

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Jim Budd

### 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?*

N/A

#### 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?*

N/A

#### 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?*

Greater Tax incentives for apprenticeships

#### 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?*

1)Allowing people on Long Term Disability Pensions the ability to do income splitting, same as people on company pensions. LTD pensions are usually lower than normal company pensions. Hard enough being disabled plus the higher tax burden. 2)RRSP regulations do not allow a married individuals to lower their income taxes paid by using their spouses allowable RRSP limit because they are treated as single individuals by revenue Canada when it involves RRSP. When it comes to receiving HST/GST rebates revenue Canada treats married individuals as couples and therefore does not allow any rebates based on the other spouses income. So as a married couple we are assessed as singles when it comes to saving

for the future and getting a tax break now, although when it comes to assessing our eligibility for rebates even if we have no income revenue Canada assess based on our income as a couple. This practice appears discriminatory against married couples. As a married couple the higher income spouse should be able to use the RRSP maximum available of both individuals!