



**CPA**

CHARTERED  
PROFESSIONAL  
ACCOUNTANTS  
NOVA SCOTIA

2023 CPA Nova Scotia

*Member Recognition  
Spotlight*

# Fellow CPA

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

## David A. Boyd, FCPA, FCA

David was born into an army of six brothers. He followed the path well worn by them: four CPAs, two engineers and one who is an entrepreneur. David's father was an imposing, in-the-dirt construction entrepreneur who instilled in all of them to do what is right and to help those in need. His mother was not "poor" as so many exclaimed with seven sons- but rich in memories in the rearview mirror.

David followed the path of his brothers and attended St. FX University, where he completed his business degree. Afterwards, he attained his CPA, and then related Insolvency, designations. He had an illustrious career as a Partner with PwC for the Atlantic region in distress finance matters. David now enjoys being an entrepreneur and strategic advisor to companies and key clients.

His favourite accomplishment, though, is marrying his wife, Juliana. She is the left side of his brain for the accountant's right side. They have four wonderful children, Johanna, Christina, Lia, and Owen. David believes Juliana has been the family rock and deserves recognition for this award as much as he does.



# Fellow CPA

## **Maureen Gillis, FCPA, FCA**

A proud and active advocate for the accounting profession, Maureen has contributed locally and nationally to Public Sector Accounting Board standard-setting task forces, including serving as a Chair. She helped lay the foundation for the Province of Nova Scotia to make the significant move to Public Sector Accounting Standards. For the accountancy school, Maureen has designed exam questions, marked cases, and taught aspiring accountants how to dissect cases effectively. You may know Maureen through one of the many courses she has taught in undergraduate, graduate, or continuing education programs, and is a long-time instructor in CPA Nova Scotia's classroom.

A true servant leader, Maureen's volunteer commitment spans continents and sectors. She volunteered as a financial advisor for Pamoja Ghana. Closer to home, she has been a President, Treasurer, Secretary, board member, committee member, community council member, presenter, campaign coordinator, volunteer coordinator, program chair, campaign co-chair, negotiating committee chair, fundraiser, coach, quilter, and grocery bagger. In 2010, the Nova Scotia School Athletic Federation presented Maureen with the Outstanding Service Award for her many years of service as a Coach at Middleton Regional High School.

Today, Maureen maintains an active agenda of teaching, learning, and volunteering, enjoying life in the Annapolis Valley close to her son Matthew, daughter-in-law Brianne, and two joyful grandsons.



# Fellow CPA

## **Craig MacMullin, FCPA, FCGA**

Craig began his career as an analytical chemist after receiving a BSc from Acadia University. He worked in management positions in various environmental laboratories, becoming the CEO of Environmental Services Laboratory Inc. in 1995 and merging it with Maxxam Analytics in 2000.

Discovering a passion for business, Craig completed an MBA at Saint Mary's University and in 2005, he left the laboratory sector. He held senior executive positions in two venture-backed startups before joining the OTS Ltd Group of Companies in 2009. In 2011, Craig achieved his CGA designation.

He joined the nonprofit sector in 2014, serving as the COO of the Canadian Cancer Society. Currently, he serves as the President and CEO of the Centre for Entrepreneurship Education and Development.

Craig has participated in various nonprofit boards and volunteer initiatives, including serving on the Board of Governors of Cape Breton University. However, the highlight was the four years he spent on the Board of Commissioners of Halifax Water, which included two years as the Board Chair. Additionally, he has been a volunteer facilitator with CPA Canada's Financial Literacy program since its inception.

Craig has been married to his best friend, Michelle, for 32 years, and they have two adult children, Corey and Cait.



# Fellow CPA

## **Ruth C. L. March, FCPA, FCA**

Ruth joined KPMG Halifax's tax practice in 1986 and is currently an Executive Director of Estate Planning with them. She is responsible for tax planning for a diverse clientele in this role, focusing on owner-managed businesses, estates, and trusts. Ruth is a member of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Nova Scotia, the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), the Canadian Tax Foundation (CTF), and the Halifax Estate Planning Council.

She has been a tutorial leader for CPA Canada tax courses, a lecturer for the Canadian Tax Foundation's Tax Planning for the Owner Manager and Estate Planning Course and has taught several tax courses for CPA Nova Scotia. Ruth has also presented at STEP national conferences, branch seminars, CTF Atlantic Provinces Tax Conferences, and various business and community groups.

She has taken an active role in several community and cultural associations in Nova Scotia. Ruth is a past governor of the Canadian Tax Foundation, a past Chair of STEP Canada, a past Chair of the STEP Atlantic branch and has served as Treasurer of Symphony Nova Scotia and the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia.

Ruth has received numerous awards for her volunteer work, including the KPMG Community Leader Award, the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, the STEP Founders' Award, STEP Canada Volunteer of the Year Award and STEP Atlantic Volunteer of the Year Award.



