

Access RDSP Level 2 Notes Package

The RDSP Calculator – Azariah's Example



- Azariah is the beneficiary for an RDSP and is currently 20 years old. They are DTC eligible starting this year. They earn \$25,000/year and will contribute \$1500 into their RDSP every year until age 36. Using the RDSP Calculator, let's see how much Azariah's RDSP will be worth at age 60.
- Visit www.rdsp.com/calculator/ to calculate what your RDSP could look like

The RDSP Calculator

- Visit www.rdsp.com/calculator/ to calculate what your RDSP could look like

Holder Responsibilities



- Managing the RDSP
- Working with the financial institution
- Choosing or approving investments
- Supervising withdrawals
- Monitoring performance of the portfolio

Holder Responsibilities

- What is a holder?
 - The holder of the RDSP account is somebody who is responsible for the following tasks:
 - Managing the RDSP
 - Working with the financial institution
 - Choosing or approving investments
 - Supervising withdrawals
 - Monitoring performance of the portfolio
- A holder can pass these responsibilities to another named individual or group within the Holder's will
- The RDSP Holder should also ensure that the Beneficiary has set up a will if contractually competent that includes who will receive the RDSP funds if the Beneficiary dies before the RDSP funds have been used
 - This is because it is not possible for an RDSP balance to flow directly to someone else when the beneficiary of the RDSP dies, as is the case with RRSPs and RRIFs

Holder Options When Opening an RDSP

Beneficiary Profile:		Which of the following persons can be the holder of the RDSP when the account is opened?			
		Beneficiary	Legal Parent	Qualifying Family Member (QFM)	Legal Representative
Child:	Under the age of majority		Yes		Yes
Adult:	Who is contractually competent	Yes			
	Whose contractual competency is in doubt		Yes as QFM	Yes	
	Who is not contractually competent				Yes

Options When Opening an RDSP

- Who can be the holder when an RDSP is opened?
- For the beneficiary under the age of majority:
 - Legal Parent
 - Legal Representative
- For an adult beneficiary:
 - Who is contractually competent:
 - Beneficiary
 - Whose contractual competency is in doubt:
 - Legal Parent as Qualifying Family Member

- Qualifying Family Member
 - Who isn't contractually competent:
 - Legal Representative
- For an adult that does not have contractual competency, the federal government will allow parents, spouses and common-law partners of a beneficiary to become plan Holders until December 31, 2023. This timeline has been extended three times and may be extended further.
- Who can be a Qualifying Family Member (QFM):
 - A legal parent of the beneficiary
 - A spouse or common-law partner of the beneficiary who is not living apart and separate from the beneficiary because of a breakdown of their marriage or common-law partnership (must be living together unless apart for reasons outside of the relationship, such as long-distance work)

Transitioning from Child to Adult Beneficiary

There are two options available for holders once a child beneficiary enters the provincial age of majority and becomes an adult beneficiary:

1. If the current RDSP holder is the legal parent...
2. If the current RDSP holder is someone other than the legal parent...



Transitioning from Child to Adult Beneficiary

- If the Beneficiary of the RDSP reaches the age of majority after the RDSP has already been opened, there are two options:
 - **If the RDSP holder is the legal parent**, the beneficiary may be added to the RDSP as a joint holder if they want to. In all other cases, the beneficiary is the only one who can be a holder of the plan once they are legally able to enter into a contract and are contractually competent
 - **If the RDSP holder is someone other than the legal parent**, that person must be removed as holder of the plan, and the beneficiary must be added as the holder. If the beneficiary is not contractually competent, then the legal representative of the beneficiary can be the holder
- If the Beneficiary of the RDSP is already the age of majority upon opening the RDSP, nothing needs to change

Other Changes in Holder Designation

Over the lifetime of an RDSP the holder of an RDSP can change, including but not limited to:

- when one transfers their RDSP from one Financial Institution to another
- when a holder dies



Other Changes in Holder Designation

- Over the lifetime of an RDSP the holder of an RDSP can change, including when one moves their RDSP from one Financial Institution to another; a holder dies; or a legal guardian loses custody of the beneficiary.
- If at any time the plan holder (other than a Qualifying Family Member [QFM]) ceases to be an eligible holder, they must be replaced with someone who is eligible to be a holder.
 - This may mean applying for guardianship
- A new grant/bond application form is needed if grants and bonds are requested by the new holder.

Professional Management Support – Financial Institutions

Types of Financial Institutions:

- Banks
- Credit Unions
- Stock Brokerage Firms
- Wealth Management Firms
- Independent Financial Companies



Professional Management Support – Financial Institutions

- Types of Financial Institutions (FI) includes Banks, Credit Unions, Stock Brokerage Firms, Wealth Management Firms, and Independent Financial Companies.
- There are a wide range of firms and individuals offering many kinds of products and advice, and the level of skills, areas of expertise, and even the fees charged will vary
- Review our Questions to Ask a Financial Institution When Choosing Where to Open an RDSP document in the resource package to help guide your search

Professional Management Support – Financial Professionals

- There are a wide range of firms and individuals offering many kinds of products and advice, and the level of skills, areas of expertise, and even the fees charged will vary
- Choose a financial professional who understands your financial situation and investment objectives and is willing to work with you to meet those goals long-term



Professional Management Support – Financial Professionals.

- Choose a financial professional who understands your financial situation and investment objectives and is willing to work with you to meet those goals long-term.
- Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada (IIROC) outlines 67 financial designations and certificates that people may have. As with financial institutions, it's not the name that matters. A financial certification is not the same as a registration or a license, so we encourage

you not to select a financial advisor based solely on their certifications

Key Considerations

- Fees
- Investment Options
- Accessibility
- Ease of Deposit and Withdrawal
- Account Review Options



Key Considerations:

- Fees for chequing and saving accounts for people with disabilities that could be opened along with the RDSP
- Ensure that you pay any advisory fees on RDSP and any registered account directly, not as a deduction within the account.
- Investment options for the RDSP and other financial products offered by the Financial Institution
- Accessibility of Reporting Options: detailed information, quarterly vs. annual statements, paper vs. electronic RDSP statements, accessibility features (ex. Large print, braille, audio, e-text)
- Ease of depositing and withdrawing funds from the RDSP
- Account review options and how to get information on your RDSP between statements, as well as investment performance
- Accommodating and adaptive services such as:
 - Telephone banking
 - Transit accessible bank branches
 - Wheelchair accessibility
 - Sign Language Services
 - Online access is very convenient

Managing Investments

- Determine your risk tolerance
- You will be limited to the range of products that your Financial Institution sells



Managing Investments

- The first step to managing your RDSP investments is determining your risk tolerance. This is how comfortable you are with watching the market fluctuations impact your savings as well as what types of investments would be best suited for you.
 - Your risk tolerance is based on several factors such as current age, financial picture, and expected RDSP

withdrawal date. Your financial professional will help you determine what your risk tolerance is

- You will be limited to the range of products that your Financial Institution sells, so be sure to ask around before settling on one.

