- o Balancing the federal budget to ensure fiscal sustainability and economic growth
- Supporting families and helping vulnerable Canadians by focusing on health, education and training
- o Increasing the competitiveness of Canadian businesses through research, development, innovation and commercialization
- Ensuring prosperous and secure communities, including through support for infrastructure
- o Improving Canada's taxation and regulatory regimes
- Maximizing the number and types of jobs for Canadians.

The above listed themes of this pre-budget consultation prompt me to write in frustration; the reasonable and seemingly worthwhile objectives are being foiled in the Province of Ontario and will continue to be as long as the current government pursues its ideologically driven "green" energy fiasco.

Ontario has destroyed its competitive advantage of cheap and reliable power and meddled with the electricity sector, interfering with the experts, bungling to such an extent that rates are rising dramatically and will continue to do so for years even if there were an immediate stop to the adding of unreliable and unneeded generation. Tragically economically, socially and environmentally destructive wind and solar projects are still being added to the less and less stable grid.

As long as job-killing, economy-shrinking, resource-draining, community-destroying "green" energy is allowed to pillage the countryside of Ontario any Federal efforts here will be a waste of tax dollars we can ill afford. Since the Auditor General, Jim McCarter, exposed the complete lack of cost/benefit analysis and proper due diligence in Green Energy Act policy-making the many failings of this scheme have been realized, not the least of which is the potential for shady deals.

The urban majority succumbed to political, union and even school propaganda when they voted for corruption and deceit. This deindustrialization and depopulation of rural areas is already disastrous for Ontario and if unchecked will cause deterioration of the Canadian economy and social fabric. The pillars of Democracy are being eroded and our social fabric unravelled.

Given the geo-political situation which seems exacerbated rather than calmed by U.N. intervention I am asking that the Federal Government signal in the budget that cost/benefit accountability and evaluation must be a precondition for any disbursements. Canada must acknowledge the threat from within and meet the challenge to our values.

I would like to be notified of any public hearings in this process. Thank you.

Catherine Bayne BayNiche Conservancy