

THE STANTON REPORT

Winter 2026

*Views and opinions for
the friends and clients
of Investment Advisor
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A Word from Richard & Tracy

Happy New Year to all my friends and clients! I hope you enjoyed the holidays with your loved ones and found a little time to rest and enjoy the season.

With the holidays behind us, the girls are back into their routines at work and school. Olivia turned 25 at the end of October and now lives in Halifax. We share the same birthday — October 26 — so I flew out to visit her and celebrate together. She completed her BSc in Chemistry last year and is now pursuing her master's in Vision Science. She's focusing fully on her studies now and isn't working.

Jenelle is in her third year at Okanagan College in the business program and continues to work in marketing for All West Glass. She's enjoying the balance of school and hands on experience and is thriving in both.

As for me, I had the chance to take a tour through South Korea and Japan this fall — an incredible experience and a definite highlight of the year.

As always, we are available to assist and discuss all your investment goals and objectives for the coming year. Give us a call or email if you want to setup an appointment either in person or via telephone.

Warm Regards,
Richard & Tracy

Here is what has happened year-to-date;

- S&P/TSX Composite Index 31.68%
- Dow Jones Industrial Average 14.92%
- Crude Oil -18.4%
- Gold 64.30%
- Silver 148%



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2025 Tax Preparation Reminders

With the 2025 personal income tax return filing deadline fast approaching, this is a great time to see if you're taking advantage of all of the tax benefits you may be entitled to. The following information outlines items you may want to consider when preparing your 2025 personal income tax return.

Please note that any reference to a spouse in this article also includes a common-law partner.

Filing deadlines

- Generally, the deadline for filing your 2025 personal income tax return with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) is April 30, 2026. If you or your spouse were self-employed, you will have until June 15, 2026, to file your tax return. Regardless of your filing deadline, your taxes owing for 2025 should be paid on or before April 30, 2026.
- For 2025 and subsequent taxation years, the 2025 budget proposed to grant the CRA the discretionary authority to file a tax return on behalf of individuals (other than a trust) with low-income in circumstances to ensure they receive certain income-tested benefits.
- To avoid a late-filing penalty, file your tax return on time, even if you're unable to pay the taxes you owe. The late-filing penalty is a minimum of 5% of the balance owing on your return, plus a further penalty of 1% of the unpaid tax, multiplied by the number of full months the return is not filed (to a maximum of 12 months). The late-filing penalty may be more if you have late-filed in the past.
- If you don't pay your balance owing by April 30, 2026, the CRA will charge compound daily interest on any unpaid amounts at a prescribed interest rate. The CRA will also charge interest on the penalties starting the day after your return is due. If you're self-employed, the CRA will also charge compound daily interest on unpaid Canada Pension Plan (CPP) contributions and Employment Insurance (EI) premiums, if applicable, until you pay all of the amounts owing.

Capital gains and losses

- If, after netting your capital gains and losses realized in the year, you have excess capital losses, it's possible to carry back the remaining capital losses to offset any capital gains you've reported in any of the three previous tax years. Alternatively, you can carry forward

the losses to offset future capital gains.

- If you had any securities in a non-registered account that ceased to have value during the year, you should consult a qualified tax advisor to determine whether they're considered "worthless" for tax purposes. If so, you may be eligible to claim a capital loss.
- If you donated a publicly traded security with an accrued capital gain in-kind to a registered charity, you will receive a donation tax receipt for the fair market value of the security, and the capital gain may not be taxable to you. Speak with a qualified tax advisor to determine if the capital gain is taxable.
- If you sold securities in the year, verify that the adjusted cost base (ACB) you report on your return is accurate to ensure you're paying the appropriate amount of tax. Ensure you have properly factored in any corporate reorganizations and return of capital when calculating the ACB of your investments where applicable.
- If you sold your principal residence, you must report the sale on your tax return. If you plan to claim the principal residence exemption, be sure to properly designate the property as your principal residence for any qualifying years on your tax return.

Pension income splitting

- Consider splitting up to 50% of your eligible pension income with your spouse to lower your overall family tax bill. The pension income splitting rules allow you to allocate certain types of pension income to your lower income spouse so the income is taxed in their hands at their lower marginal tax rate. By splitting your pension income, you may also avoid the old age security (OAS) recovery tax (commonly known as OAS clawback) or the reduction of other income-tested government benefits.
- If one spouse passes away during the year, it's still possible to split eligible pension income. If the spouse

who will receive the allocated pension income passes away, the maximum amount of eligible pension income that can be split is prorated based on the spouse's month of passing. For example, if Jane received eligible pension income for the current year of \$60,000 and her spouse, Jack, passed away in April of this year, the maximum amount of pension income that Jane can split and include on Jack's terminal return would be \$10,000 ($\$60,000 \times 50\% \times 4/12$). Jane and the legal representative of Jack must complete and sign the pension income splitting election form.

If you donated a publicly traded security with an accrued capital gain in-kind to a registered charity, you will receive a donation tax receipt for the fair market value of the security, and the capital gain may not be taxable to you.

