

COMMENT BACKGROUND

Number 253 – JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2009

2008 TAX SEASON

Information from the CRA website:

- CRA 2007 tax filing statistics: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/nwsrm/rlss/2008/m05/nr080530-eng.html>
- CRA Informant Leads Program: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/gncy/nvstgtns/lds-eng.html>
- Debunking tax myths (CRA): <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/nwsrm/myths/menu-eng.html#m1>
- CRA Fact Sheet on reporting cash income (tips, gratuities, etc.): <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/nwsrm/fctshts/2008/m01/fs080121-eng.html>

Student credits, moving amounts:

- Income Tax Act (ITA) section 62 – moving expenses
- ITA section 118.5 – tuition tax credit
- ITA section 118.6 – education and textbook amount tax credits
- Interpretation Bulletin IT-178R3 – *Moving Expenses*
- CRA pamphlet P105 – *Students and Income Tax*

Principal residence exemption:

- ITA section 54 – definition of principal residence
- CRA Interpretation Bulletin IT-120R6 – *Principal Residence*

NEW RRIF RULES

CRA News Release dated December 11, 2008, re RRIF minimum changes:

- <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/nwsrm/rlss/2008/m12/nr081211-eng.html>

Income Tax Act references:

- Section 146.3 – Registered Retirement Income Funds

Draft legislation:

- Notice of Ways and Means dated November 28, 2008
- Clause 11 – proposed ITA section 60.021 will allow re-contribution of excess minimum amount paid from RRIF in 2008
- Clause 44 – proposed ITA subsection 164.3(1.1) reduces the RRIF minimum for 2008

TAX-FREE SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Income Tax Act references:

- Section 146.2 – Tax-free savings accounts
- Section 207.01 – Taxes in respect of TFSAs

Canada Revenue Agency publication:

- RC4466 – *Tax-free savings account (TFSA) information sheet*