

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Mastocytosis Society Canada

### 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'm not an economist however it seems keeping interest rates where they are is important. At least through 2013, especially in light of economic events in Europe and elsewhere around the world.

#### 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?*

More support for small business, non-profits and registered charities. Whether financial or in the form of government contributions to hold employee training programs. Non-profits and charities involved in healthcare, diseases/disorders, hospice care, pain management, etc. - those with less than \$100,000.00 in revenues should have government grants or loans available to them for operations. In future, these types of organizations can and may pick up for healthcare needs of Canadians such as funding prescription medication and other medical support needs. But they need help to grown and build to get off the ground. There could also be tax incentives for these organizations. This would possibly relieve the federal funding pressure on national and provincial healthcare.

#### 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?*

Definitely need more Long Term Care Homes and they need to be properly regulated and inspected. There could different classes of homes as well - those for the mentally impaired for instance, those for patients with severe healthcare needs, versus standard long term care homes.

#### 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?*

I'm really not sure.

## **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?*

Small business, non-profits and charities, and independent self-employed individuals. Challenges are keeping up with security and technology needs to function to meet privacy laws and be able to afford necessary tools, equipment, and personnel. Perhaps funding in low or zero interest loans might be something to consider for these organizations and individuals.