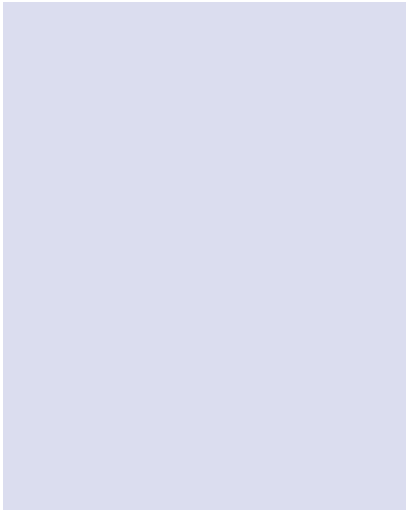


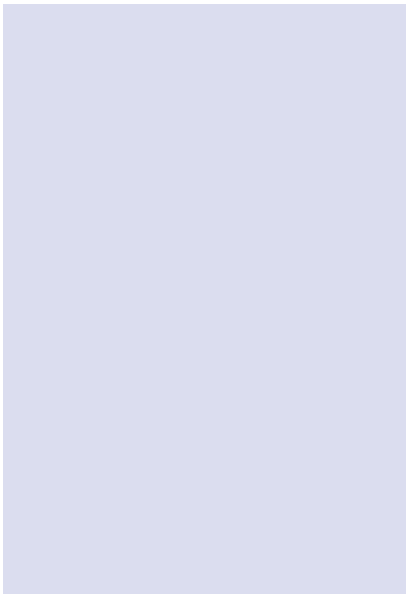


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## District Chair's Message

It has been a very exciting opportunity to serve as the Chair of the CMA Eastern Ontario District (EOD) Committee this year. We have been fortunate enough to have had outstanding Professional Development (PD) keynote speakers and have developed numerous opportunities to work with the CMA Outaouais Chapter in bringing our members together and to build on our already strong relationship. This year we also very successfully employed a new sponsorship model that gave us the opportunity to offer district members impelling new ways to develop networks, improve skills and to have some fun in quality settings while also providing great value to our sponsors.

Based on the feedback provided in last years' survey we coordinated an equal number of networking, technical and informal learning events to cater to the needs of members at all stages in their career. Further, we have also focused on coordinating shorter events and more breakfast events – your comments and suggestions have been very helpful in planning for this year so thank you very much for your feedback!

We kicked off the PD season with James Ralston, Comptroller General of Canada, discussing Internal Controls in the Federal Government. In November, Stephen Priddle of Practical PD shared tips that all CMAs can apply in the workplace, and entertained us with some very funny anecdotes in the process. December brought the year's marquee event – the Wine and Welcome at the newly renovated Museum of Nature (see Event Highlight on page 2 and 3). January saw another favourite in our Annual Tax Update with our resident tax expert, Jack Bowerman. In March, the focus was on social media and marketing, as Tim Redpath of Train of Thoughts shared his insights into how CMAs can best leverage their brand to effectively market themselves. April's event on Cost Accounting in the Federal Government with Kevin Page was postponed until the new year due to the Elections – not to worry; Mr. Page has agreed to address the topic next year! In our final technical event of the year, Mr. Victor Duret and Mr. Marc-André Audette discussed the increasing importance of Protecting yourself from Fraud from both the Public and Private sectors points of view.

### Eastern Ontario District Committee Members

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Pierce Commerford, CMA – <i>Chair</i></li> <li>▣ Robert Venczel, CMA – <i>Vice Chair</i></li> <li>▣ Rebecca St.Pierre, CMA – <i>Secretary</i></li> <li>▣ Richard MacNeill, CMA</li> <li>▣ Sue Scoobie, CMA</li> <li>▣ Ian Raskin, CMA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▣ Matthew Hartney, CMA</li> <li>▣ Phil Gravel, CMA</li> <li>▣ Andrew James, CMA</li> <li>▣ Rod MacPherson, CMA</li> <li>▣ Philip Hamill, CMA</li> </ul>
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# Event Highlight 1: Annual Wine and Welcome Event

In December, the Wine and Welcome event was back in full force after a one-year break. This event provided us a special opportunity to congratulate recent CMA grads, and to hear some reflections by Bruce Manion, a faculty member at the Canada School of Public Service. This event also helped us get into the festive spirit as it kicked off the Christmas season at the newly renovated Museum of Nature. The venue was stellar and it was a pleasure to be one of the first groups coordinating an event in this locale

after it's multi-year renovation project had finally been completed.

