# WHAT EVERY CANADIAN SMALL BUSINESS NEEDS TO KNOW

AUDIT TRIGGERS & TAX COMPLIANCE







You Should. It Pays.

Making \$100 bucks probably shouldn't be so easy but... it is.

\*ProStrata-G clients that refer a friend or small business recieve \$100 off future services, or a \$50 gift card upon new client sign-up.



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## **OUR GUIDE**

ProStrata-G has compiled this interactive pdf guide to help small businesses stay tax compliant and accurately predict their tax audit vulnerability.

## **GUIDE USE**

**Click on RED and YELLOW links.** NOTE: Charts/graphics will also have helpful links.

CAUTION: Always check the CRA website for the most accurate and up-to-date information.

Notice: Sources for this publication include the CRA website. Details and figures may change without notice. This guide should not be considered the last word on The Canada Revenue Agency Tax Guidelines. For the most up-to-date information and access to government forms, go to <a href="www.canada.ca">www.canada.ca</a>.





## **BOOKKEEPING TERMS**

Investors, partners, accountants, bookkeepers, and auditors will use basic financial terms. Learning this language will make it easier to plan, understand and communicate your goals with financial professionals.

## **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

What you owe to vendors, suppliers, and creditors

## **ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE**

What customers owe you

## **ASSET**

Anything owned by the business that has a value

## **BALANCE SHEET**

A summary of business' assets and liabilities

## **CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

The amount that flows through a business over a specified period of time.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

A compilation of four main reports of the business:

- Income statement (Profit & Loss)
- Balance sheet
- Statement of cash flow
- Statement of shareholders' (owner) equity

## **INCOME STATEMENT/PROFIT AND LOSS**

A statement of income and expenses generated by the business over a specified period

## LIABILITY

Loans, taxes, accounts payable, and other debts

## **RETAINED EARNINGS**

Profits that a business has earned, that are retained in the business

## **SHAREHOLDER LOAN**

A loan provided by a shareholder to the business

## WHEN TO GET BOOKKEEPING HELP

Maintaining your books to audit-ready standards has it's challenges, so when do you call in the pros? Consult with a professional early to get started on the best foot. If you're a seasoned entrepreneur, it's always a good plan to meet regularly with a professional bookkeeper who is able to help interpret the numbers and ensure accuracy. Also consider help if:

## YOU DREAD/AVOID BOOKKEEPING

Dread and displeasure can significantly increase the chances of making costly mistakes.

## YOU ARE WORKING EXTRA HOURS

Building and maintaining a business is time consuming. When time is precious, consider outsourcing your bookkeeping to the experts





## **COMMON AUDIT TRIGGERS**

## **FILING LATE**

Missing filing deadlines is the most common audit trigger.

## SIGNIFICANT INCOME CHANGES

CRA looks for consistency from year to year. Drastic changes in expenses or income may flag your return.

## **FAILING TO REPORT T-SLIPS**

CRA automatically compares slips recieved from third parties to your individual return. Disprepencies may be flagged for re-assessment.

## HOME OFFICE DEDUCTIONS

This is often calculated incorrectly, and is heavily scrutinized in a tax audit.

## **CLAIMING 100% BUSINESS USE OF VEHICLE**

Anything over the industry norm for business vehicle use is also flagged for review. Generally, business owners will use their vehicle for both family and business, so 100% business vehicle use will stand out.

## **CASH-HEAVY INCOME**

CRA carefully compiles industry standards for income. If cash flow appears too high or too low for your industry, CRA will likely ask for clarity.

## **FAMILY ON PAYROLL**

Families are often part of small businesses, but salaries should be within industry standards. CRA may request more information about familial employees.

## SUBCONTRACTING

T4As and T5018s have recently gathered more attention form CRA.

## **EXCESSIVE BUSINESS EXPENSES**

High expenses for your industry are a flag for CRA. Meals, travel and advertising are most closely scrutinized and disputed by auditors.

## **RENTAL PROPERTY LOSSES**

Losses may occur occassionally, but year over year loss is going to catch the attention of CRA.

## **SELF EMPLOYMENT**

Small business audits make up 54% of audit revenue.

## **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

Donation receipt slips will be denied if the charity does not have a Registered Charity Number

## YEARS OF NEGATIVE SHAREHOLDER LOAN

CRA does not like negative shareholder loans that might be considered income and taxable.

