

Dear friends.

It's tax time again and this years' deadline is April 30, 2019. As this date draws close, I have included some of the new tax tips and deductions available to Canadians on the back pages of this mailing. You can see all ten tax tips at my website at www.brianmasse.ca under the "community mailings" tab.



Some things to remember:

- Most Canadians' income tax and benefit returns are due on April 30, 2019. Self-employed individuals have until June 15, 2019 to file their returns. Since June 15, 2019 falls on a Saturday, the CRA considers your return to be filed on time, if the CRA receives it by or it is postmarked midnight June 17, 2019. However, if you have a balance owing, you must pay it by April 30, 2019.
- From now until April 30, 2019, the CRA will be offering extended evening and weekend hours for individual tax enquiries. Approximately 3,000 telephone agents will be available Monday to Friday (except holidays) from 9 am to 9 pm (local time), and from 9 am to 5 pm (local time) on Saturdays (except Easter weekend) to serve as many people as possible. This automated service will remain available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
- By February 11, 2019, the CRA will have mailed the income tax package to individuals who filed on paper the previous year. The new all-in-one 2018 income tax package is improved with simplified language, enhanced information on forms and has a more user-friendly design. If you did not receive this, and you file by paper, please call CRA: 1-800-959-8281.

- In addition to the mail out, a limited quantity of tax packages will still be available at Canada Post and Service Canada locations. Canadians will also find information to order these products by phone: 1-800-959-8281.
- Individuals with a modest income and a simple tax situation may be eligible to have their tax return completed for free through the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program. Free tax clinics are offered across Canada during March and April, with some open year-round. To find one nearest you please visit: https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/oecv/external/prot/cli_srch_01_ld.action.

Lastly, please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any questions and we will get you the information you need. Call my team at 519.255.1631 or email brian.masse@parl.gc.ca. Stay in touch!

Brian Masse MP Windsor West

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Beware of CRA Scams

Scammers posing as Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) employees continue to contact Canadians, misleading them into paying false debt. These persistent scammers have created fear among people who now automatically assume that any communication from someone representing the CRA is not genuine.

This tax tip will remind Canadians that the CRA does indeed contact taxpayers by phone, email and mail for legitimate reasons. The following tips will help Canadians identify legitimate communications from the CRA.



New Canada Caregiver Credit

Do you support a spouse or common-law partner, or a dependant with a physical or mental impairment? The Canada caregiver credit (CCC) is a non-refundable tax credit that may be available to you.

The amount you can claim depends on your relationship to the person for whom you are claiming the CCC, your circumstances, the person's net income, and whether other credits are being claimed for that person.

For your spouse or common-law partner, you may be entitled to claim an amount of \$2,182 in the calculation of line 303. You could also claim an amount up to a maximum of \$6,986 on line 304.

For an eligible dependant 18 years of age or older, you may be entitled to claim an amount of \$2,182 in the calculation of line 305. You could also claim an amount up to a maximum of \$6,986 on line 304.

For an eligible dependant under 18 years of age at the end of the year, you may be entitled to claim an amount of \$2,182 in the calculation of line 305 or on line 367 for your child.

For each of your or your spouse's or common-law partner's children under 18 years of age at the end of the year, you may be entitled to claim an amount of \$2,182 on line 367.

For each other dependant 18 years of age or older, who is not an eligible dependant for whom an amount is claimed on line 305, you may be entitled to claim an amount up to a maximum of \$6,986 on line 307

The CRA may ask for a signed statement from a medical practitioner showing when the impairment began and what the duration of the impairment is expected to be. You do not need a signed statement from a medical practitioner if the CRA already has an approved Form T22G1, Disability Tax Credit Certificate, for a specified period.

Canada Revenue Will Not Call You.

By text messages/instant messaging

The CRA **NEVER** uses text messages or instant messaging such as Facebook Messenger or WhatsApp to communicate with taxpayers under any circumstance. If a taxpayer receives text or instant messages claiming to be from the CRA, they are scams!



Police need our help in preventing further scams. Report anything suspicious and help prevent others from falling victim. I have included on the back of this flyer the steps you need to take if you fall victim and I have included all of the contacts that you need to make aware of your situation. Don't be embarrassed! These criminals need to be stopped and the public needs to be made aware that they are operating.

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