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:** Downsview Aerospace Innovation & Research (DAIR) Working group

or

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

Topic: Innovation and commercialization

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

Provide $90 million and engage the Canada Lands Corporation (CLC) towards the realization of a Downsview Aerospace Hub. The Hub will be comprised of an innovation center, a university campus, and a college campus which will greatly increase collaboration in research, technology development and improve skills training. This request is consistent with Recommendation 17 of the recent federal Aerospace Review report (the Emerson Report).

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.

Fed. gov"t funding through targeted program initiatives intended to promote high value job creation and retention, economic growth, and prosperity initiatives,eg. FedDev Ont. Consistent with the Emerson report, Ind. Regional Benefits should be targeted in order to ensure foreign investment in this strategically significant initiative, eg.Tech.demonstrators. Targeted funding in a strategic aerospace Hub, will allow the Fed. gov't to recoup investment through the increased economic activity resulting from the improved competitiveness of the Cdn. aerospace sector.

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

Clusters (Hubs) benefit and enable industry, academia and research institutions to identify the most promising technology opportunities and develop state of the art innovation, ensure its commercialization, develop required workforce competencies, and identify ways to increase productivity. (Porter, 2000).
The Downsview Aerospace Hub will attract foreign investments & help aerospace firms enhance their respective competitive advantages by promoting collaboration among the key players and significantly contribute to increasing the long-term competitiveness of the Cdn. aerospace industry.

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 primary impact of this recommendation will be to improve the competitiveness of the Canadian aerospace sector, with the potential to enable it to add several thousand jobs per year over the next fifteen years as opposed to facing the possibility of losing jobs because other countries are improving the competitiveness of their aerospace industries. Through the proposed Hub, the competitiveness of the Canadian aerospace sector will be improved as a result of greatly increased collaboration between industry and academia in research and technology development as well as education and training.

Topic: Innovation and commercialization

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

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.

Please select from the drop down menu

Please select from the drop down menu

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.

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

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.

Topic: Please select from the pull-down menu

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

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.

Please select from the drop down menu

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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.

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

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.

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

The Downsview aerospace Hub concept has broad industry support nationally. In order for Canada to maintain and grow its national aerospace sector we must build off the success shown by other provinces, particularly Quebec and blur provincial borders. The Canadian aerospace sector, both aeronautics and space, generates revenues of $22 billion annually, of which 80% is exported, and employs over 80,000 Canadians. It is expected that some $3.2 trillion in new commercial aircraft and $661 billion in business aircraft will be ordered over the next 20 years as operators look for more efficient and environmentally sustainable aircraft to update their fleets. If the Canadian sector can retain or grow its share of the global markets, which are projected to grow at 3 to 5% per year, it has the opportunity to double in size over the next 10-15 yrs. Other countries are investing heavily in their respective aerospace industries and in similar initiatives to facilitate increased collaboration between academia and industry in research and technology development. This is based on a global recognition of the importance of collaborative research and development to competitiveness in the aerospace sector. Finally, as recognized in the Aerospace Review Report, the competitiveness of the Canadian aerospace sector is highly dependent on a well-educated workforce. This is traditionally a competitive edge held by the Canadian aerospace industry, but it is at risk because of the current demographics of the workforce. The proposed initiative is an important element of a strategy to ensure that the Canadian aerospace sector has the skilled workforce necessary to maintain its current global standing and therefore gain its share of the projected global growth in the sector.

*Please note that at least one recommendation must be provided