

2022 CPA Manitoba

*Member Recognition
Spotlight*



Congratulations!



Congratulations to the Member Recognition Program award recipients named in 2022. This year, we are honoured to provide a posthumous Distinguished Service Award to Frank Chamarengah, CPA, CMA, who left an indelible mark in so many people's lives. A special acknowledgment to Leonard Hampson, FCPA, FCGA who received the Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of the profound contributions he has made to the accounting profession and community both locally and nationally.

The recipients are setting the bar for success and leading with integrity in everything they do. They create the strong foundation of our business community in Manitoba, dedicating their time and energy to their organizations, the profession and to many charitable and non-profit groups.

I want to extend my gratitude to all members who dedicate their time to volunteerism. You represent the profession in such a meaningful way and make a difference in our province.

The Member Recognition Program exists so that we can put the exceptional contributions of our members in the spotlight and showcase the great work we do as CPAs. By taking the time to nominate someone, you play an important role not only in the life of a future award recipient, but also in encouraging others to make a positive difference. I encourage you to nominate a member whose contributions should be recognized.

Congratulations to all,

Geeta Tucker, FCPA, FCMA
President & CEO of CPA Manitoba

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The CPA Manitoba Lifetime Achievement Award is bestowed to a CPA who has brought honour to the profession by sustained distinction in service to the profession, career or community.



CPA Manitoba Lifetime Achievement Award

LEONARD HAMPSON, FCPA, FCGA

If there's a cliché that an accountant is number-focused and prioritizes the bottom line above all else, then Len is the farthest from that.

After nearly five decades in the accounting profession, spanning industry, public accounting, government, and association management, Len has created a legacy to be proud of, capped by receiving the CPA Manitoba Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of his enduring commitment to the profession and contributions to the community.

The way Len sees it, this is the proverbial cherry on top of the career that he worked so hard to build.

"To receive this recognition is deeply meaningful to me - both in recognition of my contributions and in further recognition of the legacies of those honoured before me," says the founding father of the Certified General Accountants Association of Manitoba and its first Executive Director.

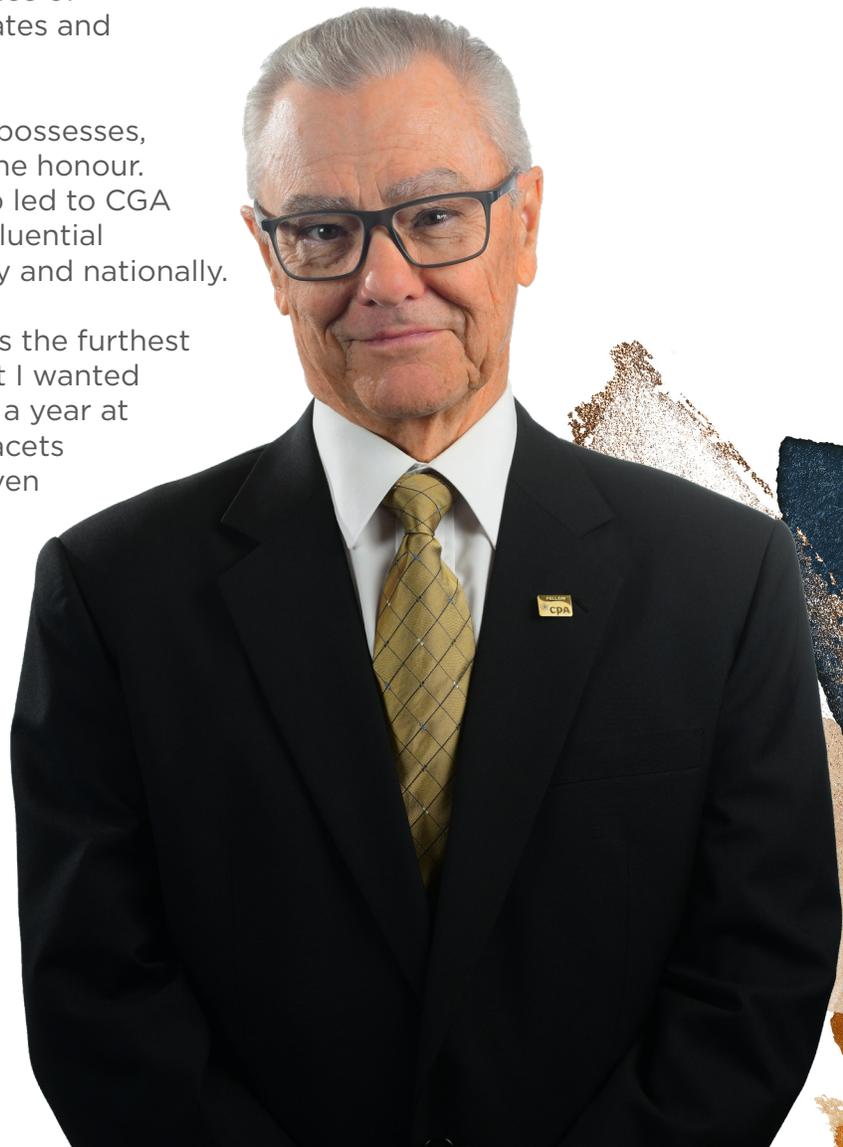
"As I reflect on my career, and the important role CGA Manitoba has played in it, I am most fortunate in my choice of profession and the talented colleagues, graduates and fellow accountants I have met along the way."

