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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANADA'S PRIME MINISTER ASKED TO DELAY SEPTEMBER 23 FATCA TRANSFER OF PRIVATE BANK INFORMATION TO U.S. IRS

The Alliance for the Defence of Canadian Sovereignty (ADCS-ADSC) is asking Prime Minister Harper and his Conservative Party Government to delay for one year the handover of private banking information of some Canadian citizens, who are residents in Canada, to the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

Under threat of severe economic sanction from the United States, and the request of Canada's banks, the Conservative Government of Stephen Harper passed legislation to comply with a U.S. law – the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ('FATCA'). This U.S. law requires that private bank account information from more than one million Canadian citizens and residents, deemed by the United States to be 'U.S. persons', be sent to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. The Government of Canada has made the decision to hand over the data beginning on September 23.

In August 2014 plaintiffs Ginny Hillis and Gwen Deegan, lifetime Canadian citizens and residents of Canada since infancy, filed claims in Canada Federal Court. They claim that the Government of Canada by enacting a U.S. law on Canadian soil, violated Canada's Constitution in general and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the principle of Canada's Constitution "...that Canada will not forfeit its sovereignty to a foreign state...". Because of a Government-caused delay, this trial has been delayed, but is now continuing.

We have just learned that the U.S. IRS has announced that all participants in Model I FATCA IGA "agreements", including Canada, are not required to transfer this information to the IRS for another year. Yesterday ADCS (which is funding the lawsuit) made a request through their lawyers to the Government of Canada lawyers asking that the Government of Canada not hand over the bank account information at all, or if they do so, not until the new 2016 deadline. We have not yet received a response to this request.

ADCS asks Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who must represent all Canadians, to delay transfer of the private banking information, as now permitted by the U.S. government, until the Constitutional-Charter claims can be heard in Federal Court in 2016.

"Does our government not have a duty to protect its citizens and permanent residents from the imposition of unfair laws of another country? This is a simple request with no harm to Canada, or to its banking system. Why won't Canada make this request?" says Ms. Gwen Deegan, one of the Canadian plaintiffs.

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