



November 2016

Dear Chief, Big canoe,

The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue, has been given a mandate to contact Canadians who are not receiving the tax benefits to which they are entitled.

To help fulfill the mandate, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) sent a letter this fall to thousands of individuals across the country who may be eligible for tax benefits, but who are not receiving them because of not filing an income tax and benefit return.

It is likely that many Indigenous Canadians received the letter, potentially including individuals within your community.

For your reference, I have enclosed a draft of the letter that was sent. If you or individuals in your community have any questions about the letters or the CRA's efforts to promote the take-up of benefits, I encourage you to contact the Account Executive for your region, Mr. Curtis Bell, at 613-941-8543.

The enclosed letter is part of an effort to increase the take-up of tax benefits, which the CRA hopes to build on in the months and years ahead. I encourage you to share any views you have on this with Mr. Bell and to let them know of any opportunities for partnership with your community.

Sincerely,

Wayne Lepine
Director General
Information and Relationship Management Directorate
Strategy and Integration Branch
Canada Revenue Agency

Enclosure



You might be missing out on benefits and credits!

Our records show that you did not file an income tax and benefit return for 2014. As a result, you might be missing out on benefit and credit payments that are available to you.

Filing a tax return is key to getting your benefits and credits. By filing your return, you might be eligible to receive the following:

Canada child benefit

You could receive up to **\$533.33 tax-free each month per child.**

File your return and use My Account or Form RC66, Canada Child Benefits Application, to apply if you haven't already applied. If you received child benefits before, you don't need to re-apply; just file your return to continue receiving child benefits.

Goods and services tax/harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) credit

You could receive up to:

- **\$552 per year plus \$145 per eligible child** if you're part of a married or common-law couple
- **\$276 per year plus \$145 per eligible child** if you're single, separated, widowed, or divorced

You do not need to apply for this credit. We will determine your eligibility for the GST/HST credit for each tax year that you file a return.

Provincial and territorial benefits and credits

You do not need to apply separately for these. If you are eligible, we will send you your payment for each tax year that you file a return.

It's easier than ever to file! You can use free software to send your return directly to us using the Internet. For a list of free software and web service options, go to netfile.gc.ca/software.

To find out more about the benefit and credit payments you might be eligible to receive, including information on how to apply, go to cra.gc.ca/benefits or call 1-800-387-1193. We will be happy to help you.

If you recently filed your individual income tax and benefit return, we thank you.