## **DISCREPENCIES WITH THIRD PARTY INFORMATION**

CRA will know if interest or dividend income is different than the T5 slips filed by your financial institution.

## **BEING IN A CERTAIN INDUSTRY**

Certain industries are targeted by the CRA because there is a large number of cash transactions, such as restaurant and trades.

## **AUDIT OF A RELATED/ASSOCIATED PARTY**

You may face review as a direct result of a relation's or associate's audit.

## **INFORMANT TIP**

CRA will take tax evasion tips seriously. Tips are anonymous and can be submitted by anyone.



## **AUDIT-READY BOOKKEEPING TIPS**

## CONNECT TO CRA'S "MY BUSINESS ACCOUNT"

Business owners can access their GST/HST, payroll, corporation income taxes, excise taxes, excise duties and other levies accounts online with "My Business Account".

Individuals should also register for "My Account" in order to keep all identity information up to date, receive pertinent tax information, and review tax income balances.

## **FILE ON TIME**

This is the easiest trigger to avoid. Make an appointments with your financial team. Mark your calendar for important filing and remittance dates. Set Calendar Reminders. See page 7.

## COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR FINANCIAL TEAM THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

A short list of common financial terms found on page 3. can help you communicate clearly. Pre-book appointments early in the year.

## STAY ORGANIZED

Not only will this make monthly reconciliation a breeze, but in the eventuality of an audit, you'll save time and money. Use the simple filing structure covered in this guide. See page 9.

## **CALCULATE HOME OFFICE EXPENSES CORRECTLY**

Taxpayers often get this calculation wrong. To calculate the percentages of expenses you can claim, use our Home Office Calculator.

## **KEEP A VEHICLE MILEAGE LOG**

We suggest the Mile IQ App or keep a simple spreadsheet. A paper ledger is also acceptable. Don't forget to record your mileage at year end.

## **CAREFULLY DOCUMENT CASH TRANSACTIONS**

Cash income and expenses are the hardest to prove in an audit. Reduce cash transactions where possible. Mark notes on receipts and invoices.

## **FAMILY ON PAYROLL**

Keep salaries within industry standards and be sure payroll is for factual work. Be sure to understand your payroll obligations.

## **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

Be sure charities are registered, and keep all slips with your tax documents.

## **CAREFULLY TRACK AR/INVOICE NUMBERS**

Non-sequential invoice numbers (or missing invoice numbers in your accounts receivable) are highly suspicious. Be sure to document destroyed or missing invoice numbers and note the reason.

## **SUBCONTRACTING**

If you are a business involved in construction activities and you make payments to subcontractors for construction services, you must file a statement of contract payments. (T5018) If you are not required to file a T5018, you must submit T4As for your subtrades.

## **EXCESSIVE BUSINESS EXPENSES**

This is monitored by industry as well. High expenses for your industry are a flag for CRA. Meals, travel and advertising are most closely scrutinized and denied in audits.

## **RENTAL PROPERTY LOSSES**

CRA expects that you went into the rental property business to make profit. Losses, year after year will be questioned. Review the rental Income Guide.

## **SELF EMPLOYMENT**

Small business audits make up 54% of audit revenue. Be sure your bookkeeping is ready for CRA review, including source documents.

## **GIFTS, REWARDS AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

It is the reponsibility of small business owners to fully understand the tax implications and to keep proper records of such expenses. See page 12

## **BE ACCURATE AND HONEST**

The signature on your filed income tax return is an indication of your approval. Always look over the final return, even if prepared by a professional. Double check for accuracy. Ask questions. Ultimately, you will be responsible for errors and omissions.

If your bookkeeping is factual, organized, upto-date, and tax compliant an audit will likely be a small inconvenience. Those who are not audit-ready, may spend more time and money and face larger unneccessary penalties.





# CRA TAX COMPLIANCE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

## CRA TAX COMPLIANCE BEST PRACTICES

Whether you are new to business, or have dealt with The Canada Revenue Agency before, you may feel intimidated when it comes to taxes and tax compliance. CRA compliant bookkeeping is crucial in avoiding unneccessary penalties and interest, but there are several points to consider. Whether you're tackling your bookkeeping solo (DIY), or with a Quickbooks Certified ProAdvisor, the following is an outline of CRA compliance best practices.

