



A Very Important

Payroll Professional

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DIALOGUE: How did you begin your career in payroll?

GAIL: I began my payroll career in 1978. I worked for a small food distributor and my very first exposure was responsibility for payroll entry while my immediate supervisor was on vacation. It was much different back then – the pay was calculated on carbon copy pages and the cheques were typed on manual type writer, Direct Deposit was not an option at that time. I moved on to the larger spread sheet system where the pay information was recorded on a very large sheet and then called in to ADP for processing. Payroll has come a long way!

DIALOGUE: What do you find most rewarding about being in payroll?

GAIL: The satisfaction of knowing that you are responsible for government compliance and being on time, the accurate delivery of an individual's pay, and the completion of this requirement always on time. This pays for services that we complete,

provides for our families by allowing us to purchase homes, food and pays for education. In payroll, your contribution and confidence gains an employee's trust. Employees depend on us to ensure their pay is "Accurate Every Pay!"

DIALOGUE: When did you get involved with the CPA?

GAIL: I have been involved with the CPA for about 14 years. I began my involvement as a student through Mount Royal University. In these 14 years, I have attended many CPA functions, luncheons, conferences and trade shows and many recognition events. In 2007, I began teaching the certification program at MRU and I have been the Calgary Branch chair for the past four years. In my 14 years of networking and working with the CPA, I have developed many life-long friendships that I cherish.

DIALOGUE: What skills do you think most important for payroll?

GAIL: There are many important skills for payroll: patience, willingness to accept change and the ability to accept challenges while keeping a positive, can do

attitude. It is important that you practice attention to detail with the ability to communicate clearly and effectively to every part of your organization. In larger organizations, continuous education with the interest for specialization in payroll would be beneficial, and in the smaller organizations, diversification with interest in all aspects of payroll and other related duties, as required, is mission critical. As in every career, continuous learning is the key to your success. You choose your path, and you make it happen!

DIALOGUE: What key advice would you offer those in payroll?

GAIL: I would suggest that payroll is a chosen career, not just a job. You will learn transferable skills that would make any employer happy to have you as part of their team. Understand how "doing it right the first time" is the only option. Be a Proud Payroll Professional and a true ambassador for the CPA. After spending many years as the Payroll Manager, my current position is Director of Human Resources at NOV Wilson Canada ULC. They are a worldwide leader in the design, manufacture and sale of equipment and components used in oil

“*Employees depend on us to ensure their pay is Accurate Every Pay!*”

and gas drilling and production, provision of oilfield inspection and other services, and supply chain integration services to the upstream oil and gas industry. I am proud to be part of this dynamic organization.

DIALOGUE: What are the most interesting aspects in doing payroll?

GAIL: The most interesting aspects in doing payroll is the satisfaction of knowing you produced a pay that is accurate, on time, and in compliance with all regulatory requirements. As well as maintaining the trust of all your company stakeholders in processing this mission critical task.

DIALOGUE: What do you do in your spare time? Do you practice any hobbies?

GAIL: In my spare time I give back to my community - I volunteer with the CPA, Bethany Harvest Hills, Stars and other community groups as needed. I enjoy cooking, baking and spending time with my family and friends while trying to lead a “healthy life”. I wish happiness and great health for everyone! ■

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