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JULY/AUGUST 2026

## *BC Check-Up*

Evaluating BC's recent  
economic performance



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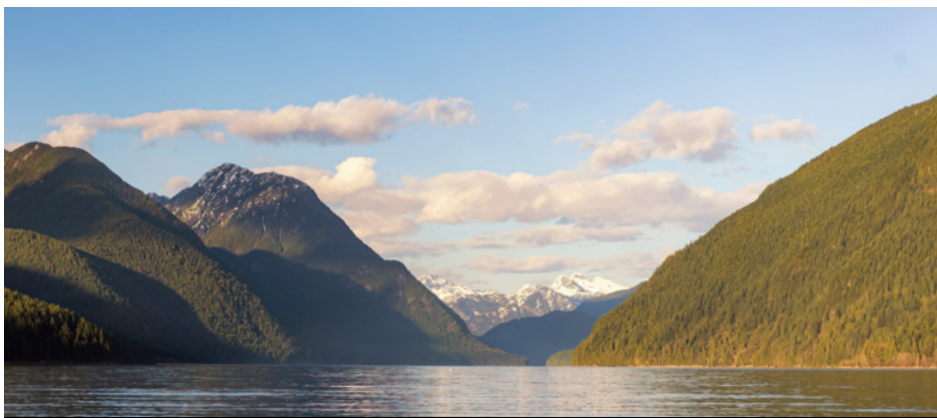
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## Cover Story



# 12

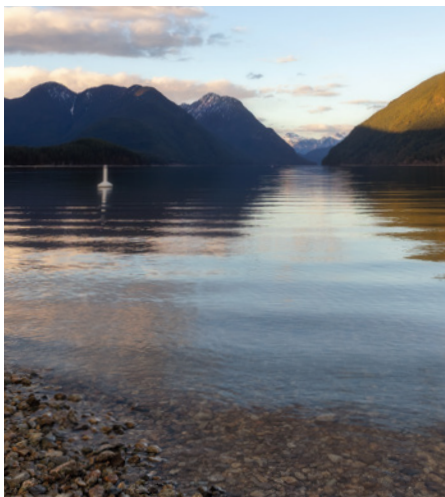
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Josh Andler, CPA, senior director of finance, Jane App



*Bobo Zhao Photography*



# CPABC **IN**FOCUS

July/August 2026, Vol. 14, No. 4

*CPABC in Focus* is the flagship magazine of BC's chartered professional accountants.

## CPABC Board

<i>Chair</i>	Sandy Stedman, FCPA
<i>First Vice-Chair</i>	Alicia Williams, CPA, CPA (Arizona)
<i>Second Vice-Chair</i>	Regan McGrath, CPA, CA
<i>Treasurer</i>	Bill Chan, CPA, CGA
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	Bill Lau, CPA, CA
	Louisa Lun, CPA, CA
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	Raheil Moradi (Public Representative)
	Bijan Pourkarimi (Public Representative)
	New board members to be announced

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<i>President &amp; CEO</i>	Lori Mathison, FCPA, LLB
<i>EVP, Operations &amp; CFO</i>	Rianna Lachance, CPA
<i>Innovations Officer</i>	Amy Lam, FCPA
<i>EVP, Regulation &amp; Registrar</i>	Stella Lam, CPA
<i>EVP, Learning and Engagement</i>	Simone Leonard, FCPA
<i>Strategy &amp; Governance Officer</i>	Jan Sampson, FCPA

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## Credibility and Transparency Are Paramount

As summer gets underway, I'm pleased to take on my new role as chair of CPABC's board of directors. I would like to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to Alain LeFebvre, FCPA, for his exceptional leadership and commitment over the past year.

My term began following CPABC's annual general meeting in Vancouver on June 23, where four incoming directors\* were welcomed to the board. On behalf of my fellow board members, I'd like to extend our appreciation to everyone who put their name forward for consideration and congratulate those who were elected. I'd also like to acknowledge our outgoing directors Craig Elliott, CPA; John Kurjata, CPA, CA; and Andrew Sweeney, CPA, CA. We are grateful for your dedication and the thoughtful perspectives you contributed during your tenure.

At the end of June, the new board came together with CPABC's senior leadership team for our annual retreat. Each year, this important session provides an opportunity to onboard new directors, ensure alignment on our strategic priorities, and have meaningful conversations about the future of the profession and the changing environment in which we operate.

A central focus of this year's discussions was CPABC's role as a regulator and how the organization balances its responsibility to protect the public interest with its support of members. In a rapidly shifting regulatory landscape, it is essential that CPABC clearly demonstrates how member-focused initiatives—such as education, competency development, and guidance on standards—directly contribute to strong regulatory outcomes and public protection.

Today, credibility and transparency are just as vital as formal authority. Governance and decision-making must consistently reflect the organization's independence and its commitment to serving the public interest. I look forward to continuing these important conversations with my fellow board members in the months ahead as we guide the profession through a dynamic and evolving period.

In particular, I'm excited about the rollout of the new CPA Professional Program in 2027. The new program will mark a huge milestone for our profession and the culmination of a tremendous amount of collaborative work. ■

*\*The incoming board members will be highlighted in the September/October 2026 issue of the magazine.*



Sandy Stedman, FCPA  
CPABC Chair

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## Safeguarding the Public Interest: Our Collective Responsibility

As Sandy notes above, discussions at this year's board retreat centred on the regulation of the profession and our core and collective responsibility of protecting the public interest. The public places a high level of trust in professional (designated) accountants, and there is a clear expectation that anyone holding a professional designation meets the standards established by the profession—standards that are formally recognized by government.

In British Columbia, the provincial government recently introduced several legislative changes aimed at enhancing the oversight of certain self-regulated professions and reducing reliance on traditional self-governance models. Within this context, it is essential that we continue to meet our regulatory responsibilities in clear, demonstrable ways.

To support this commitment, CPABC continues to publish its *Regulatory Report to the Public: Upholding the Highest Standards*. A feature summarizing this year's key findings can be found on pages 20-21, and the full report is available online at [bccpa.ca/protecting-the-public](https://bccpa.ca/protecting-the-public).

We also demonstrate this commitment by continuing to provide relevant services that support the development of CPAs and by keeping members informed of emerging standards, issues, and trends. In addition, we contribute to the protection of the public by sharing the insights and perspectives of our members through initiatives such as the *BC Check-Up* releases and surveys, which examine economic and social indicators to understand how both the province and its development regions are performing. The second of our updated *BC Check-Up* releases was recently issued, and you'll find a summary of insights on pages 12-19. The next survey will launch in November, and I encourage all members to take part.

Lastly, I look forward to working with Sandy as our new chair, and I'd like to join him in acknowledging our incoming and outgoing board members. These volunteers are vital to CPABC's ongoing success as a regulatory organization. ■



Lori Mathison, FCPA, LLB  
CPABC President & CEO

CPABC NEWS

Transitions at  
CPABC's Executive  
Management Level



Rianna Lachance, CPA, is CPABC's new executive vice-president of operations and CFO. Photo by Erin Clayton Photography.

We're pleased to announce that **Rianna Lachance, CPA**, recently joined CPABC as executive vice-president of operations and CFO, responsible for overseeing the Operations division. This division consists of three departments: finance and corporate administration, external affairs and communications, and people and culture.

Rianna brings to the role a breadth of experience across the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors. After starting her career as an auditor with KPMG, she worked as a controller in manufacturing before moving into local government leadership with the City of Port Coquitlam. She most recently served as CFO of the District of Oak Bay and deputy CFO of the Capital Regional District, Capital Regional Hospital District, and Capital Region Housing Corporation.

In addition, Rianna has held several board leadership positions with the Government Finance Officers Association of British Columbia, including president. She remains committed to education, professional development, and strengthening public trust.

Throughout her career, Rianna has focused on financial stewardship, organizational sustainability, effective decision-making in complex environments, and collaboration across multidisciplinary teams. She is recognized for fostering respectful, inclusive workplaces and supporting professional growth through clear leadership and thoughtful engagement.

Rianna succeeds **Amy Lam, FCPA**, who has taken on a new part-time role as CPABC's innovation officer. In this capacity, Amy will focus on driving innovation to support our strategic pillars while overseeing CPABC's IT and data analytics departments in the Business Innovation division. Since joining CPABC in 2015, Amy has continued to shape the organization in meaningful ways. In addition to helping to guide CPABC through the post-unification period, she has led major technology and branding projects and championed equity, diversity, and inclusion initiatives.



Amy Lam, FCPA, is now CPABC's innovation officer. Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios.

## REGULATORY REMINDER

**CPABC Members: Have You Met Your AML PD Requirement?**

This is a reminder that CPABC Bylaw Regulation 600/2.1 (Continuing Professional Development Program: Anti-Money Laundering Requirement), which became effective January 1, 2024, requires all members to complete professional development related to anti-money laundering (AML PD). Members have until **December 31, 2026**, to complete 1.5 hours of verifiable AML PD, unless they have been granted a CPD exemption.

To confirm compliance with this requirement, members must submit a declaration through the AML PD reporting portal, which is accessible in the CPD Reporting section of **services.bccpa.ca** (look for “AML PD Requirement – Submit Declaration” in the right-hand menu).

Courses that meet the AML PD requirement also count towards the four hours of verifiable ethics required in each rolling three-calendar-year period. In other words, the same courses reported as verifiable ethics in your annual CPD report can also be used to declare your compliance with the AML PD requirement.

CPABC PD offers a number of courses that satisfy the AML PD requirement, with additional courses added periodically. Members may also complete and report AML PD courses offered by their employers or other PD providers.

For additional information about the AML PD requirement, visit [bccpa.ca/cpd](https://bccpa.ca/cpd) or email CPABC’s CPD department at [cpd@bccpa.ca](mailto:cpd@bccpa.ca).

**Note for CPAYT members**

Anti-Money Laundering Bylaw Regulation 600/2.1 came into effect for CPA Yukon members on January 1, 2025. Yukon members have until December 31, 2027, or the end of the second calendar year after the year of their admission as a member—whichever date is later—to meet the AML reporting requirements.

## MEMBER RECOGNITION

**Know a CPA Who Deserves the Spotlight?**

Every day, CPAs drive innovation, advance the business sector, and contribute significantly to the profession and their communities. Help us shine the spotlight on them!

**CPABC members**

Our peer-based awards program is a way for CPABC and its members to recognize and celebrate CPAs who truly make a difference.

If you know a peer who’s making a positive impact, let us know about their achievements by nominating them for CPABC’s Member Recognition Program in one of the following categories:

- Early Achievement;
- Distinguished Service;
- Fellowship; and
- Lifetime Achievement.

Nominations are also welcome for the Honorary CPA designation, which recognizes the executive accomplishments of non-members who have made a significant contribution to the accounting profession.

All nominations for the 2026 program must be received by CPABC by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2026. Full details and resources—including some new resources for first-time nominators—can be found on the CPABC website at [bccpa.ca/member-services/recognition-program](https://bccpa.ca/member-services/recognition-program).



Esperanza33/Stock/Getty Images

**CPAYT members**

Help recognize a CPA who leads, inspires, and makes a lasting impact by nominating them for election to the CPAYT Fellowship. Fellowship honours those whose exceptional service, career achievements, and/or community contributions bring honour to the profession.

Nominations must be received by CPAYT by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2026. For more information, including tips to support your nomination, visit [bccpa.ca/cpa-yukon/fellowship](https://bccpa.ca/cpa-yukon/fellowship).

RESOURCES FOR EMPLOYERS AND JOB SEEKERS

## CPABC Connects with Local Business Leaders



Gremlin/Er/Getty Images

Throughout May, CPABC’s employer relations and talent development (ERTD) team engaged with business leaders and employers at key industry events in Vancouver and the Okanagan to build relationships and increase awareness of the CPA designation.

### CPHR Conference & Expo

CPABC proudly sponsored CPHR BC & Yukon’s HR Conference & Expo 2026, held in Vancouver from May 4 to 6. On May 5 and 6, members of CPABC’s ERTD, member and community engagement, and student recruitment and employer relations teams were on hand to connect with HR professionals and showcase the strategic value of CPAs in today’s evolving workforce.

At the event, themed “Spark,” attendees were invited to “explore how imagination can illuminate transformation.” Conversations at the expo booth and in one-on-one engagements emphasized the growing alignment between HR and finance, particularly in terms of workforce planning, compensation, and business strategy. The team highlighted how CPAs provide critical financial expertise, analytical insight, and leadership to support organizational performance and long-term growth.

ERTD team members also underscored opportunities for employer collaboration (including recruitment pathways such as co-op placements and pre-approved program routes, as well as supports for training, mentorship, and professional development) and reinforced CPABC’s role as a partner across the full talent life cycle—one able to support employers in attracting, developing, and retaining future CPAs.

### 2026 BC Economic Summit

From May 11 to 14, members of the ERTD team joined leaders from Indigenous and local governments, industry, and economic development organizations at the 2026 BC Economic Summit in Penticton. Sessions at the four-day event, themed “Shaping Tomorrow: Igniting Ideas, Inspiring Action, Driving Change,” focused on finding practical solutions to key challenges, including workforce development, labour market pressures, business retention, investment attraction, and economic diversification.

Sessions also explored forward-looking issues such as Indigenous economic development and reconciliation, partnership models, and the adoption of innovation, digital tools, and AI.

