

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?

investment in new fields of energy, ideally green energy. Increased taxes for those who can afford it in order to fund social programs that help people find work. More opportunities for students.

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?

As I have said, the green energy revolution is a growth industry and one that could support many qualified young Canadians upon finishing university. Help small businesses grow. A strong independent business will almost always provide more job security than a large multi-national corporation, which is able to drop hundreds of workers at the drop of a hat

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?

Better social services for the elderly. As for skill shortages, I think we have more skills than ever in this country and easier ways of acquiring skills or trade for individuals. Subsidies for those who can't afford these programs are in order.

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?

I have been disappointed in the cuts towards the CBC. I want our country to be culturally competitive as well as economically. We stand to make a lot of money off of our cultural content. CBC Radio is the most important cultural asset we have. By a long shot.

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?

Young people are having a hard time finding work. Fix it.