What Do I Buy?



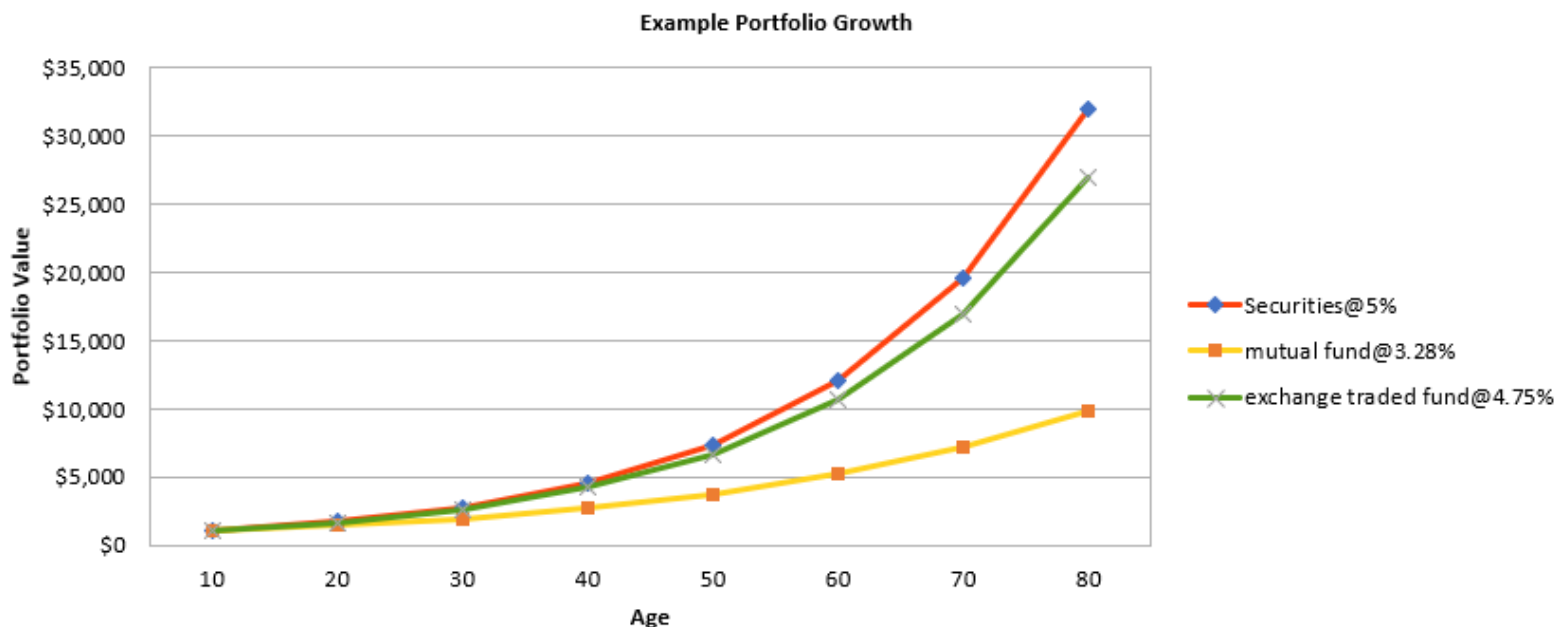
- Certificates of deposit (CD)
- Term Deposits
- Guaranteed Investment Certificates
- Bonds
- Mutual Funds
- Stocks and Exchange-Traded Funds (ETF)

What Do I Buy? (Ordered by increasing risk level)

- Certificates of deposit (CD)
- Term Deposits
- Guaranteed Investment Certificates
- Bonds
- Mutual Funds
- Stocks and Exchange-Traded Funds (ETF)
 - Different options will be available at different financial institutions
 - Consider the following when choosing your investment: time locked in to the investment, Management Expense Ratio (MER), rate of return, guaranteed investment return, and anything else that will help you make your decision
- Please review to our Glossary of Terms for more information on these types of investments, or reach out to our Helpline to discuss: 1-844-311-7526 and info@rdsp.com

Management Expense Ratios

- The following chart shows a comparison of three investment strategies and the effect of high Management Expense Ratios (MERs)
- All three options (securities, mutual funds, and exchange traded funds) have a \$1,000 investment at age 10 and a gross rate of return at 5%
- The MER for the securities will be 0, mutual funds will be 1.72%, and exchange traded funds will be 0.25%.
- Industry standard quoted rate of return are after MER in this example



- Key takeaways from this example:
 - Mutual funds (MF) and exchange traded funds (ETF) both hold securities such as stocks and bonds.
 - Specific products are usually identified by category such as "Canadian equity", "bonds", "balanced".
 - In each category the underlying securities held by a MF or an ETF are generally similar.
 - Some MFs have the term ETF in their name. It only indicates that they invest in ETFs.
 - ETFs can only be purchased in a brokerage account or through an asset management firm.
 - MFs can be purchased through banks, credit unions, brokerage firms, and asset management firms.
 - Both MFs and ETFs have operating costs included in the Management Expense Ratio (MER). These costs reduce the gains to the holder of them.
 - In any specific category of investments, a MF will generally have a higher MER than an ETF.
 - In general mutual funds have portfolio managers that are more involved in the selection of securities than is true for the similar ETF.
 - The published earnings rate of return for both MF and ETF are always quoted net of MER and the MER is seldom mentioned.
 - This graph indicates the growth of \$1000 in a portfolio of securities from age 10 to 80 years.

