

MUTUAL FUND TRUST

Taxation Guide

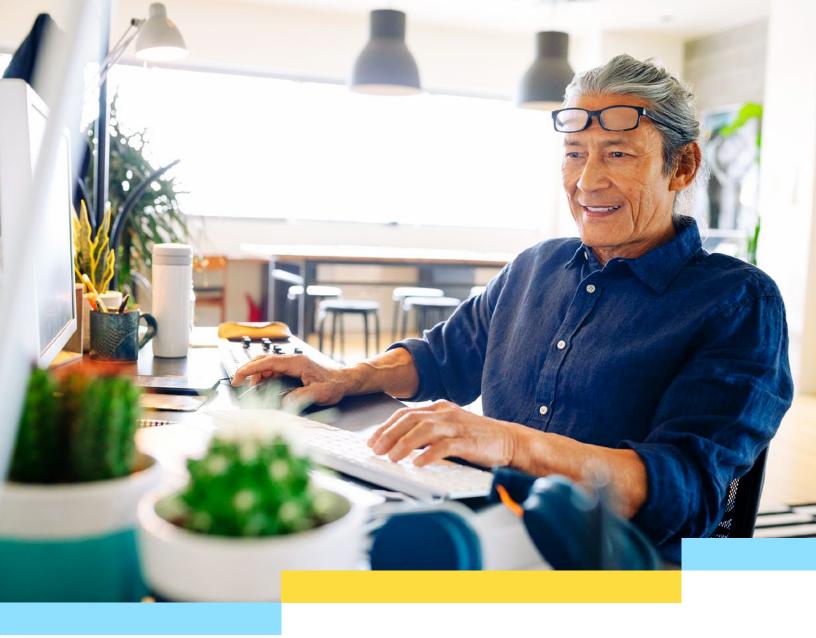


ATB INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT IS HERE TO HELP SUPPORT YOU

This guide intends to provide you with a better understanding of the tax treatment that applies to your investment in the Compass Portfolios and ATBIS Pool Funds.

Understanding the taxation that applies to your investments is an integral part of being a knowledgeable and informed investor. Our goal is to sort through the clutter and make investing and the taxation that applies easier to understand, so you can focus on the things that really matter in your life.

This guide discusses the taxation that applies to mutual funds held within non-registered accounts. Mutual funds held within tax-deferred registered or locked-in plans (such as RRSPs, RRIFs, LIRAs, LIFs and RESPs) are subject to tax when money is withdrawn. Mutual funds held in TFSAs are tax-free. While mutual funds can be organized as either mutual fund "trusts" or mutual fund "corporations," this guide is specific to mutual fund trusts.



How are the mutual funds that are in my tax deferred accounts treated for tax purposes?

If you hold mutual funds in your RRSP or other tax deferred registered accounts (RRIF, LIRA, LIF, etc.) any investment income realized will be sheltered from tax until it is withdrawn from the plan. Your principal and all investment income, including dividends and capital gains, will be fully taxable as income when withdrawn. In other words, there is no opportunity to claim a dividend tax credit or to have only 50% of a capital gain subject to taxation. However, since your registered investment has been growing on a tax deferred basis and your contribution was deducted from your taxable income, you have paid less tax and you now have more money in your pocket available to invest.

How are the mutual funds that are in my Tax Free Savings Account (TFSA) treated for tax purposes?

Investments, including mutual funds, that are held in a Tax Free Savings Account are tax free. Although you won't get a tax deduction when you make a contribution to your TFSA like you would with an RRSP, on the flip side you won't ever have to pay tax on any income or growth in the TFSA, or on any withdrawals.

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BENEFITS OF MUTUAL FUND INVESTING

A mutual fund is a pooled investment vehicle, in which your money is pooled with that of other investors and managed by a professional mutual fund manager. There are two main benefits:

- You can invest in a variety of investments for a relatively low cost.
- A professional portfolio manager makes the decisions about the specific investments that each mutual fund will hold based on the objectives of that fund.

A mutual fund investment provides you with professional portfolio management and the opportunity to invest in a diversified portfolio of various investments. Diversification is extremely important. Different investments react differently to world events and various factors in the economy like interest rates and business conditions, so when one investment is down, another might be up. Having a variety of investments can help you offset the impact of lower performers while taking advantage of the earning potential of others. This is the power of diversification.

