

President's Report - July

With summer settling in, FEI in Vancouver has entered into our 'quiet phase' with no events planned until September. Our fall schedule has been set, though, and I urge you to look at the schedule below in this newsletter and take note of the dates that we've arranged.

June was very busy, with 25 of our Chapter attending the FEI Annual Conference in Jasper. One highlight was **Neil Hummel** of Vancouver being a member of the team triumphing in the golf tournament, a matter predicted by one seer the day before when the weather looked pretty much like any day in April in Vancouver – Neil said that it was like playing on his home course.

The Conference was a success, albeit a little smaller than recent years. The lower attendance was generally attributed to the remote location, some four hours from the nearest major airport. The technical sessions were excellent and the keynote speakers were major hits. The content of this year's conference continued the tradition of excellence of prior years' conferences.

Next year, the conference is in Montreal, and it is expected to be a much larger affair. Remember that our Chapter will once again be the host chapter in 2010, when the event is being held in Victoria.

In late June, our Chapter's AGM was held in conjunction with a harbour cruise. About 70 members and guests attended and from what I hear a good time was had by all. The weather was fine and we were treated to a lovely tour of Indian Arm and the shorelines of Burrard Inlet. Your new Board was acclaimed during the AGM and is listed below. I thank each and every one of them for volunteering to serve another year with your Board.

While it is a 'quiet phase' for the Chapter, we are in planning mode. Your Events Committee has been formed, with **Doug Morison** as Chair this year. They are busily planning the event lineup for the January through June period. We hope to have material for your calendars for early 2009 in September.

On behalf of your FEI Vancouver Board, I wish each of you a happy, healthy and safe summer and look forward to seeing you at our events during the coming FEI season.

**Peter Ballachey**

Survey Update

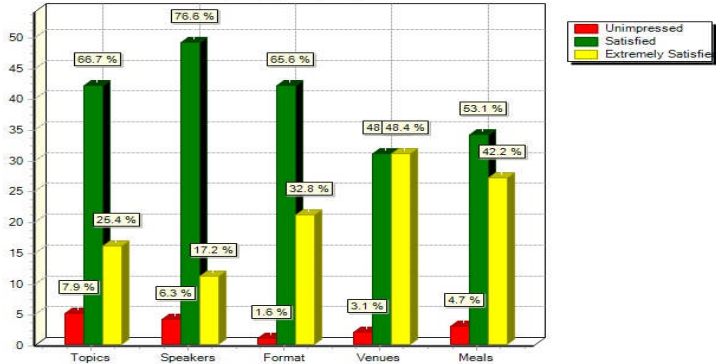
As you are all aware, we have recently completed a survey of Vancouver Chapter members to determine satisfaction with the Events held in the past twelve months, and to solicit suggestions for areas of improvement. The next goal is to address any “shortfalls”, with a view to increasing attendance at future events.

Overall, the results of the survey were encouraging. Over thirty two percent of our members took the time to respond, which is a strong representation. Almost 50% of respondents have been members of FEI for more than 10 years, while just over one third have been members for 2 – 5 years.

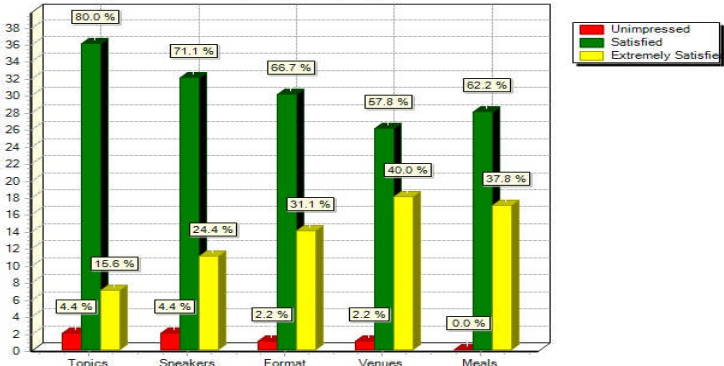
For each aspect (Topics, Speakers, Venues, Formats, and Meals) of every type of event (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner), at least 90% of respondents were either Satisfied or Extremely Satisfied. (See graphs at right). While these statistical results are most gratifying to the Events Committee, some fine tuning still needs to be done. Suggestions were received on additional venues, speakers (i.e. more business leaders, fewer accounting technicians), and topics (more IFRSs) and will be incorporated where possible into the schedule for 2008/09. In fact, as a direct result, the September event will now be held at the Four Seasons Hotel. More news on that to follow via email.

