



HOUSE OF COMMONS

John Weston

Member of Parliament for West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast—Sea to Sky Country

May 30, 2013



Thank you for your letter concerning recent IRS initiatives.

I have worked closely with our Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty on this matter. The Minister has made strong pronouncements in the US media, in our Parliament, and at a public meeting in New York. While acknowledging the US's right to tax its own people, and while encouraging Canadians and Americans to pay their taxes, he has expressed our concerns about the Foreign Bank Account Report ("FBAR") and the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA"). Where Canadians of dual nationality who are, in Minister Flaherty's words, "honest, hard-working and law-abiding people", the proposed IRS penalties for failing to file IRS paperwork seem out of step with justice and fairness.

In support of our Minister's strong response, I took the lead among BC Government Members to coordinate a review of issues relating to the US reporting requirements. I have contacted a circle of US tax professionals who helped me prepare recommendations that may be of benefit to our Minister in discussions he has with his US counterpart.

The "one-size-fits-all" kind of penalties threatened by the IRS is inappropriate and I am doing my best on your behalf to make a difference. I invite you to have a look at our website, which is updated several times weekly. Please click on the appropriate website box if you would like to receive our E-news.

With best regards,

John Weston, M.P.

West Vancouver- Sunshine Coast – Sea to Sky Country

"The Most Beautiful Place on Earth"

Ottawa

Room 770, 151 Sparks Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6
Tel: (613) 947-4617
Fax: (613) 947-4620

Constituency

Coronation Building
Suite 21 - 285 17th Street
West Vancouver, BC
V7V 3S6
Tel: (604) 981-1790
Toll Free: 1-800-665-6004
Fax: (604) 981-1794

Constituency

Suite 207-5760
Teredo Street
Sechelt, BC
V0N 3A2
Tel.: (604) 885-2939
Fax: (604) 885-4232

Constituency

Suite 24-7100
Alberni Street
Powell River, BC
V8A 5K9
Tel.: (604) 489-2222
Fax: (604) 485-4685