Looking at the body of work that Len humbly possesses, it's easy to see why his name was chosen for the honour. His integrity, passion and innovative leadership led to CGA Manitoba becoming a highly respected and influential professional accounting body, both provincially and nationally.

Back in high school, working with numbers was the furthest thing from his mind. "I had no real idea of what I wanted to do," he recalls, with a chuckle. "I worked for a year at Monarch Lumber, where I was exposed to all facets of the organization, mastered new skills and even finessed abilities that would later assist in my career. But I was still unsure of what I wanted to do so I took some aptitude tests."

Interestingly, the tests suggested that Len explore the fields of sales and social work, but not accounting.

"It was my brother-in-law, who was a chartered accountant, that encouraged me to take an accounting course. The rest, as they say, is history."



CPA Manitoba Lifetime Achievement Award

In 1970, Len earned his designation and was quickly recruited by Manitoba Finance to take a role in public service and after 15 years in government and public accounting, he accepted the position of Executive Director of CGA Manitoba.

It was at CGA Manitoba that Len discovered how much he enjoyed working at a place where the organization's goals were driven by a deeper purpose – something Len has long appreciated. Over the course of his tenure with the organization, Len not only led a vibrant association of CGAs, but he also grew and shaped the entire accounting profession to attract the brightest minds. From the very first member to the over 3,000 members and countless other students following the merger with CPA, Len is the foundation upon which many accountants rest.

“It’s about passion,” he says. Len retired from CGA Manitoba in 2008 to spend more time with his family and at their DIY off-grid lake side cottage, which he describes as one of the “bigger” accomplishments of his life. “You need to be passionate about the work you do, the members, vision – and most importantly, the team.”

“We used the term CGA family because we created such strong connections and bonds with those we worked with and served. The people [are] what make things work,” he explains, noting that it was the incredible volunteers, staff, members and graduates that inspired him each and every day. Under his leadership, CGA Manitoba achieved 11 consecutive years with the fastest growth in new member admissions, recorded 35 years of consecutive annual surpluses, and improved the profession’s regulatory responsibilities.

His greatest achievement, however, was in 2001, after he filed a formal complaint against the Ontario government under the Agreement in Internal Trade legislation.

“This was a standing issue that I saw from day one as Executive Director,” asserts Len. “This initiative challenged the status quo so that the barriers to mobility could be lifted, the playing field could be leveled, and members could practice the profession across the country.”

Although resolution to this issue was achieved three years after Len’s retirement, it was his steadfast commitment and contributions that monumentally changed the profession for accountants from coast to coast.

Aside from working with CGA Manitoba for 35 years— Len’s curriculum vitae is packed full of honours. In 1981 he received the CGA Canada’s Fellowship (FCGA) honour for exceptional contributions to the profession. In 2009 he received the Pinnacle Career Achievement Award from CGA Manitoba for outstanding career achievement and on the 100th Anniversary of CGA Canada, was named as one of “100 CGA’s in 100 Years Who Made a Difference”, for a professional career described by CGA Canada Magazine as “exceptional by any measure.” The list goes on.

For Len, it’s not just about the work. Outside of his position, he’s worked extensively in many rewarding volunteer positions.

“Volunteerism is second nature for me,” adds Len, who also earned the CPA Manitoba Meritorious Service Award in 2016. “I was that geek that was on student council and Treasurer of our fraternity. I tutored students, volunteered on the CGA Board of Directors and eventually served as President.

CPA Manitoba Lifetime Achievement Award

I was driven to lend my experience and skills to instill change and help others because I believe building relationships with the members in the community builds trust in the individual and, by extension, the profession.”

He has served on several boards in the public and private sectors, including the Manitoba Association for Continuing Education, Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Ducks Unlimited, Manitoba Chamber of Commerce, and the Canadian Society of Association Executives (CSAE), where he received the prestigious CASEY award for his contributions to CSAE and association management.

Noteworthy in Len’s volunteer efforts was his involvement with The Associates, where he helped encourage CGA Manitoba to establish a \$1 million commitment to funding Manitoba post-secondary education.

Despite his vast accomplishments within the profession, including his appointment to President of the international CGA Shared Services Facility Inc. and CGA Online Inc., which provided management information services to 7 Canadian provincial or territorial CGA bodies, 17 in the Caribbean as well as CGA members in China serving 10,000 members and students, Len says “more needs to be done to advance the field.”

“We need to do more to attract good people to the important work that we do,” he adds. “Accounting has grown over the decades but finding inspired and qualified people to fill the ranks is becoming a challenge. It is imperative that we show the value, impact, and opportunity that the profession holds.”

If there was one message Len could share for future CPAs, it’s this: “Trust and teamwork is fundamental. By prioritizing trust, you can build a diverse and inclusive team where everyone feels a sense of belonging and connection to the team. This is what success is truly about.”

