

## Topics we will cover today

Doing your taxes on time Benefit and credit payments 3 Tax credits When to contact the CRA 4 **CRA** services and tools **COVID-19 measures** Don't get scammed!

## Doing your taxes on time

- The information from your tax return is used to calculate your benefit and credit payments
- Do your taxes on time to avoid delays to your payments (such as GST/HST credit and GIS payments)



# File my Return

Do your taxes over the phone

 Confirm some personal information and answer a few short questions

 No paper forms to fill out or calculations to do

### Community Volunteer Income Tax Program

Volunteers prepare income tax and benefit returns for those who are eligible, for **free**!



### Volunteer!

Learn basic tax information and help people by doing their taxes!

- Volunteer with a community organization
- Register online at canada.ca/taxes-volunteer





## **GST/HST** credit

 Get a tax-free payment of up to \$456 per year if you are single, and up to \$598 per year if you are married or living common law

 You don't have to apply, but you have to do your taxes

canada.ca/gst-hst-credit

### Canada child benefit

- Up to \$6833annually per child under 18 to help with the cost of raising children
- Tax-free payment made to the eligible primary caregiver of a child under the age of 18



# Do you have any questions?





## Age amount

Claim up to \$7,637 if you were at least
 65 years old at the end of the year
 and you meet certain conditions

 If eligible, claim the provincial or territorial tax credit



### Pension income amount

Claim up to \$2,000 on your return if you have **eligible** pension, superannuation, or annuity payments.



## Medical expenses

If you or your spouse or common-law partner paid for eligible medical expenses, you can claim them if they were for:

- Yourselves and your children 18 and under
- Certain family members who depended on you for support and were residents of Canada at any time in the year

canada.ca/taxes-medical-expenses

## Canada caregiver credit

If your spouse or common-law partner, or an eligible dependent 18 or older, has a physical or mental impairment, and you support them, you could claim:

- \$2,273 for the spouse or common-law partner amount
- Up to \$7,276 for the Canada caregiver amount

canada.ca/caregiver-credit



## Disability tax credit

- Claim up to \$8,576 on your return
- May be transferred to a supporting family member
- Opens the door to other government programs



## Are you eligible for the DTC?

You must meet one of the following criteria:

- Be blind
- Be markedly restricted in at least one of the basic activities of daily living
- Be significantly restricted in two or more of the basic activities of daily living
- Need life sustaining therapy

## Basic activities of daily living

The basic activities of daily living are:

- Speaking
- Hearing
- Walking
- Eliminating (bowel or bladder functions)
- Feeding
- Dressing
- Mental functions necessary for everyday life

### In addition...

#### Your impairment must:

- have lasted or be expected to last at least 12 months and
- be present all or substantially all the time (at least 90% of the time)

canada.ca/disability-tax-credit Guide RC4064, Disability-Related Information

## **Applying for the DTC**

- 1. You fill in Part A
- 2. Your medical practitioner fills in Part B
- 3. You send the form to the CRA

#### Form T2201, Disability Tax Credit Certificate



### Home accessibility tax credit

Claim up to \$10K in renovation expenses you paid to make your home more accessible.



Guide RC4064, Disability-Related Information

### Amount transferred to or from your spouse

Transfer certain tax credits to your spouse, including the:

- age amount
- pension income amount

disability amount for self



## Pension income splitting

- Transfer up to half of your eligible pension income to your spouse or common-law partner
- You and your spouse or common-law partner can claim up to \$2,000 on your tax returns
- Can't split income from the Canada Pension Plan or old age security

canada.ca/pension-splitting

Form T1032, Joint Election to Split Pension Income

# Do you have any questions?



### Contact us when there is a change to your:

- address
- marital status
- residency status
- direct deposit information

Or if your spouse or common-law partner dies



## What to do following a death

- Provide the CRA with the date of death as soon as possible by calling 1-800-959-8281
- The CRA will help make arrangements to stop payments and transfer them to a survivor

Information Sheet RC4111, What to Do Following a Death



## My Account

Go online to manage your taxes and benefits quickly, conveniently, and securely: canada.ca/my-cra-account.



### Authorize a representative

- You may decide to have someone like a family member or an accountant deal with the CRA for you – this person would be your representative
- You need to authorize any representative through:
  - 1. My Account
  - 2. Form AUT-01, Authorize a Representative for Offline Access
- Your representative can also submit an authorization request online

## Direct deposit

Get your tax refund and benefit and credit payments deposited directly into your bank account.



