

President's Message

It has been an exciting five months since our first meeting. There are so many more reasons to be part of the chapter. Feedback from our November dinner meeting was excellent. The numbers for our January meeting have surpassed our November meeting. That can only mean that those who attended saw value and spread the word. This is by far our best method of advertising. The networking opportunities provide our membership with the venue to discuss issues with that they are facing and keep current with what is happening in our field and in our community.

Some of our chapter activities include:

- ?? With input from our membership, an education program is taking shape. This includes a course offering for those new to project management, a course offering for those preparing to write their certification exam and a mentoring program.
- ?? Our membership and recruiting committee has been busy with planning our events and improving the processing surrounding those events.
- ?? Our second edition of the newsletter has now hit the streets with some new features and lots of enhancements to our website have attracted over 5,700 inquiring minds.
- ?? The treasury and finance committee has been busy keeping the rest of us on track with forming business plans and budget requirements.

All of the above was accomplished by our chapter volunteers. The chapter management team has grown to include 10 directors from our group of volunteers. I am pleased to announce the following positions and talented individuals:

Communications and Publicity Committee

Chair: Jim Sauve
Community Affairs Director: Deborah Strauss
Communications Director: Ashok Goyal, PMP
Committee Members: Anne Banks Pidduck, Tony Pimenoff, Jeff Walter, Dave Waterfield and Gwen Williams.

Treasury and Finance Committee

Chair: Michelle O'Donovan, PMP
Budget Director: Heather Heick
Sponsorship Director: Bill Wilson, PMP

Committee Members: Dave Barrett, PMP, Ingrid Wessel, Tony Pimenoff

Membership and Recruiting Committee

Chair: Joan Gough, PMP
Membership Director: Caroline Lennox
Events Director: Trina Reis
Volunteer Coordination Director: Ted Paling
Committee Members: Margaret Charles, Jay McBurney

Education Committee

Chair: Denise Barrett, PMP
Professional Development Director (Certification): Clay Eccles, PMP
Professional Development Director (Re-certification): Dan Walsh, PMP
Mentoring Director: Barb DaTerra, PMP
Committee Members: Klas Bockasten, Lois Bowman, Bob Franks, and Ashok Goyal, PMP

We are a matrix organization with several cross-functional teams. There is lots of work and lots of talent. If you would like to contribute, please contact Ted Paling, Volunteer Coordination Director.

- Denise Barrett

Denise is the President for the PMI CTT Chapter and Director, Professional Services at Descartes Systems Group

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Let's Learn...

The Education Committee has met three times, and (by coincidence) has formed three subcommittees:

- ?? **Certification** (focused on educational services for members interested in becoming certified Project Management Professionals (PMP), as well as for new project managers)
- ?? **Re-Certification** (focused on providing information for PMPs on the Re-Certification requirements)
- ?? **Mentoring** (focused on the sharing of Project Management knowledge and experience)

What's new...

Certification

We're planning an Information Session to be conducted the evening of February 27th, by Keith Farndale (who spoke at the November dinner meeting) and Darya Duma of Procept. Keith & Darya will present information on the PMP examination and process, as well as on two of the courses Procept offers, "PMP Examination Preparation", and "Project Management Applied Tools & Techniques". Following the Information Session, we will assess the demand for each of these courses.

Re-Certification

Our Professional Development Director (re-certification), Daniel Walsh, has provided information on re-certification in an article in this newsletter. Dan will be available to chapter members at the January 25th meeting to answer questions.

- Lois Bowman, FLMI, ACS
Lois is an Education Committee Volunteer and
Group Business Project Director at Equitable Life of Canada

There is still time....

Are you interested in joining the Education committee? More hands make light work and make it more fun. If you are interested, please contact Ted Paling (epaling@home.com), Volunteer Coordination Director

An Evening with Keith Farndale



Our November 23rd PMI-CTT dinner meeting began with Denise providing everyone with a Chapter update. We progressed to a quick but effective 75 minute seminar on Risk Management given by Keith Farndale.

Keith is the Director of Project Management at the Professional Development Centre at the University of Toronto. The seminar was a condensed version of his 2-day risk management session provided to companies such as IBM.

Broken out into groups of 4, we were asked to brainstorm an event that one of the group had experienced, and then apply risk management to that event. A couple of groups graciously volunteered to share their results with the group upon the promise of a prize. The prize, as it turned out, was a copy of the WBS Guidelines (which was also made available to other attendees).