## **FILE ON TIME**

Filing deadlines are non-negotiable with The Canada Revenue Agency. It is your responsibility to file on time, everytime. GST, RST, payroll, and income tax returns, all have different remittance dates. Take the time to note both the filing dates and payment deadlines. Consider setting reminders in your calendar.

## **KEEP ACCURATE RECORDS**

Your records can be as simple as a paper ledger, or as sophisticated as automated bookeeping software, such as Quickbooks Online, but they must be accurate.

## **KEEP DOCUMENTS ORGANIZED**

As every business is different, the way in which you file your records is yours to choose - Date, Supplier, Category, etc. Stay organized and be prepared to provide source documentation to CRA periodically.

## **KEEP UP-TO-DATE RECORDS**

Reconcile bank/credit card statements regularly. Be sure to set aside the appropriate amount of time to keep your records up-to-date. Stay on track with a ProAdvisor Bookkeeper.

## STAYING TAX COMPLIANT PROTECTS YOUR BUSINESS

Not only can The Canada Revenue Agency issue late filing penalties, when you fail to file or pay on time, they can assess interest as high as 50%. This can seriously impact business cash flow, and in extreme cases result in CRA seizing bank accounts. In addition to avoiding costly penalties, staying compliant means tax audits are less likely to occur, preparing for an audit is less stressful and less time consuming, and auditors are more likely to rule in your favour with accurate, organized documentation easily available.





# FILING DEADLINES YOU NEED TO KNOW

REMITTANCE DATES									
2	REMITTER TYPE			PENALTIES					
PST	MONTHLY  QUARTERLY  Due the 20th of the month after each reporting period.  ANNUAL		10% of the tax due. Minimum penalty is \$10.						
GST	REMITTER TYPE	REMITTANCE PERIOD	REMITTANCE DUE DATE	PENALTIES					
	MONTHLY	Calendar Months	Due at the end of the following month						
	QUARTERLY	Jan - Mar Apr - Jun Jul - Sep Oct - Dec	Due at the end of the following month	1% plus 0.25%					
	ANNUAL	1-15 of month	25th of same month	for every month the return is late					
	(ODD FISCAL YE)	16th to end of month	10th day of the next month	to a maximum of 12 months					
		1-7 of month	3rd working day after the 7th						
	ANNUAL	8-14 of month	3rd working day after the 14th						
	(DEC 31 YE)	15-21 of month	3rd working day after the 21th						
		22nd to end of month	3rd working day after last day of month						
ROLL	REMITTER TYPE	REMITTANCE PERIOD	REMITTANCE DUE DATE	PENALTIES					
	MONTHLY	Calendar Months	Due the 15th of the following month						
		Jan - Mar		20/ 200/					
3	OLLANTENIX	Apr - Jun	Due the 15th of the following month	3%-20%					
1	QUARTERLY	Jul - Sep		<b>3%</b> if the amount is 1-3 days late					
d		Oct - Dec	5% if the amount is 4-5 days late						
	THRESHOLD 1	1-15 of month	3rd working day after the 7th	<b>7%</b> if the amount is 6-7 days late					
	ACCELERATED	16th to end of month	3rd working day after the 14th	10% if the amount is more than 7 days late					
		1-7 of month	3rd working day after the 7th	or if no amount is remitted					
	THRESHOLD 2	8-14 of month	3rd working day after the 14th	<b>20%</b> if you've been assessed this penalty					
	ACCELERATED	15-21 of month	3rd working day after the 21th	more than once in a calendar year					
		22nd to end of month	3rd working day after last day of month						
INCOMETAX	FILING TYPE	FILING DEADLINE	PAYMENT DEADLINE	PENALTIES					
	INDIVIDUAL	Apr 30	Apr 30						
	SELF-EMPLOYED	Jun 15	Apr 30	<b>5%</b> of amount due <b>plus 1%</b> for every					
	CORPORATION	No more than 180 days after YE	No More than 90 days after YE	month late to a maximum of 12 months					
DONI	TOP TIP! File on time! Set cale	ndar reminders and pre-book finan	icial professionals early in the year.	10% of amount due plus 2% for ever month late to a maximum of 20 months if you return has been filed late in any of the preceding three tax years					

- \* You are a threshold 2 accelerated remitter if you had an average monthly withholding amount (AMWA) of \$100,000 or more two calendar years ago.
- \* Requirement to register for PST is once annual taxable sales exceed \$10,000 per year.
- \* Requirement to register for GST is once income exceeds \$30,000 per year.





