

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Hugo Desrosiers-Plaisance

Responses
<b>1. Economic Recovery and Growth</b>
<i>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?</i>
Defend Canadian jobs, including by not exporting those jobs, as Air Canada has done, or importing foreign workers, as the Charest government plans to do in the north. Invest in medium to large scale infrastructure work in order to generate employment.
<b>2. Job Creation</b>
<i>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?</i>
Investment in sectors that Canada has been known for since emerging on the world stage, in order to solidify Canada's identity: cutting edge technology, development of green technologies, investment in culture in order to promote Canadian culture internationally. Such development can promote Canada as key player in new ideas and draw people from abroad from the manufacturing, scientific and cultural sectors.
<b>3. Demographic Change</b>
<i>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?</i>
Make it easier to access education by encouraging the provinces to reduce tuition fees or even cut them altogether, while calling on the universities to tighten their standards of excellence – cultivating a larger student body will increase the number of graduates available on the market to fill vacant positions, while tightening the criteria of excellence will enhance the quality of those graduates, which will help showcase Canadian capabilities on the world stage.
<b>4. Productivity</b>
<i>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>
Focus on the sectors of excellence and cutting edge technology, where there is still so much potential: green technologies, electric car, alternative modes of transportation (monorail, etc), sectors in which it would be harder for less developed countries to compete with us for a simple lack of expertise among their population.

## **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 Aboriginal communities are without a doubt the most disadvantaged in the country-encourage dissemination of their culture and implementation of true aid measures instead of the political grandstanding that gives the appearance that the government is helping these communities. Encourage businesses to specialize in the development of emerging sectors, cutting edge sectors, encourage them to constantly push further in this development. Encourage the development of culture across Canada in order to promote Canada's own identity and the association of that identity with cutting edge and green technologies, and the development of those technologies.