

CPA Saskatchewan Public Practitioner Education Week

From October 6 to 10, 2025, CPA Saskatchewan will host our third annual *Public Practitioner Education Week*! This week will include a total of thirteen sessions, including *four free* presentations, which are focused on the needs of public practitioners. Registrations will be per session, allowing you to pick what is most relevant to you and what fits within your schedule. Click on a session title below to register or you can search for the sessions being offered by selecting “Public Practitioner Education Week” located under the *Level* search function on our [CPA SK PD and Events](#) page or by looking at the [CPA SK Calendar](#).

October 6	October 7	October 8	October 9	October 10
9:00 – 11:30 am	8:00 – 9:00 am	8:00 – 9:30 am	8:00 – 10:00 am	8:00 – 9:30 am
Managing Risks for Accounting Profession (OC) <i>(FREE)</i> Presented by: Jack Daiter	Delegating: Leveraging Your Team's Time (OC) Presented by: Jean-Guy Talbot, FCPA, FCGA	Prompt Like a Pro: Using AI to Work Smarter, Not Harder (OC) Presented by: Brennen Schmidt	ASPE - Update 2025 (OC) Presented by: Jennifer O’Neal, CPA, CA	ASNFPPO - Update 2025 (OC) Presented by: Jennifer O’Neal, CPA, CA
	9:30 am – 10:30 am			
	Dealing with Nuts Without Going Squirrely (OC) Presented by: Jean-Guy Talbot, FCPA, FCGA			
	11:30 – 12:30 pm		11:30 – 12:30 pm	
	Advanced Financial Planning: Understanding Individual Pension Plans (OC) <i>(FREE)</i> Presented by: Shayne Williams and Spenser McCaig		GST/HST Audits & Examinations (OC) <i>(FREE) *</i> Presented by: Michael Monk	
12:00 – 3:30 pm	12:30 – 1:30 pm	12:00 – 2:30 pm	12:30 – 1:30 pm	12:00 – 3:00 pm
Audits - Update 2025 (OC) Presented by: Bradley Keefe, CPA, CA	Putting Ethics into Practice (OC) (Pre-Recorded) Presented by: Kirsten Albo, FCPA, FCA	Quality Management - Monitoring & Remediation for Non-Assurance Providers (OC) Presented by: Patricia Dahm, CPA, CA	GST/HST Directors Liability and Taxpayer Rights (OC) <i>(FREE) *</i> Presented by: Michael Monk	When the Breach Hits: A Cyber Tabletop Exercise for CPA Firms (OC) Presented by: Brennen Schmidt

** Registration for these courses is separate however the same link will be used for both sessions*

Course Descriptions

Monday, October 6, 2025

[Managing Risks for Accounting Profession \(OC\)](#) - FREE

Jack Deiter

The presentation will guide the audience through claims trends, key risk management practices and what to expect in the event of a loss. Presented by CPA Professional Liability Plan Inc.

[Audits - Update 2025 \(OC\)](#)

Bradley Keefe, CPA, CA

This seminar will focus on recent modifications to the CPA Canada Assurance Handbook. These will include:

- Recently approved standards that have been incorporated in the Assurance Handbook.
- Proposed standards that will be imminently approved.
- Current Exposure Drafts and ongoing projects at the Canada Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AASB), with consideration of international projects; and,
- Recent findings stemming from practice inspections, including recommendations on how to address these issues.

By the end of this seminar, participants should be able to:

- Describe how the revisions to Canadian Auditing Standards will impact their audit engagement.
- Anticipate pending changes to audit standards and understand how the changes may impact audit engagements.
- Describe the recent practice inspection findings and how auditors can address these in their upcoming engagements; and,
- Describe and locate tools to assist with audits.

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

[Delegating: Leveraging Your Team's Time \(OC\)](#)

Jean-Guy Talbot, FCPA, FCGA

Leveraging your team's time and abilities is an important ingredient to the success of most business owners and especially accountants and bookkeepers. Most of us know this. Yet, it's a skill most practitioners struggle with all the time. So, what are the pitfalls? Why do so many business owners struggle and fail so miserably at delegating?

