

January 8, 2026

The Honourable David J. McGuinty
Minister of National Defence
National Defence
101 Colonel By Drive
13th Floor, North Tower
Ottawa ON K1A 0K2

Dnd_mnd@forces.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0894

Dear Minister McGuinty:

As you are likely aware, the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) provides independent and non-partisan analysis to the Senate and to the House of Commons about matters related to the nation's finances and the economy, the estimates, certain other government documents, and the cost of proposals. In carrying out my mandate, I often require information held by government departments and Crown corporations and I am entitled to free and timely access – subject to limited exceptions – to such information under section 79.4 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*.

I am currently undertaking an analysis pursuant to paragraph 79.2(1)(a) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to prepare reports analyzing the following federal government documents: (i) a budget tabled by or on behalf of the Minister of Finance; (ii) an economic and fiscal update or statement issued by the Minister of Finance; (iii) a fiscal sustainability report issued by the Minister of Finance; (iv) the estimates of the government for a fiscal year.

For this analysis, I am requesting additional information from each organization in your ministry on the planned savings from the Comprehensive Expenditure Review, as outlined in [Annex 3 of Budget 2025](#). Please provide a breakdown of the planned savings by program, with information on planned personnel reductions and details of potential service-level impacts. Please provide this information for the years 2026-27 to 2029-30.

A template in Excel has been provided to use for the response. Please be advised that other federal organizations have already provided my office with this information.

In order to provide the analysis to parliamentarians in a timely manner, I ask the information to be provided to my office no later than **January 22, 2026**. If access to the requested information cannot be granted by that date, a response must be provided by you or your deputy minister as soon as possible.

Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analysts responsible, Jason Stanton/Caroline Nicole can be contacted directly at Jason.Stanton@parl.gc.ca, 613-790-1457/Caroline.Nicol@parl.gc.ca, 613-295-1626.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by January 22, 2026, whether or not you provide access to the requested information. Should you refuse to provide access to the requested information, you or your deputy minister must provide a written justification for the refusal as required under section 79.41 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*.

The response letter will be posted on the PBO website and, therefore, it should not be marked "confidential". As well, the requested information should be attached separately. If this information is confidential, please clearly mark it as such, either on the electronic spreadsheet or the hard copy version.

Providing timely and effective analysis to the Senate and House of Commons and promoting greater budget transparency and accountability are the PBO's primary objectives. The degree to which this is possible depends, to a large extent, on free and timely access to quality information held by government departments. In doing so, you are assisting us in better serving the Senate, the House of Commons, and their members.

Yours Sincerely,



Jason Jacques

Interim Parliamentary Budget Officer

c.c.: Mathew Sajkunovic, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy, Privy Council Office

Christiane Fox, Deputy Minister, National Defence

Attachment: Reply form for IR0894
Excel Spreadsheet