

Twelve things to settle before you apply

For Canadian corporations changing their fiscal year-end. Rules current to 16 October 2026.

- ☐ **Name the operational reason**
Merger, acquisition, group alignment, new system, seasonal cycle.
- ☐ **Check the reason is already in writing**
A board resolution predating the request is worth more than a letter.
- ☐ **Confirm no period exceeds fifty-three weeks**
A mid-year change creates two short periods, not one long one.
- ☐ **Check whether a deemed year-end already applies**
Control change, amalgamation, winding-up, emigration, exempt status.
- ☐ **Write to the correct CRA tax centre**
Current date, proposed date, reason, and related corporate events.
- ☐ **Ask explicitly for permission**
Concurrence is requested, not assumed from a filing position.
- ☐ **Send it several months ahead**
A late request can be refused on timing alone, whatever its merits.
- ☐ **Update your CRA business account details first**
Decisions go to the address and representative CRA currently holds.
- ☐ **Wait for written concurrence before changing anything**
Acting early lets CRA reassess on the original periods.
- ☐ **Plan two T2 returns, not one**
One for the old period, one for the new, each within the limit.
- ☐ **Prorate CCA and the small business deduction**
By the actual days in each fiscal period after approval.
- ☐ **Leave GST/HST and payroll on the calendar**
Neither moves with your corporate fiscal year-end.

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