Unfortunately, one area in which we will not be able to make any changes concerns the request from a few members that we either reduce the length of their work day, or increase the hours in a 24 hour day!

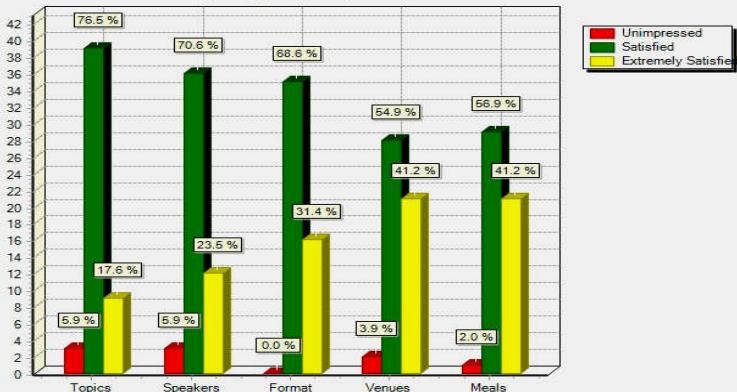
With the Breakfast events, would you say (overall) that you have been:



With the Lunch events, would you say (overall) that you have been:



With the Dinner events, would you say (overall) that you have been:



Thanks again to everyone who responded to the survey. We look forward to increased membership participation at events beginning in September.

Have a great summer!



Doug Morison

Membership Report

The Vancouver chapter has just completed the AGM boat cruise and begins a new year. FEI Canada will now be handling collection of all dues; that is both the FEI Canada national dues as well as the Vancouver chapter dues.

While the details are being sorted out, this should simplify things for members in paying one set of annual dues. There should also simplify things for the board as the invoicing, collection, and follow-up of outstanding dues takes some considerable effort from the board and our administrative help.

The Vancouver chapter has 264 members and welcomes **Mr. Doug Allen** the CFO of Amica Mature Lifestyle as a new member.

September will soon be upon us and fall events are lined up well in advance.

**Jeff Champion****On the Lighter Side.....**

From the English CA magazine "Accountancy"

The Civilised Service

A new gallery has opened in Liverpool dedicated to the role of Revenue and Customs.

We've been told that it gives visitors the opportunity to explore the "fascinating and controversial" world of the Revenue in "ensuring our way of life is fair, safe, civilised and protected."

We suspect that for many accountants, it would be a bit like visiting the Chamber of Horrors.

**Hugh Lindsay**

FEI Vancouver Chapter Raises \$14,000 for The KidSafe Project Society

The Vancouver Chapter of Financial Executives International is pleased to announce that they have raised over \$14,000 for The KidSafe Project Society during the annual golf tournament on May 14, 2008 at UBC Golf Club.

The event included seventy senior finance executives from leading companies throughout the Lower Mainland. Additionally, thirty sponsors supported the tournament through financial contributions, in-kind services and prize donations. "We are extremely pleased that we were able to work with the Kid-Safe Project Society on this initiative", says Peter Ballachey, President of FEI Vancouver. "The success is a result of local financial executives and the business community partnering to raise funds and awareness for an extremely worthwhile cause. We look forward to an even greater fundraising effort next year!"

About the KidSafe Project Society

The KidSafe Project Society is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide nurturing safe havens for at-risk inner-city elementary school students when schools are traditionally closed. KidSafe keeps schools open after school and during winter, spring and summer breaks for nearly 400 of Vancouver's inner-city elementary students. KidSafe keeps them safe and provides healthy meals, learning and recreation activities free of charge, in a caring, fun environment that's geared to make these vulnerable children shine

President, Peter Ballachey and Golf Tournament Chair, Neil Hummel present our cheque to KidSafe.



National and Local Fees Streamlined

FEI Canada and its Chapters are working together to streamline your renewal process.

Starting with FEI Canada's new fiscal year on July 1, 2008, FEI Canada's national office will begin collecting both the national membership dues and the chapter dues on one invoice. Each member, on their anniversary date, will receive a single invoice covering both national dues (unchanged from last year at \$525) and chapter dues (varied by chapter).

Vancouver's Chapter dues are:

- Executive Member	\$225
- Academic Member	\$ 90
- Retired Member	\$ 75

*Entrepreneur (\$130) and In Transition (\$55) member fees have been set but need to be qualified for each year.

