

HARMONIZATION WITH CERTAIN SALES TAX MEASURES OF THE FEDERAL BUDGET OF FEBRUARY 11, 2014

On February 11, 2014, the Minister of Finance of Canada presented the federal government's budget for 2014. Along with the budget, the federal Minister of Finance tabled, in the House of Commons, supplementary information, notices of ways and means motions and draft amendments to various regulations¹ to amend, among others, the *Excise Tax Act*² in relation to the goods and services tax and the harmonized sales tax (GST/HST).

These proposed amendments to the GST/HST system are currently being studied by the Ministère des Finances et de l'Économie du Québec and harmonization decisions in this regard will be announced at a later date.

However, it can be announced today that changes will be made to Québec's sales tax (QST) system to incorporate, with adaptations on the basis of its general principals, the federal measures to improve the application of the GST/HST to the health care sector (BR 1 to BR 5).³

The changes to the QST system will be adopted only after the assent of any federal legislation implementing these measures relating to the application of the GST/HST, taking into account technical amendments that may be made prior to such assent. They will apply on the same date as that used for the application of the federal measures with which they harmonize.

For information regarding this information bulletin, contact the secteur du droit fiscal et des politiques locales et autochtones at 418 691-2236.

The French and English versions of this bulletin are available on the Ministère des Finances et de l'Économie website at: www.mfeg.gouv.qc.ca.

1 DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CANADA, *Economic Action Plan 2014 – The road to balance: Creating jobs and opportunities*, February 11, 2014, Annex 2, Tax Measures: Supplementary Information, Notices of Ways and Means Motions and Draft Amendments to Various GST/HST Regulations, p. 311.

2 R.S.C., 1985, c. E-15.

3 The references in parentheses correspond to the number of the budget resolution (BR) of the Notice of Ways and Means Motion to Amend the *Excise Tax Act* tabled in the House of Commons on February 11, 2014.