- An RDSP opened for a child at age 10 to provide a pension at age 60 can continue its purpose to age 83.
- The "securities" red line indicates the growth of the portfolio of securities if held outside the envelope of a MF or an ETF.
- The impact of the MER are illustrated with the green line for the ETF's which generally have a lower MER and the yellow line for the MF which generally have a higher MER.
- Note that by age 60 the ETF has grown to \$10,662 which is about double the MF \$5,186 and the gulf between them grows even more sharply.
- When the RDSP came into effect in 2008 very few financial firms offered the plan and those that did were banks and they offered only term deposits, CD's and mutual funds.
- If investing in mutual funds or ETFs always be aware of the MER expense which you are bearing.
- If holding MFs with a financial institution or an asset manager you will have an investment advisor who can discuss ETFs that are similar to your MFs.
- If holding ETFs directly with a discount broker you must do your own research and comparison or make use of an independent financial professional.

Managing Investments

Ways to Grow Your RDSP

- Advance investment direction
- Make contributions at the beginning of the year or once a month
- Review and rebalance
- Avoiding early withdrawals (ie. Create an alternative emergency savings fund)



Ways to Grow Your RDSP

- Advance investment direction on grants, bonds, and personal contributions. It is advantageous to maximize your grants and bonds every year, as well as depositing more than the government if possible. The timing impacts how much interest will earn.
- Make contributions at the beginning of the year or once a month.
- Review and rebalance at a minimum once a year.
- Avoiding early withdrawals (ie. Create an alternative emergency savings fund).

Real Life Example #1

- This is an example of what your RDSP statement may look like. This portfolio was opened effectively at the beginning of the RDSP, so shows an accurate rate of return since inception.
 - The personal rates of return per time period are as follows:
 - 1 year – 6.22%
 - 3 years – 9.75%
 - 5 years – 3.59%
 - 10 years – 7.65%
 - Since opening account – 7.68%
- Also of note are the various time periods reported which highlight a solid 3-year rate of return.
- This example reflects an aggressive investment stance.

Your RDSP Statement

April 1 to June 30, 2019

► Your personal rates of return

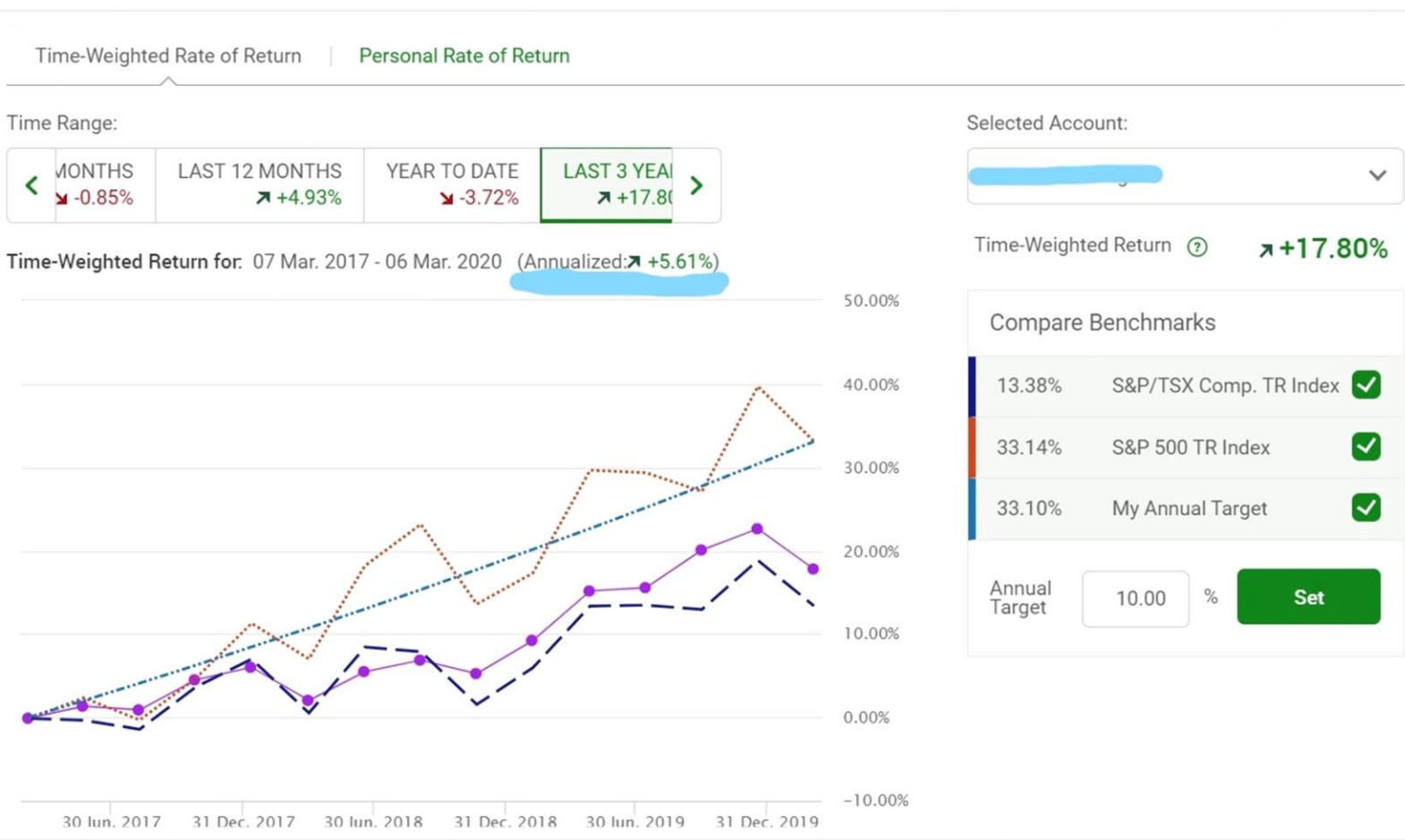
1 year	3 years	5 years	10 years	Since account [*] opening
6.22%	9.75%	3.59%	7.65%	7.68%

^{*} Your account was opened on January 19, 2009.

Please see the **Important information about your account** section at the end of this statement for more details about the Personal Rate of Return calculation.

