

## 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?*

Need to focus on growth in a global environment that is verging on deflationary tendencies rather than indiscriminate cuts that the present Conservative government has done that will harm Canada in the long term.

#### 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?*

We need to promote the growth of small and medium sized business by targeting tax and other measures to them rather than the across the board corporate cuts that the present Conservative government has done which has done very little to create jobs. Most jobs are created by small and medium sized businesses.

#### 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?*

We should encourage the brightest students from around the world to come and study in Canada and then entice them to stay. We should also target immigrants from ALL countries with skills in the high value added economy AND their families as many from Asia will only come if there is family class immigration. Finally we should make sure that present immigrants are not hindered by discriminatory requirements of "Canadian experience".

#### 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?*

We need to provide much more targeted tax measures at R & D that focuses on productivity rather than the across the board corporate tax cuts that does not do much for productivity.

#### 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 country needs to have a government that does not favour some sectors more than others and make sure that there is a national strategy on energy, infrastructure, the power grid and transportation. We need to have a government that does not have policies that divide and conquer but create a national

project to energize the private and public sectors to work together for all Canadians.