## SIMPLE FILING SYSTEM

**FOR SMALL BUSINESS** 

## TOP REASONS TO STAY ORGANIZED

## NO LOST DEDUCTIONS

It is likely important receipts will go missing or get destroyed if not filed promptly.

## **REDUCE BOOKKEEPING FEES**

When you hand a bookkeeper a box of receipts, consider the additional cost of getting organized last minute. Is it worth the hourly rate for someone else to do it?

## **ELIMINATE LAST-MINUTE PANIC**

Filing late, means paying more than you need to in penalties, and a rushed job, no matter how carefully done is more likely to incur errors.

## STAY ON TOP OF YOUR FINANCES

Up-to-date and organized books are the key to making solid business decisions. Keeping your source documents organized and accessible makes monthly reconciliation easier, and also allows you to monitor Accounts Payable and Recievable more closely.

## YOU'LL BE AUDIT-READY

Organized source documents save time and headache in a an Audit. Supporting documents are essential for auditors to make a ruling in your favour.

REMEMBER: STATEMENTS ARE NOT RECEIPTS!

## TIPS TO STAY ORGANIZED

Bookkeeping for small business includes keeping invoices, receipts, statements and financial documents filed and organized. Take the time to get started right, and schedule time for filing on a regular basis. This can be as little as once a week to start and will require more time as your business grows.

## **KEEP A SMALL RECEIPT HOLDER IN YOUR VEHICLE**

Keep this for loose receipts/invoices when you're out and about. Remove the accumulated receipts/invoices each week or month and file them in your main filing system.

## **USE A BANKER BOX WITH HANGING FOLDERS**

Label a folder for each month (Jan-Dec) and file receipts/invoices by date. It is a good idea to have a section for each of the following as well:

- Bank statements Separated by account
- Credit card statements Separated by account
- Payroll Separated by Employee
- Government Documents Tax, Payroll, Sales, and Income Tax

## KEEP LOAN DOCUMENTS, AND ASSET PURCHASE DOCUMENTS SEPARATE

Move asset folders into the current year at year end. These documents should be available at tax time.

## CREATE AN EMAIL ADDRESS OR EMAIL FOLDER FOR EMAILED RECEIPTS/INVOICES

Many retailers provide the option of an emailed receipt. A dedicated email address for receipts is preferable if purchases are made by multiple parties within your organization.



## GET ORGANIZED. STAY ORGANIZED.

Our ProAdvisors suggest a simple filing system for your small business financial documents. Save time and bookkeeping fees by staying organized all year.

RECEIPTS
JAN-DEC

Printable File Labels.

BANK, LOAN STATEMENTS BY ACCOUNT

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS PST, GST, PAYROLL, INCOME

LOAN, LEGAL AGREEMENTS KEEP FOLDER WITH CURRENT YEAR CREDIT CARD STATEMENTS BY ACCOUNT

> PAYROLL BY EMPLOYEE

ASSET
PURCHASES
KEEP FOLDER WITH
CURRENT YEAR





## CLAIMING VEHICLE EXPENSES

## CLAIMING VEHICLE EXPENSES

## **DOCUMENTATION IS A REQUIREMENT.**

The best evidence to support the use of a vehicle is an accurate logbook. This must be maintained for the entire year, showing for each business trip, the destination, the reason for the trip and the distance covered

TIP: If you have multiple businesses, consider using more than one log book.

## **KEEP ALL RELATED RECEIPTS**

You can deduct motor vehicle expenses only when they are reasonable and you have receipts to support them. To get the full benefit of your claim, keep a record of the total kilometres you drive and the kilometres you drive to earn business income.

## **WHAT TO TRACK**

- DATE
- DESTINATION
- PURPOSE
- KILOMETERS

## **YEARLY**

Record the odometer reading of each vehicle at the start and end of the fiscal period.

