

FEATURE



Picture on Left

Hamilton Chapter member receiving the Frank S Capon award at Jasper, for making significant contributions to the development of FEI in Canada.

Present in the picture from Left to Right, Victor Wells, Treasurer of FEI Hamilton, Thomas Van Zuiden, award recipient and Michael Conway, President FEI National.”

Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Day-Oct 24, 2008 Drive your SME to Success- CFO Challenges in the SME sector

As previously announced, FEI Canada's Hamilton and Toronto Chapters are jointly organizing a first time ever full day SME Conference at the Mississauga Convention Center on Friday October 24, 2008. The conference is planned with a mix of plenary sessions, breakout sessions and panel discussion. The agenda is being given its final touches and will be communicated shortly. At this stage we have confirmed speakers from Knightsbridge Human Capital, KPMG, Roynat Capital, Sherrard Kuzz LLP, Trivaris, Vengrowth, and Veracap Corporate Finance Limited.

October happens to be SME month in Ontario and Honourable Harinder Takhar, Ontario Minister of Small Business and Consumer Services has kindly consented to deliver the opening remarks.

The content includes a wide range of subjects for Finance executives and CEO's in the SME space. Topics include Success factors for SME's, Commercialization of Innovations, Human Capital Management, Exit Strategies for family businesses, and Funding options. Attendance at this session will also qualify for continuing professional education credits.

If you agree that the top drivers for SME business success are Innovation, Productivity, Access to Financing, and Succession Planning, then this conference is for you to attend. In order to be successful, financial executives in the SME space need to be cross functionally versatile. They are required to be knowledgeable about subjects covering human resources, information technology & systems, production, distribution and, at times, marketing. As a business partner the SME CFO faces unique challenges on a daily basis and needs to remain sharp on developments across all these areas on a continuing basis.

Make sure you do not miss this eventful and groundbreaking conference, a day full of knowledge exchange, motivation and professional networking. SME's are often understood to be small businesses at the center of local communities. However, SME's provide critical support to larger organizations, the general population and all three levels of government. SME businesses are a significant driver of economic activity and their performance has a bearing on the whole economy.

Mark your calendars for Friday October 24, 2008

Please address all communications to
feihamilton@cogeco.ca

THE PRESIDENT'S CENTER

We are about to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of FEI in Canada and it all started here, with the Hamilton Chapter. Since that time, the economic base of this portion of Canada's Golden Horseshoe has expanded to many centres, the most dynamic of which is the Kitchener/Waterloo/Cambridge region, fast becoming the Information and Automotive hub of Canada. We are working hard to create a broader and more inclusive program for our chapter members.

Simultaneously, we are planning to rebrand the Chapter to reflect the larger geographical interests being served. After taking into consideration various options, it is being proposed to **rename the Hamilton Chapter as the "Southern Golden Horseshoe"** Chapter of FEI Canada. Your board will go through the necessary process with members and the national office to formalize this name change in due course.

The 2008/2009 year promises to be one of tremendous benefit to our members. Not only has our National Organization made great strides to make membership easier and more rewarding by simplifying the fee and application process and opening attendance for all members to all meetings, but your chapter is striving to have more topical programs and speakers. Attendance at every meeting during our past year has grown.

We hope you will start your year by adding the events in this news letter to your calendar.

..... **Bob Rollwagen**

CHAPTER EVENTS CALENDAR (Please hold these dates on your calendar)

Sept 24, 2008 – 60th Anniversary Chapter AGM and dinner meeting at the Hamilton Club. Jonathan Wellum, CEO of AIC Ltd on the global transfer of wealth "Short Termism and Wealth Transfer"

Oct 24, 2008 – First ever SME Day at the Mississauga Convention Center. A full day conference for senior finance executives in the Small and Medium Enterprise sector.

Nov 13, 2008 – Competition Policy Review Panel - Thomas Jenkins, CEO of Open Text on Sharpening Canada's Competitive edge.

SME DAY SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE CONTACT SPONSORSHIP SUB COMMITTEE CHAIR GORDON HEARD AT gheard@financegroup.ca

MEMBER SERVICES

In accordance with the reciprocal arrangement with the Toronto Chapter, given below is information on upcoming Toronto Chapter events.

September 11, 2008 The Changing Role of the CFO in a World of Evolving Business Expectations Bruce Waterman, Senior Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Agrium Inc. and Canada's CFO of the Year™ for 2008. To Register, e-mail lb@passport.ca or phone Liz Bowell at 905-936-5422. All reservations must be confirmed no later than 4:00pm, Monday, September 8, 2008

November 7 & 8, 2008 - 3rd Annual Best in Class Invitational Case Competition, Rotman School of Management

November 19, 2008 - 14th Annual November Social Evening

December 10, 2008 - Lunch Meeting, 2009 Economic Outlook, Dr. Sherry Cooper, Executive Vice-President, Global Economic Strategist, BMO Financial Group; Chief Economist, BMO Capital Markets & BMO Nesbitt Burns

YOUR CHAPTER BOARD NOMINEES

- *President - Bob Rollwagen, CFO, Metro Waste Paper Recovery Inc., bob.rollwagen@metrowaste.com*
- *Vice President - Azam Foda, Director of Finance, Armtec Limited Partnership, afoda@armtec.com*
- *Chair Membership - Dan Bowes, VP and GM, Watts Industries, dbowes@wattscanada.ca*
- *Treasurer - Vic Wells, Corporate Director, vwells1@cogeco.ca*
- *VP at Large – Gordon Heard, The Finance Group gheard@financegroup.ca*
- *Director at Large – Thomas L Evans thomasevans@cogeco.ca*
- *Past President - Randy Smallbone, CFO Migao Corp, randall.smallbone@migaocorp.com*