



## The Bean Counters' Quarterly

Steve Kirkham C.A. Professional Corporation

June 2014

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### Greetings!

#### Welcome to the June 2014 issue of The Bean Counters' Quarterly!

Happy Canada Day!! Well, we're coming to the end of our busy season and looking forward to a great summer ahead. Things certainly do slow down quite a bit, but we look forward to the opportunity to give extra attention to our clients on any concerns or issues you may have. Please don't hesitate to contact us.

In this issue we deal with the new Canadian Anti-Spam Legislation, the new-almost-here Ontario Budget, and an interesting read for summer!

We also indulge in a little shameless promotion of Lazy Bear Cabins (a business that Steve is involved in) and also find out what Steve's answer is to our Dialogue question, as well as see what the team is up to in the About Us section.

We are on **Facebook!** You can Like us at: [Facebook](#)

***We wish you a safe and happy holiday and a very prosperous new year!***

Best regards,

Steve Kirkham

*The Dialogue Department!*



The idea is to open the lines of communication on a topic or question that may be light and breezy or deep and serious, in an otherwise busy and hurried world. We'll start on our end by telling you about our thoughts on a particular topic or question, and then we'll wait to hear back from you - just hit the link "Here's What I Have to Say" and send us a quick reply.

Here's our question/topic for this issue:

**"How do you balance being inspired to work and move forward in the summer, along with being off with family and friends?"**

Our reply for this quarter is from **STEVE KIRKHAM**: *"January through June is tough at the office, but being able to take advantage of the summer months is what gets me through! After over 20 years, the "routine" is setting in and we just know that certain months are busy while others are not. The inspiration comes not just from the prospect of time off, but also from the appreciation we get from clients after we have helped them through their 'tax woes'. We really do like helping clients tackle their tax and accounting issues, and a job well-done is very rewarding to us. That said, at this point, I am very happy to see July 1st!!*

Here's What I Have To Say - (send reply to) [steve@kirkhamca.ca](mailto:steve@kirkhamca.ca)

## Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation



### Canada's new Anti-Spam Legislation sows confusion for business

Days before the federal government's sweeping new anti-spam legislation comes into force, confusion reigns among organizations, charities and businesses that will be affected by the new rules.

New anti-spam laws that begin to take effect July 1 will "generally prohibit" the sending of commercial electronic messages without the recipient's consent, including messages on email and social networks such as Twitter, and text messages sent to a cell phone, according to the federal government.

The legislation (parts of which don't actually take effect until January 2015) also bans the installation of computer programs without express consent, such as malware, spyware and viruses hidden in programs, spam messages or downloaded through infected links.

As the July 1 date draws near, businesses and organizations of all kinds have - ironically - been frantically spamming Canadians with emails asking for their permission to continue sending messages. But a number of groups, charities and

businesses are still perplexed as to what applies to them and how to comply with the new law.

"There is a ton of confusion out there," said Kim Cunnington-Taylor, a lawyer with Ottawa firm Nelligan O'Brien Payne LLP, who has carefully studied the legislation and is advising clients on it.

"Retail businesses, marketing businesses, those are the ones - large and small - that are going to really feel this," she added. "There's a lot of people who are going to be very surprised that this legislation might apply to messages they send."

Under the new rules, the maximum monetary penalty for failing to comply is \$1 million per violation for individuals, and \$10 million for companies, although a number of factors will be considered when determining whether to issue a fine. However, Cunnington-Taylor doubts the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), which is largely responsible for enforcement, will go after businesses or charities that make honest mistakes, and will instead help them comply with the new rules.

CRTC chairman Jean-Pierre Blais, in a speech Thursday in Toronto, confirmed the commission will focus on the most severe types of violations. "Punishment is not our goal," he said. "We are not going to go after every indie rock band that's trying to sell a new release to its fans. We have much bigger fish to fry."

For more information on this article, click the link below. Also visit the CRTC website for more detailed information on the new law.

[Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation](#)

*Ontario 2014 Provincial Budget*



### **Ten Things About The Ontario 2014 Budget**

From new taxes to boosted child benefit cheques, here are 10 things you need to know about Finance Minister Charles Sousa's budget that was introduced Thursday at Queen's Park:

1. It's a \$130.4-billion spending plan with a \$12.5 billion deficit this year and a vague promise to balance the books by 2017-18.
2. It includes \$900 million in new taxes, including a hike in the tax on cigarettes.
3. There is a 10-year \$2.5-billion "jobs and prosperity fund" of handouts and incentives for businesses to move to Ontario.
4. It boasts a new Ontario Retirement Pension Plan, similar to the Canada Pension Plan, that will force Ontarians to contribute a portion of their paycheques if they don't have a plan through their employer.
5. There will be \$29 billion over 10 years for transportation infrastructure, including public transit - \$15 billion for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area and \$14 billion for the rest of the province.

6. It removes the "debt retirement charge" from hydro bills in 2016 to save the average ratepayer \$70 a year.
7. The Ontario Child Benefit, which helps low-income families, will be increased from \$1,210 a year per child to \$1,310.
8. There's \$1 billion to build infrastructure to help mine chromite, a key ingredient of stainless steel, from the massive Ring of Fire mineral deposit in Northern Ontario.
9. \$11 billion will be invested in repairing and building elementary and secondary schools over the next decade.
10. Another \$11.4 billion will be spent on new and redeveloped hospitals over the next 10 years.

For a more detailed review of the Budget please see link below:

[Ontario Liberal Government](#)

*Spotlight On Business*



#### **SPOTLIGHT ON YOUR BUSINESS:**

##### **Lazy Bear Cabins**

Bob's Lake offers you a great opportunity to be lazy. The good kind of lazy - summer-time lazy!

