

I'm responding below to this information that I recently received a link to.

Ottawa, December 15, 2011 -

The House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance announced today that a study of charitable giving in Canada will be launched when Parliament returns in 2012.

"I am pleased that the Committee will be undertaking this important study," said Mr. James Rajotte, chair of the Committee. "The Committee hears about charitable giving each year during its pre-budget consultations. This study is consistent with the unanimous support in the House of Commons for a March 2011 motion by Mr. Braid, the Member of Parliament for Kitchener-Waterloo, a related motion adopted by this Committee in the fall of 2011 and the recommendation for a study of charitable giving by the Committee in the 2011 budget."

In particular, the study will examine, in respect of both individuals and corporations, current and proposed tax measures to encourage charitable giving. The examination will include the charitable tax credit amount and the possible extension of the capital gains exemption to donations of private company shares and real estate. The study will also focus on the feasibility and cost of changes to existing tax measures as well as the implementation of new tax incentives.

Those who wish to submit a brief to the Committee on the topic of tax incentives for charitable giving should do so no later than noon on Tuesday, January 17, 2012. Briefs should be no longer than five pages in length and may be published by the House of Commons on the Committee's Web site.

My \$0.02 cents worth.

As a regular contributor to charitable organisations I'm all for anything that will help others to start contributing more each year.

I can vouch for the real supernatural benefits that I've seen this kind of giving produce in my life and in the life of others.

I'd suggest raising the tax break by at least \$0.02 cents ASAP and set targets to continue to increase this in concert with the demonstrated savings that I know will come to tax payers as more people increase there giving!

Other areas to encourage this would include making it easier for agencies to do business with the donated funds to further leverage the donated funds.

An example I can see working well in the area I'm most supportive of now is helping substance abusers get back on their feet and active in society.

I support organisations that provide safe places for these people to live and learn to function better in society.

Opening avenues for these people to work in profit making agency companies could really help the agencies grow and prosper. Prosperous operations will also provide the much needed self esteem and work skills for the people who need them more than anything else (especially government handouts which we seem very well organised to currently provide for them). Helping churches and other agencies that work in these kinds of social service fields would pay huge benefits to taxpayers by getting people off welfare and keeping them out of taxpayer sponsored facilities. Examples of businesses that could be successfully cultured with tax incentives are:

- Community and seniors landscaping and beautification projects
- Labour and support worker agencies
- Training agencies
- Home repair, maintenance and renovation
- Vehicle servicing, repair and sales

Really hope our government servants can come up with some “home run” solutions from this project!

There are hordes of potential winners currently in our society that have been caught under the bus!

Lets stop the bus, help pull them out from underneath and encourage them to try another ride with the rest of us!