To address BC’s evolving economic challenges and build resilient, future-ready communities, employers must have the tools needed to strengthen the financial expertise within their organizations. With this in mind, team members emphasized the critical role CPABC plays in supporting employers through resources, insights, and talent development strategies.

## RECRUITMENT EVENTS

**GFOABC Annual Conference**

CPABC returned as a silver sponsor of the Government Finance Officers Association of BC Annual Conference, held from May 27 to 29 in Kelowna. At the conference, themed “Building Resilient Communities: Housing & Infrastructure,” ERTD team members had the chance to meet with finance officers and senior leaders from various municipalities and regional districts who’d convened to advance public sector finance in a collaborative forum.

**Reinforcing CPABC’s commitment**

At each of these events, the ERTD team reinforced CPABC’s commitment to supporting employers, strengthening the profession, and empowering CPAs to build impactful, future-ready careers.

In addition to showcasing resources designed to support both employers and finance professionals—including updates to the CPA Professional Education Program and tools from CPABC’s Employer Resource Centre ([bccpa.ca/employer-resource-centre](http://bccpa.ca/employer-resource-centre))—the team provided attendees with guidance on recruitment, training, and talent development, along with career resources and community initiatives such as financial literacy and Indigenous engagement programs.

**2026 CPABC COIN Competition: New & Improved!**

In early May, 625 high school students from 37 classrooms across BC participated in CPABC’s annual COIN Competition, hosted on the virtual platform ChatterHigh.

This marked an outstanding increase in participation (up from 204 students last year), which was facilitated by new rules and an updated competition format. Whereas students in past years were invited to register individually for a Saturday quiz, this year’s outreach went to teachers, who were invited to register entire classrooms to compete during regular school hours. This gave teachers a ready-made, engaging classroom activity, while providing students with a gamified experience that made accounting fun and accessible.

What remained unchanged was the exam itself, with students given one hour to answer 50 multiple-choice questions on introductory accounting, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy concepts.

CPABC is pleased to congratulate the following competitors for achieving the highest scores in the fastest times within their respective regions (listed alphabetically):

- **Central BC & Okanagan:** Brahmjot (Prince George Secondary)
- **Fraser Valley:** Berlin (Abbotsford Christian School)
- **Greater Vancouver:** Shayna (West Vancouver Secondary)
- **Kootenays:** Marcus (Mount Baker Secondary)
- **Lower Mainland:** Jeffrey and Hudson (Tied) (Richmond Secondary)
- **Pacific & Northern BC:** Isaac (North Peace Secondary)
- **Vancouver Island:** Henry (Brentwood College)

Each of these students won a prize pack valued at over \$250, which included a new calculator, Bluetooth speakers, a power bank, CPABC swag, and a copy of the bestselling book *Rich Dad, Poor Dad for Teens* by Robert T. Kiyosaki.

In addition, the top-performing class in each region, as determined by best overall score and fastest completion time, received a \$500 cash prize that teachers could put toward class celebrations or new classroom resources.

CPABC congratulates the winning groups from each region:

- **Central BC & Okanagan:** Kelowna Secondary
- **Fraser Valley:** Abbotsford Christian School
- **Greater Vancouver:** Prince of Wales Secondary
- **Kootenays:** Mount Baker Secondary
- **Lower Mainland:** Fraser Heights Secondary
- **Pacific & Northern BC:** North Peace Secondary
- **Vancouver Island:** Belmont Secondary

We’d like to thank all of the students who participated in the 2026 competition, as well as the teachers, parents, and career mentors who supported them. We look forward to welcoming you at future CPABC competitions and career events.



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**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

## Inspire the Next Generation as a Student Recruitment Volunteer

Every CPA journey starts with a spark of inspiration. As a CPA or candidate, you have the opportunity to light that spark and inspire the next generation of business leaders, problem solvers, and entrepreneurs by volunteering with CPABC's student recruitment initiatives.



Here are two ways to participate:

### Become an ambassador

Member and candidate ambassadors engage with high school and post-secondary students by participating in a range of dynamic activities. At the high school level, our ambassadors deliver financial literacy presentations and judge business and entrepreneurship competitions hosted by student clubs.

At the university and college level, our ambassadors participate in networking events and career fairs, lead information sessions, speak on panels, and/or give presentations about emerging business and accounting topics. They may also judge the annual Business Case Competition hosted by CPABC.

To learn more about becoming an ambassador, visit [bccpa.ca/ambassador](http://bccpa.ca/ambassador).

### Share your career story

Another way to inspire young people is by sharing your career story and insights as a session presenter or panel speaker.

One standout opportunity is through our partnership with the Young Entrepreneur Leadership Launchpad (YELL) program, which gives high school students hands-on exposure to entrepreneurship. For more information about volunteering with YELL, email us at [highschool@bccpa.ca](mailto:highschool@bccpa.ca).

### Join us!

We recruit CPA and candidate volunteers annually to support students during the academic year, and we'd love to have you join us. You can connect with us at [recruitment@bccpa.ca](mailto:recruitment@bccpa.ca).



### UBC Diploma in Accounting Program

## Help shape the next generation of CPAs.



### Know someone ready to start their accounting journey?


The UBC Diploma in Accounting Program gives them the foundation to move confidently toward the CPA designation in a flexible hybrid format built for today's learners.

Learn more



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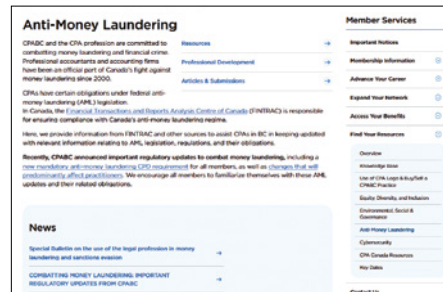
## Access Resources on the CPABC Website

### Newsroom



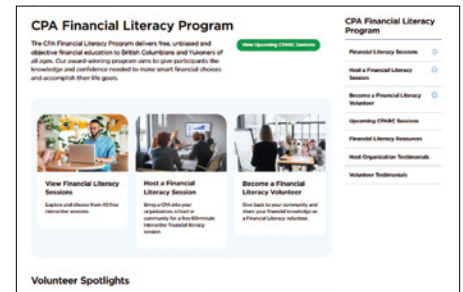
[bccpa.ca/newsroom](https://bccpa.ca/newsroom)

### Anti-Money Laundering



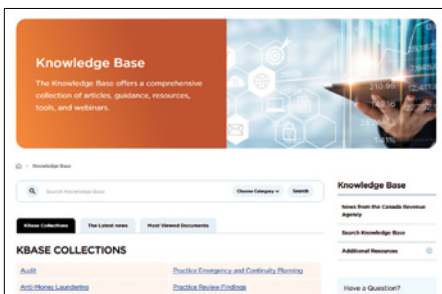
[bccpa.ca/aml](https://bccpa.ca/aml)

### Financial Literacy



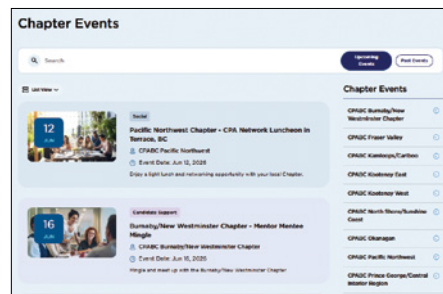
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### Knowledge Base



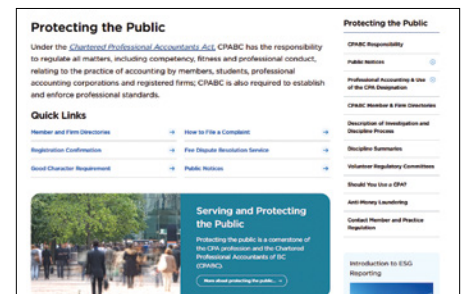
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### Chapters



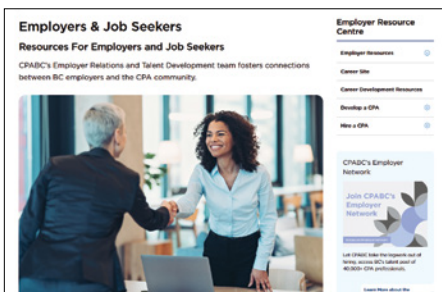
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### Protecting the Public



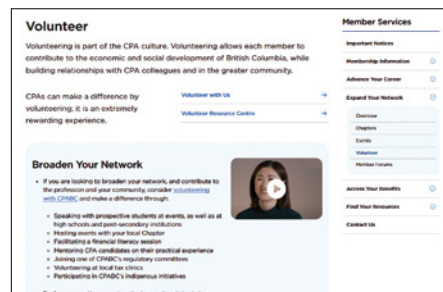
[bccpa.ca/protecting-the-public](https://bccpa.ca/protecting-the-public)

### Employer Resource Centre



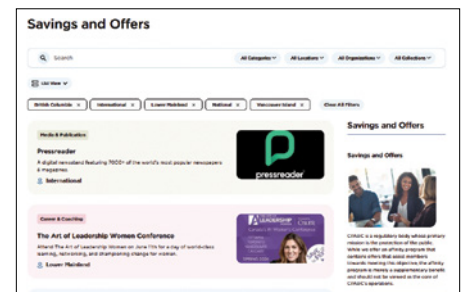
[bccpa.ca/employer](https://bccpa.ca/employer)

### Volunteer Resource Centre



[bccpa.ca/volunteer](https://bccpa.ca/volunteer)

### Savings and Offers



[bccpa.ca/benefits](https://bccpa.ca/benefits)

# BC Check-Up: Q3 2026

A look at BC's economic performance as we enter the second half of 2026

By Jack Blackwell

**D**espite significant trade challenges and other indicators pointing to potential softness in 2025, British Columbia's economy maintained respectable growth during the year. Preliminary estimates released in May 2026 showed that BC's economy grew by 2.0% in 2025, above the national average of 1.6%. BC's energy sector was a major driver of this growth, expanding by 6.9% during the year due to strength in many parts of the sector (see Table 1). Output from pipeline transportation led the way, increasing by 29.6% in real terms during the Trans Mountain Expansion Project's first full year of operation.

Another major driver of new economic growth in the province was the LNG Canada terminal in Kitimat, which began shipping liquefied natural gas to Asian markets in 2025. The export facility reached 25 shipments on November 20, 2025,<sup>1</sup> and 50 shipments on February 23, 2026.<sup>2</sup> Related activities affected BC's GDP figures in a variety of industries, including pipeline transportation and support activities for transportation.<sup>3</sup>

More broadly, output from BC's transportation sector increased by 3.7% in 2025, second only to mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction, which increased by 6.2%.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> LNG Canada, "Connecting Canadian LNG to the World: 25 Cargoes Achieved," [lngcanada.ca](https://www.lngcanada.ca), November 20, 2025.

<sup>2</sup> LNG Canada, "Connecting Canadian LNG to the World: 50 Cargoes Achieved," [lngcanada.ca](https://www.lngcanada.ca), February 23, 2026.

<sup>3</sup> Impact on water transportation is expected to be limited, as most shipments will likely be made by foreign carriers.

<sup>4</sup> Statistics Canada, Table 36-10-0711-01.

*Author's note:* New estimates from Statistics Canada's *Labour Force Survey* show that BC employment increased by 25,200 (+0.9%) in May 2026, reversing some previous losses. The unemployment rate remained unchanged from April at 6.8%.

Growth in the rest of BC's economy was distributed across sectors, signalling broad resilience; however, there were still some areas of weakness. The ongoing softwood lumber dispute with the United States exacerbated existing challenges by increasing pressure on forestry and downstream industries. As a result, real GDP in forestry and logging fell by 3.0%, and output in both wood product manufacturing and paper manufacturing also declined, dropping by 7.1% and 14.7%, respectively. Overall, manufacturing output decreased by 0.5%.<sup>5</sup>

Private sector analysts expect BC's GDP growth to come in near the national average again in 2026, albeit lower, within the 0.4% to 1.2% range.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Statistics Canada, Table 36-10-0711-01.

<sup>6</sup> These forecasts are from five of Canada's major banks (BMO, CIBC, RBC, Scotiabank, and TD). Forecasts were made between March and June 2026.

**Table 1: BC Real GDP Growth at Basic Prices, Selected Industries**

Industry	2025 GDP (Chained 2017 dollars x 1,000,000)	Year-over-year change
<b>All industries</b>	<b>322,499.7</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
<b>Energy sector</b>	<b>17,564.5</b>	<b>6.9%</b>
Oil and gas extraction	5,600.1	7.3%
Coal mining	2,675.5	5.5%
Support activities for oil and gas extraction	295.1	3.5%
Electric power generation, transmission and distribution	4,729.6	2.5%
Natural gas distribution	905.9	-3.2%
Petroleum refineries	918.0	11.5%
Pipeline transportation	1,746.4	29.6%

Source: Statistics Canada, Table 36-10-0711-01. Individual components of the Energy sector do not sum to the total, because chained dollar estimates are intended to analyze growth rates only, not shares of economic output.

