

A N N U A L R E P O R T 2 0 1 9

ENVISIONING the **FUTURE**



THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS OF THE CARIBBEAN



The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (ICAC)

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (ICAC) was established on October 28, 1988, bringing together at that time, accountants within the English-speaking Caribbean through its founding members: - The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Lucia, and Trinidad & Tobago. Today, with a network of over 4,000 professionals, the ICAC has grown to become the leading regional organisation dedicated to the advancement of accountants and professionals in the finance industry within the Caribbean and parts of Latin America.

The ICAC has built strong international affiliations with globally recognised, accountancy bodies, multi-lateral organisations and public sector groupings. In 2006, the ICAC was recognised by The International Federation of Accountants, (IFAC), based in New York, as an "Acknowledged Regional Grouping" of accountancy bodies, a designation held by only three (3) other regional groupings in the world. The ICAC supports the global objectives of the IFAC and its applications to the continued development and progress of the accountancy profession.

Since its establishment, the ICAC has provided a forum for the evolution of the accountancy profession in the region and promotes internationally acceptable standards, best practices, thought leadership, research and continuing professional development. Through its flagship event, the Annual Caribbean Conference of Accountants, the ICAC provides an important forum for accountants in the region to connect, network and benefit from the latest global and regional developments impacting the evolution of the profession.

MEMBERS

- The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA)
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Barbados (ICAB)
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Belize (ICA - Belize)
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Eastern Caribbean (ICAEC)
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana (ICAG)
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica (ICAJ)
- The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Trinidad & Tobago (ICATT)
- Suriname Chartered Accountants Institute (SCAI)

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

- Turks & Caicos Islands Society of Professional Accountants (TCISPA)

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

- The Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada)
- The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- The Chartered Institute of Public Finance And Accounting (CIPFA)

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE & ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

The ICAC is governed by a Board of Directors comprising a director from each of its member bodies (national institutes), who is appointed to serve for a period of at least two (2) years. The Board is the policy making body of the Institute, while the Executive Committee which comprises the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Chief Executive Officer, oversee the management of the organisation.

The ICAC's Secretariat, located in Kingston, Jamaica, is responsible for supporting the development and implementation of its policies, goals and objectives and facilitates the sharing of information, best practices and networking across the member institutes, affiliates and associates. To advance the implementation of the strategic imperatives of the ICAC, sub-committees are created as needed from among the regional directorship and member institutes to work on specific topics and projects. As it works to operationalise its Mission Statement, the ICAC promotes and upholds the fundamental values of the accountancy profession - Truth and Fairness, Integrity, Justice and Prosperity - which are embodied in its motto, Veritas et Virtus (Truth and Virtue).

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MISSION STATEMENT & OBJECTIVES

MISSION STATEMENT

ICAC is the internationally recognised body for the accountancy profession in the Caribbean, with an expanding influence in the region. It advances the interest of the accountancy profession in the region and promotes the highest standards of professional and ethical conduct. Through thought leadership and the provision of research, Continuing Professional Development and other services, it adds value to its members and the wider community.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the ICAC are to:

- Promote internationally acceptable standards of best practice for the accountancy profession in the Caribbean region.
- Foster a strong, cohesive and self-regulated regional accountancy profession.
- Implement and coordinate an effective regional monitoring programme for practicing accountants in the region.
- Promote an institutional framework through its annual conference for accountants in the Caribbean to participate for mutual professional and fraternal benefit.
- Standardise qualification entry requirements and rules of professional conduct among member institutes.
- Provide leadership on emerging issues as they affect the accounting profession in the region.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the Thirty-second (32nd) Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (ICAC) which will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams on Saturday, September 12, 2020 commencing at 4:00 p.m. EST.

- To confirm minutes of the Thirty-first Annual General Meeting held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica on Thursday, June 20, 2019 and continued to September 14, 2019 at the KPMG Building, Queen's Park East, Trinidad and Tobago.
- To receive the Report of the Board of Directors.
- To adopt the audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2019.
- To re-appoint auditors for the period ended December 31, 2020 and to empower the Directors to agree upon an audit fee for the completion of audited financial statements for 2020.
- To consider any other business that may be brought before the Annual General Meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD



Andrea St. Rose
Secretary

August 7, 2020

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS



Khalil Alii, FCA
 President & Director,
 Guyana



David Simpson, FCCA, CA
 Vice President & Director,
 Barbados



Gowon Bowe, CPA, CA
 Treasurer & Director,
 The Bahamas



**Andrea St. Rose, LLB, FCIS,
 CFE, CPA, CGA, CA**
 Secretary & Director,
 Eastern Caribbean



Claude Burrell, CPA, CISA
 Director, Belize



**Raymond Campbell,
 FCA, FCCA, CBV**
 Director, Jamaica



Michael Lutchman, RA
 Director, Suriname



**Denise Chinpire-O'Reilly,
 FCCA, CA**
 Director, Trinidad & Tobago

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OTHER ICAC BOARD MEMBERS



Jim Knafo, CPA, CGMA
 Affiliate Representative
 American Institute of Certified
 Public Accountants



Nancy Foran, FCPA, FCMA, C. Dir
 Affiliate Representative
 Chartered Professional Accountants
 of Canada



Salema Hafiz
 Affiliate Representative
 The Chartered Institute of Public
 Finance and Accountancy



Snjezana Andrews, FCCA, ACMA
 Associate Representative
 Turks and Caicos Islands Society
 of Professional Accountants



Shelly-Ann Mohammed
 Affiliate Representative
 Association of Chartered
 Certified Accountants



**Anthony Pierre,
 FCCA, CA, CFC**
 Immediate Past President,
 ICAC



Shamila Ramcharan
 Chief Executive Officer

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ALTERNATE DIRECTORS

The following persons served as alternates to appointed directors of the Board during 2019



Diveane Bowe,
Alternate Director,
The Bahamas



Lisa Padmore,
FCPA, FCGA, FCA
Alternate Director,
Barbados



Brett Feinstein, CPA
Alternate Director,
Belize



Erwin Southwell, CPA
Alternate Director,
Eastern Caribbean



Harryram Parmesar, FCCA
Alternate Director,
Guyana



Sixto Coy,
FCA, FCCA, MBA
Alternate Director,
Jamaica



Hans Girasingh
Alternate Director,
Suriname



**Dianne Mano, ACCA, LLB.
(HONS), LEC, ACAMS**
Alternate Director,
Trinidad & Tobago

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

This constitutes the Directors' Report for the year ended December 31, 2019.

The Board of Directors Meetings held during the year were as follows:

- Eighty-fourth meeting on February 9, 2019 in Kingston, Jamaica;
- Eighty-fifth meeting on June 19, 2019 in Kingston, Jamaica;
- Eighty-sixth meeting on September 14, 2019 in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago;

The 31st Annual General Meeting was held on June 20, 2019 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel in Kingston, Jamaica.

Board of Directors

The members of the Board representing the following member territories were appointed at the 31st Annual General Meeting for the period 2019-2021:

Bahamas	Director Alternate Director	Gowon Bowe Diveane Bowe
Barbados	Director Alternate Director	David Simpson Lisa Padmore
Belize	Director Alternate Director	Claude Burrell Brett Feinstein
Eastern Caribbean	Director Alternate Director	Andrea St. Rose Erwin Southwell
Guyana	Director Alternate Director	Khalil Alli Harryram Parmesar
Jamaica	Director Alternate Director	Raymond Campbell Sixto Coy
Suriname	Director Alternate Director	Michael Lutchman Hans Girjasing
Trinidad & Tobago	Director Alternate Director	Denise Chinpire-O'Reilly Dianne Mano

The changes in directorship effective June 2019 were as follows:

- Mr. Diveane Bowe was appointed Alternate Director for The Bahamas.
- Mr. Brett Feinstein was appointed Alternate Director for Belize replacing Mr. Jose Ortez.
- Mr. Hans Girjasing was appointed Alternate Director for Suriname replacing Mr. Raymond Mayland.
- Mrs. Denise Chinpire-O'Reilly replaced Mr. Anthony Pierre as Director and Ms. Dianne Mano was appointed Alternate Director for Trinidad & Tobago.
- Mr. Raymond Campbell replaced Mr. Bruce Scott as Director and Mr. Sixto Coy was appointed Alternate Director for Jamaica.
- Mr. Harryram Parmesar was appointed Alternate Director for Guyana replacing Mr. Colin Thompson.

Executive Officers

The Executive Officers elected for the period 2019-2021 at a Special Meeting of the ICAC Board of Directors on June 20, 2019 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel in Kingston, Jamaica were:

Khalil Alli	President
David Simpson	Vice President
Andrea St. Rose	Secretary
Gowon Bowe	Treasurer

Directors Attendance - Board Meetings

Meetings attended by Directors (and/or their Alternates) during the year were*:

Name	Position	Institute/Org.	Number of meetings
Anthony Pierre	President/Director	Trinidad & Tobago	3
Khalil Alli	Vice-President/Director	Guyana	3
David Simpson	Treasurer/Director	Barbados	3
Andrea St. Rose	Secretary/Director	Eastern Caribbean	2
Gowon Bowe	Director	Bahamas	3
Claude Burrell	Director	Belize	2
Bruce Scott	Director	Jamaica	2
Michael Lutchman	Director	Suriname	1
Denise Chinpire-O'Reilly	Alternate Director	Trinidad & Tobago	3
Diveane Bowe	Alternate Director	Bahamas	2
Lisa Padmore	Alternate Director	Barbados	3
Brett Feinstein	Alternate Director	Belize	0
Erwin Southwell	Alternate Director	Eastern Caribbean	3
Colin Thompson	Alternate Director	Guyana	0
Harryram Parmesar	Alternate Director	Guyana	2
Raymond Campbell	Alternate Director	Jamaica	2
Sixto Coy	Alternate Director	Jamaica	1
Michael Lutchman	Alternate Director	Suriname	1
Dianne Mano	Alternate Director	Trinidad & Tobago	1
Jim Knafo	Affiliate Representative	AICPA	3
Shelly-Ann Mohammed	Affiliate Representative	ACCA	3
Nancy Foran/A. Christian	Affiliate Representative**	CPA Canada	3
Salema Hafiz	Affiliate Representative	CIPFA	0
Snjezana Andrews	Associate Representative	TCISPA	1

Notes:

*All Directors mentioned were on the ICAC Board for part or all of the year 2019

**During the year, Ann-Marie Christian represented Ms. Nancy Foran for CPA Canada on the Board

ICAC Member Bodies

Members	Membership as at December 31, 2019*
The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants	504
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Barbados	975
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Belize	53
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana	130
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica	1,247
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Eastern Caribbean	235
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Trinidad and Tobago	1,373
The Suriname Chartered Accountants Institute	38

Notes:

*Membership subscription for 2019 is based on the membership of each member institute as at September 30, 2018 in accordance with Section 4.2 of the ICAC Articles.

Affiliate Members	Representative
The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants	Mrs. Shelly-Ann Mohammed
The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants	Mr. Jim Knafo
The Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada	Ms. Nancy Foran
The Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy	Ms. Salema Hafiz

Associate Member	Representative
Turks & Caicos Islands Society of Professional Accountants	Ms. Snjezana Andrews

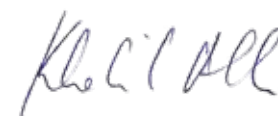
Auditors

Baker Tilly Strachan Lafayette, Chartered Accountants & Auditors of 14 Ruthven Road Kingston 10, Jamaica W.I., were appointed auditors for the year ending December 31, 2019 at the 31st Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on June 20, 2019.

Acknowledgements

The Directors thank the members, affiliates and the management and staff of the ICAC Secretariat for their contribution and support during the year 2019.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,



Khalil Alli
President, ICAC

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Khalil Alli, FCA
President & Director,
Guyana

It is with pleasure that I present the President's Report for the year ended 31 December 2019. Having been elected President in June 2019, I share responsibility for the affairs of the ICAC for the period under review with my predecessor, Mr. Anthony Pierre.

Formed as a forum for the advancement of the profession in the region, the role of, and the need for, an ICAC has grown over time, in direct relation to the promulgation of legislation and international rules, regulations and norms applicable to our profession. As a Board, we have been working assiduously to ensure that the organisation remains capable of fulfilling this increasingly important role. During 2019, the Board successfully completed the process of upgrading the ICAC's governance structure, drawing on best practices of similar regional groupings across the world while preserving the features of mutual co-operation and benefit that underpinned our initial formation.

With eight (8) member bodies representing just over four thousand (4,000) professional accountants, we have asserted the position of the ICAC such that we are officially recognised as a regional body by the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), the World Bank and the other similar international bodies.

PAO Development

During the year, the ICAC continued to work closely with member bodies to develop common strategies to improve on their oversight role of the profession. The ICAC has been highly successful in coordinating and negotiating a common approach to practice monitoring, a key facet of an effective quality assurance programme. The ICAC's coordinated practice monitoring programme is now effective in seven (7) of our member bodies. The programme has contributed significantly to higher standards of audit quality in the region.

The ICAC also focused on the Investigation and Disciplinary processes of member bodies during the year. During 2018, the chairpersons of Investigation and Disciplinary committees from across member bodies benefitted from the insights of senior personnel from ACCA, United Kingdom. It was evident from that interaction that improvements to rules and processes are necessary across member territories. The ICAC continues to advance this initiative and will facilitate further opportunities to assist members' efforts in this regard.

Public Financial Management

In many of our economies, government spending continues to be a significant contributor to Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Despite this, most of our governments continue to apply cash accounting instead of accrual-based accounting. Many of our governments have committed to the adoption of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) but full and effective adoption has been slow. In 2017, the ICAC collaborated with the IFAC, with support from CPA Canada, to initiate the sensitisation of senior government functionaries from across the region on the process and benefits of transitioning to IPSAS as the basis of public sector financial reporting. The adoption and application of IPSAS remains a key focus of the ICAC as we continue our efforts to influence and assist policy makers in this direction.

Representation of the Regional Profession

As the standardisation of rules and regulations become embedded across the region, we must have a voice in the crafting of these standards and in the direction of the global profession. Once thought to be impossible, the region has seen that representation on the international governance and standard-setting bodies is certainly within our reach. The service of Pamela Munroe-Ellis and Lisa Padmore on the IFAC Board

is clear evidence of this. During 2019 the ICAC was granted observer status on the PAO Development Committee of IFAC and we were represented by Denise Chinpire-O'Reilly, our Director from Trinidad & Tobago. The ICAC continues to actively pursue regional candidates for openings on these international bodies and committees.

Technical Matters

The ICAC continued to focus on areas of common technical challenge for professionals across the region, serving as a conduit for high-quality resources from outside the region. One identified challenge is the imminent introduction of IFRS 17 *Insurance Contracts*, which is set to majorly change the accounting practices in that industry. The ICAC, in partnership with the Insurance Association of the Caribbean, hosted workshops on the standard across the region during November 2019. It is our first industry-specific collaboration and recorded a major success. The model of partnership will be replicated as we move into the future.

The ICAC also hosted a well-attended workshop for Small and Medium-sized practices in Guyana during August 2019. Led by Mr. Andrew Braithwaite, who is a member of IFAC's SMP Committee, the event examined current issues pertinent to the audit profession. Similar sessions are planned for Suriname and Belize.

Annual Conference

During June 2019, the ICAC's 37th Annual Conference was hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica. The event maintained the high standards of past ICAC Conferences, executed with exceptional quality by our Jamaican colleagues. The programme comprised a

wide mix of business and economic issues germane to the region and profession, delivered by thought leaders and experts.

Looking to the Future

As we closed 2019, our focus remained the attainment of our core objectives, as articulated in our Strategic Plan of 2019 - 2021, being:

- Creating & Maintaining Focus
- Cooperation & PAO Development
- Advocacy & Representation
- Funding & Sustainability

As we contemplate the future, we recognise that the profession and the ICAC are not insulated from the disruptions of the present times. As I compile this report, the COVID-19 pandemic is changing life as we knew it. The world is now in state of emergency, with unprecedented and growing health, social and economic challenges to confront. Already the pandemic has forced the ICAC to reschedule its 38th Annual Conference to 2021. The profession will have an important role to play in the rebuilding and recovery efforts. The ICAC stands ready to support our member bodies in these extraordinary times.

