

Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

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Responses
1. Economic Recovery and Growth
<i>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>
Less austerity, better regulated national and multinational banks, focus on and subsidies for "green jobs" and renewable clean-energy, encouragement for Canadian Small and Medium Enterprises to continue operations and grow.
2. Job Creation
<i>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>
Better regulations for multinational corporations, focus on and subsidies for "green jobs" and renewable clean-energy, encouragement for Canadian Small and Medium Enterprises to continue operations and grow. The Public Sector should attempt to pick up some of the Private Sector's slack.
3. Demographic Change
<i>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?</i>
Increase subsidies to public institutions for higher education, increase benefits for students who pledge to remain/work in Canada for a set number of years. Aid large, national and multinational enterprises in supplying senior, retiring employees with a minimum pension.
4. Productivity
<i>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?</i>
Focus on and subsidies for "green jobs" and renewable clean-energy, encouragement for Canadian Small and Medium Enterprises to continue operations and grow, increase subsidies to public institutions for higher education, increase benefits for students who pledge to remain/work in Canada for a set number of years.
5. Other Challenges
<i>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?</i>
Tavia Grant; The Globe and Mail: "The number of young people without work in the world has grown by four million since 2007. What's more troubling? Millions more "disconnected youth" have given up the job search altogether. The global youth jobless rate this year remains stuck at "crisis peak" levels and won't likely come down until at least 2016, the International Labour Organization predicts in a grim outlook on youth employment published this week. [...] That means offering tax and other incentives to

businesses that hire young people, greater efforts to reduce the skills mismatch in youth, more mentoring and access to capital and better social protection for the young"