

Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

Michelle Lynne Goodfellow

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?

Address overspending within the government, making it a leaner operations.

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?

Encourage small business and entrepreneurship, micro-loans, training.

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?

Increase spending on health education and prevention (health care).

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?

Industry (manufacturing) is dying in the developed world. Focus instead on other strengths, skills and resources for job creation.

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?

Those living in poverty are facing the most challenges, as their support systems and services struggle to get the resources necessary to serve them. Do not cut social services programs. Work proactively with private providers to ensure essential services.