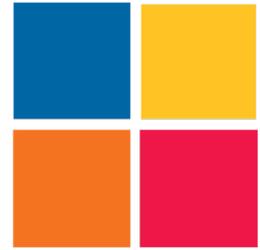




Canadian Association of Government Finance Officers
Formerly GFOA of Western Canada



VOLUME 9 - NO. 2

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MOHAMED FAHMY TO SPEAK



Court and sentenced to seven years of incarceration in a maximum-security prison. The high-profile legal fight for his release attracted international and celebrity attention. He was eventually released after nearly two years.

At our conference, Mohamed will speak to us from the point of view of journalism and human-rights by discussing what Canada can do to strengthen its diplomatic presence and advocacy for Canadian citizens abroad in a rapidly changing world. Through his perspective, we will hear how every citizen can make a difference through standing up for what's right in our own daily lives.

We are proud to have award-winning journalist, war correspondent and author, Mohamed Fahmy as our keynote speaker for our conference in September.

He covered the Iraq War in 2003 for the Los Angeles Times and entered Iraq from Kuwait on the first day of the war. Upon completion of his one-year mission, he authored his first book, Baghdad Bound. Most recently, he covered the Arab Spring. In December 2013, he and two colleagues were arrested by Egyptian authorities and in June 2014, he was found guilty by a Cairo Criminal

Fahmy joins several other exciting speakers confirmed already: Tim Beauchamp, the retired director of PSAB; Janice Baker, City Manager and CAO of the City of Mississauga; and Gail Stephens, who has served as CAO for Winnipeg, Victoria and the Canadian Museum of Human Rights.

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS ARE FILLING UP

Many of our delegates, especially those whose travel costs are high, are taking advantage of the one-day workshops being offered prior to our main conference. We have arranged three first-class professional development workshops for September 11th in Winnipeg, for those people who are able to get to the conference a day early.

- Internal Controls to Help Manage Risk led by Jamie Black of FH Black and Associates
- Capital Budgeting and Planning led by Tim Duhamel of the Bloom Centre for Municipal Education

Check out more details in the [brochure](#) or [register here](#).

- Long-Range Financial Planning led by Bob Eiche, past-president of GFOA International



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The CAGFO Board is pleased to introduce Paul Wills CPA, CMA as a new member of our Board of Directors representing Nova Scotia – our first Director from the Maritime Provinces. You'll have an opportunity to meet him at our annual conference this September. Paul is the CEO/Treasurer, Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation and regularly attends the International GFOA conference. Welcome Paul!

Public Sector Accounting is going to see some major changes in the upcoming years with new standards around Asset Retirement Obligations, Revenue Standards, and Financial Instruments to name a few. This obviously has an impact on municipalities, so

we're gathering volunteers for a committee to discuss and assess all of these changes to our standards. At this year's conference in Winnipeg we will hold a forum where we will be able to share our thoughts and opinions with the PSAB staff and the chair of the board: Charles-Antoine St-Jean.

In last month's member survey, we determined that more than half our members use LinkedIn regularly. We are therefore using the platform to make announcements about our activities and conferences. We would love you to [follow us](#) as well as comment and "like" our postings.

See you in Winnipeg!



Lorrie Schmalenberg, CPA, CGA
 Manager, Corporate Accounting Corporate Services
 City of Regina, Saskatchewan.
lschmale@regina.ca

PSAB NEWS:

PSAB will play a major role in CAGFO's 2018 Winnipeg conference. We will be covering several different topics touching on Public Sector Accounting Standards:

- Tim Beauchamp will be talking about his role in PSAB over the past 25 years and how it has impacted the presentation of financial information in Canada.
- The Annual PSAB Update, presented by Michael Puskaric, will keep CAGFO members informed of standards which are being implemented and those which are pending.
- We will cover the statement of concepts for a revised conceptual framework, a statement of principles for a revised reporting model, and a consultation paper on the future for PSAB's international strategy.
- Starting this year, there will be a PSAB Forum where members can discuss PSAB issues with PSAB staff and board.



PSAB board chair, Charles-Antoine St-Jean, will be in attendance and will be involved in several of these sessions. We look forward to your participation.

2018 HOSTS



PARTNERS



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS EVENTS

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

May 31st-June 1st, 2018

GFOA of BC, Kelowna, BC

[More information](#)

June 3rd-6th, 2018;

Alberta GFOA, Kananaskis, AB

[More information](#)

September 12th-14th 2018

CAGFO, Winnipeg, MB

[More information](#)

September 19th-21st 2018;

MFOA, Niagara Falls, ONT

[More information](#)

October 22nd-23rd 2018

CPA Public Sector Conference, Ottawa, ON

[More information](#)

May 19th-22nd, 2019

GFOA of United States and Canada, Los Angeles, CA

[More information](#)

September 2019

CAGFO, TBA



Boot Camp

August 12th – 16th, 2018

The University of Victoria

[More Information and Registration](#)



We are proud to unveil our New GFOA Alberta logo.

GFOA Alberta strives to continually enhance the practices of governmental finance in Alberta.

[2018 GFOA Alberta Conference :](#)

“Back to Basics - Public Consultation and Engagement”



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CPA Canada

CPA Canada's National Public Sector Conference will be held in

Ottawa, ON, October 22-23, 2018.