## **SIMPLIFIED LOGBOOK**

## **REPORTING OPTIONS**

If your vehicle use is similar year to year, you have the option of providing CRA with a Simplified Logbook. This requires logging one full year first.

After one complete year of keeping a logbook to establish the base year, you can use a three-month sample logbook to foresee business use for the entire year, as long as the usage is within the same range (within 10%) of the results of the base year. Businesses will have to show that the use of the vehicle in the base year remains representative of its normal use.

The business use of the vehicle in the following year will be calculated by multiplying the business use as determined in the base year by the ratio of the sample period and base year period. The formula for this calculation is as follows:

## SIMPLIFIED LOGBOOK CALCULATIONS

(Sample year period % ÷ Base year period %) × Base year annual % = Calculated annual business use

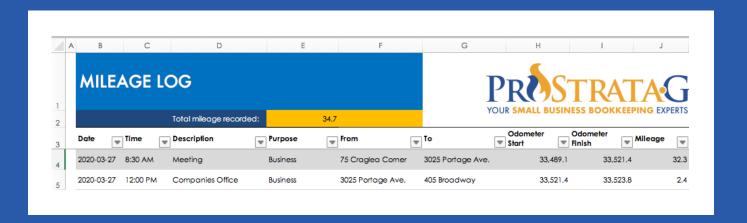
## WHEN VEHICLE USE CHANGES

Where the calculated annual business use in a later year goes up or down by more than 10%, the base year is not an appropriate indicator of annual usage in that later year. In this case, the sample period logbook would only be reliable for the three-month period it had been maintained. For the remainder of the year, the business use of the vehicle would need to be determined based on an actual record of travel or alternative records, as discussed above. In these circumstances, the taxpayer should consider establishing a new base year by maintaining a logbook for a new 12-month period.



## CLAIMING VEHICLE EXPENSES

Vehicle expenses are difficult to prove in an income tax audit without proper documentation. A mileage log is a requirement to claim this expense. You can track the details in a excel sheet, on a paper ledger, or you can download a user friendly mileage tracker app such as MileIQ to your iOS or Android phone.



## WHAT TO TRACK

- DATE
- DESTINATION
- PURPOSE
- KILOMETERS

## **RESOURCES**

- EXCEL TEMPLATE
- PRINTABLE PAPER LEDGER
- MILEIQ.COM

## PROADVISOR TIPS

- KEEP ALL RELATED RECEIPTS
- RECORD VEHICLE MILEAGE EACH FISCAL YEAR (START AND END)
- DOCUMENT MILEAGE WHEN SWITCHING VEHICLES
- IF YOUR VEHICLE EXPENSES ARE PREDICTABLE, YEAR TO YEAR, CONSIDER CLAIMING EXPENSES USING THE SIMPLIFIED LOGBOOK

Printable Mileage Log.





## GIFTS AND AWARDS

**CRA TAX GUIDELINES** 

## GIFT GIVING AND RECEIVING

CRA guidelines for business-related gift giving and receiving can be confusing. It is the reponsibility of all small business owners to fully understand the tax implications and to keep proper records of such expenses.

## **ACCEPTING GIFTS FROM CLIENTS**

Gifts from clients cannot be given in exchange for work completed. If a gift can be construed as payment for goods or services, you are responsible for declaring the gift as income on your taxes.

## **GIVING GIFTS TO CLIENTS**

Dependent on the intent of the gift, 50-100% of the expense may be deductible.

- A gift that is intended as promotional or advertising can be 100% expensed
- Gift certificates or payment for meals or entertainment can be expensed at 50%

## EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

CRA has categorized employee benefits .Each category has it's own guidelines. (see chart 13)

## **GIFTS - FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION:**

- religious holiday
- a birthday
- a wedding
- the birth of a child

## AWARDS - FOR AN EMPLOYMENT-RELATED ACCOMPLISHMENT:

- outstanding service
- employees' suggestion recognition
- meeting or exceeding safety standards

## **REWARDS - FOR PERFORMANCE-RELATED REASONS:**

- · performing well in the job they were hired to do
- exceeding production standards
- completing a project ahead of schedule/under budget
- putting in extra time to finish a project
- covering for a sick manager/colleague

