Welcome to TAX ALERT, a weekly dispatch about the proposed federal tax changes.

CMA ADVOCACY UPDATE
The CMA presented to the House of Commons Finance Committee on September 28, during which we emphasized the economic contribution of medical practices, the role of incorporation and why it matters to physicians, and the importance of getting this proposal right. Click here to view our full remarks. The National Finance Committee in the Senate will be holding four weeks of public hearings on the proposed tax changes starting next week, and we anticipate being active throughout these public hearings as well.

The CMA will be submitting its technical brief to the department of Finance on Monday, October 2, in which we ask the government to:

- suspend the current proposals;
- conduct a comprehensive review of these proposals to ensure that legislation can meet policy objectives without significant unintended consequences; and
- engage all Canadians in a comprehensive review of the tax system considering the unique aspects of all sectors, including safety net provisions.

The brief will be available on cma.ca by end of day Monday.

Phase two of our advocacy and engagement activities is getting underway, with a new letter-writing tool to be available on cma.ca starting Monday October 2. More than 10,000 letters were sent to MPs during the consultation period, and we know that many PTMAs and other small business groups also had similar campaigns underway. Your high level of engagement and advocacy proved invaluable, as the government is under significant pressure. We need to keep the momentum going, and we urge all members to visit the taxation page on cma.ca on Monday October 2 for new messages, a FAQ, and to use the letter-writing tool to send a new letter to MPs.

THE COALITION CONTINUES ITS PUSH
The Coalition for Small Business Tax Fairness continues to grow, and has now reached 75 organizations. The Coalition presented to the Finance Committee on the first day of hearings, calling for a comprehensive review of the proposals as well as urging the government to take sufficient time to consider the changes, given their magnitude.

WE HIT THE 10K MARK!
Thanks to you and your colleagues, over 10,000 letters have been sent to MPs. The letters you’ve sent have been instrumental in getting Liberal MPs to bring the concerns of their constituents to Minister Morneau and Prime Minister Trudeau. Thanks in large part to Canadian doctors, the government has been forced to reconsider its planned changes to the tax system. Now it’s time to keep up the pressure.

NEWS STORIES OF THE WEEK
- "Premiers challenge Trudeau government over contentious tax proposals", CBC News, September 22
- "Local farmers fearful as government tax reforms deadline approaches", CTV News, September 23
Please share these stories with your colleagues on your social media channels or by email to help spread the message further.

PROPOSED TWEETS FOR THE WEEK

Let’s make sure we get this right — urging our government to extend consultation on new tax measures to ensure #UnfairTaxChanges #TaxFairness http://ow.ly/KW3i30fhlJV

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
Visit the taxation page on cma.ca for more information and resources.

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