In closing, I wish to record my appreciation to the members of the Board of Directors and Secretariat of the ICAC for their support and advice during the year concluded. I wish you and your families, communities, and businesses safe stead in these uncertain times.



Khalil Alli
President, ICAC

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YEAR IN REVIEW

37TH CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE



PRESIDENT'S DINNER



ACCA GALA



ICAC'S BOARD MEETINGS



SCAI CONFERENCE



ICATT'S 50TH CONFERENCE



ICAC MEMBERS AT IFAC COUNCIL MEETING



CAROSAI



SMP WORKSHOP



WORLD STANDARD SETTERS, LONDON



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The ICAC Welcomes a New President, Board of Directors and Executive Committee

2019 marked the beginning of many new things for the ICAC.

It saw the election of a new President, Mr. Khalil Ali; Vice President, Mr. David Simpson; Treasurer, Mr. Gowon Bowe and the re-election of the incumbent Secretary, Mrs. Andrea St. Rose. This team collectively comprises the new Executive Committee for the period June 2019 to June 2021. 2019 also saw the election of a new Board of Directors who will chart the course of the ICAC for the next two years. As they move on to other priorities, we wish to express our deep gratitude for the work of our Immediate Past President, Mr. Anthony Pierre and outgoing Board Members.

For me, 2019 marked the beginning of my tenure as the CEO of the ICAC. I wish to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to the ICAC Executive and all of our Members, Affiliates, Associate and Stakeholders for the warm welcome, candid sharing of information and the partnership we have been able to achieve in a short time. I look forward to being your advocate for the future and to ensuring that the ICAC, in its capacity as an umbrella body for the profession, continues to ensure that the region is well represented internationally and regionally, that we build upon our commonalities and chart our pathway to the future, while we identify and support the individual needs of our members.

Our new ICAC Board has been working assiduously and effectively since its election. There was immediate focus upon the preparations for the 2020 Annual Conference, the financial stabilisation of the ICAC, the operationalisation of the goals of the ICAC as defined within its 2019 - 2021 Strategic Plan and the strengthening of our bond as a regional organisation for the future.

The year presented a mixed bag of experiences, with many positives but also some significant challenges which we needed

to address. However, the strength of a team is shown by its ability to come together to maintain a focus on our objectives and we saw evidence of this strength in the cohesiveness, unity and cooperation which our Board, Member Associations, Affiliates and Associate showed, under the leadership of our President and Vice President.

Building Stronger Relationships with our Members and Stakeholders

The ICAC's 37th Annual Caribbean Conference of Accountants, 2019

The highlight of 2019 was the ICAC's 37th Annual Caribbean Conference of Accountants, hosted by the ICAJ in June 2019 at the Pegasus Hotel in Kingston.

The ICAC's Annual Conference has become a landmark event which is eagerly anticipated and highlighted in the calendars of accountants and the wider business community each year. 2019 was no exception. I am pleased to report that the 2019 ICAC Caribbean Conference of Accountants was a resounding success, with over 600 delegates in attendance from over 22 countries across the Caribbean, Latin American, the USA, UK and Canada. With a robust programme of topics ranging from the importance of Trust in Organisational Culture, to the latest developments in climate change and its impact on the Caribbean, the importance of health and wellbeing to the profession, economic developments in the Caribbean region and the impact of AI and technology on the future of the accounting profession, the two (2) days of presentations commanded the attention of a fully packed conference hall.

I congratulate our hosting member, ICAJ, under the leadership of Mr. Raymond Campbell and Conference Chair, Ms. Gail Moore, for delivering an event which was not only educational and informative but also filled with fun and entertainment! For me, it was indeed a most wonderful introduction to the world of the ICAC!

The ICAC's Chief Executive Officer's Forum, 2019

During 2019, we were able to re-launch the ICAC's Caribbean CEO Forum as a pre-event leading up to the Annual Conference. We were fortunate to have Executive representation from most of our member territories, who shared their projects and priorities for the 2019 period, common needs, issues which required support, best practices that other members could leverage upon and general networking among the attendees. The session was described by attendees as a valuable opportunity to connect as a region and to learn from each other's experiences, showing that we had more in common across our membership than we may have known. This event will now become an annual event as part of our pre-conference calendar.

ICAC's Representation at International and Regional Industry Events

The International Federation of Accountants' Chief Executives and Communicators Forum in New York, February 2019.

As the new CEO, this event afforded me the opportunity to meet the key stakeholders at IFAC, make connections with the relevant international stakeholders and network with some of the key regional groups. The programme of meetings was very informative, addressing the importance of continued focus on the issue of Public Sector Financial Management, the work of the Monitoring Group, the continuing evolution of Standards and Ethics in keeping with global developments and the key issues facing the industry in major regions as the dialogue among the profession, governments and regulators continues.

CReCER, May 2019, San José, Costa Rica.

The CReCER Conference is hosted every two (2) years by the World Bank in conjunction with various global and local partners in the Caribbean and Latin America. In 2019, it took place in Costa Rica with the theme, "Accountability for Maximizing Finance for Development" and was hosted by the Government of Costa Rica, the Comptroller General of the Republic of Costa Rica and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Costa Rica. The ICAC was represented by Khalil Ali in his then capacity as Vice President.

CAROSAI, June 2019, Guyana

The Caribbean Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions (CAROSAI) held its XI Congress in Guyana where President Khalil Ali represented

the ICAC delivering a paper on "The Future World of Standards" which addressed the key themes present in the standard setting processes of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board.

The ACCA Caribbean 20th Anniversary Reception, September 2019, Trinidad

The ACCA event was held in Trinidad and the ICAC was invited to deliver remarks at the opening. President Khalil Ali represented the ICAC highlighting the long-standing relationship between the organisations.

The ACCA Caribbean Annual Member Conference, October 2019, Barbados.

The ACCA held its first member conference in Bridgetown where our Vice President, Mr. David Simpson was invited to deliver remarks at the opening ceremony.

SCAI Conference, October 2019, Suriname

The ICAC was invited by the SCAI to deliver remarks at their 2nd Annual Conference, held in Paramaribo. Themed "Global Developments and the Accounting Profession: Preparing for the Future", the ICAC was represented by President Khalil Ali who spoke on the topic of IFRS Standards for the SME sector.

The ICATT Conference, November 2019, Trinidad

The ICATT conference was held at the Trinidad Hyatt where our President, Mr. Khalil Ali was invited to deliver remarks during the opening session. Themed, "The Next 50 – A Vision for the Future", we congratulate the ICATT on its successful celebration of its 50th year anniversary.

IFAC's Council Meeting, November 2019, Canada

The IFAC held its last annual Council meeting of the year in Vancouver where representatives from our members, Barbados and The Bahamas, were in attendance. This was an important meeting as our member institute in Suriname, SCAI, was given the status of Affiliate Member of IFAC.

Envisioning the Future - 2020 and Beyond

2020 Conference

As we look towards the future, the Executive Committee of the ICAC focused on laying the foundation for a successful 38th Annual Caribbean Conference of Accountants in Miami in June 2020.

A theme was selected, "Envisioning the Future.....# New beginnings 2020" to reflect the beginning of the new decade ahead of us in 2020 and the need for preparation within the profession to achieve success as we evolve to meet the demands of the changing business and regulatory landscape.

Operational & Financial Matters

As we approach the new decade in 2020, the ICAC will be looking to increase the opportunities for greater collaboration with our members, affiliates and stakeholder groups with whom we share common objectives. In 2019, we recorded good progress against the objectives defined in our 2019 - 2021 ICAC Strategic Plan as detailed for each of the following key pillars: -

1. Creating & Maintaining Focus
2. Increasing Co-operation & PAO Development
3. Advocacy & Representation
4. Funding & Sustainability

In 2020 and going into 2021, we shall place increased emphasis on the completion of our goals defined for each of the above pillars and in ensuring that our activities are aligned with the performance goals that we have set for ourselves as an organisation.

The ICAC Sub-Committees

I am pleased to note that after a period of suspension, the ICAC sub-committees will once again be re-activated and will focus on key areas as defined below:

Public Financial Management Committee Chair: Andrea St Rose (Eastern Caribbean)

Objectives:

- To liaise with member bodies to determine the status of IPSAS adoption across ICAC member territories.
- To co-ordinate training opportunities from affiliates for dissemination through member bodies to national stakeholders.

Technical Committee Chair: Gowon Bowe (The Bahamas)

Objectives:

- To coordinate regional responses to technical papers issued by the IASB and the standard-setting boards of IFAC.

- To identify common challenges of a technical nature facing member bodies and offer measures to alleviate.
- To continue efforts to assist member bodies with the implementation of IFRS 17.

Practice Monitoring Committee Chair: Denise Chinpire-O'Reilly (Trinidad & Tobago)

Objectives:

- To liaise with the service provider and member bodies on the status of practice monitoring programmes across ICAC member territories.
- To identify areas of common challenges arising from practice monitoring reviews and in conjunction with member bodies, offer measures to alleviate.
- To co-ordinate the RFP for the next round of practice monitoring contracting.

Website & Virtual Office

In 2019, we also took the decision to begin updating the 2020 Conference website and our ICAC corporate website. This effort will continue into the 2020-2021 period as we work towards re-designing our corporate site to highlight the work of our members, affiliates, associate and key stakeholders.

The ICAC, as a virtual organisation, shall also advance the movement of creating a virtual workspace for our Secretariat in a more substantive manner in the 2021 time period. As we seek to continue our focus on the financial stabilisation of the ICAC, we will continue with the efforts started in 2019 of working with our members to execute appropriate thought leadership activities in association with international organisations, to our mutual benefit.

In Conclusion

As we close the chapter on this report in 2020, the world is gripped by the crippling effects of the COVID-19 virus and the impact it is having on health, life and the economy. We pray for your health and well-being during these difficult times which call upon humanity and indeed our region, to come together in support of each other even more.

ICAC WORKING COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS



The Working Committees were established to support the implementation of the strategic goals and objectives of the ICAC. The Committee system was established for various functional areas and co-ordinated by a member body of the ICAC with representation from all regional institutes to ensure broad-based participation.

At the 79th Meeting of the ICAC Board of Directors held on October 13, 2017, an assessment was undertaken of the Committees as part of an overall review of the ICAC's governance structure. The Board took into consideration whether the committees were fulfilling the strategic objectives of the ICAC as well as their effectiveness. In light of the fact that some committees have not been operational nor functioning effectively due to

various challenges, the ICAC Board by consensus agreed to dissolve the following committees:

- Education and Joint Seminar
- Information & Communication Technology
- Membership
- Publicity
- Taxation

The Board also agreed that the remaining committees should be restructured to function as working committees of the Board and that the chairpersons should be appointed from among members of the Board and/or regional institutes. The Working Committees and Chairs established by the ICAC Board effective October 2017 are:

COMMITTEE	CHAIR
Public Sector Financial Management Committee	Andrea St. Rose ICAC Secretary & Director, Eastern Caribbean
Regional Monitoring Committee	Denise Chinpire O'Reilly Director Trinidad & Tobago
Technical Committee	Gowon Bowe ICAC Treasurer & Director, The Bahamas

The mandate of the Working Committees are as follows:

The Public Sector Financial Management Committee was established in June 2016 with a mandate to support the ICAC's strategic goal to promote IPSAS and its benefits in enhancing effective public sector financial management and accountability in the Caribbean. The Committee's objectives include engaging governments, the accountancy profession, and other key stakeholder groups across the region with a view to promoting improved public sector accounting and public financial reporting reform. The Committee also exists to support the efforts of member bodies in the region in promoting the importance, value, and benefits of high-quality public sector financial management within their respective jurisdiction.

The Technical Committee seeks to encourage the adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and the harmonisation of internationally acceptable standards within the region. The Committee is also responsible for reviewing and providing comments on standards being developed or issued by international standard setting bodies and to encourage adoption and implementation by the accountancy profession in the region.

The Regional Monitoring Committee has been tasked with the responsibility to oversee the administration of the regional practice monitoring programme, which is intended to enhance the capacity of the accountancy profession and ensure the existence of efficient quality assurance review systems in the Caribbean.

MEMBERSHIP OF ICAC WORKING COMMITTEES

Public Sector Financial Management Committee

TERRITORY	MEMBER BODY REPRESENTATIVE
Eastern Caribbean	Andrea St. Rose (Chair)
Bahamas	Philip Stubbs
Barbados	Lisa Padmore
Belize	Reynaldo Magana
Guyana	Geetanjali Singh
Jamaica	Janet Plummer
Suriname	Rene Abrahams
Trinidad & Tobago	Vijai Parabdeen

Regional Practice Monitoring Committee

TERRITORY	MEMBER BODY REPRESENTATIVE
Trinidad & Tobago	Denise Chinpire-O'Reilly (Chair)
Bahamas	Clifford Johnson
Barbados	Andrew Brathwaite
Belize	Reynaldo Magana
Eastern Caribbean	TBC
Guyana	Ramesh Seebarran
Jamaica	No participation
Suriname	Michael Lutchman
Trinidad & Tobago	Kerry Mohammed

Technical Committee

TERRITORY	MEMBER BODY REPRESENTATIVE
Bahamas	Gowon Bowe (Chair)
Barbados	Bruce McClean
Belize	Brett Feinstein
Eastern Caribbean	Andrea St. Rose
Guyana	Rakesh Latchana
Jamaica	Nigel Chambers
Suriname	Robin Ferrier
Trinidad & Tobago	Dwayne Rodriguez-Seijas

MEMBER COUNTRY REPORTS



THE BAHAMAS INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



During the period January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019 The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA/ the Institute) engaged in the following activities:

University of the Bahamas Spring 2019 Awards Ceremony (May 2019)

BICA President Elect, Diveane Bowe presented the BICA Award to Jared A. Symonette at the 2019 Graduates' Awards ceremony held at the University of The Bahamas on May 20, 2019.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (MAY 2019)

The Annual General Meeting of the Institute was held on May 30, 2019 at the British Colonial Hotel Hilton Hotel, New Providence. Report on activities and financial position and performance were presented, with the election of Council Members for vacant positions. Outgoing President of BICA, Gowon N.G. Bowe was presented with a gift by Incoming President of BICA, Diveane Bowe.

REGULATORY/MONITORING ACTIVITIES

Practice Monitoring

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) continued Practice Monitoring visits which started in July 2016.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

IFRS & Technical Committee Update (February 2019)

Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA) hosted a seminar on IFRS 9, IFRS 16 and IFRS 17 on February 12, 2019 at the Melia Hotel, Cable Beach, Nassau, Bahamas. Carlison Morris

presented on IFRS 9, IFRS 16 and IFRS 17 followed by BICA President, Gowon Bowe, who gave an update on IFR 9 – Treatment of Sovereign Debt.

Compliance & Gaming (February 2019)

On May 9, 2019, BICA hosted a seminar on Compliance & Gaming at the Sir Charles Hayward Library, Freeport, Bahamas. Presentations were made by Dave Smith, Managing Director, Bahamas Development Bank on "Compliance - an Evolving Landscape"; BICA President, Gowon Bowe, on "Compliance, Risk Management & Assessment" and Kaylesa Simmons, Assistant Secretary District Head of the Gaming Board, Freeport Office, for the Commonwealth of The Bahamas on "The Gaming Act and Application".

Addressing National Issues (May 2019)

BICA hosted a seminar on May 30, 2019 at the British Colonial Hilton, Nassau, Bahamas. Presentations were made by Dionysio D'Aguilar, Minister of Tourism on "Tourism & Related Sectors"; Lynn Holowesko - Chairperson, Ease of Doing Business Committee on "Ease of Doing Business"; Gershan Major – Bahamas Gaming Operators Association on "Gaming in The Bahamas – Industry Operator"; Monica Stuart - Gaming Board of The Bahamas on "Gaming in The Bahamas – Industry Regulator"; Simone Bowe – The Limitless Life Coach on "Customer Service Delivery"; Keith G. Worrell - Tax Consultant, Department of Inland Revenue on Ministry of Finance - Taxation issues" and Jeffrey Beckles - Chief Executive Officer, The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce and Employers' Confederation on "Bahamas Chamber of Commerce & The Bahamas WTO Impact Assessment".

