



Office of
Jonathan Wilkinson

The Government of Canada has sought input on how to best create jobs and grow the economy for the middle class and all Canadians. All recorded responses will be submitted to the Ministry of Finance's online #Budget2017 consultation portal.

MAKING THE ECONOMY WORK BETTER FOR YOU

Question 1: How can we make the economy work better for you and your family?

Transportation, Infrastructure and Economic Policy:

- Increase transit options for the North Shore – current traffic problems are horrendous
- Consider public private partnerships to enable investment in required infrastructure
- Need a new national building code focused on energy efficiency/conservation
 - Net-zero energy housing
- Home improvement subsidies needed to incent energy efficiency
- Attract more economic immigrants
- Bring talented Canadians home to boost economic performance
- Limit foreign ownership of Canadian property

Social Initiatives:

- Consider current definition of a “family” – need to consider childcare, community living, transportation needs and programming in light of what it means to be a modern family
- Implement guaranteed annual income
 - Replace other financial assistance programs
- Low-income tax credit for married couples without children (CCB not entirely fair to those who choose not to have children)
- Subsidize healthy food products
 - Increase sales taxes on unhealthy food products
- Tax credit for stay-at-home parents
 - Until children are enrolled in kindergarten
 - Provide 75% of income replacement through E.I. from birth to age 4
- Focus on programming that will reduce student debt

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- Reduce restrictions for E.I. qualifications
- Encourage local hiring for skilled vocations
 - Promote skills training in trades
- Tax incentives to assist with growing cost of childcare
 - Investigate pay-by-income childcare model
- Build communities that avoid social isolation – create more connected communities (housing is a big issue here)
- Implement national restorative justice initiative

Energy & Resource Development:

- Don't invest in pipelines
- End government subsidies for fossil fuel industry
- Halt investment on energy projects with negligible capital gain
- Ensure secondary refining and processing to ensure value added remains in Canada

Military & Foreign Affairs:

- Don't invest in/purchase F-35s
- End peacekeeping efforts

Fiscal Policy and Fiscal Management:

- Ensure safeguards for fiscal accountability in government
- Reward efficiency within the Government of Canada
 - Reduce operational bureaucracy/red tape
 - Discourage spending departmental budget surpluses
- Limit foreign ownership of Canadian property
- Incentivise personal debt reduction strategies

Miscellaneous:

- Enable work-from-home to limit transportation on congested roadways
- Introduce retirement savings education for full-time youth employees
- Lobby provincial governments to including coding in educational curriculum

INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE AND CREATING JOBS

Question 2: Where can we invest to create more and better jobs? How can we position Canadian businesses to compete around the world?

Transportation & Infrastructure:

- Take advantage of low interest rates to invest in improving aging infrastructure
- Expand broadband internet to rural and northern communities
- Reduce cost of internet services by further regulating telecom monopolies
- Examine opportunities for public-private partnerships to enable more investment in needed infrastructure

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- Fund North Vancouver specific transit projects
 - Light rail or rapid transit to North Vancouver
 - East-west connector through District of North Vancouver
- Replace the Lynn Creek Bridge on Highway 1
- Dedicate specific routes for cycling/active transportation only
- Incentivise low and no carbon transportation options
 - Cycling tax credit
 - No-car tax credit
- Bring in new national building code to increase energy efficiency of buildings

Energy & Resource Development:

- End fossil fuel subsidies
- Need to have at least one pipeline approved

General Policy:

- Lend funds to municipal governments to allow for lower rates for local projects
- Incentivise businesses to hire locals, Canadians
- Encourage trade deals that respect Canadian sovereignty
- Reintroduce funding for Katimavik
- Increase student cooperative opportunities
- Reduce number of civil servants duplicating services
- Control national debt

Miscellaneous:

- Improve private business practices
 - Make businesses more environmentally conscious
 - Improve labour relations for Canadian industries to make them more appealing
- Ensure options are available for Canadian workers to work from home

