

# Brian MASSE

M.P. Windsor West



WINDSOR WEST UPDATE

April 2019

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](http://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](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](mailto:brian.masse@parl.gc.ca). Stay in touch!

Brian Masse MP  
Windsor West

## 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.



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[www.brianmasse.ca](http://www.brianmasse.ca)

# Tax Tips

## Disability Tax Credit

If you have a serious and prolonged (at least 12 months) impairment in physical or mental functions, you can use the Disability Tax Credit, worth \$8,113. A qualified practitioner needs to certify that your impairment qualifies and must complete Form T2201, Disability Tax Credit Certificate.



If you are eligible for this credit but are unable to use all or part of it because you have no taxable income, you can transfer it to your spouse, common-law partner, or other supporting person. If your dependant will not use all of his or her disability amount on his or her income tax return, enter the unused amount.

## Family Caregiver Amount (FCA)

This is a 15% non-refundable tax credit in the amount of \$2,182 that provides tax relief to caregivers of infirm dependant relatives including infirm spouses, common-law partners, and minor children.

## Have a balance owing? Can't pay in full? Work with the CRA to resolve your tax debt!

If you cannot pay the full amount you owe now, you may qualify for a payment arrangement or ask for taxpayer relief. Take action by [contacting the Canada Revenue Agency](#) (CRA) right away. Ignoring your debt won't make it go away.

## Find out your options if you can't pay in full now

The CRA can work with you to set up a payment arrangement in [My Account](#), [My Business Account](#), [MyCRA](#), or [CRA BizApp](#). The sooner you take action, the less interest you'll have to pay. To make a payment arrangement for you or your business, go to [Pay by pre-authorized debit](#) or [contact us](#).

## What is a payment arrangement?

A payment arrangement with the CRA lets you make smaller payments over time, until you have paid your entire debt, including interest. The CRA has two new tools



that can help you manage your tax debt. Try out our new Payment Arrangement Calculator, ( <https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/recc/pac/showCalculator> ) which you can use to estimate your payments and the time needed to reduce your debt to zero. The CRA has also introduced an Income and Expense Worksheet. (<https://apps.cra-arc.gc.ca/ebci/recc/pac/showWorksheet>) This worksheet will help you calculate the part of your net income that is available to pay your tax debt.