COALITION FOR SMALL BUSINESS TAX FAIRNESS

February 13, 2018

The Honourable Bill Morneau Minister of Finance Finance Canada 90 Elgin Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G5

Subject: Coalition for Small Business Tax Fairness feedback on revised tax proposals

Dear Minister Morneau,

We are writing on behalf of the **Coalition for Small Business Tax Fairness**. Together, our organizations represent hundreds of thousands of independent businesses, professionals and taxpayers, across all sectors of the economy and all regions of the country that employ millions of Canadians. We are writing today to raise concerns regarding recently announced changes to income splitting rules for families and upcoming changes to passive investment rules.

Income Splitting Rules: Red Tape Nightmare for Business

As of January 1, 2018, small business owners are subject to stricter rules that limit their ability to split business income with family members. While we understand that affected family members are not required to file these taxes until 2019, business owners will be making salary and dividend payments to family members throughout the year, which may result in the retroactive application of the new rules, taxing recipients of such income at a much higher tax rate. Your government provided business owners with less than three weeks to learn of, interpret and implement these profound changes.

In fact, tax practitioners are still reviewing the measures related to income splitting, and more details are urgently needed to allow them to provide appropriate advice to their small business clients. While we appreciate that the government has attempted to make improvements by creating certain exemptions from the new rules, such as income received by spouses of business owners who are 65 years of age or older, we do not believe the exemptions provide sufficient clarity or direction for business owners or tax professionals.

Furthermore, even with these latest changes, we still do not believe that these rules accurately reflect the realities of running a small business. In particular, they do not take into account that spouses can take on both formal and informal roles that are essential to the survival of the business.

Tax experts believe the new rules create many areas of uncertainty and leave much room for interpretation for the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA). For example, we are concerned about CRA's ability to clearly determine whether contributions by family members are "meaningful" enough to pass the reasonableness test.

To help illustrate this point, we have outlined a number of examples and technical questions for your attention in the enclosed appendix A.

While it was implied that the process will be simplified and more targeted, the exemptions do not achieve this goal. **The Coalition recommends that the federal government postpone the implementation of the changes until, at the very earliest, January 1, 2019.** As the burden of proof and compliance remains with the business owner, the delay would help ensure that the business community is fully aware and provided with sufficient time to implement required fixes to existing business structures, if needed. In addition, given the key role spouses (including common-law partners) often have in a business that cannot always be easily quantified, we also **recommend that the federal government provide all spouses with a full exemption from the new income splitting rules.**

Hit Pause on Passive Investments Rules

We understand that proposed legislation on passive investments is to be brought forward as part of the 2018 federal budget. As noted in previous correspondence, while we are pleased that the federal government now recognizes the importance of permitting some passive investment (and resulting income) within a private corporation, we believe the proposed \$50,000 annual passive investment income limit will be inadequate for many — particularly for those businesses saving for larger investments, innovations or expansion.

As the government wishes to see a greater number of small and medium businesses scale up, these new rules could severely limit the ability of small businesses to save for large investments (such as a new building or piece of equipment) that could improve productivity or allow them to grow. Furthermore, we believe most small businesses will continue to be saddled with additional complexity and compliance costs despite the proposed \$50,000 threshold for passive investment income.

While the details of the changes are not yet known, it is our understanding that there will be several scenarios where the business would pay punitive levels of taxation (including some with rates higher than 70%) as well having to take on onerous tracking and reporting obligations that will require the assistance of tax professionals. We would like to bring forward the examples in appendix B to help illustrate some of the potential unintended consequences of the upcoming changes to passive investment rules, as we currently understand them.

