

PERSONAL INCOME TAX & RRIF SUPPORT

INCOME TAX CHANGES:

What: In order to provide greater flexibility to Canadians who may be experiencing hardships during the COVID-19 outbreak, the Canada Revenue Agency will defer the filing due date for the 2019 tax returns of individuals, including certain trusts.

For individuals (other than trusts), the return filing due date will be deferred until June 1, 2020. However, the Agency encourages individuals who expect to receive benefits under the GSTC or the Canada Child Benefit not to delay the filing of their return to ensure their entitlements for the 2020-21 benefit year are properly determined.

For trusts having a taxation year ending on December 31, 2019, the return filing due date will be deferred until May 1, 2020.

The Canada Revenue Agency will allow all taxpayers to defer, until after August 31, 2020, the payment of any income tax amounts that become owing on or after today and before September 2020. This relief would apply to tax balances due, as well as instalments, under Part I of the Income Tax Act. No interest or penalties will accumulate on these amounts during this period.

INCREASE TO GST CREDIT:

What: the Government is proposing to provide a one-time special payment by early May 2020 through the Goods and Services Tax credit (GSTC). This will double the maximum annual GSTC payment amounts for the 2019-20 benefit year. The average boost to income for those benefiting from this measure will be close to \$400 for single individuals and close to \$600 for couples. This measure will inject \$5.5 billion into the economy.

When: Early April

LOWER REGISTERED RETIREMENT INCOME FUND (RRIF) MINIMUM WITHDRAWAL AMOUNTS:

What: Reducing required minimum withdrawals from Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIFs) by 25% for 2020.

When: Immediately