Located in a small, quiet bay, our cabins are a great place to get away from it all.

Bring your sunscreen and enjoy the peace and quiet of the area by setting up in one of our Muskoka chairs by the water. Or, watch the kids as they splash and play in the clean waters off our dock or breakwall. Or, bring your boat (or rent one of ours) and tour the miles of shoreline.

For the fishermen (or women), the lake is loaded with great bass, walleye, pike, perch and the occasional lake trout.

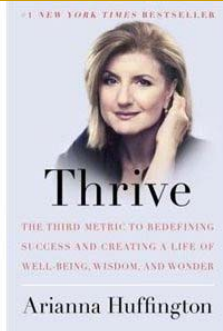
Full disclosure on our shameless promotion - Steve is involved in this business, so please feel free to ask him any questions.

Contact by email [info@lazybearcabins.ca](mailto:info@lazybearcabins.ca) or by phone 416-885-5529 / 416-885-5529

Want to promote your business through our newsletter? Just send us a short bio along with logo/artwork and we'll put you in a future edition.

[Lazy Bear Cabins](#)

*Recommended Reading:*



**Thrive: The Third Metric To Redefining Success And Creating A Life Of Well-being, Wisdom, And Wonder by Arianna Huffington**

*In Thrive, Arianna Huffington makes an impassioned and compelling case for the need to redefine what it means to be successful in today's world.*

Arianna Huffington's personal wake-up call came in the form of a broken cheekbone and a nasty gash over her eye -- the result of a fall brought on by exhaustion and lack of sleep. As the cofounder and editor-in-chief of the Huffington Post Media Group -- one of the fastest growing media companies in the world -- celebrated as one of the world's most influential women, and gracing the covers of magazines, she was, by any traditional measure, extraordinarily successful. Yet as she found herself going from brain MRI to CAT scan to echocardiogram, to find out if there was any underlying medical problem beyond exhaustion, she wondered is this really what success feels like?

As more and more people are coming to realize, there is far more to living a truly successful life than just earning a bigger salary and capturing a corner office. Our relentless pursuit of the two traditional metrics of success -- money and power -- has led to an epidemic of burnout and stress-related illnesses, and an erosion in the quality of our relationships, family life, and, ironically, our careers. In being connected to the world 24/7, we're losing our connection to what truly matters. Our current definition of success is, as Thrive shows, literally killing us. We need a new way forward.

In a commencement address Arianna gave at Smith College in the spring of 2013, she likened our drive for money and power to two legs of a three-legged stool. They may hold us up temporarily, but sooner or later we're going to topple over. We need a third leg -- a third metric for defining success -- to truly thrive. That third metric, she writes in Thrive, includes our well-being, our ability to draw on our intuition and inner wisdom, our sense of wonder, and our capacity for compassion and giving. As Arianna points out, our eulogies celebrate our lives very differently from the way society defines success. They don't commemorate our long hours in the office, our promotions, or our sterling PowerPoint presentations as we relentlessly raced to climb up the career ladder. They are not about our resumes -- they are about cherished memories, shared adventures, small kindnesses and acts of generosity, lifelong passions, and the things that made us laugh.

In this deeply personal book, Arianna talks candidly about her own challenges with managing time and prioritizing the demands of a career and raising two daughters -- of juggling business deadlines and family crises, a harried dance that led to her collapse and to her "aha moment." Drawing on the latest groundbreaking research and scientific findings in the fields of psychology, sports, sleep, and physiology that show the profound and transformative effects of meditation, mindfulness, unplugging, and giving, Arianna shows us the way to a revolution in our culture, our thinking, our workplace, and our lives.

[Chapters/Indigo - Thrive](#)



### *Stuff To Know About Our Team*

**-Sherry** and her husband are sticking close to home this summer, to enjoy their backyard oasis. Sherry is also going to Marilyn Denis Show on July 3rd with her in-laws and excited about that! She might also take some day trips to St. Jacobs or even up to Meaford for a family visit. She's looking forward to a nice, relaxing summer!

**-Andre** says Apr-Jun was a very busy season for him and his family! In their spare time on weekends, they've taken to visiting Open houses and shopping at building supply and appliance stores. They'll be retrofitting their home this summer with major repairs and painting, so they're doing their homework and getting ideas! Their house is old and they've been procrastinating the work needed to be done since they moved in...now is the time!

**-Linda** says that her family has a baseball theme for this summer. They are hoping to visit a few fields and take in some games in both the American League and National League.

**-Steve** is busy getting the last of the December corporate filings done. Once those are filed neatly away, he is looking forward to catching up on some of the work that has been side-tracked. After that he has plans for a fairly quiet, relaxing summer with some time at the cabins doing a little boating and fishing (and just plain nothing!) The family is also looking forward to summer. Except maybe Erin who is doing a combo work/school summer up in Hunstville, but still being able to enjoy some outdoor activities with her school friends. Justin wrapping up his swimming and exams. He'll be logging some hours teaching swimming in July and then spending some down time at the cabins relaxing by the lake. Gavin is finishing up grade 5 and he and his mother will likely spend some time at the cottage in July and cabins in August. Hope all of you have a great summer as well!

*Quick Links...*

- [The Bean Counters' Quarterly Home Website](#)
- [Canada Revenue Agency - for Business](#)
- [More About Steve Kirkham C.A. and Our Team](#)
- [View previous issues of our Bean Counters' Quarterly](#)

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