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?

The end of subsidized fossil fuels and serious investment into renewable energy infrastructure.

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?

The end to of subsidized fossil fuels and serious investment into renewable energy infrastructure.

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?

A focus on community-based elderly care. If we can keep seniors out of retirement homes for five extra years we can save billions on a national scale. We can do this by creating programs in which neighbours (mostly students), for a slim price, can check on seniors, ensure they are taking their medication and assist with household needs. Of course some seniors will need intensive care, but simply by reducing the number of beds in a retirement home, there will be tremendous savings and jobs provided.

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?

The Native people of Canada. We are systemically putting them into perpetual poverty and it is the fault of the federal government for catering to every group except the Native population. In order to help these people we should accept that they deserve land returned to them.