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Canada Revenue Agency - Surrey NVCC
Ms. Mireille Laroche, Chief Service Officer (CSO)
555 MacKenzie avenue
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0L5

Date: March 4, 2020

Subject: Response to Consultation on proposed regulatory changes to enable electronic signatures for the T183 and T183CORP

Dear Ms. Laroche,

This letter is in response to your request for consultation on the proposed regulatory changes to enable electronic signatures for the T183 and T183CORP.

We are a 100% remote accounting firm employing 7 full-time Canadian accountants. We facilitate our clients' abilities to file their taxes and manage their accounting department from anywhere they choose. All our clients provide us information electronically, so that they don't need to drop by a physical office to drop off any documents.

We believe the future of Canadian employment will be one which offers the flexibility for Canadian employees and business owners to work from home or from wherever business takes them. Taxpayers want to have access to their information from anywhere that is most productive for them.

Having our business owners physically sign the T183 and T183CORP forms create an undue burden by forcing them to travel to come see us in person. Business owners' time is better spent running their business compared to imposing required travel to their accountant's office to sign a single document.

The Canada Revenue Agency's Department Plan, has defined the top 5 priorities for 2019-20, including perspective on 2021-22. You will note that part of those 5 priorities are:

1. Enabling Innovation, and
2. Providing a seamless service experience

More specifically, the department defined that in order to prioritize Enabling Innovation "It will encourage the CRA to partner with other government departments, the private sector and other stakeholders in piloting new technologies to improve its services.". Enabling electronic signatures for the T183 and T183CORP forms helps the private sector better serve the taxpayers, by allowing them the choice and flexibility to comply with the Income Tax Act in an effortless process.

The department has also defined that in order to provide a seamless service experience "It will make sure that all programs and services are designed with clients at the center.". A client focused approach is a noble attitude to better serving taxpayers across the country. Leaving the taxpayers to choose and enabling them to sign documents from work, home, on the bus or while traveling, provides the taxpayer a higher level of service.

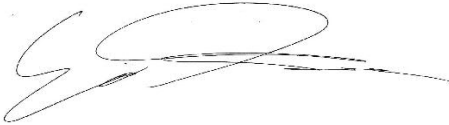
We applaud the CRA's recent innovative milestones achieved in recent years in improving the CRA My Account, CRA MY Business Account and Represent a Client Portal. We are excited about the progress achieved and the upcoming changes, including:

- Seeking feedback through this process on its service offerings
- Improvements to the auto-fill function
- Transferring payments between accounts using online accounts
- Improved "Progress Tracker"

We also think taxpayers should have the ability to sign their T183 and T183CORP forms electronically.

Should you have any questions, I can be contacted directly at 613-899-8056,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Saumure".

Eric Saumure, CPA, CA
Principal | Zenbooks

