

TAX TIME TIPS

An essential tip for tax time is to be organised, the more organised you are the more likely you will have retained copies of deductible expenses. Also, particularly for more complicated affairs having paperwork in order and summaries where applicable may reduce processing time by us and assist in keeping costs your down.

It is always advisable to discuss any of the following matters with us before taking any action.

If possible, it may be worthwhile deferring any income or capital gains until after 1st July, therefore tax will not be payable on these amounts until the following end of financial year.

Likewise, any deductible expenses paid prior to 30th June can be used to reduce taxable income this financial year, therefore it may be beneficial to pay any outstanding expenses or even pre-pay some expenses such as interest on investment loans.

In some cases there can be tax advantages to having investments held in the name of a lower income earning spouse as tax may be paid at lower rates.

A popular strategy of investors is to sell loss-making investments to crystallize capital losses to offset any capital gains already made during the year. Where an investor has carried forward losses in their portfolio, it may also be wise to take some capital gains to use up the losses.

The Government's Co-contribution scheme for superannuation is available again this year and can be a helpful way of topping up superannuation balances if you are eligible, maximum co-contribution is currently \$1,000.