Many of the EOD Committee members were in attendance, as was Jim Dimovski, Manager of the CMA Member Network. The event was also advertised with the CMA Outaouais chapter, and saw a number of attendees from the other side of the Ottawa river who are always a welcome addition to our events. It was a great opportunity to network with CMA members in a beautiful, yet relaxed setting.

Groovy Grapes provided some excellent wine choices for the evening and gave an interesting demonstration on food pairings. All attendees seemed to be enjoying themselves as there was a steady hum of chatter once the presentations were complete.

If you weren't able to attend this successful and enjoyable event this year not to worry – this event will be back next year, and will only get better as we take into account the excellent feedback received!



Keynote speaker, Mr Bruce Manion, FCMA, CMA and Mr. Pierce Commerford, CMA (EOD Chair – 2010/2011) at the Annual Wine and Welcome event held at the Museum of Nature

## Event Highlight 2: Annual Dragon Boat Festival

After some encouragement from CMA Outaouais we decided to enter a team for the Annual Dragon Boat Festival (June 17-19) for the first time. This year's event included around 5500 paddlers from all over North America and given the great weather we were fortunate enough to have and the constant flow of visitors the expected 70 000 spectators was exceeded! Our team really came

together well and surprised everyone (even ourselves!) by posting a Day 1 race time that was good enough to qualify us to progress through to Day 2 and the finals for our division.

This event was made even more exciting as we partnered with the Outaouais Chapter to fly the CMA Quebec and Ontario banners high one beside the other. We also offered

a BBQ to all CMAs and their families who came down to show support which really made it feel as though it was finally summer.

The objective of this event was to have fun and to end the year on a positive note – thanks to great attitudes and teamwork it was mission accomplished!



Dragon Boat Festival paddlers in front our site for the day – congratulations to all paddlers and supporters on what was one of the most enjoyable events I've attended

# Upcoming Events

## SUMMER FUN

Watch out for our annual golf tournament in August, which is a joint event held with CMA Outaouais at the Haute Plaine Golf Club.

## LOOKING FORWARD...

Events to watch for in 2011-2012 include:

- ▣ Economic Update
- ▣ Value for money
- ▣ Business Coaching
- ▣ Retaining Key Talent
- ▣ Dinner at Rideau Carleton Raceway

And don't forget about our annual events, the Wine Tasting and the Tax Update, which will be held in December and January!

## Your Feedback Is Appreciated!

Have an idea for an event, or a suggestion on how to improve an event you've attended? Please, share your feedback with us by contacting me at the email address provided above. Ultimately, the EOD Committee organizes events for you, so we are always pleased to hear about topics that are of interest or aspects of our events that can become better suited to EOD members.

Thanks to contributions from our generous sponsors (please see the list of Partners below) we were given the opportunity to include a summer networking event for the first time – we registered an EOD team for the Dragon Boat Festival (please see Event Highlight 2).

As mentioned, one of the highlights of the past year was that we were again able to coordinate events with the Outaouais District. This strategic partnership has provided us the opportunity to get to know some of our CMA colleagues from Quebec and to coordinate events of superior quality. Next year we will continue to work on strengthening this relationship with joint events and by advertising certain Outaouais events that may be of interest to you on the CMA Ontario website.

I strongly urge you to come out and join us for PD events - you will be surprised what you can learn from like minded professionals, many of whom are where you want your career to take you. Being a CMA is all about "creating (your own) possibilities".

The EOD Committee organizes professional development activities in the Ottawa Area. Interested in helping out? Please email Pierce Commerford (piercecommerford@hotmail.com), the Committee Chair, if you would like to be an event volunteer.

### Platinum Partners



### Gold Partners



### Silver Partners



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