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COS.CA Newsletter March 2026

Easter Updates

As we tick off another financial year for the team, we are super proud of what they have achieved for our IRD filing percentages. Therefore, we are closing the office for the week after Easter to give the team a well-deserved break. **The office will close at 4pm Thursday 2nd April** and then reopen with a refreshed team on **Monday 13th April at 8.00am**.

TEAM NEWS

Big congratulations to Rochelle Schwenke and her husband Herman who welcomed wee Lennox to their family on 30th December 2025. That is boy number 4 and Rochelle assures us he is baby 4 of 4!! Rochelle has been popping into the office to share cuddles and keep up with what is happening in the office – she doesn't want to miss out on anything.

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NEW BANK ACCOUNT REMINDER

If you have received an invoice from us recently you will have noted, we have new bank account details. Please ensure to update your payee details for us to:

ASB Bank

12-3106-0025250-00

FUEL & FERT PRICES ON THE RISE

As every New Zealander faces rising fuel prices, we know our farmers are also bracing for the inevitable increase in fertiliser prices. We encourage you to ensure you claim the fuel excise refund for all petrol used in on-farm vehicles and don't hesitate to contact us if you need assistance with this. We share the link to the NZTA website where you can register and also download the required forms for this refund.

Keep your budgets updated, remember Farm Focus has a useful tool allowing you to increase all future budget amounts in the year with just one action – call our office or the Farm Focus help desk if you have not found this tool.

[Fuel Excise Duty Refunds - Register and Download Forms Here](#)

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From 1 April 2026 the default KiwiSaver contribution rate will rise to 3.5% (from 3%). From 1 February 2026, employees who are KiwiSaver members can apply for a temporary contribution rate reduction, ahead of the scheduled increase to compulsory KiwiSaver contribution rates. While employees can apply from February, any approved rate reduction will not take effect until their first pay on or after 1 April 2026. As an employer, you'll be notified of any approved rate reductions that need to be applied to payroll from 1 April. This notification may come either:

- directly from your employee, via a letter confirming the period of their approved rate reduction, or
- from Inland Revenue, advising which employee has been granted a temporary rate reduction and the applicable period.

Employers can match their employee's temporary rate reduction if they choose. If you have any questions about how these changes will affect your payroll or employer obligations, please get in touch with us.



MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE FROM 1 APRIL 2026

The Government has confirmed that the adult minimum wage will increase to \$23.95 per hour from 1 April 2026. The training and starting-out minimum wages will also increase, rising to \$19.16 per hour. These rates will remain set at 80% of the adult minimum wage. Employers

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TAX PAYMENTS AND UPDATED TAX ESTIMATES

Those of you with 2025 terminal tax due on the 7th April 2026 should have received a payment notice from us by now. If not, please give the office a call.

For our March balance date clients, the team will be in touch early April to collect the required information to update your estimate of taxable income before the final instalment of 2026 provisional tax due on the 7th May 2026.

HAPPY EASTER

Charmaine, Cheriden and all the team wish you a Happy Easter and hope you too get to enjoy some time to rest, relax and enjoy too many easter eggs and hot cross buns.



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0800 36 36 86

(09) 470 2020

VISIT US

1A Douglas St

Kensington

Whangarei 0112

POST US

PO Box 46

Whangarei

0140

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