If you wish to learn more about mutual funds please refer to **What are mutual funds and how do you invest in one?**

UNDERSTANDING MUTUAL FUNDS

A mutual fund trust issues "units" of its fund. A mutual fund investor is therefore referred to as a "unitholder." The money received from investors is used to buy various securities. The securities purchased depend on the fund's investment objective, but at the highest level include stocks and bonds. These investments can generate various types of income for the fund, including interest, dividends, foreign income and, if the fund sells any of its investments, capital gains or losses.

The fund's income is first used to pay the fund's management and administration fees. These expenses are referred to as the management expense ratio (MER). The remaining income is distributed to the unitholders, and is referred to as a "distribution."

When distributions are made, the type of income retains its "identity" or "flows through" to the investor. Interest income is paid as interest income, dividend income is paid as dividend income, etc. This distinction between the various income types is important when it comes to taxation.

Mutual funds are generally considered "capital property." This means that in addition to the distributions you receive while invested in the fund, you will realize a capital gain (or loss) when you sell or dispose of any mutual fund units.

TAXATION OF MUTUAL FUNDS

It is important to have a clear understanding of the taxation and tax reporting required for your investments. This guide is intended to provide a general summary of how an investment in a mutual fund trust will be treated by CRA for tax purposes.

Your investment in Compass Portfolios and ATBIS Pools mutual funds will generate taxable income in two ways:

- You'll earn income while invested in the funds in the form of income distributions.
- A capital gain (or loss) will apply when units of the mutual fund are sold or disposed of.



TAXATION OF DISTRIBUTIONS

As mentioned, a mutual fund's taxable income is passed along to investors in the form of distributions. This generally results in lower overall tax. If it retained the taxable income, the mutual fund would pay tax at the highest tax rate for each income category. However, many investors are taxed at a lower rate. That means that when the fund pays out the income, it is taxed at a lower rate in the investor's hands rather than at the higher rate in the fund. Distributions will therefore result in less tax being paid, meaning a higher return on investment.

You have two choices in how you receive your distributions:

- Distributions can be received as a cash payment sent to you.
- Distributions can be reinvested in the mutual fund by purchasing more units at the current unit price.

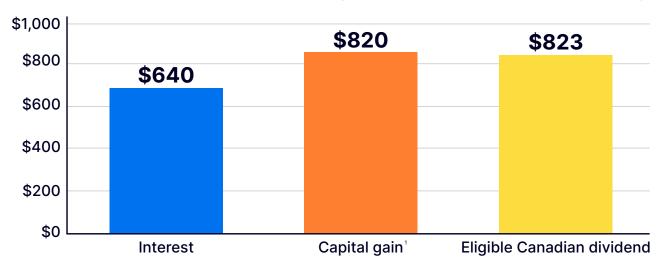
With both options, you must include the distributions as part of your taxable income for the year in which they were received (with the exception of return of capital distributions, which have different tax implications and will be discussed later in more detail).

Distributions may be paid out monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually. At tax time, the mutual fund company will give you a T3 tax slip to summarize the taxable distributions received during the year (dividends, interest, capital gains, etc.). The T3 is generally mailed out in February for the previous taxation year.

The table on the following page is a summary of the various types of distributions that you may receive:

Type of Distribution	Description	Taxation		
Interest	Earned from investments such as treasury bills and bonds	Fully taxable at the same marginal tax rate as employment income		
Canadian dividends	Received when mutual fund invests in shares of Canadian public corporations that pay dividends	Preferential tax treatment for individuals through the dividend tax credit		
Capital gains	Realized when an investment within the fund is sold for more than its original price	Preferential tax treatment as only 50% of the capital gain is taxable ¹		
Foreign non-business income	Earned when the fund receives income (dividends, interest) from non-Canadian investments	Fully taxable at the same marginal tax rate as employment income; however, foreign tax credit may offset some of the tax payable		
Return of capital	Occurs when a fund makes a distribution that is above and beyond the taxable income of the fund for the year	Not taxable in the year received; however, reduces the adjusted cost base, which generally results in a larger capital gain or smaller capital loss when investment is sold		

Each type of distribution is treated differently for tax purposes, some more efficiently than others as the following chart shows:



\$1,000 investment return – after tax (Based on a 36% marginal tax rate)

¹As per changes proposed in the 2024 federal budget a 66.67% inclusion rate would apply for any capital gains incurred by a corporation or trust and on personal capital gains over \$250,000 in a given year.

