



MARK BRANDSMA Partner, Advisor

WHAT IS A DONOR ADVISED FUND, AND SHOULD I HAVE ONE?

A donor-advised fund, or DAF, is a giving vehicle established with an organization that is recognized by Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) as a charity. It allows donors to make a charitable contribution, receive an immediate tax deduction and then recommend grants from the fund over time.

There are several benefits in using a DAF which include: the ease and cost effectiveness of setting one up, simple administration for the donor (i.e. one tax receipt), and flexibility in timing between when the gift is made and the subsequent distribution to charities.

If you resonate with any of these benefits, talk to us about setting up a donor advised fund with one of the many qualified organizations that operate in Canada today.



ROB RADLOFF Partner, Advisor

WHAT IS AN ESTATE FREEZE?

An Estate Freeze is a transaction where the taxpayer's shares in a company are converted to fixed value preferred shares, with the future growth being transferred to a family trust. The freeze allows the taxpayer to cap or freeze the value in their hands, on which capital gains tax is payable. The capital gains tax is triggered on death as all taxpayers are deemed to dispose of their assets on their death unless the asset is transferred to a spouse.

Whether the estate freeze makes sense for a taxpayer should be carefully considered and will often depend on their estate intentions. If the intention is to eliminate tax through a charitable gift, then an estate freeze might not be applicable.



JEFF CHAPMAN Partner, Advisor

HOW MUCH MONEY DO I HAVE, AND CAN I USE IT?

Have you ever seen someone juggling a crazy assortment of things like a bowling ball, a machete, a running chainsaw, and a cat? It can be very difficult to keep the whole thing going and still know things like how much gas is left in the chainsaw, or if the cat has been fed. This is what financial planning can be like for people with significant business and wealth. They know they have a lot of value, but with so many moving parts it can be a real challenge to understand how much "extra" cash they have at any given time. A lack of clarity about current and future cash can stop people from using their wealth the way they wish to. This problem can be solved through the development of a financial model integrating all corporate and personal assets, liabilities, taxes, and cash flows into a single picture. It can reveal how much cash you have today, and how much you expect to have at various points in the future. When based on conservative estimates, this knowledge can help you move confidently into using your wealth the way you wish to, for things such as lifestyle choices, giving to family or charity, or making new investments.

Gain the peace of mind that comes from having your financial affairs clarified for you!