CHAPTER 3: Liability for Tax, Income Determination, and Administration

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TOPICS FOR CHAPTER 3

II.Liability for Tax

III.Determination of Income

IV.Administration of the Income Tax System

II. Liability for Tax

ITA 2(1) - Federal and provincial income taxes are imposed on:

- 1. Individuals
- 2. Corporations
- 3. Trusts



Resident Individuals and Corporations

- Residency is the primary factor in determining how an entity is taxed in Canada.
- Subject to tax if considered resident in Canada.
- Residents subject to tax on worldwide income.
- Non-resident entities are only taxable on income earned in Canada.



- Residence is based on the legal or economic link an individual has with Canada.
 - question of fact whether one is resident or not, and
 - each case is judged on its own special circumstances.
- Residency is determined on a year to year basis.

Factors to consider in determining residency:



- Amount of time spent in Canada on a regular basis;
- Motives for being present or absent;
- Maintenance of a dwelling place in Canada
- Origin and background of the individual;
- ➤General mode and routine of one's life; and
- Existence of social and financial connections with Canada.



ITA 250(1) - "Sojourner"

- Individuals who do not exhibit a continuing state of relationship, but
- Spend more than 182 days in Canada are deemed residents.
- Once the criteria are met, one is considered a resident throughout the entire year.

ITA 114 - "Part-time Resident"

- Subject to tax in Canada on worldwide income earned while resident.
- Once residency ceases only subject to tax on Canadian source income.



Corporations

- ITA 250(1) Corporations incorporated in Canada are residents of Canada
 - subject to tax on world income.
- Foreign corporation may be Canadian resident if
 - "central management and control" is exercised from within Canada.



Dual Jurisdictions

- May be subject to tax in a foreign jurisdiction if they carry on business outside of Canada.
- The treaty may limit Canada's right to tax.
- May be subject to taxation in both jurisdictions; if so the Act generally allows a foreign tax credit.

Non-Resident Individuals and Corporations

- Non-residents of Canada are taxable on specific activities.
- Taxed in Canada on net income arising while non-resident if:
 - carries on business in Canada (through a Permanent Establishment);
 - disposes of Taxable Canadian property; or,
 - is employed in Canada.

III. Determination of Income

- Each entity is required to pay tax on its taxable income in each taxation year.
- What is taxable income?
 - The Act does not specifically provide a single definition of income.
 - The Act provides a framework to help determine:
 - Income from each category of income, and
 - Deduction from income in each category.

Taxable Income = Net Income – Special reductions



- An entity's world income is derived from five basic sources:
 - 1. Employment income
 - 2. Business income
 - 3. Property income
 - 4. Capital gains and losses
 - 5. Other specific sources
- Income is determined by applying basic principles specific to the particular category.

The Taxation Year

- ITA 249.1 Corporate taxpayers can choose the taxation year.
 - Once chosen, it cannot change it without concurrence is given by CRA.
 - ➤ A taxation year cannot exceed 53 weeks.
 - May be less than 12 months.
 - Exception is Professional Corps fiscal year must coincide with calendar year.
- ITA 249(1) Individual tax year = calendar year.

Net Income for Tax Purposes

• Next step:



Aggregating the five types of income eligible for inclusion.

Formula for Determining Net Income for Tax Purposes

Segment A – includes income net of deductions only positive net income

| Employment | + |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Business Income | + |
| Property Income | + |
| Other items | <u>+</u> |
| Subtotal 1 (must be positive or Zero) | + or 0 |

IV. Administration of the Income Tax System

Filing Returns:

- Every taxpayer must file an income tax return.
- Filing deadline is different for each of these entities.
 - ITA 150(1)(a) Corporations due 6 months after taxation year.
 - ITA 150(1)(d) Individuals:
 - April 30 for most recent calendar year, or
 - June 15 if individual (or spouse) carries on a business.
 - ITA 150(1)(b) Deceased Individuals due the later of:
 - 6 months from date of death, or
 - Normal filing deadline (April 30 or June 15)
 - ITA 150(1)(d) Trusts 90 days after fiscal year-end.

Assessments

CRA has the right to reassess returns at a later time, subject to limitations:

- individuals, trusts and CCPCs reassessed within three years of original assessment.
- For public corporations extended to four years.

Unless:

- taxpayer has made any:
 - misrepresentation that is attributable to neglect, carelessness, or wilful default, or
 - has committed any fraud in filing the return or supplying information.

Pre-Payment of Tax Individuals (Instalments)

- ITA 156.1(2) Instalment are required whenever federal tax owing exceeds \$3,000 for both:
 - the current year and
 - either of the past two taxation years.
- Instalments are due quarterly, beginning on March 15.
- The balance of taxes payable is due on April 30.

Pre-Payment of Tax Corporations (Instalments)

- Instalment payments are the primary method of remitting corporate tax.
- ITA 157(2.1) A corporation must make 12 instalments per year = 1/12 of prior years tax owing
- Balance owing is due two months after taxation year-end (extended to 3 months for CCPC)

Interest Charges

- CRA charges interest on any tax that is due and payable but not paid.
- Interest is charged on late or deficient tax instalments.
- Not deductible for tax purposes.



Penalties and Offences

- **ITA 162(1)** Failure to file an annual return:
 - > 5% of the tax unpaid for the year, plus 1% for each month after the due date, to a maximum of 12 months.
- ITA 162(2) Repeated failures to file an annual return:
 - > 10% on a second or further late filing.
 - increased by 2% for each month after the due date, for a maximum of 20 months.

Penalties and Offences

• **ITA 163(1)** - Failure to report an item of income:

10% of the unreported income if the failure to report occurs more than once in a three-year period.

- ITA 163(2) Knowingly making a false statement or omission:
 - > 50% of the tax owing on the excluded or understated amount.

Objection and Appeal

 Taxpayers can appeal an assessment they do not agree with:

- The first step is to file a formal notice of objection.

- Unsatisfactory results of this first appeal may be appealed to the Tax Court of Canada.
- Still not satisfied then appeal to:
 - the Federal Court of Canada, and
 - perhaps to the Supreme Court of Canada.