## **LONG-SERVICE AWARDS - IN RECOGNITION OF ANNIVERSARY DATE**

• Employees may recieve non-cash gifts up to \$500 value every 5 years



## **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

## "OTHER" EMPLOYEE BENEFIT CATEGORIES

Any gift or recognition given to an employee that falls outside the common gift and award policies such as:

**SOCIAL EVENTS** - A free party or other social event for all your employees

**HOSPITALITY** - Any business function open to vendors, clients and employees

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE PRIZE DRAWS AND GIFTS** 

**LOYALTY AND OTHER POINTS PROGRAMS**- Credit Card Awards and Points

## **BOOKKEEPING TIPS FOR EMPLOYEE GIFTS/BENEFITS**

- Include any GST/HST that applies in the value of the benefit.
- Payroll deductions If the benefit is taxable, it is also pensionable. Deduct CPP contributions and income tax. If the taxable benefit is paid in cash, it is insurable. Deduct El premiums. If it is a non-cash benefit, it is not insurable. Do not deduct El premiums.
- · Always keep receipts make notes
- Credit Card and Bank Statements are NOT receipts!
- Enter expense under "Employee Gifts" category
- Note recipient and occasion
- •"Real" Gifts are always better than Gift Certificates

	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS							
	GIFT	AWARD	REWARD	LONG-SERVICE AWARD				
BENEFIT CATEGORY	A gift has to be for a special occasion:  Religious holiday Birthday Wedding Birth of a child	An award has to be for an employment-related accomplishment:  Outstanding service  Employees' suggestions  Meeting or exceeding safety standards. A valid, non-taxable award has:  Clearly defined criteria  Nomination and evaluation process  Limited number of recipients	Anything given to your employees for performance-related reasons:  Performing well in the job they were hired to do  Exceeding production standards  Completing a project ahead of schedule or under budget  Putting in extra time to finish a project  Covering for a sick manager/colleague	If it has not been at least five years since the employee's last long-service or anniversary award, then the award is a taxable benefit.  For example: if the 15 year award was given at 17 years of service, and then the next award is given at 20 years of service, the 20 year award will be a taxable benefit, since five years will not have passed since the previous award.				
	NON-CASH GIFT OR AWARD (NON-TAXABLE TO \$500)		NON-CASH REWARD (TAXABLE)	NON-CASH LONG-SERVICE AWARD (NON-TAXABLE TO \$500)				
NON-CASH	• Tickets to an event on a specific date and time • Vouchers *A gift card or gift certificate to a movie theatre i Amounts over \$500 are taxable. IE: \$650 non-cas		Event Tickets     Vouchers     Purchased goods     A gift card or gift certificate to a movie theatre is not considered an event ticket.	Event Tickets     Vouchers     Purchased goods     A gift card or gift certificate to a movie theatre is not considered an event ticket.     Amounts over \$500 are taxable. IE: \$650 non-cash gifts equals \$150 taxable benefit				
ASH	CASH/NEAR CASH (TAXA		CASH/NEAR CASH REWARD (TAXABLE)	CASH/NEAR-CASH LONG-SERVICE AWARD (TAXABLE)				
• Cash • Gift Certificates • Anything that can easily be redeemed for cash • Non-cash gifts beyond the \$500 deductible		Cash     Gift Certificates     Anything that can easily be redeemed for cash	Cash     Gift Certificates     Anything that can easily be redeemed for cash     Non-cash gifts beyond the \$500 deductible					
NOTES	GIFTS AND AWARDS ARE NON-TAXABLE UP     The gifts and awards policy does not apply to g non-arm's length employees, such as your relati     The gifts and awards deductible is over and about terms of small or trivial value are non-taxable sulogos, mugs, plaques or trophies.	ifts or awards given to ves, shareholders, or people related to them. ove the \$500 alloted for long-service awards.	Rewards are considered additional income for employees who go above and beyond in their described roll. Rewards (cash or non-cash) are the result of an employee doing their duty, therefore, are deemed taxable income.	LONG-SERVICE AWARDS ARE NON-TAXABLE UP TO \$500 The Long-service award deductible is over and above the \$500 alloted for gifts and awards				