Taxation Issues and Risk Management Workshop (July 2019)

BICA hosted a seminar on July 25, 2019 at the British Colonial Hilton, New Providence, Bahamas. Keith Worrell, Director of Policy Planning and Procedures, The Department of Inland Revenue, gave an update on Taxation Issues. Areas covered included the 2019-2020 Budget Tax Implications, Process Simplifications and Reporting and Governmental Tax Collection and Reporting Responsibilities. Emmanuel Komolafe, Governance, Risk and Compliance Expert, held an Enterprise Risk Management Workshop. Areas covered included Risk Management Framework, Developing & Implementing an Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Programme, Risk Framework Performance Optimisation and Ongoing evaluation and assessment of ERM.

Accountants' Month (November 2019)

BICA changed from Accountants' Week to Accountants' Month as issued by proclamation on October 18, 2019, under the theme "Our Role in Recovery Efforts: Challenges and Opportunities for the Accounting Profession". This was done with the intent of harnessing the will and effort of BICA's membership to achieve the following goals:

- Provide the necessary content to enhance professional competency and development - led by the CPD Committee the week of November 11-15, 2019 in New Providence and Grand Bahama;
- Grow the profession led by BICA's student membership team with an event focused on college students held on November 7, 2019 at Luciano's;
- A strong social agenda to strengthen and expand BICA's network of colleagues and friends – Church Services in Nassau on November 3, 2019 at Christ Church Cathedral and November 24, 2019 in Freeport at Mary Star of the Sea, Cocktails for a Cause on November 29, 2019 at The

National Art Gallery of The Bahamas in Nassau;

- Community service – charity event in Grand Bahamas on November 23, 2019; and
- Contribute towards national development – 3 financial literacy events at high schools in New Providence during November.

The formal event was opened with remarks from the The Hon, Kevin Peter Turnquest, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Finance of The Bahamas and a State of the Institute address by the President of BICA, Diveane Bowe. Representatives from Government included Marlon Johnson, Financial Secretary; Ministry of Finance, The Hon. Romauld Ferreira, Minister of the Environment and Housing and The Hon. Iram Lewis Jr.; Minister of State for Disaster Preparedness.

BICA continued its partnership with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) in hosting joint seminars. The formal event experienced a line-up of dynamic local and international speakers, including those from the AICPA, who shared perspectives in relation to the theme. Specific sessions included: AICPA Profession Issues Updates; Wellness; Unleashing your peak performance; Executive Leadership; Creating a Coaching Culture; Staff development & Team Building; Smart & Sustainable Development in The Bahamas; Financial Regulatory Update and the Aftermath of Dorian (Panel Discussion); The Impact of the Changing Accounting Landscape on Data, Systems and Processes; Disaster Recovery Challenges & Opportunities; Cognitive Flexibility; Successfully Integrating Change in Your Workplace; National Energy Update; Nationality, Immigration and Asylum; The Government's Sustainability Efforts; Enterprise Risk Management & Business Continuity Planning; Recovering from a Natural Disaster (Panel Discussion); A Mental Health Check-Up; Economic Valuation and Impact of Climate Change;

Daily Insights into Your Management Accounts Made Easier; and IFRS Technical Update.

Sessions in Grand Bahama included: Recovering from Dorian; A Mental Health Check-Up; Disaster Recovery Challenges & Opportunities; and Taxation in The Bahamas.

Further, BICA recognised New Members during the week.

Joint BICA and Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) Seminar (December 2019)

BICA and ACFE partnered to host the 9th Annual Fraud, Ethics and Compliance Seminar on December 5, 2019 at Melia Hotel, Nassau Bahamas. Presentations included: The Character of Chinese Development in the Global Economic System by Dr. Gilbert Morris; Business Continuity & Crisis Management - Planning Ahead of Risk by Gamal Newry, Owner, Preventative Measures; Compliance, Risk Management and Good Governance by Professor Samuel Wilkinson; Common Fraud Traps: Case Study by Khristi Ferguson, Deputy Director – Financial Intelligence Unit; Complying with the New Laws by Mechelle Martinborough, Senior legal Counsel - Securities Commission of The Bahamas; Business Ethics and Good Corporate Governance: The Inter-relationship by Darnell Osborne, Owner, Citadel Consultants Ltd; and Government Tariffs; Fraud or Useful Economic Tool by Professor Rudy Tinker, Public Scientist and Criminologist.

IMPACT OF THE PROFESSION ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BICA Meets with the Financial Sector Assessment Programme (January 2019)

As part of its Financial Sector Assessment Programme (FSAP) for The Bahamas, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) held

a meeting with BICA's President, Gowon N.G. Bowe, President Elect, Diveane Bowe and Executive Officer, Marva Winter. The meeting covered the relationship between audit firms and the Central Bank of The Bahamas in relation to regulating financial institutions; trends impacting the financial sector participants; the experiences in relation to the adoption of IFRS 9 Financial Instruments; and analyses of the non-performing loans and provisions for loan losses. The final report is expected in February 2019.

BICA's President Participates on Local Financial Television Programme (January 2019)

On January 28, 2019, Gowon N.G. Bowe, BICA President, appeared on You and Your Money, a local financial television programme, to discuss labour force survey results, the state of the economy and outlook for the future.

BICA Meets with Moody's During Visit to The Bahamas (January 2019)

On January 29, 2019 BICA's President, Gowon N.G. Bowe and Executive Officer, Marva Winter met with Moody's Investors Service as part of its ratings visit. BICA discussed the state of the economy of The Bahamas; Fiscal Responsibility Legislation and the role of BICA on the Fiscal Responsibility Council; and the quality and frequency of the financial reporting of the Government of The Bahamas. BICA continues to be viewed as an integral party in discussing the financial affairs and credit ratings of The Bahamas.

BICA Meets with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) (April 2019)

As part of its annual Article IV assessment of The Bahamas, the IMF held a meeting with BICA's Executive Council, led by its President, Gowon N.G. Bowe. The meetings covered the economic

environment, skills gaps of the domestic workforce and prospects for economic growth and development. The final Article IV report is scheduled to be issued during the summer months following the internal quality review process of the IMF.

REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

CReCER 2019 Conference (May 2019)

BICA President, Gowon N.G. Bowe attended the CReCER 2019 Conference Accountability for Maximizing Finance for Development organised jointly by global partners, World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank, and the local partners, the Government of Costa Rica, the Comptroller General of the Republic of Costa Rica, and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Costa Rica, held on May 21 – 22, 2019 at the Hotel Intercontinental, Escazu, San Jose, Costa Rica. The conference convened global and regional experts drawn from high-level government officials and policymakers, the private sector, representatives of multilateral financial institutions, regulators, standards setters, governance practitioners, civil society leaders and academia.

ICAC's 37th Caribbean Conference of Accountants (June 2019)

BICA's President, Diveane Bowe and BICA's Immediate Past President, Gowon N. G. Bowe attended the ICAC's 37th Caribbean Conference of Accountants which was held June 20 - 22 2019, in Kingston Jamaica at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel

Council Meeting of the International Federation of Accountants (November 2019)

BICA's Immediate Past President, Gowon Bowe, attended the Council Meeting of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) which was held in Vancouver, Canada on November 13 - 14, 2019. Of one hundred and twenty (120) eligible persons, eighty-eight (88) were represented in person and eighteen (18) by proxy. Of note were the following:

- IFAC is amending its structure involving the development of education standards, and there were significant amendments to International Education Standards, the most significant being the requirement for validating the effectiveness of training, such as tests following training sessions; the methodology for validating effectiveness is not prescriptive but required.

- New International Standards on Quality Management had been developed and becoming effective, which replace the former International Standards on Quality Control.

- IFAC, through the relevant committee, was revising the definition of Public Interest Entity (PIE) to provide greater clarity on those entities that should be considered PIE. This was significant, as there are additional professional standards that are applicable to engagements involving PIEs.

- The International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) was revised, with the new Code applicable effective 2019.



Council Changes

On March 12, 2019, Council appointed Marilyn Husbands, to fill the casual vacancy on Council that had arisen (following the resignation of H. Wayne Lovell on December 11, 2018), until the next Annual General Meeting (AGM).

ICAB's AGM was held on May 30, 2019 at the Hilton Barbados Resort. The main agenda items for the meeting were the election of members of Council, and approval of the Annual Report 2018, and the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2018. Damian Branford and Damien Skeete were elected to Council for the first time, while J. Betty Brathwaite, Marilyn Husbands, Bruce McClean, and Suzena Turton, were re-elected to Council.

The first Council Meeting was held immediately following the AGM to elect officers for the ensuing year. The Executive Officers and Members of Council elected to serve were as follows:

Lydia McCollin	- President
Hanif Patel	- Vice-President
Wendy Sealy	- Treasurer
Darshani Workman	- Secretary
Andrew Brathwaite	- Immediate Past President

Lisa A.C. Alleyne
Rueben Blenman
Damian Branford
J. Betty Brathwaite
Marilyn Husbands
Bruce McClean
Lisa Padmore
Damien Skeete
Suzena Turton
Diana Weekes-Marshall

Secretariat Changes

On June 1, 2019, Kathy-Ann Hewitt, the former Assistant Director who acted in the position since October 1, 2018, and who is

also an ICAB member, was appointed to the position of Executive Director.

On November 1, 2019, ICAB Member and Attorney-At-Law, Lesah Denny-Brathwaite was appointed to the position of Assistant Director.

Regulatory/Monitoring Activities

During 2019 there were 42 auditing firms (77 partners/signing officers) in the practice monitoring programme. Monitoring visits were made to 10 firms, of which eight (80%) were satisfactory, and two (20%) were unsatisfactory. With ICAB's approach to practice monitoring continuing to be a progressive and educational one, focused on improving audit quality, a half-day Practice Monitoring Workshop was held on September 9, 2019, which was facilitated by ACCA Practice Reviewers. The workshop was attended by 47 participants.

Compliance with International Standards

Discussion Papers on the derivation of a Barbados dollar denominated yield curve Following wide consultation, on March 29, 2019, ICAB issued a discussion paper on the derivation of a yield curve to be applied to the various instruments issued by the Government of Barbados (GOB) as part of its Domestic Debt Exchange programme in September 2018. The paper discussed a number of market considerations given the lack of available data on trades within the Barbados market and the fact that this was the first Debt Exchange programme to be undertaken by the country. Various curves were reviewed, adjusted and summarised in order to conclude on a reasonable range for application in the valuation models used to value the series of instruments issued by the GOB.

On December 16, 2019, an updated guidance paper was issued, which examined a number of indicators including the limited number of trades since March 2019, the Moody's credit upgrade in July 2019, the reduction in gross public sector debt to GDP levels, the improvement in the level of international reserves, and the improvement in the fiscal current account as a percentage of GDP. These factors along with favourable comments from the IMF reviews through the year led to the conclusion that there was little evidence to indicate an increase in credit risk or evidence of additional impairment associated with Barbados dollar government since the debt restructuring. As a result, it was considered that the range of yield curves as published in March 2019 remained relevant at September 30, 2019.

Discussion Paper on the use of the IFRS for SMEs by credit unions in Barbados

Following various consultations, the Institute issued a paper supporting the view that there is a rebuttable presumption that local credit unions with total deposits less than US\$2 million do not hold assets in a fiduciary capacity for a broad group of outsiders, and therefore do not have public accountability as defined in the IFRS for SMEs. Such credit unions would therefore be permitted, but not required, to use the IFRS for SMEs in the preparation of their annual financial statements. The paper recommended that where any such credit union prepares its financial statements in accordance with the IFRS for SMEs that they be guided by the disclosure requirements of IFRS 102 applicable to credit unions in the United Kingdom.

The credit unions eligible that would meet the above criterion represent an insignificant percentage of total credit union assets, deposits and membership and therefore do not present a systemic risk to the movement in Barbados or to the overall financial system. It was felt that the costs of requiring such credit unions to use full IFRS would clearly outweigh the potential benefits.

Guidance Document on the Memorandum dated January 31, 2019 from the Director

of Finance and Economic Affairs on the Subject: "Instructions to State Owned Enterprises to Write off Intragovernmental Debt"

As one of the initiatives under the Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) Programme, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs in Barbados instructed State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and other public sector bodies to ensure that all claims on other SOEs and other public sector bodies (the "entities") prior to September 1, 2018 were written off with effect from December 31, 2018. ICAB was requested by the Comptroller General to issue a paper to promote consistency in accounting for this debt forgiveness.

The paper concluded that transactions between the entities are deemed to be related party transactions as defined in IAS 24 - Related party disclosures. The written off transactions with the GOB and its entities are considered to be captured in the category described in IAS 1 – Presentation of financial statements as "transactions with owners in their capacity as owners", which are reflected in equity and not profit and loss.

The paper further noted that the entities impacted by this directive may have some combination of share capital, contributed surplus, accumulated earnings or accumulated deficit as the components of equity. While there can be arguments for the transactions to be effected through either share capital or contributed surplus, given that some of these accounts may not be substantial enough to absorb some of the write-offs, it was recommended for consistency purposes that such adjustments be posted against accumulated retained earnings or accumulated deficit.

Technical update seminars including presentations on the above guidance documents were conducted to keep accounting and auditing professional aware of developments in international standards as follows:

•IFRS for SMEs Workshop – July 12, 2019 which reviewed the IASB Comprehensive

Review of the IFRS for SMEs, Scope of the IFRS for SMEs, Barbados Government debt restructuring debt restructuring and write-offs, Leases, and Revenue.

- IFRS Updates – September 4, 2019 which focused on IFRS 17 (Insurance Contracts), IFRS 9 (Financial Instruments), IFRS 13 (Fair Value Measurement), IFRS 16 (Leases), IAS 12 (Income Taxes), IAS 32 (Financial Instruments: Presentation), IAS 37 (Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets), Review of the IASB Improvements Project, recent IFRS Interpretations Committee publications, and the IASB work plan.

- ISA 2019 Update Workshop – September 9, 2019 which covered IFAC SMP Committee and IFAC resources for practitioners, Changes to the IESBA Code of Ethics, IFAC Quality Control project and related exposure drafts, and the IFAC position paper on Audits of Less complex Entities.

Governance

Appointment of Committees

December 31, 2019 marked the end of the two-year term of office for ICAB's committees.

As a result, during the latter half of 2019, ICAB's Nominations Committee was engaged in identifying and vetting members to serve on ICAB's 17 committees for the two-year period January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2021. In keeping with ICAB's Policy on "Efficient & Effective Committees", all committee members were sent information packages on ICAB's rules, governance policies and plans, and were required to sign and accept letters of appointment, and sign annual declarations of confidentiality and conflicts of interest.

Annual Governance Surveys

Since 2014 for Council, and 2015 for Committees, ICAB's Ethics, Governance & Risk (EG&R) Committee has administered annual self-evaluation governance surveys as part of ICAB's Governance Improvement Project. The initial focus of these surveys was to establish a baseline

assessment for ICAB's governance framework relating to the functioning of its Council and committees, and based on that to make recommendations to Council for their review and implementation.

In 2019 ICAB's EG&R Committee reviewed the surveys, and decided to revise its approach. The new surveys will be based on a qualitative approach to evaluate performance, assessing the effectiveness of leadership (President and committee Chairs), and individual members (Council and committees), as well as overall assessing the performance of Council and committees. Since the process was completed towards the end of 2019, no formal evaluations were conducted in 2019, but the surveys will be launched in 2020.

Guidance Document on Amendments to the IESBA Code of Ethics

One of the mandates of the EG&R Committee is to provide ICAB members and others with advice on the interpretation of the rules of professional conduct. In keeping with this mandate, the committee prepared the Guidance Document "International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) Revised Code of Ethics: Key Updates" which was issued to ICAB members on March 14, 2019. It alerted members of the revised name, the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) and highlighter the updates. The new International Code of Ethics became effective on July 15, 2019, but early adoption of each part of the Code was permitted.

Accountants' Week 2019

Accountants' Week 2019, which was preceded by a Press Launch on October 16, 2019 was held from November 3-9, 2019 under the theme "Under Construction: Building Blocks to Recovery". The activities during the week were a church service, a Panel Discussion on the topic "The Economic Transformation of Barbados – A Business Perspective", a Students' Conference, Accountants' Give Back

Day, the Annual Conference, and a Family Fun Day including a cricket match. Involvement in Matters of National Interest

ICAB continued to be heavily involved in several matters of national interest during 2019. The implementation of the Government of Barbados' (GOB's) Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) Programme and the Enhanced Fund Facility (EFF) with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) were the dominant national issues of 2019. At the beginning of 2019, the GOB also passes into law a new corporate and legal framework which converged the international and domestic corporate tax systems on a sliding scale ranging from 5.5% for companies with up to US\$0.5 Million in taxable income to 1.0% for companies with over US\$15.0 Million in taxable income. These changes resulted in the EU's removing Barbados from its blacklist, and the OECD listing Barbados as among 16 jurisdictions who had delivered on their commitments to abolish preferential tax regimes.

