

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our own supply chain Olympians:

"We write our own destiny; we become what we do."

Madame Chiang Kai-shek

As I write this month's column, the Winter Olympics are wrapping up in my home province. It has been an exciting two weeks here in British Columbia, and a successful one for Canada as our athletes and our country have had the chance to shine on the world stage.

Watching our athletes compete and hearing their stories of sacrifice has caused me to reflect on the passion, hard work and dedication of our C.P.P.s in their journey to our professional designation. I had the pleasure of attending a ceremony for our recent C.P.P. graduates here in Vancouver last month – I know that similar events are held at different times across the country – and this always reinforces the tremendous respect I have for our members who go for career gold.

In my own experience, I remember attending In-Residence Week just nine months after giving birth to my first child and having to participate at my own expense. So I understand the commitment and the drive that our candidates need to bring to the party if they want the chance to stand on their "podium." I know I am not alone in that many have families to raise, demanding jobs and other unexpected challenges that require sacrifice.

The value of accreditation is increasingly recognized by both supply chain professionals, and those who employ them, as the gold standard. This is evident by the growing number of designated members we welcome each year. From about 200 new graduates in 2007, to 300 in 2008, and to more than 500 in 2009, we have seen the C.P.P. family continue to grow. During this time, employers have seen more value added to their organizations from the expertise of these accredited supply chain professionals. And they're willing to pay for it. Our Annual Salary Surveys show that C.P.P.s earn a 20-30% premium.

Completing the demanding Strategic Supply Chain Management Leadership Program (SSCMLP) is difficult. But consider what our athletes have accomplished. Balancing work, family and gruelling training schedules to do the impossible. Constantly pushing themselves to go faster and higher than anyone has ever gone before.

Those who win medals at the Olympics and those who attain their designation do so because they have decided that they will accept no other result. It is sacrifice and hard work, but the result at the end is fulfilling. It is worth every drop of sweat, equity and the occasional tear.

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Yours truly,

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