# Disciplined Investing That Works

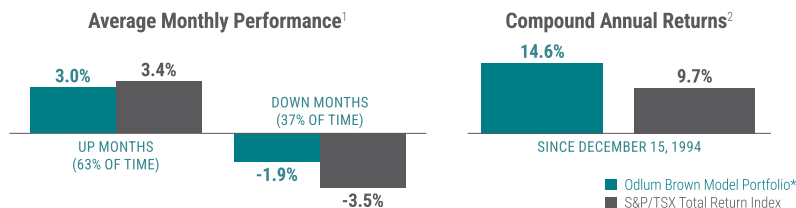
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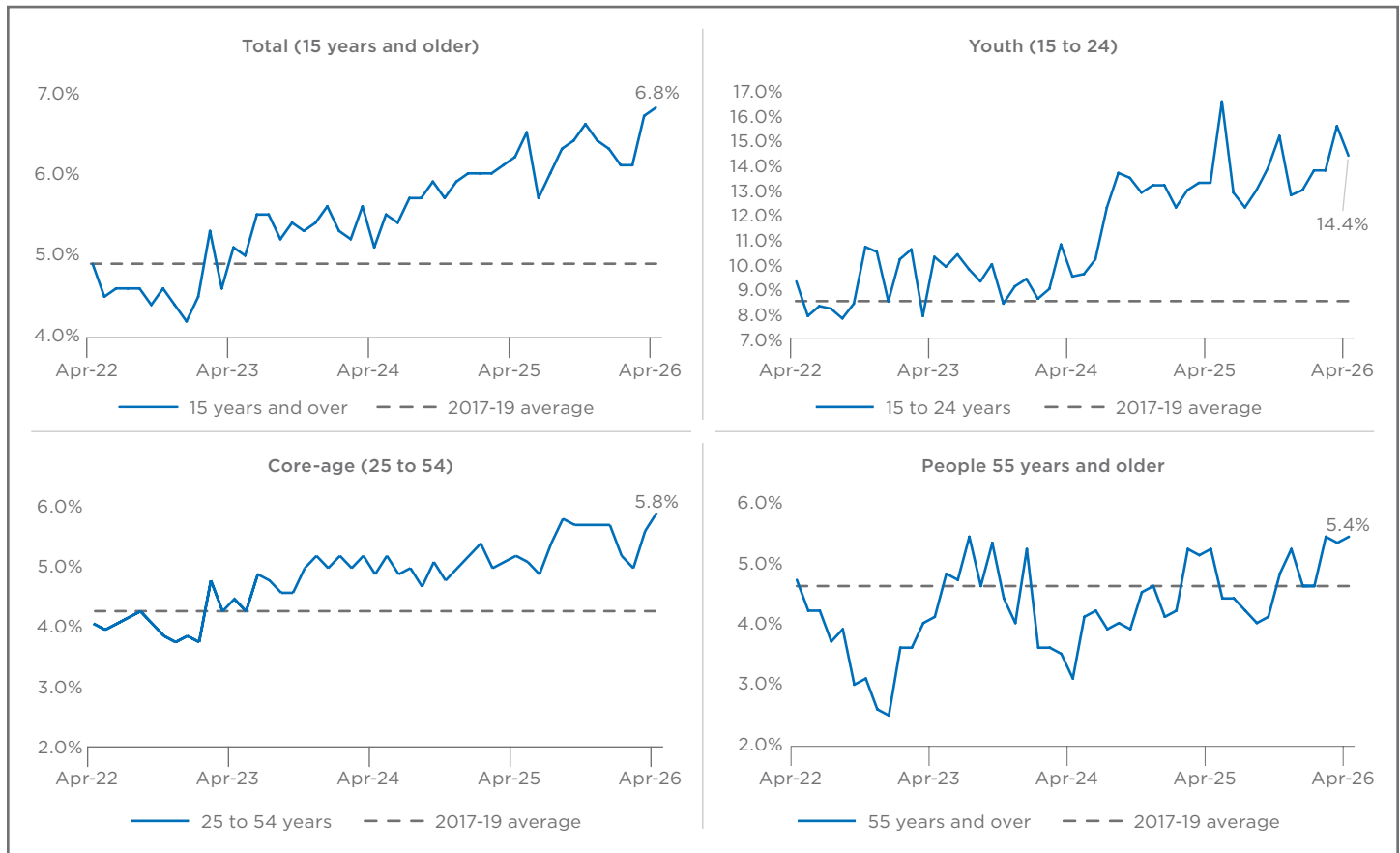
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## Odlum Brown Model Portfolio: A Proven Track Record



<sup>1</sup>Performance measured mid-month from December 1994 - May 2026. <sup>2</sup>As of May 15, 2026. \*The Odlum Brown Model Portfolio is a hypothetical, all-equity portfolio. Performance figures do not include any allowance for fees. Past performance is not indicative of future performance. Read our full disclaimer at odlumbrown.com. Member-Canadian Investor Protection Fund

**Figure 1: Unemployment Rate by Major Age Group in BC, April 2022 to April 2026**



Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0287-01.

### Unemployment rate continuing to climb

In BC's labour market, signs of stress have persisted since the beginning of 2026. As of April of this year, BC's unemployment rate was 6.8%, up 0.5 percentage points from December 2025. This is the highest level seen in more than a decade (excluding the COVID-19 pandemic period).

The downturn in the labour market has not affected all demographic groups equally. Among young people aged 15 to 24, the unemployment rate was 14.4% in April 2026, well above the 2017 to 2019 average of 8.5%. This timing could not have been worse, as many students hope to land a summer job beginning in May. Entering this period with persistently high youth unemployment suggests that students are facing difficult hiring conditions for the second summer in a row (see Figure 1).

Core-working-age adults (aged 25 to 54), who were initially more insulated from the downturn in hiring, are also now finding it more difficult to secure work. Between April 2025 and April 2026, the unemployment rate among this group increased 0.7 percentage points, reaching 5.8%. Similar to the overall rate, this is the highest core-age unemployment rate recorded in BC in over a decade.

While still elevated, the unemployment rate among British Columbians aged 55 and older remained within historical norms. In April 2026, their unemployment rate was 5.4%, effectively unchanged from one year earlier.

### Trade and financial services suffered biggest job losses

The increase in unemployment between December 2025 and April 2026 was accompanied by declines in both employment—which fell by 40,200 (-1.4%)—and the labour force, which fell by 29,100 (-0.9%). By comparison, the working-age population declined by 8,500 (-0.2%) during the first four months of 2026.<sup>7</sup>

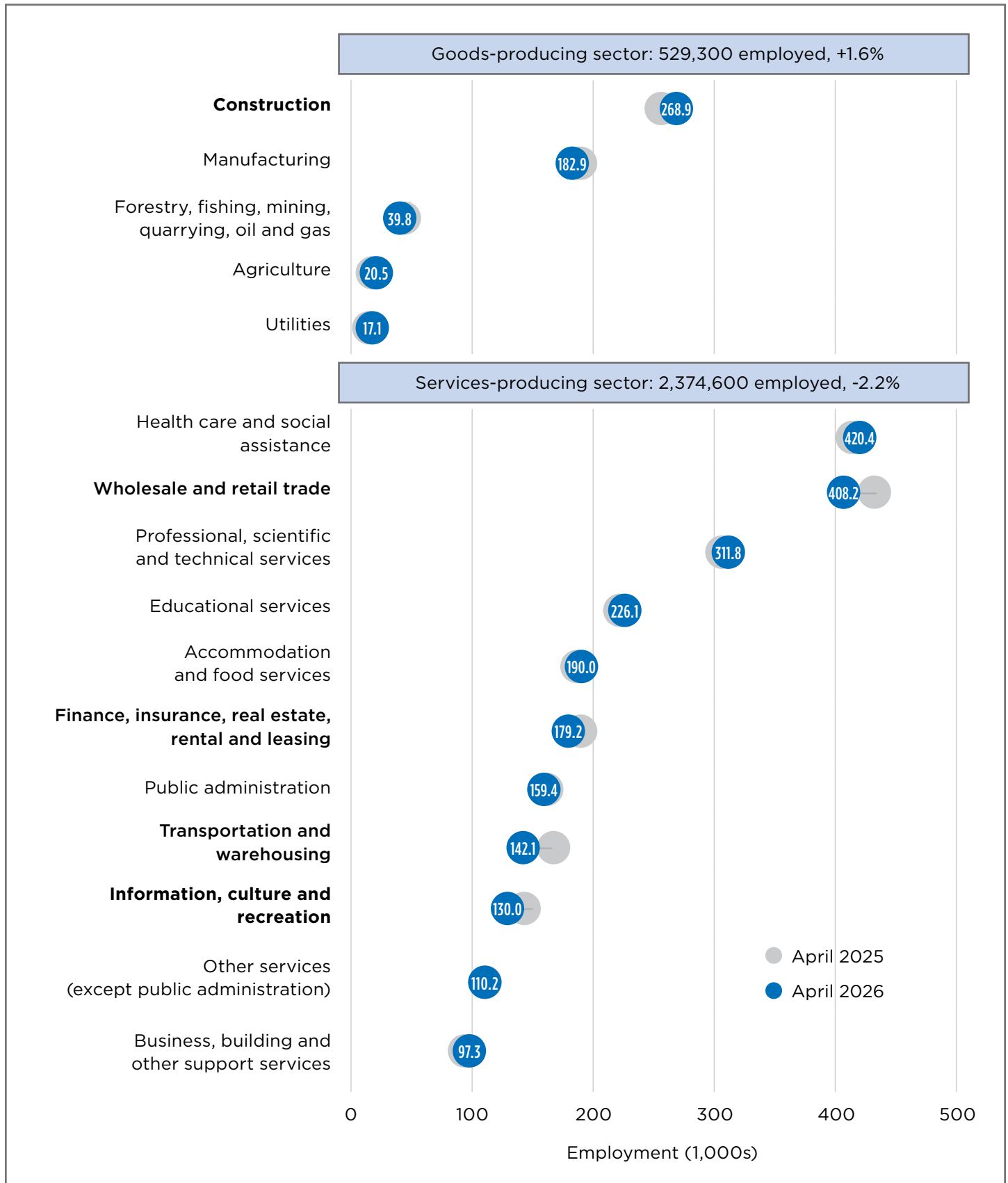
Wholesale and retail trade accounted for half of the net employment decline, as the industry lost 20,500 workers (-4.8%) between December 2025 and April 2026. Employment in finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing also declined by 9,200 workers (-4.9%). All other industries experienced only marginal fluctuations.<sup>8</sup>

Looking at year-over-year figures, employment losses were concentrated in the services sector, which lost 53,100 workers (-2.2%), while goods sector employment rose marginally (see Figure 2). The construction industry added 13,000 workers (+5.1%), while employment in other goods-producing industries changed only slightly.

<sup>7</sup> BC is in the midst of an unprecedented population reduction due to net outflows of non-permanent residents (NPRs) as federal revisions to immigration and NPR targets take effect.

<sup>8</sup> Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0355-01.

**Figure 2: Employment by Industry, April 2025 to April 2026**



Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0355-01.



## Job vacancy rate hovering just above all-time lows

It is important to note that softer conditions have been largely driven by a sustained slowdown in hiring, rather than broad-based layoffs.<sup>9</sup> As of February 2026, there were 83,520 job openings in BC, down 3.7% from one year earlier, and the job vacancy rate—the number of vacant positions as a proportion of total labour demand—was 3.3% (see Figure 3).

The job vacancy rate has remained within the 3.0% to 3.4% range for over a year. The lowest rate on record, since data collection began in 2015, is 2.9%.

## Energy supply shock spiking consumer prices

The recent conflict in the Middle East and related disruptions to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz constitute the largest energy-supply shock in history,<sup>10</sup> and the impact has started to show up in the data.

In April 2026, consumer prices in BC increased by 2.5% year-over-year, with energy prices rising by 20.2%. Prices of all goods, excluding energy, rose by 1.6% year-over-year (see Figure 4).

At the national level, headline inflation has held within the Bank of Canada's (BoC) target range since January 2024. That being said, the bank's preferred measures of inflation, which remove the most volatile parts of the representative basket of goods, have hovered near the higher end of the BoC's target range until recently.

In its April 29, 2026, decision to hold interest rates, the BoC noted that there is little evidence, so far, that higher energy prices have spilled over into the prices of other goods and services.<sup>11</sup> The longer-term impacts will undoubtedly depend on the timing and nature of a resolution to the conflict, but there is already an indication that global food security could come under pressure as fertilizer prices have doubled since the start of the conflict.

## Consumers weathering the storm, but insolvencies increasing

In a recent report,<sup>12</sup> Equifax Canada provided a mixed assessment of how Canadian consumers have dealt with the financial strain from higher costs and a weaker labour market. The company found that credit utilization trended lower, as many consumers tightened their belts during the 2025 holiday season, while consumer insolvencies rose to levels not seen since the fallout of the global financial crisis in 2009. Both findings signalled increased stress among those who are most vulnerable to price increases and job loss.

Wealth indicators from Q4 2025 also point to consumers using less credit than they have historically. Across all BC households, the average debt-to-disposable income ratio in Q4 2025 was 190.7%, marking a low point since comparable data became available in 2010. And while the recent decline was more pronounced for the bottom 40% of income earners, it occurred among all age groups. Particularly notable was the drop among households where the main income earner was under 35 years old, as many of these individuals delayed purchasing a home and opted to rent for longer. For this group, the debt-to-disposable-income ratio was 167.5% in Q4 2025, down from 262.3% in 2019 (see Figure 5 on page 18).

