

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?

- debt reduction - careful spending - investment in Canadian business - protection of Canada's natural resources (keep resources in Canadian hands)

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?

- find ways to stimulate job growth in Canada to stop jobs from going overseas. eg. China - stimulate interprovincial trade by reducing barriers. Fed gov't to work with provinces and offer incentives.

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?

- protect pension funds by ensuring companies cannot access the funds and syphon them off. - protect pensioners so they don't need to go back into the job market thereby ensuring the next generation have good paying jobs available. - develop retirement transition schemes that will transfer the knowledge from one generation to the next rather than seeing the knowledge go out the door upon retirement.

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?

- train young people to be responsible and trustworthy in their careers through training and education programs. eg. mentoring by most productive employees

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?

- agriculture - small communities - capital gains tax reduction for individuals eg middle and lower class Canadians There is a great need to encourage the next generation to take up agriculture and produce the Canada's food as well as increasing export markets. As the world demand increases for food Canada is lagging behind because we are losing farm families, no one wants to carry on the family farm for various reasons. Gov't should reduce farm transfer taxes and support farm continuity. Small

communities need gov't support to sustain themselves. Small towns are the backbone of this country and many people work and live in them. Reducing capital gains tax on middle and lower class individuals would be a way to stimulate retirement savings.