

Start early to plan for future

Young people see bright financial future... maybe!

There it was on the front page of the June 19th Globe and Mail. The headline read "Young Canadians see bright financial future."

A survey by Gallup for the Investors Group was reported to indicate young people between the ages of 18 and 29 expect to own their own home and have \$100,000 in savings by the year 2001.

For most of them ... Fa: Chance!

The plain fact of the matter is that younger people say that they plan to save and invest, but in fact most do not.

Some facts that are not in dispute are, less than half of Canadians have a pension plan or an RRSP ... CPP at the maximum only makes up only 25% of employment earnings ... statistics indicate that even with CPP and OAS, 48% of Ontario workers retire with an income below the poverty line. And 95% depend on some government or family assistance to survive.

Is there an easy way for young people to save and invest?

Yes there is! And it is as easy and painless and time has proven it works.

There are two parts to it. First is to pay yourself first (I feel like a broken record, I say it so often) and second is dollar cost averaging in an equity mutual fund.

Paying yourself first means that you have a pre-authorized cheque (PAC) in the amount that you want to save going into your investment saving planing regularly every month.

Why should you invest in an equity mutual fund which is subject to the up and down cycles of the stock market?

I read somewhere years ago, something that has stuck with me. "The stock market is like a yo-yo in the hands of a man climbing stairs. Unfortunately, most



IT'S YOUR MONEY
Paul J. Rockett

of us only watch the yo-yo and forget he's climbing the stairs."

It is very true, the stock market has its up and downs. History tells us there is an average of three years up and one year down in a four year cycle. The market has always averaged up, despite the fact there are ups and downs in that average. Just like the yo-yo going up and down while the man climbs the stairs. It pays to keep your eye on where the man is on the stairs, not on whether the yo-yo is spinning upward or downward. Despite the yo-yo effect good mutual funds have proven to keep climbing.

Dollar cost averaging which is regular monthly investment in an equity mutual fund is a sure way to beat stock market "ups and downs." This system is mentioned in almost any book you read on how to improve your finances.

Did you know that if you invested \$100 monthly in an investment that doubled from a starting price of \$5 to \$10 after 10 years would be worth \$17,250 at the end of that 10 years?

If the values went up and down, just as the market does, the result would be quite different. Suppose the share value in the first year is \$5, the second year \$3, the third \$6, 4th year \$4 etc. finally ending up doubling at \$10 in year 10. Your value would be over \$22,000. Almost \$5,000 more!

The same amount (\$100 a month - \$1,200 a year) and the price of the shares was the same, doubled! By investing regularly the purchaser was sometimes buying bargains at \$3 and \$4 and this is what gave the ext a gain.

Every time the share price went down your \$100 brought more shares, so that when the price went back up, your increase was on the additional shares.

Had the value of our shares dropped from \$5 to \$4 to \$3 to \$2 and then to \$1 in the first five years, then risen over the next five years to what you paid originally, you would end up with a value of \$25,455. That's \$8,000 more than if the shares had steadily increased over the same period that you invested \$100 a month.

The same system works wonders for a long term RRSP too! If you are one of the many who haven't saved the money to make your maximum contribution in February, this is the easy way to do it, and you can wind up with a better return and more money to boot! Dollar cost averaging always beats the market, if you give it time. Are you practising this principle in your savings?

For a free sheet that shows how Dollar Cost Averaging works, contact Peter C. Masson, 10 Fagan Drive, Georgetown, Ont., or phone 877-7216.

Paul J. Rockett is the author of the best seller "Why I Invest in Mutual Funds" and President of Regal Capital Planners Limited, a 21-year-old financial planning company with offices from coast to coast in Canada.

FCP annual meeting

The Family Coalition Party, Halton North Constituency Association, will hold its annual meeting tomorrow (Thursday) at 8:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Knolcrest Centre, 360 Guelph St., Unit 38B, in Georgetown. All members and non-members are welcome.

A new executive of the Constituency Association will be elected. Nine people have already been nominated for the positions of President, Executive V.P., C.F.O. Secretary and Vice Presidents, however, nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

Mr. Guiseppe Gori, former FCP candidate in Halton North and Deputy leader of the party will address the audience.

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Duignan faces Chamber

Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce has invited NDP Halton North MPP, Noel Duignan, to address its members (and the general public) on the NDP budget, in a question and answer period at its annual monthly meeting scheduled for Friday, noon, at North Halton Golf and Country Club.

Tickets for the luncheon are \$16.50 and more information on the session can be obtained by contacting the Chamber at 877-7119.

SONWARD HO!
HOWDY FOLKS!
It's time to git yerself ready for SONWARD HO!
Sundays: June 30 - Aug. 25
10 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
For kids ages 4-10 yrs. at Georgetown Alliance Church, Main St. There will be Bible stories, activities, games, snacks, skits, crafts and fun for y'all! You can register when ya drop on over. Oh yeah, special thanks from Petunia to y'all who "milked" her at the cow milking contest during Pioneer Days.
CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!
Hope to see y'all out at SONWARD HO!
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