



Wheatland Kernels

From Wheatland Accounting Services Ltd.

Visit our website at www.wheatlandaccounting.com

Spring 2015

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*Annual Summer
Barbeque at our
office from
12:00-1:00pm
August 7, 2015
Everyone Welcome!*

Important Deadlines

AgriStability application
deadline
without penalty
September 30, 2015
*Please complete the forms
our office has sent to you
no later than July 31st*

AgriStability
application deadline
with penalty
December 31, 2015
*A penalty of \$500/month
will be reduced from your
benefit*

AgriStability fee
deadline with 20%
penalty applied
December 31, 2015

AgriInvest deposits to
be made **90 days from
the deposit notice**

Presidents Report

Seeding is wrapping up in the south east as I write this and in general the reports have been that of good seeding conditions, however the eastern part of the province and some lower lying land still have a lot of acres under water. The cold nights in May have been a concern but to my knowledge not a lot of reseeding has been necessary.

Here at Wheatland the hectic pace of tax season has slowed somewhat. Our team pulled together in spite of an unfortunate temporary staff shortage to give us another successful year. Special thanks again to each of them for their commitment and dedication during this very busy time. Our personal tax team of preparers consisted of Vickie, Danielle and Evelyn. Those in the support role of checking and compiling returns were Pam and Katey. Katey also kept the flow of appointments organized with Jessica's assistance as well as doing a terrific job of managing all the administrative details that are just a part of a busy office. My area was primarily interviewing clients and reviewing tax returns.

Our financial statement and corporate tax team, Joy, Danielle and I will continue to be very busy to the end of June working with our growing practice in the corporate area. We thank our corporate clients for their patience with some delays we have experienced this season due to staffing, which we plan to have corrected later this year.

Sheila Olver very kindly agreed to come out of retirement to help us in AgriStability which was very much appreciated and helpful.

Our bookkeepers; Danielle, Evelyn, Katey and Jessica also keep very busy year round in their role as well. Vickie provides some contract assistance in bookkeeping from her home and manages the dairy data collection contract that we have with Sask Milk.

The succession, tax and business planning part of the business are what I specialize in with the support of Danielle and others on our team.

This will give you a little idea of how everyone fits in to our team and an appreciation for their dedication towards providing our clients with a complete professional experience in dealing with our firm.

We are always glad for your suggestions and comments regarding things we can do to improve our service.

Kelvin Shultz RPA CAFA Dip Ag

Wheatland's New Billing System

We want to thank our clients for accommodating our move from hourly billing to pre-priced value billing contracts.

Here is a list of a few of the added features that come with our new Pre-Priced Value Billing.

- Unlimited access to our staff regarding questions you may have in the service area of your contract
- Audit assistance in the service area of your contract
- Pre-priced services so that you receive no surprises when you get a bill
- Warranty; A guarantee that you will receive value for our work

As we move into our second year of our billing system, you will be receiving a contract in October of this year that will cover our fees for the coming year.

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9-5
Closed from
12:00-1:00

T5018 Filing Deadline **June 30**

If you are an individual, partnership, trust or corporation involved in construction activities which provide your primary source of business income and you make payments to subcontractors for construction services, you must report amounts paid or credited on a T5018. Please contact the office prior to June 15th if you have questions or think this may apply to your operation.

The payroll deductions tables are updated in January and July of each year, so be sure to please update your EI and CPP calculations if you pay the same salary each month.

Canada Revenue Agency requires us to have the Signed Authorizations to Efile in our office before we Efile a tax return. Please ensure that these signed forms have been returned to our office otherwise filling your return will be delayed.

Why is Bookkeeping Important?

Bookkeeping helps you keep better informed on how your business is doing and where it is in relation to your budget. It will also provide information for income tax, income tax planning requests from lenders, as well as, prepare for the possibility of CRA audit. Whether you are using Wheatland's bookkeeping service, that of a family member, or doing it yourself here are some tips that will save your bookkeeper time and you money.

- Use one bank account and one credit card for farm business and use a separate bank account and credit card for your personal.
- Transfer amounts from your business account to your personal account and pay personal amounts out of a personal account.
- Pay expenses by cheque, debit card or farm credit card and deposit all sales into the farm account. This makes it possible to balance your records to the bank and credit card account and ensure that there are no expenses or income missing. You may miss something when expenses are paid by cash or income is taken in cash as there is nothing to balance to.
- Use a deposit book. Write on the deposit slips what each item is for and staple the deposit slip to all the income receipts that are included.
- Use the memo part of your cheque to describe what expense is being paid.
- Record the date paid and the cheque number on paid invoices.
- Write on the receipts/paid invoices what the expense is for (IE. home or building repairs, equipment repairs, tools purchased, new projects such as building new corrals or shop.)
- Receipts or invoices should be issued in your business name and include the seller's GST number, if the item includes GST.
- Provide information/documentation on the preauthorized withdrawals, new equipment or asset purchases and loan/lease payments.
- For purpose of farm programs, be sure that the physical quantity of grain, livestock and forage sales and purchases are recorded on the receipts.
- Have one central location for keeping receipts and set up a monthly filing system until they are recorded into your records.

Regardless of who is doing the books, these steps will improve accuracy and the relationship with your bookkeeper.

2015 Federal Budget Highlights

This year's budget holds some good news that will have a positive impact on a good number of our clients. Here is a quick summary of the most beneficial items:

- Increasing the lifetime capital gains exemption for farm businesses to \$1,000,000. (This is a benefit specifically for farm land and qualifying farm corporation shares or partnership interests) other qualifying small business shares exemption will remain at the previous level of \$800,000, indexed annually for inflation.
- The small business tax rate drops from 11 percent to 9 percent by 2019. This is the federal tax rate for active business income for corporations, that together with the provincial rate currently result in a 13% tax. The phase in of these rates will be as follows: 10.5% effective January 1, 2016, 10% effective January 1, 2017, 9.5% effective January 1, 2018, 9% effective January 1, 2019.
- A change of rules governing registered retirement income funds or RRIFs to allow seniors to preserve their retirement nest eggs for longer. The budget reduces the minimum amount that seniors must withdraw each year from their Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIF). The budget lowers the minimum withdrawal factor to 5.28% at age 71 (from 7.38%) to 18.79% at age 94 (from 20%).
- Increasing the annual limit on tax-free savings accounts to \$10,000 from \$5,500.