Toward simplification

Revenu Québec carries out an essential mission for all citizens of Quebec, which ensures the funding of key sectors such as health, education and social programs.

Revenu Québec constantly strives to respond to the needs and concerns of citizens. That's why it continues to deploy various tools to make it easier for them to meet their tax obligations.

In doing this, Revenu Québec actively participates in the government's effort to facilitate relationships between citizens and the government.

Starting in 2008, Revenu Québec will innovate and implement a new vision for the provision of its services: **the pre-completed income tax return** – a first step toward this simplification. A pre-completed tax return is a personalized return that Revenu Québec prepares for a person using the information it has on his or her family and tax status.

In Quebec, many individuals have the same family and tax status year after year. When they fill out their tax returns, they write down amounts for the same types of revenues. And Revenu Québec already knows what those amounts are.

This is the case of Ms. Dumais.

Ms. Dumais is retired, and fills out her tax return by writing the relevant amounts for her family and tax status, which has not changed in the past few years.

This situation will be simplified with the pre-completed income tax return prepared by Revenu Québec.

Just like Ms. Dumais, at the beginning of the year, Revenu Québec receives the different statements that she must use to fill out her tax return. Using this information, Revenu Québec enters the relevant amounts on her pre-completed tax return, which it then proposes to Ms. Dumais, in addition to informing her of the amount she owes or the refund she is entitled to.

If Ms. Dumais adds other amounts to her pre-completed tax return, Revenu Québec **recalculates** the amount she owes or the amount of her refund.

Those who will receive a pre-completed tax return won't have any calculations to do. They will simply need to verify the amounts already indicated and add any required amounts. **Filing a tax return is an important obligation**. Therefore, each person who receives a pre-completed tax return will also have to advise Revenu Québec of any changes to his or her family and tax status.

Ultimately, citizens are responsible for the contents of their tax returns.

With the pre-completed tax return, Revenu Québec is innovating and is making it a lot easier for individuals who have a simple tax status.

Revenu Québec will progressively implement the pre-completed tax return starting in 2008. This pilot project will involve 100,000 citizens, 80% of whom are aged 65 and over. These persons fill out their tax return manually. To respect the choice of everyone involved, participation in the pilot is on a voluntary basis.

In 2009, the pilot will be extended to a greater number of taxpayers, and automated tools will be implemented.

Revenu Québec is getting involved in this type of project because it has set a much broader goal for itself. It hopes that by 2011, many quebecer's will be able to use a service by which they can file their pre-completed income tax return electronically. This will enhance the NetFile Québec service currently available as Revenu Québec will provide taxpayer's with all the information it already has on their family and tax status. A complete line of new electronic services will also be provided to citizens, which will allow them to view and manage their personal file directly online.

The pre-completed tax return is the first step toward a greater simplification of interactions between citizens and Revenu Québec.