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Meeting Notes

AGM ... The 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the BC Chapter of the ISCEBS was held on November 20, 2008 at the Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Hotel in Vancouver. A good turnout of 32 Chapter members and others in the group benefits and pension areas within the BC region were in attendance.

Following a breakfast buffet, Chapter President, Cory St. Jean, welcomed the attendees and presented his Report to the members. Cory discussed the Chapter's educational sessions held throughout the year, the annual Symposium held in Orlando, Florida, which he attended on behalf of the Chapter and the strong financial status of the Chapter. New CEBS Graduates and Fellows from November 2007 and June 2008 were recognized with a CEBS pen and pin respectively. Cory closed his report by thanking the Board and Committee members who volunteered their time to the Chapter and encouraged interested members to become involved in Chapter activities.

Patsy Schafer then introduced the featured speakers, Cheryl Wong of Pacific Blue Cross and Parkash Ragsdale of the BC Pharmacy Association, who addressed the topic of the changes in legislation affecting pharmacists and the potential impact on plan sponsors.

Ms Wong and Ms Ragsdale held the audience's attention, with lively participation from the attendees following their talk.

Your 2008 BC Chapter ISCEBS Board

President:	Katherine Naylor Sun Life Financial
Vice President:	Gavin Scott Morneau Sobeco
Treasurer:	Jim Nielsen Fraser Health Authority
Secretary:	Duane Humeniuk Pacific Blue Cross
Directors:	Eva Chan Morneau Sobeco Annie Lim Retail Wholesale Union Pension Plan Rupe Prasad Mercer (Canada) Limited
Past President:	Cory St. Jean BC Medical Association

Meeting Notes (Cont'd)

More information on this topic will undoubtedly be forthcoming in the months ahead.

The 2009 AGM will be held on Thursday, November 19. Be sure to mark your calendar for this enjoyable opportunity to mingle with your fellow ISCEBS Chapter members.

2009 Chapter Executive:

President:

Katherine Naylor

Vice President:

Gavin Scott

Treasurer:

James Nielsen

Secretary:

Duane Humeniuk

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2009 Membership An exciting new development for 2009!

CEBS Students who have successfully passed at least one course can now become full voting members of the Society and, as well, can serve on Chapter Boards. Now as a Student you can have a full voice not only in the activities of your local Chapter, but in matters affecting the Society as a whole!

To join or to renew your membership is simple. Visit www.iscebs.org and click on ISCEBS Membership – Apply/Renew Now! A link on the ISCEBS registration page will take you directly to the Chapter membership dues form.



Congratulations, CEBS Grads and Fellows!

June 2008 Grads

Natalie W. Chow, CEBS
Vancouver, B.C.

Donald K. Chu, CEBS
ICBA Benefit Services Ltd.
Burnaby, B.C.

Jennifer E. Finnegan, CEBS
Mercer (Canada) Limited
Vancouver, B.C.

Simone J. Fowler, CEBS
The Home Depot
Victoria, B.C.

Nicole L. Gill, CEBS
Terasen Gas Inc.
Surrey, B.C.

Elaine Lee, CEBS
Staples & Company Employee
Benefit Consultants Inc.
Vancouver, B.C.

November 2008 Grads

Nicholas Hsu, CEBS
Industrial Alliance Pacific
Vancouver, B.C.

Hileray A. Shackelford, CEBS
Morneau Sobeco
Vancouver, B.C.

Tracy A. Taylor, CEBS
Dehoney Financial Group
Vancouver, B.C.

June 2008 Fellows

Joseph Gilgunn, CEBS
Gilgunn Benefit Management
Victoria, B.C.

Cory St. Jean, CEBS
BC Medical Association
Vancouver, B.C.

The Benefits of Membership

You're studying hard for that CEBS designation, or you have just achieved one of the other designations (GBA, RPA or CMS (??)) and you say to yourself "Why should I join the ISCEBS and the BC Chapter?" Or, you have been a member for awhile and you are wondering whether it is worth keeping up in these tough times.

The ISCEBS is the only association dedicated purely to education for benefits professionals. There are other industry associations, many that are worthwhile as networking opportunities. But, for those in this industry who are serious about their profession, the ISCEBS offers a wealth of knowledge. In addition to online resources and an extensive library of publications (and online assistance to find the information you are looking for) there is a job/position search service for members and employers. Chapter membership offers another dimension by providing timely and relevant education sessions by experts in their field. And, of course, networking with your peers. Now, more than ever, it is important to maintain your links in your industry.

So, if you are mulling over your options regarding memberships, be sure to put the ISCEBS and the BC Chapter on your list!

Notes From The 2008 Symposium

The 2008 ISCEBS Symposium was held at the Disney's Yacht and Beach Club Resort in Orlando, Florida from September 21-24, 2008. The BC Chapter was represented at the Symposium by President Cory St. Jean. In addition to the change regarding membership highlighted on the first page of this Newsletter, Cory noted that from an educational point of view the topics of the sessions, including one on the Global Economic Outlook, were timely as the Symposium coincided with the peak of the U.S. banking crisis. Canadian content continues to improve both in quality and quantity and this year approximately 30 members from Chapters across Canada attended the Symposium.

Upcoming Education Sessions

The next education session of the BC Chapter will be on Thursday, April 30th. Our guest speaker will be Greg Heise from Morneau Sobeco and he will be speaking on the funding crisis in pension plans – a very timely and interesting topic considering today's economic outlook.

Please mark your calendars now for this event. Further details, including the location and more information on the topic, will be distributed shortly.