

Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

glenna miles

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?

Tax the rich and corporation at a higher, more appropriate, rate. Be sure that foreign owners of Canadian based resource companies do not escape their responsibilities to provide appropriate remuneration for the privilege of doing business here. The current race to the bottom, by lowering corporate taxes, is gutting Canada of the funds it needs to support her people and their interests. It is important to support the Canadian economy before looking elsewhere.

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?

Considering that the manufacturing of goods in Canada has been severely impacted through the elimination of good jobs through exporting them to other lower wage paying countries, thus decreasing the ability of Canadians to pay a higher rate of taxes as per a higher income, it is self defeating to continue to prop up out of country businesses while our workers go broke. No common sense there at all. Stop selling raw resources. Value added must be done at home.

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?

Education, education, education. Remove monetary barriers to education. An educated populace is a productive populace. Higher levels of education allow for better paying jobs, therefore, more tax revenue to support Canada. Offer skills training to Canadians at a younger age. Youth unemployment is a national tragedy when skills training would encourage gainful employment with increased functionality and confidence. Technology is reducing the need for as many people to do a singular activity. Be forward thinking and pro-active instead of trying to catch up when need for specific, work related, skills are going to be needed.

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?

See answer to number three. Educate our people. Stop selling raw resources. Promote training of Canadians at a younger age so they will be ready to enter the job market. Corporations need to increase their training opportunities for on the job training. Engaged citizens will work harder to support the country as a whole if they feel supported and valued in return. The current race to the bottom is undermining the Canadian fabric. Seasonal immigration is fine, but not at the expense of Canadian

workers who have to make a means to live where costs are at Canadian levels. There is no advantage to the backbone and heart of Canada, through her hardworking people, if their throats are going to be cut by cheap outside labor. None.

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?

Indigenous peoples are being ignored. This is shameful! They are not the least of our society and deserve the respect all other Canadians expect. Education is their right, support of their lifestyles on the lands they live on, and the right to be included in with the voices of all other Canadians regarding who we are as a country and how best will we support and sustain life on this planet. There is no Planet B. Business can not flourish if the Canadian populace becomes impoverished. Really think about who we are, as free and diverse peoples, as a forward thinking nation who values its citizens and the peoples of other nations as living, breathing, sentient beings who are all together on one big integrated planet. The only one that can sustain us for all time or a short time. Money is a part of our social structure but by no means all of it. Ignore the rest of the human needs and we will perish from this ignorance. Clean air, secure safe national food sources and clean water above all else. We do not have a backup plan. Do not sell our water or give rights to it to foreign entities. That would be suicide. Canada needs to reclaim her place as a country that cares about the world as a whole . We will live or die together. Thank you for this opportunity to remind us all of how fragile life on this planet really is and how priorities are so necessary to get it right the first time or it may be the only time.