

Awesome 2020 Tax Tips !

*204.422.6631 or 1.833.980.1060 or 36 Dawson Road, Ste Anne
info@sataxes.ca or visit SteAnneTaxService.ca*

Modified Tax Service: due to Health Guidelines, most tax returns will be completed by drop-off and pick-up; or by e-mail; or by phone. No in-office appointments will be available this season. Call or email first to find out what service is best for you.

Personal Information: Mailing address changed? Now use civic address? New postal code? Phone numbers? No longer use a land line? Banking has changed for your tax refund or GST credit? Marital Status changed? Name changed? Let us know!

Principal Residence: if you sold your home in 2020, CRA requires you to report it on your tax return. Just basic information: selling price, year of purchase & address of the property. We may need info about your property taxes too: both old and new home.

RRSPs & CCB & CRB: Another reason to consider RRSP contributions: if you have children under 18 or you receive CRB. Your **Canada Child Benefit** is based on your family income which can be reduced by RRSP contributions, so tax savings can be increased substantially if your combined family net income is \$47,000 to 65,000. Call or email us for some "what if calculations" for 2020 taxes before the RRSP deadline March 1st. New this year is the **CRB Canada Response Benefit**; it is re-paid if income is over \$38,000. Get income estimate before March 1st if you received the CRB in 2020.

Manitoba Senior's School Tax Rebate: The maximum is still \$470, and is reduced once your family income exceeds \$40,000. Bring your property tax bill to show the education portion if you are 65+. If you are 55+ and your family income is less than \$24,000, you may also be eligible for additional School Tax Credits as a home owner.

Medical Travel: Keep your 2020 wall or pocket calendar. Use the medical log sheet to record the date, doctor's name, name of clinic or hospital, and number of km; must be more than 40km one way for a service you cannot get locally. Ask us for the medical travel log. If you didn't keep track of all your medical appointments, call Manitoba Health and get a printout for the year.

Medical Premiums: Premiums for health & dental plans you pay through work: keep your end of year pay statement; if it says "GRP INS" get a letter from your employer stating what you paid for your extended health & dental plan only. If via your bank account, get an annual receipt or letter from your provider: Blue Cross, Manulife, etc.

Health Plan: Submit expenses early and get detailed print out for the year. If you can, go on-line and get an annual list of all items processed by your health plan too.

Prescriptions: Go to your pharmacy(ies) and ask for a **detailed** list for 2020. Ask for one for each member of your family. If you have more than 10 little prescription receipts you may avoid our compilation fees by getting the yearly printout from the Pharmacy.

Other Medical Expenses: Gluten-free foods (the cost difference); dentures; dental; chiropractor; eye exams, glasses, contact lenses; travel health insurance; portion of rent if you are in assisted or supportive housing; laser eye surgery; incontinence pads; hearing aids and batteries; and all expenses not covered by a health plan such as the 20% you pay (cannot claim massage therapy). **Do not use highlighter on receipts!**

Home Accessibility Tax Credit: Certain home renovations such as grab bars, wheelchair ramps, walk-in bathtubs and showers.

Students we get most T2202a Tuition from CRA. Any unused tuition credits can be transferred to a parent, grandparent, spouse, or carry forward to claim in the future. And remember to claim Student Loan Interest: Canada and Manitoba student loans only.

Other Receipts: charitable donations; children's activities for fitness and arts MB credits; fitness receipts for young adults (16-24); RRSPs: March to December 2020 & January to March 1 2021; political donations; child care expenses; union dues and other professional fees; rent; and if you have moved bring your lawyer documents for the home you purchased and/or sold to review the property tax calculation.

Year End Pay Statement: Keep your last pay statement of every year (forever!) in case you pay for disability premiums and can claim them as a deduction in the future if you are ever off work. And your health & dental premiums may be listed there, too; but if it says "GRP INS" you need to get a more detailed letter from your employer.

Self Employed: Read your vehicle odometer on December 31st 2020 (or now) and hope you did a year earlier on January 1st 2020 so you know how many km you drove for the entire year; if you didn't, check your maintenance records for odometer readings. And we need your recorded log of business related trips. Start organizing your receipts by category if you haven't yet; your filing deadline is June 15 2021.

Car Allowance: Do you receive a vehicle allowance from your employer? Ask how you can reduce your taxes on this taxable benefit; you need to keep detailed records and make sure you have your odometer readings for January 1 and December 31!

Missing Tax Slips: We can access your CRA file with your signed authorization; so if you are missing any Tax Slips: T4, CPP, OAS, EI, T4A, T5, T3, maybe we can get them!

CRA Opens February 22 2021: We have access to CPP and OAS tax slips by that date, so we can file basic tax returns starting February 22! Don't wait for the mail!

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