

March 6, 2009

### **Chair's Annual Report – 2008**

This reporting period has been a year marked by recognition, adjustment and renewed commitment. In that vein I wish to highlight three significant points relative to 2008.

*First*, I am pleased to advise that your Ontario Branch was recognized in 2008 for making extraordinary progress by virtue of becoming the worthy recipient of the *2007 Award of Excellence* from among the five Branches of the Canadian Division of ICSA.

*Second*, the Branch undertook a thorough review of its budgetary and strategic imperatives. With the acceptance of increased responsibility on the part of volunteer Council members, it was resolved that Council members themselves would assume ownership of Branch finances, administration and operations. Accordingly, our last day of direct assistance and provision of services by the staff of Taylor Enterprises Ltd. to the Branch was December 31, 2008. On behalf of all members of the Ontario Branch, I would like to extend a vote of appreciation to Taylor whose staff was of particular assistance during the transition and who continues to take an active interest in our operations. The new Branch address and communications coordinates can be found at [www.icsacanada.org](http://www.icsacanada.org) and on the attached "Notice".

*Third*, your Council members have worked diligently with the aim of balancing the budget this year. As you can see from the attached material we have made significant strides from the previous reporting period and are confident that, in adopting self-administration, we will readily move to continuous budget surplus territory. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of Branch Council on your behalf. The Council members have adopted a well organized and disciplined approach to operations and are counting on your support to attend events and functions in the forthcoming year beginning with the AGM on March 27, 2009.

As you are aware, your Branch *reduced* its membership fees two years ago. With the addition of strategic partners and an emphasis on both improving educational programs and increasing the membership we now anticipate the need to increase brand awareness and marketing. As a consequence, fees may rise again commensurate with program value and benefits.

Lastly, it has been a pleasure serving as your Chair and I believe that I depart having left the organization with the perspective and orientation it needs to face both educational and membership challenges. Your robust Ontario Branch Council is comprised of professionals who are accountants, administrators, compliance specialists, corporate secretaries, finance professionals, management consultants, lawyers and university educators. This variety is healthy and augers well for the future.

"Kenneth A. Nason", FCIS, P.Adm  
Chair, Ontario Branch Council