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Looking Back at 2020

Our most precious asset is time, but many may be forgiven for wishing away the year 2020. Without rehashing the obvious, most of us are looking forward to getting our vaccinations and returning to some form of normal.

It has become somewhat of a parlour game trying to guess or forecast the lasting aftereffects of the pandemic. As your financial planning firm, we'd like to focus on the financial impact of the period in history we are living through.

The first concerns the stock markets, and by extension, your portfolio. 2020 ended up being a year of modest gains. However, if you watch your accounts frequently, you have seen an incredibly volatile path. If you look at your statements quarterly or semiannually during our review meetings, it has been uneventful. Same result, different stress level. And, while 2020 confirmed the folly of making predictions, progress in the eventual defeat of COVID will be as good a barometer as any.

The next observation is the immediate large-scale adaptation of remote communication, the 'work from home' phenomenon. We at PBD embraced this immediately, and have offered the choice of video meetings in addition to phone and, eventually, 'mask to mask' appointments. We are also able to handle more paperwork on line, providing faster, more convenient service. Remote meetings have made distance disappear. As a result, we are finding it much easier to involve more family members in family financial meetings. PBD can deal with clients in many parts of Canada.

The achievement of the year is the remarkable speed with which the leading vaccines were developed. Money, talent, and motivation all came together globally to perform this medical miracle. The strategic

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byproducts of the new mRNA vaccine technology will be changing lives for the better for years to come. This technology will positively impact our health and longevity far sooner than in more normal times and timelines.

Many groups and organizations suffered disproportionately during the pandemic, long term care residents, many small businesses, and the disadvantaged in society. We at PBD created the 'Helping Clients Help' program to financially support your favourite causes, and the initiative has

proven so popular that we will continue the monthly support indefinitely. But we realize that much more can be done. Based on the response to our program, many of you might like to more formally incorporate charitable giving into your financial and estate plans. The tax incentives are extremely generous. Speak to your PBD advisor about possible charitable strategies you may wish to consider.

Last year was challenging in so many ways. We at PBD thank you for your confidence and trust in these unusual times.



Michael Derby
CIM®, PFP®, CEA, RIS
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Travel Insurance and COVID-19

A decision to travel during COVID-19 is certainly a conversation starter. As I write this, there is a tug of war in the media between the dire news of a global surge in new cases and a steady stream of positive announcements on the efficacy of vaccines and therapeutics. While global supply will be limited, in the coming weeks and months vaccines will begin to enter circulation. Setting aside the observation that we should all adhere to the travel, health, and safety guidelines of medical professionals, there are valid reasons for choosing to leave Canada.

Any conversation with your trusted advisor that identifies risk should explore a decision to avoid, retain, or shift that risk to a third party. All of us tend

to be quite cavalier about the risks associated with our adventures, but the risks associated with travel are quite real. The reality is, traveling during a global pandemic increases the likelihood of an unplanned disruption or medical event while abroad. Government policy and health protocols are constantly evolving. Travel insurance can provide added confidence that there is a team of professionals standing by to bring you and yours safely home.

What is Travel Insurance?

Travel insurance is emergency medical coverage and trip interruption protection for you and your family while outside your home province and Canada.

Emergency medical coverage such as physician services, ambulance transportation, hospitalization, and prescription drugs. This can include a COVID-19 diagnosis and the associated costs. With the help of an advisor there are even options to travel with coverage of pre-existing conditions.

Trip cancellation and interruption can help you and your loved ones navigate the trials and tribulations of travel. Protect yourself against canceled flights, lost or damaged baggage, delays, and flight or travel accidents. In the age of COVID this can include the cost of quarantine.

There are individual and family options. Travel insurance is highly customizable, readily available, and easy to put in place.

Interested in more information? Contact your advisor today.



HollisWealth Rebrands to iA Private Wealth

As you know, HollisWealth recently changed their name to iA Private Wealth. This is a rebranding exercise only, and does not reflect any change in our investment dealer's ownership.

For those of you who have been long-time clients of Polson Bourbonniere Derby, you have certainly been through a name change before so you know what to expect. As a refresher, and for more recent clients, here is how the name change impacts you:

Your Financial Advisor

You will continue to work with your financial advisor and the Polson Bourbonniere Derby team. There is no change to our advisory firm.

Online Access

Clients who have access to their accounts and documents online will continue to use their current sign-ons. At present, most clients access their portal through myportfolioplus.ca. Some clients, however, have migrated to a more recent version of the portal and access their online information through iasecurities.ca. Both of these portals will remain active for many months to come but both will eventually be replaced by a newly branded portal through iaprivatewealth.ca. At that time, all clients will need to re-register to continue enjoying their online access.

If you are currently using myportfolioplus.ca you may be prompted to register for the iasecurities.ca portal. Please ignore this prompt and do not migrate to the iasecurities.ca portal as this will disrupt delivery of your documents during tax season.

Account Numbers

The account numbers associated with your portfolio will not change.

Online Banking

If you make deposits through online banking, please continue to use the current bill payee that you have set up. In due course, the banks will all change the payee to iA Private Wealth, but this may take some time. Once the change is made you may need to add iA Private Wealth as a new payee.

Cheques

If you make deposits through cheques, please continue to use HollisWealth or iA Securities until the name change takes effect on January 18. At that time, cheques can be made payable to iA Private Wealth.

Cheques made payable to HollisWealth or iA Securities will continue to be accepted for these next few months.

Websites

The HollisWealth website will be rebranded to iaprivatewealth.ca.

Our website, worryfreeretirement.com remains unchanged.

Please feel free to contact the Polson Bourbonniere Derby team with any questions you may have about the name change

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Insurance products provided through Hollis Insurance

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