



September 20, 2017

Mr. Elliot Hughes
Deputy Director of Tax Policy
Office of the Minister of Finance

Dear Mr. Hughes,

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the potential impacts of the federal government's tax proposals on family physicians. We appreciate the time you took in your busy day to meet with us personally about these significant concerns.

Our 36,000 members commit themselves every day to providing high-quality, comprehensive care to their patients. We remain concerned that changes in tax rules that reduce the appeal of family medicine as a career choice would have a negative impact on enrolment, recruitment and retention. Ultimately, this would adversely affect the cost-effective and efficient foundation of the health care system that Canadians value so highly. We have seen the impacts of similar policies in specific jurisdictions across Canada and encourage the federal government to consider these ramifications. Focused application of proposed tax reforms to ensure alignment with the Minister's mandate would be one potential approach to ensure these meet the stated goal of fairness.

We hope you will have the opportunity to bring these considerations to the attention of Minister Morneau and others who are involved in the consultation process. Thank you for your consideration – our team remains committed and available to working with you on potential solutions.

Regards,

Francine Lemire, MD, CCFP, FCFP
Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer

David White, MD, CCFP, FCFP
President, CFPC

cc: The Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance
Mr. Eric Mang, Executive Director, Member and External Relations, CFPC
Mr. Artem Safarov, Director, Health Policy and Government Relations, CFPC