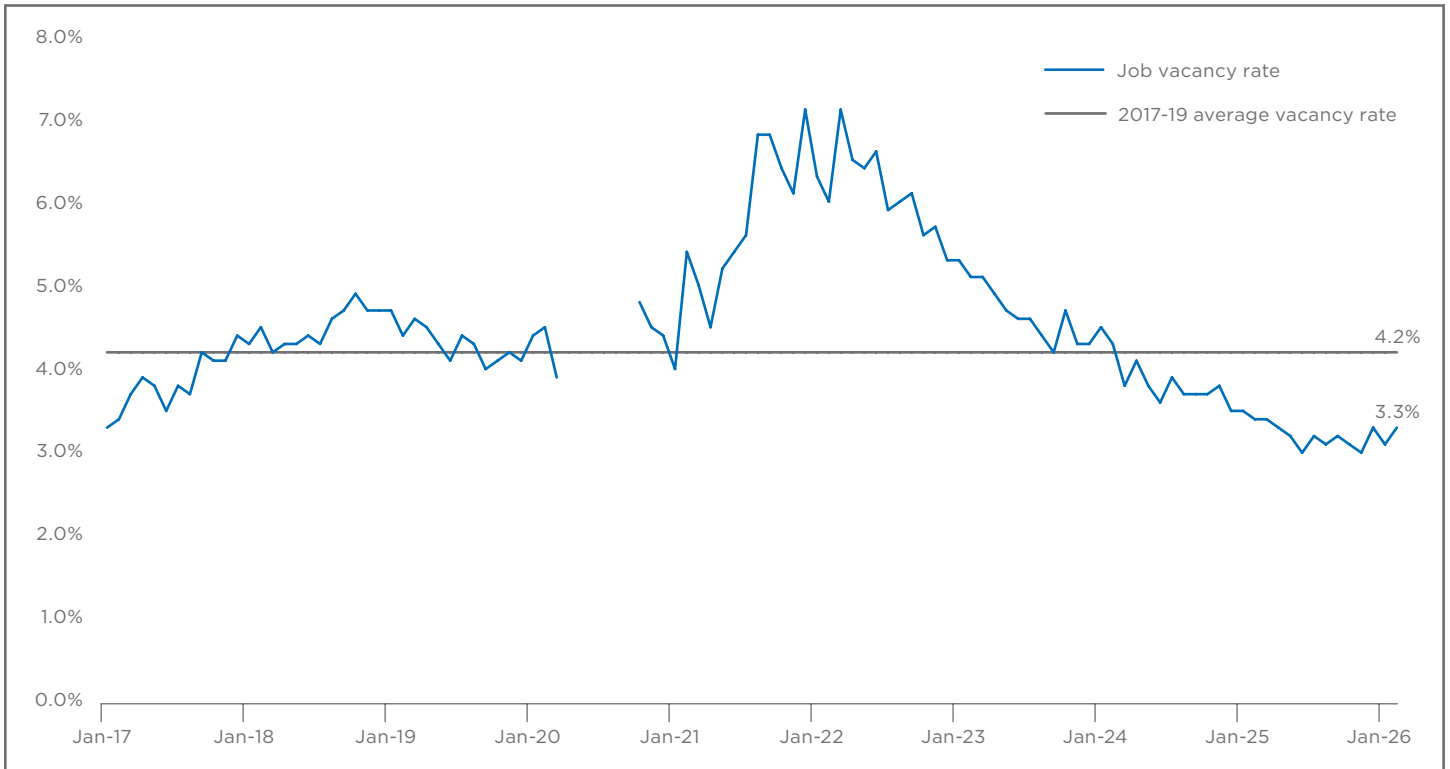
<sup>9</sup> Statistics Canada, "Labour Force Survey, April 2026," *The Daily*, May 8, 2026. ([150.statcan.gc.ca](https://150.statcan.gc.ca))

<sup>10</sup> International Energy Agency, "Oil Market Report," April 14, 2026. ([iea.org](https://www.iea.org))

<sup>11</sup> Bank of Canada, "Bank of Canada Maintains Policy Rate at 2¼%," press release, [bankofcanada.ca](https://www.bankofcanada.ca), April 29, 2026.

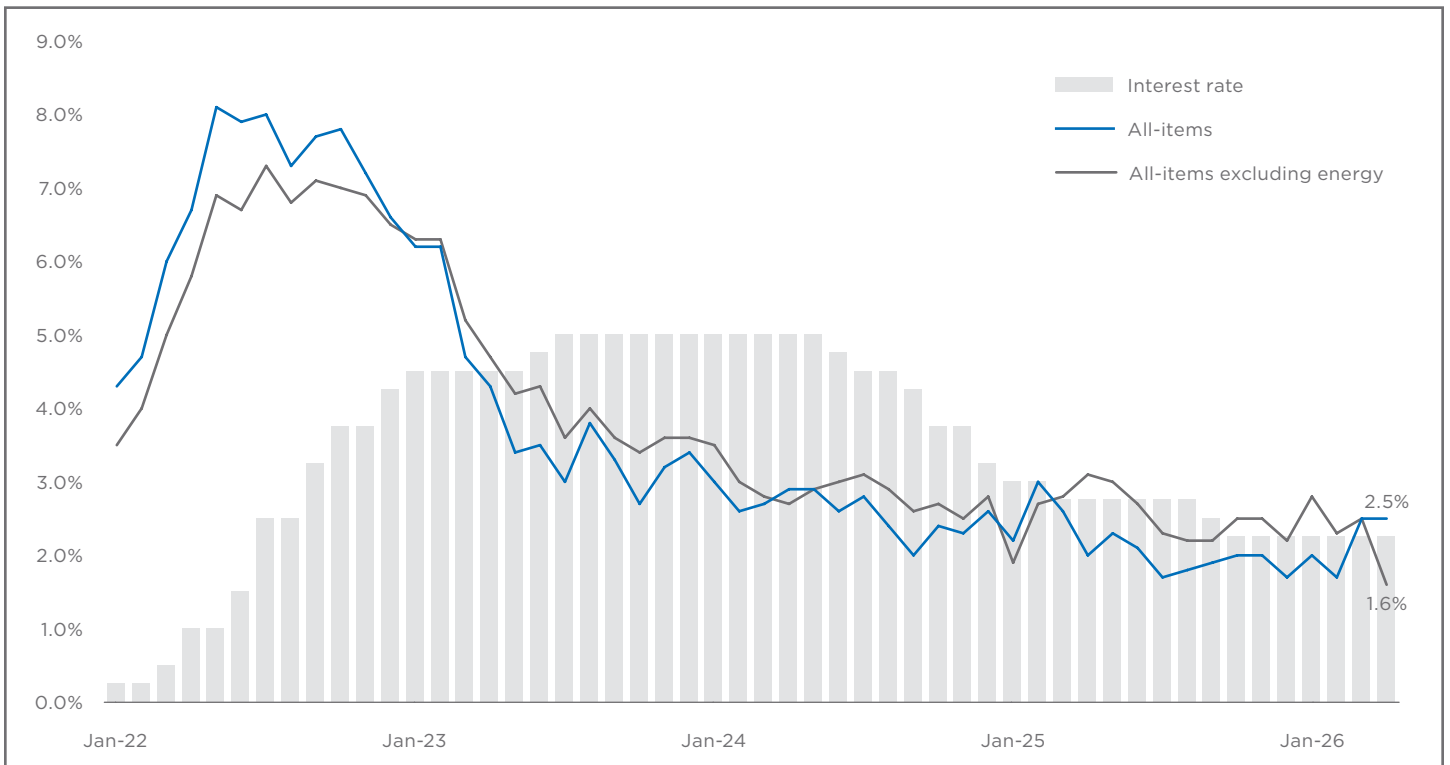
<sup>12</sup> Equifax Canada, "The Resilient North: Equifax Canada Data Shows Consumers Leaning on Financial Discipline to Offset Macroeconomic Conditions," press release, [equifax.ca](https://www.equifax.ca). Accessed May 26, 2026.

**Figure 3: Job Vacancy Rate in BC, January 2017 to February 2026**



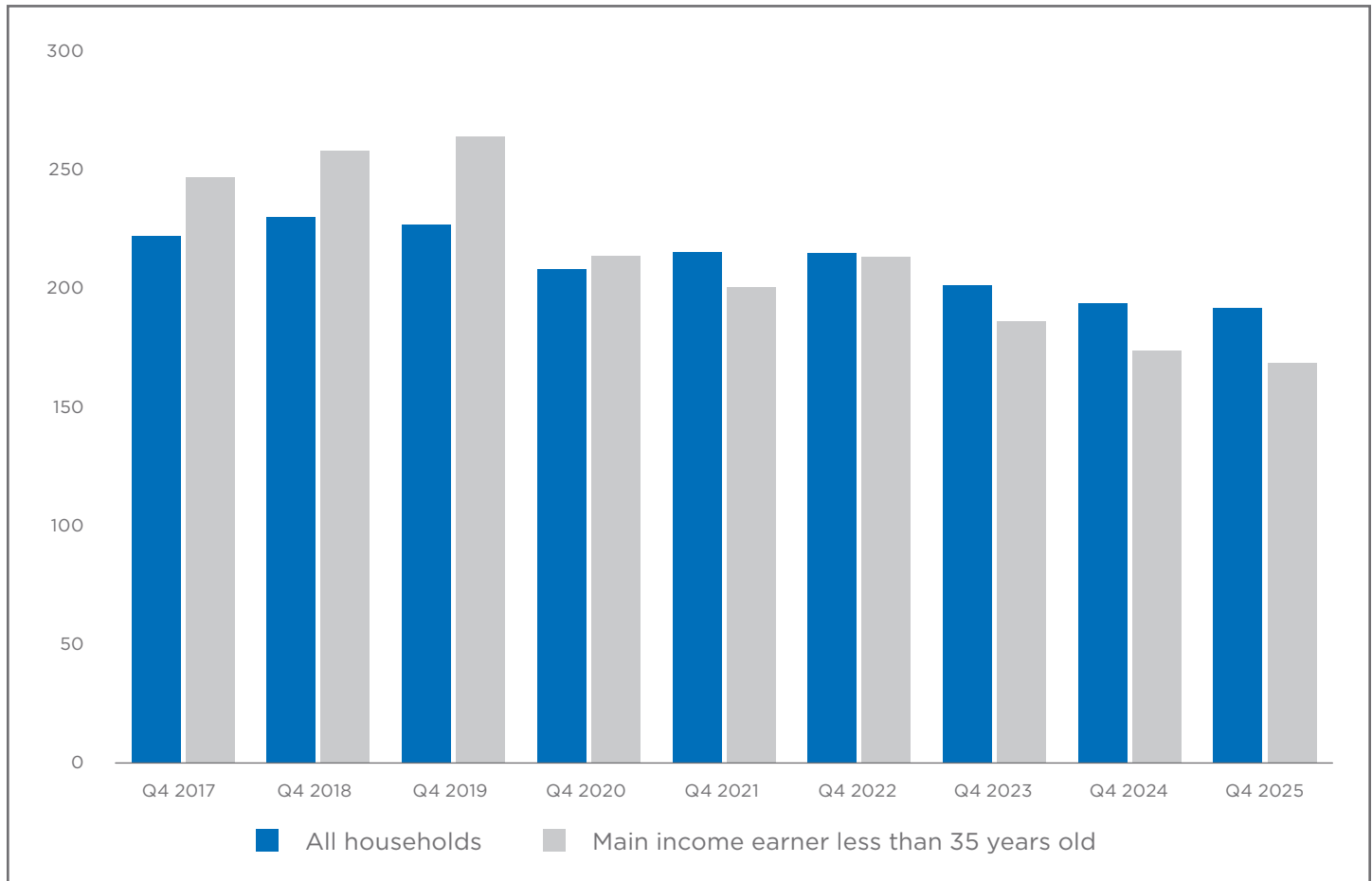
Source: Statistics Canada, Table 14-10-0432-01.

**Figure 4: BC CPI Annual Growth and Policy Interest Rate - January 2022 to April 2026**



Source: Statistics Canada, Table 18-10-0004-01, and Bank of Canada.

**Figure 5: Debt-to-Disposable-Income Ratio among BC Households, 2017 to 2025**



Source: Statistics Canada, Table 36-10-0665-01.

### Highlighting the importance of tax reform

Incentivized by the volatile geopolitical and economic landscape, politicians at all levels of government have agreed that now is the time to invest in our province—not only for economic prosperity, but also for economic security. As expected, there are differing opinions on the best way to accomplish this goal.

As part of CPABC’s *BC Check-Up* survey (see facing page for more survey results), members were asked what policy areas the provincial government should prioritize to improve prosperity and productivity. Respondents were given a range of options, and more than half (55%) identified “Establishing a long-term tax reform plan to improve tax competitiveness” as a high priority. “Improving regional economic development” (51%) and “Supporting natural resource projects” (50%) were also assigned a high priority rating by half of respondents.

While progress has certainly been made on the latter two recommendations, BC’s Budget 2026 highlighted the need to address long-term tax reform. Among the new tax measures introduced in the budget was an expansion of the PST base to include a variety of professional services, including accounting and bookkeeping.

In CPABC’s recent submission to the government, we recognized the need to raise government revenue and the political challenges associated with adopting a value-added tax, but added that expanding the PST is still a poor policy choice as it reinforces an inefficient tax system that creates tax cascading, reduces investment, and erodes BC’s competitiveness relative to other jurisdictions.

