



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

House of Commons Debates

VOLUME 148 | NUMBER 021 | 1st SESSION | 42nd PARLIAMENT

OFFICIAL REPORT (HANSARD)

Friday, February 19, 2016

Speaker: The Honourable Geoff Regan

Taxation

Ms. Dianne Watts (South Surrey—White Rock, CPC):

Mr. Speaker, innovative companies not only in British Columbia but right across this country rely on stock options to keep smart young Canadians working right here at home. If we do not keep our taxes competitive, these young people will simply go elsewhere.

Shopify is a Canadian innovation success story, and we know that the CEO and many other CEOs have called on the Liberals to abandon their misguided plan to tax stock options.

Will the Minister of Finance listen to the people who are actually creating the good jobs for these young people and cancel this misguided tax hike?

Hon. Navdeep Bains (Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, Lib.):

Mr. Speaker, I had the opportunity actually to visit Shopify. It is an incredible Canadian success story, and what is encouraging is that they have a government that is really committed to a comprehensive innovation agenda, an agenda that will create opportunities for companies like Shopify to expand and go into operation.

We have heard their concerns around stock options. We are engaged with them. More important, they are very excited about the fact that this government is going to be putting forward an innovation agenda that will really help companies grow and succeed here and be competitive globally as well.