

Creating Opportunity

October 3, 2008

Greater choice for CMAs and clients under Alberta-B.C. agreement

Edmonton... The Certified Management Accountants of Alberta and the Society of Management Accountants of British Columbia have reached a labour mobility pact under the *Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement* (TILMA).

“With full labour mobility under the TILMA, certified management accountants in Alberta and British Columbia will have more choice and greater access to a wider range of clients,” said Ron Stevens, Alberta Deputy Premier and Minister of International and Intergovernmental Relations. “In turn, consumers will be able to find the accountant that best meets their needs.”

Ida Chong, British Columbia’s Minister of Technology, Trade and Economic Development agrees. “By supporting freer labour mobility between British Columbia and Alberta, the organizations representing certified management accountants in both provinces have broadened the professional horizons of their respective memberships,” said Chong. “Greater mobility, based on mutual recognition of qualifications, will create more economic opportunities for CMAs and better service for their clients on both sides of the border.”

Signed in April, 2006, the TILMA strives to reduce and eliminate barriers to the free movement of workers, goods, services and investments. The TILMA will take full effect in April 2009. Canada’s most comprehensive inter-provincial trade agreement, the TILMA creates a market of almost 7.8 million people – the nation’s second largest economy.

“CMA Alberta is very pleased to have been part of this landmark agreement. Removing artificial barriers to labour mobility is important to our membership and to the overall future economic success of Alberta and B.C.,” said Joy Thomas, President and CEO, CMA-Alberta.

“By reaching this labour mobility agreement with CMA-Alberta, over 4,300 Certified Management Accountants (CMAs) in B.C., and in particular our members in public practice, can now work in both provinces without having to complete additional regulatory registrations and paperwork,” said Colin Bennett, CMABC President and CEO. “This agreement expands our members’ professional reach and opens up employment opportunities for B.C. CMAs.”

More information on the TILMA is available at www.tilma.ca and on the Ministry of Technology, Trade and Economic Development’s website at www.gov.bc.ca/ecdev.

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