

Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

Andree Lafontaine

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?

Stop eliminating government jobs and government services. You are creating this "current climate of fiscal restraint" by repeating it over and over again. The economy is doing fine, stop saying it's not as a way of justifying the current government "downsizing".

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?

Could you frame the question anymore to tip our answers? How about providing a more neutral and balanced portrait of the situation? Stop cutting government jobs.

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?

Tuition fees should be lower so that people can go to school and acquire the skills they need to succeed. Public health services needs to be more flexible and accessible.

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?

Easier access to Employment Insurance and better accessibility to free training so that people keep a good standard of living between employments.

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?

The poor and lower-middle-class are being abandoned by the government. We pay taxes precisely so that this doesn't happen.