# Fellow CPA

## Heath Moore, FCPA, FCA

Heath is the Regional Managing Partner for Grant Thornton in Atlantic Canada and Northern Ontario. Additionally, he has responsibility for the firm's National Specialty Tax and Consumer Insolvency practice. Before this, he served as the Managing Partner for Nova Scotia and was previously the firm's National Tax Leader, responsible for the strategic growth of the tax service line across Canada. Heath also served six years on the firm's Partnership Board.

Heath started his professional journey with Grant Thornton (then Doane Raymond) in Dartmouth. He quickly moved to the tax team, where he discovered his passion - building a team and helping private business owners and their families thrive.

Heath is also very passionate about learning and development. He has served 14 years as a tutor, lecturer, and course coordinator for CPA Canada's Advanced Tax Issues for the Owner Managed Business program, along with numerous other teaching roles with CPA Canada and the former Atlantic School of Chartered Accountants.

Beyond his professional pursuits, Heath is a dedicated father of three. He coached youth basketball, served on the Board of Halifax Grammar School, and is a Halifax Chamber of Commerce board member.



# Fellow CPA

## **Stephanie O'Connor, FCPA, FCA**

Stephanie is a Partner and Business Advisor with MNP in Dartmouth. She has worked in public practice for more than 30 years. And was the first female partner at the predecessor firm, WBLI, in 2001.

Committed to her profession and community, Stephanie has served as a member of the Practice Inspection Committee for CPA Nova Scotia. She has sat on the Executive and Investment committees for the QEII Foundation, where she served as Treasurer for eight years and has also served as Treasurer for the Ecology Action Centre.

Stephanie has channelled her passion for sports by serving as Treasurer and Executive committee member for Soccer Nova Scotia for many years. For the past ten years, she has sat on the Executive committee of the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame, previously as Treasurer and now as Vice Chair.

Stephanie is married to Dave O'Connor, owner of Glow Parties. They have two sons, Josh, and Jake, who also have a love for sports, especially hockey. Stephanie has spent a lot of time driving to and from the rink and watching many hockey games.

Stephanie graduated from Saint Mary's University with a Bachelor of Commerce in 1992 and qualified as a CPA in 1994.



# Fellow CPA

## David Wood, FCPA, FCMA

David is Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer for The Municipal Group of Companies in Bedford. Before joining The Municipal Group in 1988, he worked for Doane Raymond.

During his 35-year career with Municipal Group, David has developed a diversified background of experience and participated in the successful growth of the Group. He leads a finance, treasury, and administrative team and is a member of the Executive Team that manages the Group's operations.

David is a Past Chairperson and Board member of the Construction Association of Nova Scotia. He also serves on the Canadian Construction Association's Civil Infrastructure Council and Audit Committee. He is a past member of the Atlantic Chapter of Financial Executives and served as a student mentor with the Society of Management Accountants.

David has participated in fundraising campaigns for the Canadian Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life and the IWK Hospital Capital Fund.



# Early Achievement

The CPA Nova Scotia 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

## James Rockwood, CPA, CA

James is the Founder and CEO of CapIntel, an award-winning financial technology company leading the way in transforming how financial advisors provide advice to their clients. Driven by a passion for creating a meaningful business that could impact millions of people, James set his sights on improving the wealth management industry. Realizing how important financial goals are to many of life's milestones, he wanted to equip advisors and their clients with the best tools to meet these objectives. CapIntel's platform has grown in just three years and now supports over 12,000 advisors and wholesalers across North America.

Outside of work, you will find James in the kitchen cooking, doing CrossFit, running Spartan races, or digging into stoic philosophy, a school of thought he puts into daily practice as CEO. He also hosts the Frontier of Finance podcast, speaking with leading asset managers about the latest funds on the market.

James began his career in Investment Banking and as an Accountant at KPMG in Toronto and Halifax. Ernst & Young recently recognized him as a finalist for Ontario's Entrepreneur of the Year in Technology.



# Unsung Hero

The Unsung Hero Award is given to a CPA who demonstrates dedication, commitment and outstanding service to individuals or groups within the community through volunteer activities. It is intended to recognize service behind the scenes at the community level, where service often goes unrecognized.

# Unsung Hero

## Jessica Clahane, CPA, CA

Living and working in Annapolis Valley, Jessica has a sense of responsibility and care for her community's economic growth and sustainability. As an Assurance Partner with Grant Thornton, she shares her astute thinking and expertise with clients to support their ambitions and achieve their business goals. With colleagues, Jessica is passionate about the value of learning, sharing observations on business issues, encouraging colleagues to serve their communities, and coaching them on their journey for professional growth.

Volunteering her time allows Jessica the opportunity to collaborate and provide strategic support to a variety of organizations. As a Director for the Valley Regional Enterprise Network, she supports the focus on economic development and supporting business growth through labour attraction, tourism, and investment readiness. Near and dear to her heart, she is a Scholarship Committee member for the Rotary Club of Kentville. It provides students with financial resources to support their continuous learning and development. Jessica is a Past President of the Annapolis Valley Chamber of Commerce, and she is currently a committee member for the Women of Excellence Awards, recognizing the accomplishments of leaders who truly bring excellence to their vocation.





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