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:** World University Service of Canada (WUSC)

or

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

Topic: Foreign aid and foreign policy

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

WUSC recommends that the newly merged DFATD renew funding at current or increased levels to the Volunteer Cooperation Program (VCP) formerly managed by CIDA's Partnering With Canadians Branch (PWCB). Well-designed, structured and strategic international volunteer cooperation programs are a cost-effective way to: (1) engage Canadians across the country on the Government's foreign policy priorities; (2) project a visibly Canadian presence overseas; and (3) deliver substantive development results in conjunction with other foreign policy tools and programs.

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.

unknown

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.

Renewed support for the Government's Volunteer Cooperation Program could be funded from the international development assistance component of the Federal budget. Co-funding is provided by the experienced Canadian non-governmental organizations that implement the VCP.

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

The primary beneficiaries of the Volunteer Cooperation Program are those private sector, government and civil society organizations, in developing countries of priority to the Government of Canada, whose capacities are strengthened through Canadian volunteer support. Secondary beneficiaries are Canadian volunteers themselves who develop knowledge, skills and networks that significantly enhance their job prospects and performance in Canada and overseas. Canada as whole also benefits from the presence, visibility and goodwill that volunteers generate.

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 Volunteer Cooperation Program (VCP) enhances the knowledge, skills and networks of 1000+ Canadian volunteers who participate each year - enhancing their future job prospects, and the performance of the Canadian companies with which they work. Canada as a whole gains from the increased visibility and goodwill that the VCP generates, through the presence of Canadians overseas.

Topic: Please select from the pull-down menu

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

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.

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

World University Service of Canada (WUSC) is a pioneer and innovation leader in volunteer cooperation programming that delivers significant development results and enhances the skills of each Canadian volunteer.

WUSC, in cooperation with Montreal-based Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI) manages the largest international volunteer cooperation program in Canada - Uniterra. Together, CECI and WUSC have over 50 years of experience in international development and volunteer cooperation.

Since its inception in 2004, Uniterra has allowed thousands of skilled young, mid-career and older Canadian professionals to give of their time and energy to build the capacities of private sector, government and civil society partners in African, Asian and Latin American countries. Volunteers are drawn from across the Canada, and placed in developing countries and with partners that reflect the Government of Canada's foreign policy priorities.

Two components of Uniterra -- Students without Borders (SWB) and Leave for Change (L4C) -- are particularly effective at mobilizing and placing Canadian university students/graduates and private sector professionals on focused capacity-building assignments with southern based partner organizations.

International volunteer cooperation has contributed significantly – and cost-effectively – to the success and visibility of Canada's international development efforts. Placements entail preparation, training, support, monitoring and evaluation throughout, which enhances successful overall outcomes.

*Please note that at least one recommendation must be provided