With this one invoice, members will be welcome to attend all regular Chapter events ** and National Breakfast seminars anywhere in Canada. This means that if you are traveling to another Chapter centre, you can now check the calendar of events at www.feicanada.org and attend events at no additional cost.

**Special events, such as Golf tournaments and Social functions may entail an additional charge levied by the local Chapter.

A single invoice will also mean that you will be asked to process only one payment for your dues each year. This process will be seamless. Your renewal notice will simply reflect the new cost and be delivered electronically as before so you'll now have the ability to renew online.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Christopher Sheedy, Director, Membership and Chapter Relations, csheedy@feicanada.org, 416-366-3007 Ext 5103.

FAQs for the procedural change

What does this mean for me? Very little; most members are paying the exact same amount, or a little less, as last year, it just being collected in a new way. For those of you that are experiencing an increase, your dues are bringing you easier access to programs at the local level. Simply pay the single invoice when it comes in and enjoy cross-country access to programs and services.

How were the Chapter fees set? Each chapter set their fee level in accordance with the level of revenue needed to run the chapter in the black. Some chapters have added services and the fees are higher and some chapters have active sponsorship revenue generation and the fees are lower.

But I don't pay any Chapter Dues right now? While some chapters have been using the pay-per-event method in recent years, the majority of chapters across the country have been using an "all inclusive" method. The all inclusive method creates increased event attendance, due to the ease of registering. Currently, in a pay-per-event chapter, each time you wish to attend a chapter event, you are forced to process another invoice through your company. If you attend 4 events per year, which means you are processing 6 invoices (1 per event and 1 each for your two sets of dues). Under the new method, you have one invoice that covers all.

Are the chapter fees mandatory? Yes. All members of FEI Canada must belong to a local chapter. The only exception to this rule is described below.

Member at Large Option: A new category of membership a "Member-at-Large" has been created to offer those members residing **more than 100 km from a Chapter's centre** (or Vancouver Island) the *OPTION* of not receiving Chapter services and not paying their Chapter fees. These members would be welcome to attend Chapter events at the non member rate.

Can you help your Board of Directors be more Effective?

Consider this:

- Your Board of Directors should be an important part of your organization's success
 - Your Board of Directors should be in command of a specific body of knowledge not only in governance and financial management, but also strategic planning and risk management
 - Your Board of Directors has a duty to your organization – not just shareholders and members – to provide an effective oversight function
 - Your Board of Directors is a major part of your organization's checks and balances
- Your Board of Directors has a responsibility to the taxpayers and the government to be effective in their positions

If your Directors need more education to be effective contributors to your organization's success, think about sending them to Chartered Secretaries Canada's *Directors' Education and Accreditation Program (DEAP)*.

DEAP is:

- delivered by Canada's leading governance organization, *Chartered Secretaries Canada*
 - taught by experienced academics, consultants and industry professionals
 - the quickest way of increasing your Directors' knowledge and competencies – it is delivered in major centres across Canada, and takes only three days of in-class time
 - the best way for your Directors to get up to speed on their functions, so they can be more effective for you more quickly – in three days, your Directors will learn all they need to be effective in the boardroom
 - designed for and presented to small groups – maximum sixteen people – so there is a high degree of interaction with our faculty
- created to help your Directors be aware of and manage the responsibilities and risks of their positions

Best of all, when compared to other programs that may cost up to \$20,000 and take weeks or even months, DEAP delivers value right from the start – its concentrated delivery, low cost (only \$3,700 per person) and widely recognized designation – Acc.Dir., or Accredited Director – all add up to an unparalleled value for your Directors and your organization.

Chartered Secretaries Canada is the Canadian Division of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, the only international body to accredit governance professionals.

For further information, see our website at <http://www.icsacanada.org/DEAP>, or our print-ready PDF [on-line brochure](#). Contact our office by e-mail at info@icsacanada.org or by phone, 1-800-501-3440.

Memories of this year's conference!

The National Conference was a great success and was attended by a number of Vancouver Chapter Members.



President Peter took part in the conference tour to Fort McMurray—more pictures on the next page.

