

# NEWSLETTER

## 2023 CAGFO NATIONAL CONFERENCE SPONSORS

### SILVER

*Thank You*



### BRONZE



### COPPER



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT LORRIE SCHMALENBERG

Happy fall! People are often surprised to hear that in Saskatchewan, September and October can be one of the most beautiful times of the year. Speaking of October, we hope you're joining us in beautiful downtown Ottawa for our 2023 Hybrid Conference and for the Paranormal Spooktacular event on October 31st!

I'm particularly excited about this year's conference. One of my personal goals for the organization is to partner and bring content from government and finance organizations. This year we have CPA president Pamela Steer, experts from the Public Sector Accounting Board including director Michael Puskaric but also Clyde MacLellan, Chair of the Board, Terri Velasquez, past president of GFOA of the US and Canada Charles-Antoine St-Jean from the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB). That's a lot of government and public sector knowledge all in one conference that you won't want to miss. There will be more about the conference content throughout the newsletter.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- President's Msg
- Executive Director's Msg
- Message from the 2023 Conference Planning & PD Committee
- Msg from the Chair, Professional Development Committee
- CAGFO Webinars
- 2023/2024 Call for Nominations to Board of Directors
- Msg from Communications Committee
- PSAB
- Calendar of Events
- CAGFO Facebook Page & LinkedIn - Please follow us!
- Board of Directors Directory
- CAGFO Staff

**2023** INNOVATION THE WAY FORWARD

CONNECT WITH GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS FROM ALL ACROSS CANADA

**SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
OCT 29 - NOV 1  
HYBRID  
FACE-TO-FACE & ONLINE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
EXECDIR@CAGFO.CA

DELTA HOTELS by MARRIOTT  
Ottawa City Centre, 101 Lyon St., ON

Canadian Association of Government Finance Officers



# NEWSLETTER

Last newsletter, I talked about the committees and our interest in hearing from you and getting involvement from our members. You can hear more about the committees later in the newsletter. We also have available positions on the Board of Directors that you can nominate someone for. Join us, get involved and it's a great time to do because we'll be having a strategy meeting at the end of the conference to plan for the upcoming year.

Submit your nomination at:  
<https://cagfo.ca/volunteer/>

I also wanted to bring to your attention, our National Calendar of Learning and Events. Take a look here: <https://cagfo.ca/>. We have done our best to list all national conferences, learning opportunities and events so that you can plan your professional development and earn those CPD credits.

While we hope to see you in Ottawa, there is a virtual component as well this year again to get your PD in for the year.



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED



CAGFO  
Canadian Association of Government Finance Officers

### Spotlight

Giving back to the 2023 host conference community, \$50 per conference speaker is being donated to Breast Cancer Action Ottawa. Help support a local charity, donate today [www.bcaott.ca](http://www.bcaott.ca)

**DONATE**

## Conference Programme

Design in progress! Over 27 sessions! Check it out!



National Conference Exhibitors  
2023



# NEWSLETTER

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## MESSAGE FROM RICHARD MCCOY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### “INNOVATION - THE WAY FORWARD”

– a time to strategize.

Our Board will be meeting at the end of the conference in Ottawa to develop **the next 5-year Strategic Plan** - a critical planning exercise.

#### **Why?**

A strategic planning meeting is a valuable opportunity to gather and discuss the association’s future and the steps needed to grow. A strategic planning meeting aims to assess the current position, set long-term goals, create a success roadmap, and bring diverse perspectives together.

A strategic planning session will give the Board the perfect opportunity to hear from each member, acknowledge their view points, and foster communication. It also allows for creative exchange of ideas that can help resolve any challenges and create effective solutions.

It provides a roadmap to follow and sets a clear tone and vision for the foreseeable future. Strategic planning creates an opportunity to review and realign the current strategic plan, align the management team behind a single vision, and effectively allocate resources we need to achieve your goals.

#### **Creates a unified vision**

A strategic planning session creates a unified vision that involves input from every area of the association business.

When the Board members are involved in the creation of the vision, not only will you gain better buy-in, but it helps foster a more inclusive and collaborative members’ culture. As a result, you will create a single, forward-focused vision that the association can rally behind and communicate to the members so there is a unified vision.



