

News Release

CCRA responds to Canadians affected by Hurricane Juan

Ottawa, October 1, 2003... Elinor Caplan, Minister of National Revenue, said today that the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) will readily apply the fairness provisions to help the residents and businesses of Nova Scotia and P.E.I. who have difficulties fulfilling their tax obligations in the aftermath of hurricane Juan.

"The Government works with Canadians and businesses every day and we are sensitive to the disruptions that have been caused by hurricane Juan," said Minister Caplan. "As we have done in the past, CCRA will continue to provide relief to clients in extraordinary circumstances by giving special consideration to clients who fail to meet their tax obligations because of the hurricane. "

The fairness provisions give CCRA the flexibility to use a balanced and common-sense approach to help Canadians in resolving problems that arise through no fault of their own. Each situation is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, with possible relief measures such as flexible payment schedules, waived penalties and interest, or extended due dates. Individuals who have questions or concerns regarding tax matters can call the enquiries service at **1-800-959-8281**, while businesses can contact the Business Window line at **1-800-959-5525**.

In addition to the fairness provisions, for residents expecting Canada Child Tax Benefit payments, GST credits, or any other benefit payments, CCRA understands that Canada Post expects to deliver all benefit payments on time.

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