Interest

Interest income is earned on securities such as treasury bills and bonds. Interest income is not eligible for any special tax treatment and is taxed at the same rate as your regular employment income. Interest distributions are reported as "other income" on the T3 tax slip.

Dividends

Dividend income is earned when a fund invests in shares of public companies that pay dividends. Dividends represent a distribution of after-tax profits from a corporation to its shareholders. The taxation of dividends received from Canadian corporations reflects the tax the corporation paying the dividend has already paid on its profits.

This is done by "grossing up" the dividend and applying a dividend tax credit. The amount included in your income is grossed up to estimate the total amount of pre-tax income that the corporation distributed. Since individuals pay tax at difference tax rates than corporations, your own personal tax rate is applied to the grossed-up dividend. You then apply the tax credit to offset the estimated tax the corporation has paid. If you are in a low tax bracket, your tax credit may be more than enough to offset the tax owing on the dividend, and the remainder can be applied to offset other tax that may be payable.

Dividends are classified as either "eligible" or "non-eligible" to reflect whether the issuing company paid tax at the high corporate rate (eligible) or the small business rate (non-eligible). Non-eligible dividends receive the dividend tax credit, and eligible dividends receive the enhanced dividend credit. Because of their tax efficiency, dividend-paying investments are popular with individuals seeking to maximize cash flow from their investments.

Although dividends are favourably taxed, due diligence is required to avoid jeopardizing any incomebased government benefits, such as old age security (OAS). The OAS clawback is based on net income earned; in the case of dividends, the grossed-up amount of the actual dividend received is the amount reported as income for OAS purposes. In other words, for OAS purposes the income inclusion is 138% for an eligible dividend and 115% for a non-eligible dividend. Your Financial Advisor can ensure you have the appropriate mix of assets to maximize your government benefits.

Capital gains

Mutual funds can also distribute capital gains. A capital gain is realized when an investment is sold for more than its original purchase price. When a mutual fund realizes more gains than it offsets with losses during the year's trading activities, the fund will distribute year-end capital gains to investors. Since only 50%¹ of a capital gain is subject to tax, capital gains distributions are considered to be very tax-efficient.

¹ As per changes proposed in the 2024 federal budget a 66.67% inclusion rate would apply for any capital gains incurred by a corporation or trust and on personal capital gains over \$250,000 in a given year.



Foreign non-business income

When a mutual fund invests in foreign securities, it earns foreign income. You must include 100% of any foreign income received on your tax return. However, you can apply a foreign tax credit for any taxes the mutual fund has already paid to the foreign country the income originated from. Both the foreign income and foreign tax paid are provided on your T3 tax slip.

Return of capital

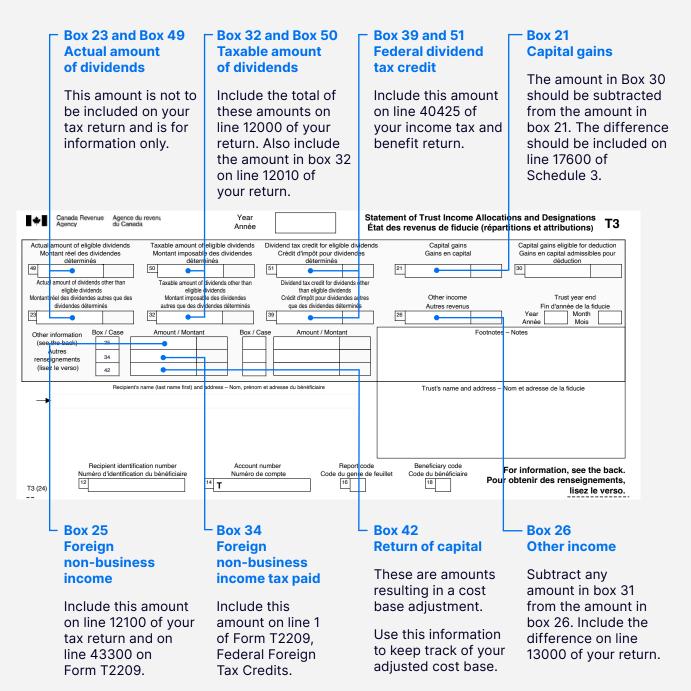
Return of capital (ROC) distributions occur when a mutual fund makes a distribution greater than the taxable income of the fund for the year, essentially giving you back part of your invested capital. This distribution isn't currently taxable like interest, dividend, or other distributions, but CRA eventually wants the tax. To keep track of that amount, CRA requires you to lower the "cost" that you have recorded for this investment so that when the investment is sold, you record a larger gain. CRA will collect the tax when the mutual fund is sold. The tax is deferred until you sell the investment and since the ROC distribution is treated as a capital gain it is only 50%¹ taxable, as capital gains are only 50%¹ taxable.