Participants will learn:

- The tremendous value and benefit proper delegation skills can have on your practice
- The 7 most common pitfalls of delegating
- Solutions to some of the most common problems of delegating

[Dealing with Nuts Without Going Squirrely \(OC\)](#)

Jean-Guy Talbot, FCPA, FCGA

Regardless of the business you're in, you will be dealing with nuts. You know who they are. Those people who are totally irrational and cannot understand common sense in its simplest form. So, what do you do? How do you talk to these people? What do you say or not say to such nuts? Ohhhh, the stress of it all.

Participants will learn:

- How to recognize a nut sooner
- How to recognize the nuts that make you nuts
- How to keep control of your own mind and not become nutty yourself and not crack under pressure
- How to reduce the temperature of the discussions when nuts are boiling over
- How to get nuts to at least consider your point of view when they're so far up the tree, they cannot see the ground

[Advanced Financial Planning: Understanding Individual Pension Plans \(OC\) - FREE](#)

Shayne Williams, CFP®, IG Wealth Management

Spenser McCaig, West Coast Actuaries Inc.

We will explore how CPAs can leverage Individual Pension Plans (IPPs) to enhance financial planning strategies for incorporated professionals and business owners. Topics will include:

- Tax advantages of IPPs
- Retirement planning benefits, and how IPPs compare to RRSPs
- Key steps for setting up and managing an IPP, including how it's funded and the role of the actuary

This session will help CPAs gain a deeper understanding of a lesser-known but powerful strategy for high-net-worth business owners and incorporated professionals.

[Putting Ethics into Practice \(OC\)](#)

Kirsten Albo, FCPA, FCA

Ethics is a fundamental pillar of the profession and essential to being in public practice. CPAs are known for integrity and reliability and a strong practitioner is valued by their clients. It is critical to protect that reputation. This verifiable ethics CPD course will help practitioners better understanding ethics and its impact on being in public practice. We make decisions on a daily basis; some have little impact on us and some have a significant impact.

The session reviews various ethical decision-making frameworks and how they can be put into use in all engagements. Recognizing biases and how they impact our decisions is another aspect of ethics that further enhances our ability to make the right decision. Through practical guidance, illustrative examples and real-life examples, this course will help you put ethics into practice.

By the end of the session participants will be able to:

- *Describe ethics and what it means to public practice*
- *Discuss the differences in ethical decision-making frameworks*
- *Understand how biases come into play in the decision-making process*
- *Become familiar with the Code of Professional Conduct and the rules that guide the profession*
- *Identify potential independence threats and establish and implement appropriate safeguards to be put in place*
- *Build a stronger ethical culture*

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Prompt Like a Pro: Using AI to Work Smarter, Not Harder (OC)

Brennen Schmidt

You've heard the buzz about tools like ChatGPT and Microsoft Copilot, but if you're unsure where to start or how they apply to your day-to-day work in your practice, this session is for you. Built specifically for CPAs, this hands-on session cuts through the hype and focuses on practical ways to save time, improve quality, and protect client trust. Whether you're writing client letters, responding to the CRA, or organizing engagement files, you'll see exactly how AI tools can help — without adding complexity or risk. We also tackle the big concerns about ethics, confidentiality, and safe usage. You'll leave this session with prompt templates, clarity, and confidence to use AI as a tool, not a risk.

You'll learn how to

Use AI to draft client letters, summarize notes, and generate file templates. Apply plain-language prompts to speed up everyday work; no jargon required. Improve consistency without losing control or compromising professional standards.

Why It Matters for CPAs

Small firms often lack time or IT support to explore new tools — we bridge that gap
Ethics, documentation, and privacy guidance tailored to CPA obligations
Helps you keep pace with change while protecting your practice and reputation

Quality Management - Monitoring & Remediation for Non-Assurance Providers (OC)

Patricia Dahm, CPA, CA

This seminar will assist firms that practice exclusively in the non-assurance area to understand, apply, and document their System of Quality Management ("SOQM") in accordance with the new standard CSQM 1. The participants will identify quality objectives, risks, and responses for a few of the quality objective components during the seminar by completing various seminar-developed forms that have been, in some instances, adapted from the Digitized Quality Management Guide – QMG Cloud (QMG). The course will also demonstrate the application and documentation of the monitoring and remediation process.

