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## Message from Outgoing President

### A Message as We Move Forward

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for being allowed to serve as GFOA Alberta President for the 2020-2023 terms. It has truly been an honor to represent the association, even through times of challenges and change that 2020 brought upon us.

I am proud of the inter-organizational connections that I have played a part in building. I am confident we will continue to see growth at the annual GFOA conference, in our professional development offerings and our membership base. There are numerous individuals who made my job as President a lot easier that deserve special recognition. Many thanks to Executive Director, Rick Wojtkiw, who could always provide guidance, historical reference, background information and a good laugh. A special thanks to the GFOA staff and contractors for the work they do all year long: Executive Administrator, Alanna Creagh, who keeps the Board and Task Forces on track throughout the entire year; Sheila Moore, who handles GFOA marketing and organizes the conference; and Michela, for keeping our platforms and processes as efficient as possible, while also managing membership and webinars and Jeanette for overseeing the bookkeeping duties. Thank you to the Task Force Committee Chairs and Members, whose volunteer time is valued and appreciated as they also work hard to develop processes and programs that will meet our membership needs. I would also like to recognize the conference committee members who provide support for the conference to help ensure it is a success every year. All of the committees do a wonderful job, and I have been a part of a few of them myself over the years and understand the work that goes into it, so thank you all so much for your efforts.

GFOA is a great organization and one that I am proud to be part of. I joined the board in 2013 as secretary after having sat on the Communications Task Force prior to that. It has been a privilege and I have appreciated serving the membership consecutively since that time. My time on the board has provided me with the opportunity to meet and connect with amazing individuals as well as a chance to be involved from the start on many of the initiatives and developments GFOA has experienced over the past several years. With that said, I look forward to stepping back over the next couple of years as I work my way through past presidency where I can be a part of GFOA through a different lens.

In closing, I must thank the entire membership for granting me the opportunity to represent GFOA as your president for the last few years. While it took me out of my comfort zone from time to time, it has truly been an honour and I am grateful for that. You are in great hands with your newly elected President Alvin Allim, who I know will do an exceptional job for GFOA Alberta.

Thank you,  
Jennifer Place, GFOA Alberta  
2020-2023 President

## Executive Director Update

Hello GFOA Alberta Members,

Wow! What a great conference in Banff! It was great to see you all and I've heard great feedback from many of you and through the WHOVA Post-event survey. Many of our exhibitors were delighted with the leads this year (increased number from last year). The team at the Fairmont Banff Springs were great hosts, and I hope you all enjoyed the time learning, networking and having a bit of fun. A big thank you to all the GFOA sponsors, both returning and new sponsors - without these partnerships, we could not do the important work that we do, including this vital annual event. Sponsors play an important role in supporting our work and our members and clients across Alberta. Exhibitors ensure that our members have access to the many local government service providers that help them serve their communities.

We hope to see you in Edmonton next year at the Fantasyland Hotel June 2-5, 2024, and also on the Devon golf course June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Now back to GFOA Business matters, at the AGM held on May 15<sup>th</sup>, Alvin Allim was elected President for the 2023/2024 term. New members joining the Board are Chris Hughes as Vice President and Jamie Spurgeon, Director at Large representing the City of Edmonton. Leaving the Board was Ed Kaemingh our Past President and Milap Petigara, Director at Large from the City of Edmonton. I would also like to welcome Josh Hunter, Rodney Boyko and Diane Psymeny as new members on our Professional Development Task Force.

### Newsletter Sponsor

Big thanks to Title Sponsor and June's Newsletter sponsor CIBC Wood Gundy.

### Get Connected

Have you checked out the GFOA Online Member Only Community Forum and Publication Library? Our focus is to provide out members with educational opportunities, access to GFOA Online Member Only tools to provide further networking, discussion and opportunities. If you haven't, I urge you to visit the website and navigate through Discord and the Shared Document Database. This is good timing if you attended the conference and want to continue a conversation or discussion about a session.

The WHOVA app will remain active until mid-August. Many of the presentations have been uploaded to the site, if you are looking for something specific, please contact Sheila at [communications@gfoa.ab.ca](mailto:communications@gfoa.ab.ca) to assist you.

Make sure to follow us on LinkedIn ([click here](#)) as there is regular updates on our training and events. Have a great summer!

Sincerely,  
Rick Wojtkiw  
GFOA, Executive Director

## GFOA Sponsor of the Month



Since 1983, the Hobson Chahal Advisory Group has provided customized wealth management solutions for numerous institutions, including: government bodies, municipalities, foundations, charities, insurance reciprocals and school divisions. At present, we manage over 100 institutional accounts, and oversee approximately \$3 billion in combined assets.

## GFOA Conference PD Credits

If you attended a session at the GFOA conference and got your QR code scanned, the details including hours and credits can be accessed by logging in and going to your member account page. Any questions or please contact Administration Michela at [programs@gfoa.ab.ca](mailto:programs@gfoa.ab.ca)

## Thank You 2023 Sponsors



## GFOA Members Get More

### Why should you register or renew your membership?

When you register your municipality, members receive discounts on educational opportunities and job postings, access to GFOA's Online Member Only Community Forum and Publication Library, and the latest information on industry best practices. Not to mention members get the best rate for the popular [GFOA Annual Conference](#).

There are many more benefits not listed here, please click here to [renew your membership](#).

Watch for the upcoming professional development webinars, we have two scheduled in May, they are listed further in this newsletter.

## Professional Development Opportunities

### FREE ETHICS WEBINAR (Two Part Series)

*Presented by Deloitte*

#### Darren Liviniuk CPA, CA

Darren leads Deloitte's Assurance practice in Alberta and serves provincial, municipal and indigenous governments across Western Canada.

#### Luke Wilson, MBA, CPA, CA

Luke is a Senior Manager in Deloitte's Public Sector Assurance group. He serves all levels of governments, indigenous governments and non-profit organizations across Canada.

WHEN | **Thursday, June 1 & 8 @10:00 AM**

WHERE | Online Interactive Webinar

REGISTER | [www.gfoa.ab.ca](http://www.gfoa.ab.ca)

COST | **FREE**

\*Earn PD Credits



**JUNE 8** 10:00 AM



CONTACT  
[PROGRAMS@GFOA.AB.CA](mailto:PROGRAMS@GFOA.AB.CA)







## Career Postings

The GFOA Alberta website is regularly updated with job opportunities in the public sector finance industry in Alberta!

[Check out Career Postings Across Alberta](#)

To post an opportunity in your municipality, click on the 'Resources' tab of our website, and then select 'Post a Position'. If you have any questions, please [contact us](#) for support.

## UPDATE | High Interest Savings Accounts

### Put your money to work!

High-Interest Savings Account (HISA) provides a risk free, no cost, and secure way to generate interest on idle funds. Take advantage of this simple, liquid, and competitive investment option in your municipality!

5.05% 

***Did you know that the High-Interest Savings Account (HISA) rate recently increased?***

[Learn More](#)



### About GFOA Alberta:

- Formed in 1979.
- Offer annual conferences and training opportunities for networking and professional development.
- Today our organization boasts over 1,200 members and serves a pivotal role in ensuring the financial well being of local government in our province.