The implementation of these major changes required ongoing collaboration between the GOB and the Private Sector. As a result, ICAB held meetings during the year with key Government Ministries and agencies, as well as the IMF and the IMF Tax Policy Mission Team. In addition, ICAB, through its membership of the Barbados Private Sector Association (BPSA) continued to participate in the meetings of the tripartite Social Partnership (Government/Private Sector/Unions). The main matters discussed at the Social Partnership meetings included Barbados' economic performance, IMF performance targets, tax reform, status updates on the reforms of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs), a National First Jobs Programme and National Training Initiative, Structure of Work, Pension and Retirement Reform, operations of the Barbados Port Inc., the Sugar Industry, and Poverty Alleviation.

Regional Focus

37th ICAC Caribbean Conference of Accountants

The 37th ICAC Caribbean Conference of Accountants was held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica from June

20-22, 2019, and was hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica. Other than the host institute which had 351 delegates, and the Eastern Caribbean delegation of 69 members, the Barbados delegation was the third largest with 59 members in attendance. In addition to the main conference ICAB participated in an ICAC Board of Directors Meeting, an ICAC CEO Forum, an ICAC Special Directors' Meeting, and the ICAC AGM.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Accountants' Week Charitable Outreach

During Accountants' Week 2019, which ran from November 3 – 9, 2019, ICAB launched a collection drive for the St. George Parish Church's Reading Academy for 5 – 16 year olds. Not only is literacy essential for the development of Barbados' youth, but this project fit well within the theme for the Week, as an excellent example of one of the building blocks that will be essential for Barbados' Recovery. ICAB members contributed generously, and were able to present the Church with a cheque for US\$1,225 as well as several books and supplies in December.

Public Education

ICAB continued to promote public financial literacy during its weekly 5-minute radio programme "Talking Finance with ICAB". The programmes were aired on VOB 92.9FM during a popular talk show with estimated listenership of 50,000. 25 programmes were aired during 2019 and topics included: managing credit cards and hire purchase loans, developing good personal financial habits, teaching children to be smart about money, ICAB's Complaints Process, saving, Public Finance Terms, budgeting, managing Crop-Over and Christmas spending, Global Ethics Day (October 16), and the UN's Anti-Corruption Campaign and International Anti-Corruption Day (December 9).

To highlight areas in which change is needed to bring about transformation in Barbados, a free public panel discussion "The Economic Transformation of Barbados - A Business Perspective" was held as part of Accountants' Week 2019 on November 5, 2019.

Representation in International Professional Accountancy Organisations (PAOs)

International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)

IFAC Board

Council Member and ICAB's Alternate Director on ICAC's Board, Lisa Padmore continues to serve as a member of IFAC's 22-member Board. The IFAC Board is responsible for overseeing IFAC's governance, membership, resource allocation, and appointments to IFAC committees. The Board also makes recommendations to IFAC's Council on matters such as IFAC's strategic direction, major initiatives, and fostering relations with international organisations and governments.

Membership on the IFAC Board reflects the level of IFAC members' financial contributions as follows: Category A (Top 12 contributing member bodies) – 10 seats, Category B (Next 13-24 contributing member bodies) – 6 seats; and Category C (All other smaller contributing member bodies) – 6 seats. Given that IFAC is made up of approximately 175 members and associates, ICAB is proud of Lisa's seat on the Board under Category C. IFAC Committees

In 2019, Lisa was also appointed as Chair of IFAC's Technology Advisory Group, which advises the Board on the impact of technology on the profession, and is a member of the Audit Committee.

Immediate Past President, Andrew Brathwaite continues to serve as a member of IFAC's Small and Medium Practices (SMP) Committee. The 18-member committee which was established in 2005 supports IFAC's work regarding SMPs in Standard Setting, providing Resources and Tools, and Advocacy.

Continuing Professional Development

During 2019, ICAB hosted 19 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) sessions, which provided 93 hours of CPD for members. The seminars included the Annual Tax Update, Excel, Powerpoint for Professionals, Using Data Analytics in Detecting Fraud, The Modern Company Director – Roles & Responsibilities, International Business Update, a Practice Monitoring Workshop, The

Economic Transformation of Barbados – A Business Perspective, Ethics – Back to Basics, Giving the Gift of You, the IFRS for SMEs and ISA Update Workshops, and the Joint ACCA/ICAB IFRS Update Workshop.

Communications

ICAB maintained an active media profile during 2019 with 55 exposures in the print and electronic news media during the year. ICAB also communicated with members via its Facebook Group, Facebook Page, Instagram Account, and email, and through the circulation of the Council Brief, which provides a summary of Council's key activities and decisions.

ICAB Scholarships

Since the 2015-2016 academic year, ICAB has given two scholarships (US\$1,750 each) to students majoring in accounting at the University of the West Indies (UWI) Cave Hill Campus. The scholarship winners for 2018-2019 were Kiana Chewitt, and Regina Farley, both of whom not only achieved academic excellence, but also served on the Executive of the UWI Accounting Students Association since 2017. The scholarships were presented by Executive Director, Kathy-Ann Hewitt at the 2019 UWI Cave Hill Student Awards Ceremony which was held at the campus on April 2, 2019.

Membership

As at December 31, 2019, ICAB's membership increased by 3% to 1,027, of which 183 held practising certificates. 56 new members were admitted during the year, and the designation Fellow of the Institute (FCA) was conferred on 30 members at an Awards Ceremony on December 5, 2019.

Student membership stood at 811, which represented an 8% decline from the previous year. The Education & Student Services Committee held a professional development session for students entitled "Social Networking" on July 18, 2019, and held the 4th Annual Students' Conference under the caption "The Cornerstones of A Successful Career on November 6, 2019 as part of Accountants' Week 2019.



INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF BELIZE



INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

During 2019 the focus of the Institute continued to be the engagement of both membership and student membership through various learning events. Practice Monitoring and the Strategic Plan continues to be a priority.

COUNCIL

The Council was comprised of:

- President - Brett Feinstein
- Vice President - Jose Ortez
- Secretary - Claude Burrell
- Treasurer - Senaida Castillo
- Member - Reynaldo Magaña
- Member - Elmer Murray
- Member - Dorita Herrarte

MEMBERSHIP

The total membership stood at 58; which consisted of 30 holding practicing certificates.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

There was an average of 65 active student members during the year. The services to these members include our responsibilities as a partner in the ACCA Joint Education Scheme.

REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

The following persons served as representatives on the ICAC Board of Directors:

- Claude Burrell - Director
- Brett Feinstein - Alternate Director

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

The operation of the secretariat continues to be outsourced to a local administrative support company.

CONCLUSION

The Institute continues to be grateful for the efforts provided by the Council and Secretariat during the year.



INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS COUNCIL CHANGES

The representative for the Grenada Branch, Isabelle Slinger has stepped down as Secretary for the Grenada Branch Council, and Mr Henry Joseph will be now representing Grenada in matters of the ICAEC going forward. He is to advise via formal notification on final decision regarding the rest of her term on the ICAEC Regional Council.

As mandated by the Institute's Rules and Bylaws, the five delegates representing each of the Regional Branch Council is as follows:

Andrea St Rose

President - representing St Lucia

Erwin Southwell

Vice President – representing Antigua/Barbuda

Carol Boddie

Treasurer – representing St Kitts/Nevis

Henry Joseph

Secretary – representing Grenada

Orlando Richards

representing Dominica

REGULATORY/MONITORING ACTIVITIES

The ICAEC submitted a document that was presented at the most recent COTED meeting that was held in May 2018 in response to challenges raised by a firm operating in an ICAC member jurisdiction regarding the residency requirement for membership/granting of practice license. The matter is still under discussion.

COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING STANDARDS

SPECIAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES

None.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The ICAEC - St. Lucia branch, in fulfilling its mandate to continuously raise the standard of the accounting profession in the region through workshops and seminars, on Wednesday June 5th, 2019 held a one-day workshop with the aim to provide its members and the public with training on various topics including the preparation of financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the ongoing work of the IASB.

The workshop was facilitated by the Council members and was well attended and received by accountants from a broad cross section of the industries in St Lucia. The workshop covered the areas concerning the presentation and disclosures required for IFRS-compliant Financial Statements and their implications, demonstrated with practical examples of questions and interactions.

A second CPD on Combating Money Laundering was presented by the ICAEC - St. Lucia branch on Tuesday August 20th, 2019 with the objectives of describing money laundering, how it can be perpetuated, outlining the impact on businesses and countries, and recommending strategies for compliance with legislation based on guidance issued by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF). This workshop was also facilitated by the Council members and was well attended and received by a broad cross section of the industries and professionals in St Lucia. The ICAEC-St Lucia Branch on September 17th, in collaboration with the ACCA held a third CPD on topics including IFRS 15, 16, 17, 19 and Updates.

A CPD session was conducted on September 11, 2019 by Andrea St. Rose in Dominica. Approximately 40 persons were in attendance.

The Institute intends to carry on providing more guidance on IFRS and other Professional Development areas to keep members updated.

STUDENT MEMBERS

There are no student members.

IMPACT OF THE PROFESSION ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The St Lucia Branch Council and along with some practicing Members met with representatives the Financial Services Regulatory Authorities (FSRA) on May 24th, 2019 to discuss IFRS9 and the impact/challenges of its implementation for financial institutions and the FSRA.

The St Lucia Branch Council also met later in the year with the St Lucia Co-operative credit Union League on 27th November to discuss and support with the issues faced by the League in the implementation of IFRS9. The President provided some insight into policies and updates obtained at the recently attended International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) meeting in London.

REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL FOCUS World Standard Setters Conference

ICAEC President Andrea St Rose attended the World Standard Setters (WSS) Conference in London from September 30 to October 1, 2019. Several matters were discussed including the following:

- IASB Update that covered the work of the Board over the last year as well as upcoming consultations.
- Updates were providing for the following:

- Primary Financial Statements-provided an overview of the consultation and how it aligns with discussions at previous meetings

- Goodwill and Impairment
- Rate Regulated Activities - an upcoming consultation document was discussed.

A number of breakout sessions were also held covering a wide range of topics, including the comprehensive review of the IFRS for SMEs and the Disclosure Initiative.

Following the WSS conference, the President attended the International Forum of Accounting Standard Setters (IFASS) meeting from October 2 to October 2, 2019.

MEMBERSHIP

	Practicing	Ordinary	Total
Antigua	29	47	76
Dominica	10	8	18
Grenada	13	39	52
St Kitts	11	31	42
St Lucia	37	50	87
Total	100	175	275

OPERATIONAL MATTERS

The Secretariat is continuing to provide support to its members in the various ways possible including record keeping processes to facilitate smoother collation and distribution of information.

CONCLUSION

We thank Branch Council members for their unwavering support and effort since their appointment to office. It is always very challenging as we continue to increase our membership, while organising CPDs and communicating regularly with members and stakeholders. There is always more work to be done, in particular as it relates to increasing membership as well as our positioning in the Society. We remain committed to the strengthening of the profession and looking forward to improved administration and controls as adopted under the Rules and By Laws of the ICAEC.



INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF GUYANA



PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

REGULATORY/MONITORING ACTIVITIES

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana (ICAG), as a member body of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (ICAC) continued its audit monitoring services with the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) in the year 2018. The audit monitoring programme was initiated in 2008 through ICAC in partnership with ACCA and ICAG.

The visit cycle was revised in keeping with Statement One (1) of the Membership Obligations of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) which mandates that the review cycle period for firms performing audits of financial statements of public interest entities be three years while retaining the six-year cycle for firms with no audits of financial statements of public interest entities.

Revised review cycle periods were recognised in a new service contract awarded to the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants during the year 2015 following an international tender process and continues with the Monitoring contract renewed effective January 1, 2019.

ACCA has its own independent monitoring unit, known as the Practice Regulation Department with personnel having the required qualifications, expertise, skills, experience and integrity of character to discharge the duties of monitoring – which was developed over a 25 year period following the statutory requirement for the monitoring of licensed auditors introduced in the United Kingdom by the Companies Act 1989 and continued in the Companies Act 2006.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES CONT'

ICAG has appointed a Regulatory Committee as a mechanism for reports from auditing visits to be considered for identification of actions to be taken in respect of deficiencies found at individual firms and the general trends emerging from such visits as a basis for pro-active technical programmes to be developed. The Regulatory Committee is composed of non-practicing members supported by a legal counsel.

The Regulatory Committee has identified the need for remedial actions and sanctions in respect of auditors who have repeated unsatisfactory outcomes at their monitoring visits, in keeping with the requirements of IFAC Statement of Membership Obligations (SMO) 1 on Quality Assurance.

Council has been advised and so recognise that it is not responsible regulation to allow non-compliant firms to continue to audit where firms persistently have unsatisfactory outcomes and fail to make the necessary improvements.

These are issues that ICAG will have to be responsive to in order to provide assurance to the public that it continues to work to strengthen the profession in the country through compliance with internationally acceptable standards.

The continuation of this programme, including remedial actions and sanctions, are necessary for the ICAG to remain compliant with SMO 1.

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES

A seminar was carried on August 23, 2019 on the topic of Small and Medium-Sized Practices, update on new standards and

exposure drafts, common monitoring deficiencies and IAASB's discussion paper on the audit of less complex entities.

On September 19, 2019, an IFRS Workshop was hosted jointly by the ICAG and ACCA covering topics on IFRS 17 - Insurance Contracts and development on IFRS 15 - Revenue, IFRS 16 - Leases and IFRS 19 - Employee Benefits. The presentation was made by Mr. Nagin Lad.

In collaboration with the Insurance Association of the Caribbean, Inc. and Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean, a two-day seminar on IFRS 17, Insurance Contracts was hosted on the 4th and 5th of November 2019. The subject matter was designed to identify technical differences between the accounting and reporting requirements of the existing IFRS 4 (and industry practice) and IFRS 17. The presentation was made by Mr. Marvin Yorke

On November 19, 2019, a presentation was made by Maria Daniel, Engagement Partner – Transaction Advisory Services, EY Trinidad and Tobago on the topic of 'Implementation Experience in the Caribbean, IFRS 9'.

TAXATION

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana continues to engage its membership and the Business Community on the Implementation and Impact of Recent Tax Amendments and General Tax Measures.

In February 2019, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana issued a public statement on its position regarding press reports on statements attributed by the Commissioner-General of the Guyana Revenue Authority regarding the deductibility of bad and doubtful debts for tax purposes in the banking sector. While the statements of the Commissioner-General were in specific reference to the banking industry, the implications were

more pervasive and may eventually impact other industries.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana continues to engage national bodies.

Guyana Petroleum Sector Local Content Policy

A team from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana met with Dr. Mark Bynoe, Director of the Department of Energy to discuss views and make recommendations on the draft Guyana Petroleum Sector Local Content Policy (draft May 14, 2019).

The Institute offered assistance to coordinate public sessions with Government agencies on financial and regulatory matters related to the Oil and Gas sector and to act as a coordinating arm with other professional bodies to host public consultations with regards to the successful implementation of a Local Content Policy and have local participation.

MEMBERSHIP / PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Membership Committee approved sixteen applications for membership during the year and Council continues to defend certain decisions taken in the application process for practice licenses in the High Court of Guyana as two appeals were granted in favor of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana during the year.

STUDENTS' AFFAIRS

ICAG / ACCA Examinations Scheme

During the year 2019 twenty (20) students successfully completed the ACCA final examinations, while fifty (50) students completed the last level in the Foundations in Accountancy (FIA).

During the period 2014 – 2019, one hundred and seventy-five (175) students completed the ACCA final examinations:

Years	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total						
No. of						
Grads	16	21	41	46	31	31
						178

Student's Recognition Ceremony

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana (ICAG) and Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) hosted its Students' Recognition Ceremony at the Pegasus Hotel on Saturday February 1, 2020 for the students who have successfully completed the Foundations in Accounting (FIA) and the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) examinations. In addition, the top Caribbean Achievers were honoured. The ceremony hosted students from the December 2018, March 2019, June 2019 and September 2019 examination sittings.

