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:** Greater Kitchener Waterloo Chamber of Commerce

or

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

Topic: Education and skills training

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

Our organization supports the new Canada Job Grant as outlined in the 2013 Economic Action Plan, and subsequently recommends that the federal and provincial/territorial governments initiate immediate negotiations to ensure implementation of this program for 2014.

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

Immediately

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.

We support the proposal outlined in the 2013 Economic Action Plan for a maximum federal contribution of $5,000 per person matched by provincial/territorial and employer allocations of equal amounts to potentially provide $15,000 towards training in high-demand occupations.

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

The Conference Board of Canada in their June 2013 report "The Cost of Ontario's Skills Gap" estimates the current deficit where employers are not able to find employees with the required credentials is costing the province up to $24.3 billion in foregone GDP and $3.7 billion in provincial and $4.4 billion in federal taxes annually. The report further concludes that the skills gap could widen significantly if action is not taken to address this issue. Specific sectors identified include manufacturing, health care, professional, scientific and technical services, and financial industries.

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 2013 Economic Action Plan estimates that upon full implementation, the Canada Job Grant will annually provide nearly 130,000 Canadians with access to training at eligible institutions, including community colleges and career colleges.

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

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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.

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

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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