

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?

It is absolutely crucial that Canada re-examine its economy and adapt to global changes. Concerns regarding the environment, the local economy and protecting Canadians in relation to their employers and banks are among the first constraints that Canada must reconsider in order to have a stronger, more stable economy. Canada needs to create more green jobs, subsidize and promote local agriculture and the local textile industry, for example.

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?

First of all, Canada should implement measures to boost internal trade by concentrating on resources and their potential. Canada should reduce its trade with other countries, on the one hand, to avoid getting dragged into another economic crisis, and on the other hand, to avoid exacerbating the economic problems in Europe and the United States. Canada must not depend on the economies of other countries if it wants to remain stable.

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?

Canada needs to change its immigration policies. In my opinion, Canada should accept people and families who want to live in Canada, but should create more supervision measures (ensure that immigrants learn French or English, that they find employment, that they adapt to Canadian culture, etc.). This would help alleviate problems related to labour shortages and our aging population.

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?

Canada must do more to support local and green economies by subsidizing the creation of eco-friendly businesses in this country. Canada should also impose stiff penalties on Canadian businesses that relocate to developing countries.

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?

Individuals are the ones who are suffering the most from economic problems related to the limited regulation of banks. Canada must adopt measures to regulate banks in order to stabilize the economy and to ensure that ordinary Canadians do not suffer the consequences of banks' bad behaviour.