¹ As per changes proposed in the 2024 federal budget a 66.67% inclusion rate would apply for any capital gains incurred by a corporation or trust and on personal capital gains over \$250,000 in a given year.

T3 – "Statement of Trust Income Allocations and Designations"

When a mutual fund held in a non-registered account distributes any form of income, you will receive a T3 tax slip. The T3 indicates the amounts and types of income that the fund has distributed to you in the previous year. These amounts are taxable and must be reported on your tax return.



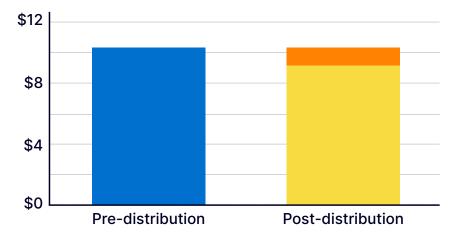


UNDERSTANDING DISTRIBUTIONS

If you have investments in a fund when it pays a distribution, you will receive the full amount of the distribution, regardless of how long you have owned the fund. The distribution received by each investor is determined by the number of units owned by that investor on the "record day" for the distribution, multiplied by the declared distribution per unit.

When a fund makes a distribution, its unit price drops by the same amount of the distribution per unit, but the total value of your investment is unchanged. If your distributions are automatically reinvested, they are used to purchase more units of the fund. As a result, you own more units. When you multiply the higher number of units by the new, lower price, the value of your holdings is unchanged. If your distributions are paid out in cash, the remaining value of your investments plus the cash in hand equals the value of your holdings before the distribution.

Automatically reinvesting your distributions is an administrative convenience for your benefit. The tax treatment is the same as if you actually receive cash distributions and immediately purchase more units in the fund. However, when distributions are automatically invested, you benefit from the compounding growth of your investment.



If a fund does not declare a distribution, that does not mean that the fund is performing poorly. There is no link between the amount of the distribution made by a fund in any year and the fund's performance for that year. Generally, distributions are paid to ensure that the fund does not have to pay tax. Many equity funds, especially growth-oriented funds, appreciate in value due to increases in the value of the underlying investments. Any increase in value is not included in the taxable income of the fund until an investment is sold. (This is the same as if you owned the stocks and bonds yourself. You would not report the profit unless you sold the investment.) In this way, the increase in value of the mutual fund's investments can compound tax-free until the investments are sold and new investments are acquired.

TAXATION FOR NON-RESIDENTS; NR4

"Statement of Amounts Paid or Credited to Non-Residents"

If you are a non-resident holding a non-registered account, you do not receive a T3 tax slip. Instead, you receive an NR supplementary tax slip to report the taxable portion of the distributions from the funds. Depending on your country of residence, the mutual fund company must withhold 15% to 25% of your distributions (excluding any capital gain or return of capital distribution). Your distribution, excluding any return of capital component, will be shown as "gross income." The tax that has been withheld and remitted to CRA is shown as "non-resident tax withheld." Withholding taxes paid to CRA are generally deductible against tax payable in your country of residence.

