

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS™

KEMP HARVEY GROUP

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

WINTER 2016  NEWSLETTER

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WHAT TYPES OF INCOME DID YOU EARN DURING 2015? 2

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INFORMATION REPORTING EXPANDED

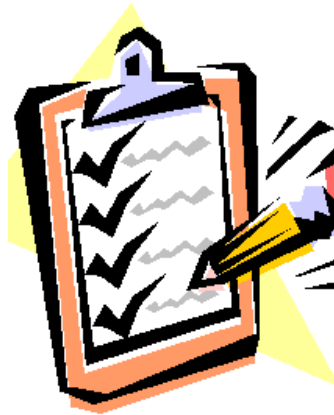
There are few changes to the documentation that you should bring to your Kemp Harvey Group office for the preparation of your 2015 personal income tax returns.

One change relates to the option of making a repayment to your Registered Retirement Income fund (RRIF) before February 28, 2016, if it is related to an excess withdrawal you made from your RRIF during 2015. Please let your accountant know if you have made such a repayment.

Another change was the introduction of the BC Education coaching tax credit in 2015. If you have undertaken at least 10 hours of qualifying coaching activities in the year, you can qualify for the credit.

The activities must be performed after school or on weekends, and can include sports, arts, and many other activities.

They must have been undertaken at a school for



children aged kindergarten to grade 12. Please advise your accountant if you qualify for this credit.

The Children's Fitness equipment credit is another credit that has been introduced for 2015.

You do not require a receipt in order to qualify for this credit, nor even have purchased a piece of fitness equipment for your child. It will be automatically calculated based on the other fitness credits you have claimed.

There has been some enhancements to credits in 2015. In the past, you may not have brought us your eligible fitness tax credit receipts because you would not have been able

to get a benefit from them.

Starting in 2015, this credit is now refundable, meaning all eligible fitness tax credit receipts, totaling up to \$1,000 per child, can provide a benefit to you.

You can also now claim an additional \$1,000 of eligible child care expenses. Eligible child care expenses are amounts you have paid to someone to look after an eligible child so you could earn eligible income.

There was one tax credit which was eliminated in 2015. The amount for children was a non-refundable credit which reduced your income taxes by up to \$338 per child.

Finally, this will be the last year that income splitting will be available for families.

This does not affect income splitting for seniors, who have not lost access to this valuable credit.

INFO SLIPS NEEDED FOR 2015 TI

Yes, it is that time of year again – time to file your personal income tax returns. Before you bring your personal income tax information to your local Kemp Harvey Group office, we encourage you to work through the following checklist. This list will help to ensure you have all of the slips needed in order to complete your 2015 TI.

2015 TI Checklist

NAME: _____

INFORMATION SLIPS	CHECK
T3 – Estate or trust income including mutual funds	
T4 – Salaries, wages or retiring allowances	
T4A – Pensions, director fees, miscellaneous income or RESP	
T4E – Employment Insurance benefits	
T4A(P) – Canada Pension Plan income	
T4 (OAS) – Old Age Security benefits	
T4 (RRIF) – Registered Retirement Income Fund income	
T4 (RSP) – Registered Retirement Savings Plan withdrawal	
T5 – Interest, dividends and other investment income	
T5007 – WCB or social assistance income	
T5008 – Treasury bills	
RC 62 – Universal Child Care Benefit	
RC 210 – Working Income Tax Benefit payments	
2014 Notice of Assessment and any correspondence from Canada Revenue Agency received during the year	
OTHER INCOME SOURCES	CHECK
Rental income and expenses	
Self-employment income and expenses	
Stocks, investments, and mutual fund transactions – summary of all purchases and sales (ensure date of sale is on documents)	
Child care income	
Foreign pension income	
Other – any other income sources, such as tips or alimony	

DID YOU KNOW...

In 2015, you can use a per kilometre value of 48.5 cents to calculate the medical expense credit for travel to eligible medical appointments.



CERTAIN EXPENSES CAN REDUCE TAXES

Various deductions and credits can help to reduce the amount of taxes payable to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) each year. Please take a few moments to review the following items, to ensure you do not miss out on any eligible expenses for you and your household. Please remember that all of the applicable receipts and documents associated with these deductions and credits should be provided to your accountant, in order to allow for comprehensive tax return preparation. Please feel free to contact your Kemp Harvey Group office if you have any questions or concerns about whether you would qualify for any of these deductions and credits.

