

The David Miner Communiqué Fall 2019

"If you aim at nothing, you will hit it every time." – Zig Ziglar



Fall Celebrations!



Happy Fall! David and Dorinda hosted a private event, where many talented singers and musicians performed in celebration of their wedding anniversary at Lula Lounge in August. Leading the entertainment were the Ault Sisters, who have appeared at major venues and jazz festivals around Toronto, performing weekly on *All Time Classic Hit Parade* on Zoomer TV (the Vision TV channel). Rick Schiralli, a leading actor and singer in the Toronto musical theatre scene charmed the audience throughout the night. Debbie Fleming, whose talent and experience ranges from the Tommy Hunter Show (Google it if you are too young to remember) to the Mendelssohn Choir, sang two songs while Tyrone Gabriel of the Nylons did a couple of amazing numbers.

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The "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" finale at Lula Lounge. (photo by Donna Cho)

Rounding out the performers was a talented young professional backup band and some very gifted friends and family. Master of Ceremonies duties were shared by both Dorinda and the exceptional JJ Dayot. Sue Miner's meticulous direction shined and we were grateful for the loving audience composed of close family and friends!

In September, David attended an emerging markets conference hosted by Franklin Templeton in Singapore. After the conference, David and Dori spent a week in Bali before heading home.

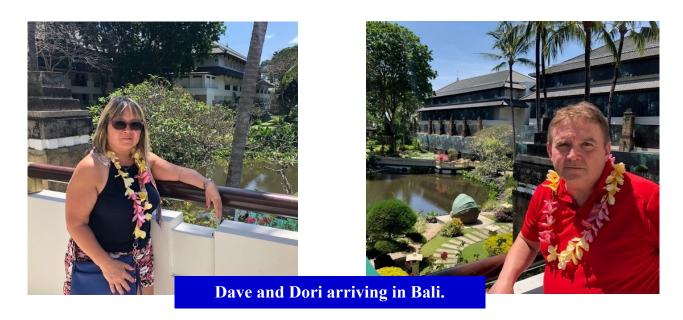
In October, Amelia and Kiran ran the Waterfront halfmarathon in Toronto. Conditions were perfect on the cool & sunny day as they set personal bests, crossing the finish line together!

"A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it."

—Bob Hope

Market & Economic Commentary

Despite some volatility, stock markets have delivered so far in 2019 after a lackluster performance in 2018 and we may be on the cusp of history in the making! Since 1850 - every decade has had at least one recession, sometimes as many as four. Yes – recessions are a normal occurrence and need not be feared; will the decade of 2010 to 2019 be the first with zero recessions? Stay tuned!



Big Picture: Avenues to Retirement Savings

As financial advisors, we offer retirement-oriented investment solutions through individual accounts such as RRSPs, TFSAs and non-registered accounts. Beyond that, we offer RESPs, RDSPs, corporate investment accounts, trust accounts, estate accounts and insurance solutions among others. Within these structures we can provide access to an abundance of mutual funds, portfolio solutions, private pools, segregated funds and annuity products to drive returns, ensure lifestyle preservation, and structure generational wealth transfers all with tax efficiency in mind. Selecting the right combination of accounts to meet one's retirement goals is not always simple and very much subject to change as goals evolve.

Many companies offer employer-sponsored pension plans such as defined benefit ("D.B.") or defined contribution ("D.C.") pension plans to their employees that serve as a strong compliment to individual savings accounts. In the case of D.C. plans, some employers will match a portion of employee contributions (essentially free money) as an incentive to save for retirement. As of December 2017, \$1.78T (trillion) of Canadian assets were in D.B. or D.C. plans which exceeds the \$1.39T accumulated in RRSPs or TFSAs (Strategic Insight, 2019). Where circumstances permit, one should take advantage of employer matching to the maximum extent possible.

The Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is a mandatory pension plan that all working Canadians under the age of 65 must contribute into. In 2019, the maximum employee contribution made to CPP is \$2,748.90, with 100% matching by employers for a total of \$5,497.80. The intention behind this mandatory retirement savings is to provide working Canadians with a recurring income stream in retirement even if the amount is insufficient for Canadians to live off on a standalone basis.

With that in mind, we invite you to leverage our expertise in assessing the big picture! Bring us your employer-sponsored plan statements and the details of any other plans or contracts you intend to fund your retirement with! We take pride in making sure all the pieces fit together for your family and ensure that you are on your path towards retirement success!

Start 'Em Young!

Some things we commonly hear are that people feel ill-prepared to take on "money tasks" such as when or how much to save for retirement, how much to keep in a rainy-day fund, budgeting, selecting (or avoiding) financial products etc. Unfortunately, many of these are inescapable parts of life and we don't realize we needed guidance on these matters until later in life; at which point, it may be too late to undo some of the mistakes of yesteryear. To change this we ask that you take the time to talk to your kids about money!







The most successful investors do not shy away from conversations about money – spending & savings habits, short and long-term goals, when and how to use debt, understanding the power of compound growth – these are all important topics generally overlooked by the public-school system. Including your children in conversations about money can benefit them two-fold: first by removing stigmas attached to talking about money; and second, parents can educate their children by drawing on examples in their own lives!



Future marathoners Nalina and Maya.

The best view of Singapore from atop the Marina Bay Sands Hotel.



If you're not comfortable doing so, why not invite your children to our next meeting? If the intention is a lesson in 'adulting', we can work with you to achieve exactly that. Dialogue is key!

Lastly, the minimum age to open an investment account in Canada is 18 years old. As your children or grandchildren get their first job, take the opportunity to chat with them about setting aside funds for post-secondary education, their first car, a vacation, etc. We're happy to set up "starter" plans to help the next generation start good savings habits from an early age!

Year end is fast approaching! Let us know if there are any tax transactions (triggering gains, reducing taxable income via RRSP contributions, etc.) or cash flow needs you'd like to plan for. Remember that TFSA contribution room replenishes every January for any withdrawals made before the end of the year. We are here to answer any questions you may have!



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