CIPS CONNECTIONS

Connecting you to news affecting CIPS and the IT Profession.

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Call for Nominations: CIPS 2009 Awards of Achievement

The CIPS Awards of Achievement are an opportunity to thank friends and colleagues, who are members of CIPS, for their hard work and dedication to the association and the Information Technology (IT) profession. Please visit the awards page (link below) and take a moment to review the Awards of Achievement categories. The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2009.

Current members of the CCITP, Standing Committees and Councils are eligible for all awards. To obtain an Awards of Achievement nomination form click here. Please direct all nominations or questions to nominations@cips.ca.

Informatics 2009

A number of CIPS members have inquired about the dates and location for INFORMATICS 2009. Informatics is CIPS' annual conference and is considered to be the society's premier educational event of the year. The Canadian Council of Information Technology Professionals (CCITP), CIPS' Governing Board elected to defer INFORMATICS until 2010. This decision was made in light of a number of priorities related to CIPS' accreditation under the IP3 and the introduction of a new CIPS designation aligned to the international standard. These activities were of high priority and required the Society's full attention. In the interim, PDit Canada, CIPS' educational arm has been asked to prepare a three year business plan including recommendation on INFORMATICS.   The CCITP will be considering these recommendations and a decision on INFORMATICS 2010 is expected by June of this year. Members will be advised accordingly on any future plans for Informatics.

Ignite Your Career Webcast Series

It's more important than ever to continue to invest the time and effort necessary to ensure your career's success. The Ignite Your Career: Technical Professional Webcast Series brought to you by Microsoft Canada, in partnership with the Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS), is designed to help you with your career development. This series is your opportunity to connect with experts from across Canada; to hear them share their experiences and answer your questions. Take the time to ignite your career and register for each individual webcast today! To register, please visit the Ignite Your Career Website.

Request for Participation in Green Information Technology (Green IT) Survey

This is an invitation to participate in a Green Information Technology (IT) survey. Your views on reducing organizations IT carbon footprint (CO2 emissions, green house gases (GHG), climate change) are vital to the development of better solutions in the IT life cycle and particularly their effect on our environment locally, nationally and globally. To respect your privacy, this survey is confidential and answers will only be used on a cumulative basis. This survey will take approximately 20 minutes of your time to complete. Responses are requested by 06 March 2009. To complete the survey, please click here.

Canadian Coalition for Tomorrow's ICT Skills - A National ICT Week to tackle the ICT labor shortage

The Canadian Coalition for Tomorrow's ICT Skills (CCICT) will conduct a series of events and activities to tackle the crisis in the information and communications technology labor market of an increasing shortage of university graduates with information technology skills. The marquee event will be a National ICT Week to be held in Fall 2009.

The Coalition, includes companies, academic institutions, professional associations, industry organizations like CIPS, and other stakeholders with an interest in developing Canada's ICT capabilities, invites students, employees, employers, educators, parents, and governments to join in making National ICT Week the vehicle for Canada's vision of 21st century career innovation. Activities will inform students, educators, employers and immigrant organizations about the exciting changes in ICT careers.

ICT jobs are becoming increasingly complex, demanding and specialized, but are also a lot more interesting, exciting, diverse, and relevant to Canada's most pressing business and social challenges. In every field - from entertainment to health to the environment - ICT is at the cutting edge of change and creativity, calling for a new kind of ICT professional, more like a well-rounded Renaissance person than a traditional technologist.

Over the next eight years, Canada's employers will hire about 150,000 new information and communications technology professionals in response to ongoing growth demands and employee retirements. But employers cannot find or hire the ICT professionals that are needed. While some regions have a large pool of ICT workers, their qualifications do not match the requirements needed. Other regions, particularly Alberta and Saskatchewan, face ICT talent shortages across the spectrum from technicians to programmers, engineers, consultants and managers.

