

News Release

December Canada Child Tax Benefit payments issued one week early

Ottawa, December 12, 2003... The Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) is pleased to announce that the December Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) payments have been issued one week earlier than usual. CCTB payments totalling more than \$680 million, to more than 2.7 million recipients across Canada, will be issued today instead of December 20.

The CCRA hopes that, by making the payments earlier this month, it will help make budgeting easier for Canadian families at this time of year. The CCRA supports this kind of flexibility that contributes to the social and economic well-being of Canadians.

Recipients who are expecting a benefit payment and have not received it by December 19, should contact the Agency's CCTB enquiry service at **1-800-387-1193**. This service is available weekdays from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., local time.

In order to receive, or continue to receive, CCTB payments, recipients and their spouses or common-law partners have to file a tax return.

Recipients who are moving should inform the Agency as soon as possible, to ensure that their CCTB payments are not disrupted, even if they use direct deposit and their bank account does not change. The **Address Changes Online** service at www.ccra.gc.ca/newaddress makes it easier for clients to notify the CCRA of a change of address.

As other entitlements are combined each month with the CCTB into a single payment, payments for the following provincial and territorial child benefit programs administered by the Agency will also be issued:

- BC Family Bonus
- New Brunswick Child Tax Benefit
- Newfoundland and Labrador Child Benefit
- Northwest Territories Child Benefit
- Nunavut Child Benefit
- Nova Scotia Child Benefit
- Saskatchewan Child Benefit

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Canada Customs
and Revenue Agency

Agence des douanes
et du revenu du Canada

- Yukon Child Benefit

Recipients can have their CCTB payments deposited directly into their account at their financial institution. To take advantage of this option, they have to complete **Form T1-DD, *Direct Deposit Request***, which they can get at their tax services office or tax centre.

Information on the CCTB can also be found on the **Child and family benefits** pages on the CCRA's Web site at **www.ccra.gc.ca**.