DEDUCTIONS AND CREDITS	CHECK
RRSP contribution slips	
RRSP Home Buyers Plan / Lifelong Learning Plan details	
Moving expenses if you moved at least 40 kilometres closer to your place of work	
Union or professional dues	
Child care expenses	
Spousal support payments	
Attendant care expenses (paid to allow a person with disabilities to earn income)	
Residential and nursing care facility fees	
Business investment losses (any losses suffered through the failure of an active Canadian business)	
Investment counsel or accounting fees	
Interest paid on loans for investment purposes	
Adoption expenses	
Charitable donations	
Political party donations	
Receipts for expenses related to the B.C. Seniors' Home Renovation Tax Credit	
T2202 tuition fees: education amounts, textbook credit or Canada student loan interest payment	
Tools acquired by apprentice vehicle mechanic or other trade-worker	
Employment related expenses - T2200 and Declaration of Conditions of Employment	
Public transit passes purchased on or after January 1, 2015	
Fitness Tax Credit (amounts paid for physical activity programs for children under age 16)	
Children's Art Tax Credit (amounts paid for eligible activities for children under age 16)	
Medical (vision, dental, prescription, etc.) expenses net of any third-party coverage	
Accommodation, meal and travel details for any out-of-town medical appointments	
Insurance premiums paid for private medical or dental plans, or medical travel insurance	
Documentation indicating that you qualify for either the Volunteer Fire Fighter's credit, or the Volunteer Search and Rescue Credit	



STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

KEMP HARVEY GROUP

Kemp Harvey Burch Kientz Inc.
Box 2020; 619 Central Avenue
Grand Forks, BC V0H 1H0
Phone 250.442.2121 Fax 250.442.5825
grandforks@kemp Harvey.com

Kemp Harvey Hamilton Inc.
153-4664 Lougheed Highway
Burnaby, BC V5C 5R5 Phone 604.291.1470
Fax 604.291.0264
burnaby@kemp Harvey.com

Kemp Harvey Craig Inc.
Box 1039; 8901 Main Street
Osoyoos, BC V0H 1V0
Phone 250.495.3223 Fax 250.495.3559
osoyoos@kemp Harvey.com

Kemp Harvey Kemp Inc.
445 Ellis Street
Penticton, BC V2A 4M1
Phone 250.492.8800 Fax 250.492.6921
penticton@kemp Harvey.com

Kemp Harvey Hunt Ward Inc.
203-1740 Gordon Drive
Kelowna, BC V1Y 3H2
Phone 250.763.8029 Fax 250.763.5155
kelowna@kemp Harvey.com

Kemp Harvey Laidman-Betts Inc.
206-3334 30th Avenue
Vernon, BC V1T 2C8
Phone 250.545.1544 Fax 250.260.3641
khvernon@kemp Harvey.com

Kemp Harvey Kok de Roca-Chan Inc.
210-1140 Austin Avenue
Coquitlam, BC V3K 3P5
Phone 604.937.3444 Fax 604.937.3422
coquitlam@kemp Harvey.com

Kemp Harvey Demers Inc.
4734 Park Avenue
Terrace, BC V8G 1W1
Phone 250.638.8705 Fax 250.638.0600
terrace@kemp Harvey.com

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Q&A: A YEAR IN REVIEW

Each year, taxpayers reach certain personal milestones. This list of questions will help you and your accountant organize the events of the past year.

QUESTIONNAIRE	Y/N
Are you or any of your dependants disabled?	
Are you supporting an infirm relative inside or outside of your home?	
Did you become or cease to be a resident of Canada in 2015?	
Are you a Canadian Citizen?	
Are you a US citizen or currently holding a green card?	
Did you own specified foreign property in 2015? Was the total cost of all of these properties over \$100,000 at any time in the year? If so, please provide the name of the entity with which you held the property, the country in which the property is held, the original cost, market value, and maximum cost of the property, as well as any income earned from the property in the year.	
Do you authorize the Canada Revenue Agency to release your name, address and date of birth to Elections Canada?	
Did you sell any land or other property in the past year? If so, please provide details.	
Did you live in a care home in the past year? If so, please provide receipts for payments.	
Were there any changes in family circumstances such as births, adoptions, marriages, separations, divorces or deaths?	
Did you purchase a home in 2015? If so, please advise if this is the first home you or your spouse have owned and lived in since 2009.	
Have you paid instalments for your 2015 income tax?	
Did you have to leave your metropolitan area in order to obtain medical care which was not available in your town of residence? If so, please provide details.	
Did you generate any sales on the internet in 2015? If so, please note the percentage of your total revenue that came from the internet, and the five webpages and websites that generated the most revenue.	
Did you carry out at least 10 hours of unpaid work in the year coaching or supervising children in extracurricular activities at a qualified school?	
Did you repay any RRIF withdrawals that were considered to be over-payments? If so, provide details of the repayment.	