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The View from Lori's desk...

A look back and a look ahead Brought to you by ComVida

Jan 16th, 2020

Ahhhh.... January... the cold... the ice... the snow... Oh no! Never mind the short days... On the plus side, we're through the solstice and they're getting a little longer every day (it's not much, but yes, I do cling to that)...

January... tax updates are loaded, year-end procedures are done (hopefully!) and now you're probably thinking about all the things you want to accomplish this year.

Well, do we have courses for you! Or how about a process review? We'd be glad to spend some time with you reviewing your procedures to help identify efficiencies.

And speaking of efficiencies, if you're using Payroll in CVC51, you'll definitely want to check out the new PIER Check tool! It's a great way to double-check both employee

"It does not do to leave dragons out of your calculations, if you live near one."
- J.R.R. Tolkien (The Hobbit)

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deductions and employer contributions, especially this time of year. With the appropriate security rights, it's super-easy to use. You can even export the results to Excel for more in-depth analysis.

Meanwhile, we are full steam ahead with CVC51 5.1.11 and it's looking good! In Communications, we're adding features to ensure that filling shifts and keeping staff informed is a smooth process. In fact, we're working on updates in all areas of the application. We're also adding the new Federal Basic Personal Exemption Amount calculation in Payroll – and wasn't that fun? A last minute change to the federal tax calculation that means CRA no longer produce the Tax Tables (not that anyone uses them anymore... do they?). The new TD1 forms for 2020 are finally out, though, so there's that.

This year, our goal is to produce 3 - 4 releases of CVC51. We do have a fair number of features we'd like to include, and shorter release cycles will allow us to be more responsive to your requests, so give us your feedback – we love ideas! I can't guarantee we'll be able to accommodate every request, but if it's a feature that will save time or streamline a process and has the potential to benefit multiple sites, we want to hear about it.

Are you using our FMS (Financial Management System)? We've recently had a few requests for more reporting options for budgeting analysis and financial statements. I'm going to take some time to look into various options, one of which would be a third-party solution and I'm looking for feedback on that too. Any interest in a third-party solution that would expand your financial reporting options? Let me know!

This view features the breathtaking vista from Cypress Mountain in West Vancouver. It was provided by Stephanie Green at Semiahmoo House Society. Thanks for sharing such a great shot, Stephanie! We'd love to share your photos too – please send them along, we'll feature a different area of this amazing country in each view.