## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

**Pre-budget consultations 2012** 

# Sébastien Rajotte

### 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?

Investment in culture seems essential under the current circumstances. Identity and cultural wealth is fundamental, and keeps curiosity and the spirit of initiative alive, which will allow people to come out of economic stagnation.

#### 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?

Investment in culture maintains existing jobs and ensures that the country is showcased around the world. It makes other countries interested in visiting our country.

## 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 taxes in the major industries; invest these new revenues in old age pensions.

#### 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?

Diversify so-called Canadian productivity by making the country an example in cultural investment.

#### 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 cultural industry needs to be much more subsidized.