

## 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?*

A preformation assessment of all Government Departments must be done over the next 3 years to assure the public and the Government that each department is functioning at its optimum and that the best value is being achieved.

#### 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?*

The government must make it mandatory that all purchases be made from Canadian manufactures and suppliers, i.e made in Canada by Canadians even if the costs are 10% more. Consideration/incentives should be to encourage the private sector to create/expand production in Canada.

Regulations/environmental must be strict and clearly provided in advance so that all understand what is required in advance of any developments.

#### 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?*

The Federal Government must do an analyses and keep current how much money will be required over the next 50 years for pensions and other support services. Contribution Rates must be increased accordingly if the analyses indicates that current plans are not sustainable over the long term. Regarding skills shortages the partners, industry educational institutions, employers and Governments must get together immediately to determine what skills will be required in the future and begin working as a team to train the Canadian population for the future needs

#### 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?*

The Federal Government in partnership with private sector employers and training institutions must establish intern training programs so that potential employees can be trained on the job. Those that participate must be given special consideration/incentives for doing so. Those participating in the programs would benefit in that they will not have to spent time training new employees as they will have had the basic knowledge because of their internship.

## **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?*

In my view unemployed individuals are the ones facing challenges because they are having great difficulty finding meaningful employment opportunities ( my son has two degrees, soon to have three at the age of 43+ is having extreme difficulty finding meaningful employment in his field). The Government must take the lead and help those as noted to enable them to find employment. This will require a partnership with all employers. Any employer that makes a special effort to employ those with these difficulties should be given special consideration/incentives, e.g tax breaks for their efforts. Businesses and some communities may be facing reduced financial challenges. Municipalities for example, may need financial assistance to do infrastructure work. The program that was offered in the past should be reinitiated. A review of the taxation structure for businesses may be necessary to assist businesses that are/may have financial difficulty. Every effort must be made to keep them viable especially during difficult times.