

Top Ten Ways a CGA Can Help You



CERTIFIED
GENERAL
ACCOUNTANTS

We see more than numbers.

aps	29,200	17,500	3,209	860	335	52,368	66,852
ures and options	388,921	159,254	36,547	15	-	581,564	575,421
al commodity contracts	418,121	176,754	39,736	875	335	633,932	642,273
ity Contracts	32,102	2,562	3,256	2,256	875	42,500	33,054
dit Contracts	11,236	25,689	39,456	16,523	842	92,165	54,265
al notional amount	\$ 1,513,188	\$ 632,837	\$ 387,528	\$ 255,855	\$ 67,919	\$ 3,035,614	\$ 2,990,790

#1 SOUND ADVICE

A certified general accountant (CGA) sees more than numbers. A CGA sees the big picture and can provide you with the sound advice your business needs. You are the expert in your business; your CGA is the expert in accounting, finance, taxation and business management. He or she will be your adviser, counsel and confidante. Together, the two of you will anticipate, prevent and solve the problems that come your way.

#2 SUCCESSION PLANNING

The difference between self-employment and business ownership lies in knowing that your business can succeed without you. Succession planning ensures that your business is self-sufficient. It allows you to take time away while you stay involved or to sell your business (or bequeath it) when the time is right. A CGA will help you develop and execute a sound succession plan.

#3 BUSINESS STARTUP

When you decide that it's time to make your dream a reality, a CGA will help set up the most appropriate entity for your business, whether a sole proprietorship, partnership or incorporation. Do you have a business plan? A CGA has the skills and experience to guide you through this important stage of the startup process. Plus a CGA will introduce you to bankers, meet with your lawyers and provide a seamless transition from concept to reality.

#4 SOFTWARE INSTALLATION AND TRAINING

A CGA will take the time to understand the information technology needs of your business.

He or she will assist in the evaluation of functionality, cost and portability, and create the right software environment for your business through installation, configuration and training.

#5 SYSTEMS IMPLEMENTATION

Proper systems can make the difference between chaos and order. A CGA will help you to identify and evaluate systems such as record keeping, document retention, asset protection and information controls. He or she will then assist you in the implementation, operation and periodic review of your systems.

#6 ESTATE PLANNING

Whether you own a business or simply want to ensure the safe passage of your lifetime assets, estate planning is important. A CGA works with you and your lawyer to ensure that designated beneficiaries receive the maximum benefit from your estate.

#7 FINANCIAL PLANNING

A CGA will help you plan your financial future. Whether it's investment advice to help you realize your retirement dreams or cash flow projections for your growing business, a CGA will provide the sound financial planning you require to get you to your goal.

#8 CONTROLLERSHIP SERVICES

If you think your business is too small to have a chief financial officer, think again. Many CGA firms offer part-time controllership services. A CGA will provide hands-on advice about financial controls and procedures, assist in month-end processes and help ensure your business is in compliance with regulatory agencies.

#9 ACCOUNTING SERVICES

CGAs offer a wide range of accounting services. A CGA will compile your financial results on an interim or year-end basis. A CGA will provide payroll administration, tax compliance, cash management, projections and bill payment, plus analysis, assessments, calculations and reviews. He or she will help you to interpret financial information so that you can make fully informed decisions about your business. A CGA sees more than numbers.

#10 TAX PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Tax planning and preparation is about more than filing your tax return on time. It's an integral part of the financial planning process. A CGA will help you minimize the taxes you pay — now and in the future — whether you're an employee or self-employed, an investor or small business owner, a farmer, student or landlord. Whatever your tax preparation and planning needs, a CGA will save you money through effective tax planning and preparation.

If your CGA does not offer the service you need, he or she will refer you to a CGA colleague with the requisite skills and experience. CGAs bring credibility and vision to organizations and clientele. Contact one today and benefit from the many ways a CGA can help you.



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For more information about the Certified General Accountants of Ontario and its resources, visit cga-ontario.org or call 1-800-668-1454.

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