TAX ISSUE REMAINS A PRIORITY — WHAT PHYSICIANS ARE SAYING

“I was able to purchase a clinic and create an amazing space to see my patients. But that came from my family savings and I have basically used my own home as collateral ......every Band-Aid, toilet paper roll and garbage can in that clinic was paid for by myself and my partner. I fear for my family — as far as where we’re going to be financially with these new rules — which have made it a very poor decision for me to invest in Canada’s health infrastructure”.

— Dr. Shannon Wires
Community pediatrician in Kelowna, B.C.

Dr. Wires is just one of the many members we heard from last year as part of our campaign to ensure physicians’ voices are heard on tax fairness. As a refresher, here’s a brief overview of what the CMA has accomplished over the past six months:

- We joined the Coalition for Small Business Tax Fairness, a group of over 75 professional organizations representing small business operators — from farmers to independent businesses.
- We met with Finance Minister Bill Morneau, in August, at his request, to voice the concerns of physicians and small businesses.
- We were in Kelowna in September to host a roundtable where female physicians discussed the gender-specific challenges of the proposed changes.
- We asked a group of women physicians to share their views about the proposed tax changes on their practice, their personal lives and their ability to care for their patients.
- We worked closely with our members to press the government for change and to keep you up to date on new developments.
- We submitted a technical brief to government calling for a comprehensive review of the tax system.
- We appeared before the Finance Committee twice, and once before the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance.
- We issued a statement in November to express apprehension about the looming deadline for the changes.
- We also provided a reaction to the federal government’s announcement on income sprinkling in December 2017.

Although we’ve turned the calendar to 2018, the CMA remains firmly committed to our campaign, and will be resuming our advocacy work with the Coalition for Small Business Tax Fairness. We anticipate the 2018 federal budget will address the issue of passive investments. In the
PRIME MINISTER HOLDING TOWN HALL MEETINGS THIS MONTH

While the House of Commons is adjourned for most of January, Prime Minister Trudeau is embarking on a cross-country tour to talk jobs and the economy, and to hear directly from Canadians. Mr. Trudeau kicked off the tour earlier this week in Halifax, before heading to Hamilton and London. On January 18, he’s headed to Quebec City, followed by dates in Edmonton and Winnipeg. These meetings are an opportunity to respectfully share your opinions on issues of concern, such as taxation.

LEND YOUR VOICE

MPs are in their ridings for the next couple of weeks, before Parliament resumes. This is a great chance for a face-to-face meeting, or simply a phone conversation. We encourage you to give their offices a call to share how these tax changes will affect you and your practice. You can also:

- use our letter-writing tool to let your MP and Minister Morneau know your position on the issue;
- get up to speed by reading our latest key messages, frequently asked questions and speaking points;
- join the conversation on social media using #UnfairTaxChanges.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Visit the taxation page on cma.ca for more information and resources.

Unsubscribe from tax alerts.

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