Upon completion of the seminar, Denise presented Keith with a book on the Canadian Technology Triangle as a commemorative thank you for sharing his knowledge with us. Keith also announced that he has since become a member of the PMI - CTT chapter (in November). Thanks for the support Keith.

Survey Says...

58 survey forms were completed following the first dinner meeting on November 23, 2000. Over 90% of the responses indicated satisfaction (4 or 5 ranking) with the guest speaker and the materials presented. The quality of the dinner and the executive update were also well received with over 90% of the rankings in the 4 or 5 category.

Feedback regarding the location and the opportunity to network has been taken into account in plans for the January 25th meeting. The new venue will provide a larger room and a cash bar will be open from 5:30 to 6:30 to increase opportunities for networking. Thanks to everyone for feedback and suggestions.

The following is a summary of the responses and comments from the survey.

Speaker Program – Keith Farndale

Speaker covered material that I expected

- 46% agreed
- 46% somewhat agreed
- 8% neither agreed nor disagreed

The presenter was interesting and held my attention

- 62% agreed
- 30% somewhat agreed
- 5% neither agreed nor disagreed
- 3% somewhat disagreed

The information was useful for the project management profession

- 57% agreed
- 38% somewhat agreed
- 5% neither agreed nor disagreed

Presentations such as this add value to my chapter membership

- 62% agreed
- 31% somewhat agreed
- 6% neither agreed nor disagreed
- 2% somewhat disagreed

Comments – Speaker

- ?? Very professional, very informative
- ?? Excellent content and delivery. Appreciate the handouts
- ?? I have already heard this talk but it is always great to have memory refreshed
- ?? Would like to hear some samples of how speaker handled risk issue
- ?? Nice and fast. Covered topics of key interest
- ?? Very useful information, Will be communicated back to my organization
- ?? Very good presentation, read the audience well and kept it short but informative

- ?? Workshops were not of value
- ?? Workshop format not useful in dinner meeting venue
- ?? Keith was great
- ?? Please send soft copy of presentation to attendees

Chapter Business Program

The dinner quality is reasonable for a business function meeting

- 53% agreed
- 43 % somewhat agreed
- 2% neither agreed nor disagreed
- 2% somewhat disagreed

The location is good for a business meeting

- 37% agreed
- 33% somewhat agreed
- 23% neither agreed nor disagreed
- 7% somewhat disagreed

I feel time spent during the Networking and/or Dinner hours is a benefit of the chapter meetings

- 43% agreed
- 43% somewhat agreed
- 14% neither agreed nor disagreed

The executive update was well organized and informative

- 40% agreed
- 51% somewhat agreed
- 7% neither agreed nor disagreed
- 2% disagreed

I attend Chapter Meetings:

- 1st meeting – 59%
- 2nd meeting – 41%

I am not a member because:

- Evaluating membership – 16%
- Haven't gotten around to it yet – 8%
- PMI membership too costly – 0%
- Membership has expired – 0%
- Other – 1 visiting because of topic

Comments - Chapter Business

- ?? Not enough time for executive update
- ?? I would like the speakers to be a bit louder
- ?? Thanks for accommodating my late registration
- ?? Successful meeting – well done
- ?? Good job
- ?? Great turnout
- ?? Request attendees to turn off cell phones
- ?? Location not conducive to walking around/networking
- ?? Location not great for networking
- ?? Need larger room to allow more networking prior to meeting
- ?? Thoroughly enjoyed meeting other members in the chapter

- ?? Dinner was a nice though but not necessary to an effective, timely meeting.
- ?? Would like to see using a room made for better networking
- ?? Clear dishes from tables prior to presentations so we have a place to write
- ?? Suggest time dinner 1 hr, presentation 1.5 hr is a better balance

- Margaret Charles

Margaret is a Membership and Recruiting Committee volunteer and is Project Director in the Canadian Division at Manulife

Re-Certification "Reminder"

If you are a certified PMP, then you will know that you must satisfy PMI's Professional Development Program (PDP) in order to retain your PMP Status.

Maintaining your PMP status is straight forward. PMI has done a terrific job in providing a number of resources to assist you:

- ⚡️ PDP Overview - start with the overview - see www.pmi.org/certification/pdp/overview.htm
- ⚡️ Frequently Asked Questions & Answers (FAQ) – see www.pmi.org/certification/FAQ/pdpfaq.htm for answers to more than two dozen questions
- ⚡️ Registered Education Provider (REP) database - looking for an education provider that has registered with PMI and has agreed to meet PMI's REP program criteria? Then see <http://www.pmirep.org> Programs may be searched according to subject area, location, date and time.
- ⚡️ Forms for reporting PDP activities – see www.pmi.org/certification/pdp/forms.htm for the latest activity reporting form - available in Word and PDF formats.