FELLOW (FCPA) CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT

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



Fellow CPA (FCPA)

HELEN KASDORF, FCPA, FCA

Throughout her 30-year career, Helen has earned a reputation as a seasoned executive in financial analysis, acquisitions, risk management and audit. Since earning her designation in 1992, her exemplary leadership history includes a 25-year tenure with Canada Life (formerly Great-West Life), where she took on progressively senior positions, including Senior Vice-President and Chief Internal Auditor, Senior Vice-President Corporate Resources and retired as Senior Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer, Canada. She is currently the Chief Administration Officer, Bison USA at Bison Transport, where she is accountable for US back-office administration and execution of Bison's aggressive growth and integration strategy.

Helen has always valued the importance of helping others in their career development. During her time at Canada Life, Helen's professional leadership was instrumental in the development of the Canada Life CPA recruitment and training program which ensured that accounting professionals were presented with diverse career options within the organization. As a leader, she has dedicated her time and skills to help future generations and has participated in company-wide forums, covering numerous topics ranging from fraud risk management to auditing and control risks.

In her extensive community volunteer roles, Helen funnels her enthusiasm, passion, and energy to help create strong and resilient communities. Her long list of accomplishments includes sitting on the board and committees for Shock Trauma Air Rescue Service (STARS) (currently Co-Chair), Manitoba Blue Cross, Douglas Mennonite Church and Mennonite Church Canada. She also has extensive involvement with Angus McKay, Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute and most notably, Crosstown Civic Credit Union where she served on the board of directors for 18 years, the last six of which were as Vice-Chair. In her role as Vice-Chair, Helen and her fellow board members led the organization through a time of increasing relevance for credit unions in Manitoba and built a strong foundation for the future merger of the organization. In 2009, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Manitoba recognized Helen with its Community Service Award for her rooted dedication to volunteerism.



Fellow CPA (FCPA)

KEVIN KLIPPENSTEIN, FCPA, FCA

A practicing CPA for more than three decades, Kevin's leadership and professional integrity has helped define his career. As the Chief Financial Officer at Parrish & Heimbecker (P&H) Limited, Kevin has been instrumental in the growth and prosperity of the multi-generational privately owned agribusiness. During his 20 plus-year tenure with P&H, Kevin helped increase the company's footprint across Canada with the acquisition of a publicly traded milling company in 2008, a publicly traded grain handler in 2013, and more recently the acquisition of a global competitor's grain handling business in Western Canada. His mix of executive leadership, strategic vision and distinguished skill set were shaped by his early-career experiences with PricewaterhouseCoopers, Branigans, and Air Canada.

Recognized for his calm and measured approach, Kevin has shown his admiration and respect for the CPA designation and the value CPAs add to organizations. Under his leadership, Kevin helped propel the number of CPAs within P&H to include over 15 CPAs within finance across the country.

In addition to his notable career achievements, Kevin has been a valued community volunteer. Over the course of 30-plus years, Kevin has given his time to serve numerous organizations through board member roles, which include Manitoba Public Insurance, HEROS Hockey, St. Mary's Academy, ParticipACTION, the Children's Hospital Foundation of Manitoba, among others. Noteworthy in Kevin's volunteer efforts was his extensive leadership involvement with St. Alphonsus School, the Canadian Hemophilia Society - Manitoba Chapter and the Manitoba Club, where he served as Director and Club President. During his tenure, the Club underwent a full restoration and modernization, a complete turnover of the Club's management team and a significant change in the 147-year-old non-profit's culture.

Kevin's leadership as a volunteer has transformed organizations, brought new awareness of the benefits and potential of the profession, and is a testament to his drive to create a stronger sense of community and be a role model for future generations.



Fellow CPA (FCPA)

MICHEAL LINTON, FCPA, FCA

Known for his commitment to continuous learning, thoughtful leadership, and exceptional wit, Mike has played an influential role in the growth of The Dufresne Group (TDG). For over 25 years, Mike has served as Chief Financial Officer of the multi-brand, international retail operation, which has grown from two stores to more than 300 store fronts. During his tenure, Mike has helped scale TDG's business significantly, through green field growth, acquisitions, and strategic partnerships. Most notably, Mike was instrumental in developing strategies and managing negotiations with bankers, landlords and other stakeholders to ensure TDG not only survived but came out of the pandemic in a better and financially healthier position.

Driven to create opportunities for future generations, Mike has encouraged and mentored several aspiring professionals, including one of his own children, to earn their CPA designation, and witnessed numerous outstanding success stories on the wings of the foundations laid through the CPA program. He also served as an official marker of the UFE exams.

Mike's commitment as a professional extends beyond his work. His dedication, respect and involvement in his community speaks volumes of his personal values. His noteworthy achievements include launching TDG's United Way Program and facilitating the \$1-million charity challenge for their 25th anniversary. Many organizations have benefitted from his insight and guidance, including the Manitoba Museum and the Health Sciences Centre Foundation, where he transformed their investments and was a key driver of the \$75-million capital campaign. He also served as a Treasurer and board member for St. Paul's High School and as an Honorary Treasurer and board member for St. Charles Country Club. Mike assisted the Club in navigating the challenges faced during the pandemic and the important considerations to ensure financial security and transparency during a major renovation. For over 15 years, he also showcased his leadership skills as a hockey and soccer coach to a number of teams.