New Program Preparing Internationally Educated Professionals for Canada's ICT Sector

A new initiative by the Information and Communications Technology Council (ICTC) aims to improve the integration of internationally educated professionals (IEPs) into the Canadian ICT workforce. The program is funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, and is one of the programs in ICTC's Immigration Initiatives program.

ICTC's Online Workshops for Newcomers & IEP Stakeholders project will be developing two online workshop modules in English for internationally educated professionals overseas and their immigration stakeholders. These two workshops will teach essential knowledge about working in Canada, including the process of coming to Canada, what Canadian ICT employers need, and resources available to foster development of technical, business, language, and workplace-communication competencies.   This project will further establish Canada as a leader in the attraction, retention and integration of internationally educated professionals in the ICT sector.

Comprehensive research by ICTC shows that Canadian ICT sector will need to recruit between 15,800 and 22,350 ICT workers each year between 2008 and 2015. Internationally Educated Professionals (IEPs) will account for 30 per cent or more of the annual supply of ICT professionals. Without the integration of groups currently under-represented in the ICT sector - including IEPs, women and Aboriginals - Canada will not be able to compete or innovate in today's global economy. IEPs - whether they are seasoned professionals, recent graduates or those employed outside their field - are viewed as particularly well positioned to fill vital roles in Canada's ICT sector. For more information, click here.

CIPS Remembers

CIPS Remembers Ric Borlase
Past CIPS Manitoba President, vice-chairman of the Red River College's Board of Governors and prominent certified management accountant collapsed while snowmobiling with his children on Lake Winnipeg.

CIPS Remembers Ron Nielsen
Ron served as President of CIPS' Vancouver Chapter and served on the advisory committees for Douglas College, BCIT and Langara College. Ron will be remembered fondly by all those at CIPS for his enormous contribution to the ICT community, not just in B.C. but across Canada. The Ron Nielsen Memorial Bursary, honours his life work as a senior management IT specialist. His commitment to helping students will live on through this fund.

Interviews, Blogs & Podcasts by Stephen Ibaraki FCIPS, I.S.P.

Hear the thoughts and commentary from international experts and community leaders:

- Interview with Vaclav Vincalek, IT Authority, founder and president of Pacific Coast Information Systems (PCIS) Ltd.
- Interview with Lance Secretan, World Renowned Multi-Award-Winning Executive, Strategist, Best-selling Author/ Writer, Keynote Speaker, Coach, Thought-Leader, Professor
- Interview with Michael Williams, World-Renowned Computing Pioneer, Past-President (2007) IEEE Computer Society, Professor Emeritus University of Calgary

2009 IT Leadership Leadership Development Program - Time is Running Out

Time is running out for CIPS members to receive their $900 discount on the 2009 IT Leadership Development Program, presented by Ryerson University's Ted Rogers School of Information Management and THE CIO SUMMIT®.

Presented through a unique collaboration between Ryerson University and The CIO SUMMIT, Canada's leader in IT executive development for over fifteen years, the IT Leadership Development Program comprises three four-day modules over a six-month period, beginning on April 20th, 2009.

Enrollment is strictly limited to 24 participants. CIPS members will automatically receive an ISP recertification credit and a $400 professional discount but will qualify for an additional earl-bird discount of $500 if registered by February 28th.

This is the only program taught exclusively by IT leaders and top industry practitioners for IT leaders in a post-graduate framework. It prepares information technology managers for the challenges they will face as they move in to senior management. Now in its sixth year, this limited enrollment program has graduated over 300 students, many of whom have since moved up to executive roles in their organization.

For further information or to enroll now, please visit www.ciosummit.com

Sharepoint Summit 2009

SharePoint, like any Technology, is only as effective as the people, processes, and business using it. The evolution of tools such as Windows SharePoint Services and Microsoft Office Sharepoint Server from grid-locked highways of data to information bullet-trains requires discipline, planning, and the sharing of the very best ideas. To register, or for more information, click here.

Career Opportunities

CIPS National and Local IT Events

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