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:** _____

or

◉ **an individual** **Name:** Robert Hacking

Topic: Rural, remote and urban communities

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

Community infrastructure is needing urgent replacement, and the costs of these projects outstrip local government ability to address. Current grant programs are inequitable and arbitrary in assignment, leading to projects of great practical need being unqualified for vanity projects and many communities not successful in achieving significant grant support.

I recommend the grant method be changed to a long-term stable funding model to allow communities to build plans for 10-20 year projects for roads, piping (water/sewer), drainage, and disaster preparedness and fund them adequately.

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 billion or more

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.

Reduced military capital expenditures. Reduced subsidies for foreign industry investment. Increased unrefined/raw commodity export tariffs.

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

Citizens and local governments.

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.

Increased preparedness to natural disaster damage, reduced failure of critical infrastructure. Local construction jobs.

Topic: Military and public safety and security

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

Capital equipment (Aircraft, Naval vessels) purchases should be scaled to the needs of Domestic priorities. SAR, Emergency response, and local defense should not be secondary to international engagements and involvement. Equipment should be optimally suited to perform domestic operations and provide exceptional value at those tasks as the main priorities. International operation and NATO member joint operational requirements/suitability should NOT be major considerations in capital equipment tenders.

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 billion or more

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.

No additional funding is required.

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

Military personnel will have better equipment to accomplish thier domestic tasks, and procurement will follow clearer mandates to buy for Canadian Soil 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.

Improved efficiency and focus of the Canadian Armed forces to Domestic affairs. Improved moral and understanding of the role of the Forces and increased competence in that role. Appropriate and effective equipment to meed the needs of our troopsf or the tasks required.

Topic: Parliament, elections and democracy

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

Abolish the Senate role and empower and equip the Supreme Court of Canada to accomplish parliamentary oversight and citizen recourse requirements.

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.

Re-allocate current Senate resources and staff to serve the needs of the increased role of the Supreme Court. Attempt to find efficiencies so not all current Senate resources are required to be transferred to the Supreme Court.

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

Improved efficiency in levels of government and interface between citizens, parliament, and the supreme court to accomplish oversight goals.

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.

Less waste in an inefficient government function (Senate). Greater connection between citizens and an agency who can address issues raised by parliament actions.

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

Thank you for the opportunity to have a voice.

*Please note that at least one recommendation must be provided