

Celebrating Achievement

2016 Honourees

- Early Achievement Award
- Distinguished Service Award
for Service to the Profession
- Distinguished Service Award
for Community Service
- CPABC Fellows
- Lifetime Achievement Award



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Congratulations!



Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios

As CPABC's board chair for 2016/2017, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the 18 individuals whose remarkable achievements are profiled in this fourth installment of CPABC's *Member Recognition Supplement*. This year, we celebrate two Early Achievement Award recipients, three recipients of the Distinguished Service Award for Service to the Profession, four recipients of the Distinguished Service Award for Community Service, eight FCPAs, and one Lifetime Achievement Award recipient.

The honourees of CPABC's member recognition program have brought tremendous distinction to the accounting profession. They have demonstrated excellence, dedication, and innovation. As leaders, they have both navigated and affected change, making outstanding contributions to their profession and in their communities.

Once again, my congratulations to each of the honourees.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David B. Hallinan, FCPA, FCMA, CPABC Board Chair

EARLY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The CPABC Early Achievement Award celebrates members who distinguish themselves early in their CPA careers through professional achievement and volunteer service, with an emphasis on professional accomplishments.

CPABC Early Achievement Award



Photo by Antonio La Fauci

Regan McGrath, CPA, CA

Regan obtained her CA designation in 2013. She is the founder and CEO of Metrics Chartered Professional Accounting in Victoria and previously worked as an accountant at KPMG LLP and McAvoy Rule & Company.

Metrics is a cloud-based accounting firm with over 400 clients across Canada. The company offers both financial technology advisory, integration, implementation and training services as well as traditional compliance and financial reporting services. Metrics experienced year-over-year growth of over 500% from 2014 to 2015, and grew 35% in 2016.

Regan's forward-thinking approach is raising the profile of the profession in the tech sector and highlighting CPAs as fintech leaders. In 2015, Metrics became the first firm in Western Canada able to train CPA students in the pre-approved program route with no assurance hours, called the Compilation, Tax and Advisory path. Her firm also offers educational seminars and workshops for CPABC, and businesses in Victoria, Vancouver, and Toronto.

In recognition of her significant achievements in business, Regan received the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce's Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2016.

Regan has also volunteered her time to numerous organizations in her community, including the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce, YMCA/YWCA of Vancouver Island, Dance Victoria, Victoria International Cycling Festival, and Victoria Children's Choir. She is a former co-chair of the Chamber of Commerce's Sustainable Futures Committee and adviser to the Capital Regional District's GreenStart Business Program.

CPABC Early Achievement Award



Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios

Jeremy Pierce, CPA, CA

Jeremy obtained his CA designation in 2009. As managing partner with Vohora LLP in Vancouver, he has played an instrumental role in growing his firm's revenue through acquisitions, referrals from clients and associates, and his dedication to client service excellence.

He was promoted to partner at Vohora (a member of the Allriott Group, a global accounting network) in 2010, at the age of 24. He quickly took on a high level of responsibility in the firm, including serving his own book of clients and providing tax and assurance advice and general business services to the firm's clients. He also assumed most of the firm's Vancouver-based clients

following a partnership acquisition in 2010, and has assisted with the firm's growth in the Lower Mainland.

Jeremy has contributed to the profession in a number of roles, including as a member of the CPABC Standards and Exposure Draft Committee. As a member of the Allriott Group's Managing Partner Forum and North American Advisory Council, he is a valuable source of information regarding Canadian tax compliance matters and cross-border tax.

Since 2015, he has also given his time to the College of Veterinarians of BC as a member of its council, where he shares his leadership skills, financial perspective, and insights.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

The CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Service to the Profession recognizes members' dedication, commitment, and outstanding volunteer contributions to the CPA profession, primarily through service on committees, chapters, and task forces.



