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PTC Canada Update Bulletin

**********For General Information and Distribution*********

2018 Budget Out

Hello Friends and Clients!

The 2018 budget named **Equality plus Growth: A Strong Middle** was more spending and deficits not give much hope for a turn around anytime soon. Putting an priority on gender equality and emphasizes investments in technology and research, Andrew Coyne from the National Post puts it best, "*This is a budget that is much more about equality than it is growth; pandering to every conceivable Liberal client group and policy cult*". Here's some of the main points as outlined from the CBC:

- \$21.5B **in new spending** over 6 years, including the fiscal year just ending.
- \$18.1B projected deficit for 2018-19 (including \$3B for risk), falling to \$12.3B by 2022-23.
- \$750M over 5 years to improve cyber security.
- \$231M over 5 years to address the opioid crisis, including \$165M this year.
- 5 weeks extra leave for two-parent families under the EI Parental Sharing Benefit (June 2019).
- Legislation promised this year on federal pay equity but no price tag yet.
- \$172.6M more over 3 years for clean drinking water on reserves.
- \$1.4B over 6 years in **new funding for First Nations Child and Family Services**.
- \$2B over 5 years in additional foreign aid under the Feminist International Assistance Policy.
- Pharmacare won't be free for all Canadians, Bill Morneau says
- <u>RCMP getting \$10 million to re-activate 'unfounded' sexual assault cases</u>
- Families celebrating \$81M in budget to fix the no-fly list system
- \$10M over 5 years for an RCMP unit <u>to review 25,000 cases of sex assault</u> deemed "unfounded."

- \$1.3B over 5 years to conserve land, waterways and wildlife and protect species at risk.
- \$100M over 5 years to develop rural broadband innovation, including low-earth-orbit satellites.
- New judges 6 for Ontario, 1 for Saskatchewan and more money to help ease court backlogs.
- \$173M to address irregular border-crossings and asylum seekers.
- \$6M for a new process to hold federal leadership debates during election years.
- \$50M over 5 years to one or more independent organizations to support local journalism.
- \$30M over 3 years to promote women and girls' participation in sport.
- \$81M over 5 years to help families inadvertently <u>caught up in the no-fly list</u>.
- Free admission for kids to national parks will be made permanent.
- Creation of advisory council on **implementing national pharmacare** but no money yet.
- Some retired or little used paper currency will no longer be legal tender.
- Budget says some paper currency will no longer be legal tender
- Budget 2018: Liberals spend billions to close gaps for working women, Indigenous families

For further details check out the <u>complete budget from the finance department's site</u> with detailed analysis/commentaries from <u>CBC</u>, <u>CTV</u>, <u>Globe & Mail</u>, <u>National Post</u>, <u>The Rebel</u> and <u>Evelyn Jack's Knowledge Bureau</u>. More to come in <u>future newsletters</u>!

Always at your tax service,

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Neel Roberts President & Founder—PTC Canada <u>**P.S:**</u> Own a small business or want to learn more about taxes and entrepreneurs? Check out our <u>"Small</u> <u>Business Tax Booklet"</u>!

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