



February 18, 2011

Mike Wallace, MP Burlington
Constituency Office
Burlington Mall
777 Guelph Line, Suite 209
Burlington, ON L7R 3N2

Dear Mr. Wallace,

On behalf of the Burlington Chamber of Commerce, I am writing to you to convey the importance of protecting the prosperity of the businesses within your constituency by ensuring the government follows through on its promise to reduce business taxes.

With government stimulus programs ending this year, the tax reductions are especially important, as they will free up capital to be put to work to grow Canada's businesses and its economy. This strategy has been supported by a majority of parliamentarians in two federal budgets since its inception in 2007.

As of January 1, 2011, the federal general corporate income tax rate fell from 18 per cent to 16.5 per cent, with a further 1.5 percentage point reduction scheduled for 2012. When fully implemented, this three percentage point reduction means that in each and every year going forward, businesses in Ontario will save approximately \$1.6 billion, money that can be used by businesses across the province to invest in their operations and create jobs.

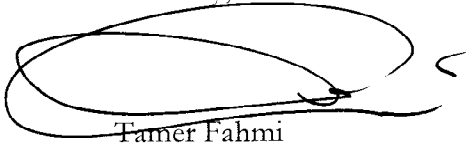
Today, some politicians are calling for these tax rate reductions to be reversed and for the government to direct the revenues to new spending. The Burlington Chamber of Commerce feels strongly this will constrain the job creation and investment Burlington businesses, and those across Canada, are making to grow and compete in a challenging global environment. Our political leaders have to live up to the promises they have made. Businesses in Burlington and across the country have invested with the understanding that taxes would decline. A sudden change of course would constitute a broken promise to thousands of businesses and the people they employ—including members of your constituency.

Business tax reductions are relevant to all Canadian businesses—large and small—in all regions of the country, including Burlington. Small business has a keen interest in this issue. Most small businesses are suppliers to bigger businesses; opportunities flow when the larger firms have the capital to buy. The alternative—rising taxes—dries up those opportunities. A vibrant large business sector leads to a strong and prosperous small business sector.

Reducing business taxes is also an issue of vital importance to your constituents. Business taxes fall directly on families in Burlington—workers through lower wages, consumers in the form of higher prices for goods and services, and shareholders (including pensioners who own equity through RPPs, RRSPs and mutual funds) through lower returns.

As one of our MPs, the Burlington Chamber of Commerce is calling on you to protect the prosperity of the businesses and families within your constituency by ensuring the government follows through on its promise to reduce business taxes. You can be sure that the Burlington Chamber of Commerce will continue to champion for a strong economic environment that allows the businesses in our city to grow and create the jobs and opportunities that make this city a wonderful place to live and raise a family. We hope that you will actively do the same.

Sincerely,



Famer Fahmi
Vice Chair



Keith Hoey
President

Cc The Canadian Chamber of Commerce