# NEWSLETTER

## ***Defines priorities and goals***

Part of any productive strategic planning session is the ability to define priorities and set measurable goals to help execute the vision. The Board will review and effectively allocate what resources will be needed to achieve the goals of the plan. To help identify your goals and priorities, we will be undertaking a SWOT analysis identifying strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats from all angles.



**STAY TUNED** - The final plan will be posted on CAGFO’s website once completed. [www.cagfo.ca](http://www.cagfo.ca)



# Fundamentals of Managing Public Sector Risk



Attend our free webinar to learn how to protect your organization in an era of increasing risk.

Organizations of all types and sizes are constantly at risk. The implications of unidentified or unaligned risks in Public Sector organizations can be widespread, affect entire communities, and result in public scandal.

This webinar will provide an overview of Enterprise Risk Management (ERM), risk governance, and the tools that enable successful risk management without overextending the finance department.

Learn how to protect your organization by identifying and keeping tabs on crucial risks before they become a crisis.

**REGISTER NOW**



# NEWSLETTER

## MESSAGE FROM THE 2023 CONFERENCE PLANNING & PD COMMITTEE

The Conference Planning and the Professional Development Committees have been working jointly to finalize our very first hybrid conference to allow everyone to be able to participate in a truly national conference from coast to coast to coast!

Our program is coming together nicely and is almost complete.

**Take a look:**

<https://cagfo.ca/2023-conference-program>

As mentioned in our previous update, vFairs, who provided the virtual aspects for our 2022 Virtual Conference, will be providing the virtual aspects of the 2023 conference and Encore will be providing the in-person AV experience. Those who participated in our 2022 Virtual Conference know, vFairs is one of the premier apps for a virtual experience.

opportunity to reconnect or make new connections with attendees by sharing meals and energizing breaks together which are included in your registration cost fee. **To kick off the conference, our opening reception and first networking opportunity will be held at the Aviation and Science Museum.** Transportation will be provided to and from the museum.

And on **Tuesday, October 31st, Halloween, we will be hosting “A Paranormal Spooktacular” networking event at the conference hotel.**

This event includes a sit-down meal, great music, and fun activities! It’s time to come together face-to-face and experience networking at its optimum!

For those of you who will be attending online, you will be able to once again participate in Conference Chat Rooms and Exhibitor booths where you can interact with Exhibitors and each other.

See you there! Not registered yet? Register here: <https://cagfo.vfairs.com/>

**2023** INNOVATION THE WAY FORWARD

**CAGFO** YOUR VOICE

Canadian Association of Government Finance Officers

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SEPTEMBER 2023  
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# NEWSLETTER



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# NEWSLETTER

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 2023



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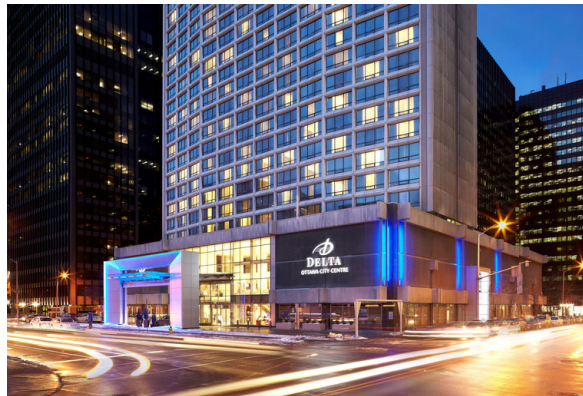
Only place to register  
[www.cagfo.vfairs.com](http://www.cagfo.vfairs.com)

### Registration Fees - VIRTUAL attendees

Delegates - Organization >25	\$5,000
Delegates - Organization 7-25.	\$3,000
Delegates - Group (5-6)	\$2,250
Delegates - Cohort (3-4)	\$1,650
Delegates - Single Registration	\$750
Delegates - Early Bird (to Sept 15)	\$600
Complimentary Attendees	\$ -

### Registration Fees IN PERSON attendees

Regular Registration	\$1,200
Early Bird Registration (to Sept 15)	\$900



**BOOK YOUR ROOM!** For those of you who are planning to attend in person, please take advantage of our negotiated rates and our room block at the Delta by Marriott hotels and click here: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1677862901207&key=GRP&app=resvlink>  
**Check sponsors out here:**  
<https://cagfo.ca/2023-sponsors-exhibitors/>

If you want to learn more about our capital City, please visit the **Ottawa Tourism website** for more information: <https://ottawatourism.ca/en>. Ottawa in the fall is picturesque with all the changing colours and clean, crisp air. The downtown core hosts restaurants, coffee shops and easy access to the National Gallery of Canada, and walks by the Rideau Canal.

