

QUARTERLY REPORT

APRIL 2009

DAVE'S UPDATE

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Welcome to the Money Saving Issue!

With our economy in a recession, many families are looking for ways to cut back on their spending. This Quarterly Report focuses on some ways to do this. From tax saving tips to gardening tips there are a number of ways to have fun and save money at the same time!

When it comes to investing, please keep in mind that the economy and the stock markets are linked, but they are NOT the same thing. It is

important to note that the stock markets tend to recover in advance of the economic recovery. Now is an excellent time to invest in order to profit from the coming recovery.

As usual, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Dave

CHILDREN'S FITNESS TAX CREDIT SPORTS REGISTRATION TIME—HANG ON TO YOUR RECEIPTS!

Spring is upon us once again and with the warmer weather comes baseball and soccer season. This time of year parents across the country are lining up to ensure their children a spot on their local team. While it can be costly to enroll your children in extra curricular sports, the government is now offering some relief through the CHILDREN'S FITNESS TAX CREDIT. This is a non-refundable tax credit with a maximum \$500 deduction per child under 16 years of age.



Do not submit your receipts with your tax return but keep them on file for six years in case you are asked to verify payment.

RECESSION BUSTER TIPS!

Free movie rentals from your local public library

Free admission to the Museum of Nature any Saturday before noon

Free family pass to Canadian Museum of Civilization (details online at Ottawa public library/library partnerships)

WHAT IS YOUR HOUSEHOLD POWER CONSUMPTION?

The City of Ottawa Community Environmental Grants Program, the Environmental "Kill-a-Watt" meters available for loan from the Public Library using your library card. Use these meters to become a more informed power consumer by measuring the consumption of your home appliances over the one-week loan period.



Centre has library card.

RECESSION GARDENING

Gardening experts across North America are predicting more people than ever are going to be planting vegetable gardens this year. How much can you really save tilling your backyard veggie garden? It will certainly depend on what you plant and how dedicated you are to tending your plot.

Grab a piece of paper and start planning your garden by first choosing the size of your plot. If you have some experience, a 5m x 7m garden is sufficient for a family of 3-4 people. For the novice gardener it is recommended that you start off smaller. When considering the appropriate size for you and your family, you should keep in mind the weeding and watering your garden will require throughout the season.

Once you've decided on the size of your garden you will need to choose your vegetables. Again, the novice gardener should consider planting easier-to-grow veggie's that produce in larger quantities like squash, eggplant, radishes, carrots and cucumbers.

Before you plant those seeds make sure the soil is rich enough in nutrients to encourage growth. You may have to add some organic material to prepare it for planting.

If you are serious about starting your very own garden this season, visit your local garden centre, borrow a gardening book from your local library or access one the numerous internet gardening sites for free advice. Go ahead, give it a try and let us know how it grows!



QUARTERLY QUIZ

What percentage of your current earnings will you need during retirement?

1. 45-55%
2. 55-65%
3. 75-85%

The first person to call or email Nancy the correct answer wins a copy of "Rich Dad, Poor Dad" 613 599-5477 nsmith@mckanata.com

Congratulations to last quarter's winners: Eric Desfonds and Phil Allan who correctly identified Warren Buffet as the world's richest person.



MUTUAL FUND DEALER



David Hutchinson, B.Math., CMA, CFP

Certified Financial Planner

300 Terry Fox Dr, Suite 1000, Kanata, ON

613 599-5477 dhutchinson@mckanata.com

CLIENT PROFILE

Calling all business owners, entrepreneurs, professionals, volunteers and community leaders! We would love to interview and profile our clients in upcoming newsletters. Give us a call if you would like to share or promote an idea, your business or a community story.

Due to space constraints, we regret that we cannot profile every client submitting a request.

THANK YOU!

As most of you know, my business is built primarily on referrals. To those of you who continue to send your friends and family my way, thank you. If you feel, as your financial advisor, that I have helped you in any way, please pass along my name and phone number.



If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of this newsletter, please contact Nancy @ nsmith@mckanata.com