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?

We need a reduction in rules and regulations in an effort to re-vitalize small business. A quick google (Canada)search of "employer's responsabilities" returnes page upon page of regulations. In my opninion we need less government intervention in the economy not more. You injected cash and capital during the liquidity crissis - that was required - the crissis was averted - now we need to let capitalism take over.

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?

Again, less government. The economy must be allowed to recover on it's own. Any intervention inevitably leads to "mal-investment". Your job is to create a legal environment that promote "property right" and a tax regime that allows risk takers (business owners, small business) to be financially rewarded. Government must put in place a long-term plan that will reduce the number of "governemnt employees.

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?

"Renegotiate" all government emplyee contracts, so as to push out retirment dates, increase emplyee contributions to their own pension plans and wage freezes until public pay is back in alignment with the private sector. The babyboomers (on mass) did not save enough and have been living above their means on the back of debt. They will not get the retirement they have deamed about because they did not prepare for it. Skill shortages will be addressed by the laws of supply and demand. You do not have to tinker - tinkering will lead to mal-investment.

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?

Productivity will be addressed by the laws of supply and demand. Any tinkering will lead to malinvestment. Do not tinker. As nice as they are, holidays and "emplyee benefits" do cut in to productivity. If we are to remain competitive we must think very carefully about what emplyers are required to provide for their emplyees. We must search the globe for models that allow for productive state own services (ie: health care) if these institutions DO NOT get more prodictive we have another crissis on our hands. I do not have the answers, sorry, but they are out there we just need to look for

them.

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?

To quote Cicero: "The budget should be balanced. The Treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the assistance of foreign lands should be curtailed lest Rome become bankrupt, people must again learn to work, instead of living on public assistance." - Cicero (55 B.C.) What made us great was not so nice. I think we need to, in part, revert to the old ways. My Grandfather came to Canada when he was 14. there was no welfare. There was no English as a second language. There was no assisted living. There was no health care. It was those immigrants that made our nations great. Without handouts or social assistance. He worked because he didn't have a choice. He work too hard. His generation and ones before created the social benefits so their children wouldn't have to suffer. And how do we repay those heroes - but overindulging and mortgaging "our" children's futures!! Leaving them a legacy of our debt. Not the legacy I want to leave for our children.