Conference  
Program



# NEWSLETTER

The Professional Development Committee meets once a month to review and discuss content for the conference as well as upcoming seminar and webinar topics.

As we get closer to the conference we are meeting more regularly to discuss session content with presenters and sponsors, providing input on what are the most relevant and current hot topics for Finance Officers. We are ensuring that we deliver what our members asked for.

Our virtual webinars have been rebooted and we are thrilled with the response. Upcoming sessions include:

On **September 13 & 19**, we hosted sessions by Deloitte titled *PS3280 ARO Standard Implementation - Lessons Learned from local governments across Canada*, Over 200 members attended the lunch hour sessions.

On **September 20th**, CAGFO hosted: OPEX Planning Session.

**REGISTER NOW FOR:**

**September 27th:**

*Innovation in Public Sector Finance*

**October 25th:**

*Headcount, FTE & Salary Planning Using SAP Analytics Cloud.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - KAREN GROMMADA

## Webinars

**Remember to check back, as we are in the planning stages for November and December sessions.**

**Click here to find out more:**

<https://cagfo.ca/virtual-webinars/>

**REGISTER NOW >**



**LIVE**  
*Webinar*

**YOUR OPINION MATTERS!**  
Suggest topics & speakers for  
**CAGFO WEBINARS & CONFERENCE**

**TAKE  
OUR  
SURVEY**

**Due to the demand we will be developing the program to be even bigger and better in 2024.**

**As always please send us your ideas to [office@cagfo.ca](mailto:office@cagfo.ca) or complete our webinar topic survey**

<https://cagfo.ca/2023-cagfo-topic-suggestion-survey/>





# NEWSLETTER

## 2023-2024 ELECTION - CAGFO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Canadian Association of Government Finance Officers (CAGFO) is seeking candidates to serve on its Board of Directors and committees.

To learn more about the organization please visit our website:

<https://cagfo.ca/about-cagfo/>

### Senior Level Positions

The Board of Directors

The Working Committees are the:

1. Professional Development
2. Communications
3. Conference Planning

To learn more about these opportunities, refer to terms of reference here:

<https://cagfo.ca/working-committees/>

### What CAGFO Promises to Give YOU in Return

1. A practical and time efficient onboarding process.
2. Competent staff to help you operationalize your vision.
3. The environment to communicate openly with your colleagues in a collaborative manner.

Come and join a Board of Directors who pride themselves on thinking outside of the box that bring leadership to the organization by working together in a collaborative team environment.

## Nominate

### What CAGFO needs from you?

The Board needs a diverse group of people stemming from the financial sector with qualities including strong leadership skills; strategic thinking; and practical thinkers.

You must be a CAGFO member who is in good standing with the organization. Not a member yet?

Apply here:

<https://cagfo.ca/apply-for-membership/>

Directors must be able to commit the time and energy required for a one-year term, with potential of extension. This term begins October 30th, 2023. The time commitment can be approximately 2-5 hours/month, depending on your commitment to various committees.



APPLY NOW

### The Process

- Once we receive your submission, the Executive will review your responses.
- The Executive or its representatives will reach its decision and contact you with regards to next steps.

If it's time for you to give back to your sector as a volunteer, [apply now](#).

### Deadline

The deadline date for nominee submissions is September 30, 2023  
Questions? Connect with Richard McCoy, Executive Director to [execdir@cagfo.ca](mailto:execdir@cagfo.ca)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**



# NEWSLETTER

## MESSAGE FROM THE CAGFO COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE



The Communications Committee has been diligently working to improve communications to our membership. When thinking about how we communicate to our members and what the best channels are to get information out – we really wanted to assess what we were doing well and what improvements could be made. So, we went back to basics and did a SWOT analysis. We want to expand our membership throughout Canada and getting our name out on the East Coast is paramount to achieve that goal.

Our strengths include a re-vamped website, improved newsletter, strong brand, a national conference with varied content that not only appeals to Finance Professionals but other municipal staff. It provides networking opportunities to talk about municipal issues with others in our field and vendor booths are specific to municipalities. We are continuously reaching out to other regional/professional organizations (AFOA, MFOA, GFOA Alberta) to form allyships.

