



RE: Federal Healthcare Tax Credit

Dear

I am writing as a member of this constituency and a Registered Massage Therapist. Massage therapy is a primary healthcare option and we would like to ensure that massage therapy is included in ongoing and future government initiatives, particularly the recently proposed Healthcare Tax Credit.

In June 2014, the Minister of Health of the Government of Canada created the Advisory Panel for Healthcare Innovation. The panel made several recommendations related to the provision of innovative healthcare solutions for Canadians. Central to these recommendations was the provision of a Healthcare Tax Credit. The massage therapy profession supports this recommendation, applied to those health care options that have proven beneficial to Canadians.

According to insurance industry studies, massage therapy is one of the most highly utilized workplace healthcare benefit. Massage therapy has proven efficacy in addressing increased stress as well as acute and chronic musculoskeletal pain and dysfunction. Studies have also shown that massage therapy can make a significant contribution to the reduction of the physical manifestations of depression and anxiety.

The Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario has identified evidence-based models showing that massage therapy is an innovative healthcare method, and should be included in government initiatives, including the proposed Healthcare Tax Credit. I ask that you pledge to ensure that the profession of massage therapy is included in the Healthcare Tax Credit proposed by Advisory Panel for Health Care Innovation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Member of the Registered Massage Therapists' Association of Ontario