

New Estate Administration Tax Replaces Probate Tax in 2013

The Ontario government has introduced new measures to prevent people from trying to lessen the Probate Tax on their estate. These rules, which come into effect as of January 1st, 2013, also penalize the executor.

Under the new rules, the government can re-examine everything that was done up to four years after the estate has been closed and the funds distributed to the beneficiaries. If it is determined there are additional fees to be paid, it is the executor who is liable for the payments, and up to the executor

to try and collect back from the beneficiaries. There is a minimum penalty of \$1,000 or up to twice the amount of the tax payable by the estate.

People frequently name a friend, or family member, as their executor. Consideration should be given to replacing such an individual with a professional. This will remove the burden of personal financial liability. The role should be handled by a professional, someone familiar with the new laws and legislation, and who themselves is protected by Errors and Omissions insurance.

New Enhanced Services

We are in the process of rolling out new enhanced services to our valued clientele. The first phase will be the introduction of online monitoring of your investment accounts. This service is currently being implemented and will be fully operational in the upcoming month. For more information and to begin setting up access to this service, please contact our money product support team member, Sanju Shampur.

Sanju Shampur

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RRSP Deadlines and Deduction Limit 2012

- **March 1st, 2013**, is the deadline for contributing to your RRSP for the 2012 tax year.
- The maximum RRSP contribution limit for 2012 is **\$22,970**. However, if you did not use all of your RRSP contribution limit for the years 1991-2011, you can carry forward the unused amount to 2012.
- **December 31st**, of the year you turn 71 years of age is the last day you can contribute to your own RRSP.

Economic Indicators at a Glance

	Jan 3, 2012	Sep 28, 2012	Oct 31, 2012	MTD	YTD
S&P/TSX Composite Index	12,097.23	12,317.46	12,422.91	+0.86%	+2.69%
Canadian Dollar to US Dollar	1.0213	1.0164	0.9994	-1.67%	-2.14%
Gold (USD)	\$1,564.95	\$1,768.85	\$1,719.80	-2.77%	+9.89%
WTI Crude Oil (USD)	\$100.20	\$92.20	\$86.20	-6.51%	-13.97%
Canada Commodity Price Index*	\$652.01	\$657.22	\$638.78	-2.81%	-2.03%
Canadian Unemployment Rate	7.5%	7.3%	7.4%	+0.1%	-0.1%