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CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Service to the Profession



Photo courtesy of BC Dairy Association

Paul Hargreaves, CPA, CMA

Paul is the general manager of the BC Dairy Association and is an active volunteer with the Accounting Standards Board (AcSB), an independent body with the authority to develop and establish accounting standards for use by all Canadian entities outside of the public sector.

Since 2010 he has volunteered hundreds of hours each year to improve accounting and financial reporting standards in Canada. Paul has participated in numerous consultations and educational presentations as part of the AcSB/Public Sector Accounting Board Joint Not-for-Profit Task Force.

In 2014, Paul was appointed as a member of the AcSB. He continues to serve as a member, and also chairs the AcSB's Not-for-Profit Advisory Committee.

His background in agriculture and his work with the BC Dairy Association enabled Paul to make valuable contributions to the 14 roundtables held across Canada in 2016 for an AcSB discussion paper on agriculture.

In addition to contributing to the profession, he shares his professional skills and expertise with his community. Paul has been an active volunteer with organizations that provide community recreation, youth outreach, and childcare programs, including the Parkgate Community Services Society.

CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Service to the Profession



Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios

Derek Johnson, CPA, CMA

Derek is a senior strategy manager with TELUS Communications and a dedicated contributor to the CPA profession. A natural leader and team player, he is always willing to share his time and experience to help the CPA community evolve and grow.

From 2011 to 2014, Derek made a number of important contributions to his legacy CMABC chapter, including establishing the chapter's online presence, arranging sponsorships, and increasing attendance at events.

He went on to become the first chair of CPABC's Vancouver Chapter. He played a key role in uniting three legacy chapters and helped establish a new

chapter format and mandate. In 2015, Derek also established his chapter's Community Outreach Committee, which connects CPA members with other local not-for-profit organizations.

Derek plays a leadership role in planning chapter events. During the chapter's first 18 months of operation, it hosted a total of 37 professional development and social/community outreach events, for which over 3,000 members registered. Currently, Derek is a director of his chapter's social networking initiatives, and also serves on CPABC's Membership Committee.

In addition to his service to the profession, he has volunteered as a facilitator with JA British Columbia, a not-for-profit organization that educates young people about business, and is treasurer of his strata council.

CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Service to the Profession



Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios

Geraldine Lai, CPA, CA, CGA

Geraldine is the principal with Geraldine J. Lai, Chartered Professional Accountant. After working for mid-size and international accounting firms, she became a sole practitioner in 2014.

Geraldine is known as a mentor and leader in the profession through her work with CPABC's Burnaby/New Westminster Chapter. Since joining the chapter in 2014, she has generously devoted her time to the profession. As chapter chair she has contributed to strategic planning and organizational initiatives, helping the chapter grow through expanding its volunteer pool and increasing member engagement.

Geraldine encourages chapter members

to bring forward their talents and ideas, and facilitates the introduction of new activities and courses that are of interest to chapter members.

Since 2015, she has raised awareness of CPABC's Sole Practitioners' Forum in Burnaby by promoting it during chapter events and encouraging practitioners to participate.

In her community, Geraldine has served as a volunteer leader with the OtherHalf Chinese Stem Cell Initiative, a charity that works to increase stem cell donors. She has also used her expertise in financial management, tax, and regulation issues to advise the board of Pacific Grace MB Church, and has played a major role in establishing and improving the church's accounting, budgeting, and human resources practices.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

The CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Community Service highlights the remarkable commitment and dedication of CPAs to a social cause, and/or their unstinting support to one or more not-for-profit or charitable organizations.



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CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Community Service



Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios

Gordon Holley, CPA, CA

Gordon is the president and CEO of Humanity Financial Management Inc., a CPA firm in West Vancouver that serves charities and not-for-profit organizations. Over the past several years, he has volunteered thousands of hours to share his knowledge and provide leadership to many organizations in his community.

Gordon is vice-chair of the West Vancouver Community Foundation, which supports charities, community projects, and scholarships in West Vancouver. His contributions include implementing an annual operations planning process and chairing the fund development committee.

