

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Erin Brillon

### Responses

#### 1. Economic Recovery and Growth

*Given the current climate of federal and global fiscal restraint, what specific federal measures do you feel are needed for a sustained economic recovery and enhanced economic growth in Canada?*

#### 2. Job Creation

*As Canadian companies face pressures resulting from such factors as uncertainty about the U.S. economic recovery, a sovereign debt crisis in Europe, and competition from a number of developed and developing countries, what specific federal actions do you believe should be taken to promote job creation in Canada, including that which occurs as a result of enhanced internal and international trade?*

A well educated population should be a priority. Greater access to higher education, post secondary grants, job specific training opportunities-- allowing for more Canadians to achieve their career success through improved access.

#### 3. Demographic Change

*What specific federal measures do you think should be implemented to help the country address the consequences of, and challenges associated with, the aging of the Canadian population and of skills shortages?*

Reduce the burden for families caring for aged relatives- tax breaks- a system that allows for reduced working hours or leaves from work to care for family members. Skills shortages can be improved through reducing the financial burden of re-training, schooling etc.

#### 4. Productivity

*With labour market challenges arising in part as a result of the aging of Canada's population and an ongoing focus on the actions needed for competitiveness, what specific federal initiatives are needed in order to increase productivity in Canada?*

#### 5. Other Challenges

*With some Canadian individuals, businesses and communities facing particular challenges at this time, in your view, who is facing the most challenges, what are the challenges that are being faced and what specific federal actions are needed to address these challenges?*

I am dismayed by the lack of services and funding to the Aboriginal population relating to health, housing, education and residential school healing. Many promises that have not been met and the first funding to get pulled is always with this undeserved demographic. Aboriginal Health Agency cut, CCAY funding for aboriginal youth cut, INAC post secondary funding not meeting the demand of growing population and is desperate need of reform to allow equal and fair access to all band members. If greater numbers can be empowered through education and health, the population will begin to shift in

a positive direction.