Standing Committee on Finance (FINA)

Pre-budget consultations 2012

Yvon St-Louis

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?

Increased corporate taxes and greater regulation of financial flows. The deregulation of the past 30 years has only resulted in negative growth, unlike the average growth of 4% a year following Bretton Woods. The worst part is that all periods of regulation create growth while the reverse creates economic and social crises. Today even government-secured loans, whether for post-secondary studies or business development, are subject to resale outside the country as "high value-added" shares, according to the prospectuses of tax havens

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?

At any period in time the creation of local businesses has ensured the economic growth of nations. Today aluminum companies transform bauxite that comes from other countries. They don't use the bauxite in the country's north. And the processing of aluminum ingots into a finished product is also done in another country that sells us back the finished product. Anything that can be done at home must be done at home, just like the owner of a business has to first do the work himself before hiring others to do it.

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?

Redistribution of wealth. The world population has grown steadily for 200 years. Young people want to have children. Yet they are the ones with the most precarious working conditions and the least paid jobs. We give them fair pay for their work when they no longer have the health or the desire to have a family. In the U.S. they maintain their birth rate by redistributing wealth. It's true they're trying to pull out but nowhere in the world has this option had a positive effect. What's more it weakens social ties.

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?

Always buy local and support small businesses who want to satisfy customers. Customers are the basis of everything. No customers = no sales = no production. Multinationals should also be stopped from taking control of a start-up and force it into bankruptcy to get tax benefits in Canada. This is an all-too-common pattern and the main occupation of tax havens.

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 middle class and those below it. They can't travel to other countries to put money in secret accounts or buy foreign products. The rich have all the means to evade taxes and they are helped by the banks who are in charge of the banking system in the Caribbean (a right given mainly to the Royal Bank and ScotiaBank by the British Crown). The middle and lower-income classes naturally look to meet their shopping needs as close as they can to home. This creates buying local and therefore jobs.