House of Commons
Chambre des communes
Canada

House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance – Pre-budget Consultations 2013

This brief is submitted by:

(•) **an organization** **Organization name:** Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat

or

( ) **an individual** **Name:** _____

Topic: Aboriginal peoples

*Recommendation 1: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

That the immediate renewal of funding of 11 million per year for the Atlantic Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative for 5 years.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

$10 million-$99.9 million

5 or more years

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

Funding can be provided based on the Budget of DFO and is a strong investment to help ensure First Nation communities have strong governance and sustainable business practices to ensure continued growth in the commercial fishery. The revenues produce contribute greatly to each community and stronger growth in economic development in the Atlantic region and growth in the Atlantic fishery which benefits First Nations and all Atlantic Canadians.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

The effort will have a direct impact in First Nations communities and sustain over 1750 jobs in the fishery and directly related fishery activities. This First Nations activity has also generated revenues of 103 million in 2011 and has grown by over 18.3 percent since 2004 even as the overall Atlantic fishery has declined by 9.4% in landed values over the same period. As traditional fishers in the Atlantic fishery get older increasingly the young First Nation population provides a large population of people resources which can meet the growing challenges in the Atlantic fishery.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

In Atlantic Canada in particular, the continue level of growth in the commercial fishery will allow poverty levels in many communities to improve and grow toward equity in household incomes in the region. All revenues and incomes created contributes directly to neighbouring communities across the region and supports other local economic activity.

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Recommendation 2: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

To provide specific access to long term financial capital to allow First Nations communities to make much needed investments in community infrastructure, housing and economic development and to borrow long term over 25- 30 years at preferred rates of interest.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

$500 million-$999.9 million

Immediately

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

A federal loan guarantee to allow First Nations to access long term capital markets will ensure capital and economic infrastructure is build based on the long term debt and not on a cash basis and allows the development of key First Nation capacity. Such a funding guarantee would allow First Nations to establish strong fiscal and financial capacity and be able to contribute fully in all aspects of the Canadian economy.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

This measure would allow the First Nations to participate fully in the economy and allow long term capital planing for communities based on considerable access to need financial resource to support efforts in the development and improvement of all aspects of life in First Nations communities. Any investments made will also contribute to surrounding communities and local businesses which currently provide a wide range of goods and services to First Nations communities and people.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

The benefit and impact of the investments would be direct in the First Nations communities but also spin-off to many adjacent communities which will benefit directly throughout the provision of services and goods for communities there will be a direct benefit of employment creation and or training through the construction phase of particular projects. In particular those project related to economic growth will produce long term sustainable jobs and opportunities to many young people in many of the communities which are in great need of opportunities. such efforts will reduce levels of poverty.

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Recommendation 3: Please provide a short summary of your recommendation.

To allow for the provision of long term funding arrangements in excess of 10 years which include set price and volume service escalators which keep pace for provision of all basic services and population growth in First Nations communities.

Expected cost or savings: From the pull-down menus, please indicate the expected cost or savings of your recommendation to the federal government and the period of time to which the expected cost or savings is related.

$100 million -$499.9 million

5 or more years

Federal funding: Please provide a precise indication of how the federal government could fund your recommendation. For example, indicate what federal spending should be reallocated, what federal tax measure(s) should be introduced, eliminated or changed, etc.

The funding must be provided based on economic and tax growth to ensure First Nations directly and proportionately benefit from theresources of Canada and the extraction of natural resources and the employment and business opportunities.

Intended beneficiaries: Please indicate the groups of individuals, the sector(s) and/or the regions that would benefit by implementation of your recommendation.

Funds utilized in economic and employment development activities and partnerships done by First Nations communities and allow communities to continue to provide basic essential services to communities. Core basic essential services to First Nations must be further define to determine clearly the the real direct costs for First Nations communities to deliver First Nations services equal to provinces and the federal government based on the clearly defined and documented needs.

General impacts: Depending on the nature of your recommendation, please indicate how the standard of living of Canadians would be improved, jobs would be created, people would be trained, etc.

Any set increase to the basic service delivery funding in First Nations communities will allow for the reduction of poverty and an improvement in living conditions in communities which are now in decline based on all social and economic data. A direct investment would provide hope and empowerment to communities which are struggling to continue and provide services. These efforts could trigger economic and employment opportunities as communities built stronger levels of capacity and expertise to improve results and economic outcomes in each and every community.

Please use this page if you wish to provide more explanation about your recommendation(s).

*Please note that at least one recommendation must be provided