

MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

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W.L. Dueck & Co. LLP Brings a Successful Track Record in Cross-border Tax Solutions to Andersen Global

- W.L. Dueck & Co. LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants is a leading provider of custom-tailored, cross-border tax solutions with offices in Vancouver, Richmond, Calgary, and Edmonton, and now joins Andersen Global as a Canadian member firm along with Andersen Tax in Montreal, a firm of Chartered Professional Accountants.
- Andersen Tax in Canada harnesses the substantial resources of Andersen Global's collaborating and member firms to provide best-in-class integrated tax solutions to businesses or individuals looking for comprehensive support within Canada and internationally.
- W.L. Dueck & Co. LLP specializes in providing cross-border tax expertise to individuals and businesses. Founded in 1998 by Warren Dueck, a former Ernst & Young US tax partner, the firm started out with an office in Richmond, British Columbia and has since expanded to include three partners and a team of over 20 talented tax professionals located in Vancouver, Richmond, Calgary and Edmonton.
- The firm has always believed in customized service, and the firm's partners, are well known for their client centered approach to tax. The team that joins Andersen Tax in Canada comes to the table with the mindset that every situation is unique in terms of facts and goals. Their approach is to take clients through a detailed information gathering exercise to help them identify the key issues that must be considered and addressed.
- The firm is committed to providing a detailed explanation of the client's current tax position so that they understand the rationale for the tax being paid and, more importantly, they are made aware of opportunities to proactively reduce their overall future tax liabilities.

What is Andersen Global?

- Andersen Global is an association of independent firms (a legal structure known as a "Swiss Verein") comprised of founding firm Andersen Tax LLC and an integrated international association of independent collaborating and member firms who offer tax advisory and compliance services and valuation services for individuals and commercial clients.

Andersen Global Seeks to Transform a Respected Name From the Past into the International Tax Firm of the Future.

- The Arthur Andersen brand was, at its zenith, synonymous with the ultimate, best-in-class accounting firm. It was at one time a member of the "Big Five" accounting firms and one of the world's largest multinational professional services firms.
- The controversies surrounding Enron ultimately resulted in the dissolution of Arthur Andersen in 2002, related to the firm's auditing role for Enron. In 2005, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously overturned Arthur Andersen's Enron-related convictions. However, by that time, the damage to the firm was done.



- Nonetheless, the standards and quality of service that made it an elite member of the accounting world did not disappear, but continued to live on through the talented tax professionals who cut their teeth at Arthur Andersen.
- One group of 22 tax practitioners was determined to preserve the elements of what made Arthur Andersen the “go to” tax firm of choice for the international business elite. In 2007, they set up Wealth & Tax Advisory Services Inc. (WTAS), a subsidiary of HSBC Holdings PLC, and acquired part of the old Arthur Andersen tax practice. WTAS’s management made a carefully considered decision to rename the company Andersen Tax LLC in 2014.
- Under the leadership of CEO Mark Vorsatz, Andersen Tax LLC has established Andersen Global and set out to position the Andersen name as an attractive tax and legal services alternative to the remaining Big Four accounting firms. The scope of expansion of Andersen Global has been rapid and impressive. Starting with a base in San Francisco of 22 partners and 180 staff, in just under five years, it has grown to 400 partners, and over 2,500 staff in over 95 locations worldwide.
- While Vorsatz acknowledges that Andersen Global has set itself ambitious growth targets he is also clear that Andersen Global is not an attempt to recreate Arthur Andersen in its entirety. “Anderson Global will focus on tax and legal services only,” he says. Audit services have been deliberately excluded from the service mix.

The Andersen Difference

- The Canadian member firms of Andersen Global, take a custom-tailored approach to client service. Andersen Tax in Canada fully embraces Andersen Global’s entrepreneurial ethos, and have always been proponents of Andersen Global’s core values.

The Way Forward: Andersen Tax in Canada, Custom-tailored Tax Solutions That are Financially Integrated with a Global Reach.

- Moving forward under the Andersen Global umbrella, Andersen Tax in Canada will continue to provide consulting services on tax structuring solutions, assist with repairing deficiencies and ensuring compliance requirements are met for:
 - High net-worth professionals whose professional income is derived from moving either direction across the Canadian-U.S. border or who work outside Canada.
 - Clients who have investment interests outside of Canada.
 - Canadian businesses with operations in the U.S. or any of the over 35 countries that form part of the Andersen Global association.
 - Canadian businesses seeking to expand operations beyond Canada’s borders.