We therefore recommend that the government drop the passive investment rules until a full economic impact assessment has been completed and an approach has been developed that will ensure there are no unintended consequences.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Given the complexity of these proposals, more analysis and consultation is needed to fully understand the effect on the small business community. We are committed to working with the government to continue to find solutions that don't negatively affect the small business community's ability to grow and prosper. We therefore recommend:

- 1. Immediately undertake an economic impact assessment of the package of proposed changes and delay implementing any tax changes until this assessment is complete.
- 2. On income splitting:
 - Postpone the application of the changes until, at the very earliest, January 1, 2019.
 - Consider, at a minimum, a full exemption for spousal income and dividends from the new income splitting rules.
- 3. On **passive investment**:
 - Do not proceed with the proposed passive investment rules.
- 4. Undertake a comprehensive review of Canada's income tax system.

As further evidence supporting our recommendations, we offer the recent report of the Senate Finance Committee, made up of senators of all parties, including recently appointed independent members. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of the undersigned groups and associations should you have any questions or comments about the contents of this letter. We remain committed to working with you.

Sincerely,

[Please continue below for Appendix A and B]

Greg Pollock President and CEO, Advocis The Financial Advisor Association of Canada



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Leah Olson President Agricultural Manufacturers of Canada

Agricultural

Canada

Manufacturers



Andy Brooks CEO, Alberta Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction Association



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Caroline De Guire, M.Sc. Écon. CEO, Association québécoise des informaticiennes et informaticiens indépendants



1,500 members

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John D. Gamble, CET, P.Eng. President & CEO Association of Consulting Engineering Companies



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Alan Rowell, MFA, DFA-Tax



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hiz Robertran

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Officer

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Executive Director Canadian Bison Association



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Canadian Chamber of Commerce

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J. Mr. Leuri

Dr. Larry Levin President **Canadian** Dental Association





Dan Kelly President and CEO Canadian Federation of **Independent Business**



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4

Lorraine McLachlan President & Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Franchise Association



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750 Corporate members representing 40,000+ franchised outlets

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Glen Doucet Interim Chief Executive Officer **Canadian Pharmacists** Association





Kevin Lee, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Home **Builders'** Association



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8,500 members

Christopher White

Canadian Meat Council -

CANADIAN MEAT COUNCIL CONSEIL DES VIANDES DU CANADA

52 Regular Members and over

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Keith Costello, BADM, MBA-Strategy President & Chief Executive Officer Canadian Institute of Financial Planners

Institute of Financial Planners

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85,943 members

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Ralph Juppen

Ralph Suppa, CAE, President & **General Manager** Canadian Institute of Plumbing and Heating

5



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Samantha Gale **Executive Director Canadian Mortgage Brokers** Association



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Bob Brunet, CAE, BComm **Executive Director** Canadian Roofing Contractors' Association



400 members

92 Associate Members

John Ross **Executive Director Canadian Pork Council**

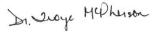


Conseil canadien du porc 7,000 producers

Aaron Wudrick, Federal Director **Canadian Taxpayers** Federation



123,000 supporters



Dr. Troye McPherson President. **Canadian** Veterinary Medical Association



6 665 members

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Kevin Wong, CAE, MBA **Executive Director** Canadian Water Quality Coalition



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Sean Hu **Executive Director** Chinese Business Chamber of Canada



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James Swan, MD, FRCPC Coalition of Ontario Doctors



Guy Legault President Conference for Advanced Life Underwriting



670 members

Bill Brushett President and CEO Family Enterprise Xchange

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Next Generation Thinking®

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Léopold Turgeon Président-directeur général Conseil québecois du commerce de détail

Conseil québécois du commerce de détail





Jeff Koller **Executive Director Electrical Contractors Association** of Ontario



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION 안 ONTARIO

Jave Hooper, Chair of the Federation of Ontario Law Associations



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Stéphane Forget, MBA President and CEO of the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec



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Sandra Kegie **Executive Director** Federation of Mutual Fund Dealers



Mark Brock Chair Grain Farmers of Ontario



28,000 members

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Jeff Nielsen President Grain Growers of Canada



50,000 members

lain Sar

Iain J.S. Black President and CEO Greater Vancouver Board of Trade



5,200 members

Harren Heeley

Warren Heeley President Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada



NaneyAle

Nancy Allan Executive Director Independent Financial Brokers of Canada



3,500 members

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Richard m. Kayon

Richard McKeagan, Chief Executive Officer Mechanical Contractors Association of Canada



