

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Annie-Sara Lemieux McClure

### 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?*

Investing in renewable energy on a long-term basis. Building on our strengths, such as our natural resources, but without weakening them. Investing regionally on a local basis to support regional industries. The economy should refocus on domestic rather than on ever-unstable international sources... we need to strike a balance between the two.

#### 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?*

Stop the cutbacks to culture, community organizations, NGOs... that have led to many job losses over the past several months.

#### 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?*

Help young people continue their studies and finish their education with a low debt load and a high level of knowledge. Several organizations (like the DESI, in Quebec) offer support to retirees who continue to contribute to development in society. The aging population also needs to be educated about health so as to stay healthy and reduce health care costs.

#### 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?*

#### 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 aboriginal Canadians are currently experiencing many changes because of increased use of the arctic route now and over the coming years. The oil sands are encroaching on the land of several communities in Alberta and B-C. It is our duty to protect our resources and our people, they are our wealth!!!!