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING PRIORITIES

Question 3: Which areas require more federal investment to improve infrastructure? To help Canadians get good jobs? - nationally and in North Vancouver

Transportation & Infrastructure:

- Ensuring accessible public transit is available to suburban communities like North Vancouver
- Fund net-zero energy, efficient, passive solar housing upgrades for homes
- Construct third crossing over or under the Burrard Inlet
- Invest in sustainable public transit

Energy & Resource Development:

- Support solar, tidal, and geothermal power generation and other forms of renewable energy
- Eliminate subsidies on fossil fuel industry

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- Incent purchase of environmentally sustainable products

Social Initiatives:

- Modernizing Canada's health care system
 - Increased assistance and residential care for the mentally ill
 - National pharmacare plan
 - Fund homecare program for seniors
 - Revitalize GIS to allow for seniors to independently support themselves
 - Increased access to specialist care
 - Shift towards national electronic medical records
- Develop strategy for affordable long-term care for seniors
- National housing plan to ensure every Canadian has somewhere to live – revitalize CMHC; seniors housing; build more shelters; etc....

Public Policy:

- Pan-Canadian framework on green building code standard
- Allowing for provinces to expanding emergency preparedness initiatives
- Revitalize CMHC
 - Provide increased rent supplements
- Subsidize environmentally friendly products

Miscellaneous:

- Shift focus away from jobs in fossil fuel industry

ENSURING SUCCESS IS SHARED WITH DISADVANTAGED

Question 4: How can we best ensure that our success is shared by those who need it most?

Social Initiatives:

- Implement guaranteed income supplement
- National housing plan to ensure every Canadian has somewhere to live
- Child poverty reduction strategy to compliment CCB
- Study how the underemployed may become employed – how can we better utilize the current unemployed
- Ensure income assistance is allocated appropriately
 - New practices for treating addiction, developmental disabilities
 - Manage food allowances and housing for society's most vulnerable
- Encourage local governments to facilitate community connectivity

General Policy:

- Discourage outsourcing by encouraging local employment
- Amend highest tax bracket from top 1% of earners to top 2%
- Revitalize CMHC

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- Providing increased rent supplements
- Increase foreign aid
 - Goal of 0.7% in coming years
 - Focus on girls' health & education programs for developing countries
- Modernize and make fairer Canada's tax policy
 - Simplify tax policy by pruning tax concessions
 - Prosecute tax evaders
 - Increase corporate tax rate
 - Raise taxes on top 2% rather than just top 1%
 - Put a cap of CEO salaries

Miscellaneous:

- Most important to measure debt to GDP ratio.

Question 5: How important is progress towards a balanced budget vs. investments in infrastructure, the

IMPORTANCE OF A BALANCED BUDGET

economy and other areas?

- Balanced budget is not currently important
- Debt to GDP ratio is the most appropriate measure in the short to medium term – focus on investments in infrastructure to ensure long term growth
- Should ensure that borrowing for definite are done domestically
 - Reduce reliance on foreign money
- Need to have a plan to return to budgetary balance over the medium to longer term
- Need a plan to pay debts in long term – do not create huge debts for the future

CONTRIBUTE YOUR IDEAS

You can continue to share your ideas for Budget 2017 by engaging online at Budget-LeBudget.ca and with #Budget2017.

The responses recorded in this document were submitted by constituents of North Vancouver and members of the public at the North Vancouver Pre-Budget Consultation on November 3rd, 2016 at the North Shore Neighbourhood House. Submissions made to the Ministry of Finance will be carefully analysed and thoughtfully considered as potential elements of the 2017 Federal Budget.

"I'd like to personally thank each and every participant at this year's pre-budget consultation. Last year's town hall sparked an ongoing dialogue on the fiscal priorities of the Government of Canada. I remain committed to meaningful consultation with our community to ensure their voice is heard and their opinions are represented. I'm looking forward to continuing this conversation with Canadians."

Jonathan Wilkinson,

Member of Parliament for North Vancouver