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?

I think fiscal restraint is not needed in Canada. I think the Government should use fiscal stimulus in a moderate manner, not on road building but on other infrastructure like trains(for passengers), libraries, universities, research, support of university graduates to find jobs.

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?

Support for jobs which have been lost overseas, such as telephone answering centres, hospital jobs, community college teaching, education of people in the computer industry, productive jobs in canada.

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?

another set of jobs which are important are those of nurses and all others employed in the health system. Also physicians: we should not rely on importing physicians from elsewhere but produce them here.

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?

The Government should encourage the hiring of seniors in part time jobs, by offering a subsidy to companies which hire seniors. I think the emphasis on increasing productivity is wrong. One should keep jobs in Canada even if they are more costly.

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?

I think the Health sector faces the most challenges, and the Government should address those challenges. Next are the problems of Education and the Govt. should interfere more in the running of education by the Provinces. The Provinces are taking a short term view of most issues. The federal govt should provide longer term funding and vision.