### The bottom line

BC’s economy is enduring a multitude of pressures and challenges, some novel and externally driven (changes to global trade and geopolitical turmoil), some internal and cyclical (a softening labour market), and others that are long-standing structural issues (a complex regulatory environment and weak relative competitiveness). However, there is an obvious appetite to invest in the province, and it’s critical that businesses and all levels of government work together to build a system that reduces barriers to investment and supports sustainable and inclusive prosperity for the benefit of all British Columbians. ■

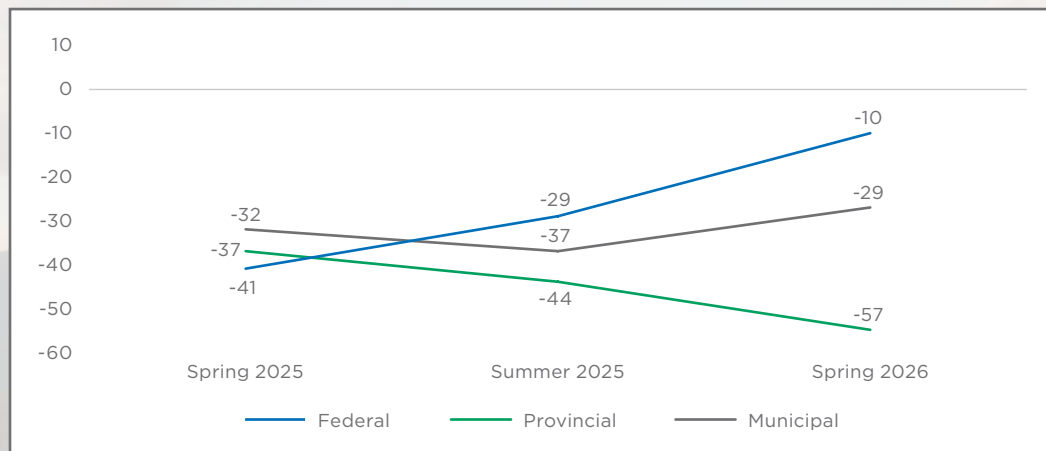
*Jack Blackwell is CPABC’s economist.*

# CPABC Survey Results Reinforce the Idea that BC's Economy Is Underperforming

CPABC's latest *BC Check-Up* survey, conducted in May 2026, found that CPAs were more likely to hold a negative view of BC's economic performance. Only 11% of respondents said BC's economy was performing well, while 46% said it was performing poorly. This represents a more negative view since the spring of 2025, when 13% of survey respondents rated the economy positively and only 36% gave it a negative rating.

Another interesting finding: Over the last year, perceptions about how well the federal, provincial, and municipal governments have performed in terms of creating a good climate for business and investment in BC have also shifted. While respondents overall held an unfavourable view of all levels of government (similar to results in past surveys), perceptions about provincial and federal performance diverged dramatically. Almost two-thirds (65%) of respondents said the provincial government could be doing better, and only 9% rated its performance positively; by contrast, respondents gave a more positive assessment of the federal government's performance compared with the previous year.

**Net-approval rating:** How do you rate each of the following levels of government on their current performance when it comes to creating a good climate for business and investment in BC?



Source: CPABC *BC Check-Up* survey, n = 575. Conducted from May 4 to May 20, 2026.

Ultimately, these results convey an overall sense of dissatisfaction with government efforts, particularly at the provincial level. They also reinforce CPABC's position that there is a growing need for governments at all levels to take action to support long-term prosperity for all British Columbians, particularly amid significant technological, geopolitical, and economic change.

\* CPABC conducted a web-based survey of CPA members across BC to solicit their thoughts on the province's economy, housing, and government performance. A total of 575 survey responses were received between May 4 and May 20, 2026, which represents an overall response rate of 8%.

# CPABC Regulatory Report to the Public

CPABC's *Regulatory Report to the Public: Upholding the Highest Standards* outlines the initiatives and resources implemented by the organization to ensure that BC CPAs adhere to professional and ethical standards as part of our commitment to protecting the public. Here is a snapshot of this year's report. To view the full report, visit [bccpa.ca/protecting-the-public](https://bccpa.ca/protecting-the-public).

## Members and Students

Member count:

2026: **41,429**  
2025: 40,804  
2024: 40,236  
2023: 39,300  
2022: 38,730



Student count:

2026: **5,108**  
2025: 5,532  
2024: 5,707  
2023: 6,224  
2022: 6,088



New members admitted:

During the fiscal year, **1,377** new members were admitted into the profession, and **752** members left the profession.

Graduation rates:

An average of **1,059** BC students have graduated annually from the profession's certification programs over the past **5** years.

## Members in Industry

In BC, **many** members in industry work in small or medium-sized businesses where they are often the only designated accountant.



## Public Practice

Licensed practitioner count:

2026: **4,597**  
2025: 4,517  
2024: 4,454  
2023: 4,351  
2022: 4,274



Regulation of public practice:

The majority of practitioners work in small businesses, where **98%** of firms are owned by fewer than five professional accountants.

Pass rate for practice reviews:

2025-2026:  
**89%**



2024-2025: **91%**  
2023-2024: **90%**

Registered office count:

2026: **2,988**  
2025: 2,922  
2024: 2,906  
2023: 2,869  
2022: 2,856



Practice reviews:

**976** practice reviews were conducted this past year. This number includes **70** reinspections that were undertaken in situations where standards had not been met. Sanctions may be imposed in cases where there are more serious issues.

Full report available at: [bccpa.ca/protecting-the-public](https://bccpa.ca/protecting-the-public)

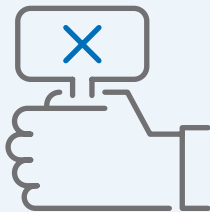
# for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

## CPD Self-Reporting and CPABC Verification

Action is taken against members who do not comply with the requirements for continuing professional development (CPD). This action can result in suspension or cancellation of membership. Members who do not comply with the CPD verification process risk being referred to the CPABC investigation and discipline processes.

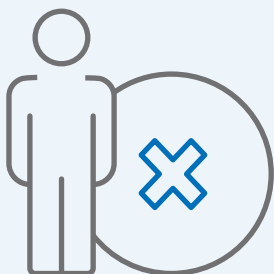
Cancelled memberships due to non-compliance with CPD:

- 2026: **36**
- 2025: **32**
- 2024: **39**
- 2023: **58**
- 2022: **50**



During the year ended March 31, 2026:

- **134** members had their memberships suspended for CPD non-compliance.
- **36** of these suspended members had their memberships cancelled.



## Investigation and Discipline Process

CPABC investigated complaints received about members, firms, and students. Where breaches of the bylaws or rules were found, the resolutions typically included a reprimand and remedial education to protect the public from a repeat of the misconduct. In rare instances, there was a suspension or cancellation of membership.

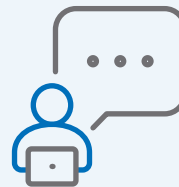


- **253** total active complaints in 2025-2026
- **53** complaints under review
- **142** complaints not accepted\*
- **58** investigations authorized

\*For reasons including lack of jurisdiction or not serving the public interest.

New complaints received:

- 2026: **193\***
- 2025: **191**
- 2024: **124**
- 2023: **121**
- 2022: **103**



\* Other regulatory bodies are also experiencing higher numbers of complaints. CPABC has increased its resources to address the uptick.

Investigations authorized:

- 2026: **58**
- 2025: **77**
- 2024: **53**
- 2023: **52**
- 2022: **60**



Disciplinary Committee activities:

- 4** resolution agreements
- 9** outcomes pending
- 1** disciplinary panel decision
- 2** in abeyance



Investigations closed:

- 2026: **72**
- 2025: **53**
- 2024: **50**
- 2023: **57**
- 2022: **45**



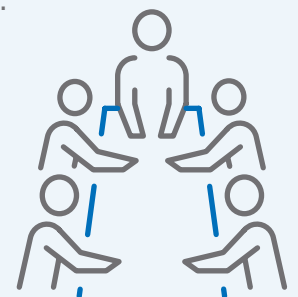
Outcomes:

- **11** no grounds
- **4** not pursued
- **46** resolutions - D&R\*
- **11** referred to the Disciplinary Committee

\*Determination and Recommendation Agreement

Total disciplinary cases resolved:

- 2026: **16**
- 2025: **13**
- 2024: **13**
- 2023: **26**
- 2022: **19**



## Grey Areas: When Off-Duty Conduct Affects the Professional Standing of a CPA

From CPABC's Professional Conduct Department



**T**he grey area between personal autonomy and professional accountability has become one of the more challenging aspects of professional regulation. While CPAs are entitled to private lives, the profession's public-interest mandate means that certain forms of off-duty conduct can raise legitimate concerns about professional integrity, judgment, and trustworthiness. These concerns may lead to professional discipline if a CPA's off-duty conduct reflects adversely on the profession or undermines public confidence, regardless of whether the conduct is related to the practice of professional accounting.

In British Columbia, the governing framework for this issue is found primarily in the *CPABC Code of Professional Conduct* (the CPA Code) and the disciplinary authority granted under the *Chartered Professional Accountants Act*. Although the CPA Code does not regulate all aspects of a member's private life, it establishes broad ethical principles that extend beyond direct professional services.

*mikkelwilliam/iStock/Getty Images*

### Why off-duty conduct matters

The accounting profession is built on a foundation of trust. Clients, investors, employers, lenders, governments, and the general public rely on CPAs to provide accurate financial information and exercise objective professional judgment. Accordingly, dishonest or unethical conduct—even in a personal context—can call into question the professional fitness of a CPA.

The rationale is straightforward: If a CPA demonstrates dishonesty or misconduct in their private life, the public may question whether the individual can be trusted with responsibilities involving aspects of professional accounting, such as client confidentiality, fiduciary obligations, and financial stewardship.

This does not mean that every personal dispute or mistake becomes a disciplinary matter for CPABC; for example, CPABC has declined to investigate a complaint made against a CPA that related to the breakdown of their marriage. Rather, the key test for CPABC is to distinguish between purely private conduct and conduct that could have an impact on the profession's reputation. Obviously, the more serious the misconduct, the more likely it is to attract regulatory scrutiny.

## The principles of the CPA Code

Rather than serving as an exhaustive list of detailed requirements and prohibitions (which would be impossible), the CPA Code is intentionally designed to serve as a principles-based guide that establishes broad ethical standards to which CPAs must adhere.<sup>1</sup> These standards relate to professional behaviour, integrity and due care, objectivity, professional competence, and confidentiality.

The CPA Code's preamble clearly states that CPAs are expected to "conduct themselves *at all times* [our emphasis] in a manner which will maintain the good reputation of the profession and serve the public interest" and thereby "avoid any action that would discredit the profession."<sup>2</sup> This same principle is repeated in Rule 201.1, which states that a CPA must "maintain the good reputation of the profession and serve the public interest."<sup>3</sup>

Further CPABC guidance emphasizes that ethical obligations may arise in volunteer activities<sup>4</sup> within employment relationships and in other settings involving professional trust and judgment.

<sup>1</sup> These same ethical standards apply to registered firms and students.

Throughout the CPA Code, the term "registrant" is used to refer inclusively to a member, firm, or student registered in the professional education program. See the *CPABC Code of Professional Conduct* (CPA Code), Preamble, page 4.

<sup>2</sup> CPA Code, Preamble, page 5.

<sup>3</sup> CPA Code, page 21.

<sup>4</sup> See "Key Considerations for CPAs Considering Volunteer Positions," CPABC Knowledge Base, [bccpa.ca/kbase](https://bccpa.ca/kbase). Last revision: July 19, 2024.

## Criminal matters

Criminal conduct is the clearest example of behaviour that can attract both public and regulatory scrutiny. Even where criminal activity is unrelated to the practice of accounting, a criminal conviction likely indicates a lack of integrity incompatible with a CPA's professional obligations. For this reason, CPAs are required by Rule 102 of the CPA Code (Matters to be reported to CPABC) to "promptly notify CPABC" of any criminal conviction, regardless of its nature or context. This self-reporting requirement enables CPABC to assess the significance of the matter and deal with it appropriately and in a timely manner.

Here's a real example of off-duty conduct resulting in criminal charges: While intoxicated, a CPABC member became involved in an altercation with an employee of a nightclub. The member was subsequently convicted of "simple assault" under the *Criminal Code* of Canada. The CPA received a conditional discharge from the Provincial Court of British Columbia and was placed on probation for one year.

CPABC's Investigation Committee determined that the member had contravened the CPA Code because their behaviour affected the profession's reputation. The committee recommended that the member receive a reprimand and be required to provide CPABC's director of professional conduct with written confirmation when they concluded their probationary period.

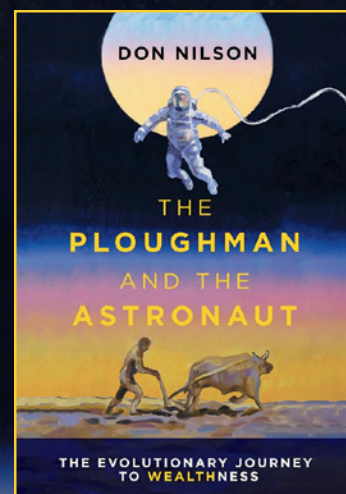
# THE PLOUGHMAN AND THE ASTRONAUT BY DON NILSON,

CPA FCPA, CFP, Fellow FP Canada, TEP

Drawing on four decades of experience as an educator, advisor, and trusted voice in tax and financial planning, Don Nilson brings rare perspective to *The Ploughman and the Astronaut*. More than a traditional personal finance book, it explores how money connects to decision-making, family, legacy, purpose, and the pursuit of a well-lived life.