There are other PDP services that PMI provides. Here are just a few:

- ⚡️ Sending you a transcript of PDP activities at the end of each year
- ⚡️ Online transcript lookup - PMPs may also view their PDP transcripts online
- ⚡️ Component Speakers Clearinghouse - a new service from PMI that
- ⚡️ Provides you with opportunities to share your knowledge and expertise and earn PDUs at the same time
- ⚡️ Coming soon - PMPs will be able to report activities electronically via the PMI website.

Some tips:

- ⚡️ Read the PDP handbook, FAQ, and Reporting Forms carefully - the info you need is there!

- ⚡️ Develop a plan - budget the accrual of Professional Development Units (PDUs) over your 3 year cycle - don't wait until the last minute
- ⚡️ Submit PDP Activity Reporting Forms as you earn PDUs - faxing your completed form is fast & convenient
- ⚡️ Keep records - it's the responsibility of each PMP to maintain
- ⚡️ Documentation – see www.pmi.org/certification/pdp/overview.htm for details

There are special instructions for claiming PDU credit for points accumulated prior to Jan. 1, 1999. If you fall into this category and need information on the previous 100-point system, then see Dan Walsh at the next CTT dinner meeting.

There are many opportunities to earn PDUs. Did you know that serving as a member of a committee or an officer of a Chapter will earn 5 to 10 PDUs per year? You can also earn PDUs for making presentations to the Chapter or to the public on behalf of the Chapter.

So don't delay - get involved today!

- Dan Walsh, PMP

Dan is the Professional Development Director (Re-certification) And Sr. Program Manager at Psion Teklogix

Name your Newsletter!!!

This is the last call to have your suggestion as the name for our newsletter! We have received a couple of suggestions and will be making a decision before the next scheduled event. Please forward all suggestions to Jim Sauve at jsauve@pmi-ctt.org

A Very Special Congratulations to those members of our Chapter who have recently received their PMP designation...

Dave Barrett, PMP – January 15th, 2001

Interview with the President

What is your background?

I was born and raised in Brantford, Ontario. In 1980 I made Kitchener my home. My work experience includes financial, manufacturing, public sector and high tech. K/W allowed me to pursue all of those opportunities. I currently live in Waterloo with my husband Dave and son Steve. Both have been extremely supportive in my efforts to form the chapter.

Has the PMP provided value?

Without a doubt! The PMP designation means that you have successfully fulfilled the knowledge requirements (exam) and that you also have the required work experience. I believe that is critical in our discipline. It does not guarantee the quality of work of an individual who holds the designation but does indicate that a level of professionalism and commitment to the field. The requirements for maintaining a designation mean that you must stay current with the industry.

What made you decide to start the Chapter?

In the past few years I have attended several project management conferences and found them to be of immense value. When I looked around in the region, there was no avenue to exchange such information. With the support of Communitech, I started a peer-to-peer group for project management. That has proven to be a valuable informal means to discuss issues but the format is conducive to smaller groups. As I saw the interest level rise, I contacted PMI to explore the possibility of starting a chapter. The Southern Ontario, Lakeshore and Thames Valley chapters are just far enough away that I didn't want to make the commute for the networking opportunities. As the word spread, well you know the rest...

What is the greatest challenge that you have faced in forming the chapter?

Keeping up the pace. 'What a wonderful problem to have!' has become by motto. Right from our first meeting back in September, we overflowed the cafeteria at Metafore. The interest in our first dinner meeting was so great people could hardly turn in their chairs to see Keith's presentation. There is lots of work involved in finalizing the charter. I've had a lot of enjoyment in reviewing the contributions of others, such as progress

on the logo, website, newsletter, financial plans, registration process, education offerings, etc. And my favorite challenge, answering the question I never get tired of 'How can I help?'



Can you donate your time?

Volunteers are an integral part of ensuring the continued success of the CTT chapter. We currently have a number of people that have offered to volunteer their time and effort, and we would like to express to them a sincere thank you. If you would still like to become a member of our volunteer team, please send a message to Ted Paling (epaling@home.com), Volunteer Coordination Director

Comments...Suggestions?

We would like to know what you, as readers, would like to see us focus on in upcoming issues. We would like to ensure that we are providing our members with the information they are looking for. If you have any comments, or suggestions, we would love to hear them. Please drop a line to Jim Sauve at jsauve@pmi-ctt.org.