900 members

Terrance Oakey President Merit Canada



3500 members

Mark Prieditis, MD, FRCPC President Ontario Association of Radiologists



Ontario Association of Radiologists 1,400 members

Justitly

Dr. Shawn Whatley, President Ontario Medical Association



43,493 members

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11,000 members

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Georgina Blanas, Executive Director Private Capital Markets Association of Canada



Membership 500

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Diane J. Brisebois President & CEO Retail Council of Canada





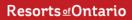
Sean Reid Vice President Progressive Contractors Association of Canada



180 members

tennet

Grace Sammut Directrice exécutive, Resorts of Ontario



Suplein

Shanna Munro President and CEO Restaurants Canada



The voice of foodservice | La voix des services alimentaires 30 000 membres

Shane Jahnke Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association



STOCK GROWERS CAssociation 600 members

Zen) Wood

Levi Wood President, Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association



John Schmeiser CEO Western Equipment Dealers Association



800 members

cc: Mr. Peter Julian, NDP Member of Parliament for New Westminster–Burnaby, Finance Critic Senator Percy Mockler, Chair of the Senate Committee on National Finance

The Honourable Pierre Poilievre, Conservative Member of Parliament for Carleton, Shadow Minister of Finance and National Capital Commission

The Honourable Wayne Easter, Liberal Member of Parliament for Malpeque, Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

COALITION FOR SMALL BUSINESS TAX FAIRNESS - Appendix A

Income Splitting:

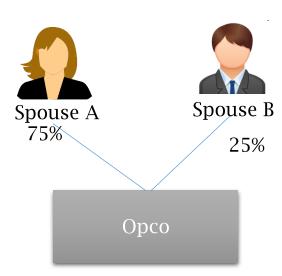
Example - "Excluded Share" exclusion not available to common structures

<u>Facts</u>

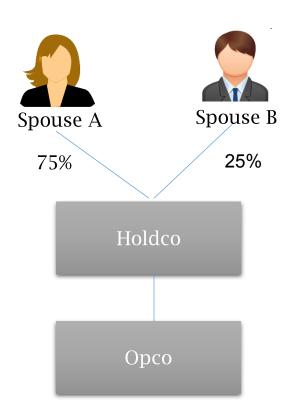
- Business is a start-up manufacturing company
- Spouse A is the primary business operator

Spouse B has many informal roles in the business, however, does not meet 20 hours per week bright line test for "excluded business" carve out.

<u>Scenario – Direct Ownership</u>



<u>Scenario 2 – Ownership through a holding</u> <u>company</u>



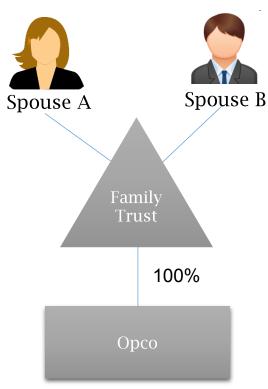
The shares owned by spouse B meet the definition of "Excluded Shares." The company does not derive more than 90% of its business income from the provision of services, and the shares owned by Spouse B give him more than 10% of the votes that can be cast, and represent greater than 10% of the fair market value of the company. All or substantially all of the income of the corporation is not from a related business.

Conclusion: New income sprinkling rules do not apply. Dividends can be paid to Spouse B.

The economic interests are exactly the same as in Scenario 1. However all or substantially all of the income of Holdco is income derived from a related business, Opco. Therefore the shares owned by Spouse B <u>are not</u> excluded shares.

Conclusion: New income sprinkling rules apply. Dividends paid to Spouse B are subject to Tax on Split Income at the highest marginal tax rate.

<u>Scenario – Ownership through a Trust</u>



The economic interests are exactly the same as in Scenario 1. However, the shares are <u>owned</u> by a trust, not by the specified individual (Spouse B). Therefore, the shares of Opco <u>are not</u> excluded shares

Conclusion: New income sprinkling rules apply. Dividends paid to Spouse B through the trust are subject to Tax on Split Income at the highest marginal tax rate.