TAXATION ON THE SALE OF FUNDS - CAPITAL GAIN OR LOSS

As mentioned earlier, since mutual funds are generally considered "capital property," you will realize a capital gain (or loss) when you sell or dispose of any mutual fund units, creating another taxable event.

- If you sell a mutual fund investment for more than you paid for it plus the reinvested taxable distributions, you will realize a capital gain. Realized capital gains must be reported for tax purposes in the year of sale. They are taxed more favourably than regular income as only 50%¹ of a capital gain is subject to taxes.
- If you sell a mutual fund investment for less than what you paid for it plus the reinvested taxable distributions, you will realize a capital loss. Most capital losses can be applied against capital gains to reduce the amount of taxes payable. If you have no realized capital gains in the year you realize a capital loss, the loss can be carried back and applied against taxable capital gains from any of the previous three years. You are also allowed to carry the loss forward indefinitely to offset gains in future years.

The general formula to calculate your capital gain or loss is:



¹ As per changes proposed in the 2024 federal budget a 66.67% inclusion rate would apply for any capital gains incurred by a corporation or trust and on personal capital gains over \$250,000 in a given year.

²The cost paid for the investment is known as your adjusted cost base.

T5008 – "Statement of Securities Transactions"

When mutual funds (or other securities) are sold during the year, you will receive a T5008 tax slip. To calculate any capital gain or loss, you will need to know the following three amounts:

- Proceeds of disposition
- Adjusted cost base
- Outlays and expenses incurred to sell the investment

The purpose of the T5008 information slip is to report the "proceeds of disposition" for investments that were disposed of or redeemed during the tax year, so that you may calculate your capital gain or loss.

In some cases a "deemed" disposition may occur rather than an actual or realized disposition. This happens, for example, when you transfer assets in-kind from your non-registered account to your TFSA or RRSP. A deemed disposition will not generate a T5008 tax slip. Although the T5008 is not generated, this type of disposition is still a taxable transaction and requires reporting to CRA.

Calculation of Adjusted Cost Base (ACB)

For mutual funds, the ACB can be thought of as the average price paid for the units owned. When you sell your mutual funds, the ACB determines whether you have realized a capital gain or loss.

The average cost per unit or share of your total investment increases or decreases when you purchase new units or shares, or reinvest your distributions, depending on the price when the transaction occurred. Every time you purchase additional units or reinvest your distributions, you must recalculate the average cost per unit. As well, a payment of return of capital will require an adjustment to your ACB.

The following example is derived from the sample ACB calculation provided in CRA's Guide RC4169, "<u>Tax Treatment of Mutual Funds for Individuals</u>":

- Over the years, Kate purchased units in XYZ mutual fund trust, and she reinvested her distributions from the trust to buy more units.
- On June 30, 2024, Kate redeemed 200 units from XYZ mutual fund trust at \$17.42 per unit, for a total of \$3,484. Her redemption fees were \$70. For the 2024 tax year, Kate also received a T3 slip from XYZ mutual fund trust showing capital gains (reinvested distributions) of \$750 in box 21 and a return of capital of \$500 in box 42.
- Kate records her redemption and her reinvested distributions, and she recalculates her ACB for XYZ mutual fund trust as shown in the chart on the following page:

Recalculation of Adjusted Cost Base (ACB)

Date	Description	Total Cost in \$ (A)	Number of Units (B)	Average Cost per Unit (A ÷ B)
March 12, 2021	Purchase at \$14.75 per unit	20,000.00	1,355.9322	\$14.75
December 31,	Reinvested distribution at \$16.40 per unit	+ 1,427.82	+ 87.0622	\$16.40
2021	Balance in the fund on December 31, 2021	21,427.82	1,442.9944	\$14.85
	Purchase at \$17.29 per unit	+ 5,000.00	+ 289.1845	\$17.29
April 15, 2022	Balance in the fund on April 15, 2022	26,427.82	1,732.1789	\$15.26
December 31,	Reinvested distribution at \$13.77 per unit	+ 962.11	+ 69.8700	\$13.77
2023	Balance in the fund on December 31, 2023	27,389.93	1,802.0489	\$15.20
June 30, 2024	Redemption of 200 units at \$17.42 per unit ¹	- 3,040.00	- 200.0000	\$15.20
June 30, 2024	Balance in the fund on June 30, 2024	24,349.93	1,602.0489	\$15.20
December 31, 2024	Reinvested distribution at \$15.00 per unit ²	+750.00	+50.0000	
December 21	Return of capital of \$500 ²	-500.00		
December 31, 2024	Balance in the fund on December 31, 2024	24,599.93	1,652.0489	\$14.89

