2021 Income taxes – What’s New?

The **tax-filing deadline** for most individuals is April 30, 2022. Since April 30, 2022 falls on a Saturday, your return will be considered filed on time in either of the following situations:

* If received on or before May 2, 2022
* If it is postmarked on or before May 2, 2022

You have until June 15, 2022 to file your return if you or your spouse or common-partner are self-employed. **The payment deadline is April 30, 2022**.

**Canada workers benefit** – The Canada workers benefit rates and income thresholds have changed for 2021. A new “secondary earner exemption” has also been introduced.

**Climate action incentive payment** – The Government of Canada has announced its intention to deliver the Climate action incentive (CAI) as a quarterly benefit payment. If eligible, you will automatically receive your payments four times a year, starting in July 2022.

**Home office expenses** – You may be eligible to claim a deduction of up to $500 annually for home office expenses in the 2021 tax year using the temporary flat rate method, if you worked more than 50% of the time from home for a period of at least four consecutive weeks due to COVID19.

**Zero-emission vehicles** – The definition of zero-emission vehicle has changed for vehicles acquired after March 1, 2020. A vehicle may still qualify as a zero-emission vehicle if the vehicle was subject to a prior capital cost allowance or terminal loss claim provided that the vehicle was not acquired by the taxpayer on a tax-deferred “rollover” basis or previously owned or acquired by the taxpayer or a non-arm’s length person or partnership.

**Support for farmers** - For 2021, under proposed legislation, farmers who incur eligible farming expenses of $25,000 or more, which are all or partially attributable to designated provinces, may be able to receive a credit of $1.47 per $1,000 in eligible farming expenses.

**Educator School Supply Tax Credit** – The government proposes to expand and enrich the Eligible Educator School Supply Tax Credit to allow them to claim a 25 per cent refundable tax credit for purchases up to $1,000 on eligible teaching supplies bought during the tax year. Eligible educators, regardless of their income level, who buy teaching supplies may qualify for a refundable tax credit of up to $250 each year.