

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?

Above all else, the massive tax cuts given to extremely wealthy individuals & to large corporations must immediately be repealed. The massive subsidies given to the Alberta tar sands must also be repealed, with all of the proceeds going to invest in clean energy, as well as much more infrastructure stimulus.

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?

Any foreign takeover of any part of our economy must be stopped. There must be MUCH more investment in value added resource development. Raw resource shipping out must stop, & the processing must be done within Canadian borders.

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?

We should be investing much, much more into Medicare, not starving it of funding & then turning medical care over to the private sector. The private sector will not have good health at the top of its agenda. As for skills shortage, we need MASSIVE new funding of higher education. Make higher education more accessible, not less. We must work to make it VASTLY easier for technical skills of immigrants to be immediately recognised, rather than leaving them in the cold so that we have doctors & engineers from other countries working here as cab drivers & restaurant workers.

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?

Our cultural sovereignty is under massive attack by the heavy cuts in funding to the CBC in all its forms. Quite simply, the Conservative government must follow through on its promise to give increased & stable funding to the CBC.

