Auyeung, CGA; Lily Fei, CGA; Louis Kartzowitz, CGA; Ed Martin, CGA; and Sally Zhang, CGA for their exceptional efforts in planning and organizing each event as well as their valuable contributions at committee meetings.

Ray Armstrong, CGA  
Chair, Professional Practice Committee

## Public Sector Committee

The mandate of the public sector committee is to provide a forum for chapter members employed in the public sector to meet and share ideas, access resources through professional development and provide opportunities for networking.

This committee focuses on members who are employed in all three levels of government, as well as the health and education sectors and not-for-profit organizations.

In November 2009, the committee kicked off the year with a seminar called "How to Apply for a Position in the Public Service" at the Ivey ING Leadership Centre. The session provided valuable insight on the hiring process at the federal level and pointed out some of the major differences among hiring processes within the three levels of governments.

The second event was "Ethics in Leadership: Finding your way in Ethical Dilemmas". This seminar focused on the ethical dilemmas CGAs may experience in both the public sector as well as the private sector. Speaker Craig Hannaford provided tools to navigate through some of these challenges that we might face during our careers.

The third event featured Kevin Crone on "How to Remember Names and just about Anything Else". This session provided coaching on how to tap into your potential to remember anything, as well as a method to build listening skills which helps to strengthen important relationships.

The committee's fourth event was a joint event with the professional practice committee called "Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) and its Impact on Financial Reporting". The session was presented by Peter Rummye, FCGA. He spoke of business leaders in the private and public sectors, and how they make the connection between value creation and risk management. Many are realizing that risks are no longer just hazards to be avoided, but that they create opportunity which in turn creates value. Enterprise risk management (ERM) has emerged as an important new management tool. ERM is an approach to evaluating and managing the uncertainties enterprises face. The seminar helped participants understand the



fundamentals of ERM, and how it might benefit their organizations.

The committee's fifth event was presented by Robert Half on "Developing your Leadership Skills and using Staff Evaluation to Motivate Your Team". This seminar provided strategies for inspiring and motivating employees to achieve their potential as well as other skills essential for becoming a successful leader.

Our final event on Wednesday, May 12, 2010, at the Ivey ING Leadership Centre will address the future of financial reporting for not-for-profit organizations. The session will be presented by representatives from the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. They will discuss how the proposals in the new exposure draft would affect financial reporting by not-for-profit organizations (NFPs), both in the public and private sector, and the reasons behind the proposals.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank my committee members for their dedication, hard work, enthusiasm and teamwork throughout the year. Without their continued support and commitment these events would not have been possible. The committee members for the 2009-10 fiscal year are:

Rola Chen, CGA  
Michelle Keung, CGA  
Om Sharma, CGA

Emily Terzieva, CGA.  
Winsome Wong, CGA

Murray Chin, CGA  
Chair, Public Sector Committee

## Student Education Committee

The mandate of the student education committee is to support students in their studies and to encourage and facilitate opportunities for networking. The committee has met its mandate through the eight events that we have organized this past year. One of the highlights of these events was the new student orientation night. Seventy new students attended this informative and fun-filled event. The office staff provided helpful insights into various online study tools and we also had accomplished CGAs share their stories. It was a great opportunity for new students to connect, to feel that they are not struggling alone and learn from the seasoned CGAs. Another important event was the PEAQ seminar held specifically for students in the final stage of their CGA studies. It was well attended with over 130 students.



I would like to take this opportunity to recognize my committee members, who have worked hard to help us achieve our mandate:

Desiree Archer, CGA  
Andrei Diatchenko, CGA  
Lin Lem, CGA

Aida Tomayeva, CGA  
Yvonne Yu, CGA

Thank you for your valuable time, as well as your continued commitment and support through this year.

Lin Shen, CGA  
Chair, Student Education Committee

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## Notice of Toronto Chapter's 2010 Annual General Meeting

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Dear CGAs and students in the CGA program:

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Certified General Accountants Association of Ontario, Toronto Chapter, will be held at Toronto Marriott Bloor Yorkville Hotel, Toronto, on Thursday June 3, 2010.

5:30 p.m. Reception  
6 p.m. Annual General Meeting  
7 p.m. Dinner/Entertainment

The Annual General Meeting will commence at 6 p.m. where the following business will be transacted:

1. To read, correct and approve the minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting.
2. To consider the report of the board of directors and the financial statements, together with the auditor's report therein for the year ended April 30, 2010.
3. Amendments or additions to the chapter bylaws.
4. To transact such other business that may arise during the meeting.

CGAs and students may opt to attend only the business portion of the annual general meeting. There is no admission fee to the annual general meeting.

Members are reminded that the business portion of the meeting is open only to members of Toronto Chapter (CGAs and students).

Financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2010 and minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting will be made available, upon request, to those members who cannot attend the Annual General Meeting.

Carol Pipka, CGA  
Secretary  
Toronto Chapter Board of Directors