Real Life Example #2

- Note: the correct annualized rate of return is 5.6%. 17.8% is the growth over the entire 3 years while 5.6% is the average speed of growth.
- This example is up to date and illustrates a sharp market downturn.
- The annualized ROI is highlighted
- The graph gives a helpful visual where you can compare your target rate with your actual rate and even to the market indexes
 - The time-weighted rate of return is as follows:
 - Last 12 months: +4.93%
 - Year to date: -3.72%
 - Last 3 years: +17.8%
 - The Compare Benchmarks are as follows:
 - S&P/TSX Composite TR Index: 13.38%
 - S&P 500 TR Index: 33.14%
 - My Annual Target: 33.10%
- This is a self-directed account and the format for this statement would be the same whether a margin, RRSP, RIF, RESP, or RDSP



Market Ups and Downs & Managing Expectations

- Remember: contact your financial professional and only accept investment advice from those licensed and qualified to offer it!
- Importance of goal setting
- Long-term investment accounts, such as the RDSP, usually have time to ride out the highs and lows of the market
- The S&P/TSX Composite Index is a capitalization-weighted index that tracks the performance of companies listed on Canada's largest stock exchange, the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX). It is the equivalent of the S&P 500 market index in the United States, and as such is closely monitored by Canadian investors.
- Like any other benchmark index, the S&P/TSX has three primary functions: to provide an easily understood snapshot of how a country's public companies are performing, to provide a benchmark against which fund managers can compare their results to assess their success, and to provide a formalized structure that low-cost ETFs and index funds can follow

(<https://www.wealthsimple.com/en-ca/learn/what-is-sptsx-index>)

TSX Composite Index: Annual Returns

Year	Percent	Year	Percent	Year	Percent	Year	Percent
2000	1.7	2006	17.4	2012	4.0	2018	-11.6
2001	-12.2	2007	7.8	2013	9.6	2019	19.1
2002	-12.8	2008	-35.5	2014	7.4	2020	-9.7
						– as of	
						May	
						30	
						2020	
2003	19.3	2009	30.7	2015	-11.1		
2004	13.9	2010	14.4	2016	17.5		
2005	22.9	2011	-11.1	2017	6.0		

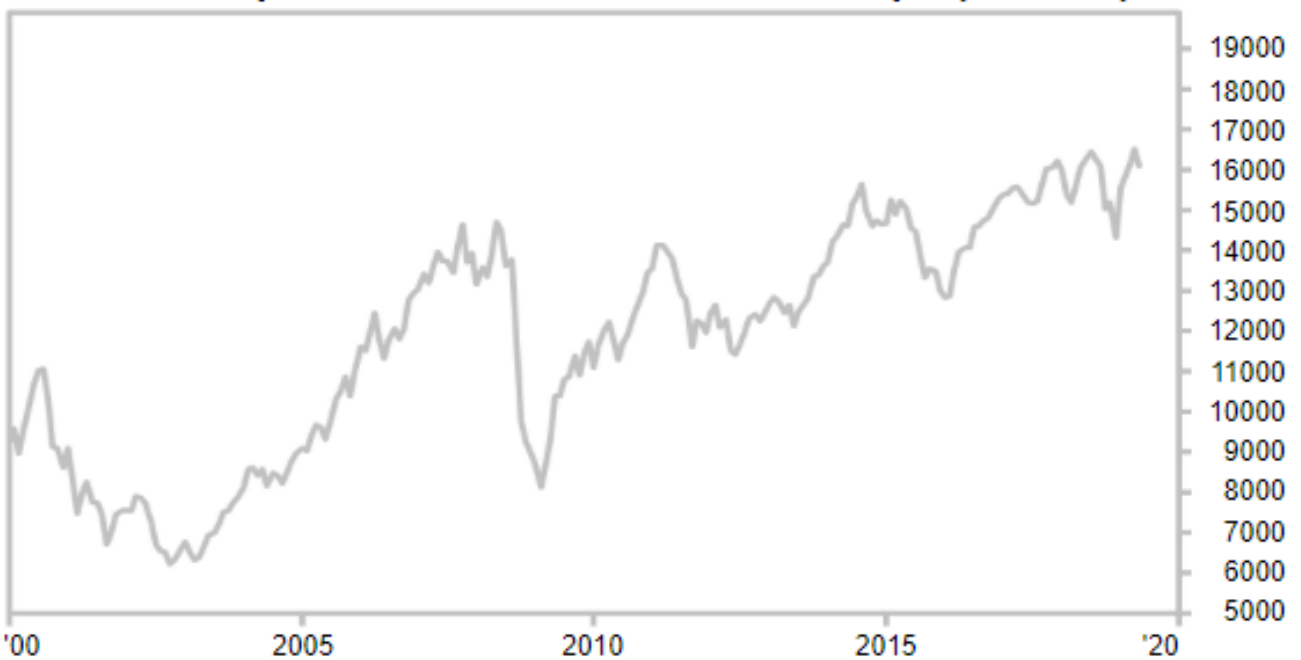
The annual gain or loss in the TSX Composite Index from 2000 to present. Dividends are not included

<https://www.forecast-chart.com/historical-tsx-composite.html>

TSX Annual Returns per year are as follows:

2000: +1.7%	2011: -11.1%
2001: -12.2%	2012: +4.0%
2002: -12.8%	2013: +9.6%
2003: +19.3%	2014: +7.4%
2004: +13.9%	2015: -11.1%
2005: +22.9%	2016: +17.5%
2006: +17.4%	2017: +6.0%
2007: +7.8%	2018: -11.6%
2008: -35.5%	2019: +19.1%
2009: +30.7%	2020 (as of May 30, 2020): -9.7%
2010: +14.4%	

TSX Composite Stock Index - 17 Year Graph (Canada)



The above graph plots the monthly close for the S&P/TSX Composite Stock Index.
Click the links below for the forecast and other links related to this stock index.

