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Trustees' Association

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December 6, 2016

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** OCSTA Directors

**FROM:** Stephen Andrews, Director of Legislative and Political Affairs

**SUBJECT:** Federal Bill C-241, An Act to amend the Excise Tax Act (school authorities) - GST Rebate

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Further to the discussion at the recent meeting of the Board of Directors, on October 19, 2016, the Private Members bill sponsored by Kevin Waugh, Conservative Member of Parliament for Saskatoon-Grasswood, was defeated. Bill C-241 was defeated in a House of Commons vote, 130 to 157 at second reading. The Bill was to amend the Excise Tax Act so that school authorities would be refunded 100% of the GST they pay rather than the 68% they receive now. In a statement to the media following the Bills defeat, Kevin Waugh stated:

*First and foremost, I am very grateful to those colleagues that supported my Bill and especially those that spoke to it. It is unfortunate that the Liberals could not see the merit in this Bill and what it would mean to the school authorities across Canada. We are all disappointed but there will be another day."*

In commenting on the Bill, the government indicated it was not in line with their current priorities and would place a significant cost burden on the federal government.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [sandrews@ocsta.on.ca](mailto:sandrews@ocsta.on.ca).