Conference tour photos from the Suncor facility at Fort McMurray



2008 Events Listing

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event Type</i>	<i>Detail</i>	<i>Location</i>
September 16th, 2008	National Breakfast Event Registration—7:30 AM	Sponsored by Towers Perrin and Robert Half Management Resources Is Your Finance Function in a Talent Crisis? - Leading Edge Thinking on How to Attract and Retain the Right People in Today's Work-force Environment	Pan Pacific Hotel
October 1st, 2008	Breakfast Event Registration—7:30 AM	AON Presenting Environmental Coverage	Four Seasons Hotel
October 21st, 2008	Dinner Event Reception—6:00 PM	IBM Presenting Global CFO Study	TBA
November 2008	Wine Pairing Event	Details to follow....	TBA

Events Committee

It's with great excitement that we wish to introduce your Events team for 2008/2009:

Doug Morison (Chair), **Sarah Mackinnon**, **Angela Yap**, **Wendy Hulburt**, and **Brad Bardua**.

I want to personally thank all those who assisted in making 2007/2008 such a great year!!

 **Brad Cruickshank**

FEI Vancouver Salutes our Sponsors !

Chapter Sponsors



Chapter Supporters

Aon Reed Stenhouse



Should you be interested in sponsorship or have a recommendation for us to follow up on, please contact Alan Wong by e-mail at: alanwong@telus.net or by telephone: (778) 772-6511

2008/2009 Chapter Board of Directors

Peter Ballachey	Consultant 1254 Bracknell Place, N. Vancouver, BC V7P 3S2	T: (604) 240-7928 E: ballachey@shaw.ca	President
Danley Yip	Division Director Robert Half Management Resources #724 – 1055 Dunsmuir Street, Vancouver, BC V7X 1L4	T: (604) 688-6393 F: (604) 687-7533 E: Danley.Yip@rhmr.com	Past President
Brad Cruickshank	Chief Financial Officer Hub International Limited 100—3875 Henning Drive, Burnaby, BC V5C 6N5	T: (604) 293 - 1481 F: (604) 293 - 1493 E: brad.cruickshank@hubinternational.com	Vice President
Doug Cucheron	CFO SL Feldman & Associates 200 - 1505 West 2nd Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3Y4	T: (604) 734 - 5945 ext 352 F: (604) 732 - 0922 E: cucheron@slfa.com	Treasurer
Issa Nakhleh		C: (604) 657-2431 E: issa.nakhleh@shaw.ca	Secretary
Brad Bardua	CFO	T: (604) 551-7785 E: bbardua@shaw.ca	Director-Events
Alan Wong	Financial Management Consultant Finance, Risk Management & Admin. 2885 West 32 Ave., Vancouver, BC V6L 2B5	T: (778) 772-6511 E: alanwong@telus.net	Chair - Sponsorship
Jeff Champion	Consultant 4951 Pendlebury Road, Richmond, BC V7E 1E9	T: (604) 649-2735 F: (604) 241-8946 E: jeff.champion@telus.net	Chair - Membership
Lynne Fraser	2043 Latimer Road, Nanaimo, BC V9S 2W6	T: (250) 758-0375 E: lynne.fraser@shaw.ca	Newsletter
Hugh Lindsay	2831 W. 19 th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6L 1E4	T: (604) 732-0366 F: E: hughl@telus.net	FEIsters
Sarah Mackinnon	Corporate Controller Xantrex Technology Inc. 8999 Nelson Way, Burnaby, BC V5A 3B5	T: (604) 422-2584 F: (604) 415-4666 E: sarah.mackinnon@xantrex.com	Director - Events
Angela Yap	Director of Corporate Accounting Anthem Properties Group Ltd.	T: (604) 488-3604 F: (604)689-5642 E: ayap@anthemproperties.com	Director-Events
Wendy Hurlburt	Director of Finance LifeScan Canada Ltd. 300-4170 Still Creek Drive, Burnaby, BC, V5C 6C6	T: (604) 320 - 2927 F: (604) 293 - 1619 E: whurlbur@lfsca.jnj.com	Director - Events
Doug Morison	2958 Mahon Avenue North Vancouver, BC, V7N 3T1	T: (604) 986-8634 E: cdmorison@shaw.ca	Chair- Events
Neil Hummel	Chief Financial Officer LMI Technologies Inc. 1673 Cliveden Avenue, Delta. BC, V3M 6V5	T: (604) 636 - 1011 F: (604) 516 - 8368 E: nhummel@lmitechnologies.com	Director
Donna Denham	Support Services Unlimited #102 – 211 Columbia Street Vancouver, BC V6A 2R5	T: (604) 681-0295 F: (604) 681-4545 E: ssu@telus.net	Administration