Blending practical wealth planning with philosophy, psychology, storytelling, and real-world insight, the book challenges readers to think more deeply about how they earn, save, invest, give, and define true financial wellbeing.



*Even social medial conduct occurring entirely outside of work hours may become subject to scrutiny if it becomes public and reflects adversely on a profession's reputation.*

## Social media and personal expression—a very grey area

One of the emerging problem areas for off-duty conduct involves social media. As of yet, there have been few publicly reported discipline cases specifically involving social media use in BC; however, other professional regulators in Canada and elsewhere are increasingly demonstrating that they view online conduct as a threat to public confidence in a profession.

The legal and ethical tension is obvious. CPAs retain freedom of expression rights under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. Section 2(b) of the Charter safeguards the freedoms of thought, belief, opinion, and expression,<sup>5</sup> and Canadian courts have consistently acknowledged that freedom of expression is an essential right of all Canadians.

However, those rights are not absolute in professional settings.

Communications on social media are subject to the same legal limitations as other forms of expression. Statements that involve intentional falsehoods, personal attacks, or offensive and malicious remarks typically receive diminished constitutional protection.<sup>6</sup> For example, racist, misogynistic, threatening, or deliberately deceptive online conduct could be viewed as inconsistent with a profession's emphasis on integrity and ethical behaviour. Even social media conduct occurring entirely outside of work hours may become subject to scrutiny if it becomes public and reflects adversely on a profession's reputation.

At the same time, there are important limits on regulatory authority, as illustrated by the case of *Strom v Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association*.<sup>7</sup> In this case, the Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan ruled in favour of Carolyn Strom, a registered nurse who'd been sanctioned by her professional body for unprofessional conduct. At issue were comments Strom made on social media criticizing the quality of care her grandfather had received at a Saskatchewan health facility. In its finding, the Court of Appeal stated that Strom was entitled to make such comments under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

<sup>5</sup> Sergio R. Karas, "Professional Responsibility on Social Media in Canada," [bestlawyers.com](http://bestlawyers.com), April 6, 2026.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>7</sup> CanLII, *Strom v Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association*, 2020 SKCA 112, [canlii.org](http://canlii.org).

Generally, Canadian courts require that complainants establish a meaningful connection between the conduct and legitimate regulatory objectives such as integrity, competence, public confidence, and protection of the public.

## Summary

The regulation of off-duty conduct remains one of the most nuanced aspects of professional discipline—one that requires a careful balancing of public protection and individual rights.

In British Columbia, the profession's ethical framework, as expressed in the CPA Code, recognizes that public confidence depends not only on technical competence, but also on integrity and professionalism extending beyond formal client engagements. Not every personal failing will justify discipline. However, where off-duty conduct demonstrates dishonesty, abuse of trust, discrimination, serious criminality, or behaviour likely to undermine public confidence in the profession, CPABC possesses broad authority to act.

For CPAs, the message is clear: You can't leave your professional obligations at the office door. Integrity is not situational in a trust-based profession. The grey areas of off-duty conduct ultimately turn on a central question: Is the conduct in question consistent with the honesty, judgment, and professionalism the public is entitled to expect from a chartered professional accountant?

## Do you need guidance?

CPABC's professional standards advisors are here to help. You can consult with them for confidential guidance to ensure that you stay compliant with the *CPA Code of Professional Conduct* and the *CPABC Bylaws* when navigating difficult situations. Contact our advisors by email at [professionaladvisory@bccpa.ca](mailto:professionaladvisory@bccpa.ca). ■

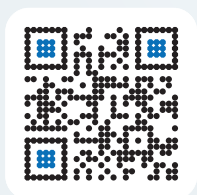
CPABC publishes the outcomes of disciplinary proceedings online. Visit [bccpa.ca](http://bccpa.ca) and choose Member & Practice Regulation > Ethics and Discipline > Discipline Summaries for details.



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November 26-27, 2026



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Jodi Cooke is the executive director of electoral finance at Elections BC. Photo by John Yanyshyn/Visions West Photography.

## Local Election Financing Rules 101

By Jodi Cooke, CPA, CGA, CFE, for Elections BC



cagkansayiny/istock/Getty Images

**T**his fall, general local elections will be held across British Columbia to fill various local offices, including municipal mayors and councillors, regional district directors, school board trustees, park board commissioners, and other local government positions. General voting day is October 17, 2026.

Unlike provincial elections, local government elections are not managed by one organization. Each local government is responsible for running its own local election, including voting, counting, reporting results, and accepting candidate nominations. Behind those election campaigns are also important campaign financing and election advertising rules that all political participants must follow. In addition to enhancing accountability and transparency, these rules, which are administered by Elections BC, maintain a level playing field for everyone who participates in the electoral process.

To help stay in compliance with these rules, candidates, elector organizations (also known as local political parties), and individuals and organizations that want to spend money to promote or oppose the election of a candidate or elector organization often enlist the help of CPAs to manage their campaign finances. With the 2026 general local elections quickly approaching, now is a great time to remind all CPABC members of the legislated requirements.

The following article—a companion piece to my July/August 2024 article on the comparable provincial election rules<sup>1</sup>—is designed to help everyone stay onside of the rules under the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.

### What CPAs should know before working on an election campaign

#### 1. Know the role you will be performing.

Every local candidate and elector organization must appoint an individual to serve as their financial agent. The agent is responsible for managing the day-to-day finances of the election campaign, which includes ensuring that all transactions comply with the requirements of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* and filing financial reports after the election. A candidate may choose to act as their own financial agent or they can appoint someone else to do this work on their behalf.

<sup>1</sup> Jodi Cooke, “The Business of Election Financing,” *CPABC in Focus*, July/August 2024 (30-31).

## 2. Election financing rules differ from other accounting principles.

While having a background in accounting is an advantage when co-ordinating the finances of an election campaign, CPAs should be aware that there are some rules unique to election financing that can be confusing and get financial agents into trouble. They include:

- *Accepting campaign contributions from prohibited sources:* Contributions can only be accepted from eligible individuals who reside in BC and are either Canadian citizens or permanent residents. Contributions from organizations and contributions from individuals living outside of BC are prohibited, including any contributions that result from a discount or a forgiven debt to an election campaign.
- *Accepting campaign contributions over the limit:* Eligible individuals are limited in how much they can contribute each year to an election campaign. For 2026, the annual campaign contribution limit is \$1,429.70. Note that if a candidate is endorsed by an elector organization, this contribution limit extends to the entire elector organization and all affiliated candidates running in the same election campaign; this means that the maximum amount an eligible individual can contribute to all candidates endorsed by the same elector organization for the same campaign in 2026 is \$1,429.70 in total (not per candidate). Excess campaign contributions must be returned to contributors; if they cannot be returned, they must be remitted to Elections BC as prohibited contributions.
- *Not including sponsorship contact information on advertising:* The *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* requires that election advertising include contact information that clearly identifies how the sponsor can be reached. This information must include the name of the financial agent and the sponsor's BC phone number, mailing address, or email address. These rules take effect on July 20, 2026 (the start of the pre-campaign period). **Note:** If you are participating in a 2026 election campaign organized by an individual or organization other than a candidate or elector organization, we encourage you to review the rules for local third-party advertising sponsors at [elections.bc.ca/local-tps](https://elections.bc.ca/local-tps).
- *Incurring election expenses over the limit:* Election expenses include any property or services used to promote or oppose a candidate or elector organization. There is a limit on the total value of election expenses that can be used during the campaign period (September 19 to October 17, 2026). If property or services are donated, the value of the election expense and campaign contribution is the equivalent market value at the time it is provided.

Candidate election expense limits vary depending on the population of the election area and the office for which the candidate is running. The limits are published on the Elections BC website at [elections.bc.ca/local-expense-limits](https://elections.bc.ca/local-expense-limits).

Elector organizations do not have a separate election expense limit. Election expenses incurred by an elector organization are subject to the candidate's limit and cannot exceed the amount the candidate has made available to the elector organization through their campaign financing arrangement.

## 3. Financial reports must be filed after the election.

The appointed financial agent must file a financial report within 90 days of the election. This report must disclose income and expenses in relation to the election campaign. Additionally, if any information in the financial report changes or the financial agent becomes aware that something has been reported incorrectly, the agent must file an amended supplemental report within 30 days of becoming aware of the change or error.

Copies of all financial reports filed with Elections BC are published online at [elections.bc.ca/frpc](https://elections.bc.ca/frpc).

## 4. Keep good records and avoid taking on more than you can manage.

There is nothing in the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* that prevents a CPA from representing more than one election campaign; however, the same requirements and deadlines apply regardless of whether you represent one campaign or 100.

Moreover, it's important to ensure that you have the time and resources available to meet the responsibilities you've signed up for, which include keeping complete and organized financial records.

## 5. Failure to comply may result in significant penalties and their publication.

Penalties and their publication may be potentially damaging to a CPA's professional reputation and other business relationships, so it's important to ensure that you have a good understanding of the rules and requirements before agreeing to serve as the financial agent for an election campaign.

### More information is available

Financial agents play an important role in the democratic process, and awareness is key to ensuring that these agents—many of them CPAs—stay in compliance with the rules. Therefore, if you're thinking about getting involved in the upcoming 2026 general local elections, I encourage you to review the Elections BC website at [elections.bc.ca/local-elections](https://elections.bc.ca/local-elections). There you'll find information about campaign financing and advertising requirements, with informative guides, handbooks, quick reference sheets, and a comprehensive online learning program. You can also sign up for one of Elections BC's upcoming information sessions. ■

For more guidance, visit [elections.bc.ca/local-elections](https://elections.bc.ca/local-elections).



Bilal Kathrada is a principal with Clearline CPA, where he focuses primarily on tax and succession planning for Canadian owner-managed businesses in various industries.

## Passing the Torch: LCGE Planning and Intergenerational Business Transfers

By Bilal Kathrada, CPA, CA



SoStock/E+/Getty Images

For many Canadian business owners, the lifetime capital gains exemption (LCGE) represents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to extract up to \$1,250,000 tax-free from the sale of their business—a limit indexed annually to inflation. Yet if that sale is made to the next generation, the tax outcome is far from straightforward, and without careful planning, what appears to be a capital gain can quickly become a fully taxable dividend.

Developments in recent years have only added to the confusion. For example, a proposed increase to the capital gains inclusion rate triggered a wave of planning activity in 2024 before it was ultimately abandoned.

In addition to addressing both the LCGE fundamentals and the intergenerational business transfer (IBT) rules, this article outlines what practitioners should be doing now.

### LCGE eligibility: The basics and the traps

The LCGE is available on the disposition of qualifying small business corporation shares under section 110.6 of the *Income Tax Act* (the Act). All three of the following tests must be met for eligibility:

1. During the preceding 24 months, only the taxpayer or a related person may own the shares;
2. Throughout this 24-month period, more than 50% of the corporation's asset value must be used in an active Canadian business, and this percentage must increase to "substantially all" (generally interpreted by the CRA as 90% or more) at the time of sale; and
3. Throughout this 24-month period, the corporation must be a Canadian-controlled private corporation.

## Fewer lifetime capital gains exemption failures are due to complex tax rules than to human error.

In practice, fewer LCGE failures are due to complex tax rules than to human error—specifically, a failure to address excess cash or passive assets until a deal is already underway.

The solution involves removing passive assets before the sale through pre-sale dividends, asset transfers to a separate entity, or repayment of shareholder loans. This “purification” should be completed before a binding agreement is signed. It should not be left to the last minute, as the CRA has shown a tendency to scrutinize purifications undertaken immediately before a sale, particularly where there is no bona fide business purpose beyond satisfying the asset test.

A lesser-known risk relates to the alternative minimum tax (AMT). The revised AMT rules, which took effect on January 1, 2024, increased the AMT rate to 20.5% and the basic exemption to \$173,205. Because LCGE claims are treated as a significant preference item under the AMT calculation, a business owner can claim the full exemption and owe no regular income tax, yet still face a significant AMT liability.

The AMT paid is not lost permanently; it can be carried forward up to seven years and credited against regular tax liability in future years; however, its recovery depends on the owner having sufficient taxable income after the sale. Therefore, AMT recovery may be limited or unavailable for clients who plan to retire or step back significantly following a transaction.

<sup>1</sup> Bill C-59, the *Fall Economic Statement Implementation Act, 2023*, received royal assent on June 20, 2024. It enacted significant amendments to the intergenerational business transfer (IBT) rules. The amended IBT rules, listed in sections 84.1 and 55(5)(e) of the *Income Tax Act*, apply to transactions occurring on or after January 1, 2024.

### Intergenerational business transfers

For business owners planning to pass their company to a family member, the stakes are high: If they structure the transaction incorrectly, the entire capital gain and LCGE benefit may evaporate.

