Three-Account Reference Guide

RRSP/RRIF/Co. Pension/et. al.

TFSA

Non-Registered

Contributions reduce taxable income.	Contributions do not reduce taxable income.	Contributions do not reduce taxable income.
Contributions are from pre-tax money. I.E. Tax has not been paid on contributions nor growth.	Contributions are from after-tax dollars	Contributions / deposits are from after-tax dollars
Contribution limit. Past contribution room accumulates.	Contribution limit. Past contribution room accumulates.	No contribution limit
All activity within the account is a non-taxable event.	All activity within the account is a non-taxable event.	All activity within the account is potentially taxable
•	•	 Interest & dividends from non-Canadian corps. taxed at marginal tax rate. Dividends from Canadian corps. & capital gains receive preferential tax treatment.
Withdrawals add to taxable income. Withdrawals are treated as standard income regardless of source.	Withdrawals are a non-taxable event.	Withdrawals are a non-taxable event.
 Must convert RRSP and derivatives to RRIF by when youngest spouse turns 71. Can convert earlier. 	No conversion necessary	No conversion necessary
Home Buyer & Education Withdrawals are allowed without increasing taxable income. Google it.	•	•

Death & Tax

Beneficiary options: 1. Beneficiary 2. Successor Annuitant	Beneficiary options: 1. Beneficiary 2. Successor Holder Google the difference	No beneficiary. As per the will.
 Account value added to income on terminal tax return unless surviving spouse is beneficiary 	No tax consequence	 All capital gains are triggered and taxable capital gain added to terminal tax return unless surviving spouse
 Paid to beneficiaries avoiding the estate process & probate 	Paid to beneficiaries avoiding estate process and probate.	• As per the will and is subject to probate.