He is also active in West Vancouver's business community. He was one of the founding directors of the Ambleside & Dundarave Business Improvement Association (ADBIA). Gordon liaised with the District of West Vancouver and business owners to gain support for the new entity and acted as the ADBIA's spokesperson.

Gordon shares his leadership skills to strengthen other non-profits. As a director and treasurer with Vantage Point, a charitable organization that provides learning opportunities to non-profit leaders, his contributions include developing and facilitating financial governance workshops for over 200 non-profit directors and executives.

He is also a past president of the Institute of Professional Bookkeepers of Canada. His leadership helped the institute start its annual bookkeeping conference, grow the organization's membership, and start a signature training program on value pricing.

CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Community Service



Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios

Jeff Morgan, CPA, CA

Jeff is the president of Terrapin Mortgage Investment Corp. in Vancouver. He is also board chair of Prostate Cancer Foundation BC, which provides leadership and resources for prostate cancer support, education, and research in the province.

He has been active with Prostate Cancer Foundation BC since 2008, and has served as fundraising chair and vice-chair. He is the first chair to not have prostate cancer; he made the decision to volunteer his time to the foundation out of compassion for those with the disease.

Jeff is passionate about increasing awareness of prostate cancer and has spoken frequently on the topic. He's also

an enthusiastic participant in the foundation's major annual fundraising event, the Raymond James Father's Day Walk/Run. In addition to running in the event and helping with event logistics, Jeff promotes the event to CPABC chapter members across BC, raising awareness and encouraging members to donate to the foundation and to speak with their doctors about early detection of prostate cancer.

Among his numerous achievements with the organization, Jeff initiated the foundation's endowment fund, which ensures sufficient funds are raised and set aside on a yearly basis to guarantee the continuation of the foundation's activities. He has also successfully worked to improve and expand the foundation's fundraising.

CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Community Service



Photo by Jeff Andrews Photography

Ann Senae, CPA, CGA

Ann is a sole practitioner with A.H. Senae Inc. in Mission, and is a long-time contributor to the community. For over 20 years, she has devoted herself to helping women succeed in both their professional and personal lives. Ann has also volunteered her professional accounting services and financial advice to local community groups.

She is a founding member of Abbotsford's Business & Professional Women's Club, which has provided support to women in the realization of their projects and activities since 1996. Through its award program, the club recognizes women who are role models.

As a local business leader, Ann has served on a number of Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce committees and served for four years on the District of Mission's Economic Development Committee.

She gives back to her community in other ways, too. From 1988 to 1994, Ann was director and treasurer of the Women's Resource Society of the Fraser Valley, which oversees transition houses for women and children. She has also been treasurer for the Mission District Historical Society for over 20 years.

Ann has received numerous awards in recognition of her community service, including a 2011 Woman of the Year Award from Mission's Business & Professional Women's Club and a 2013 Path and Pathfinders: Women of Mission Award from the Mission Community Archives.

CPABC Distinguished Service Award for Community Service



Photo by RDC Photography

Sean Wandler, CPA, CA

Sean is a partner with Daley & Company LLP in Kamloops. For over 15 years, he has served in a variety of roles with the Kamloops Minor Baseball Association (KMBA).

The KMBA's mission is to instill the ideals of honesty, loyalty, courage, and sportsmanship through baseball. Sean models these attributes in his work with the association and in the community. During his 15 years of service as a KMBA board director, Sean has used his professional experience as a CPA to assist the board in policy development and organizational growth.

Notably, his vision and leadership helped the KMBA succeed in building

the Sussex Insurance Centre, a 5,000-square-foot indoor baseball training facility. Sean was involved in land use agreements, fundraising, and overseeing the construction of the facility, which now sees approximately 300 weekly users and spectators.

Sean is known for his passion for baseball and player development. He has been head coach of the Midget RiverDogs baseball team since 2000, leading the team to the Western Canada Championship in 2002 and 2007, and to victories at the provincials in 2007 and 2011. In 2015, he received a Coach of the Year Award from the BC Baseball Association. A number of his players have graduated to play on the Canadian Junior National Team and have been selected in the Major League Baseball draft.