Prior to 2021, selling shares to an arm’s-length buyer allowed the vendor to claim the LCGE on a capital gain, whereas selling to their own child risked them having the proceeds recharacterized as a deemed dividend under section 84.1 of the Act, with no LCGE available and a significantly higher tax cost. Now, however, thanks to legislative reforms through Bill C-208 (2021) and Bill C-59 (2024), there is a structured framework under which a genuine transfer to the next generation can qualify for capital gains treatment and full LCGE eligibility.<sup>1</sup>

Although these changes were intended to level the playing field, they also introduced a new layer of complexity, as advisors must now distinguish between transactions that merely meet the technical criteria from those that reflect a genuine transfer of a business to the next generation.

### The current rules: What qualifies

The sale of shares from a parent to an adult child can qualify under either an immediate or gradual transfer track.

#### To qualify for an immediate transfer (three-year test):

- The parent must transfer both legal and factual control to the child;
- The child must acquire the majority of the voting and equity shares immediately and the remaining shares (other than certain prescribed shares) within 36 months;
- The child must become actively engaged in the business within 36 months; and
- The parent must fully exit management within 36 months and must not retain direct influence over the business.

*Five-to-ten-year test*



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\* Dorin Bogdan Mihalache is a CPA, CA, in the province of Alberta.

*The intergenerational business transfer rules expand the definition of “child” to include nieces, nephews, their spouses, and their children.*

**To qualify for a gradual transfer (five-to-ten-year test):**

- The child must acquire the voting and equity shares immediately and the remaining shares (other than certain prescribed shares) within 36 months;
- The parent’s remaining interest (prescribed shares and debt) must be reduced within 10 years subject to certain thresholds; and
- Within 60 months, the child must become actively engaged and the parent must cease management.

In both cases, the child and the parent must make a joint election, which makes them jointly responsible for any taxes on a CRA reassessment within the extended statute-barring period (an additional three years under the immediate track and an additional 10 years under the gradual track).

**Note:** The IBT rules expand the definition of “child” to include nieces, nephews, their spouses, and their children, which is a significant broadening of eligibility. Advisors should communicate this to clients who have non-linear succession plans.

**Practical steps for advisors**

The IBT rules create a genuine planning opportunity for family business succession, but they require careful preparation. Here are some helpful tips:

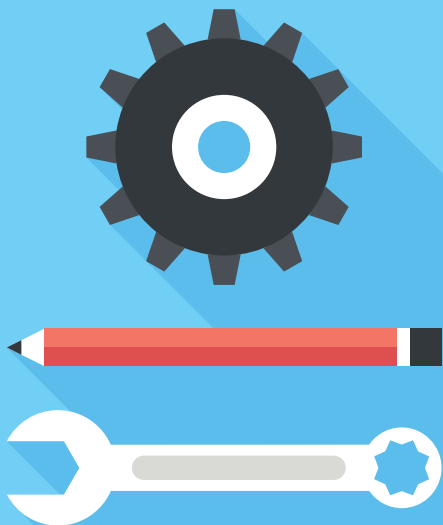
- **Start early.** It takes time to navigate the 24-month holding period for qualifying small business corporation shares and IBT conditions. Advisors should start having these conversations at least two to three years before any contemplated transition.
- **Purify before transferring.** The very same passive asset traps that threaten LCGE eligibility on a third-party sale apply in the case of an IBT. Purification should be addressed as a part of succession planning, not as a last-minute fix.
- **Plan carefully.** While common planning structures like family trusts work well for some succession planning, they could render a taxpayer ineligible for an IBT transaction. Plan carefully and watch who controls the shares before and after the sale.
- **Document genuine involvement.** The CRA will look for evidence that the next generation has genuinely taken over. Employment agreements, management transition plans, and contemporaneous records of the child’s growing operational role matter and should be documented.
- **Consider the expanded family definition.** If a client with no direct descendants has nieces and nephews (or grandnieces and grandnephews) active in the business, the IBT rules may still be available. The expanded family definition is an often overlooked planning opportunity.
- **Model the AMT.** Even where the LCGE fully shelters a gain from regular tax, the AMT can still apply and recovery after retirement may be limited; therefore, the AMT should be modelled as part of any pre-closing analysis.
- **Consider claiming the capital gains reserve over a 10-year basis.** Structured sales over time (i.e., 60% now and the remainder within 36 months) will result in the second sale not qualifying as an IBT. To avoid this, consider claiming the capital gains reserve over a 10-year basis instead.

**Planning well in advance is key**

While the opportunities presented by the LCGE and IBT frameworks are clear, they’re also highly time-sensitive. Without early planning, both frameworks can fail quietly. Advisors who integrate these rules into succession discussions well in advance will not only preserve tax outcomes but also materially improve their clients’ ability to pass the torch smoothly and successfully. ■

**CPABC Knowledge Base**

The Knowledge Base offers a varied and extensive collection of articles, guidance, resources, tools, and webinars. Visit [bccpa.ca/kbase](http://bccpa.ca/kbase).





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PD EXPERTS

## Decide Before You Deploy: Implementing AI in Accounting and Finance

By Mary Carmichael, CPA, CMA



Mary Carmichael is a technology risk and AI governance advisor, a principal director at Momentum Technology, an AI research fellow with Toronto Metropolitan University's Rogers Cybersecure Catalyst, and the immediate past president of the ISACA Vancouver Chapter. She helps public- and private-sector organizations operationalize AI adoption through strategy, governance, and control frameworks, and regularly speaks on AI risk, decision accountability, and digital transformation across the finance and assurance communities. Mary led the session "From Experimentation to Execution: Operationalizing AI Governance" at CPABC's PD Nexus: AI Insights conference on May 21, 2026.

Artificial intelligence is one of the biggest shifts the accounting profession has experienced, yet not all AI initiatives bring value. If you've been wondering how to operationalize AI governance, manage risks, or measure the value of AI initiatives, here are the pitfalls to avoid and some practical, structured ways to move ahead.

### What organizations get wrong early on

One of the biggest early missteps organizations make with AI is focusing on the technology before identifying the business problem. Teams often start by asking, "How can we use AI in accounting and finance?" This question is too broad and can ultimately reduce an AI project's chances of success. Instead, it's better to start by asking, "What are we trying to improve, and why does it matter?"

Other early mistakes include unclear or inconsistent use cases, weak foundations, and fuzzy ownership.

### The risks of adopting AI too quickly

The problem with adopting AI too quickly is not necessarily speed itself, but speed without structure and discipline. Organizations may feel pressure to pilot AI, but it's ill-advised to start using the technology without first thinking through the control, human review, and accountability processes. For example, using AI-drafted commentary for board reporting might save time, but it can become risky if no one has defined who will validate the numbers or challenge the narrative when something feels off. Without proper controls and processes in place, you can end up with a weak audit trail, inconsistent reviews, and unclear sign-off.

Revising initiatives after they have been implemented is another potential failure point. Moving too fast often leads to regret, with teams having to redesign controls, revisit workflows, retrain users, or even pull back pilot projects—all of which is expensive.

### Start with a structured decision-making approach

To minimize risk and increase the likelihood of success, it's important to make key business decisions before embedding AI tools into day-to-day work. Begin by reflecting on these questions:

- 1. What problem are we trying to solve?** If the answers are vague, the use case isn't ready.
- 2. What data are we using?** If you have unreliable or fragmented data, AI will likely only exacerbate its weaknesses. It's vital to first confirm that the data you're using is reliable, complete, consistent, timely, and appropriate for the intended use.
- 3. What are our protocols for human review?** Among other considerations, you'll need to determine where and when approval points and reviews will happen, what evidence will be retained, how exceptions will be handled, and what sign-off will look like.
- 4. Who owns the outputs?** Outputs can affect reporting, forecasting, and analysis, so ownership cannot stay vague.
- 5. How will we measure success?** What's the baseline today and what should improve—for example, cycle time, exception rates, quality of analysis, or confidence in the output?

Answering these questions will also help your staff to understand the purpose of the AI tool, the boundaries of its use, and what success will look like.



Chayada Jeeerathreepatanont/istock/Getty Images

### Identify accountability and ownership for AI initiatives

Separating tool ownership from outcome ownership is important. Generally, finance and accounting should own the business use case and decision outcomes and IT should own the platform, access, security, integration, and technical enablement.

Risk, compliance, legal, and governance should help to define the controls. An AI impact assessment and a joint committee are useful for reviewing the use case, challenging whether the controls are strong and oversight is clear, and ensuring appropriate monitoring is in place.

### How to define and measure AI's value

Organizations often describe AI initiatives in broad terms, using words like “productivity” or “transformation.” CPAs can strengthen the value case by making it measurable and actionable. This means clearly defining the value driver, establishing a baseline, and separating value created through efficiency from value created through better decision-making.

Overall, a credible ROI case should be measurable, realistic, and tied to a specific finance process.

### Diving deeper into operationalizing AI governance

Internal reflection is important. Ask yourself and your teams: What processes are we trying to improve? Where does manual effort consume skilled finance time? And where do we need stronger evidence or consistency? Discussing these kinds of questions is a productive way to start approaching AI initiatives. ■

### MORE FROM THE AUTHOR

The full version of this article was published in the CPABC Newsroom on April 28, 2026, along with a podcast interview. To access both, visit [bccpa.ca/newsroom](https://bccpa.ca/newsroom).

Additionally, Mary's 2023 seminar “How Generative AI Tools Like ChatGPT Will Transform Your Business” is available on demand at [pd.bccpa.ca](https://pd.bccpa.ca).

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## LIFELONG LEARNING

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### PD PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

## Save the Dates for Upcoming PD Nexus Days

### Information Technology Insights 2026

July 21-22 | Online virtual

This annual PD Nexus Day is designed to help professionals boost productivity, strengthen their tech stack, and confidently navigate rapid technological change.

**Special feature:** You can attend the full two-day event or individual days.

### Thriving at Work (and Beyond)

August 20 | In person (Vancouver)

Want to enhance your well-being and elevate your performance by exploring proven strategies to prevent burnout, build sustainable habits, communicate more effectively, and lead with clarity and purpose? This PD Nexus Day is for you.

### Small Practitioner Insights

October 8 | In person (Vancouver)

This PD Nexus Day gives sole and small-firm practitioners the chance to connect with colleagues, share ideas, and learn from industry experts. Details on the 2026 conference coming soon.



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## 2026-2027 PD Passports

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The CPABC PD Passport program offers a flexible, cost-effective way to invest in your learning. Enjoy early-bird savings and use your passport to register for the Infinite Conference and other eligible PD offerings scheduled between **September 1, 2026, and August 31, 2027.**

**Note:** Early-bird pricing for our 2026-2027 PD passports expires on **September 25, 2026.** Check out our complete loyalty program at [pd.bccpa.ca](https://pd.bccpa.ca) or email us at [pdreg@bccpa.ca](mailto:pdreg@bccpa.ca) for details.

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### CFO's Operational Skills Program October 19-22 | In person (Whistler)

The CFO role is evolving, and so is our roster of expert presenters. This year, we're pleased to introduce three new facilitators to the CFO's Operational Skills Program: **Gopi Chande, FCPA**, CFO of Telus; **Gagan Sivia, CPA, CGA**, director of finance and analytics at Azure Properties Group; and **Navida Suleman, CPA, CA**, CFO and VP of administration at BCIT. They will draw on their diverse industry experiences to share unique insights on strategy, risk, and operational excellence, all while focusing on practical applications. Attend this program to learn how to lead effectively in a dynamic business environment.



Gopi Chande



Gagan Sivia



Navida Suleman

For more information about our executive programs, visit [pd.bccpa.ca/executive-certificate-programs](https://pd.bccpa.ca/executive-certificate-programs).

## More Executive Programs this Fall

Explore our other executive programs to further strengthen your management and leadership capabilities:

### Controller's Operational Skills Program September 16-19 | In person (Whistler)

Looking to develop the practical tools and techniques controllers need to streamline processes, improve reporting, and drive operational efficiency?

Through hands-on learning, this program will help you gain the skills needed to enhance day-to-day finance functions and deliver immediate impact.

### CFO's Leadership Program September 20-23 | In person (Whistler)

Want to elevate your leadership impact and position yourself for the CFO role?

In this program, which is designed to sharpen strategic thinking, decision-making, and executive presence, you'll gain the confidence and insight needed to lead with influence, shape direction, and drive organizational success.

### Controller's Management Program October 21-24 | In person (Vancouver)

Interested in strengthening your ability to lead, manage, and deliver results as a controller?

In this program, which focuses on building high-performing teams and effective operational practices, you'll develop the management skills needed to navigate challenges and support strategic business objectives.



izusek/E+/Getty Images

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## MEMBERS IN FOCUS

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### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACCOLADES

#### Kudos!



**Gopi Chande, FCPA**, was recently appointed CFO of Telus. Gopi has been with the organization for 16 years and brings over 30 years of financial expertise to her newest role. Prior to this appointment, she served as CFO of Telus Digital and Telus Health and as treasurer of Telus.



**Kerry Taylor, CPA, CA**, has been appointed superintendent and executive director at the Ministry of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills. Kerry has been with the BC Public Service for more than 21 years and most recently served as the BC registrar and executive director of the contact centre and registry services at Service BC.



**Elio Luongo, FCPA, FCA**, chair and co-founder of the Canadian Centre for Audit Quality and a director of TD Bank Group, Tolko Industries, and Blue J Legal, was recently appointed as SFU's 13th chancellor. Elio has a long-standing history with SFU, which includes chairing the Dean's External Advisory Board for the Beedie School of Business and serving on the board of governors and the 50th anniversary campaign cabinet.