Fellow CPA (FCPA)

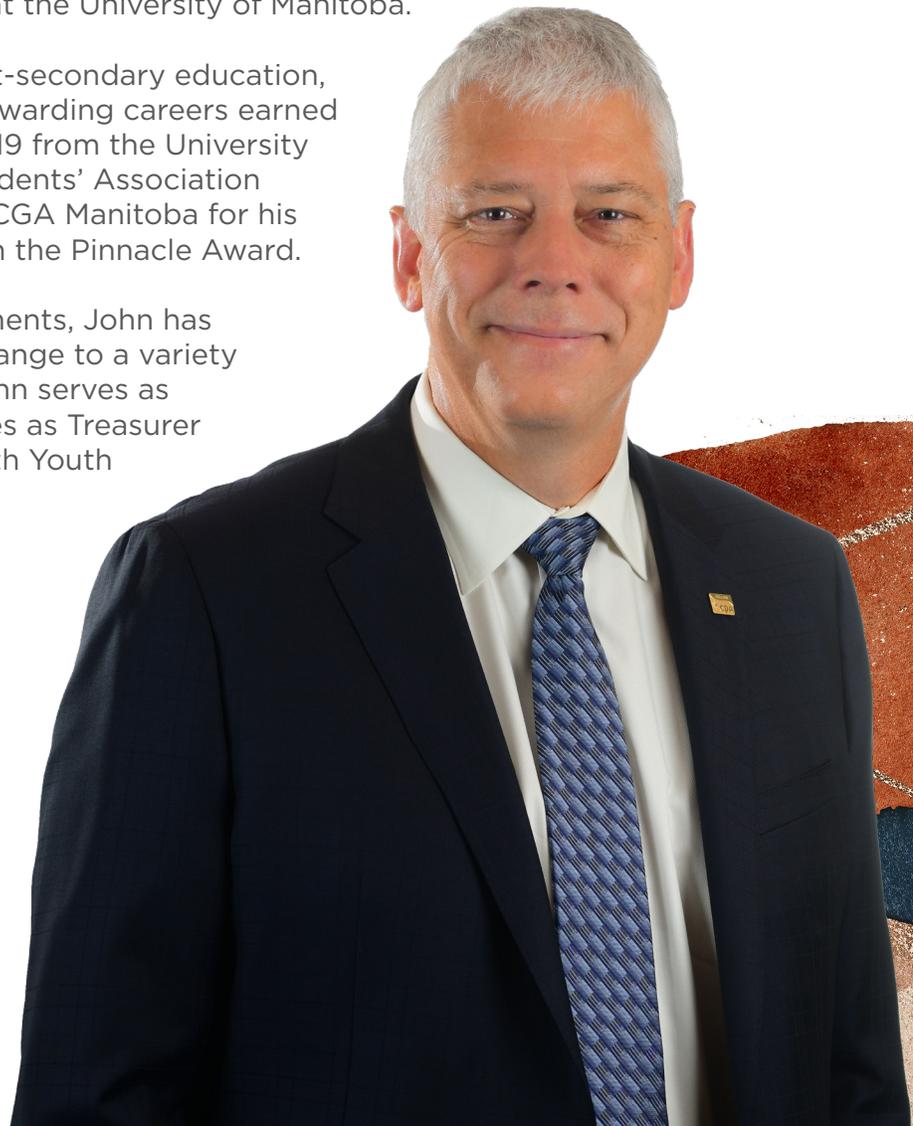
JOHN OLFERT, FCPA, FCGA

John's 20-year tenure with True North Sports + Entertainment (True North) has been a lesson in profound leadership. Since becoming Chief Financial Officer in 2002, he has held several prominent roles at True North including his current position as President and Chief Operating Officer. Over the course of his career with True North, John has played an integral role in the development and opening of Canada Life Centre in 2004, Bell MTS Iceplex in 2010, and the acquisition of the Winnipeg Jets NHL franchise in 2011. He was also at the forefront of the return of the Manitoba Moose AHL franchise and the acquisition of the Burton Cummings Theatre. More recently, under John's leadership, True North was able to successfully navigate through a retention and redeployment plan that ensured job security for employees during the global pandemic, which allowed True North to restart games, concerts and programming at its venues.

Through hard work, commitment and drive, John regularly shares his experiences and words of wisdom to young aspiring professionals, frequently promoting the CPA program as an exceptional foundation to a fulfilling and rewarding career. To that end, he has presented at numerous professional development events to raise the awareness and profile of the profession. His most recent engagements include the University of Winnipeg, the Financial Executives International, and the National Business School Conference at the University of Manitoba.

John's commitment to excellence and post-secondary education, and his assistance to students in finding rewarding careers earned him the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2019 from the University of Winnipeg's Business Administration Students' Association (BASA). In 2014, John was recognized by CGA Manitoba for his outstanding service to the association with the Pinnacle Award.

Outside of his exceptional career achievements, John has brought his passion for driving positive change to a variety of noteworthy organizations. Currently, John serves as Chairman of Emotion Media Inc., and serves as Treasurer on the boards of U SPORTS, and True North Youth Foundation, a phenomenally successful charitable organization that invests over \$3.5 million annually to activities that support the development and well-being of Manitoba youth.



