

Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

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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?

I think it is important to support small- and medium-sized enterprises, to provide grants for communities and culture, and to invest in moving towards recycling materials instead of extracting new materials. Increase the price of exports of our resources and ensure that these resources remain affordable within the country for businesses and individuals here. The dollars injected in culture and the community have been proven to stimulate job diversity. Every \$1 invested in these areas brings in \$1.80. Every artist, NGO, SME hires other artists and workers in many fields, which combats rising unemployment rates. Businesses from here spend here and hire people who spend and live here. In addition, the positions that enable us to create international cultural links and expertise on communities, science and many other strong subjects in Canada enable Canada and Canadians to shine brightly outside the country, to earn money and to bring it back to Canada. Grants for SMEs here mean a lot in terms of economic spinoffs across the country and in all social spheres.

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?

See previous answer. Nationalize, invest here and do not try to encourage foreign companies to set up here. We have all the potential within this country to develop our own economy. Invest in the various spheres.

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?

Stop this nonsense with growth. Recycling, communities, culture, create jobs around the idea of growing old. Slow down overproduction. We will not miss anything; things will simply have more value. It is rather strange that we have a labour shortage and yet our unemployment rate is too high. Something does not make sense there. We must invest where people need it and where they want to work.

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?

Take care of the country without worrying about competitiveness. This overproduction is what is making us lose. Invest in humans instead of money. Culture and communities are renewable energies. There will never be a shortage of work, but the government is cutting these areas and the people who work in these areas are losing their purchasing power. It is a vicious cycle. All the other production spheres end

up with unsold products and they ALL have debt.

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?

Community, culture, SMEs. Invest in all of that and in education. NATIONALIZE the banks. The country must stop reimbursing interest on loans. That is a ridiculous system. It makes the banks richer, when they do not even spend in the country.