



TAX YEAR 2020

CRA simplifies claiming home office expenses

With so many people working from home to observe COVID-19 health protocols in 2020, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has set up a simplified process for workers to claim expenses on their upcoming income tax return.

This new flat-rate method means employees can claim \$2/day if they worked at home more than 50 percent of the time in four consecutive weeks in 2020 due to COVID-19.

This temporary method allows eligible employees to also claim \$2 for any other days they worked from home in 2020 due to the pandemic, up to a maximum of \$400.

There is no need to calculate work-space details or keep supporting documents with the new flat-rate method, and it applies to both part-time and full-time employees.

The shorter qualifying period means more people can claim the deduc-

WORKING FROM HOME?

If you worked from home for four consecutive weeks or more due to COVID-19, **you can claim up to \$400 on your 2020 tax return** for home office expenses.

For more details visit:
www.canada.ca/cra-home-workspace-expenses

tion.

Also, unlike a prior announcement, those using this method will not need their employers to sign and complete Form T2200 or Form T2200S.

And for employees with larger claims for home office expenses, the more detailed method can still be used. The CRA has also simplified the process for this with forms T2200S and T777S, and created an [online calcu-](#)

[lator](#) to help people with their calculations.

All the forms and information needed for employees to evaluate both claim methods can be found at: canada.ca/cra-home-workspace-expenses

The CRA suggests receipts, supporting documents and records for this and all tax filings should be kept for six years, in case your taxes are reviewed.

Rural riding tour first on slate for 2021

After a quiet holiday enjoying outdoor activities in our riding, my team and I are ready to continue helping people during this trying time.

Every January, I commit to touring the Kamloops-Thompson-Cariboo riding, and this year, my rural tour will be done via Zoom.

I look forward to taking the suggestions I receive from municipal leaders, businesses and the community back to Ottawa at the end of the month.

I am hopeful of a brighter, peaceful and healthy 2021 for all my constituents. Your thoughts and ideas are always welcome: cathy.mcleod@parl.gc.ca