Moving my RDSP to Another Financial Institution

- You can move your RDSP to another financial institution (FI) when:
 - the beneficiary remains the same;
 - all funds are transferred;
 - the prior plan is closed; and
 - the prior FI transfers any relevant information to the new FI, excluding information provided to the FI by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)

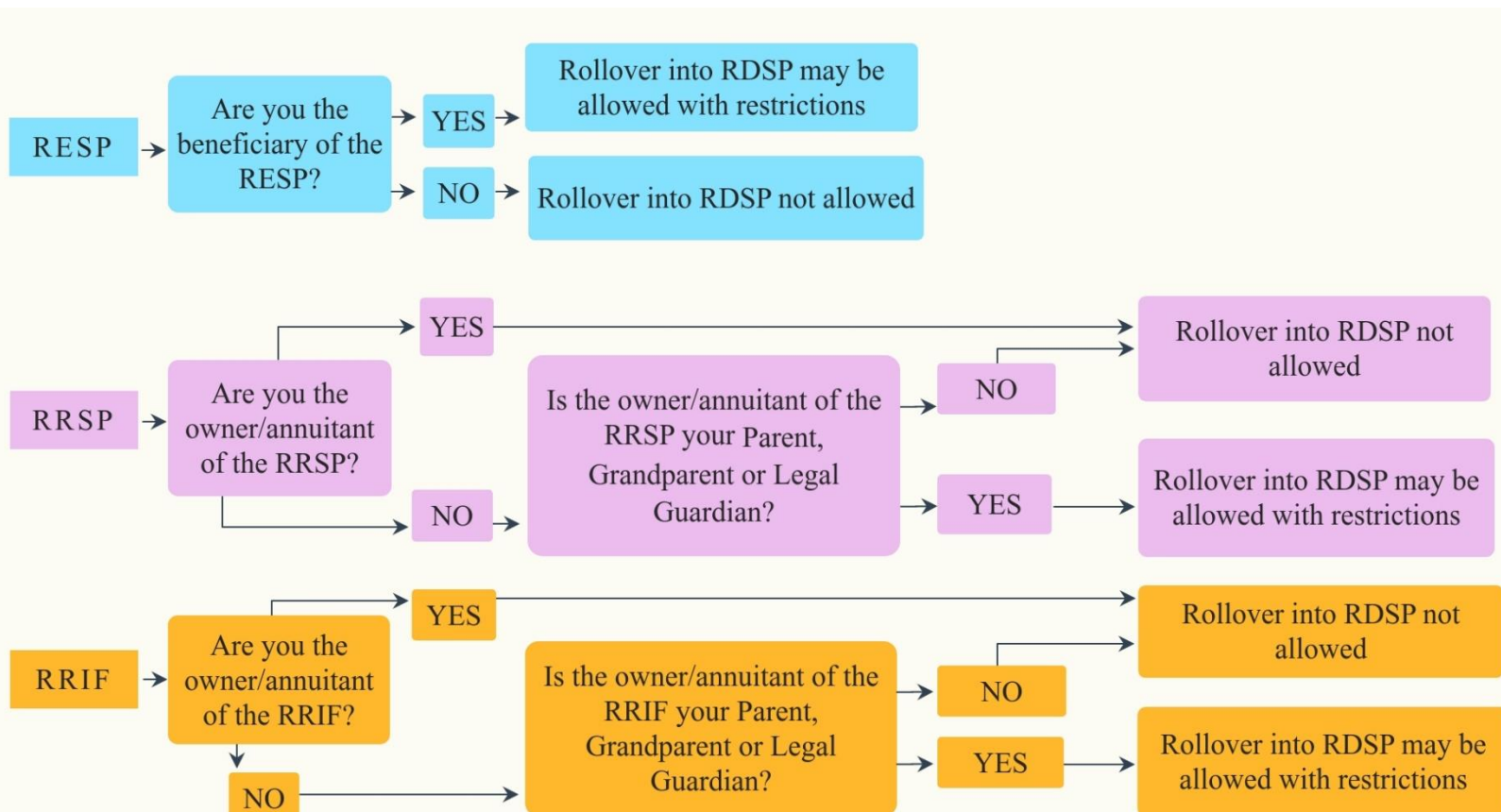
Moving my RDSP to Another Financial Institution

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 - the beneficiary remains the same;
 - all funds are transferred;
 - the prior plan is closed; and
 - the prior FI transfers any relevant information to the new FI, excluding information provided to the FI by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)
- Only one RDSP is allowed per beneficiary. There is usually a fee for transferring from one FI to another. Fee is taken from contributions, not grants/bonds. As with RRSP transfer, it is possible to ask the receiving institution to reimburse the transfer fee, as each institution will have a different fee, they will have a different policy on reimbursement
- STEPS TO MAKE AN RDSP TRANSFER:
 - Go to your new FI and open an RDSP saying that you already have one elsewhere but want to make a transfer
 - Fill out the Transfer Form at the new FI, they should have them available
 - Your new FI will go to the old FI and arrange the transfer
 - It will probably take several months to complete the process
 - You do not have to be involved in the transfer, but if you want to help speed up the process, you can offer to carry the papers back and forth between the old and new FIs
- 5. Grant and Bond
 - 5.1 New Application
 - If Canada Disability Savings Grant (grant) and/or Canada Disability Savings Bond (bond) were paid in the prior plan and the holder wishes the RDSP to continue receiving grant and bond, he/she must

complete a new application form for grant and bond at the new financial institution (FI).

○ 5.2 Ongoing Grant and Bond Requests

- If there are any outstanding grant and bond requests and the prior FI receives the grant and bond after the transfer has been completed, the prior FI will need to contact the new FI.



RDSP Rollovers Simplified

- If you are the beneficiary of your RESP then rollover into an RDSP may be allowed with restrictions
- Rollovers from an RRSP or RRIF into an RDSP may only be allowed if the beneficiary of the RRSP or RRIF is your legal guardian or grandparent, and only upon their death
- There are many other restrictions and guidelines for each type of rollover. We recommend contacting our Helpline at 1-844-311-7526 or info@rdsp.com to receive support with this. The information can also be accessed online through Employment and Social Development Canada's (ESDC's) website and by contacting ESDC by phone

- Think ahead and make plans to clearly establish “financial independence” e.g. a consistent pattern of financial support.
- If individuals have a case where they need help determining eligibility or if a beneficiary is financially dependent, they can have CRA agents review the facts of the case by sending their enquiry in writing to the CRA’s Taxpayer Services Regional Correspondence Center serving their home

TAX FREE RESP ROLLOVER

- Only from the RDSP beneficiaries own RESP
- Only if the beneficiary is, or will be, unable to pursue post-secondary education because he or she has a severe and prolonged mental impairment.
- Only if the beneficiary of the recipient RDSP is under the age of 60
- Only the income and gains can be rolled over [government contribution is returned to government and family contribution is returned to family]
- Counts toward the \$200,000 max nongovernment deposits.
- Will not attract Canada Disability Savings Grants