Thursday, October 9, 2025

[ASPE - Update 2025 \(OC\)](#)

Jennifer O'Neal, CPA, CA

The seminar is best suited to professionals who are involved in the preparation and analysis of financial statements for small- and medium-sized entities, and practitioners who provide assurance on these financial statements, who want to ensure they are aware of recent changes in ASPE standards and other hot topic areas. It will also create awareness of potential future changes in the standards by covering projects that are being worked on, as well as areas that standard setters are discussing.

By the end of this seminar, participants should be able to:

- Apply and explain new ASPE standards with effective dates in 2025 and beyond,
- Identify changes and improvements in relation to “common deficiencies”.
- Locate relevant publications (with links).

[GST/HST Audits & Examinations \(OC\)](#) - FREE

Michael Monk

Did you know there are multiple CRA Compliance Processes? Do you know the similarities and differences between GST/HST Pre-assessment Reviews and Post-assessment Audits? Do you want to hear about GST/HST record-keeping issues? If you would like to learn more, you should attend this Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) GST/HST Presentation.

We will review some helpful information and provide guidance with respect to these two processes, plus the general record-keeping requirements for GST/HST. You will hear directly from CRA's GST/HST Directorate, Headquarters employee who has 35 years' experience working in GST/HST programs.

[GST/HST Directors Liability and Taxpayer Rights \(OC\)](#) - FREE

Michael Monk

Did you know Directors can be held liable for organizational GST/HST? Would you like to know how to minimize that risk? Are you aware of Canada Revenue Agency's Taxpayer Bill of Rights?

If you would like to learn more about these topics, you should attend Canada Revenue Agency's (CRA's) GST/HST Presentation. You will hear directly from CRA's GST/HST Directorate, Headquarters Representative who has 35 years experience working in CRA's GST/HST programs.

Friday, October 10, 2025

ASNFPPO - Update 2025 (OC)

Jennifer O'Neal, CPA, CA

This seminar will provide an information update on recent revisions to the CPA Canada Handbook –Part III, Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNFPPO). In addition, revisions will be discussed to Part II, Accounting Standards for Private Enterprises (ASPE) where they are applicable to NFPOs.

Participants will first be provided with an overview of changes to ASNFPPO, followed by discussion of major projects and impact on NFPOs. Then the revisions and projects in ASPE are discussed that are applicable to NFPOs.

Participants will be able to utilize this information on proposed changes to the standards to provide guidance to NFPOs and board members.

The seminar is best suited to professionals who are involved in the preparation and analysis of financial statements using ASNFPPO, practitioners who provide assurance on these financial statements and CPA's who volunteer on Boards for NFPOs

When the Breach Hits: A Cyber Tabletop Exercise for CPA Firms (OC)

Brennen Schmidt

Your client files are locked. A ransom note appears. Time is ticking. What happens next? In this interactive Tabletop Exercise (TTX), you'll walk through a realistic cyber breach scenario tailored for CPA firms. A TTX is a live, guided simulation where you and your peers make decisions as if this were happening in your own practice. It's not technical. It's practical. And it's designed to expose the gaps you may not know you have. Whether you're a sole practitioner or manage a small team, this session helps you evaluate what you might need to do when client data, firm operations, and your professional reputation are on the line.

You'll learn how to

Systematically respond to an incident (without the panic). Identify weaknesses in your current backup, vendor, or email systems. Communicate clearly with clients, staff, and regulators in a time of crisis. Identify next steps tailored for small firms.