Our weaknesses include some new Board members who are still learning (like me), a National Membership Strategy that has yet to reach full potential in Eastern Canada.

Opportunities to expand membership in Eastern Canada and attracting new members is now being fulfilled by a stronger presence on LinkedIn and the 2023 National Conference in Ottawa. Opportunities for other social media platforms are still under consideration. Opportunities for collaboration include reaching out to other organizations like AFOA for participation in the National Conference. And we will continue to build relationships with other local and provincial organizations.

Opportunities for university outreach may be explored such as mentoring young members.

Threats to all our plans include limited staff time, social media channels have not been fully explored and could overextend our existing resources, ensuring conferences stay relevant, and the use of Board volunteers to implement the strategy.

An action plan has been partially developed, with some changes already implemented. We are excited to continue to work on the final communications strategy and create an achievable action plan.

If you are an interested member who has a passion or insight into communications, we would love to hear from you!

[Volunteer Web Page](#)





**Improve your understanding of IPSAS. Boost your confidence.**

Watch our free and on-demand video series for a breakdown of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) for transactions related to:

- Assets
- Liabilities
- Revenues
- Expenses

**[frascanada.ca/understandingipsas](https://frascanada.ca/understandingipsas)**

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Mark your Calendars  
2023



Organization	2023 Date
<u>EARLY BIRD PRICING EXTENDED TO MIDNIGHT FOR CAGFO CONF. REGISTRATION</u>	September 15
Union of British Columbia Municipalities	September 18-22
GFOA Washington State	September 19 - 22
MFOA Ontario Annual Conference	September 19 - 22
AUMA	September 27-29
AMANS Fall Conference	October 17 - 20
<b>CAGFO ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE (HYBRID OTTAWA)</b>	<b>October 29 - November 1</b>
Rural Municipalities of Alberta - Fall Convention	November 6 - 9
GFOA of BC Fall PD Sessions	November 21 - 22
Association of Manitoba Municipalities Annual Fall Convention	November 28 - 30
Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities Annual Convention	March 11, 2024 - March 14, 2024
Rural Municipalities of Alberta – Spring Convention	March 18, 2024 - March 20, 2024
Association of Manitoba Municipalities Spring Convention	April 15, 2024 - April 17, 2024
GFOA of BC Conference	May 29, 2024 - May 31, 2024
CAMA Conference	June 2, 2024 - June 5, 2024



FACEBOOK PAGE - New!

Please follow us:

<https://facebook.com/cagfonational>



Please follow us:

<https://ca.linkedin.com/company/canadian-association-of-government-finance-officers-cagfo/>



See national calendar  
learning & events  
on  
CAGFO website  
home page for more.





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Reporting, Saskatchewan Public  
Safety Agency**Paul Wills, CPA, CMA**Director, Municipal Finance,  
Nova Scotia Department of  
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Financial Services, Assessment  
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Canadian Association of Government Finance Officers

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**CAGFO**  
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at Large



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City of Port Coquitlam, Deputy  
CAO, Port Coquitlam, BC

**Jason Turnbull, CPA, CMA**

Senior Financial Business Partner,  
City of Saskatoon, SK



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at Large

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**Jamie Black**

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**Catherine Nolan, CPA, CGA**

Deputy Director of Finance, City  
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at Large





Canadian Association of Government Finance Officers  
**CAGFO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**CAGFO**  
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at Large



**Seema Deol**

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Accounting, Reporting, and  
Policy Branch, City of Edmonton

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Director of Finance/Municipal  
Treasurer, Municipality of the  
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**Erin Stephen, CPA, CA,**

Managing Director, Office of the  
Chief Risk Officer, Risk  
Management ATB Financial,  
Edmonton, AB



**CAGFO**  
Advisor



CAGFO



Richard McCoy, CAE

Executive Director

Email: [execdir@cagfo.ca](mailto:execdir@cagfo.ca)

Marie-Louise Doyle

Manager, Operations & Member Services

Email: [office@cagfo.ca](mailto:office@cagfo.ca)



CAGFO

# CAGFO WEBINAR Topic Suggestions?

Let us know ...

<https://cagfo.ca/2023-cagfo-topic-suggestion-survey/>

NATIONAL NETWORKING  
OPPORTUNITIES



# INNOVATION THE WAY FORWARD

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