TAX FREE RRSP OR RRIF ROLLOVER

- Only on death of the owner via will or declared beneficiary
- Only if the beneficiary of the recipient RDSP is under the age of 60
- Only into RDSP of child or grandchild who are financially dependent
- Only to extent of not exceeding \$200,000 lifetime limit on nongovernment deposits



Other Financial Tools/Back-up Plan

- Non-registered savings accounts are the easiest to access and are available at most financial institutions. There may still be fees associated with withdrawal, but they should be much less than with a registered account.
- Tax Free Savings Accounts (TFSAs) are another financial tool of value worth considering. If you are receiving provincial income assistance, please verify with them how they treat TFSAs and whether they will impact your benefits before opening this account.
- You can be the beneficiary of an RDSP and still have an RESP, RRSP, and RRIF. Anyone can open an RESP

account for a child, and you are able to make contributions up until 31 years after you first opened it. You can receive up to \$7,200 in grants and bonds from the Federal Government, and some provinces have additional grants for RESPs. For example, BC has a one-time \$1,200 grant available to children who have an RESP open and are between the age of six and nine.

- We also encourage you to apply for income assistance when you meet the criteria in your province, and to explore other types of benefits you may be eligible to receive.
- Trusts, such as the Qualified Disability Trust and Discretionary Trusts, can also be set up to support the beneficiary's income. To discuss these options further, please feel free to contact our helpline at 1-844-311-7526 or info@rdsp.com

Withdrawals - Two Types of Payments

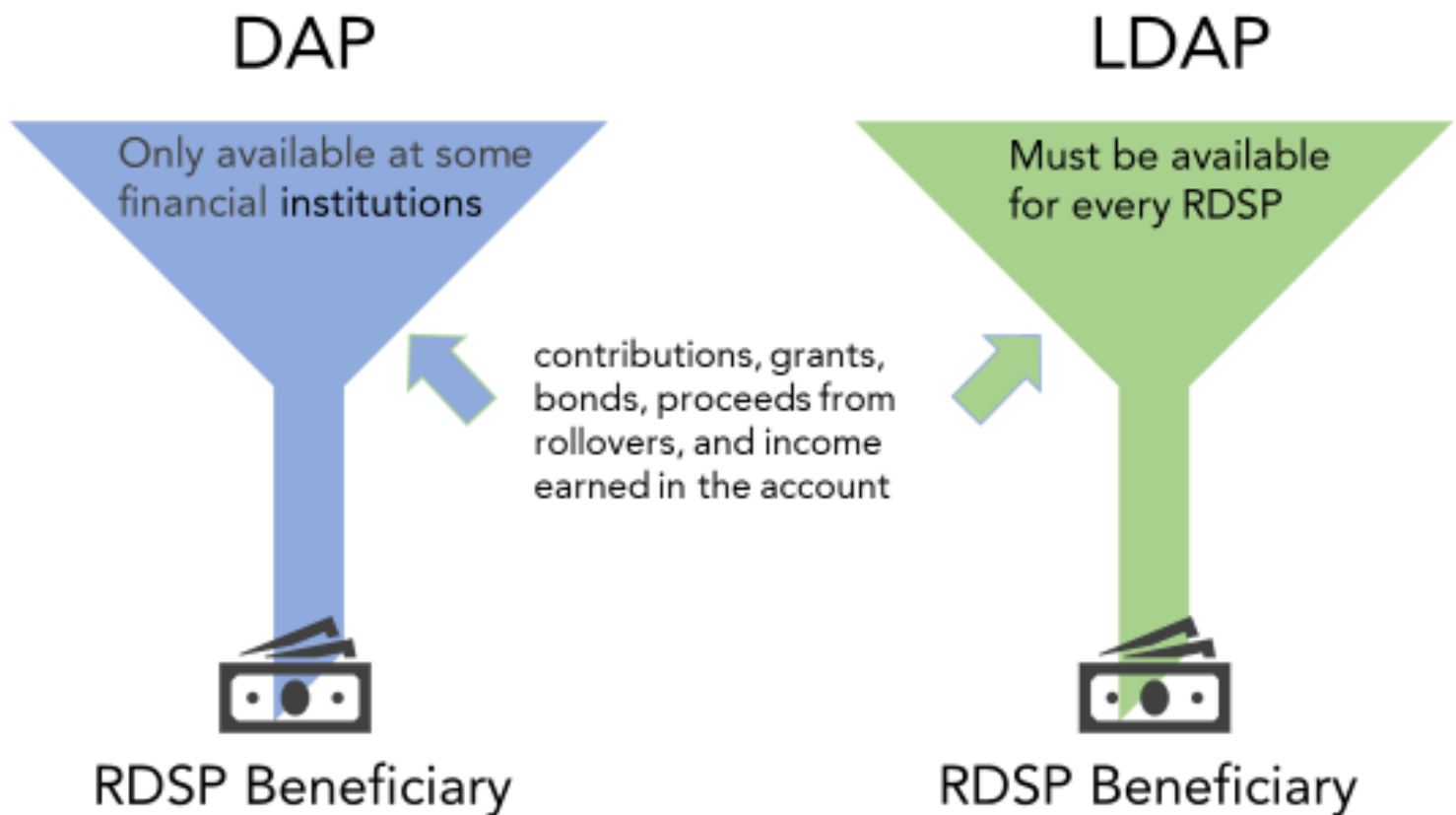


- Disability Assistance Payment – DAP
 - Any payment from an RDSP to the beneficiary or the beneficiary's estate.
- Lifetime Disability Assistance Payment – LDAP
 - Payments which, once started, are payable at least annually until either the plan is terminated or the beneficiary dies.
 - LDAP Formula calculates payments to end at age 83

Two Types of Payments

- Disability Assistance Payment – DAP
 - Any payment from an RDSP to the beneficiary or the beneficiary's estate.
 - DAPs are discretionary payments from the RDSP that can normally be made at any time to a beneficiary or a beneficiary's estate. DAPs may or may not be permitted by the RDSP issuer – this will need to be discussed in advance.
- Lifetime Disability Assistance Payment – LDAP
 - Payments which, once started, are payable at least annually until either the plan is terminated or the beneficiary dies.
 - LDAP Formula calculates payments to end at age 83
 - LDAPs must be available at all financial institutions that offer RDSPs.
 - The largest payout will be in the final year if the account continues to grow past age 60

- A payment (DAP or LDAP) cannot be made if the fair market value (FMV) of the plan, after the payment, will be less than the assistance holdback amount. A payment made from a RDSP cannot contain a grant and bond that is less than 10 years.
- Many F.I.s offer a free chequing account to RDSP holders. Along with saving fees, this can make withdrawals as well as contributions easier.