Conclusion: Three common structures that exist for both tax and non-tax reasons (i.e. creditor protection, estate planning, etc.) have vastly different results. Any level of complexity introduced to the structure will result in the Exclusions provided for in the legislation not being available to specified individuals.

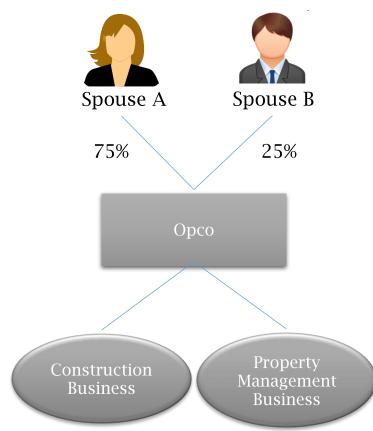
COALITION FOR SMALL BUSINESS TAX FAIRNESS – Appendix A

Example - Excluded Business - Application to Multiple Businesses

<u>Facts</u>

- Spouse A founded and operates a construction business and a property management business.
- Both businesses are operated through a single corporate entity (Opco)
- Spouse B works 25 hours per week as a property manager

<u>Scenario</u>



The "Excluded Business" definition states that where Spouse B works at least 20 hours per week in <u>the</u> <u>business</u>. In this case, Spouse B works 25 hours in the property management business, but not the construction business. Do we now have to trace the flow of funds from the property management business to Spouse B to ensure they are "excluded amounts"?

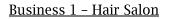
Conclusion: New income sprinkling introduce significant administrative complexity that may not be possible to manage in ordinary business settings. It may be impossible to trace source of funds that Spouse B receives as dividends. If this isn't possible, dividends to Spouse B will be subject to the Tax on Split Income.

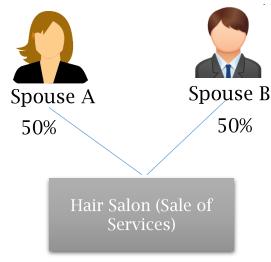
COALITION FOR SMALL BUSINESS TAX FAIRNESS - Appendix A

Example – Excluded Shares – Bias against Services Businesses

Consider the following situation

- 1) Two families start new businesses at the same time
- 2) Family 1 starts a hair salon. Spouse A is active in the business, Spouse B is not.
- 3) Family 2 starts a Pizzeria. Spouse A is active in the business, Spouse B is not.

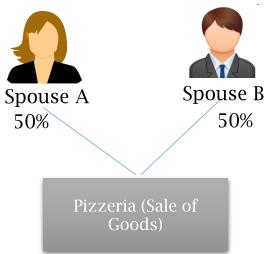




The company derives more than 90% of its business income from the provision of services. Therefore, the shares <u>do not</u> meet the definition of "Excluded Shares"

Conclusion: New income sprinkling rules apply. Dividends paid to Spouse B are subject to Tax on Split Income.

<u>Business 2 – Pizzeria</u>



The company does not derive more than 90% of its business income from the provision of services. Therefore, the shares <u>do</u> meet the definition of "Excluded Shares"

Conclusion: New income sprinkling rules do not apply. Dividends can be paid to Spouse B.

Conclusion: Significantly different results are applicable to two similar small businesses. Given that 78% of Canadian small businesses are in the service sector, it is unclear why this exclusion should not be available to services businesses.