CPABC FELLOWSHIP

The title of Fellow formally recognizes CPAs who have rendered exceptional services to the profession, and whose achievements in their careers and/or contributions in the community have earned them distinction and brought honour to the profession.



Photo by Heydemann Art of Photography

Christopher Burnley, FCPA, FCA

Christopher is a professor at Vancouver Island University (VIU) in Nanaimo. He began his career at VIU (then Malaspina University-College) as a sessional instructor in 1998 and has been a professor there since 2000.

Prior to his work in post-secondary education, Christopher was an auditor in the Office of the Auditor General of Canada from 1988 to 1995, and he served as an audit manager at Bestwick & Partners from 1995 to 2000. He received his CA designation in 1991.

Christopher is the author of the accounting textbook *Understanding Financial Accounting*, and co-author of *Financial Accounting: Tools for Business*

Decision-Making. He is an award-winning teacher and is regarded as an excellent mentor. As an educator, he has a deep commitment to student learning. He has taught with VIU's international partners in Europe, Asia, and the South Pacific. In recognition of his accomplishments, he has received awards from the Canadian Academic Accounting Association for case authoring and innovation in accounting education, as well as numerous grants in support of his academic work.

Dedicated to supporting the future generation of CPAs, he actively volunteers his time to the profession. He was appointed as the inaugural chair of the Chartered Professional Accountants' Education Foundation of BC (CPAEF) in 2015. From 2011 to 2015, he served on the board of governors of the CPAEF's predecessor organization, the CA Education Foundation of BC, and was chair of the Accounting Educators' Symposium Planning Committee in 2015. He has been an educator with the CPA Western School of Business and its predecessor, the CA School of Business, since 2009.

As a volunteer in the community, Christopher has served on VIU's board of governors since 2012, and donated a portion of the royalties from his first textbook to support VIU's International Refugee Scholarship Fund. He received the Institute of Chartered Accountants of BC's Ritchie W. McCloy Award for volunteerism in 2007.



Photo by Tyler Meade Photography

Norman Daley, FCPA, FCA

Norman is the managing partner at Daley & Company LLP in Kamloops, a role he has held since 2009. Previously, he served as partner at Becker Daley LLP from 1998 to 2005, and as managing partner from 2005 to 2008. He obtained his CA designation in 1989.

Daley & Company is one of the largest independent accounting and business advisory firms in Kamloops, employing a team of 40 professionals. Under Norman's leadership, the firm received the Kamloops Chamber of Commerce's Community Service Award in 2013 for an estimated 2,500-plus hours of volunteer service. In 2014, Norman was honoured with the chamber's Business

Person of the Year Award in recognition of his history of business excellence and for being a leader in the business community.

His other contributions to the Kamloops community include founding the Strauss Canada Cup of Curling in 2003, an event he chaired for six years and for which he was recognized with the City of Kamloops' Pioneer Spirit Award. In 2014, he chaired Curling Canada's Canadian Men's Curling Championship, engaging over 500 event volunteers. In 2016, he co-chaired the International Ice Hockey Federation's Women's World Hockey Championship and was instrumental in bringing the event to Kamloops, acting as a key liaison with the city, and helping oversee 475 event volunteers.

Norman has provided ongoing service to the accounting profession for over 27 years. His contributions include serving on the Institute of Chartered Accountants of BC's Practice Review and Licensing Committee and BC Presidential Nominating Committee, as well as the CA School of Business Small Firm Liaison Committee. In recognition of his volunteer service, Norman received the ICABC Community Service Award in 2006.



Photo by Bobbi Carpino Photography

J. Alain (Al) LeFebvre, FCPA, FCA

Al is office managing partner at KPMG LLP's Prince George office. He is widely recognized for his expertise on technical audit issues and professional standards.

