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?

Facilitate the development of sustainable sources of energy. Increase royalties on natural resources. Tax stock exchange transactions. Invest in post-secondary education and culture. There are positive economic spinoffs.

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?

Invest in value added tertiary processing businesses, scientific expertise and research and development. Canada cannot compete with the mass production of developing countries. In addition, culture is a particularly profitable sector, and it can be exported.

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?

Make it easier for immigrants to enter the job market, especially professionals. Focus on training specialized workers. Increase royalties on natural resource development. Purchase foreign currency in order to lower the Canadian dollar. Sell currency at the right time. In short, follow the lead of Scandinavian countries with respect to oil production.

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?

In the private sector, support businesses which include employees in decision making (corporate shareholders or members of a co-operative). In the public sector, ACCOUNTABILITY, assessment, sanctions if necessary. On-going training.

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?

Immigrants, aboriginal communities, the poor do not have the same opportunities as others. Middle class (tax burden is too great)