Examples provided by: MNP LLP

COALITION FOR SMALL BUSINESS TAX FAIRNESS - Appendix A

The proposals provide an exclusion for amounts earned by an individual (over the age of 17), in respect of a property, where the amounts are derived directly or indirectly from an "excluded business". To qualify for this exclusion, the individual must be actively engaged on a regular, continuous and substantial basis in the activities of this business, either in the current year or in any five prior years. To assist in determining whether this exclusion applies, a brightline test has been proposed, whereby an individual is considered to be actively engaged in the business if they work at least an average of 20 hours per week in the business during the portion of the year in which the business operates. This will address situations where an individual is not currently working in the business, but did so previously on a basis that meets the bright-line test. However, there is a significant concern about how to prove sufficient hours were worked in the five prior years – in particular, if these five prior years took place a number of years ago. The CRA's guidance indicates that records such as timesheets, logbooks, schedules and payroll records will be sufficient to establish the number of hours. However, in many family run businesses, family members will not record specific hours worked. Or, if they did have such records, they may not have retained them if it was a number of years ago. As a result, providing records to satisfy this test could be a very onerous or even an impossible task for taxpayers, raising concerns of whether they can rely on this exclusion in situations where TOSI should not apply.

The proposals provide an alternate exclusion for an amount included in the income of an individual (over the age of 24), in respect of a property, where the amount is income from, or a taxable capital gain from the disposition of, "excluded shares". One condition that must be met for shares of a corporation to qualify as excluded shares is that less than 90% of the business income of the corporation was from the provision of services. Concerns have been raised as to why service companies have been targeted so broadly in the definition of excluded shares. There appears to be an inequity as to why a manufacturing business would likely meet this particular condition, while a business providing housecleaning services or IT consulting services would not? In addition, many businesses may be providing a combination of products and services. Therefore, in order to meet this condition, additional compliance for businesses would be needed in terms of keeping records to distinguish what income is and is not from the provision of services. In fact, this will likely also require a subjective analysis of the business income of the corporation, which introduces uncertainty into applying the tax rules appropriately.

Examples provided by: BDO Canada

Who Has the Advantage? - \$150,000 - Updated

In the July 18 proposals, the federal government compared a self-employed business owner to a salaried employee making the same income. However, the federal government only looked at the taxes paid at the personal level at a point in time and ignored other benefits the employee receives that business owners must pay for themselves in addition to their income. These additional expenses are material.

Instead of focusing on the impact of proposed rules on taxes paid at a point time, let's look at the outcomes of the proposed rules throughout the business owner's lifetime.

Situation

Alex is an incorporated dentist. His neighbour, Kendra, is an employee. Today is the first day for each of them in their new jobs. They are both 35 years of age, live with their spouses. Up to this point they have no savings as they have been paying off school and other debt. They both plan on working for 30 years until they reach age 65.

Kendra earns a \$150,000 salary, indexed 2% per year. She is a member of a defined contribution pension plan where the she contributes 5% and her employer contributes 5%. She will also receive employee benefits including group disability and life insurance, as well as medical and dental coverage. She shares the cost of these 50/50 with her employer. The cost of these benefits to her employer is \$5,000.

Alex owns the voting shares in the company and the common shares are owned by a family trust. His spouse and a holding company are the beneficiaries. The earnings of Alex's company are \$150,000, indexed at 2%, and before taxes. He has no pension plan and from the \$150,000 he pays \$5,000 towards the same benefits Kendra would receive from her employer. Alex will take a dividend from his corporation to support his family's lifestyle and the remainder will accumulate inside his corporation until there is \$1,000,000 of passive investments. At age 55 the passive investments inside the corporation reach \$1,000,000. At this time he will take 100% of his income in the form of salary and pay out enough dividends from his corporation in order to keep the passive investments from exceeding \$1,000,000. He will start making contributions to CPP and maximize RRSP contributions and any remaining savings will go into his TFSA.

Kendra will elect to receive her CPP at retirement and it will be 75% of the maximum amount, indexed 2%, which she will split with her spouse. Alex will elect to receive his CPP at retirement as well and it will be 25% of the maximum amount, indexed at 2%, which he will split with his spouse. The CPP percentage is much lower because Alex chose to take dividends from his corporation as compensation throughout most of his working years. Alex will also be able to split with his spouse any dividends paid from his company once Alex reaches age 65. Kendra had her financial advisor prepare a financial plan based on the above assumptions. Investment assumptions are 7.5% for equities and 3.5% for fixed income with an asset allocation of approximately 60% equity, 40% fixed income. The plan has determined that she can afford a \$87,000 lifestyle indexed at 2% until death. For comparative purposes, it is assumed that Alex will have the same \$87,000 lifestyle indexed at 2% until death.