He began his career as deputy treasurer with the City of Prince George, a position he held from 1983 to 1990. From 1990 to 1995, he served as director of finance at the University of Northern British Columbia, a university he was instrumental in helping to establish. In 1995, he became a founding partner of Chan Foucher LeFebvre LLP, which joined KPMG in 2012. He obtained his CA designation in 1982.

Al has made valuable contributions to the profession over the years. From 1985

to 1986, he served as president of the Prince George CA Club, facilitating professional development and networking opportunities for local CAs. He was a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of BC's Practice Review and Licensing Committee from 2011 to 2015. As part of this committee, he contributed to the task force responsible for harmonizing and implementing the standards of different provincial CA institutes for practice review.

He has also given back to his community of Prince George. Al is a 25-year member of the Prince George Nechako Rotary Club and has served as a volunteer, committee member, treasurer, and president. He has been on the board of the Prince George Community Foundation since 2012.

From 2004 to 2012, Al served on the board of the Prince George Association for Community Living in the positions of director, treasurer, and president. From 2007 to 2013, he served as treasurer with Inclusion BC, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the participation of people with developmental disabilities in all aspects of community life. Al continues to serve with the Inclusion BC Foundation. He has also volunteered with the Special Olympics, the Spirit of the North Healthcare Foundation, and the BC Cancer Foundation.



Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios

Bruce Morris, FCPA, FCA

Bruce is president of Trail Bay Properties Ltd. in Sechelt, and he also provides client services at Rolfe, Benson LLP in Vancouver.

He began his career at Ernst & Whinney in 1977, working with the firm until 1985. Bruce obtained his CA designation in 1979, and was an instructor of financial accounting with Fraser Valley College from 1983 to 1984. He subsequently held the role of chief financial officer with Trail Bay Properties Ltd., his family-owned business, from 1985 to 2005, when he assumed his current role as the company's president.

Bruce has shown a dedication to accounting education and peer mentorship throughout his career, beginning with his work as a training instructor with Ernst & Whinney UK. With Ernst & Whinney Canada, he developed training programs for the firm. Today, Bruce acts as a mentor to Rolfe, Benson's students on topics including accounting, taxation, and public practice.

He has offered his skills to serve his community in many roles. From 1971 to 2004, he volunteered with Scouts Canada, acting as leader, commissioner, and trainer. His contributions were recognized with awards for leadership and exemplary service.

From 2013 to 2014, Bruce was a member of the District of Sechelt Finance Advisory Committee. He has been a director and treasurer of the Sunshine Coast Community Foundation. In 2014, Bruce worked with the Sunshine Coast Homelessness Advisory Committee on establishing a homeless shelter in Sechelt. Bruce and his family offered to donate land for the shelter, and while the site was eventually determined not to be suitable, his commitment to his community was appreciated by many.

In 1995, Bruce was ordained as a Deacon in the Anglican Church. Since 2015, he has provided leadership and guidance on administration, finance, and human resources activities as archdeacon with the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster.



Photo by Kent Kallberg Studios

Shane Onufrechuk, FCPA, FCA

Shane is a partner in tax services at KPMG LLP in Vancouver and a leader in the forestry and public-private partnership (P3) sectors.

Shane joined Sheinin & Company in 1996, and obtained his CA designation the following year. He was a partner from 2004 until 2008 when he joined Davis LLP – the predecessor firm to DLA Piper (Canada) LLP – as senior tax advisor. At Davis, he developed an internal tax education program to help the firm provide enhanced expertise to P3 and other clients. He joined KPMG in 2013.

He has been a speaker, instructor, and author with a number of organizations,

including the CA School of Business, CPA Canada, the Canadian Tax Foundation, UBC, and Thomson Reuters. Since 2014, he has also served on KPMG's Senior Management Development Committee, where he helps to develop the next generation of tax professionals and selects those ready for partnership.

