

## 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?*

We should be building infrastructure to support future growth industries like green energy and smart electrical grids. Oil and gas concentrate too much of its wealth to few and foreign interests. Those resources are finite and should be valued as such. Climate change is upon us and will hurt our economy. As a northern country being affected the most by this change, we should be leading the way mold the new green economy. Countries like Germany and China are doing way more than we are and that is a mistake.

#### 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?*

Our banks claim to be strong and unaffected by whats going on in the banking industry around the world. We should be voicing strong concerns to the fraud going on in large banking institutions around the world that are causing concerns to the security of our economy. We should sanction fraudulent banks and restrict financial trade with countries that do not sort out those types of criminal activities. We should also be looking at the cost of climate change to our farming and fishing economies and the overall health of our nation. Support for the industries (eg mining for rare minerals) that support the new green economy should offset the affects of climate change.

#### 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?*

The federal government should work with the aging work force to keep them healthy, happy and productive. We should incentivize the old apprentice/journeyman style of training to bring our young workers up to speed quickly. Mentorship programs will be important and tax incentives to keep older workers involved in that process is even more important.

#### 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?*

We live in a global marketplace and those markets will force companies to be increasingly productive. Limiting the affects of large capital firms from stripping companies bare to achieve fast profits should be investigated. Taxation changes could keep those forces at bay so companies can focus more on being strong and productive while enabling good work balance for aging employees and new employees instead of defending against firms such as Bain Capital. Stop me if this is making too much sense.

## **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?*

Large business profits are higher than they have ever been. Small businesses are being most affected by the new global economy as capital moves around looking for the greatest return. Mills in BC close at the drop of a hat, profitable manufacturing companies in Quebec close their doors and good paying jobs fall by the wayside. I think we should talk about foreign ownership rules (ala Telecommunications) in certain industries if multi-national companies want to operate like this in Canada.