



OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICER
BUREAU DU DIRECTEUR PARLEMENTAIRE DU BUDGET

February 10th 2022

The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay
Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence
Veterans Affairs Canada
161 Grafton Street, Room 405
Charlottetown PEI C1A 8M9

vac.minister-ministre.acc@canada.ca

Information Request: IR0625

Dear Minister MacAulay:

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)(f) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to estimate the financial cost of any proposal that relates to a matter over which Parliament has jurisdiction at the request of a member of the Senate or of the House of Commons.

For this analysis, I am requesting information on the number of persons in the following groups for the 2020 and 2021 years. Please separate age groups by five years (ie. 60-64, 65-69):

- Number of active member contributors, by age group and sex
- Number of current pensioners, by age group and sex
- Number of current survivors, by age group and sex
- Number of current survivors earning survivor benefits (and if not receiving benefits, why)

Information on marital status and mortality rates for the 2020 and 2021 year, including:

- Veterans' marital status, by age group and sex
- Assumed mortality rates, by age group and sex

Information on the average annual veterans' pension and survivor benefit amount, by sex

Information on the current service cost as a percent of pensionable payroll for pensions of Canadian Forces for the 2020 and 2021 year.

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 **February 24th 2022**. 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.

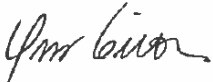
Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Jamie Forsyth can be contacted directly at Jamie.Forsyth@parl.gc.ca, 613-295-2908.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by February 24th 2022, 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,



Yves Giroux

Parliamentary Budget Officer

c.c.: Antoine Brunelle-Côté, Privy Council Office, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy

Paul Ledwell, Deputy Minister, Veterans Affairs Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0625