

Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

Yukon Art Society Arts Underground

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?

Focus on creative industries and their self-driven population. Increase funding in the arts (vs. the current trend to cut-back). For a very small amount of Government support, Arts organizations develop and create self-employment, supporting service jobs, and viable careers for many - it doesn't just benefit a few, but rather a whole industry.

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?

Place emphasis on activities unique to Canada - such as the creative and cutting edge industries because others cannot compete in the creative fields where the results are unique to the creator. Creative individuals are resourceful; they take small amount and do grand things - this is the nature of creativity. (vs. others that require huge resources to do a few small things).

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 the aging to continue working if they so choose – such as reduced work weeks and/or job sharing. Promote more programs aimed at keeping retirees in the Yukon. (We currently benefit from the expertise of retirees enhancing the skills of the work force as they continue to work in their field but at a very reduced capacity, by choice).

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?

encourage, promote, fund creative & innovative industries and projects. By funding innovative projects and industries, skills are further developed surpassing skill levels that would normally exist.

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 most challenges are being faced by individuals in Tourism (including tourism support like National Parks), the Arts, environmental professionals, First nations, and youth. Provide additional support for these individuals to help themselves thru industry associations and support services. This helps on two

levels: individuals as employment in the associations and services, plus helps the industry as a whole.