¹ Kate determines her proceeds of disposition based on the selling price of \$17.42 per unit. To calculate her ACB on June 30, 2024, when she redeemed her units, Kate multiplies the average cost of units held immediately before the redemption (\$15.20) by the number of units redeemed (200). This gives Kate an ACB of \$3,040 (\$15.20 × 200).

² As a result of the reinvestment and return of capital reported in boxes 21 and 42 of her T3 slip from XYZ mutual fund trust, she increases her total cost by \$250 and recalculates her ACB on December 31, 2024, to be \$14.89 per unit.

Calculation of capital gain and reporting on tax return (Schedule 3)

The first step Kate takes is to calculate her ACB. The previous chart shows how she does this. The average cost of the units at the time of redemption is \$15.20 per unit. She calculates the ACB for the redeemed units by multiplying the number of units redeemed by the average cost per unit ($200 \times $15.20 = $3,040$). To calculate her proceeds of disposition, Kate multiplies the number of redeemed units by the redemption price ($200 \times $17.42 = $3,484$). The proceeds of distribution will also be provided on the T5008.

When she completes her 2024 income tax and benefit return, Kate records her ACB (\$3,040), her proceeds of disposition (\$3,484), and her redemption fee of \$70 on Schedule 3, under the heading "Publicly traded shares, mutual fund units, deferral of eligible small business corporation shares, and other shares." To determine her capital gain (or loss) on this transaction, she subtracts the ACB and redemption fee from the proceeds of disposition [\$3,484 – (\$3,040 + \$70)]. In this example her gain is \$374.

Kate also reports the capital gain of \$750 from the T3 slip on line 17600 of Schedule 3. Kate does not report the \$500 of Return of Capital from box 42 of the T3 slip on Schedule 3, or as income on her income tax return. The box 42 amount will result in an adjustment to her ACB as shown in the chart.

Kate's total capital gains on line 19700 are 1,124 (374 + 750). To calculate her total taxable capital gains, she multiplies this amount by 50%, for a result of 562. This is the amount she will enter on line 19900 of Schedule 3 and line 12700 of her return.

The applicable areas of Schedule 3 have been reproduced as Kate would have completed them. Kate records her redemption and continues to record any future purchases and reinvested distributions. She continues to recalculate her ACB going forward.

¹ As per changes proposed in the 2024 federal budget a 66.67% inclusion rate would apply for any capital gains incurred by a corporation or trust and on personal capital gains over \$250,000 in a given year.

T1-2024 Capital Gains (or Losses) in 2024						Sch	edul
Complete this schedule and attach it to your						our return.	
For more information, see Guide T4037, Ca	oital Gains.	If you need more	space, attach a se	eparate	sneet.		
2. Dublicht traded aborea, mutual t							
3. Publicly traded shares, mutual t and other shares	runa unn	s, deferral of e	eligible small i	busine	ss corp	oration s	snare
(Note: If you have capital gains (or losses) of	on your T5,	T5013, T4PS, and	d T3 information sl	lips,			
report them on line 17400 or line 17600.)	(1)	(0)	(0)		(A)	(5)	
	(1) Year of	(2) Proceeds of disposition	(3) Adjusted cost base	Outlays ar	(4) nd expenses	Gain (or I (column 2	
	acquisition			(from dis	spositions)	columns 3	
Number Name of fund/corp. and class of shares 200 XYX Mutual Fund Trust	2021	3,484 00	3.040 00		70 00	3	74 100
	Total 13199				ss) 13200		74 00
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T5, T5013, and T4PS information slips – T3 information slips – Capital gains (or los Capital loss from a reduction in your busine Total of all ga Reserves from line 67060 of Form T2017 (i	vious page Capital gai sses) ss investm ins (or los f negative, Total	ent loss ses) before rese show it in bracket capital gains (or	Line B minus Add lines D, E rves: line G minus	, and F	= 17400 + 17600 + = 17800 - 19100 = 19200 +	1,124	
(included on line 13200 in item 3 on the pre T5, T5013, and T4PS information slips – T3 information slips – Capital gains (or low Capital loss from a reduction in your busine Total of all ga	Capital gai Capital gai sses) ss investm ins (or los f negative, Total If the resul	ent loss ses) before rese show it in bracket capital gains (or t is re (loss),	Line B minus Add lines D, E rves: line G minus s and subtract it)	s line C , and F s line H s line J gains	= 17400 + 17600 + = 17800 - 19100 = 19200 + 19700 =	1,124	