Why It Matters for CPAs

Most firms don't have a tested cyber incident plan; this helps build one
Client trust and file access are at the heart of your practice — learn how to protect both
Many CPAs assume they're covered; this session pressure tests that assumption
Helps you understand your responsibilities even if you're "not the IT person"

Instructors

Bradley Keefe, CPA, CA



Bradley Keefe, CPA, CA, is a partner at a local mid-sized firm in Manitoba. Bradley specializes in assurance engagements and has practiced in this area for over 20 years. His primary area of practice is with not-for-profit, charity and public sector entities. Bradley has extensive experience leading and updating professional development courses for CPA Manitoba. Bradley was also extensively involved with the CPA Canada and the CPA Western of School of Business where he was an experienced facilitator, session leader, exam reviewer, and author.

Brennen Schmidt



Brennen Schmidt is a leading expert in cybersecurity, emergency planning, and crisis response. As an award-winning management consultant and co-author of “Cyber City Safe: Emergency Planning Beyond the Maginot Line,” he excels at bridging the gap between people, process, and platforms.

Regularly featured on prominent media platforms such as Global News, CTV News, and CBC, Brennen is adept at distilling complex issues into digestible insights. His voice not only resonates through the airwaves but is also amplified in print and online via Troy Media, reaching over 1,800 newspapers across Canada and a digital audience of 5+ million.

Brennen’s expertise in technology strategy and digital transformation qualifies him as a trusted advisor in various fields, from product marketing and development to governance and operations. Collaborating closely with diverse teams, he emphasizes a strategy-to-execution approach that produces measurable outcomes and articulates business value.

As a respected thought leader, Brennen’s contributions significantly impact areas such as emergency planning and crisis response. His analyses and viewpoints help shape the conversation around today’s most pressing challenges, including governance, risk, and compliance for disruptive technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI).

A regular invitee to both industry and academic events, Brennen’s speaking engagements offer depth of insight and actionable strategies. Whether speaking to executives or students, he captivates his audience, inspiring meaningful discussion.

Outside his professional pursuits, Brennen is dedicated to nurturing future leaders. As a committed coach with the University of Regina’s Hill JDC West teams, he derives immense satisfaction from developing the next generation of problem-solvers and thought leaders.

Photo Credit: SamShots!

Jack Daiter



Jack is a licensed lawyer in Ontario with over 30 years of experience in handling professional liability claims. He was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1987 and spent the first 10 years of his legal career in private practice as a civil litigator. In 1997, Jack transitioned in-house to work for the professional liability insurer for lawyers in Ontario, where he spent the next 21 years managing professional liability claims and overseeing an active claims department. He has also adjudicated for the federal government and, more recently, has worked with the professional liability insurer for architects in Ontario. He is the Vice President, Claims and Risk Education at CPA Professional Liability Plan Inc.

Jennifer O'Neal, CPA, CA



With over 30 years of experience in the accounting profession, Jennifer O'Neal is a recognized leader in audit and assurance, quality management, and professional training. She specializes in helping firms strengthen their Systems of Quality Management, optimize assurance methodologies, and meet evolving regulatory requirements with confidence. Jennifer is an accomplished educator, delivering professional development courses for provincial CPA bodies across Canada and for 20-20 Services in the United States, whose clients include large and mid-sized accounting firms across North America. Her engaging and practical teaching style equips practitioners with the knowledge and tools they need to deliver high-quality engagements and comply with the latest standards.

*As the CEO and founder of **Tilaus.io**, Jennifer has developed **TQX – The Tilaus Quality Experience**, an innovative cloud-based quality management system designed specifically for small and medium-sized accounting practices. This software streamlines compliance with Canadian and international quality management standards, saving firms time while improving consistency and efficiency.*

Jennifer's contributions to the profession include authoring CPA Canada's Quality Management Guide and co-authoring the Professional Engagement Guide. She has also served on CPA Canada task forces, including the Compilation Engagement Implementation Task Force, influencing resources and guidance for practitioners nationwide.

Passionate about advancing the profession, Jennifer combines her deep technical expertise with a commitment to practical, real-world solutions — empowering accounting firms in Canada and the U.S. to thrive in a competitive and highly regulated environment.