The event was chaired by Mr. David Dharamraj, Secretary of the ICAG. Congratulatory remarks were made by Mr. Colin Thompson, President of the ICAG and Ms. Maria Sookdeo, Partner Relations and Communications Manager of ACCA Caribbean.

Mr. Thompson expressed heartiest congratulations to all graduates and alluded to the graduates who have completed the ACCA examinations that one of the pillars along with experience and ethics is obtaining professional memberships with ACCA and ICAG. It was highlighted that there is need to use your ACCA power wisely and ethically, this power:

improves our employment prospects whether we choose to work in assurance or in business or government; helps us to move to senior management positions; provides us with the personal

satisfaction of having acquired a suite of skills; and allows us to participate in the advancement of the accounting profession for ourselves and those who will join the profession after us.

Ms. Sookdeo informed the attendees that employers across the globe seek out ACCA trained professionals, since our graduates are strategic thinkers and possess technical skills and professional values to drive their organisations' forward. Our fast-changing world needs forward-thinking finance professionals and people who are a force for good wherever they work and see the bigger picture.

Congratulatory remarks were also made by the two (2) Approved Learning Providers, Cacique Inc. and Accountancy Training Centre. Both representatives congratulated the students on their achievements and wished them well for the future.

INVESTIGATIONS, DISCIPLINARY AND APPEALS

A review of the Governance structure of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana is currently being carried out which includes the investigation committee is drafting formal recommendation on policies and procedures to be adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana.

The complaint raised in the previous year was addressed by the Investigations Committee and recommendations made to Council.

On the two legal matters brought forward, judgement was granted in favor of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana of appeals made by members on the non-issuance of a practicing certificate.



INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

During the year 2019, ICAJ continued implementation of key strategic initiatives designed to strengthen the local Accountancy profession. These initiatives included informing stakeholders of new international standards and providing training and support for the adoption of these standards. Greater partnership was forged through the signing of a MOU with CPA Canada which allows ICAJ to deliver on its mandate to provide locally accessible, high quality routes of qualification to enter the accounting profession in Jamaica. There was enhanced engagement with members and efforts have been made to promote the value of accountants in the wider society, in order to engender greater public confidence in the Accountancy profession, as well as a stronger appeal of Accountancy to students as a career of choice. By extension, we look towards a strengthening of Jamaica's economic and social capital, given the significant roles that Chartered Accountants play in nation building.

COUNCIL CHANGES

Annual General Meeting

ICAJ held its Fifty-Fifth Annual General Meeting on July 31, 2019.

The following persons were elected to serve during 2019/2020

Members of Council 2019 - 2020

Mr. Sixto Coy - President
 Ms. Allison Peart- Vice President
 Mrs. Sharon Donaldson-Levine - Treasurer
 Mrs. Elaine Robinson - Honorary Secretary
 Mr. Raymond Campbell (Immediate Past President)
 Mr. Bruce Scott
 Mr. Nigel Chambers

Mrs. Elizabeth McGregor
 Ms. Marlene McIntosh
 Mr. Garfield Reece
 Mr. Eric Scott
 Mrs. Janet Plummer
 Mr. Eric Mardner

REGULATORY/MONITORING ACTIVITIES

Practitioners' Development - Practice Monitoring

ICAJ continued to promote international standards and best practices and provided practitioners with updated information relevant to their practice and other pertinent matters.

Compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards and International Auditing Standards

ICAJ remains committed to serving the public interest, facilitating the adoption and implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards and International Auditing Standards and best practices within the Accountancy profession. In this regard, reviews of the financial statements of selected listed companies continued and information was also provided to companies on the new Auditor's Report.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ICAJ endeavoured to fulfil its mandate to facilitate and promote the continued professional development of its members. On-line webinars and post-viewings were also provided in addition to face to face seminars and workshops.

ICAJ Forensic Accounting Certificate Course

The 4-week Certificate Course in Forensic Accounting, facilitated by Forensic Accountant, Mr. Collin Greenland

was held at the ICAJ Secretariat from January 5 - 26, 2019. The course was designed to help local accounting and audit professionals to improve their competence in the application of 'cutting-edge' forensic accounting methods. Overall, it is expected that participants would develop the core knowledge and skills needed to identify and detect fraud while being able to perform forensic accounting/auditing assignments. There were 47 participants. A repeat session was held on Sundays at the ICAJ secretariat from August 4 - 25, 2019.

IFRS Workshop

The annual IFRS Workshop was held at the Jamaica Conference Centre on February 1 and 2, 2019. The two-day workshops provided pertinent information on the following:

- IFRS 9 - Financial Instruments
- IFRS 15 - Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- IFRS 16 - The New Leases Standard
- IFRS 17 - Insurance Contracts

Approximately 231 persons were in attendance at the venue and 123 participated by webcast.

GCT Workshop

A 2-day GCT Worksop was held on April 6 & 13, 2019 at the ICAJ Secretariat. The presenter Mr. Everalde Dewar, Associate Partner, BDO, focused on the area of "Fundamental Changes over the last 6 years". Other topics included:

- GCT Regulations
- Reverse charge- Imported Services/ Exported Services/E-commerce & International service
- Compliance Issues
- Tax Mitigation & Savings Measures
- Assessments
- Objections and Appeals

A total of 60 persons participated in the Workshop.

Another 2-day Worksop was held on June 29 and July 6, 2019 at the ICAJ Secretariat. A total of 45 persons participated in this Workshop.

Taxation Seminars

A seminar on Taxation was held at the Spanish Court Hotel on May 1, 2019. The event featured both overseas and local presenters. Participants were provided with pertinent information on several topics. Approximately 118 persons were in attendance and 70 persons participated by webcast.

Another Taxation Seminar was held on September 25, 2019 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel between 1:00pm - 5:00pm. 297 persons participated via webcast and venue.

ICAC Pre-Conference Workshop

The ICAC Pre-Conference Workshop was held on June 20, 2019 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. The session was facilitated by Mr. Ricardo Murrel, Senior Business Advisor, KPMG who focused on IFRS 9 - Financial Instruments - Expected Credit Loss Model. The group consisted of 120 participants.

ICAC Conference

The 37th Conference of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (ICAC) was successfully hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica (ICAJ) at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel in Kingston, Jamaica from June 20 to 22, 2019 with over 600 delegates in attendance.

Themed, "Navigating Global Disruption ... Creating Opportunities" the conference featured a rich mixture of local and international presenters who focused on topics geared towards enhancing the skill sets of the participants, fostering professional development, an excellent opportunity to exchange regional views

on critical issues relevant to the Caribbean, excellent networking opportunities and exciting social events.

Business Seminar

The annual Business Conference was scaled down to a Business Seminar and was held on November 8, 2019 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. The theme "Achieving Growth - Sustaining Viability" placed the spotlight squarely on issues affecting businesses in small open economies like Jamaica. Presenters were drawn from various local companies and organisations including the SME sector, as well as individuals engaged in information technology and environmental solutions.

The topics included:

- Entrepreneurship in Jamaica,
- Leveraging data analytics to drive growth and sustainability,
- Global turmoil and implications for Jamaica,
- How trends in technology affect consumer behaviour and
- Human versus natural disasters-the race to save the planet

A total of 150 persons were in attendance. Feedback from participants indicated that the seminar was highly successful based on the topics that were covered and the quality of the presentations.

Practitioners Development Workshop

A 2-day workshop for small and medium sized practitioners was held on November 16 and 23, 2019 at the ICAJ Secretariat. Facilitators were drawn from large and medium sized accounting firms. Topics included:

- Practice review findings
- Documentation
- Auditing Financial statement components
- Analytical procedures

- Money laundering regulations and
- Banking certification for SMEs

A total of 45 persons participated in the Workshop.

Deferred Taxation Workshop

A two-day Deferred Taxation Workshop was held on December 13 and 14, 2019 at the ICAJ Secretariat. The workshop was facilitated by ICAJ Past President Prunella Vassell. The topics covered were:

- Basic Outline of Income Tax Computations
- Overview of Deferred Taxation
- Recognition and Measurement Principles
- Case Studies
- Presentation and Disclosure Requirements

A total of 40 persons participated in the workshop

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Career Expositions

During the months of February and March ICAJ participated in the following Secondary and Tertiary Institutions' career day activities:

- St. Andrew High School for Girls
- UWI Mona
- Holy Childhood High School
- Wolmer's Boys School

ACCA Interactive Student Networking Event

ACCA hosted a complimentary Student session at the ICAJ Secretariat on July 8, 2019. The session was geared towards student progression and helping students prepare for their exams.

ICAJ/ACCA Joint Graduation

The ICAJ/ACCA Joint Graduation ceremony was held on October 26, 2019 for graduates who successfully completed the September to December 2018 and March to June 2019 professional examinations. The keynote address was delivered by Mrs. C. Patricia Hayle, ICAJ Past President and 2018 Distinguished Member Awardee. Special recognition was given to Nicklaus Farr who was the youngest graduate to complete the professional programme of the September 2018 to June 2019 examination diets. Kellicia Phillips was the recipient of the Raphael Gordon Award. She obtained the highest mark of not less than 70% in paper F9 – Financial Management, on her first attempt. The Jasper Burnett Award was presented to Elesio Hutchinson. Other scholastic awards included the Knowledge Level Examination Award which was won by Angelo Alexander. Another graduate, Julian Codner received the Professional Level Award, Santena Jumpp, received the Student Affairs Committee Award for achieving the highest mark in the Strategic Business Leader exam, on the first attempt and Mr. Chesney Fairclough was acknowledged for completing all 14 ACCA exams in two and a half years, over 6 sittings.

ICAJ ACCA Exam Revision Event

ICAJ hosted an exam revision session for students at the ICAJ Secretariat on November 25 and 26, 2019. The sessions were geared towards improving student progression and helping students prepare for their exams and was facilitated by Haimcham Ramdeo.

Meeting with UWI MSc Accounting Students
A meeting was held on March 28, 2019 with approximately 30 MSc Students at UWI, Mona Campus. Mr. Terrence Clarke, representative of the Student Affairs Committee made a presentation on the ICAJ and the accountancy profession to the students.

Student Mentorship Programme

The mentorship programme is on-going and mentors and mentees have been paired. The programme will also provide

the opportunity for mentees to learn from the experiences of successful Chartered Accountants.

IMPACT OF THE PROFESSION ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Institute recognises the pivotal role that the profession plays in nation building through contributions to economic development, providing critical accounting and finance services to businesses, and making significant contributions to Jamaica's economy, whether in public practice, private industry, government or education.

ICAJ has also maintained a strong relationship with local organisations including the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service, Tax Administration Jamaica (TAJ) and the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica and will continue to enhance its relationships with these organisations while establishing new ones.

MOU with CPA Canada

A new formal memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed on February 19, 2019 between the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada) and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica (ICAJ).

The MOU speaks to joint professional development and the increased promotion and support of the CPA Canada designation in Jamaica. Graduates who become members of CPA Canada will automatically become members of ICAJ, subject to meeting established requirements.

Community Outreach Programme

As part of its outreach, representatives from the Institute visited the Sunbeam Boys Home in St. Catherine on December 21, 2019 and donated a refrigerator to the home, as well as presented personal care packages to the forty boys at the home. Leading the team was Mrs. Elaine Robinson, Honorary Secretary of ICAJ and Chairman of the Public Relations Committee.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

Strategic Alliances

ICAJ's partnership with regional and international organisations (e.g. IFAC, ACCA, and ICAC) remains integral to its operations.

Webinars

ICAJ expresses its appreciation for the support received from a number of territories in the Caribbean who participated in webinars throughout the year.

MEMBERSHIP

As at December 31, 2019, there were 1423 members. Efforts continue to increase the number of new members admitted and reduce the number of members deregistered annually. More attention will be placed on attracting accountants to ICAJ membership by informing them of the benefits of membership while sensitising employers on the advantages of recruiting persons with the CA designation.

Member Engagement

ICAJ also recognises that engagement with its members and registered students must be at the forefront of its strategies and programmes. As such, the Institute continually strives to provide the best service to its constituents. ICAJ sought to improve and enhance communication with its stakeholders via Social Media, text messaging, telemarketing, e-blast system and quarterly newsletter, to bring members and students timely updates as they happen.

Members' Successes

The Institute remains extremely proud of its members who continue to provide invaluable service on many Boards and committees, locally and internationally.

- Ms. Marlene McIntosh, FCA, FCCA – ICAJ wishes to extend sincere congratulations to Ms. Marlene McIntosh on her successful nomination as the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants' (ACCA) International Assembly Representative for Jamaica.

- Hon. Adrian Strachan, OJ was awarded the 2019 ICAJ Distinguished Member Award at the ICAJ's Annual Awards Banquet which was held on December 3, 2019 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel.

New Members Orientation Session

The event was held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at the ICAJ Secretariat with 40 persons attending, including graduates of CPA/Canada, ACCA and MSc UWI. The event was well received by the participants.

Another New Members Orientation Session was held on Wednesday, July 24, 2019 at the ICAJ Secretariat. Then President of ICAJ, Mr. Raymond Campbell gave a charge to these newly inducted members of ICAJ, telling them to stay relevant as the development of the accounting profession depends on its members and their ability to give good advice, manage their clients and lead their teams. The session was also addressed by incoming President Sixto Coy, Membership Chair Marlene McIntosh and ICAJ member Cecilia Lewis. 45 new members were added to the ICAJ.

Retirees Recognition Luncheon

The event was held on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at the Jamaica Pegasus hotel with 23 retirees in attendance. The keynote address was delivered by retired member Mrs. Patricia Reid Waugh, Author of the book "Retirement a New Adventure".

ICAJ Town Hall Meeting - Kingston

A Town Hall meeting was held on May 22, 2019 at the Knutsford Court Hotel with approximately 50 members and students in attendance. The session was held with the intention of engaging members and students in the region and to discuss their concerns as well as benefits of membership. Prospective members were also invited as a means of encouraging the transition into membership with the Institute.

ACCA Affiliate Event

ACCA hosted an Affiliate event on July 9, 2019 at the ICAJ Secretariat. The session gave affiliates pertinent information on how to complete their Practical Experience Requirement (PER) as well as the benefits of ACCA membership.

Chartered Accountants' Week

Chartered Accountants' Week was observed from October 7 – 11, 2019. Chartered Accountants' day was observed on October 9. Members were hosted by the Secretariat at a Members Mingle on October 11.

Prospective Members Reception

A reception was held for prospective members on November 20, 2019 to provide potential members with information on the benefits of and steps to becoming a Chartered Accountant. The keynote address was delivered by Mrs. C. Patricia Hayle, ICAJ Past President and 2018 Distinguished Member Awardee. Approximately 20 persons were in attendance.

Professional Development Clubs

The ICAJ Toastmasters and Writers' Clubs continue to hone leadership, public speaking and writing skills among its members and students.

54th Anniversary Services of Thanksgiving Celebrations for the Institute's 54th Anniversary were marked by Services of Thanksgiving in Kingston and Montego Bay as follows:

- Kingston - January 20, 2019, Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church. Brunch followed at the ICAJ Secretariat. Approximately 50 persons were in attendance, including members, students, staff, family members and well-wishers.
- Montego Bay - January 27, 2019, Calvary Baptist Church. Brunch followed at Grand-A-View Restaurant, with approximately 55 persons in attendance.

Awards Banquet

The Annual Awards Banquet was held on December 3, 2019 at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. Retired Auditor General of Jamaica the Hon. Adrian Strachan, OJ was the 2019 Distinguished Member Awardee. The prestigious award is presented annually to a member of ICAJ who has contributed, through his/her outstanding achievements, to the development of the Institute and the Accountancy profession.

OPERATIONAL MATTERS**Property Development**

The Property Development Committee is ensuring that ICAJ's stakeholders conduct business at the Secretariat in an attractive and organised environment. Our property improvement projects continued with the repainting of the offices of the Secretariat in December 2019.

History of ICAJ

The Institute is cognisant that the preservation of its history is integral to its development, as the past must play a key role in leveraging the future. Research was undertaken for the publication of the history of the Institute, and, the first draft of the manuscript was completed and is currently under review.