#### A fond farewell...

**Martin Eady, CPA**, will be retiring as CPABC's director of professional conduct on August 31, 2026. He took on the role in 2016, after having worked as an investigator for ICABC. His 43-year career also included a tenure as manager of forensic accounting for KPMG and more than 20 years of service with the BC Securities Commission, which culminated in his role as director of corporate finance. We would like to thank Martin for his valuable work in support of CPABC (including his authorship of many ethics articles), and we wish him all the best in his future endeavours!



#### In Memoriam



We wish to extend our condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Denham Kelsey, FCPA, FCA. Denham passed away on December 22, 2025.

Denham was born and raised on the West Coast, where he built a distinguished career in public practice. The youngest partner ever elected to Helliwell, MacLachlan & Co., Denham later helped guide various iterations of the firm into KPMG, acting as national chair of Thorne Riddell along the way. He was elected to ICABC's Fellowship in 1965 and received its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004.

As a professional, Denham was known for his intelligence, integrity, leadership, and kindness. He applied these same qualities to his extensive board and community service, which included chairing Cominco's audit committee for many years, chairing the Health Sciences Centre Hospital at UBC, and serving on the boards of BC Forest Products, the Vancouver Symphony Society, and Shaughnessy Heights Golf Club. Denham also played an instrumental role in helping to create the Vancouver Second Mile Society, which supports low-income seniors.

After retiring to Thetis Island, Denham served on the executive of the Thetis Island Improvement District, helping the community secure emergency fire and medical services. Following a later move to Berwick Comox Valley, an independent living community, he continued to live an active social and creative life, publishing his third book shortly before his passing.

*Photo by John Kelsey, courtesy of the Kelsey family.*

## Strengthening Relationships in the CPA Community and Beyond

### Tri-Cities/Ridge Meadows: Mingling at the hatchery

On April 18, the CPABC Tri-Cities/Ridge Meadows Chapter hosted a community event for members and their families at Noons Creek Hatchery in Port Moody. The event provided a unique opportunity for members to combine professional networking with hands-on environmental stewardship in a family-friendly outdoor setting. Attendees contributed to ongoing conservation and salmon restoration initiatives by helping to release fingerling salmon into the Port Moody Inlet.

Overall, the gathering highlighted the Chapter's commitment to sustainability, community involvement, and meaningful engagement.

### Vancouver: Curling and camaraderie

On April 26, the CPABC Vancouver Chapter hosted 41 participants for an afternoon of curling and networking at the Vancouver Curling Club. The event began with a comprehensive orientation and instruction session to ensure that individuals of all skill levels could confidently participate. Attendees then took to the ice for some friendly competition and team bonding. Following the on-ice activities, participants continued to connect over food and refreshments in a relaxed and social setting.

This event created a memorable shared experience for all involved.

### Fraser Valley: Networking and giving back

On May 2, the CPABC Fraser Valley Chapter hosted a professional networking lunch at Browns Socialhouse in Abbotsford in support of the Archway Abbotsford Food Bank. The event created a collaborative environment in which members were invited to build meaningful professional relationships while contributing to a vital community cause.

The 28 members who participated helped raise more than \$800 to support individuals and families who are experiencing food insecurity. Their generosity and engagement demonstrates how collective efforts can have a meaningful local impact.

Visit [bccpa.ca/chapter-events](https://bccpa.ca/chapter-events) to find out about upcoming chapter events in your area.



1-3. CPABC Tri-Cities/Ridge Meadows Chapter members and their families tour Noons Creek Hatchery in Port Moody. 4-5. CPABC Vancouver Chapter members get ready for some friendly competition at the Vancouver Curling Club. 6-7. CPABC Fraser Valley Chapter members help raise funds for the Archway Abbotsford Food Bank while networking at Browns Socialhouse in Abbotsford.



CONVOCATION

## CFE Passers Shine at Convocation 2026

On May 23, CPABC held two Convocation ceremonies at Vancouver Convention Centre West to celebrate the 980 individuals from BC and the Yukon who passed the Common Final Exam (CFE) in May and September 2025. Both ceremonies, emceed by local entertainer Stefano Giulianetti, opened with a welcome from Harold Calla, FCPA, executive chair of the First Nations Financial Management Board, who offered some inspirational words of advice to the graduating class.

Following this welcome, representatives of CPABC and the CPA Western School of Business (CPAWSB) offered their congratulations. In her opening remarks, CPABC President and CEO Lori Mathison, FCPA, LLB, commended the CFE passers for the effort they invested in their studies and the high standards they set throughout the process. “As you step into your next chapter,” she said, “I hope you will recognize the strength of what you’ve built and carry the confidence that you’ve earned.”

After her address, outgoing chair of the CPABC Board of Directors Alain LeFebvre, FCPA, encouraged the CFE passers to work and lead in ways that bring people together. “Your education has prepared you to navigate complex situations not only as individuals acting alone,” he said, “but also as partners who understand the power of shared efforts.”

Speaking next, CPAWSB CEO Yuen Ip, CPA, encouraged the CFE passers to think strategically, remain adaptable, and always do the right thing. “Always act ethically,” he said. “Be humble, respect others, and protect your integrity.”

Valedictorians Laurel Dabb and Karrah Parke, both of whom made the National CFE Honour Roll in 2025, also shared their thoughts.

Addressing her peers at the morning ceremony, Dabb said graduates are now equipped to successfully navigate the future. “As we progress in our careers, the type and scale of the challenges we face will change,” she noted, “but we will always be able to draw on the resilience, critical thinking, and technical expertise that we developed while earning our CPA designations.”

At the afternoon ceremony, Parke commented on the skills and experiences she and her fellow CFE passers had gained in preparing for and writing the exam. “When looking at it in hindsight, that period of time was so formative and meaningful,” she said. “Meaningful because of what we proved, to ourselves and to others. We demonstrated that we can handle complexity and problem-solve under intense pressure. Meaningful, too, as a culmination of years of hard work to get to this point.”

After the various addresses, graduates crossed the stage to enthusiastic cheers and applause from family, friends, mentors, coworkers, and post-secondary faculty members. Attendees then continued their celebrations at a reception that rounded out each event.

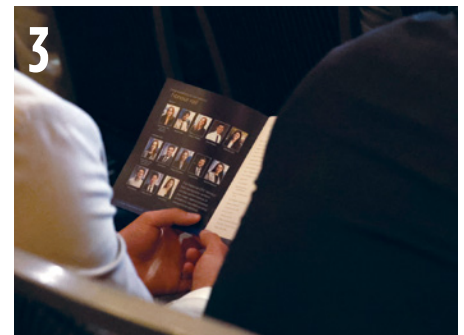
Congratulations to the class of 2026!

### A special note of thanks

CPABC wishes to thank all the sponsors who helped make the 2026 Convocation ceremonies successful and extend a special thanks to platinum sponsors KPMG and MNP; silver sponsors BDO Canada, Doane Grant Thornton, EY Canada, and Manning Elliott; bronze sponsor Deloitte; and A/V sponsor CPA Insurance Plans West. ■



Photo galleries and recordings of the two ceremonies are available online at [bccpa.ca/convocation](https://bccpa.ca/convocation).





1, 3-4, 6-9, 11-16. Scenes from the day's two ceremonies. 2. Yuen Ip, CPA, CEO of the CPA Western School of Business, offers some words of advice to graduates. 5. During the morning ceremony, valedictorian Laurel Dabb notes the resilience and acumen it takes to reach this milestone. 10. Taking the stage in the afternoon, valedictorian Karrah Parke describes the CFE journey as a formative and meaningful experience. Photos by Artona.



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## Classifieds

### Poe Group Advisors – Available BC CPA Firms

Register as a buyer on our site and get alerted when new BC listings go live. Contact [cpoe@poeroupadvisors.com](mailto:cpoe@poeroupadvisors.com) if you have any questions about the listed firms.

Interested in selling your own firm? Contact [bball@poegroupadvisors.com](mailto:bball@poegroupadvisors.com).

### Premier Virtual CFO Firm for Sale – Based in BC

**Listing ID: CP2032 | Asking price: \$3,800,000**

This tech-forward, virtual CFO platform delivers high-level finance and FP&A solutions to fast-growing and venture-backed companies. Operating on a predictable, value-based subscription model, the firm expertly guides clients through critical financial inflection points like rapid scaling, M&A transactions, and exits. A highly efficient, remote team of over 20 senior-level professionals provides dedicated CPA and controller support with minimal owner oversight. Supported by a scalable tech infrastructure, recent strategic improvements have successfully increased the firm's cash flow by over 30% in just two years.

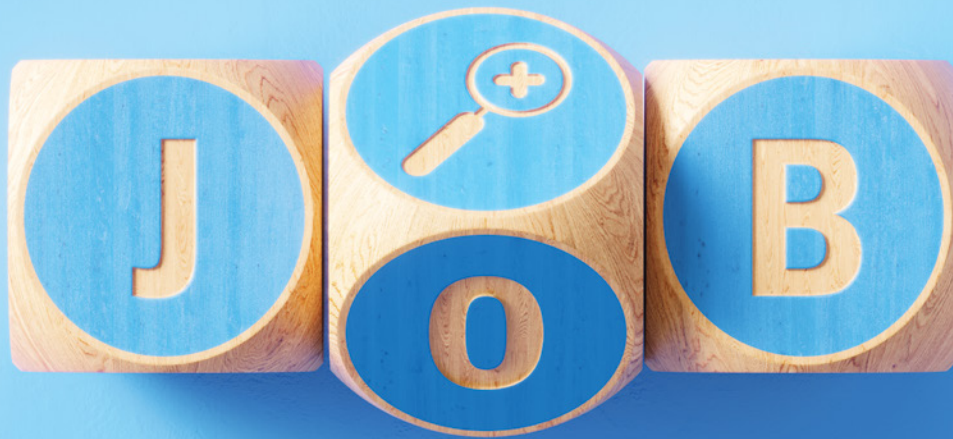
Inquire at [poegroupadvisors.com/practice/cp2032](http://poegroupadvisors.com/practice/cp2032).

### Relationship-Driven CPA Firm for Sale in the Kootenays

**Listing ID: BC2036 | Asking price: \$400,000**

This well-established firm is built on long-term client relationships with a personalized, concierge-style approach. There is a diverse client base spanning construction, real estate, and restaurants. The owner works fewer than 2,000 hours annually with cash flow around 40%. Experienced, client-facing staff with capacity for additional work offers strong growth potential through strategic marketing and expanding services. Financial planning and US tax work currently referred out, which offers immediate revenue opportunities. Located in the stunning Kootenays.

Inquire at [poegroupadvisors.com/practice/bc2036](http://poegroupadvisors.com/practice/bc2036).



## CPABC's Job Search Resources

We offer a number of resources to help CPAs find work and help employers find CPAs:

- Career development events at [bccpa.ca/events](http://bccpa.ca/events).
- A careers site at [careers.bccpa.ca](http://careers.bccpa.ca).
- An employer network—email [careers@bccpa.ca](mailto:careers@bccpa.ca) to sign up and receive a 25% discount on all Careers Site job postings.

## SNAPSHOT:

### Josh Andler, CPA

**The job:** Senior director of finance at Jane App.

**Why he's passionate about the company:** "We've built a product our customers genuinely love while growing sustainably. We never spend more than we earn, and we're not oriented around maximizing revenue. Instead, we're dedicated to helping allied health-care practitioners run their clinics better so they can focus on what they love doing the most, which is caring for their patients. This naturally leads to growth."

**Best thing about the job:** "As an accountant in tech, I get to wear so many different hats and serve as a strategic partner."

**Making sure every voice counts:** "We currently have two CPA students at Jane, and we make sure to ask for their input when making decisions—big or small. We focus on ensuring that everyone understands the *why* behind every decision. I really think that helps empower mentorship and development, and it builds cohesion in the team."

**Advice for aspiring CPAs:** "Accounting knowledge is just a stepping stone to being a good professional. It's equally important to stay curious and to adapt, especially in a field where no two days look the same."

Learn more about Josh at [bccpa.ca/newsroom](https://bccpa.ca/newsroom).



# CPABC Member Recognition Program

CPABC is proud to recognize its leaders, volunteers, and educators.

**DO YOU KNOW AN OUTSTANDING CPA?**  
Nominate them for a Member Recognition Award.

EACH YEAR, AWARDS ARE GRANTED IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

## FELLOWSHIP DESIGNATION

Recognizes members who have earned distinction and brought honour to the profession by meeting at least two of the following criteria: exceptional service to the profession, extraordinary career achievements, and/or exemplary contributions to the community.

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Celebrates members who actively share their time and skills as exceptional and dedicated volunteers making outstanding and impactful contributions either to the CPA profession or to one or more not-for-profit or charitable organizations.

## EARLY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Celebrates members early in their CPA career who are seen as role models, bring honour to the profession and have distinguished themselves in one or more of the following: professional achievement, leadership, visibility of the profession, or community service.

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Recognizes the extraordinary leadership, dedication, and achievements of members who have received their Fellowship and continue to make significant contributions in a broad range of areas.

## NOMINATION DEADLINE

4:00 p.m. | Monday, September 14, 2026



Submit your nomination today!

**VISIT** [bccpa.ca/members/recognition-program](http://bccpa.ca/members/recognition-program)

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