

We're here to help!

Volume 1, Issue 2

As promised, our goal with publishing newsletters is to provide you with news you can use. We hope that you find this edition useful and information! Happy filing!

YES! ...It's that time of year again!

Organize Your Financial Papers To Make Tax Time Less Stressful

If you dread tax time and usually spend your spring stressing over getting taxes done on time, these tips are for you! The best time to prepare for tax time is the year before, but if you didn't do it last year, start now! With these simple tips, you'll get your taxes done EARLY and be ready to enjoy spring! And once you have your system in place, it will be even easier next year!

Set an Early Deadline To Submit Paperwork! - The first step to becoming the master of your own financial well-being and reducing tax stress is to FORGET ABOUT April 15! Make YOUR Tax deadline the beginning to mid-March and start getting your paperwork organized NOW.

Are there specific tax deductions for home-based businesses?

Yes. If you operate a home-based business, you may qualify for the business-use-of-home tax deduction, which is calculated by determining how much of your home you actually use for your home-based business. ([Click here for more information](#)) for an explanation of how to calculate this tax deduction.

You can also deduct a portion of all your house expenses that directly relate to operating your home-based business as a tax deduction, such as your utilities, telephone, ISP fees and cleaning materials. If you own your home, you can claim a portion of your house insurance, property taxes, and mortgage interest (although you can't claim the mortgage payments themselves.) If you are running your home-based business out of a residence that you rent, you can claim a portion of the rent you pay.

The "portion" of house expenses that you can claim as a business expense is also determined by how much of your home you actually use for your home-based business. The "portion" of house expenses that you can claim as a business expense is also determined by how much of your home you actually use for your home-based business.

TIP: If you run a home business and meet the CRA's definition of business-use-of-home, you'll want to be sure you claim the home business tax deduction on your income tax.

SHREDDING: Be sure to shred any documents that contain information that could be used to steal your identity such as: social security numbers, credit card numbers, bank account numbers, etc. You do not have to shred paper solely because it has your address on it. Your address can be found anywhere and everywhere anyway!

March Newsletter

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Is business promotion a legitimate business tax deduction?

Yes, business promotion activities are legitimate tax deductions. You can deduct the cost of flyers and brochures, for example. When you're calculating your business promotion tax deductions, though, **there are two caveats to bear in mind.**

First, when it comes to advertising as a business promotion activity, not all advertising will qualify as a business tax deduction. Only the cost of advertising in Canadian newspapers and on Canadian television, radio stations and web sites can be deducted. **Second**, not all business promotion activities are created equal when it comes to tax deductions. You can only deduct half of the cost of promotion activities that involve meals and entertainment, such as entertaining prospective clients at business lunches.

Remember! You can't deduct an expense from an income you don't have. In other words, you can't use the business-use-of-home expenses to create a business loss, so your deduction can't be more than your net income before you deduct these expenses. If it's more, you can carry the amount of these expenses forward into the next year.

You did WHAT?

The **Bizzy Butler's** arranged a travel Visa for a client's trip to China on less than 24 hours notice!!! They designed customized pillows for client's master bedroom and found accommodations in Whistler for a 6 month sabbatical for 2 writers and their professional friends.

Balance InStyle brought a client to the Boca Raton, Florida for medical appointments, arranged a private dinner and engagement proposal on Valentine's day and is hosting Carol Alt's first appearance to Canada since appearing on Celebrity Apprentice!

What are some of your recent interesting jobs? We would **love** to hear from you so we can share with the rest of our members!

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