Fellow CPA (FCPA)

PHILLIP ROMANIUK, FCPA, FCA

Since obtaining his CPA designation in 1985, Phil has established a reputation for exceptional client service leadership, business acumen, and integrity. Following graduation from the University of Manitoba, Phil embarked on a career with PricewaterhouseCoopers, before becoming Partner at Stefanson Lee Romaniuk Chartered Accountants, where he built a successful practice spanning more than two decades serving owner-managed businesses and the nonprofit sector. In 2018, Phil was admitted into Partnership of Grant Thornton LLP and named Assurance Service Line Leader. Phil retired from the Grant Thornton LLP partnership at the end of 2021, however, he is still involved in managing key client relationships, providing strategic solutions in accounting, tax and business-related services.

A well-respected member and ambassador of the profession, Phil takes his responsibility to develop and mentor new and future CPAs seriously. It is this commitment to the growth and development of his colleagues that earned him the Grant Thornton LLP West Region Colleagues Partner Award in 2019. He also serves as a member of CPA Manitoba's Complaints Investigation Committee to uphold the regulatory requirements of the profession.

Even with tremendous client demands on his time, Phil's commitment to his community remains steadfast, often bringing his financial talents and pragmatic approach through key leadership positions to help organizations provide for others in the community. This includes his long-time tenure as Treasurer and President for both Volunteer Manitoba (formerly Volunteer Center for Winnipeg) and Manitoba Possible (formerly Society for Manitobans with Disabilities). At the Dakota Community Centre, he coached both ringette and softball for many years, earning him several accolades including Coach of the Year from Dakota Community Centre in 2001 and the Order of Sport Excellence from Sport Manitoba for his role as coach for the 2005 Western Canadian Ringette Championships Silver Medallion winning team.



Fellow CPA (FCPA)

SCOTT SISSONS, FCPA, FCA

Throughout his 20-plus year career, Scott has displayed the strength of character, determination and knowledge that reflect the caliber of CPA Manitoba's members and their impact on the community. During his 25-year tenure with KPMG LLP, Scott held several noteworthy positions including Manager, Senior Manager, Associate Partner, and Partner. As Partner in the Audit Practice, he serves both private and public business corporations, not-for-profits, government organizations and others. Under his leadership, the Audit Practice has continued to grow and has attracted diverse talent both locally and from member firms across the globe.

Focused on the firm's understanding and commitment to Truth and Reconciliation, Scott was a founding member of the National Indigenous Network at KPMG. He was also instrumental in driving KPMG's participation in and support of the CPA Martin Mentorship Program which focuses on improving education outcomes for Indigenous youth. Notably, Scott was instrumental in KPMG becoming the first and only "Big 4" accounting firm signatory Partner to the City of Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord.

In the profession, he served on the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Manitoba Council and numerous committees. Under CPA Manitoba, he served as a member of the Practice Review Committee. In 2018, Scott received the CPA Manitoba Community Service Award, which attests to his exemplary contributions to the profession.

An effective leader not only within the profession, but within his community, his distinguished list of accomplishments includes his role as Treasurer for the Winnipeg Football Club and Chair of Valour FC. As a member of United Way of Winnipeg's Audit and Finance Committee, Scott has helped ensure strong financial governance. He has also been a long-term volunteer with the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, where he has served as past Chair and currently sits on the Advisory Council for Truth and Reconciliation.



EARLY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The CPA Manitoba Early Achievement Award is bestowed to members who demonstrate an ongoing commitment and excellence in their professional, community or other volunteer involvement and career achievement within the first ten years of membership.



Early Achievement Award

MATTHEW BOLLEY, CPA, CA

Matthew obtained his designation in 2012 with MNP LLP and has risen through the ranks with the firm, becoming a Partner in the Domestic Specialty Tax group in 2017. He is actively involved with firm's tax initiatives and works with agriculture and other private enterprise clients to provide high quality tax advice to help achieve their business goals.

In everything he does, Matthew exemplifies the values of hard work, leadership, and commitment to excellence. Through his efforts with the CPA Manitoba Tax Committee, Matthew has been involved in drafting the 2021 and 2022 Provincial Pre-Budget submissions. In addition to presenting at several industry events, such as the Canadian Tax Foundation's Western Canada Tax Conference and Ag Days, Matthew has helped educate others by delivering tax training to his colleagues at MNP.

Outside of his notable career achievements, Matthew has committed his time, talent, and skills to help make a positive impact on his community and in the lives of others. This is best exemplified by his nine-year tenure as Chair of Brandon Salutes. As the youngest person to serve as Chair of the Keystone Centre board, Matthew navigated the second largest event facility in Canada through challenges due to lack of government funding and the impacts of the pandemic on the facility's revenue. He has also served as a board member with CancerCare Manitoba, as well as the Provincial Exhibition of Manitoba, where he oversaw the planning of the Manitoba Summer Fair, a key economic event for Brandon.



