

Education



> Michel Bergeron, CA*

The Education Committee (EC) provides a valuable forum for university representatives and training employers to discuss changes in CA qualification standards. Their analyses and opinions enable the Ordre's Board of Directors to make informed decisions.

The year 2008-2009 was marked by the efforts of all stakeholders to determine how to prepare students for the major challenges involved in transitioning to international accounting standards in 2011. The Ordre offered a free training session on IFRS/IAS to accounting faculty and made continuing education courses available to them.

As it does every year, the Committee carefully reviewed proposals to amend the *UFE Candidates' Competency Map*. The comments expressed will make it possible to gradually introduce international accounting standards into the university curriculum and the professional exam.

The members issued an opinion on the draft *Regulation respecting the standards for diploma and training equivalence for the issue of a permit of the Ordre des comptables agréés du Québec*. This regulation takes into account the Committee's 2007-2008 recommendation to have the graduate diploma recognized as giving access to a CA permit.

The Committee recommended that the Board of Directors approve the revised version of the document entitled *CA Practical Experience Requirements - January 2009*, which is effective September 1, 2009.

In addition, during the public consultation on the draft regulations of the Ordre des CGA and the Ordre des CMA pertaining to the delivery of the public accountancy permit, the Ordre benefited from the exceptional cooperation of the Committee members, who shared their views on the new regulations. The members reviewed and commented on the requirements applicable to the education program and practical experience, as well as the exam and equivalence recognition proposed by these accounting bodies. They also submitted their conclusion to the Office des professions du Québec that the standards proposed by the Ordre des CGA and the Ordre des CMA are not comparable to those governing the practice of public accountancy in Quebec.

The university partner recognition program continued, enabling the members to comment on various Ordre initiatives and to strengthen those focused on ensuring that sufficient faculty is available in the future.

Finally, the 617 first-time 2008 UFE writers achieved a pass rate of more than 70%. Given the 18% increase in the number of first-time writers over last year, we can certainly say that this influx of future members bodes well for the future of the profession!

I would like to thank the Committee members for their cooperation and support throughout the year.

Michel Bergeron, CA
Chair

Committee members

Hélène Bergeron, CA
Danièle Blanchette, CA*
Pierre Charron, CA
Patrick Couture, CA
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Benoît Guérard, CA
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Mélanie Leduc, CA
Philippe Levy, CA
Patricia Michaud, CA
Jeason Morin, Representative of the Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport*

Secretary: Diane Messier, FCA

* Members of the Committee on Training of Chartered Accountants (Order-in-Council 1027-97)