Annual Savings

Equities - 7.5%

The chart below shows what will be contributed (saved) in their respective retirement/savings vehicles until retirement. In Alex's situation, at age 56, savings will need to be removed from the passive investments inside the company to ensure the \$50,000 of investment income is not exceeded. This is shown as a negative deposit under the Corporate column. This amount is paid as a dividend to Alex and taxed. The after-tax amount is then reinvested in a TFSA and non-registered investments.

		Business Owner (Proposed Rules)					Salaried Employee								
							Employee Pays					Employer Pays			
Age	CPP	RRSP	TFSA	Corporate	Total	CPP	DC Pension	RRSP	TFSA	Total	CPP	DC Pension	Total	Total	
35				20,542	20,542	2,544	7,500	11,760	2,115	23,919	2,544	7,500	10,044	33,963	
36				21,677	21,677	2,595	7,650	12,000	2,154	24,399	2,595	7,650	10,245	34,644	
37				21,528	21,528	2,647	7,803	12,240	2,197	24,887	2,647	7,803	10,450	35,337	
38				22,406	22,406	2,700	7,959	12,485	2,241	25,385	2,700	7,959	10,659	36,044	
39				23,148	23,148	2,754	8,118	12,734	2,286	25,892	2,754	8,118	10,872	36,764	
40				23,797	23,797	2,809	8,281	12,989	2,332	26,411	2,809	8,281	11,090	37,501	
41				24,502	24,502	2,865	8,446	13,249	2,379	26,939	2,865	8,446	11,311	38,250	
42				25,231	25,231	2,923	8,615	13,514	2,426	27,478	2,923	8,615	11,538	39,016	
43				25,986	25,986	2,981	8,787	13,784	2,475	28,027	2,981	8,787	11,768	39,795	
44				26,769	26,769	3,041	8,963	14,060	2,524	28,588	3,041	8,963	12,004	40,592	
45				27,583	27,583	3,101	9,142	14,341	2,575	29,159	3,101	9,142	12,243	41,402	
46				28,428	28,428	3,164	9,325	14,628	2,626	29,743	3,164	9,325	12,489	42,232	
47				29,305	29,305	3,227	9,512	14,920	2,679	30,338	3,227	9,512	12,739	43,077	
48				30,217	30,217	3,291	9,702	15,219	2,732	30,944	3,291	9,702	12,993	43,937	
49				31,165	31,165	3,357	9,896	15,523	2,787	31,563	3,357	9,896	13,253	44,816	
50				32,150	32,150	3,424	10,094	15,834	2,843	32,195	3,424	10,094	13,518	45,713	
51				33,175	33,175	3,493	10,296	16,150	2,899	32,838	3,493	10,296	13,789	46,627	
52				34,241	34,241	3,563	10,502	16,473	2,957	33,495	3,563	10,502	14,065	47,560	
53				35,352	35,352	3,634	10,712	16,803	3,017	34,166	3,634	10,712	14,346	48,512	
54				36,508	36,508	3,707	10,926	17,139	3,077	34,849	3,707	10,926	14,633	49,482	
55	7,562		12,789		20,351	3,781	11,145	17,482	3,138	35,546	3,781	11,145	14,926	50,472	
56	7,712	38,084	11,395	(20,000)	37,191	3,856	11,367	17,831	3,201	36,255	3,856	11,367	15,223	51,478	
57	7,866	38,845	33,212	(57,000)	22,923	3,933	11,595	18,188	3,265	36,981	3,933	11,595	15,528	52,509	
58	8,024	39,622	33,343	(57,000)	23,989	4,012	11,827	18,552	3,331	37,722	4,012	11,827	15,839	53,561	
59	8,184	40,415	30,872	(53,010)	26,461	4,092	12,063	18,923	3,397	38,475	4,092	12,063	16,155	54,630	
60	8,348	41,223	28,547	(49,299)	28,819	4,174	12,305	19,301	3,465	39,245	4,174	12,305	16,479	55,724	
61	8,516	42,048	26,272	(45,848)	30,988	4,258	12,551	19,687	3,534	40,030	4,258	12,551	16,809	56,839	
62	8,686	42,889	29,094	(50,000)	30,669	4,343	12,802	20,081	3,605	40,831	4,343	12,802	17,145	57,976	
63	8,860	43,746	29,053	(50,000)	31,659	4,430	13,058	20,483	3,677	41,648	4,430	13,058	17,488	59,136	
64	9,036	44,621	28,990	(50,000)	32,647	4,518	13,319	20,892	3,751	42,480	4,518	13,319	17,837	60,317	
	Total Dep	neite			839,407					970.428			407,478	1.377,906	

