

From: Slomnicki, Kim (Johns, Gord - MP) <kim.slomnicki.809@parl.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 10:57 AM
To: Suzanne Garrett <Suzanne.Garrett@prrd.bc.ca>
Subject: RE: Bill C-264 First Responder Tax Credit

Thank you for taking the time to write to Gord and for the Peace River Regional District's support for Gord's private members Bill C-264. I will let Gord know.

There is great momentum starting to build for Bill C-264 which will give volunteer firefighters and search and rescue responders a tax break. We would like you to know about our attached petition for Bill C-264. Please sign and share this petition with your membership, friends and family. You can then send the completed petitions back to our office (12-1209 East Island Highway, Parksville, BC, V9P 1R5) for Gord to take to Ottawa.

Stay safe!

Best,

Kim Slomnicki

Constituency Assistant | Adjoint de circonscription
Gord Johns | Bureau de Gord Johns
MP for Courtenay-Alberni | Député de Courtenay-Alberni

12-1209 East Island Highway, Parksville, BC, V9P 1R5
(TEL) 250-947-2140 | (FAX) 250-947-2144
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Nuu-chah-nulth, Coast Salish, and K'omoks Territories

Petition to the Government of Canada

Whereas:

- Volunteer firefighters account of 83% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;
- In addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year;
- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour.
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training, and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;
- Increasing this tax credit would allow these essential volunteers to keep more of their hard-earned money, likely to be spent in the communities in which they lives; and
- It would help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

We, the undersigned, **citizens and residents of Canada**, call upon the **Government of Canada** to support Private Members Bill C-264 and increase the tax exemption from \$3,000 to \$10,000 for lines 31220 and 31240 to help our essential volunteer firefighters and volunteer search and rescue people across the country.

[illegible]



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

March 24, 2021

The Honourable Gord Johns
Member of Parliament for Courtenay-Alberni
1209 East Island Highway
Suite 12
Parksville, BC V9P 1R5

File#: 0400.40.1

Via Email: Gord.Johns@parl.gc.ca

Dear Mr. Johns:

RE: Peace River Regional District Support for Bill C-264

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Peace River Regional District, I am writing in support of Bill C-264, which is proposed by Member of Parliament Gord Johns to amend the *Income Tax Act* (volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services) to increase the eligible tax credit from \$3,000.00 to \$10,000.00.

Like many areas of Canada, the Peace River Regional District relies heavily on our volunteer firefighters and search and rescue personnel to provide vital life safety services, and that would not be possible without the volunteers. The Regional District greatly supports the amendment to the *Income Tax Act* as a way to show appreciation to these vital volunteers, who give not only a large amount of personal time but quite often a loss of income to provide fire and rescue services in the region.

Yours sincerely,

Brad Sperling,
Chair

c: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

Bob Zimmer, M.P. Prince George-Peace River-Northern Rockies Bob.Zimmer.C1@parl.gc.ca

Dan Davies, MLA – Peace River North Dan.Davies.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Mike Bernier, MLA – Peace River South Mike.Bernier.MLA@leg.bc.ca

diverse. vast. abundant.

PLEASE REPLY TO:

☒ Box 810, 1981 Alaska Ave, Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8 Tel: (250) 784-3200 or (800) 670-7773 Fax: (250) 784-3201 Email: prrd.dc@prrd.bc.ca
☐ 9505 100 St, Fort St. John, BC V1J 4N4 Tel: (250) 785-8084 Fax: (250) 785-1125 Email: prrd.fsj@prrd.bc.ca