- If you or your spouse received eligible pension income, you may be eligible for a federal pension income tax credit of up to \$2,000. If your spouse doesn't need to claim all of the credit in order to reduce their federal taxes to zero, they may transfer any unused amount to you.

Tax credits and deductions

- A federal donation tax credit of 14.5% is available on the first \$200 of charitable donations for 2025. For amounts in excess of this level, the credit increases to 29% or 33%. To the extent that you have taxable income that's subject to tax at 33%, you can receive a federal donation tax credit at a rate of 33%. Otherwise, you will be entitled to the 29% credit. You may be able to maximize tax savings by combining charitable donations made by you and your spouse and claiming them on the higher-income spouse's tax return. You are also entitled to a provincial/territorial donation tax credit which varies by province/territory.
- Generally, to claim a medical expense tax credit, your eligible medical expenses have to be more than 3% of your net income or \$2,834, whichever is less. Any amount above this threshold is eligible for the nonrefundable credit. As such, consider claiming your family's medical expenses together on the lower income spouse's tax return, assuming that the lower-income spouse is required to pay at least some taxes. This may allow you to maximize the medical expense tax credit.
- If you, your spouse or your dependants are suffering from a prolonged and severe mental or physical impairment, you may be eligible to claim the disability tax credit (DTC). To determine eligibility, you'll need

to complete the CRA Form T2201, Disability Tax Credit Certificate, with a medical practitioner and submit it to the CRA for approval.

- If you have a child or grandchild who's attending a qualifying educational institution, they may be eligible for tuition credits. If your child or grandchild has little or no income and is therefore unable to use some or all of these credits, they can transfer up to \$5,000 of credits to you. You must use the transferred credits in the year the expenses are incurred. If the amounts are not transferred, your child or grandchild can carry forward unused credits to future years.
- You may be able to deduct a portion of the child care expenses you incurred to earn employment or business income, pursue education or perform eligible research. For example, payments made to caregivers, day nursery schools, daycare centres and education institutions (for the part of the fees that relate to child care services) qualify for the deduction. The maximum deduction is \$8,000 for each child under the age of seven, \$5,000 for each child between the ages of seven and 16 (where the child turned 16 in the year) and \$11,000 for children who are eligible for the OTC. Generally, the lower-income spouse should claim this deduction.
- If you work from home, consider the rules regarding the deductibility of home office expenses on your personal income tax return. Speak with your qualified tax advisor to determine if you can make a claim. There are additional credits and deductions that may potentially reduce your tax bill. Speak to your qualified tax advisor to ensure you're claiming all of the credits and deductions you're entitled to.

Corporate reorganizations

- If you received a taxable foreign dividend in the year as a result of an eligible foreign spin-off, speak with a qualified tax advisor to see if filing a section 86.1 election with your tax return to treat the dividend as non-taxable makes sense in your circumstances. By making this election, you may allocate the cost of your original shares between your original shares and the spin-off shares and eliminate the taxable foreign dividend.
- If a security you hold undergoes a reorganization, consult with a qualified tax advisor to determine whether the reorganization is properly reported on your tax return. A reorganization may or may not be a taxable event.

Other notes and considerations

• Issuers such as income trusts, mutual funds and limited partnerships tend to issue tax slips later than most other investments. You may want to wait and file your tax return closer to your tax filing deadline so that you have all the information you need to file a complete return.

If you work from home, consider the rules regarding the deductibility of home office expenses on your personal income tax return

- Even if you didn't receive a tax slip or a tax slip wasn't issued to you because you earned less than \$50 of investment income during the year, you must still report all your investment income earned during the year on your tax return.
- If you received a tax refund from the CRA for the prior year, check your 2024 Notice of Assessment to determine if you received any interest on your refund. If you have, you'll need to report this interest as income on your current-year tax return.
- If you receive a tax slip' after filing your tax return, be sure to report the missed income as soon as you can by amending your tax return. Failure to report income may result in penalties.

- After filing your income tax return, keep the supporting documents in a safe place. Generally, you should keep these documents for at least six years after the end of the tax year to which the documents relate. If the CRA selects your return for review, you will need these records to support your claims.
- The CRA has a service available called "My Account" for individual taxpayers. This on line service allows you to view previous returns, certain tax slips, RRSP room, TFSA room and more. If you haven't already done so, speak with a qualified tax advisor about signing up, as it will allow you to view your tax information immediately and may help you when filing your 2025 tax return.

Conclusion

While there are numerous tax planning strategies you may implement during the year, this article highlights some of the key points you should be aware of when preparing your tax return. Also, be sure to speak with a qualified tax advisor for help in preparing your income tax return.

Report Card

Positive Themes ✓	Negative Themes ✕	Interesting !
• U.S. gov't shutdown resolved • Slight reduction in U.S. tariffs • Possible U.S. stimulus cheques? • Another Fed rate cut likely ahead • Upgrading 2026 growth outlook due to substantial tailwinds	• Jittery markets express anxiety • Worries about AI bubble continue • U.S. economy decelerates mildly • Dangerous world: military spending rising	• New Japan Prime Minister • UK and France downgrade austerity plans • Internet outage highlights cyber vulnerability • Canadian budget less revolutionary than expected • Gold prices are high

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