

# Retirement road map

Check out these tips for a smooth journey

**3-5**  
**YEARS**

from  
retirement

**1**  
**YEAR**  
from  
retirement

**6**  
**MONTHS**  
from  
retirement

- Consider** moving to lower-risk investments, increasing contributions and paying down debt.
  - Learn** how plan rules and government legislation will affect your income.
  - List** potential lifestyle changes, such as travel or moving to a new home.
  - Track** current spending to create a budget for retirement. Don't forget inflation.
  - Estimate** your cash flow from personal savings, company retirement plans and government benefits.
- Go over** your budget to see if it will meet your needs.
  - Ensure** you meet age requirements for receiving income.
  - Review** your will, powers of attorney, insurance and investments.
  - Combine** your retirement savings so they're all in one place.
  - Find out** what your retirement income could be. Our Income wizard can help.
- Choose** your retirement income options. We can help you decide.
  - Review** beneficiaries for your company and personal savings plans.
  - Notify** your benefits administrator of your retirement and complete any paperwork.
  - Apply** for government benefits. Contact Service Canada for the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and old age security (OAS). Contact Retraite Québec for Quebec Pension Plan (QPP).



**We're here to help:** Call *Access Line* at 1-800-724-3402 and ask to speak with an investment and retirement specialist or talk to your financial advisor.

## Points of interest

**Income wizard:** [www.smartpathnow.com](http://www.smartpathnow.com) > Getting close

**Service Canada:** 1-800-277-9914 [www.servicecanada.gc.ca](http://www.servicecanada.gc.ca)

**Retraite Québec:** 1-800-463-5185 [www.rrq.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.rrq.gouv.qc.ca)

**Retirement income solutions booklet:** Sign in to [www.grsaccess.com](http://www.grsaccess.com), go to Planning & learning > Learning centre > Retirement income solutions

# Planning for the road ahead

We offer a wide range of retirement income options. Depending on what you choose, many factors will affect the amount of money you receive, including: your age or your spouse's age, account balance, rates of return and government legislation. The charts below will give you a general idea of what your lump-sum savings will look like as a monthly income, but you should also speak with an investment and retirement specialist or your financial advisor.

Two popular options are: Registered retirement income funds (RRIFs) and annuities. If you want to choose – and change – your income, RRIFs allow you to do that (subject to minimums). You may want an annuity to cover your fixed living expenses for the rest of your life, or opt for a combination of both a RRIF and an annuity.



**Check out a two-minute video.** Go to [www.youtube.com/greatwestgrs](http://www.youtube.com/greatwestgrs) > Simply Speaking videos > **Turning your savings into retirement income.**

## Flexible income from RRIFs

Your savings	If you withdraw the minimum required amount:		If you withdraw a fixed amount (level payment) above the minimum:	
	Your monthly income*	How long your money will last	Your monthly income	How long your money will last
<b>\$100,000</b>	\$347 - \$525 from age 65 to 94, then reducing gradually each year to \$231 at age 99	35 years (age 100)	\$750	13 years (age 78)
<b>\$500,000</b>	\$1,733 - \$2,623 from age 65 to 94, then reducing gradually each year to \$1,155 at age 99	35 years (age 100)	\$2,500	25 years (age 90)

Assumptions:  
Four per cent rate of return, RRIF purchased at age 65

\*If you receive only the minimum required amount, it ensures your savings will last until age 100. Payment amounts vary from year to year due to the factors outlined earlier in this document. The amounts generally increase each year to age 94, then reduce for each of the following five years to give you some income while depleting your savings at age 100.

## Guaranteed income for life from annuities

Purchase amount	Your age	Your monthly income for life
<b>\$100,000</b>	65	\$550
<b>\$500,000</b>	65	\$2,765

Assumptions:  
Single life annuity, male, savings from Ontario registered pension plan (post 1986)

The above RRIF and annuity examples are for illustration purposes only as at November 2015. Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar.

The information provided in this document is accurate to the best of our knowledge as of the date of publication, but rules and interpretations may change. This information is general in nature, and is intended for educational purposes only. For specific situations you should consult the appropriate legal, accounting or tax expert.

