

## 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?*

Maintaining the current programmes and services on which the public relies. Scientific programmes in particular need to be maintained in order to guarantee the safety of citizens into the future. Infrastructure programmes should also be invested in so that employment is helped and an investment in the future is guaranteed.

#### 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?*

Infrastructure such as roads, sewers and rapid transit will help with employment and build the necessary advantages for the future while helping with employment in the present.

#### 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?*

Programmes that help keep the elderly autonomous and in their homes for as long as possible are absolutely necessary.

#### 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?*

Insuring that the jobs available pay living wages with an emphasis on equitable and guaranteed pensions.

#### 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?*

Well paying manufacturing jobs are disappearing to be replaced by Mac-jobs. The government has to invest in apprenticeship programmes instead of importing the trained from around the world. Our young people need to be invested in so that they can get and keep well-paying jobs. Instead the government seems to be interested in a race to the bottom with no regard to young people.