

## WELCOME TO THE EMERGE ARK INNOVATION REVIEW WITH SPECIAL TAX SEGMENT

With Lisa Langley (CEO/Founder, Emerge Canada) & Dean Smith (Partner, Cadesky Tax)

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Thank you for joining! We will begin shortly.





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## INTRODUCING DR. DEAN SMITH, PARTNER, CADESKY TAX



#### THE ISSUES

How does holding a Canadian vs. a U.S. ETF affect your after-tax returns?





#### THE ISSUES



- Holding Foreign Properties
- Distributions
- Estate Planning Issues



Types of distributions – in general

Capital gains Canadian dividends Foreign income and foreign taxes paid Interest and other income Return of capital (ROC)

## Distributions – Canadian ETFs (to Canadian residents)

- Capital gains and Canadian source dividends flow out to unitholders allows character of income to flow out to unit holders and be taxed accordingly
  - Capital gains 50% of capital gain (known as a taxable capital gain) is taxed at ordinary rates
  - Eligible dividends
  - Not-eligible dividends
- Foreign income and foreign taxes paid flow out to unitholders allows unit holders to claim foreign tax credits
- Interest and other income taxed at marginal tax rate as ordinary income
- Return of capital not taxable, reduces adjusted cost base (ACB), essentially a return
  of part of the unit holder's initial investment

# Distributions – U.S. ETFs (to Canadian residents)

Treated as foreign (U.S.) source income

Since a factual U.S. corporation, Canada treats as U.S. RIC as a foreign (U.S.) corporation

Distributions treated as foreign (U.S.) source dividends

Canadian foreign tax credit may be limited to 15%

Full distribution taxed at marginal tax rates – NO preferential Canadian tax treatment (capital gains, Canadian source dividends, ROC)

Any preferential U.S. treatment NOT relevant for Canadian tax purposes

## Taxation at death

#### Canadian

- Deemed to have disposed of ALL capital assets at fair market value resulting in either a capital gain or capital loss
- Exceptions property left to surviving spouse then transferred at tax cost
- Would include Canadian and U.S. ETFs

#### Taxation at death

- United States
  - U.S. ETFs considered U.S. situs assets
  - In general, a U.S. ETF is a U.S. corporation that has elected to be treated as a "regulated investment company" (RIC) for U.S. tax purposes.
    - Allows U.S. corporation to deduct distributions in computing its taxable income
  - Subject to U.S. estate tax based on FMV of assets NOT inherent gain.
  - Under U.S. Internal Revenue Code (IRC) only US\$60,000 of assets are excluded form U.S. estate to U.S. nonresidents/non-citizens
  - Ability to use Article XXIX-B of Canada-United States Tax Convention (1980)
  - Highly political
    - Under Trump 2021 exemption amount US \$11.7 million 40% top marginal tax rate
    - Biden proposes to reduced exemption amount to US \$3.5 million and increase top marginal rate to 45%

### Foreign Reporting

Form T1135, "Foreign Income Verification Statement"

Due at the same time as the taxpayer's return

Significant penalties for non-compliance

#### Generally must be filed if taxpayer has

- . Specified foreign property (would include U.S. based ETFs)
- Where tax cost, in aggregate, exceeds C\$100,000
- · At any time during the year.
- Think investment assets
- . Does NOT include personal-use property or listed personal property



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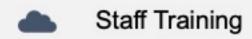
#### GOLDEN NUGGETS



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