



Sunil and Nita LLP
Tax and Business Advisors Chartered Professional Accountants



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2018 Tax filing tips for Personal Tax return

File on time

Personal tax return should be filed on or before April 30. Self-employed and their spouse/partners should file tax return by June 15. However, any tax owing must be paid by April 30 deadline. We recommend to file on time because:

1. If you are expecting a refund, it is beneficial for you to get the refund as soon as possible because CRA pays interest only after 30 days of the April 30 due date. Self-employed should try to file return before June 15 deadline to have opportunity to invest refund.
2. If CRA denies certain deductions, you may be subject to penalties/interest. Timely filing will reduce interest cost.

Capital Losses

Capital losses in 2018 can be applied against capital gains. Also, 2018 capital losses can be carried back up to three years and applied to gains. In other way, if

in last three years (i.e. 2015, 2016 & 2017) you have paid capital gain taxes, you can get a portion or entire tax back by applying 2018 losses.

Review prior year return

We always review previous year return free of charge. By reviewing previous year return, you may find unused RRSP, unused tuition, education, capital losses, investment tax credit, unused donation etc. These unused credits will increase your 2018 refund or reduce tax liability.

Charitable donations

You can claim donations tax receipts within the five preceding years. So take a hard look to find any missed charitable donation tax receipts. Remember, you will not pay capital gains tax on shares/bonds/mutual funds donations to a registered charity.

Medical Expenses

One spouse or common-law partners may claim medical expenses on behalf of the entire family. Due to income threshold, it is more beneficial to claim all medical expenses in the lower income spouse's tax return. In addition, you may be able to claim the medical expenses of dependent relatives.

Child care expenses

Child care expenses must be claimed by lower income spouse. However, a higher income spouse can claim child care expenses if he or she attending educational program or needed child care to go to work.

Home buyers

You may qualify for \$750 of federal tax credit for home purchase in 2018 if neither you or your spouse owned a residence from January 1, 2014 to the date new home was purchased.

Interest expense

If you borrowed money to buy investments, the interest expense incurred on borrowing is deductible.

Moving expense

If you incurred moving expense in 2018 to go to university or college on a full time basis, or start a new job, you may eligible to claim expense related to move.

[2018 tax check list](#)