



## Hon. Candice Bergen, P.C.

*Member of Parliament for Portage—Lisgar*

*Députée de Portage—Lisgar*

March 2, 2017

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for writing me with your concerns in regard to the Liberal Government's proposed employer based benefits tax. I always enjoy hearing from my constituents. Your thoughts are appreciated and taken into consideration.

I have received a great numbers of emails and calls from constituents across the riding on this issue and like you, they are extremely upset. Canadians are concerned that the Liberals are considering putting Canadian's health and financial well-being second to their own tax and spend policies. Given that the Liberal Government has rolled back tax breaks on child care, textbooks for students and sports for children, I think people's concerns are well founded.

Recently when asked by the Official Opposition, Prime Minister Trudeau stood in the House of Commons and gave an unclear answer as to whether his Government intended to introduce this new tax. For clarification we introduced a motion that called on the Liberals to affirm that they will not tax these benefits. We hoped that the Liberals would vote in support of our motion, sending a clear sign to Canadians that there would be no Liberal tax on health and dental benefits. Unfortunately we were wrong. They voted the motion down, which means the tax on health and dental benefits, is still on the table for the Liberals.

If the Liberals make these changes in Budget 2017, the average middle-income Canadian workers who get these benefits will pay over a \$1000 in extra taxes annually. Justin Trudeau and his Finance Minister, Bill Morneau, need to realize that this decision would result in many lower and middle income Canadians not being able to afford access to both necessary and preventative medicine. This would force these individuals to put their own health at risk. We will keep fighting against this additional tax, as well as other increases the Liberals are proposing.

Again thank you for taking the time to write me. If my office can be of any further assistance on this or any other matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Hon. Candice Bergen, P.C., M.P.  
Official Opposition House Leader

---

**House of Commons**

701 Justice  
OTTAWA, ON K1A 0A6  
Tel: 613-995-9511  
Fax: 613-947-0313  
Email: [candice.bergen@parl.gc.ca](mailto:candice.bergen@parl.gc.ca)

**Constituency**

Unit E, 886 Thornhill Street  
MORDEN, MB R6M 2E1  
Tel: 204-822-7440  
Fax: 204-822-7445  
Email: [info@candicebergen.ca](mailto:info@candicebergen.ca)

**Chambre des communes**

701 Justice  
OTTAWA, ON K1A 0A6  
Tél: 613-995-9511  
Télé: 613-947-0313  
email: [candice.bergen@parl.gc.ca](mailto:candice.bergen@parl.gc.ca)

**Circonscription**

Pièce E, 886, rue Thornhill  
MORDEN, MB R6M 2E1  
Tél: 204-822-7440  
Télé: 204-822-7445  
email: [info@candicebergen.ca](mailto:info@candicebergen.ca)