The Institute is currently in discussion with prospective publishers with a view to publishing by year end 2020.

CONCLUSION

ICAJ thanks its valued members, students, sponsors and other stakeholders as well as the general public for their unwavering support during 2019 and invites their continued support for all its programmes. The Institute will continue to actively pursue the goals and objectives that will chart its future while advancing the Accountancy profession.


**SURINAME INSTITUTE OF
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**
**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

The main activities carried out throughout the year relate to:

- CA Certification Exams and Member certification
- IFAC Associate Membership
- SCAI Annual Conference 2019
- NBA/PUM Practice Monitoring Programme
- CPD Training

COUNCIL CHANGES

The new SCAI Board of Directors was elected at the Annual General Meeting dated December 5, 2019 and is composed as set out below: Robin Ferrier President Michael Lutchman Vice-president Jasna Kortram Treasurer Susan Trott Secretary Marguerite Tjong A Hung Member Hans Girjasing Member

REGULATORY/MONITORING ACTIVITIES - NBA/PUM Programme

During the last visit from the PUM programme, two experts, Mr. Wim Boone and Mr. Jan Kalisvaart, visited SCAI to conduct 13 office and file reviews. This will be the last visit for Mr. Boone during the PUM project because he has reached his eligible age. Mr. Jan Kalisvaart will be the new expert primary responsible for the office reviews.

COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING STANDARDS

SCAI has installed various committees to draft the rules and regulations for the different bylaws. In total 9 bylaws should be in place to comply with the new Accountants Law (Wet SCAI). This will be completed in 2020.

SPECIAL PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The following activities can be mentioned:

- NBA/PUM Programme in collaboration with NBA (Royal Dutch Association of Accountants)

- IFRS Seminar for Pension funds in collaboration with ACCA
- IFRS Certification programme in collaboration with ACCA

The Annual Conference 2019 was again a great success both in terms of exposure and the financial outcome.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Training courses carried out by SCAI:

- IFRS for pension funds
 - IFRS 9
 - SCAI 2nd Annual conference
 - IPSAS
- Training courses carried out in collaboration with SCAI:
- IFRS for Pension funds in collaboration with ACCA

STUDENT MEMBERS

CPA Canada has yet again held a student forum during the SCAI 2nd Annual Conference which was a success. The SCAI will sign an MOU with CPA to provide accountancy education through the institutes in Suriname.

Furthermore SCAI is admitting student members as a separate non-voting member category

IMPACT OF THE PROFESSION ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The SCAI has drafted a PR plan to create awareness on the implication of the new law on the profession "Wet SCAI". The new legislation is meant for all accounting professionals operating in Suriname. They will have to adhere to Suriname's rules and regulation for the accounting profession.

With the new Law we have noticed a greater recognition for SCAI as a professional Institute.

REGIONAL & INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

In 2020 after the general elections the Board will commit to any relevant newly elected government officials. SCAI members and board-members have participated in international seminars such as:

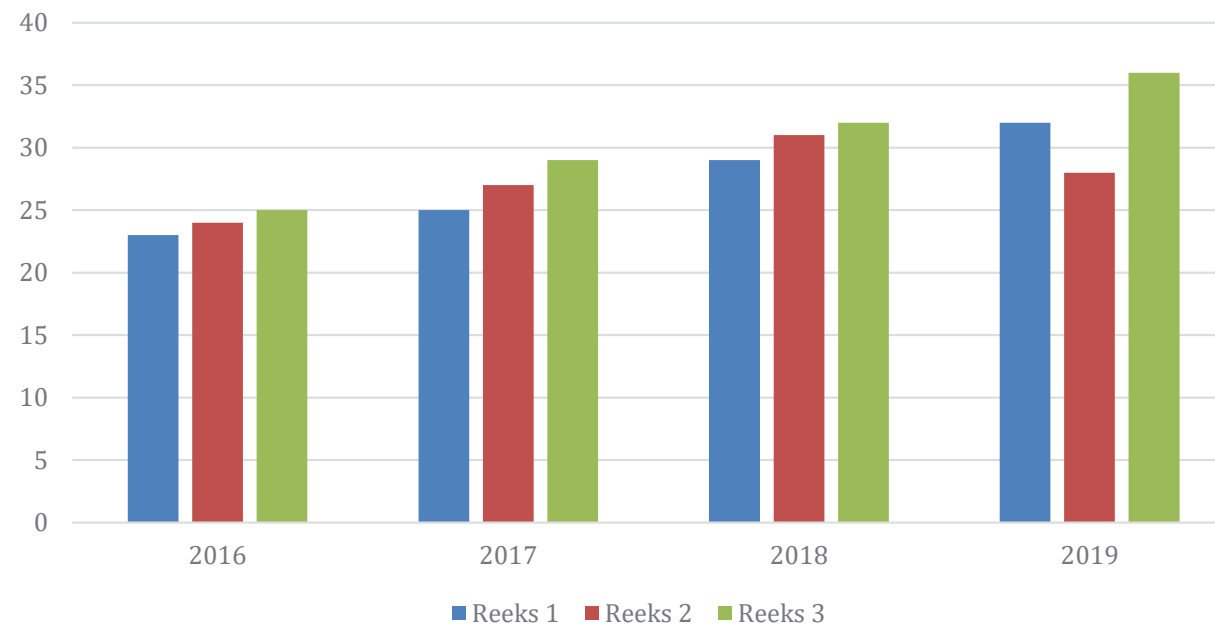
- IFAC's PAIB meeting
- IFAC Council meeting Vancouver
- ICAC conference Miami

MEMBERSHIP

Membership increased to 36, the members mainly consist of chartered accountants from NBA. All practitioners now have to take an exam to become a CA certified accountant.

In December 2019 the first group of SCAI Members was presented their official Certified Accountant's Certificate after which they were added to (after final screening of documentation) the SCAI CA country register.

MEMBERSHIP



OPERATIONAL MATTERS

The SCAI bureau is reorganising and setting up the full infrastructure as stated by the law to further strengthen the profession.

The regular revenues out of SCAI's training activities and membership fees have enabled the association to become self-supporting.

CONCLUSION

We wish to thank all our stakeholders, the Government of Suriname, our members, our Board of Directors and the SCAI Bureau for their valuable support to SCAI during 2019.



INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



INTRODUCTION

2019 was the first full year of operation post transition to the new ICATT rules introduced in 2018. Implementation has been largely without difficulty: the new Licensing Committee has met successfully to grant licences for both audit and non-audit practice, the cadre of non-audit practitioners has grown from 71 in 2018 to 106 in 2019. On-line CPD declaration also introduced in 2018 continued to be widely adopted with growing levels of compliance in 2019.

ICATT posted a successful financial year when the Institute recorded a significant increase in its net surplus. The one-time increase is largely attributed to the reimbursement of legal costs incurred on account of a court decision which affirmed the Institute's right to undertake disciplinary action. Contribution from member fees increased by 11.5%; however, there was a decrease in students' subscriptions by 11.2%.

There were significant increases to other streams of income. Year on year, interest income increased by 58.1%. In terms of CPD Events, there was an increase in revenue due to the overall larger participation and higher revenue generated from workshops.

ICATT AGM

Stacy-Ann Golding was re-appointed President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Trinidad and Tobago. It was the third and final consecutive term for the then KPMG Audit Partner. Denise Chinpire O'Reilly, the Managing Director of KS Chinpire Contracting Services Limited, was re-elected Vice President;

both were elected unopposed. The appointments were made at the first Council Meeting held after ICATT's 49th Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Radisson Hotel in Port of Spain on Tuesday March 21, 2019.

Ms. Golding is a Fellow of the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (FCCA), who has served on the ICATT Council for five years. She is a lead audit practitioner with some 25 years of experience working throughout the Caribbean region.

In her report to the AGM, President Golding noted, "2018 has been a year in which we began the consolidation of our new rules and regulations. In the year ahead, we will place a greater focus on clarifying and taking actions aligned to ICATT's primary role and responsibilities as a Regulator of the accountancy profession and enhancing our impact in the public interest. Through the work of our committees we expect to continue to grow our image as thought leaders, improve service to members and students and to engage a wider partnership among key stakeholders."

Also elected at the AGM were first time Council member Adrienne D'Arcy, FCCA, a Partner in EY's Assurance Service Line in the Trinidad and Tobago office. She is a Member in Audit Practice of ICATT.

Re-elected to the Council were Dinesh Bhola, Principal of D.S. Bhola & Co and the Managing Director of DSB Financial Solutions Ltd., Diane Mano, FCCA – an Accountant and Attorney at Law attached to Trinity Chambers and Nicole Joseph the Tax Partner at Grant Thornton ORBIT Solutions Limited and a member of the ICATT Council for the past 11

years. Other members of Council who were not up for re-election and remain on Council are: Anthony Pierre, Derek Mohammed, Dwayne Rodriguez Seijas, Kerry Mohammed, Krishna Boodhai and Vijay Parabdeen.

ICATT GROWS GENERAL AND FIRM MEMBERSHIP

66 new members joined ICATT to coincide with the Institute's anniversary celebration on September 17th. There were 117 new members in 2019. The total of members, inclusive of Members Residing abroad and Members in Retirement now stands at 1617.

ICATT has also seen a growth in Registered Firms - firms whose Members in Practice are in good standing and are eligible to be registered with the Institute. During 2018, approximately 82% of firms eligible to be registered came on board while in 2019, 85% elected to register.

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING CONFERENCE 2019

On Sept. 17, 2019, ICATT began a year-long celebration of our 50th Anniversary with the formal Launch of the 2019 Conference and celebration of the 50th Year Anniversary of ICATT which coincides with that date.

Minister of Public Utilities and ICATT member Robert Le Hunter, gave the feature address at special event on September 17th at the Trinidad Hilton which launched both the anniversary observance as well as the annual conference. 500 participants attended The Annual International Finance and Accounting Conference held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. It was the 10th conference hosted by The Institute. The conference theme was The Next 50 - a

forecast of business, financial, IT, lifestyle and global trends that may define the future and influence our preparation for a brave new world. The conference culminated with a gala dinner on Friday Nov. 15 at the Hyatt Ballroom.

CPD SEMINARS

For the 2019 report period ICATT hosted twelve CPD events. The 1st Quarter featured commenced the annual Audit Practice Monitoring update facilitated by Faizal Ali in January, a seminar entitled Business Planning for Entrepreneurial Accounts in February and in March ICATT hosted the Central Bank to present a one-day programme to explore Changes to AML Guidelines at the Arthur Lok Jack, School of Business, Mt Hope.

During the 2nd Quarter the SMP Sub-Committee of Council in April presented: International Standards on Auditing – Back to Basics #1 featuring a revision of ISAs 200 – 265. The seminar was the first of two, two-day seminars in the series: "BACK TO BASICS" specially designed for new auditors and those who needed a refresher. ICATT undertook a review programme in April on the topic of the implementation of IFRS 9 for officers of the Ministry of Labour who have oversight of credit unions. The Institute also facilitated a session in May on IFRS 9 for credit union finance personnel on the sister-isle of Tobago.

The Secretariat also hosted two events: The March Induction Ceremony held in conjunction with the AGM and the April Recognition Ceremony in collaboration with with the ACCA. In June, ICATT hosted "The Board of Inland Revenue Tax Audit and the Taxpayer seminar - Audit, Objection & Tax Appeal Process" in two locations in Trinidad and Tobago.

The 3rd Quarter programmes focussed on two programmes hosted by ICATT's Small & Medium Sized Practitioners Committee: "The International Standards on Auditing – Back to Basics 2; ISA 260 to 402," which was a continuation of "Back to Basics 1" held earlier in the year, and "Corporate Law and Secretarial Practice" seminar.

Facilitated by the ICATT Professional Accountants in Business (PAIB) Committee, a business forum and professional networking event titled "Artificial Intelligence – the Future of Accounting" was also held in July. The annual 2-day IFRS/ISA seminar continues to attract the largest participation among members. 251 members, non-members and students attended.

ICATT RECEIVES TTGPA AWARD

The Institute was among 12 professional organisations recognised with an award for their role in forming the Trinidad and Tobago Group of Professional Association (TTGPA) and establishing its Professional Centre in Port of Spain. The award was presented by the Association's President Eng. Ahmin Baksh at the TTGPA's 50th Anniversary Cocktail Reception and Past Presidents' Award Ceremony held at the Hyatt Regency on June 8, 2019. ICATT which was one of the original 12 members instrumental in forming the TTGPA in 1969. is today the largest of organisations operating at the TTGPA?

CONCLUSION

While 2018 focussed on ensuring a successful transition to the new rules, in 2019 ICATT began work towards

the implementation of a system for the auditing of CPD activity and the establishment of a practice monitoring programme for non-audit practitioners. A special sub-committee of Council was set up to design and make recommendations based on consultation with members.

The Council of ICATT is pleased that all our Committees have worked hard to deliver on their mandates and thanks all for their service. As a result, we have built relevant programmes of CDP activity tailored to our diverse membership and supported the development of our SMP group. Our technical auditing committee continues to collaborate with organisations such as the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, The Financial Investigations Unit, The Association of T & T Insurance Companies and the Bankers Association to strengthen financial systems. Our Licensing Committee provides effect oversight of the licensing function. ICATT is a sought-after contributor to the national budget in the area of taxation and our members have been called to lend their expertise through participation on state boards. We are forging ahead with a focus on establishing a quality framework for ICATT within the operations of the Secretariat, membership, audit monitoring and relationships with our external stakeholders. In addition, we intend to update ICATT's legislation, develop our Technical and Compliance service to members, and ensure that our members fully harness the benefits of being partners with ICATT.

TREASURER'S REPORT



The financial position as of, and the financial performance for the year ended, December 31, 2019 demonstrated very positive trends, which provided the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (the Institute) with a decent footing leading into the uncertainties facing the Caribbean and the rest of the world in 2020.

Financial position

Total assets increased by \$60,679 (2018: decreased by \$80,289) to \$125,537 (2018: \$64,858), principally due to the increase in cash on hand and at banks of \$77,724 (2018: decrease of \$43,006) to \$81,845 (2018: \$4,121), which was offset by the net redemption of investment securities of \$14,959 (2018: \$37,712) to \$19,541 (2018: \$34,512), inclusive of accrued interest. The net redemption of investment securities was to ensure the necessary liquidity to meet financial obligations as they became due during the year, and in preparation to meet further financial obligations in relation to the hosting of the annual conference, certain of which were due in the first quarter of 2020. Further, investment securities are utilised in treasury management for the Institute and therefore will experience net investment and net redemption, as excess cash resources increase/decrease, to facilitate maximisation of investment income.

Total liabilities increased by \$27,971 (2018: decreased by \$13,426) to \$50,124 (2018: \$22,153), principally due to the increase in deferred income of \$27,052 (2018: \$Nil) to \$27,052 (2018: \$Nil), which was the result of certain membership fees being received in advance of the applicable membership year. Such membership fees were received in advance following a request by the Institute to support the funding required to meet the financial obligations referred to above regarding the hosting of the annual conference.

Total equity increased by \$32,708 (2018: \$66,863) to \$75,413 (2018: \$42,705), solely due to the net income and total comprehensive income for the year ended December 31, 2019 (2018: net loss and total comprehensive loss).

Financial performance

Net income and total comprehensive income increased by \$99,571 (2018: decreased by \$68,329) to \$32,708 (2018: net loss and total comprehensive loss of \$66,863), due to favourable variances in both total income and total expenses.

Total income increased by \$50,808 (2018: decreased by \$53,281) to \$171,218 (2018: \$120,410), principally due to: the increase in income from the annual conference of \$41,488 (2018: decrease of \$53,723) to \$69,340 (2018: \$27,852); the increase in income from continuing development seminar fees of \$8,487 (2018: \$Nil) to \$8,487 (2018: \$Nil), following the successful hosting of seminars on International Financial Reporting Standard 17 Insurance Contracts in partnership with the Insurance Association of the Caribbean; the increase in membership fees by \$5,602 (2018: \$4,906) to \$95,112 (2018: \$89,510) as a result of increases in the number of underlying individual members in each of the professional accountancy organisations (PAOs) comprising the Institute's membership; and the decrease in income from newsletter advertising of \$5,278 (2018: \$757) to \$Nil (2018: \$5,278) as a result of the changes in the secretariat of the Institute during 2019 that prevented the consistent publication of the newsletter.

