

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?

Sustain funding to arts and cultural organizations.

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?

The government should increase funding to the Canada Media Fund and Telefilm, two economic drivers that kick-start job creation in the film and television industry as well as stimulate spin-off economic activity.

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 funding to such organizations as Performing Arts Lodges and Canadian Senior Artists Research Network (CSARN) to help insure that senior artists are well taken care of.

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?

Keep up the good work in stopping the abuse of the Employment insurance program. As a self employed artist I feel that any program aimed at changing the attitude of entitlement is progress. Better student loan and grant programs would also be advantageous to the economy.

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?

As a self-employed artist in both the performing and visual arts I am subject to great variations in income; income averaging and a tax exemption for residual copyright payments would be a great help in my senior years.