

*Just received this response from Kent Hehr with respect to changes to the tax act. The liberal government clearly feels that small business owners have some sort of advantage over "middle class" workers.*

*He mentions that there's plenty of opportunity to borrow money. Not sure if he understands how banking works. By the time small businesses actually qualify, they no longer need loans.*

Email:

Dear Murch Group,

Thank you for sharing your views and concerns. I appreciate your passion and determination in making a difference on this issue.

Our government is working to create an economy that works for the middle class, and where business – large and small – have the confidence to invest, grow and create good jobs. Unfortunately, when some people pay less than their fair share in tax, it undermines these efforts. I understand that these changes will perhaps directly affect your bottom line, but closing loopholes like this creates a more fair and just Canadian Tax code.

Since coming to office, we have taken clear action to support Canadian businesses, the drivers of growth and creators of good, well-paying middle class jobs. We have made critical investments in our infrastructure, and are supporting innovation throughout our economy. We launched the CanExport program to help small and medium-sized businesses expand to new markets around the world. And we have ensured that Canada continues to have the lowest small business tax rate in the G7. Furthermore, each year the BDC, Canada's only bank dedicated to small businesses, supports more than 42,000 entrepreneurs with financing and expert advice, while the Canada Small Business Financing Program guarantees thousands of small business loans made by Canadian financial institutions.

These efforts are having an impact. Canadians are among the world leaders in the number of companies started, per capita. In the past year, the Canadian economy has created more than 300,000 new jobs. The IMF has praised Canada's economic model and predicts we will lead the G7 in growth this year. The potential changes being discussed as part of this consultation will maintain this advantage and will not impact Canadians' ability to invest in and grow their business.

Neighbours who earn the same amount of income should be paying the same amount of tax. Our goal is to build confidence in our economy by closing tax loopholes only available to some, while ensuring that entrepreneurs, small business owners and companies of all sizes continue to benefit from Canada's highly competitive tax regime.

To ensure that we do this fairly, we want to hear from you. Have your voice heard by visiting the Department of Finance's consultation website at: <http://www.fin.gc.ca/activty/consult/tppc-pfsp-eng.asp>. Take the time to write to Minister Morneau's department so he understands your perspective on these proposed changes. But rest assured, I have taken note of your stance and will have a discussion with Minister Morneau. Consultations conclude in October.

Again, I sincerely appreciate you taking the time to voice your concerns on issues that matter to you most.

Sincerely,

Kent Hehr, MP

Calgary Centre