

## Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

### Pre-budget consultations 2012

## Carol Sandra Size

### 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?*

Canada needs the research centres to keep abreast of the latest technology to improve our exports, and possibly lower the need for some imports.

#### 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?*

There are many university and college graduates that cannot find a job in their field. There should be some incentive (e.g. teachers) for people to retire early (e.g. 60 years) in order to create jobs for the younger generation.

#### 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?*

There needs to be a plan in place to care for the Baby Boomer's Generation. Many people have had both the father and mother in the work force and they have paid taxes to the Canadian government for over 35 years. This generation will need: - extended health care at home; - dental care so other health issues can be minimal; - increase in OAS so people can live independently and not below the poverty line; - more funding needs to go to the nursing homes where currently there is a shortage of staff; - The skills' shortages can be resolved by including the needs in programs at the college level where the students can get hands-on training. There are university graduates who have gone back to school at the college level to get the hands-on training. However, certain university courses could include hands-on training as well. There is no requirement to bring in skilled people from other countries when Canada has unemployed people who would be willing to learn the skills needed by our country.

#### 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 needs to give tax breaks for the people who are creating jobs for Canadians as is currently being done in the USA. The exception would be the companies who are shipping their products for assembling per se to other countries which would create jobs elsewhere instead of 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 biggest challenges are being faced by the seniors in Canada. Some seniors cannot afford to retire since the OAS pension and CPP is not enough to live on above the poverty level. If this demographic issue is corrected, it would automatically create many, many jobs for the younger Canadians. However, the Canadian government has raised the age to get the OAS by two years for the younger generations.