



## We can help.

Recently the Bank of Canada indicated that foreign demand, specifically from the U.S. has improved and will positively affect the Canadian economy. Saying that, the central bank has held its key interest rate steady at 1.75%, and this in turn could result in further mortgage rate decreases in time for the traditionally robust spring season.

So, while mortgages will be cheaper, this could spur more demand and in turn increase housing prices further. On the other hand, the decrease in yields will continue to put pressure on overall deposit and investment returns.

In early February we were invited to provide budget consultations to the Ministry of Finance and one of the topics we discussed was “affordability for the average Ontarian”. In addition to tax relief, and to stop income tax bracket creep suggestions, we advocated that financial planning and financial literacy are key to helping individuals, regardless of income levels, in attaining financial stability.

As an OPPA Credit Union Member you have access to truly unbiased and objective advisers that will ALWAYS do what is in your best interests. I would respectfully suggest that you leverage our net-worth calculator, establish a base line and then reach out to one of our advisors to discuss goals and create a plan together that will help you achieve those goals. It is never too late and it is never too early to start a plan. Our advisors are experts and truly understand the uniqueness of our Members and will ensure YOUR plan is individualized accordingly.

In addition to helping you reach your financial goals, the OPPA Credit Union wants you to be vigilant with your online security and as such we post weekly ONLINE SAFETY tips to keep you and your accounts safe. We encourage everyone to review and share these tips in order to avoid the increasing number of scams that target Canadians.

We are here for you our Members and your families, contact us at any time whether it's for lending, investments, day-to-day banking or financial planning, we are pleased to assist.

Bill

