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:** Engineers Canada

or

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

Topic: Education and skills training

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

Engineers Canada recommends that the federal government place a priority on the reallocation of $19 million toward the promotion of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

The federal government should partner with provincial governments and stakeholders to provide information to elementary and secondary students about the opportunities available in STEM fields. Employers and industry groups also have a role to play in promoting the jobs of the future.

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

2 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.

This is a previously funded initiative, announced in Economic Action Plan 2013.

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

This recommendation would benefit youth, women, Indigenous people, and post-secondary institutions. Communities, post-secondary institutions and various industries will ultimately benefit from having the skilled professionals needed to drive innovation.

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.

These investments will increase Canada's competitiveness in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields. Raising awareness of the opportunities in these fields will help address anticipated skills shortages, including a forecasted shortage of engineers with specialized experience in certain regions of the country, out to 2020.

Topic: Infrastructure

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

Engineers Canada recommends that the federal government allocate a portion of the $47 billion in new funding under the Building Canada Plan to incorporate risk assessments to identify the vulnerability of new and existing infrastructure to extreme weather events, and assist owners in adapting their infrastructure.

The process for allocating and receiving funds under this program should require applicants to demonstrate that they are aware of the vulnerabilities of their infrastructure and have included adaptation measures in their project proposals.

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.

$1 million-4.9 million

1 year

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.

Approximately $4 million of the already allocated $47 billion in new funding announced in the Economic Action Plan 2013 should be dedicated for adaptation of core public infrastructure to extreme weather events.

Infrastructure Canada should be directed to include and promote requirements for risk assessments and adaptation measures as part of the application and procurement process for funding under this program.

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

The beneficiaries of this funding would be provinces, municipalities, other infrastructure owners and ultimately all Canadians and their communities.

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.

This investment would help to ensure that communities are able to address vulnerabilities of their infrastructure before disaster strikes. Having adaptation measures in place can mitigate costs of rebuilding and may reduce the risk to life and property.

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).

*Please note that at least one recommendation must be provided