Kirsten Albo, FCPA, FCA, ICD.D



Kirsten S. Albo is the founder of ASK KSA Consulting Inc., where she provides consulting and advisory services to small and mid-sized practitioners (SMPs). With over three decades of experience, Kirsten helps firms conduct effective and efficient engagements while meeting the requirements of public practice. Known for her practical and results-driven approach, she works closely with SMPs and delivers tailored solutions that enhance audit quality and firm efficiency.

Before founding ASK KSA Consulting Inc., Kirsten spent 23 years at PricewaterhouseCoopers, where she served as an audit partner, working with both public and private companies across a range of industries. Her strong technical background and in-depth knowledge of accounting and assurance standards have made her a go-to resource for firms.

Kirsten is very engaged in the profession, currently serving as a member of the Audit Evidence and Risk Response Advisory Group for the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AASB). She has also contributed to numerous other advisory groups for the AASB and CPA Canada. A highly regarded speaker and instructor, Kirsten develops and delivers in-house courses for firms and instructs for substantially all provincial Canadian CPA bodies. She has also been a presenter for many professional bodies both nationally and internationally. Kirsten is also actively involved in her community and has served on many local boards.

As a Fellow Chartered Professional Accountant (FCPA, FCA), Kirsten is known for her drive, passion and leadership. Kirsten has a reputation for helping practitioners meet the standards in a practical, efficient way without sacrificing quality. And, she likes to have fun along the way.

Michael Monk

*Michael Monk has been with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) for 35 years. During that time, he has worked extensively with numerous complex GST/HST issues. Michael's current role in CRA's Ottawa Headquarters (HQ) is with the **HQ - GST/HST and Digital Compliance Directorate** where he has managed **CRA's National GST/HST Presentations and Outreach** services for the last 8 years. During that time, he has created and facilitated several hundred GST/HST Presentations, across multiple sectors and industries. Michael has several years of acquired GST/HST knowledge and experience, having worked with a multitude of GST/HST issues, across multiple sectors and business lines. He has participated in several Conferences, preparing, and delivering GST/HST Presentations nationally, to a variety of accounting and industry associations.*

Michael has volunteered with community and school groups over the years. He has served as Director on the Board of a large charity, and on CRA's Employee Assistance Program Committee.

Patricia Dahm, CPA, CA



Patricia is a legacy Chartered Accountant and has been in public practice in some capacity since 1985. Patricia has a diverse background, including being a practice reviewer for almost 13 years. She was an Associate Partner with Deloitte for five years. Her experience includes monitoring and implementation of quality control systems, technical assistance to engagement teams with respect to assurance, and ASPE and IFRS issues. She also has provided quarterly and annual financial statement assistance to a few public companies. Presently she has a small practice where she provides consulting services to various public accounting firms. Over the past several years, Patricia has authored CPA courses in the areas of ASPE and internal controls. She also teaches courses for CPA in the areas of IFRS, ASPE, auditing, review and compilation engagements and internal controls. Finally, Patricia is passionate about sharing her experiences with those wanting to enter the profession and teaches various fourth-level accounting and assurance courses at SAIT.

Shayne Williams



Shayne Williams is a Certified Financial Planner professional with IG Wealth Management, specializing in helping small business owners grow their investments and develop long-term financial strategies. With a strong focus on practical, client-centered planning, Shayne brings clarity to complex financial topics. He has presented to various professional associations across Manitoba, including past sessions at the RBC Convention Centre. In 2024, Shayne served as a session instructor during CPA Public Practice Education Week, continuing his active involvement with the CPA communities in both Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Spenser McCaig



Spenser is a senior consultant and leads the IPP team at Westcoast Actuaries. He holds a degree in actuarial science from the University of Waterloo and has 12 years of industry experience working with some of the pioneers of the IPP vehicle, who are also the founders of Westcoast Actuaries. Spenser educates business-owners and executives on how the IPP can enhance their retirement, optimize their tax and grow their wealth. He collaborates with advisors, accountants and regulators to continually improve the IPP client experience.