House of Commons
Chambre des communes
Canada

House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance – Pre-budget Consultations 2013

This brief is submitted by:

(•) **an organization** **Organization name:** Hope Air / Vols d'espoir

or

( ) **an individual** **Name:** _____

Topic: Charities, charitable giving and volunteerism

*Recommendation 1: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

Legislative Change Requested: Section 11 (2) of the Air Travellers Security Charge Act, 2002, should be amended retroactively to read:
11 (1.1) No charge is payable in respect of an air transportation service that is acquired:
(b) by a person from a registered charity, for no consideration, if the service is provided by the charity in pursuit of its charitable purposes.
The ATSC levy is an onerous charge levied on a charity assisting fellow Canadians who financially live at the "poverty line" and where they live in Canada has become an obstacle for them accessing our universal health system.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

other: please provide your estimated amount Cost of $34,300.00 (7,000 fl

1 year

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

This action by the federal government will result in a very small decline in ATSC Revenues collected each year. All ten provincial governments support Hope Air financially and the requested legislative relief of the ATSC levy is a clear step that the federal government can take to participate in enabling better access to our universal health care system. The amendment as requested will provide additional funding so that Hope Air can continue to ensure its charity work across Canada directly benefits those who are struggling financially and also face difficult health care challenges.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

The proposed amendment will directly impact on:
Families living in a household where the average income is at or below their community's low-income line.
National in scope. Coast-to-coast.
Individuals living in rural communities who need to access the medical specialists and technology based in the large urban centres.
All age groups are served by Hope Air and individuals struggling with any type of medical condition are served by Hope Air.
Several thousand Canadians assisted each year; and indirectly 10's of thousands of Canadians through the family and communities they live and work in.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

By exempting the ATSC levy on charity flights, the Government will:
1. recognize that access to health care is a vital matter and should not be dependant on where you live in Canada or how much money you have;
2. will ensure more Canadians get to their medical appointments in a timely manner to ensure best treatment, less cost to the health care system and provides a faster return to their community, family and workplace; and
3. the partnership of the charity, the airlines and the private sector donors through Hope Air ensures more flight purchases which creates jobs in the aviation sector.

Topic: Please select from the pull-down menu

Recommendation 2: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

Please select from the drop down menu

Please select from the drop down menu

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Topic: Please select from the pull-down menu

Recommendation 3: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

Please select from the drop down menu

Please select from the drop down menu

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Please use this page if you wish to provide more explanation about your recommendation(s).

*Please note that at least one recommendation must be provided