

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Carolyn Hudson

### 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?*

Federal government needs to survey the employment needs of remoter areas to assess appropriate skills training and apprenticeship programs. My area has only tourism as the main industry right now, so lack of employment is an issue.

#### 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?*

I do not want the federal government to allow wholesale export of resources to other countries for manufacturing. The example in my area would be the export of chromite to China, which would be exporting potential Canadian jobs in addition to the resource itself. I would also like the government to address the issue of the high petroleum dollar negatively affecting manufacturing jobs, particularly in Ontario.

#### 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?*

In my first response, I asked for a survey of the potential industrial opportunities in remoter areas. There needs to be creative vision for industries in those areas and a corresponding skills development initiative.

#### 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 increase of foreign ownership of manufacturing companies with non-union labour forces will create a decrease in productivity. When workers have job security, safety and a positive working environment, increased productivity will ensue.

#### 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?*

There is a definite impression that federal actions have been taken to enhance the profits of big corporations, in some cases foreign-owned, at the expense of the middle-class. The growing inequality gap will continue to be a challenge; government needs to look at the creation and protection of reasonable paying jobs in manufacturing, research and development, as well as assistance for small

business entrepreneurs in the form of employment subsidies, if necessary. People who are earning decent wages are also paying taxes.