[More information and conference registration](#)

WHAT ARE FINANCE FUNCTIONS DOING TO BE INNOVATIVE TODAY?

When we think about the innovative leaders within an organization, the chief financial officer (CFO) is rarely the first to come to mind. But as a key leader in the organization, the CFO is critical to helping establish the “tone at the top” around innovation culture. In their role, the CFO can not only support but also actively encourage the innovation process.

Although there are increasing examples of innovation within the finance function, there are three key areas where we are seeing finance functions working to innovate themselves:

- **Automation.** This can be a combination of technology and process improvement. Robotic process automation (RPA) is an opportunity to increase efficiencies. RPA leverages software code to replicate any mouse or keyboard actions a human would do across any applications on their PC. It is particularly appropriate for many of the repetitive tasks within finance including recording journal entries, reconciling general ledger accounts and auditing expense reports.
- **Talent.** There are many innovations within talent models that are applicable to finance. These can include physical workspace, tools and technologies provided to employees, training opportunities, on-demand services and recognition programs.
- **Increased analytics provided by finance.** Finance functions are increasingly being challenged not only to provide historical data but also to leverage that data as well in order to increase both their level of insight into the current organization and to be able to predict future trends and

events. To be able to achieve this, there are two key ingredients they need: the right tools to capture and analyze the data, including leveraging artificial intelligence to analyze an increasing volume and complexity of data, and the right people who understand the business well enough to ask the right questions, perform the analysis and effectively communicate the results.

So challenge yourself to figure out whether or not you “get it” with a few simple questions:

- Do you understand the innovation ambition within your organization?
- Have you established measures to track innovation activities?
- Have you performed an assessment of your organization’s innovation maturity?
- Do members of the finance team have the opportunity to participate on innovation teams throughout the innovation process?; and
- Are you leading by example by considering opportunities to innovate within the finance function?

To read the full article visit: <https://www.iasplus.com/en-ca/cfos-corner/the-chief-financial-officer2019s-role-as-an-innovation-leader>

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WELCOME OUR NOVA SCOTIA DIRECTOR

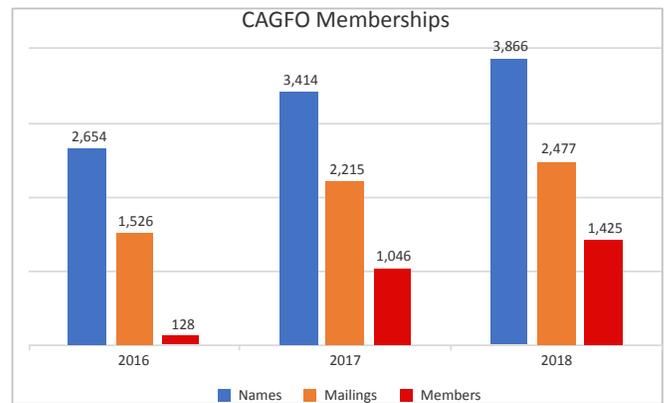


The Board has appointed Paul Wills to fill the vacant position for Nova Scotia. Paul is the CEO of the Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation. Prior to this, he was a Municipal Advisor with Municipal Affairs with the Province of Nova Scotia.

He is a graduate of Saint Mary's University and obtained his Certified Management Accountant (CMA) designation in 1994.

MEMBERSHIP IS EXPANDING

Since changing our constitution to allow a broad-based membership in February 2016, our membership has grown to 1,425 as of May 2018. We have also been able to expand our database, which represents potential members for the future as the graph shows. (Numbers are for May each year).



POST YOUR JOBS WITH CAGFO

We've partnered with CivicJobs.ca to produce a current and comprehensive list of career opportunities in public sector accounting. This will soon become the obvious site for employers who want qualified and experienced candidates to post their Government Finance positions.

If you have a say in where your organization's finance jobs are posted, we invite you to post with us. You'll not only be promoting your opportunities directly to CAGFO's professional and qualified membership base, but you will also be supporting CAGFO's growth. You receive a featured listing on the CAGFO website, a listing on civicjobs.ca, and have your posting distributed by email, not only to 1,425 CAGFO members, but also to thousands of subscribers of the civicjobs.ca network.

Please contact your HR Department and invite them to [purchase a job posting online](#), or email CivicJobs.ca at postings@civicjobs.ca, and identify as a CAGFO member.

Thank you for your continued support. CIVICJOBS.CA



Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) for announcements on our activities and the latest conference updates!

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA SEPTEMBER 12TH TO 14TH, 2018



DELEGATE REGISTRATION

Registration is now open. The price will remain \$600 until the early bird deadline on July 15th and \$650 thereafter.

[Register here](#)

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

We will be offering three pre-conference sessions on Tuesday September 11th
See article on Page 1

[More information](#)

TRADE SHOW

Our Trade Show space is limited this year. [Register](#) early or contact us at 250 598 6871 if you have questions.

SPONSORSHIPS

We welcome enquiries from potential sponsors across Canada! Please contact us at:
office@cagfo.ca
or call 250 598 6871

HOTEL ROOMS

The conference is being held at the Fairmont Winnipeg. We have a block of rooms reserved at \$159 per night. [Book a room.](#)

