

Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

Laurence Dauphinais

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?

Nationalize a portion of our natural resources, specifically mining and water resources, similar to Brazil. Set up a youth education fund for general and cultural learning by taxing the profits of mining, gas and oil companies. Provide more support for the arts and arts education to help shape more independent and well-rounded leaders with advanced critical thinking skills. Re-examine education techniques to address needs, especially those of young boys, and thus reduce the dropout rate.

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?

Give our creators, both artistic and scientific, greater exposure. Do more to promote our urban centres internationally.

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?

Review the skills recognition program for immigrants. Establish genuine benefits to attract an educated immigrant class to Canada. Re-examine Canada's reputation abroad. Restructure the public service. Computerize public systems.

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?

Train people to show leadership, not follow orders. This will produce educated individuals who are active in a number of areas with the ability to understand the big picture and solve problems accordingly.

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?

Cultural undertakings. Support for creation and production. Universities. Restructuring. Manufacturing companies. Work week reduction. Rotation. Specialization. Federal support for local consumption.