Following an analyses of the primary drivers of income for the Institute, it has been determined that the annual conference should be hosted in Miami, Florida in the United States of America every three (3) years to: reduce the volatility in the income from the annual conference, as a result of hosting the event in Caribbean territories with different cost structures; and maximise the earning potential through a hosting site central to all participants. The projected income for the annual conference in 2020 was material, and would have provided significant resources for the Institute to broaden its mandate, and its

support of its membership. However, the global pandemic COVID-19 (commonly referred to as the Coronavirus) has interrupted these plans considerably and the deferral of the annual conference has contributed to a significant loss in income to the Institute for the year ending December 31, 2020, along with possible significant expenses as a result of resulted financial commitments. Accordingly, steadfast commitment to the Institute is required of its membership, and their underlying members, as the Board of Directors navigates these challenging times and devises strategies to best protect the sustainability of the Institute.

Total expenses decreased by \$48,236 (2018: increased by \$14,980) to \$138,505 (2018: \$186,741), principally due to: the decrease in travel and entertainment of \$23,297 (2018: increase of \$817) to \$25,356 (2018: \$48,653) due to the decision by the Institute to restrict travel where possible and request the representation of the Institute by the members of the Board of Directors that were attending meetings and events on behalf of their respective PAO; the decrease in communications of \$11,539 (2018: increase of \$3,857) to \$3,587 (2018: \$15,126) following the more efficient use of communications media with reduced costs, namely communications utilising internet protocols and data; the decrease in annual general, board and other meetings costs of \$6,339 (2018: increase of \$3,019) to \$6,340 (2018: \$12,679) as a result of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants kindly hosting the September 2019 board meeting at its offices, pro bono. These decreases, and others, were partially offset by an increase of \$6,913 in website maintenance to \$8,760 (2018: \$1,847), which represents an investment in the enhancement of the annual conference website and certain improvements in the Institute's principal website. Certain of the cost containment measures implemented during the current year will inure to the benefit of the Institute for future years, however strategic decisions regarding the Institute's representation on accountancy bodies and at international events will be required to ensure the collective views of the PAOs in the Caribbean are appropriately presented; such representation will come at a cost. The global pandemic has virtually eliminated the required travel, and virtual meetings are becoming more of the norm, which will bode well for the Institute in meeting the objectives of appropriate representation while maintaining costs.

The way forward

The Institute represents an integral entity in facilitating the collaboration of all professional accountants in the Caribbean, through promoting a "chorusline" that is far more powerful than that of the individual PAOs. Therefore, it is imperative that the Institute be placed on a stable financial foundation to facilitate its sustainability and more importantly to fund the expansion of its mandate. This will require the collective efforts and commitments of the PAOs comprising the membership of the Institute and their underlying members – to contribute financially, despite the many competing priorities; to contribute in-kind through shared representation at key events and meetings; and to contribute to the strong leadership required at the level of the Institute.

The financial performance for the year ended December 31, 2019 provided the Institute with the financial wherewithal to invest in the future through the utilisation of Miami, Florida as a perennial host for future annual conferences to provide greater income for the Institute. Notwithstanding the forces of the global pandemic, this initiative will survive in the future and benefit the Institute. However, with its deferral in 2020 the financial resources of the Institute are challenged for the year ending December 31, 2020, and the Institute will need its members support to get through to the "other side".

The Charity fund, and the principles which contributed to its founding and original funding, are those that must be kept in the forefront of the Institute's thoughts and plans – to support the development of the profession by directing resources to promote the future accountants in the Caribbean. This spirit will be needed to provide the perseverance, character and hope needed during this time of uncertainty.

The financial position and financial performance of the Institute during 2020 have remained positive, and the Board of Directors is focusing on the decisions necessary for 2020 and beyond to secure the future of the Institute. Support of out-of-the-box thinking and initiatives is the charge to the membership.

Gowon N.G. Bowe
Treasurer

ANNUAL REPORT 2019
FINANCIALS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean

Report on the audit of the Financial Statements

Our Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (the Institute) as of December 31, 2019, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

What We Have Audited

The Institute's financial statements comprise:

- the statement of financial position as of December 31, 2019;
- the statement of comprehensive income for the year ended December 31, 2019;
- the statement of changes in equity for the year ended December 31, 2019;
- the statement of cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2019; and
- notes to the financial statements, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Institute in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (IESBA Code). We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code.

ADVISORY • ASSURANCE • TAX

PARTNERS: Wayne Strachan; FCA;FCCA;MBA Emile Lafayette; FCA;FCCA;MBA PRINCIPAL: Roxiana Malcolm-Tyrell; FCA;FCCA;MBA

Baker Tilly Strachan Lafayette trading as BakerTilly is a member of the global network of Baker Tilly International Ltd., the members of which are separate and independent legal entities.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT (CONTINUED)

To the Board of
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean
Page 2

Report on the audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Institute's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Institute or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Institute's internal control.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT (CONTINUED)

To the Board of
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean
Page 3

Report on the audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

- conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Institute's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Institute to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieve fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on additional matters as required by the Jamaican Companies Act

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion, proper accounting records have been maintained, so far as appears from our examination of those records, and the financial statements, which are in agreement therewith, give the information required by the Jamaican Companies Act, in the manner required.


Chartered Accountants
Kingston, Jamaica
24 June 2020

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2019

(Expressed in United States dollars)

	Notes	2019 \$	2018 \$
ASSETS			
Cash on hand and at banks	3	81,845	4,121
Investment securities	4	19,541	34,512
Accounts receivable	5	14,495	17,132
Other assets	6	8,646	7,500
Property, plant and equipment	7	1,010	1,593
Total assets		125,537	64,858
LIABILITIES			
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	8	18,288	17,369
Deferred income		27,052	-
Charity fund	9	4,784	4,784
Total liabilities		50,124	22,153
EQUITY			
Capital	1	-	-
Development fund	10	35,331	35,331
Administrative assistance development fund	10	13,809	13,809
Retained earnings/(Accumulated deficit)		26,273	(6,435)
Total equity		75,413	42,705
Total liabilities and equity		125,537	64,858

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SIGNED ON ITS BEHALF BY:



President



Treasurer

June 24, 2020

Date

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

(Expressed in United States dollars)

	Notes	2019 \$	2018 \$
INCOME			
Membership fees		95,112	89,510
Annual conference		69,340	27,852
Continuing professional development seminar fees		8,487	-
Interest		134	588
Newsletter advertising		-	5,278
Net foreign exchange loss		(1,654)	(3,052)
Other		(201)	234
		171,218	120,410
EXPENSES			
Salaries and employee benefits		65,008	60,776
Travel and entertainment		25,356	48,653
Professional fees		9,534	9,040
Website maintenance		8,760	1,847
Annual general, board and other meetings costs		6,340	12,679
Occupancy costs		6,072	5,774
Printing, stationery and supplies		4,899	6,800
Communications		3,587	15,126
Subscription and software licenses		3,586	3,578
Bank charges		2,022	2,680
Utilities		1,789	1,902
Advertising and promotions		663	2,479
Depreciation	7	460	1,505
Courier and postage		429	1,591
Continuing professional development seminar costs	10	-	8,848
Provision for doubtful accounts	5	-	3,463
		138,505	186,741
Net income/(loss) before tax		32,713	(66,331)
Taxation	11	(5)	(532)
Net income/(loss) and total comprehensive income/(loss)		32,708	(66,863)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

(Expressed in United States dollars)

	Capital \$	Develop- ment Fund \$	Admin- istrative Develop- ment Fund \$	Retained Earnings/ (Accum- ulated deficit) \$	Total Equity \$
As of January 1, 2019	-	35,331	13,809	(6,435)	42,705
Comprehensive income					
Net income	-	-	-	32,708	32,696
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	32,708	32,696
Transfers					
Appropriation of retained earnings	-	-	-	-	-
Appropriation to retained earnings	-	-	-	-	-
Total transfers	-	-	-	-	-
As of December 31, 2019	-	35,331	13,809	26,273	75,413

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

(Expressed in United States dollars)

	Capital \$	Develop- ment Fund \$	Admin- istrative Develop- ment Fund \$	Retained Earnings/ (Accum- ulated deficit) \$	Total \$
As of January 1, 2018	-	43,079	13,809	52,680	109,568
Comprehensive income					
Net loss	-	-	-	(66,863)	(66,863)
Total comprehensive loss	-	-	-	(66,863)	(66,863)
Transfers					
Appropriation of retained earnings	-	-	-	-	-
Appropriation to retained earnings	-	(7,748)	-	7,748	-
Total transfers	-	(7,748)	-	7,748	-
As of December 31, 2018	-	35,331	13,809	(6,435)	42,705

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019
(Expressed in United States dollars)

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income/(loss) before tax	32,713	(66,331)
Adjustments for:		
Interest income	(134)	(588)
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	123	-
Depreciation	460	1,505
Provision for doubtful accounts	-	3,463
Taxes paid	(14)	(1,074)
(Increase)/Decrease in operating assets		
Accounts receivable	2,637	(13,263)
Other assets	(1,137)	8,538
Increase/(Decrease) in operating liabilities		
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	919	(18,210)
Deferred income	27,052	-
Charity fund	-	4,784
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	62,619	(81,176)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest received, net of withholding taxes	146	638
Net decrease in investment securities	14,959	37,712
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	-	(180)
Net cash from investing activities	15,105	38,170
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	77,724	(43,006)
Cash and cash equivalents as of the beginning of the year	4,121	47,127
Cash and cash equivalents as of the end of the year	81,845	4,121

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019
(Expressed in United States dollars)

1. General Information

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (the Institute) is incorporated under the Companies Act of Jamaica, as a company without capital and limited by guarantee. The Institute is the professional accountancy organisation of the Caribbean.

The principal objectives of the Institute are to:

- promote, foster and maintain a respectable image of the accountancy profession.
- establish professional levels of competence, character and integrity.
- promote the highest standards of ethical conduct within the accountancy profession in the Caribbean, in order to serve the public's interest.
- promote the harmonisation of accounting and auditing standards in the Caribbean, as well as company and taxation legislations among countries in the Caribbean.

Further, the Institute implements various initiatives, including a regional practice monitoring programme, to strengthen and enhance the capacity of accountancy and other finance professionals in the Caribbean, as well as meet obligations of its member institutes in the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC). The Institute also hosts an annual conference, and other continuing professional development seminars to provide a forum for the sharing of knowledge and experience that benefits accountancy and finance professionals.

The Institute grants membership to professional accountancy organisations in countries in the Caribbean and affiliations to international professional accountancy organisations. The membership and affiliations comprise:

Members

The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA)
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Barbados (ICAB)
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Belize (ICA-Belize)
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Guyana (ICAG)
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica (ICAJ)
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Eastern Caribbean (ICAEC)
The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Trinidad & Tobago (ICATT)
The Suriname Chartered Accountants Institute (SCAI)

Associates

Turks and Caicos Society of Professional Accountants (TCISPA)

Affiliates

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)
Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA-Canada)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 *(Continued)*
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

1. General Information (Continued)

Certain members are also members of IFAC.

The registered office of the Institute is situated at 6 Lockett Avenue, Kingston, Jamaica.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented, unless otherwise stated.

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs), and under the historical cost convention.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS for SMEs requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgment in the process of applying the Institute's accounting policies. Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in Notes 2(d), 2(e) and 2(j).

New standards, amendments and interpretations adopted by the Institute

Standards and amendments and interpretations to published standards that became effective for the Institute's financial year beginning on January 1, 2019 were either not relevant or not significant to the Institute's operations and accordingly did not have a material impact on the Institute's accounting policies or financial statements.

New standards, amendments and interpretations not yet adopted by the Institute

The application of new standards and amendments and interpretations to existing standards that have been published but are not yet effective are not expected to have a material impact on the Institute's accounting policies or financial statements in the financial period of initial application.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 *(Continued)*
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**(b) Foreign currency translation**

Items included in the financial statements are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Institute operates (the functional currency). The financial statements are presented in United States dollars (USD\$), which is the Institute's functional and presentation currency. Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the date of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as a part of net income. Translation differences on monetary financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss are included as a part of the fair value gains and losses.

(c) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, current and savings accounts and term deposits that have original contractual maturities of three (3) months or less.

(d) Financial assets

The Institute classifies its financial assets into the following categories: basic financial assets and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and loans. Management determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition.

i) Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not traded in an active market. They arise when the Group provides money, goods or services to a debtor with no intention of trading the financial asset.

ii) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

A financial asset is classified into the financial assets at fair value through profit or loss category at inception if it represents an equity investment with quoted prices or readily determinable fair value.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**(d) Financial assets (continued)**

Regular-way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date – the date on which the Institute commits to originate, purchase or sell the asset. Financial assets are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs, except financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss where such costs are expensed as incurred. Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or when the Institute has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership. If the Institute has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership, an assessment is made whether the Institute has retained control of the financial assets.

Where the Institute has not retained control, financial assets are derecognised and any rights or obligations retained or created as part of the transaction are recognised as separate assets or liabilities. Alternatively, where the Institute has retained control, the Institute continues to recognise the financial assets to the extent of its continuing involvement in the financial assets.

Basic financial assets are subsequently carried at amortised cost less provisions for impairment.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are subsequently measured at fair value. The fair value of financial assets traded in active markets (e.g. international securities exchange) is based on quoted prices as of the last business day of the financial reporting period. The fair value of restricted securities and other securities that are not traded in active markets is determined using valuation techniques, including comparable recent arm's length transactions, discounted cash flow analyses and other techniques commonly used by market participants.

Gains or losses arising from sales and changes in fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as a part of net income in the financial period in which they arise.

(e) Impairment of financial assets at amortised cost

The Institute assesses at each date of the statement of financial position whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired and impairment losses are incurred if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a loss event) and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**(e) Impairment of financial assets at amortised cost (continued)**

The Institute first assesses whether objective evidence of impairment exists individually for financial assets that are individually significant, and individually or collectively for financial assets that are not individually significant. If the Institute determines that no objective evidence of impairment exists for an individually assessed financial asset, whether significant or not, it includes the asset in a group of financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics and collectively assesses them for impairment. Assets that are individually assessed for impairment and for which an impairment loss is or continues to be recognised are not included in a collective assessment of impairment.

The amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future credit losses that have not been incurred) discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. If a financial asset has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate determined under the contract. As a practical expedient, the Institute may measure impairment on the basis of an instrument's fair value using an observable market price.

The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account and the amount of the loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as a part of net income. If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss is reversed by adjusting the allowance account. The amount of the reversal is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as a part of net income. When a financial asset is uncollectible, it is written off against the related allowance account.

Recoveries of amounts previously written off are recognised directly in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income as a part of net income.

(f) Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are carried at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and amortisation. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of an item.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or are recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Institute and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All repairs and maintenance are charged to the statement of comprehensive income as a part of net income during the financial period in which they are incurred.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 *(Continued)*
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**(f) Property, plant and equipment (continued)**

Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate costs (net of residual values) over estimated useful lives as follows:

	Estimated Useful Life
Computers and equipment	4 – 5 years
Furniture and fixtures	5 – 10 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each date of the statement of financial position. Assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as a part of net income.

(g) Accounts payable

Accounts payable are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

(h) Income and expense recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, which represents the transaction price for the services identified as distinct performance obligations, and is recognised when it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the Institute.

Revenue from continuing professional development seminars is recognised at a point in time when the Institute satisfies its performance obligation, which is at the time that the respective seminar is held. Amounts collected in relation to seminars to be held in future financial periods are deferred in the statement of financial position until the Institute satisfies the applicable performance obligations.

Revenue from membership fees, where the member institute simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits provided by the Institute, is recognised rateably over the period of the applicable membership or licence, generally on a straight-line basis. Amounts collected in relation to future financial periods are deferred in the statement of financial position and recognised over the applicable membership period to which the fees relate. All membership fees are for fixed amounts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 *(Continued)*
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**(h) Income and expense recognition (continued)**

Specific contributions from members received to subsidise specific initiatives of the Institute, including but not limited to scholarships and building funds, are deferred and recognised as income in the financial period in which any conditions attached to them have been satisfied and by reference to the financial period in which the Institute recognises as expenses the related costs that such contributions are intended to defray. These amounts are presented gross in the statement of comprehensive income.

