

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Kirsten Fraser

Responses
<b>1. Economic Recovery and Growth</b>
<i>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>
Accessible education and skills training. Support for small business and R&D. Revisit procurement and other policies to support Canadian innovation
<b>2. Job Creation</b>
<i>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?</i>
Invest in Canadian innovation. Make higher education and skills training accessible to all Canadians. Invest in cities and invest in cultural industries.
<b>3. Demographic Change</b>
<i>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?</i>
Make skills training and higher education accessible to a greater number of Canadians. Develop immigration policies that encourage the immigration of young, skilled and foreign-trained individuals. Invest in communities so they can support their aging residents at home and in their communities and not in a hospital.
<b>4. Productivity</b>
<i>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?</i>
More incentive based programs to see unemployed and those living on social assistance to transition back to the workforce - provide provinces with the resources so that they can develop programs to help under and unemployed return to or enter the workforce.
<b>5. Other Challenges</b>
<i>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>
Aboriginal Canadians. A plan.