

# How Can You Pay Down Debt Sooner?



Canadian consumer debt has climbed to record levels. While lending rates are low now they will eventually rise. Make this the year you take steps to get a handle on your debt load. Here are a few tips to get you started:

- Make a list of all your debts (credit cards, credit lines, vehicle loans, mortgages), and take note of the interest rates for each. Determine which ones have the highest interest rates and pay those off first. By paying down the debts with the highest interest rates you will be saving more money and paying off what you owe faster.
- Another option to paying your debt is to negotiate lower interest rates with the companies that hold your debt. Let them know that you are shopping around for a better rate. For example, you can ask your credit card company if they have a card that offers a lower interest rate.
- Finally, you can also transfer or consolidate your debt to a lower interest vehicle. Or apply for a debt consolidation loan or line of credit. This way you will be paying less interest overall.

By paying lower interest rates, you'll be able to pay more down on your principal, and pay off your debt sooner. Paying down your debt is an easy way to save more.