

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Anne Davis

### 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?*

Job creation, not only confined to traditionally male sectors such as construction, pay equity for women, putting money back into the economy, raising taxes on corporations and the wealthy, free of affordable post-secondary education, an end to interfering with collective bargaining as experience shows that highly unionized locales have more robust economies, more development of value-added industry as opposed to export of raw resources. An end to austerity measures that simply make things worse for the economy. Development of a green economy, retro-fitting houses and buildings, development of fossil fuel free energy sources.

#### 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?*

Development of fossil fuel free energy sources. Demand more royalties from extraction of raw resources with such royalties going to the development of value-added secondary manufacturing. An end to trade deals with oppressive regimes, which leads to increasing social unrest abroad and at home.

#### 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?*

Increased immigration and acknowledgement of immigrants' credentials. Free or affordable post-secondary education. Real apprenticeship programs reinstated.

#### 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?*

A happy workforce is a productive workforce. An end to government interference in collective bargaining. An end to temporary foreign worker programs or proper legislation and enforcement actions to enhance the rights of temporary foreign workers. Enhanced immigration.

## **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 poor and the homeless. Federal transfer payments linked to minimum standards for welfare and housing. A federal housing program. Recognition that many of our poor and homeless are actually working part time or full time - a federal anti-poverty program.