

Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

Amanda Olmstead

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?

I feel that we need to use Norway as an example of how to manage a resource rich nation. Increase our corporate taxes and properly fund our social systems. Abandoned the failed notion of the trickle down theory and put money where its most needed, in poverty reduction. Studies have shown that crime decreases and productivity and health increase with a sustained level of poverty reduction. Our nation can not afford to be held hostage by the nonsensical economics of unsustainable growth. Canada has the opportunity to lead the world in economic reform not become America 2.0 (which we will never ever be)>

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 increase our Nationally owned companies, like the CBC, re-nationalize Petro Canada and stop the for-profit revolution. State owned companies keep their profits in Canada and re-invest in Canadian's instead of funding over-seas or southern (American) billionaire's vacation homes.

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?

Increase the amount of health transfer payments to provinces (funded by increased corporate tax rates), encourage provinces to raise the minimum wage to a livable level and decrease the cost of post-secondary and trade school. Increase the amount of skilled immigrants and streamline their accreditation.

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?

Decrease to lower tax bracket to allow people to earn more money while increasing the corporate taxes on oil companies and foreign owned businesses.

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?

Those who exist in and around the poverty line, or subsist on minimum wage face mounting pressure to simply afford rent and food. Fund poverty reduction measures.