Interest income and expense are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income for all financial instruments measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or a financial liability and of allocating the interest income or interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument or, when appropriate, a shorter period to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Institute estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instrument but does not consider future credit losses. The calculation includes all fees and commissions paid or received between parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

All other income and expenses are recognised on the accrual basis of accounting.

(i) Leases

Leases, in which the Institute is lessee, comprise operating leases. Rent expense is recognised over the term of the lease on a straight-line basis.

(j) Taxation

The Institute is incorporated under the laws of Jamaica and is subject to income, capital gains and other corporate taxes, subject to exemption from income tax under the mutuality principle in respect of income derived from transactions with member institutes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
(Expressed in United States dollars)

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**(j) Taxation (continued)**

Income tax payable is calculated on the basis of the applicable tax law and is recognised as an expense in the financial period in which it is incurred. Deferred income tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the date of the consolidated financial statements.

The principal temporary differences arise from tax losses that can be carried forward. Deferred tax assets are recognised when it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

(k) Fiduciary activities

The Institute acts in certain fiduciary capacities that result in the holding or placing of assets on behalf of its member institutes. These assets are included in the financial statements and are restricted, as they do not belong to the Institute, and corresponding liabilities are recognised.

(l) Corresponding figures

Where necessary, corresponding figures are adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

3. Cash on Hand and at Banks

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Cash on hand	1	50
Savings accounts at banks	<u>81,844</u>	<u>4,071</u>
Total	<u>81,845</u>	<u>4,121</u>

Deposits with banks earn interest at rates ranging from 0.10% to 1.50% (2018: 0.10 % to 1.50%) per annum.

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise total cash on hand and at banks.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
(Expressed in United States dollars)

4. Investment Securities

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Investment funds	<u>19,526</u>	<u>34,485</u>
	19,526	34,485
Accrued interest	<u>15</u>	<u>27</u>
Total	<u>19,541</u>	<u>34,512</u>

Certain investment funds earn interest at a rate of 0.75% (2018: 0.75%) per annum.

5. Accounts Receivable

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Membership fees	8,540	12,838
Conference and joint seminar income	8,487	6,750
Other	<u>931</u>	<u>1,007</u>
	17,958	20,595
Provision for doubtful accounts	<u>(3,463)</u>	<u>(3,463)</u>
Total	<u>14,495</u>	<u>17,132</u>

Movements in provision for doubtful accounts comprise:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Balance as of the beginning of the year	3,463	-
Provision for doubtful accounts	-	3,463
Bad debts written off	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance as of the end of the year	<u>3,463</u>	<u>3,463</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
(Expressed in United States dollars)

6. Other Assets

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Tax recoverable	7,158	7,149
Prepaid expenses	1,204	351
Other	284	-
Total	<u>8,646</u>	<u>7,500</u>

7. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Furniture & Fixtures \$	Computers & Equipment \$	Total \$
Year ended December 31, 2019			
Opening net book value	538	1,055	1,593
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals			
Cost	-	(2,597)	(2,597)
Accumulated depreciation	-	2,474	2,474
Depreciation	(117)	(343)	(460)
Closing net book value	<u>421</u>	<u>589</u>	<u>1,010</u>
As of December 31, 2019			
Cost	2,790	5,997	8,787
Accumulated depreciation	(2,369)	(5,408)	(7,777)
Net book value	<u>421</u>	<u>589</u>	<u>1,010</u>
Year ended December 31, 2018			
Opening net book value	467	2,450	2,917
Additions	181	-	181
Disposals			
Cost	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation	-	-	-
Depreciation	(110)	(1,395)	(1,505)
Closing net book value	<u>538</u>	<u>1,055</u>	<u>1,593</u>
As of December 31, 2018			
Cost	2,790	8,594	11,384
Accumulated depreciation	(2,252)	(7,539)	(9,791)
Net book value	<u>538</u>	<u>1,055</u>	<u>1,593</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
(Expressed in United States dollars)

8. Accrued Expenses and Other Liabilities

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Due to member institutes	13,031	13,031
Other	5,257	4,338
Total	<u>18,288</u>	<u>17,369</u>

9. Charity Fund

The Charity Fund represents a fund established following contributions made at an annual conference to facilitate the participation of the accountancy profession in the Caribbean in charitable endeavours through the Institute, as fiduciary manager. The Charity Fund is managed by an independent committee, which advises the Institute on the management and activities of the Charity Fund. The financial assets related to the Charity Fund are restricted, and not available for use by the Institute in its operations.

Movements in the Charity Fund are as follows:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Balance as of the beginning of the year	4,784	-
Contributions	-	4,784
Charitable donations	-	-
Balance as of the end of the year	<u>4,784</u>	<u>4,784</u>

10. Equity Reserves

The Institute has established the following funds through appropriation of retained earnings, for the respective purposes:

Development Fund

The Development Fund was established to provide funding for costs associated with the development of the accountancy profession in the Caribbean, including the harmonising of regulatory activities of member institutes.

During the prior year, the Institute hosted a seminar for all member institutes, represented by the appropriate personnel, regarding investigations and discipline in the accountancy profession in the Caribbean and the equivalent amount of the costs of the seminar, included in continuing professional development seminar costs, were appropriated to retained earnings to support these efforts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 *(Continued)*
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

10. Equity Reserves (Continued)*Administrative Assistance Development Fund*

The Administrative Assistance Development Fund was established to provide funding for costs associated with supporting smaller member institutes in the development of their respective professional accountancy organisations.

11. Taxation

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Current year tax expense	<u>5</u>	<u>532</u>

The taxation charge in the statement of comprehensive income differs from the theoretical amount that would arise using the appropriate income tax rate, as follows:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Net income/(loss) before tax	<u>32,713</u>	<u>(66,331)</u>
Tax calculated at 25.00%	8,178	(16,583)
Income not subject to taxation	(43,236)	(30,719)
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	35,067	47,842
Tax losses utilised	<u>(4)</u>	<u>(8)</u>
Taxation	<u>5</u>	<u>532</u>

Effective April 1, 2019, tax legislation was enacted to eliminate the minimum taxation of Jamaican dollars (J\$) 60,000, which was applicable in the prior year.

As of December 31, 2019, the Institute has accumulated losses for tax purposes, which may be carried forward and set off against future taxable, totalling \$1,136 (2018: \$1,154), subject to approval by the relevant tax authority. The accumulated losses may be carried forward indefinitely, however utilisation in any given year is restricted to 50.00% of taxable income.

As of December 31, 2019, the Institute has a potential deferred tax asset totalling \$284 (2018: \$288), which has not been recognised in the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 *(Continued)*
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

12. Related Party Balances and Transactions

Related parties include key management personnel (including Directors); entities that have the ability to control or exercise significant influence over the Institute in making financial or operational decisions; and entities that are controlled, jointly controlled or significantly influenced by key management personnel and entities noted earlier

Related party balances and transactions, not disclosed elsewhere in these financial statements, are as follows:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
EXPENSES		
Salaries and employee benefits		
Key management personnel	54,000	50,798

13. Commitments*Lease commitments*

The lease commitments of the Institute are currently on month to month, with three (3) months notice of termination.

Annual conference

The Institute has entered into a contract for the hosting of the annual conference, which contains financial commitments of up to \$181,228 (2018: \$Nil) as of December 31, 2019; see Note 18.

14. Capital Management

The Institute's objectives when managing capital, which comprises total equity on the face of the statement of financial position, are:

- To safeguard the Institute's ability to continue as a going concern so that it can continue to provide benefits for its member institutes and other stakeholders; and
- To maintain a strong capital base to support the development of its activities.

Capital adequacy is monitored by the Board of Directors.

15. Financial Risk Management

The Institute engages in transactions that expose it to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk (including interest rate and currency risk) in the normal course of business. The Institute's financial performance is affected by its capability to understand and effectively manage these risks, and its challenge is not only to measure and monitor these risks but also to manage them as profit opportunities.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
(Expressed in United States dollars)

15. Financial Risk Management (Continued)*Concentration of risks*

Concentration of risk indicates the relative sensitivity of the Institute's performance to developments affecting a particular industry or geographical location, and arises: when a significant proportion of financial instruments or contracts are entered into with the same counterparty; or where a significant proportion of counterparties are engaged in similar business activities, or activities in the same geographical region, or that have similar economic features that would cause their ability to meet contractual obligations to be similarly affected by changes in economic, political or other conditions. Concentration of liquidity risk arises from the repayment terms of financial liabilities, sources of borrowing facilities or reliance on a particular market in which to realise liquid assets. Concentration of currency risk arises when the Institute has a significant net open position in a single foreign currency, or aggregate net open positions in several currencies that are historically positively correlated.

To mitigate excessive concentration of risk, the Institute's policies and procedures include specific guidelines to maintain appropriate diversification.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential failure of a counterparty to perform according to the terms of the contract. The Institute's exposure to credit risk is primarily concentrated in its cash at banks and accounts receivable. The Institute seeks to mitigate such risk by placing its cash with financial institutions in good standing with the Central Bank of Jamaica, and by monitoring the payment history of its member institutes and other parties before continuing to extend credit to them.

The credit quality of accounts receivable is best assessed by review of the aged analysis of accounts receivable and the provision for doubtful accounts (Note 4). Amounts with an age of thirty (30) days or less (considered current) are of better credit quality than those within the remaining categories (considered past due).

The aging of accounts receivable is as follows:

	2019 \$	2018 \$
30 days or less	8,487	-
31 to 90 days	-	-
91 to 180 days	-	-
181 days or more	9,471	20,595

Geographical concentrations of financial assets

The Institute has a concentration of credit risk in respect of geographical area, as its financial assets, excluding accounts receivable, are principally based in Jamaica.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
(Expressed in United States dollars)

15. Financial Risk Management (Continued)*Liquidity risk*

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Institute might not have the necessary funds to honour all of its financial commitments. The Institute relies on the realisation of its accounts receivable, membership fee collections and net proceeds from the annual conference and continuing professional development seminars to settle its financial obligations. Further, the Institute has the ability to obtain borrowing facilities, as and when required.

The table below analyses financial assets and liabilities into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period to the contractual maturity dates as of the date of the statement of financial position and represent undiscounted cash flows.

	Repayable On Demand \$	Up to 3 months \$	3 to 12 Months \$	12 months to 5 years \$	Total \$
December 31, 2019					
ASSETS					
Cash on hand and at banks	81,845	-	-	-	81,845
Investment securities	19,541	-	-	-	19,541
Accounts receivable	14,495	-	-	-	14,495
Other assets	-	7,442	-	-	7,442
Total financial assets	115,881	7,442	-	-	123,323
LIABILITIES					
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	-	18,288	-	-	18,288
Charity Fund	4,784	-	-	-	4,784
Total financial liabilities	4,784	18,288	-	-	23,072
Net liquidity gap	111,097	(10,846)	-	-	
Commitments	181,228				

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
(Expressed in United States dollars)

15. Financial Risk Management (Continued)*Liquidity risk (continued)*

	Repayable On Demand \$	Up to 3 months \$	3 to 12 Months \$	12 months to 5 years \$	Total \$
December 31, 2018					
ASSETS					
Cash on hand and at banks	4,121	-	-	-	4,121
Investment securities	34,512	-	-	-	34,512
Accounts receivable	17,132	-	-	-	17,132
Other assets	-	7,149	-	-	7,149
Total financial assets	55,765	7,447			62,914
LIABILITIES					
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	-	17,369	-	-	17,369
Charity Fund	4,784	-	-	-	4,784
Total financial liabilities	4,784	17,369			22,153
Net liquidity gap	50,981	(10,220)			
Commitments	-				

*Market risk***(a) Price risk**

Price risk is the risk that the fair values and/or amounts realised on sales of financial instruments may fluctuate significantly as a result of changes in market prices. Price risk arises from the Institute's investments in investment funds. The investment funds have investment objectives of principal protection and are invested principally in fixed income securities of entities considered of high credit quality. Further, the Institute is able to redeem its investments on a quarterly basis. Accordingly, price risk is not considered significant.

(b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows or the fair values of financial instruments may fluctuate significantly as a result of changes in market interest rates. The Institute's exposure to fair value interest rate risk is concentrated in its cash at banks, which have fixed interest rates. However, this risk is not considered significant and accordingly, the Institute does not seek to hedge this risk.

The Institute has no significant exposure to cash flow interest rate risk.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
(Expressed in United States dollars)

15. Financial Risk Management (Continued)*Market risk (continued)***(c) Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk that the fair values and/or amounts realised on settlement of financial instruments, and settlements of foreign currency transactions, will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates. Currency risk arises when future commercial transactions and recognised monetary assets and liabilities are denominated in currencies other than the Institute's functional currency. The Institute is not subject to significant currency risk as its transactions and monetary assets and liabilities are principally denominated in US\$. The Institute does not seek to hedge this risk.

16. Fiduciary Risk Management

The Institute is susceptible to fiduciary risk, which is the risk that the Institute may fail in carrying out certain mandates in accordance with the wishes of its members or other parties. To manage this exposure, the Institute generally takes a conservative approach in its undertakings.

17. Fair Values of Financial Instruments

Financial instruments utilised by the Institute comprise the recorded financial assets and liabilities disclosed in the financial statements. The Institute's financial instruments are principally short term in nature or have interest rates that reset to market rates; accordingly, their fair values approximate their carrying values.

The Institute ranks its financial instruments based on the hierarchy of valuation techniques required by International Financial Reporting Standards, which is determined based on whether the inputs to those valuation techniques are observable or unobservable. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources; unobservable inputs reflect the Institute's market assumptions. These two (2) types of inputs lead to the following fair value hierarchy:

Level 1 – Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (that is, as prices) or indirectly (that is, derived from prices).

Level 3 – Inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

This hierarchy requires the use of observable market data when available. The Institute considers relevant and observable market prices in its valuations where possible.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

17. Fair Values of Financial Instruments (Continued)

The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. For this purpose, the significance of an input is assessed against the fair value measurement in its entirety. If a fair value measurement uses observable inputs that require significant adjustment based on unobservable inputs, that measurement is a Level 3 measurement. Assessing the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment, considering factors specific to the financial instrument.

The determination of what constitutes 'observable' requires significant judgment by the Institute. The Institute considers observable data to be that market data that is readily available, regularly distributed or updated, reliable and verifiable, not proprietary, and provided by independent sources that are actively involved in the relevant market.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets is based on quoted market prices at the date of the statement of financial position. A market is regarded as active if quoted prices are readily and regularly available from the exchange, dealer, broker, industry group, pricing service or regulatory agency, and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. These instruments are included in Level 1.

Financial instruments that trade in markets that are not considered to be active but are valued based on quoted market prices, dealer quotations or alternative pricing sources supported by observable inputs are classified within Level 2.

Financial instruments classified within Level 3 have significant unobservable inputs, as they trade infrequently.

Financial instruments of the Institute are principally Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

18. Subsequent Events

During the first quarter of 2020, consistent with other regions, the Caribbean was impacted by the global pandemic COVID-19 (commonly referred to as the Coronavirus), which has created uncertainty regarding the future economic performance of the jurisdictions of member institutes. The Institute's financial position and performance is expected to be negatively impacted by the strategies deployed by the governments of the Caribbean and other countries, and other stakeholders to address the health, economic and other issues as a result of the global pandemic, which in turn are expected to result in significant contractions in GDP and increases in unemployment in the jurisdictions of the member institutes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2019 (Continued)
 (Expressed in United States dollars)

18. Subsequent Events (Continued)

The impact on the financial position and financial performance of the Institute for the year ended 31 December 2020 and beyond is currently impractical to determine, as decisions and strategies are continually being developed and amended based on the health risks posed by COVID-19. However, the result of the global pandemic and its attendant consequences are expected to: reduce income due to the postponement of the annual conference and reduction in income from continuing professional development seminars due to limited ability to host such seminars, which in turn will reduce the profitability or possibly create losses for the Institute; and possibly reduce liquidity.

Further, subsequent to December 31, 2019, the Institute made payments totalling \$75,000 in relation to the contract for the hosting of the annual conference, which is being renegotiated as a result of the uncertainty in travel and permitted size of gatherings. The renegotiations are expected reduce the financial commitments as of December 31, 2019.



**The Institute of Chartered Accountants
of the Caribbean (ICAC)**