

Thomas Emmerling CPA, CFP, CGMA

Chair of Buffalo Niagara Partnership

Managing Partner, Dopkins & Company, LLP

Managing Member, Dopkins Wealth Management, LLC

As Managing Partner for Dopkins & Company, LLP, and Managing Member for Dopkins Wealth Management, LLC, Tom Emmerling has the overall responsibility for the operation and vision of each firm, working to continuously develop strategies to improve business processes and suites of services. Each and every day, Tom lives the principles of Dopkins Core Values: a “One Firm” approach that aligns a client-centered business practice with a passion about people, while striving to reach the highest level of professional standards, ethics and integrity.

Capitalizing on his 40 years of experience as a certified public accountant and certified financial planner, Tom helps clients solve complex financial issues. He routinely serves as a liaison in bringing together Dopkins members from across service areas to collaborate on providing big-picture solutions to help clients build, protect and transfer wealth.

Tom currently serves as Board Chair and previously served as Treasurer of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership (BNP), a privately-funded, economic development organization and the largest regional chamber of commerce in Western New York. Tom also serves as a board member of both the Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA), a public benefit corporation created to promote and assist private sector industrial and business development, and Invest Buffalo Niagara, the region’s nonprofit, privately funded economic development organization.

A member of the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, Tom has held several leadership positions for the Buffalo chapter, including President, Director, and Chair of both the Accounting Principles & Auditing Standards and Administration of Accounting Practices Committees. A member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Tom currently serves as an editorial advisor for the Journal of Accountancy and has previously served as an instructor for the Foundation for Accounting Education.

Tom served the Canisius College community in a leadership capacity in many ways, including roles as Trustee of the College's Board of Directors, Chair of the Council on Accountancy, and current Member and Past Chair of the Board of Regents. He has also served as a member of the Canisius Executive Committee and Past Chair of both the Student Recruiting and Student Experience Committees. Tom was named to the Canisius DiGamma Honor Society in recognition of his work in advancement of the College, and is also an honorary member of Beta Gamma Sigma, the international business honor society. He is also a member of the Canisius College Leadership Society. Tom is a past-recipient of College's LaSalle Medal, Outstanding Alumnus Award and Outstanding Accountant of the Year Award.