Annual Savings from Age 35 to 64

Savings Assets

The chart below shows the balances of the various retirement/savings vehicles throughout their lifetimes. Even though CPP is not liquid, the income stream has been valued and shown as an asset to ensure a fair comparison. In Alex's situation, the



balance of the corporate account balance is maxed out around \$1,000,000. This is to approximate the \$50,000 passive income limit announced by Minister Morneau.

	Equities - 7.5%										
	Fixed Income -) - Owner (P	roposed Rules)		Salaried Employee Savings(Assets) - Salaried					
Age	RRSP	CPP^	TFSA	Corporate	Total	DC Pension	CPP^	RRSP	TFSA	Total	
35				21,651	21,651	15,885	5,388	12,454	2,240	35,967	
36				45,371	45,371	33,025	11,202	25,897	4,653	74,777	
37				70,505	70,505	51,500	17,470	40,387	7,255	116,612	
38				97,754	97,754	71,396	24,219	55,991	10,056	161,662	
39				127,158	127,158	92,803	31,481	72,780	13,071	210,135	
40				158,785	158,785	115,816	39,288	90,830	16,311	262,245	
41				192,795	192,795	140,539	47,674	110,219	19,792	318,224	
42				229,339	229,339	167,077	56,677	131,034	23,529	378,317	
43				268,578	268,578	195,547	66,335	153,362	27,538	442,782	
44				310,681	310,681	226,068	76,690	177,300	31,836	511,894	
45				355,831	355,831	258,770	87,782	202,948	36,441	585,941	
46				404,220	404,220	293,788	99,663	230,413	41,372	665,236	
47				456,052	456,052	331,268	112,378	259,808	46,650	750,104	
48				511,542	511,542	371,361	125,978	291,253	52,295	840,887	
49				570,921	570,921	414,232	140,521	324,876	58,332	937,961	
50				634,430	634,430	460,050	156,064	360,812	64,784	1,041,710	
51				702,329	702,329	509,000	172,670	399,203	71,676	1,152,549	
52				774,889	774,889	561,274	190,404	440,202	79,037	1,270,917	
53				852,403	852,403	617,077	209,334	483,968	86,895	1,397,274	
54				935,176	935,176	676,626	229,537	530,672	95,280	1,532,115	
55		8,008	12,789	977,397	998,194	740,151	251,087	580,495	104,225	1,675,958	
56	40,331	16,648	24,939	999,819	1,081,737	807,896	274,069	633,628	113,765	1,829,358	
57	83,848	25,960	59,623	999,680	1,169,111	880,120	298,569	690,273	123,935	1,992,897	
58	130,755	35,989	96,484	998,880	1,262,108	957,096	324,682	750,645	134,774	2,167,197	
59	181,268	46,779	133,048	996,381	1,357,476	1,039,115	352,505	814,972	146,323	2,352,915	
60	235,619	58,380	169,445	996,284	1,459,728	1,126,484	382,143	883,496	158,625	2,550,748	
65	573,968	129,386	228,307	995,334	1,926,995	1,566,086	492,527	1,250,843	188,818	3,498,274	
70	615,484	100,549		946,264	1,662,297	1,679,363	382,755	1,341,318	164,712	3,568,148	
75	626,803	73,742		416,151	1,116,696	1,710,247	280,710	1,365,986	203,440	3,560,383	
80	402,715	48,822			451,537	1,670,872	185,849	1,334,537	279,492	3,470,750	
85		25,657		l	25,657	1,530,962	97,665	1,222,789	406,796	3,258,212	
90		4,122			4,122	1,245,775	15,689	995,009	607,475	2,863,948	

