

## **Thank you note to the Minister of Finance**

Thank you, Minister, for:

- bringing in a new tax credit for family caregivers in the 2011 federal Budget.
- acknowledging caregiving as a major public issue.
- pointing out that caregiving is something that must be valued – especially in a rapidly aging society.
- appreciating the vital role of caregivers.
- being aware of the fact that caregivers face additional costs for the purchase of health- and disability-related goods and services.
- recognizing that caregivers face explicit costs as well as hidden (though very real) costs related to their caregiving responsibilities.
- introducing a new measure that will help offset these extra expenditures.
- making it easier for organizations concerned with caregiving to raise public awareness of these added expenses.
- enabling organizations interested in family care to make the case for broader public and private investment in this area.

- giving organizations concerned about caregivers something to celebrate.

*Let's hope that your next step is to extend this invaluable assistance to modest- and low-income households that currently derive little or no benefit from the design of the new caregiver measure as a non-refundable tax credit.*

*Sherri Torjman*

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