

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?

Balanced focus on debt reduction and reduced government regulations. The market works better when regulations are minimized and based on the principals of common sense.

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?

We need to add value to our resources at home . Reduce the shipment of "raw" materials out of Canada and add the value here. An example is the shipping of crude from the oil sands, let's refine the products here and ship the finished goods instead.

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?

Create a proper apprenticeship program for the young. Provide supplemental wage support to add more young to the programs. Don't focus only on the trades but introduce these programs in other fields. Utilize retired and retiring citizens to be part of this program with pension top ups for their time.

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?

Provide accelerated write offs for capital investments for manufacturing as these investments will have a long term benefit. Look at ways to use the experience of our older citizens to help with the innovations.

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?

Focus on areas of higher unemployment be it geographic or demographic. Utilize spending to top up rather than force individuals to fit into an all or nothing program. Reduce the beauracracy cost of running the programs.