Comparing Business Owner (Proposed Rules) to Salaried Employee

^ Value of CPP is included as a savings asset, even though it is not liquid. During the employment years, this is valued by taking the employer and employee deposits and investing 60% in equities at 7.5% and 40% in fixed income at 3.5%. During retirement, the value of the CPP equals the present value of the future CPP payments to age 90 using a 3.5% discount rate.

Conclusion

- We determined that Kendra has the following advantages over Alex:
 - Kendra is able to save \$538,000 more than Alex.
 - Kendra's employer contributed \$407,000 of this excess over and above the salary Kendra received.
 - All of Kendra's savings are in tax-preferred vehicles, thus decreasing her taxes during her employment years
 - Kendra will have almost \$1,571,000 more capital at retirement
 - If Alex maintains the same lifestyle as Kendra, his capital will be gone at age 82.
 - Kendra will have \$2.8 million before taxes to share with her family at death at age 90. Alex will have nothing.

As mentioned earlier, the federal government has ignored the additional benefits employees receive from their employer over and above their salary. The above analysis includes the entitlements that Kendra will receive, as an employee,

- Employer's pension contribution up to \$7,500
- Employer CPP contributions \$2,600
- Employee benefits premiums of \$5,000

However, the analysis does not include other entitlements that Kendra will also receive as an employee,

- Employer El contributions \$1,170
- Vacation, 3 weeks (worth) \$8,600
- 10 statutory holidays (worth) \$4,100
- Up to 15 sick days per year (worth) \$6,150

The dollar value of these above items could top \$20,000 per year. Even if the number is less than \$20,000, the reality is once Alex has to fund these benefits for him and his family, the ultimate future retirement benefits will be dramatically lower than already shown above.

The above in-depth analysis clearly shows that the salaried employee has the advantage over the business owner under the proposed rules. An obvious question is did the business owner have an advantage over the salaried employee under the current rules?

Comparing Outcomes of Current Rules and Proposed Rules for the Business Owner to the Salaried Employee

	Current Rules*	Proposed Rules^	Salaried Employee
Annual Savings from age 35 - 64	1,336,000	839,000	1,377,000
Savings Assets at Retirement (Age 65)	2,938,000	1,927,000	3,498,000
Age Capital is Depleted	n/a	Age 82	n/a
Savings Assets at Death (Age 90)	1,751,000	-	2,864,000

* Income split with spouse and no limit on amount of passive investments inside corporation

^ Only split income with spouse starting at age 65 and limit passive investments to \$1 million inside the corporation

COALITION FOR SMALL BUSINESS TAX FAIRNESS – Appendix B

If you compare the numbers under the Current Rules to the Salaried Employee in the chart above, the business owner is still worse off.

Then why does the federal government feel they need to make these changes?

They made their decision based on incomplete analysis. The federal government only looked at the taxes paid at the personal level at a point in time and ignored other benefits the employee receives that business owners must pay for themselves in addition to their income. These additional expenses are clearly material, as our analysis has shown. If they had done a complete analysis, all of this could have been avoided.

Owens MacFadyen Group specializes in wealth management, employee benefits consulting and insurance planning. A large part of the work we do is comprehensive wealth management and that includes building financial plans for our clients. As part of building these plans, we spend a lot of time modelling options for our clients, including the issues that make up the topic of this paper. Our clients are made up of business owners, professionals and executives.

We have offices located in Halifax, Moncton, Saint John and a recently opened office in downtown Toronto. We would not have been able to open up our Toronto office if these restrictions were in place in prior years.