Shane makes numerous contributions to the profession. He is chair of the CPABC Professional Development Tax Advisory Group and was both a member and chair of its predecessor body, the ICABC Professional Development Taxation Advisory Group. In addition, Shane is chair of CPABC's Taxation Forum and was chair of its predecessor forum, the ICABC Taxation Forum. He also served as vice-chair of the CPA Education Foundation from 2014 to 2015.

In 2012, he received the ICABC's Ritchie W. McCloy Award for his contributions to the accounting profession, and in 2014, he received KPMG's Community Leader Award, which celebrates the volunteer efforts of those who have made an outstanding impact in their community.

He is also active outside his profession. He served as a director with the Human Dignity Initiative, a charity that raised funds to provide solar lighting to communities that lack infrastructure. He is currently a director with the Vancouver Arts in Our Hearts Society, a non-profit organization that brings performances by international and local artists to Vancouver's inner-city schools.



Photo by Peter Wong

Walter Pela, FCPA, FCA

Walter is KPMG LLP's regional managing partner for the Greater Vancouver Area (GVA), leading the region's largest professional practice. He also provides tax and business advice to a variety of public and private multinational, real estate, private equity, and investment fund clients.

Walter has been with KPMG since 1993, obtained his CA designation in 1996, and became a tax partner in 2002. From 2007 to 2016 he served as partner-in-charge of tax services in the GVA, where he oversaw tremendous growth of KPMG's tax practice. He was also a member of KPMG's National Tax Operating Committee, developing and implementing

firm strategy across Canada. Walter attributes his success to his many mentors at KPMG and takes pride when his own mentees now achieve career milestones at the firm.

Walter is recognized as one of Canada's pre-eminent real estate tax experts, particularly in the area of real estate investment trusts (REITs). His leadership in the field includes having assisted industry associations and the Department of Finance develop and improve REIT exemptions to Canada's new income trust rules, ensuring the rules would be applied to industry in a fair and practical manner.

Walter has been active in the tax community throughout his career. Since 2002, he has been involved with the Canadian Tax Foundation (CTF) as an author, speaker, and tax conference program committee member. From 2009 to 2012, he served as a governor of the CTF and subsequently as a member of the CTF's executive committee. Walter also served as presenter and author for Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA) tax courses, and as a member of a subcommittee to the CICA's Tax Policy Committee. International Tax Review's *World Tax Report* listed Walter as a leading practitioner in Canada in both 2010 and 2012.

Walter also invests time in the broader community, including serving UNICEF Canada from 2009 to 2015 as both a board director and as chair of the Audit and Finance Committee.



Photo courtesy of KPMG

J. Peter Ranson, FCPA, FCA

Peter served as tax partner and national leader of the aboriginal client services practice at KPMG LLP. He began his career with KPMG and its predecessor firms in 1985, the same year he received his CA designation. He became a partner in 1994 and was the office managing partner at the firm's Kelowna office from 2010 until his retirement in 2016.

He is a recognized subject matter expert on First Nations taxation services. Early in his career, he assisted First Nations clients with navigating changes in tax law, established himself as a leader in this area, and developed a unique practice niche.

His contributions to the profession include serving as an ad hoc member of

the ICABC's Practitioners' Emergency Assistance Committee from 2010 to 2014. He also tutored individuals taking the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants' In-depth Tax Course, presented papers to the Canadian Tax Foundation with respect to First Nations taxation matters, and authored the KPMG text *First Nations and Canadian Taxation*.

Throughout his career, Peter served as a lecturer, instructor, facilitator, and panelist on matters of First Nations finance, including negotiating business ventures, tax structures for specific land claims, and developing business governance models. His contributions include lecturing to the Native Investment and Trade Association, Pacific Business and Law Institute, Affinity Institute, the aboriginal sections of the Canadian Bar Association and the Alberta Bar Association, and serving on committees and fulfilling speaking engagements with the Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of BC from 1993 to 2016.

Peter continues to give back to his community. He is a former board member for Ozanam House, a transition home for adult men, and was a director of the Okanagan Symphony Orchestra. He is also a founding member of STEP Okanagan, an organization that helps families plan their assets.