Early Achievement Award

STEPHEN CLARK, CPA, CA

A practicing CPA for over ten years, Stephen's entrepreneurial spirit and growth-focused mindset has defined his career. He obtained his designation while at MNP, holding roles in Advisory Services - Business Valuations and the Assurance department. In 2012, he joined Roy Parker Chartered Professional Accountants as a Staff Accountant. In 2018, he became the Managing Partner of Parker Clark Chartered Professional Accountants Inc.. Stephen has been at the helm of visionary strategies, transformations, and pivotal initiatives, that have helped propel his firm forward. Under his leadership, the firm has grown from seven to 19 staff.

Aside from the important responsibilities of running a firm, Stephen has made a great impact in the community. His accomplishments include sitting on various committees and teams as both a leader and financial advisor for New Life Church, as well as serving on the board of directors for Silver Bay Bible Camp, where he oversees the finances of the camp, including budgeting for capital purchases and long-term sustainability planning. More recently, Stephen was elected Treasurer of the Beaconsfield Cemetery, where he led an initiative to overhaul the organization's accounting and governance functions while overseeing a complete ground up restoration of the historic site.

Passionate about developing the next generation of accounting professionals, Stephen has and continues to mentor CPAs and raise the profile of the profession to young people as a fulfilling and exciting path. He recognizes the importance of building up others to carve out their own opportunities, growth and careers, making him a valuable leader in the profession.



Early Achievement Award

SARAH CORLEY, CPA, CA

Since becoming a Staff Accountant in 2009, Sarah has held many leadership roles at KPMG Canada including her current position as Senior Tax Manager, where she has built trusting relationships with clients and colleagues. Her expertise and experience in taxation means she is heavily relied on to review, interpret and prepare materials on various topics including estate planning and small business deduction rules.

Known for championing inclusion to effect real change, Sarah is a key contributor to KPMG Winnipeg's office strategy of promoting inclusivity and diversity. Her passion for the profession is further demonstrated by her commitment to future generations through KPMG Winnipeg's participation in the CPA Martin Mentorship Program initiative for Indigenous high school students, where Sarah has been involved since 2019. As mentors, Sarah and her colleagues meet with Indigenous youth at Elmwood High School to provide guidance, team building and future planning. Her work with this program has been critical in KPMG Winnipeg's efforts to advance the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action, specifically Call to Action number 92 for Business and Reconciliation.

Through CPA Manitoba's Tax Preparation Assistance Program, she has contributed her time to prepare tax returns for low-income seniors. She also volunteered on the planning committee for the 2022 Canadian Tax Foundations Prairie Provinces Tax Conference.

In the community, Sarah has been a member of The Link: Youth and Family Supports (formerly Macdonald Youth Services) board since 2015 and currently serves as the Secretary-Treasurer.



Early Achievement Award

ALEXANDER LEVINE, CPA, CA

Alex began his career at Canada Life (formerly Great-West Life) as an articling student, advancing through various roles in the Performance Management and Financial Reporting departments. His job was focused on management and strategic reporting, as well as financial statement preparation and analysis. During his decade-long tenure with Canada Life, Alex sharpened his analytical and communication skills, all the while forming important professional relationships.

In 2021, he joined CPA Canada as the Principal of Emerging Issues and Sustainability. As a member of the Professional Programs area of the Member Development and Support department, he focuses on growing and supporting the sustainability portfolio. He develops innovative content to support members as their roles evolve in this ever-changing profession. In 2022, Alex was promoted to Lead Principal in the Professional Programs area.

Alex's impressive volunteer commitments within the profession include serving on the CPA Manitoba Foundation Board, and the Fund Development and Investment Committees. Always energized by challenges and driven by an authentic desire to help others, between 2017 and 2021 Alex was an engaged volunteer with the Rady Jewish Community Centre board as the Vice-President/Chair of Finance. This role became even more involved as the pandemic continually necessitated adaptation of everything from member access, internal financial reports, to meeting protocols. Alex was consequently recognized by the Rady Centre with their Outstanding Volunteer Service award.



Early Achievement Award

JAMES MIKEL PESTRAK, CPA, CA

Over the past four years, Mikel has shaped the success of and played a key role in the financial and operational transformation of AutoCanada, a leading North American multi-location automobile dealership group. As a respected leader, role model and prominent influencer, Mikel has demonstrated his ongoing drive to excellence by leading the company's finance and insurance business to a position of global leadership through 16 consecutive quarters of growth.

Prior to joining AutoCanada, Mikel served as the Director of Finance and Risk Management at Birchwood Automotive Group, where he was responsible for developing and administering the finance, accounting and lending policies, collections, and back-office systems of Birchwood Credit Solutions; the company's in-house vehicle leasing portfolio. Under his pragmatic and thoughtful leadership, Mikel brought tremendous growth and prosperity to the organization, tripling its growth in less than two years. For his contributions and superior performance in the Canadian automotive industry, Mikel was awarded the Deloitte Rising Star Award in 2018.

As a facilitator, mentor and volunteer, Mikel is committed to empowering transformative change in leaders and organizations. This is evidenced by his community volunteer achievements, such as serving as a board director for Carpathia Credit Union, as well as a number of their committees including the Wasyl Topolnicky Memorial Foundation Inc. Committee and the Audit Committee.

In addition to his community service, Mikel has dedicated his time to building the future generation of CPAs as a mentor to staff and university students pursuing the CPA designation.