### "OTHER" EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SOCIAL EVENTS HOSPITALITY **SOCIAL COMMITTEE** LOYALTY AND OTHER PRIZE DRAWS AND GIFTS **FUNCTIONS** POINTS PROGRAMS A party or other social event for: There are seperate guidelines for social Considered "near-cash" in most cases, loyalty A free party or other social event for: points are a taxable benefit. The responsibility of Employees committees run by the employer than Employees Employers Employers committees run by the employees. reporting is dependent on who owns the points Vendors account Clients Potential Clients NON-TAXABLE NON-TAXABLE NON-TAXABLE COMPANY ACCOUNT \$150 per person or less Event is Work Related (sometimes mandatory) A prize that is won from an EMPLOYEE RUN EMPLOYER REPORTS INCOME: · Additional costs such as transportation home, • Planning or educations sessions social committee or group is non-taxable. If an employee uses company credit or points taxi fare, and overnight accommodation are Networking sessions The prize is considered a "windfall". card when making purchases, the Employer is not included in the \$150 per person amount. Primary Beneficiary is the employer responsible for reporting the benefit, recording the fair market value of the items or services purchased with said points, as taxable income. TAXABLE TAXABLE TAXABLE EMPLOYEE ACCOUNT Greater than \$150 per person Celebration for A prize that is won from an EMPLOYER RUN EMPLOYEE REPORTS INCOME: · the entire amount, including the additional • the completion of a project or task social committee or group is taxable. This is If an Employee uses own credit cards/points costs (taxi, accommodation), is a taxable · a job well done considered a benefit of employment. account and is reimbursed for company benefit. Considered a "perk" of employment purchases, point dedemption is taxable under any of these conditions: • the points are converted to cash the plan or arrangement between you and the employee seems to be a form of additional remuneration (job perk) • the plan or arrangement is a form of tax avoidance NOTES NOTES NOTES NOTES WHEN TO INCLUDE GST-A prize draw based on job performance is New Tax Laws have just been implemented. NO - All cash benefit also an employee benefit and is therefor The changes are geared toward capturing the YES - All or part is non-cash - not an exempt or zero-rated supply taxable income. tax revenue from the point system, non-cash A prize that is won by a JOINT Employer/ economy. Expect to see more scrutiny regarding loyalty points and allocation in the near future. Employee run committee must be split by a percentage that reflects the division. Auditors will be seeking these errors and omissions upon review of your books. Be sure you understand your obligations. YOUR SMALL BUSINESS BOOKKEEPING EXPERTS

## KNOW YOUR TAXPAYER'S RIGHTS

## YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

- Receive entitlements and to pay no more and no less than what is required by law
- 2. Service in both official languages
- 3. Privacy and confidentiality
- 4. A formal review and a subsequent appeal
- 5. Be treated professionally, courteously, and fairly
- 6. Complete, accurate, clear, and timely information
- 7. Not to pay income tax amounts in dispute before you have had an impartial review (unless otherwise provided by law)
- 8. Have the law applied consistently
- 9. Lodge a service complaint and to be provided with an explanation of CRA findings

- 10. Have the costs of compliance taken into account when administering tax legislation
- 11. Expect CRA to be accountable
- 12. Relief from penalties and interest under tax legislation because of extraordinary circumstances
- 13. Expect CRA to publish their service standards and report annually
- 14. Expect CRA to warn you about questionable tax schemes in a timely manner
- 15. Be represented by a person of your choice
- 16. Lodge a service complaint and request a formal review without fear of reprisal

LODGE A CRA SERVICE COMPLAINT





## QUICK REFERENCE

## **PROSTRATA-G**

**FACEBOOK** 

**LINKED IN** 

**PROSTRATA-G BLOG** 

**REFERRALS** 

**HOME OFFICE CALCULATOR** 

## **PRINTABLES**

**SIMPLE FILING SYSTEM** 

**REMITTANCE DATES CHART** 

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CHART** 

**MILEAGE LOG PDF** 

## **APPLICATIONS**

**MILEIQ.COM** 

**QBO.COM** 

## **CANADA REVENUE AGENCY**

**MY ACCOUNT** 

**MY BUSINESS ACCOUNT** 

**TAX PAYERS RIGHTS** 

OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMEN

**PAYROLL** 

**INCOME TAX** 

**GST** 

**PST** 

## **BOOKKEEPING SUPPLIES**

**HANGING FILE FOLDERS** 

**BANKERS BOX** 

**FILE LABELS** 

**PRINTABLE FILE LABELS** 

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