In Practice

- DAPs and LDAPs are comprised of contributions, grants, bonds, proceeds from rollovers, and income earned in the account
- DAPs are not available at all Financial Institutions, but LDAPs are
- Whichever payment is selected, the money goes directly to the RDSP Beneficiary
- A holder can request a DAP or an LDAP at any time within the maximum limits. However, in a year where the plan is considered to be a PGAP, a beneficiary

who is 27 to 58 years of age (inclusive), can request DAPs and LDAPs without the holder's consent, up to the specified maximum amount. At any other time, holder consent is required

PGAP vs Non-PGAP

- Primarily Government Assisted Plan (PGAP)
 - When the total amount of government contributions are greater than the total amount of private contributions at the beginning of a calendar year.
- Non-Primarily Government Assisted Plan (non-PGAP)
 - When the total amount of private contributions are greater than or equal to the total amount of government contributions at the beginning of a calendar year.

PGAP vs Non-PGAP

- Primarily Government Assisted Plan (PGAP)
 - When the total amount of government contributions are greater than the total amount of private contributions at the beginning of a calendar year.
- Non-Primarily Government Assisted Plan (non-PGAP)
 - When the total amount of private contributions are greater than or equal to the total amount of government contributions at the beginning of a calendar year.
- This includes amounts that may have been withdrawn, repaid or lost due to a market fluctuation.
- In a PGAP, a beneficiary is generally limited to taking out the greater of the legislated formula result and 10% of the plan's fair market value (FMV). When a withdrawal is requested, there is a legislated contribution formula that must be calculated. If there is grant, bond, or earnings in the plan as well as contributions, this formula requires a portion of the withdrawal to be considered a contribution. So, in a case where there is grant, bond, or earnings in a RDSP, a full contribution withdrawal is not allowed. While a portion of that withdrawal would be contribution the other portion of the withdrawal must consist of taxable amounts (grant, bond, earnings).
- In a non-PGAP, there are no limits on the amount that a beneficiary can receive in a year. So, the beneficiary could receive all contributions, vested grant, vested bond, and earnings in the first year a withdrawal is requested.

How DAP and LDAP Payments are Calculated

- Step 1: Identify the Plan Type
- Step 2: Determine if PGAP or Non-PGAP
- Step 3: Identify the Required Formulas
- Step 4: Minimum and Maximum Rules
- Step 5: Find the Fair Market Values (FMVs)
- Step 6: Beneficiary's Age on Jan 1 & Dec 31
- Step 7: Grant and Bond Amounts Per Year
- Step 8: Determine the Assistance Holdback Amount (AHA)
- Step 9: Begin the Calculations



How DAP and LDAP Payments are Calculated

- It's COMPLICATED! We recommend that you contact your financial professional to get help with this. If you want to do the calculations yourself, you can find the information in ESDC's RDSP User Guide (included in electronic resources)
- Step 1: Identify the Plan Type – An RDSP in a regular year; an RDSP in a specified year (go to step 3); or an SDSP (go to step 3)
- Step 2: Determine if PGAP or non-PGAP – At the beginning of the calendar year, determine whether the RDSP (in total) contained more private contributions or more government contributions
- Step 3: Identify the Required Formulas – These can be found online in ESDC's RDSP User Guide
- Step 4: Min and Max Rules – Find the applicable minimum and maximum payment rules in section 3
- Step 5: Find the FMVs – Find the FMV of the property held in the plan: on January 1 of the current year; and on the date just prior to the DAP
- Step 6: Beneficiary's age on Jan 1 & Dec 31 – Determine the age of the beneficiary on January 1 and December 31 of the current year
- Step 7: Grant and Bond – Determine the grant and bond amounts that are older than 10 years (NOT part of the AHA)
- Step 8: Determine the AHA – Determine the Assistance Holdback Amount as of the current date
- Step 9: Begin the calculations – Begin calculating the required formula results needed for a payment

Early Withdrawals - 10 Year/Proportional Repayment Rule

- The 10-year repayment requirement is counted from the most current grant or bond paid, thus the \$3 per \$1 withdrawn penalty continues to apply to grants and bonds deposited within the last 10 years

- If there are any unvested grants or bonds within an RDSP, you are not able to withdraw without a penalty. Vested bonds are not eligible for withdrawal if this is the case.



Early Withdrawals - 10 Year/Proportional Repayment Rule

- The 10-year repayment requirement is counted from the most current grant or bond paid, thus the \$3 per \$1 withdrawn penalty continues to apply to grants and bonds deposited within the last 10 years

- After 10 years have passed, grants and bonds deposited into an RDSP will be considered vested, meaning that they belong to the beneficiary
- The beneficiary will not be required to repay these vested grants and bonds. The holdback no longer applies to those funds
- If there are any unvested grants or bonds within an RDSP, you are not able to withdrawal without a penalty. Vested bonds are not eligible for withdrawal if this is the case.
- This shift in ownership has led to misunderstandings about withdrawal eligibility with regard to these vested bonds and grants. To discuss this in more depth, contact our Helpline at 1-844-311-7526 or info@rdsp.com

Shortened Life Expectancy

- Medically certified
- Life expectancy of five years or less
- **SDSP** – a Specified Disability Savings Plan
- Maximum \$10,000/year withdrawal from SDSP
- Reversing an SDSP designation