Since 2016, he has participated in the Martin Family Initiative (MFI), which seeks to improve education outcomes for aboriginal Canadians. Peter will assume the role of MFI regional coordinator in 2017.



Photo by John Yanyshyn

Valla Tinney, FCPA, FCGA

Valla started her accounting career as a staff accountant with Hutcheson & Co, and obtained her CGA designation in 1991. She is currently the director of finance for the District of Saanich. She has held a variety of progressive roles in the public sector, including accounting supervisor and deputy director of finance with the Township of Esquimalt, and director of corporate services for the towns of View Royal and Sidney. Under her leadership, Saanich has received awards from the Government Finance Officers Association of the US and Canada for financial reporting and budgeting presentation.

Valla is passionate about giving back to her profession. She has volunteered as a presenter with the Government Finance Officers Association of BC (GFOABC) and as an instructor with the Municipal Administration Training Institute since 2005. She has served the GFOABC as president (2010-2012), director (2005-2013), and instructor (2009-present). Valla also participated on the steering group for the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' *Comment on Fiscal Management in British Columbia's Municipalities*. In 2015, she received GFOABC's Outstanding Contribution Award for her dedication to the education of local government financial professionals.

One of Camosun College's first Business Administration Co-op Program graduates, Valla has supported the program by serving as co-op employer and mentor. As a mentor, she educates accounting students on the benefits of the profession and inspires them to pursue a professional accounting designation. She continues to actively promote careers in local government finance to new CPAs to ensure communities receive strong financial leadership well into the future.

An active volunteer in her community, Valla has contributed in a variety of roles including as team captain for the Easter Seals 24 Hour Relay, treasurer of the Victoria Jazz Society, and fundraiser for Cops for Cancer. She is currently a member of the advisory board to the Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes the exceptional dedication, commitment, and extraordinary contributions of those members who have received their Fellowship and since then have continued to attain significant achievements in a broad range of areas.



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CPABC Lifetime Achievement Award



Photo courtesy of CPA Canada

Robert (Bob) Strachan, FCPA, FCMA, C.Dir

Bob is principal of Bob Strachan & Associates. Before founding his firm in 2013, he held a number of management positions as an accountant with the Capital Regional District (CRD) from 1986 to 2013. Previously, he held roles with the Vancouver Island Health Authority and the Province of BC. Bob obtained his CMA and Fellowship designations in 1995 and 2004, respectively.

While at the CRD, Bob was a lead in the implementation of a new enterprise risk management program, enterprise information system, and corporate asset management program. Under his leadership, the CRD received numerous awards from the Government Finance

Officers Association (GFOA) for excellence in financial reporting.

He is highly regarded for his contributions to the accounting profession, and played a pivotal role in the unification of Canada's profession. He led the CMA Canada board through merger discussions and developed unification strategies. In 2012, he was co-chair of the National Steering Committee that helped to develop the CPA Collaboration Accord and oversaw the formation of CPA Canada. Bob went on to serve as vice-chair and chair of the CPA Canada board. Bob worked with CPA boards in every province to ensure that unification of the profession was fully integrated within the national and provincial partnership.

In addition, Bob served on the CMABC board, including as chair (2001-2003), and on the CMA Canada board, including as chair (2009-2011). He is the former chair of CPA Canada's Nominating and Governance Committee, and chaired CPA Canada's President and CEO Search Committee. Today, Bob is a member of CPA Canada's Corporate Oversight and Governance Board and the Chartered Professional Accountants' Education Foundation of BC.

Bob has generously shared his expertise with other organizations, including by serving on the boards of the Financial Management Institute of Canada (Victoria Chapter) and Camosun College Foundation (chair), as well as with Royal Roads University's Master of Arts in Leadership program and the Province of BC's Accounting Policy Advisory Committee.

He also makes time to volunteer. Bob has served as a director of Leadership Victoria, and coached and served in executive positions with amateur sports organizations.