To learn more about calculating capital gains, refer to Understanding adjusted cost base, and calculating your capital gains.



The superficial loss rule

As mentioned earlier, if you sell a mutual fund for less than what you paid for it plus the reinvested taxable distributions, you will realize a capital loss. Most capital losses can be applied against capital gains to reduce the amount of taxes payable. However, it is important to be aware of CRA's superficial loss rule: CRA will disallow the loss if you or someone affiliated with you (such as your spouse or corporation) acquires the same investment in the period beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the date you sold the investment.

Tax consequences of switching between mutual funds

A taxable disposition occurs when units in a mutual fund trust are "sold" or "switched" and the proceeds of sale are used to purchase another fund in the same fund family. Selling one Compass Portfolio or ATBIS Pool fund and purchasing another is a taxable transaction, and the applicable capital gain must be reported to CRA.

However, a taxable disposition does not occur when changing (switching) units of one series/class to another series/class within the same fund (i.e., when funds are switched to a different fee schedule, but keeping the same fund would not trigger a disposition). The cost of the units received on a switch will be equal to the ACB of the units that were switched.

ADDITIONAL MUTUAL FUND TAXATION QUESTIONS

If I transfer some of my mutual funds from my non-registered account to a TFSA or RRSP, is that considered a taxable transaction?

Yes. Although you might not actually be selling any of your holdings, and you are just transferring the assets to another account type, CRA considers this to be a "deemed" disposition. If it results in a gain, the gain will be taxable. However, if the disposition results in a loss, the superficial loss rule will apply. Please refer to the previous page which discusses the superficial loss rule in more detail.

How should income be reported for a joint mutual fund account?

Although CRA only requires that one social insurance number (SIN) be provided on the tax slips issued for joint investment accounts, there are rules regarding reporting that income. Tax reporting for a joint account depends on the source of the funds, and may depend on whether the account is held with a spouse or with another individual. In most cases, you are required to report your share of income from a joint investment based on how much you contributed to it. The account holders have an obligation to report the tax appropriately to CRA, regardless of whose SIN appears on the tax slips.

My mutual fund holds foreign investments, am I required to report these investments on CRA's Form T1135E "Foreign Income Verification Statement"?

Although you are required to report any foreign income indicated on your T3 on your annual tax return, foreign holdings in Canadian based mutual funds, including Compass and the ATBIS US Equity and International Equity Pools, are not included in CRA's definition of "Specified Foreign Property," and do not need to be reported on CRA form T1135E.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR INVESTME NTS E TAXATION DTHAT P ES IS A GRAL PA RT O B G 5 Ξ (CO)D) E **RINVESTMENT** YOU CHOICES.



A mutual fund lets you invest in a diverse group of investment products chosen and monitored by professional investment managers. It often offers a broader range of investments to better manage your risk than you can achieve on your own.

ATB Investment Management's professionally designed Compass Portfolios and ATBIS Pool Funds feature a smart, globally diversified asset mix. We are prudent in the risk that we take on and work with a talent pool of investment expertise both within our own team and with our carefully selected sub-advisors. Our funds are designed to meet the investment needs of a range of investors—from conservative, short-term investors all the way to aggressive, long-term investors. For over 20 years, we have built and developed our funds and services in the interest of helping our investors grow and preserve their wealth.

Any level of investor can access this sophisticated program, which includes investments that are typically reserved for the very wealthy. Our strategically designed portfolios can help you meet your goals no matter what stage of life you are in.



Invest with confidence in Compass Portfolios and ATBIS Pool mutual funds.

Notes:	

Notes:



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