

SENATE



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SENATOR PERCY E. DOWNE
CHARLOTTETOWN

SÉNATEUR PERCY E. DOWNE
CHARLOTTETOWN

January 30, 2013

The Honourable James M. Flaherty, PC, MP
Minister of Finance
435-S Centre Block
Ottawa, ON K1A 0G5

Dear Minister Flaherty:

I am writing to follow up on a letter I forwarded to your attention on October 29, 2012, with regard to the issue of pension "freezing" facing British expatriates who immigrate to Canada (copy enclosed for your ease of reference).

I would appreciate it if you would advise as to when I can expect a response to my inquiry, and very much look forward to hearing from you in that regard.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Percy Downe'.

Percy E. Downe
Senator





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CHARLOTTETOWN

SÉNATEUR PERCY E. DOWNE
CHARLOTTETOWN

October 29, 2012

The Honourable James M. Flaherty, PC, MP
Minister of Finance
435-S Centre Block
Ottawa, ON K1A 0G5

Dear Minister:

I am writing you today to bring to your attention the issue of pension “freezing” facing British expatriates who immigrate to Canada.

As you may well be aware, a person who works in the United Kingdom (UK) pays into the National Insurance, just as a person working in Canada pays into the Canada Pension Plan. If that person emigrates from the UK to Canada, the pension that they have accumulated up to that point in time will be “frozen” by the UK. If that person had instead chosen to relocate to the United States (US) or remain in the UK, then their pension would have continued to grow with increases in the cost of living index.

If these British expatriates eventually retire in Canada, their income is less than that of those Britons who relocated to the US or elsewhere. The Canadian Government must then incur the cost of supporting any impoverished retirees who may well have been able to get by on their own had they been treated fairly.

I am interested in finding out if there is currently any effort on the part of the Canadian Government to resolve this issue?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Percy Downe'.

Percy E. Downe
Senator