## Are you missing some payments?

 Missing some of your benefit cheques? Maybe you moved and did not update your address, or the cheques may have been lost, stolen, or destroyed.

 You can now view your uncashed cheques in My Account and, if necessary, ask for a duplicate payment.

CRA cheques never expire or become stale-dated.

# COVID-19 measures



#### How COVID-19 benefits are reported

Individuals affected by the pandemic received emergency benefit payments that provided them with financial support.

These payments are taxable income and must be reported on a tax return.

If the individual received COVID-19 benefit amounts from:

- the CRA they will receive a T4A slip
- Service Canada they will receive a T4E slip



#### T4A issued by the CRA

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#### T4A slip issued by the CRA: Emergency benefits

COVID-19 emergency benefits that could be listed on a T4A include:

- Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)
- Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)
- Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)
- Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)
- Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)
- One-time payment for older seniors



#### T4A slip issued by Province or Territory

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#### Issues with a T4A slip

The individual should call the CRA or the province/territory right away if:

- their T4A slip shows incorrect amounts
- they repaid benefit amounts in 2021 but the repayments are not reported
- their T4A slip shows incorrect personal information
- they did not apply for a COVID-19 benefit, but received a T4A slip





### Over the **phone**, the CRA will **never**:

- Use aggressive, threatening language
- Request payment by Interac e-transfer, bitcoin, prepaid credit cards, or gift cards
- Ask for information about your passport, driver's licence, or health card
- Leave personal information on your voicemail

Scammers can even fake their caller ID! Validate their identity by calling **1-800-959-8281**.



#### By email, the CRA will never:

- Give or ask for personal or financial information
- Demand immediate payment by Interac e-transfer, bitcoin, prepaid credit cards, or gift cards
- Send you a link to your refund

The CRA will **never** use text messages or instant messages to communicate with you.



### By mail, the CRA will never:

- Set up a meeting with you in a public place to take a payment
- Demand that you pay taxes by Interac e-transfer, bitcoin, prepaid credit cards, or gift cards
- Threaten you with arrest or a prison sentence



### Check your account balance:

#### Online

My Account canada.ca/my-cra-account

#### By phone

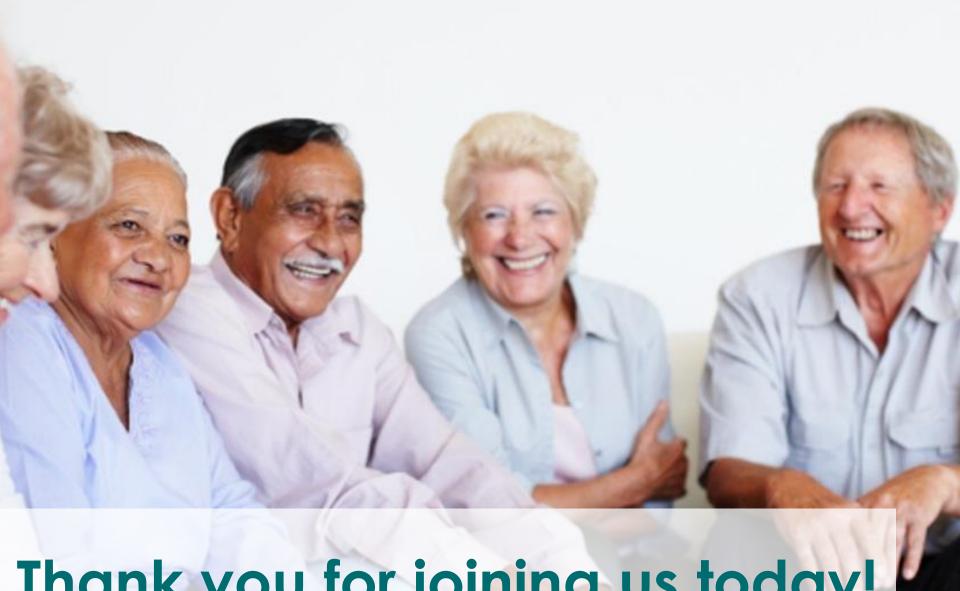
Individual Tax Account Balance Automated Service
 1-866-474-8272



### Accepted payment methods:

- Online banking
- Debit
- Pre-authorized debit
- PayPal / credit card

#### canada.ca/payments



Thank you for joining us today!