

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Dawn McKay

### 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 need to enforce the laws protecting working people in Canada, restore the crumbling infrastructure and stimulate the economy in high unemployment areas with enhanced jobs programs. We need to encourage immigration to Canada and to allow current landed immigrants to work in their own fields of expertise.

#### 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 tax the multinational corporations heavily that move work across the border, enforce the laws already on the books and in the case of certain automobile assembling companies, enforce the "footprint" they promised the Canadian taxpayers in our country in exchange for loan guarantees. The agreements and laws are already there, but NOT enforced. New legislation should also be in place that if a company goes bankrupt exclusively on our side of the border, that the US arm of the company cannot reclaim any of their assets here until all severance, wages and holiday pay is made whole to its former employees.

#### 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?*

We need to encourage higher levels of immigration in Canada. This would provide a larger base of working-aged people.

#### 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?*

Canada is already more productive in most sectors as compared to our international neighbours. The working people of Canada need to be protected from the predatory natures of their employers. Companies (like Caterpillar, for example), who bargain in bad faith while trying to cut the wages of its employees must be held to account. The workers must be protected. Where is our government on this????

## **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 working people in Canada are consistently under attack. In the name of competitiveness we are being asked to give up pay, pensions, benefits all in exchange for alleged job security which is anything but secure. We are being asked to work longer before getting our pensions by our own government and are being asked to make undue sacrifices in acquiring our EI and Workers Compensation system. The former funds are ours as workers. If there needs to be more funding in the system, then put the burden on the employers. The new rules are just a way of kicking a worker when he is down.