Early Achievement Award

JOAN PRESTO, CPA, CGA

Joan's 18-year tenure with Canada Life (formerly Great West Life Assurance Company) has showcased her progression from Enrollment Clerk all the way to her current position as Director of Investment Financial Reporting. In this role she leads a team of professional accountants and provides oversight over key investments reporting such as financial statement notes, regulatory reporting, and senior management reporting.

To share her knowledge and give back to the profession, Joan has held numerous CPA related volunteer roles including being a member of the CPA Manitoba Discipline Committee, a volunteer with CPA Manitoba's Financial Literacy Program, and a marker in the Canada Life CPA Program. She is also a CPA mentor and volunteer. As a mentor of CPA students and candidates, Joan is committed to connecting and helping young professionals realize their full potential.

Noteworthy in Joan's volunteer efforts was her involvement with Canada Life's United Way campaign. Under her leadership as Co-Chair, Joan helped plan, prepare, and execute a 2-week company-wide campaign for over 3,000 employees, across three major locations. In recognition of her contributions, she received the Employee Campaign Chair award.

A dedicated supporter of KidSport Winnipeg, Joan was an event volunteer for numerous years, as well as the Co-Creator of Fit & Fab for Sport, a fashion show event that raised funds for the organization. Today, Joan serves as Treasurer on the board for Immigrant Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba (IRCOM).



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The CPA Manitoba Distinguished Service Award is bestowed to members who have made outstanding contributions to community service or to volunteer organizations, served the CPA profession in a distinguished fashion, or contributed to the development of young CPAs through mentorship excellence.



Distinguished Service Award - Posthumous

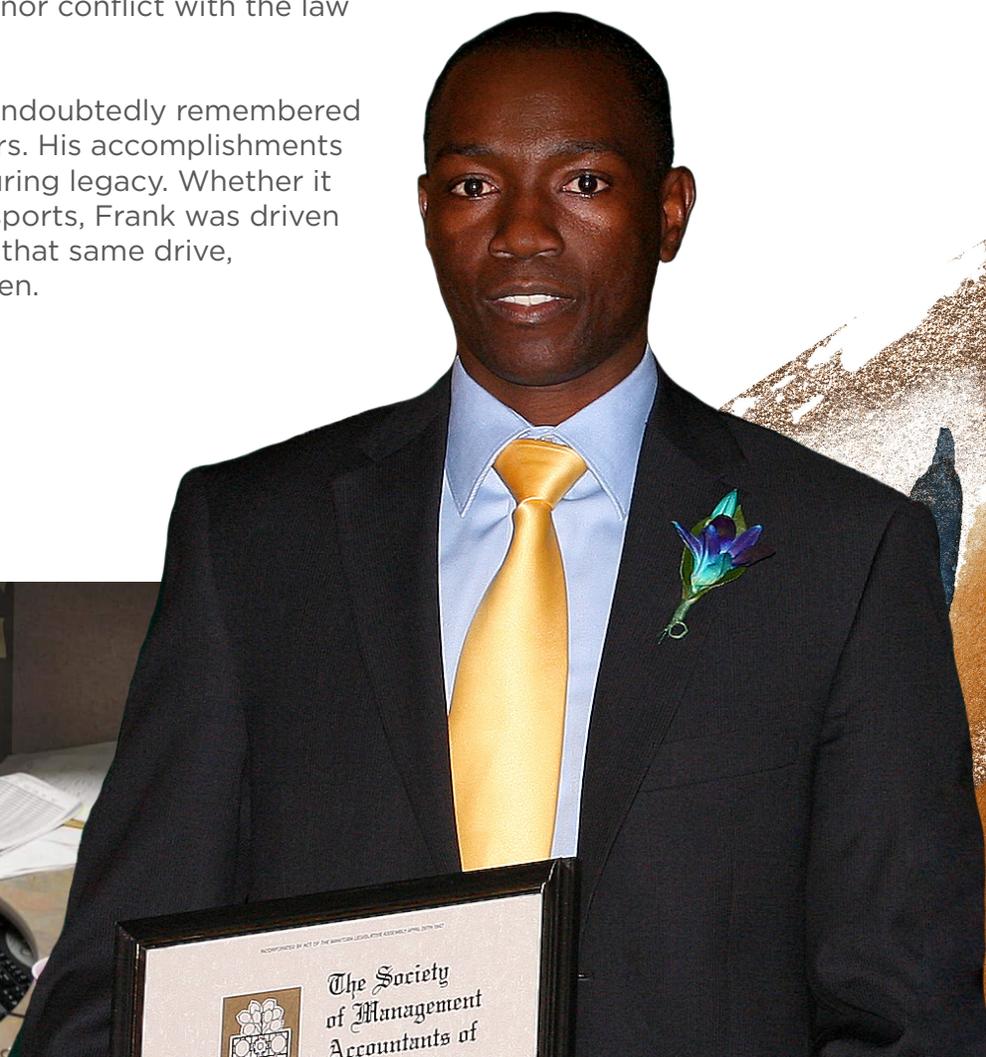
FRANK CHAMARENGAH, CPA, CMA

Frank was known for his charismatic personality, energy, and unparalleled passion for his work. Over the course of his remarkable career, Frank brought distinction to the profession, earning a reputation as a stellar leader, educator, and mentor. Not only did he lead by example, but he encouraged others to lead as well. Prior to his passing, Frank held the position of Assistant Director of Capital Markets with the Province of Manitoba. Passionate about financial markets, Frank played an important role in managing the Province of Manitoba's debt, investments, financial risk, and contributed to the development of the province's fiscal plan and outlook.