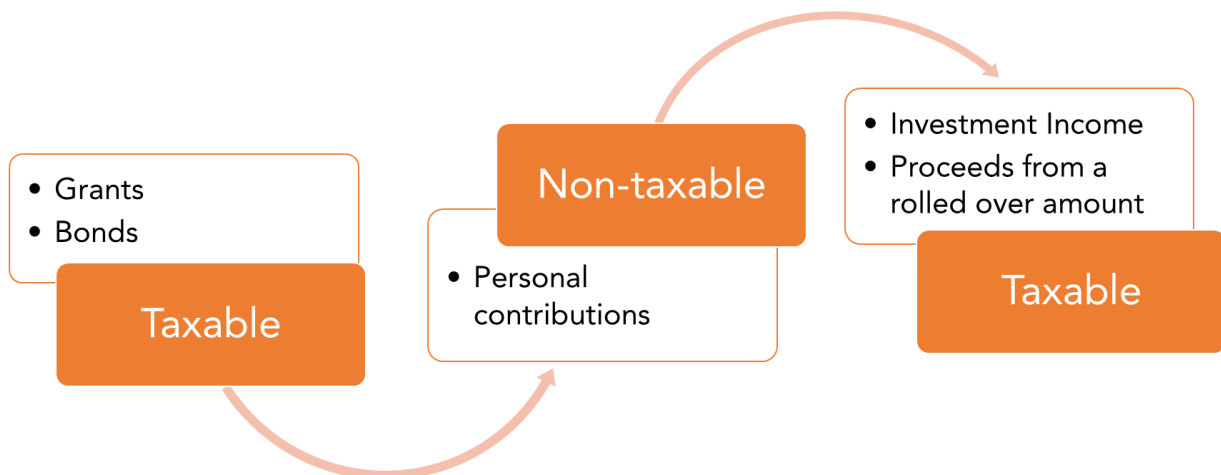
Shortened Life Expectancy

- When a medical doctor certifies in writing that the beneficiary has a life expectancy of five years or less, the beneficiary is considered to have a shortened life expectancy for RDSP purposes
- After this designation is made, the RDSP becomes an SDSP – a Specified Disability Savings Plan
- This means that withdrawals won't trigger repayment of government contributions
- When an RDSP becomes an SDSP, no further contributions are allowed, and any unused grant or bond entitlements will not be saved up for the years where the SDSP designation is in place
- An SDSP is not affected by the beneficiary living past the five years and will remain an SDSP until the designation is removed.
- There are still withdrawal limitations for an SDSP
- A plan holder can reverse a SDSP election at any time, and may do so by providing written notice to the financial institution
- The financial institution must then contact ESDC

- \$10,000 in taxable amount or no maximum if formula results in taxable amount greater than \$10,000

Taxation on Withdrawals

- Effective January 2014, financial institutions will deduct income tax from RDSP payments at source
- When your money is in an RDSP, you do not pay tax on it.
- When you begin to take money out of your RDSP, you must pay tax on part of it. Your financial institution will probably do a tax calculation and send the tax directly to the federal government. Then, when you file your taxes at the end of the year, you might get some of that money back.
- The government considers every dollar withdrawn from an RDSP to be made of three parts: private contributions, government contributions, and income/growth. When you withdraw money from an RDSP, private contributions are not subject to tax. Both federal contributions (grant and bond) and income/growth count as income. You will have to pay tax on them.



How to Contact Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)

ESDC is responsible for the administration and delivery of the Canada Disability Saving Grant (grant) and the Canada Disability Saving Bond (bond). Within ESDC, the Canada Education Savings Program (CESP) provides the delivery mechanism and necessary system supports for the effective administration of the grant and the bond.

Contact them here:

1-866-954-9174
TTY: 1-800-926-9105

Mailing address: Canada Education Savings Program, Employment and Social Development Canada, 140 promenade du Portage, Phase IV, Mailstop: Bag 4, Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0J9

Website: www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development

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- Phone: 1-866-754-2674
- TTY: 1-800-926-9105
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Death of a Beneficiary - Distribution of Funds

- Holdback amount must be repaid to the government
- Remaining assets become a part of the Beneficiary's estate
- The government will **never** keep your personal contributions - these would be considered remaining assets and will be returned to the Beneficiary's estate



Death of a Beneficiary - Distribution of Funds

- Holdback amount (any grants and bonds paid into the RDSP Within the last 10 years) must be repaid to the government
- Remaining assets (contributions and earnings) become a part of the Beneficiary's estate and do not go back to the original contributor (unlike the RESP)
 - The government will **never** keep your personal contributions - these would be considered remaining assets and will be returned to the Beneficiary's estate

Importance of Having a Will

- If there is no will in place, the assets will be distributed according to Provincial Law



Importance of Having a Will

- If there is no will in place, such as when a beneficiary is not contractually competent, the assets will be distributed according to Provincial Law.
- We encourage everyone to have a legal will in place if they have contractual competence.
- It is the beneficiary's will that is going to determine what happens to their RDSP savings upon death, not the holder's will.



Plan Institute's Wills, Trusts, and Estate Planning Workshop

- If you are wanting support on wills, trusts, and estate planning you can attend one of Plan Institute's W.T.E. workshops (in-person or webinar) OR you can call our Helpline to speak with one of our family experts about these topics
- You can register for these workshops online here:
 - <https://planinstitute.ca/learning-centre/wills-trusts-and-estate-planning/>

Summary

- 1) The RDSP Holder may change over time, but the responsibilities will not
- 2) There are many options for where to keep your RDSP, who to go to for support, and what you can invest in
- 3) Your RDSP can grow from personal contributions, government contributions, and your investment strategies
- 4) Some rollovers from other registered plans may be allowed into your RDSP
- 5) You can move your RDSP to another financial institution if you want to
- 6) Withdrawals are complicated and depend on whether your RDSP is primarily government funded or not
- 7) It is important for the RDSP Beneficiary to have a will in place if they are contractually competent

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Some Final Helpful Hints

- 1) Check the balance in all your financial accounts, not just your RDSP, at least monthly. Note unusual increases or decreases. This should be easy to do online, and if not open all financial mail promptly.
- 2) Review your portfolio holdings regularly, especially your rate of return (every 3 months or so). Ensure that you pay any advisory fees on RDSP and any registered account directly, not as a deduction within the account.
- 3) Meet and review your finances with your financial advisor if you use one. Discuss your rate of return and realizations.
- 4) Work at increasing your level of financial literacy.
- 5) Plan for succession. The RDSP is only one aspect of future financial wellbeing.
- 6) Review your legal documents annually and make any necessary changes (such as in your will or representation agreement).

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