

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Kathleen Armitage

### 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?*

Tax breaks to those living near or under the poverty line, as well as more programs to help new graduates find jobs upon graduation.

#### 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?*

I think a review of all current trade agreements to see if they are still beneficial to Canada would be a good starting point internationally. Internally, there needs to be more job creation in all sectors.

#### 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?*

Incentives for people to enter the trades. Incentives for people in certain professions to retire, such as teaching, as there are hundreds of new teacher graduates looking for work, who cannot find it due to the number of teachers who are choosing not to retire. Properly fund the CBC to help with the incentives programs to get the word out.

#### 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?*

#### 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 budget of the CBC should not be cut, and should be fully funded to allow for Canadian programming. The inundation of American programming is undermining our Canadian culture. Although this is a provincial matter, the federal government should urge provincial governments to stop the cutting of funds to education. If we cannot properly educate our children, what will happen to our future?

