

FROM THE DESK OF:

David Bardal, CLU®, CH.F.C®, CFP®
Senior Financial Planning Advisor
Juana Baldwin, CFP®, CHS, RRC
Financial Planning Advisor

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Assante Financial Management Ltd.

Spring is such a welcoming season, especially after such a cold and snowy start to the year! It feels great to open the windows and let the fresh air in and to head outside to enjoy the outdoors without having to bundle up! Nature is at its finest with the sound of birds, and the first flowers sprouting. Spring is also a great time to update your financial goals, revisit your plan, and prepare your strategies for the year.

EASING THE FINANCIAL STRAIN OF THE GIFT-GIVING SEASON

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While the holiday season is a time of celebration, unchecked spending can lead to financial distress in the new year when credit card bills and bank statements begin to arrive.

Upcoming Events:

Creating a Balanced Lifestyle
Thursday, April 25th, 2019
Cash flow planning & strategies,
including an introduction to Manulife
One and Wine Tasting

Business Owners Luncheon
Thursday, May 23rd, 2019
Exploring Charitable Legacy Through
Insurance with Brad Charlton

**Financial Planning for Women
Workshop & Wine Tasting**
Tuesday, June 4th, 2019

Below are a few ideas to help manage the financial strain often associated with the holiday season.

1. Many people find that working on a cash budget, rather than credit cards, can help with cash-flow management and limit excessive spending. A similar strategy can work well for gift-giving. By following a cash-only approach

when purchasing gifts, it can help to limit the overall costs to a manageable amount.

2. When the circle of gift-giving involves several people, the cost can add up quickly. Collaborating with family and/or friends to pre-set a per-gift value or an overall limit for the total value of all gifts exchanged amongst the group can be helpful. Alternatively, the expense can be even better managed by opting for a gift exchange among family members where names are drawn, and each person gives and receives only one gift rather than purchasing gifts for all family members.

3. Developing a budget with an upper-limit is a strategy that can help to ensure there are no post-season financial surprises. This assumes, of course, that the budget is realistic and manageable within your overall cash flow and that, once the budget is established, you stick to it.

4. Giving a gift of “services” can be both rewarding and financially savvy because the types of gifts can be as diverse as one’s imagination. Babysitting your family or friend’s children for an evening, taking care of a pet while the owner is on vacation, detailing your elderly neighbor’s car or making dinner for a special event are just a few examples of the endless possibilities.

5. Be creative and look for low-cost fun activities that you can share with others, such as taking in a movie, a day of entertainment on the toboggan hill or hiking through the local conservation area.

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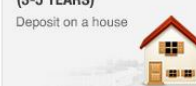





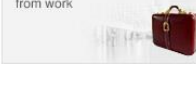

Debt is not only interfering with Canadians’ retirement savings but also more immediate plans such as buying a home, getting married and having children.

Creating healthy attitudes towards money at a young age will help to create healthy spending patterns for life.

Creating saving strategies for your short, medium and long term goals, as well as debt reduction strategies should be an important part of your financial plan. Understanding your cash flow through life’s transitions will help to guide you on your path to financial well-being.

We are happy to be a part of your team on that journey!

What are your goals?

SHORT TERM (1-3 YEARS)	MEDIUM TERM (3-5 YEARS)	LONG TERM (5+ YEARS)
Overseas holiday 	Deposit on a house 	Childrens' education 
Car 	Boat 	Holiday house 
Taking time off work to care for a baby 	A sabbatical or extended break from work 	Retirement / Early retirement 



I would suppose that this is a “stage of life” comment. It seems to me that most people spend far more time planning for a two or three week vacation, than for how they will spend their retirement years. Retirement could, in fact, encompass as much as perhaps 25% - 30% of one’s life, and

therefore should merit significantly more thought and planning.

There are of course a lot of financial considerations in retirement planning. It is vitally important that you plan for having adequate retirement savings, and that “your plan” is able to withstand various scenarios, such as market volatility, health costs, unexpected financial costs etc.

There are however other very important factors that also be considered and planned for. One of the most important perhaps is planning for how you spend your time. For most people planning for 40-50 hours per week that used to be spent working is a major concern. It is as well critically important that everyone have a sense of purpose and a “reason to get up in the morning.” Please give us a call if you would like to discuss the “retirement readiness” of your financial plan.

Both David and Juana are always happy to meet with new people and provide a second opinion on their current financial strategies. Do you know someone we can help? Have them give us a call!



HOLIDAYS & BUSINESS TRAVEL

Office Closed:

- Good Friday, April 19th, 2019
- Victoria Day, May 20th, 2019
- Canada Day, July 1st

David Vacation

- April 17th – April 24th, 2019

Business Travel

- June 20th – July 2nd Alberta / BC

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