Committed to giving back to the profession, Frank served as a member of the CMA Manitoba Board, the CPA Manitoba Discipline Committee and was a speaker at several industry events including, the CMA Manitoba Business Summit and the CMA Manitoba Recruitment Panel event, among others.

With humility and authenticity, Frank lent his expertise to help students and young professionals realize their full potential. During his eight years as a mentor for the Asper School of Business Co-op Program, Frank mentored over 25 students, consistently welcoming one or two every term. He was also a dedicated volunteer for the Initiative for Just Communities, which aimed to support men who had been in minor conflict with the law transition back into the community.

Frank touched many hearts and is undoubtedly remembered for his exceptional kindness to others. His accomplishments and contributions will leave an enduring legacy. Whether it was higher education, business, or sports, Frank was driven to improve himself and has instilled that same drive, dedication, and passion in his children.



Distinguished Service Award

PATRICIA CHERNEY, FCPA, FCGA

Throughout her 30-year career, Patti was recognized as a respected, trusted, and approachable professional with the ability to inspire, coach and develop others. Prior to retiring in March 2018, Patti was Director, Cash Management and Trust Accounting at Investors Group Inc, where she coached and motivated an 18-member team in cash management and trust accounting, providing vision and operational leadership.

In everything she does, Patti demonstrates a high level of integrity, leadership, and professionalism, which extends into the community. Notable involvements include her over five-year volunteer commitment with O.K. Before & After School Child Care Centres Inc, where she played a pivotal role in the organization's transition of executive leadership. Under her leadership as Finance Chair, Patti helped develop policies, procedures, and processes that helped the organization deliver its mission. Through these efforts, Patti helped influence positive change within the organization, which earned her the Volunteer of the Year award through the Manitoba Child Care Association in 2020. Patti continues to volunteer with this organization and is currently leading the board in the role of Chair.

Devoted to bringing the accounting profession to the forefront, Patti has dedicated her time to several committees, such as the CGA Manitoba Nominating Committee, CGA Manitoba Honors Committee, CGA Manitoba Board of Directors (President in 2011-2012), and as the National Delegate on the Affiliation Council. Patti's impressive volunteer commitments within the profession also include serving on the CPA Manitoba Complaints Investigation Committee for six years, three of which she served as Chair.



Distinguished Service Award

MARINUS VAN OSCH, CPA, CGA

Throughout his 30-year career, Marinus has earned a reputation as a broad-minded, forward-thinking leader and community advocate who challenges conventional wisdom – and does so with infectious enthusiasm. Prior to retiring earlier this year, Marinus was a Controller at Electra Sign Ltd, where he provided branch oversight, reviewed internal controls and policies, and provided accounting and management expertise in pursuit of maximizing performance and efficiency within the organization.

Marinus attributes his ambition for success to his time serving as a school trustee and extends this drive and dedication to his community as well. After becoming a CPA in 2006, he immediately immersed himself in volunteerism for the profession. He has served on numerous committees prior to unification, including the CGA Manitoba Membership Appeals Committee, the CGA Manitoba Member Services Committee, and the CGA Manitoba Education Committee. Since then, he has served on the CPA Manitoba Registration Committee, holding the role of Chair since 2016. His volunteer efforts with Arthritis Society exemplify his leadership and determination to give back. Thanks to his determination and selfless commitment, Marinus continues to embody the characteristics best associated with the designation.



HONORARY CPA

The title of Honorary CPA is bestowed to those who have rendered conspicuous service to CPA Manitoba; enhanced the profession through exceptional efforts; or made a creditable contribution of new knowledge to the profession.



Honorary CPA

PATTY GIFFORD, CPA (HON.)

With more than 30 years of experience, Patty has proven to be a visionary, achieving a ripple effect of empowerment on future leaders within the human resources industry. Before retiring in 2021, Patty was the Vice President, Consulting & People Services for Credit Union Central of Manitoba (CUCM). In that role, she brought a fresh approach to managing a variety of projects including acquisitions, executive search, incentive pay plan development, and succession planning.

Prior to joining CUCM, she held positions in HR management with a national transportation company, the Canadian division of a Fortune 500 manufacturing entity, and a large Manitoba Credit Union (Assiniboine Credit Union).

With a strategic mind and action-oriented focus, Patty provides an infectious tenacity that encourages others to tackle issues head-on and work to become the leader and champion she so aptly portrays. This was exemplified by her noteworthy contributions on the design of a new Performance Management Program and new Member and Family Assistance Program at CPA Manitoba.

An active volunteer in her community, Patty has served on several community boards and committees, including CPHR Manitoba, CuSource, CMA Manitoba, and was named to the first Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Manitoba as a public representative. Today, she sits on the Executive Committee of the board of Harvest Manitoba and guides it's HR Committee work.



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