



Canada Revenue
Agency

Agence du revenu
du Canada

Commissioner

Commissaire

Ottawa, ON
K1A 0L5

UNCLASSIFIED

DEC 17 2020

Mr. Yves Giroux
Parliamentary Budget Officer
Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer
10th Floor
50 O'Connor Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0A9

Information Request: IR0547

Yves
Dear Mr. Giroux,

This is in response to your letter dated November 13, 2020 in which you requested the following information:

- Lower RRIF Minimum Withdrawal
 - Number of RRIF holders
 - Total Cost of the reduction
- Temporary Wage subsidy
 - Number of eligible employers
 - Total cost of the subsidy
- Ensuring access to Canada Revenue Agency Call centres
 - Dollar amounts used to date
- Canada Revenue Agency Funding for COVID-19 Economic Measures
 - Dollar amounts used to date

As discussed with your officials, we are unable to provide data on the Temporary Wage Subsidy at this time. The Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers is a three-month measure that allows eligible employers to reduce the amount of payroll deductions of federal, provincial and territorial income tax remitted to the CRA. The subsidy is equal to 10% of the remuneration paid from March 18, 2020 to June 19, 2020, up to \$1,375 for each eligible employee and to a maximum of \$25,000 total per employer.

Businesses do not need to apply for the subsidy. They need only to continue deducting income tax, Canada Pension Plan (CPP) contributions, and Employment Insurance (EI) premiums from salary, wages, bonuses, or other remuneration paid to employees, as they currently do. The subsidy will only be calculated when the business remits these amounts to the CRA.

.../2

Canada 

Tel.: 613-957-3688
Fax: 613-952-1547
canada.ca/taxes

- 2 -

As such, information on the number of businesses who have claimed the subsidy will not be available until next year, when employers have submitted a TWS Self-Identification form (PD27) and we have validated and processed the credits on the accounts.

We are able to provide all data pertaining to the other portions of your request. Please note that the data are subject to change as more information becomes available and further analysis is performed.

Section 241 of the *Income Tax Act* prohibits the CRA from providing taxpayer information to the Parliamentary Budget Officer. The current provision of data is based on the premise that no taxpayer can be identified and that the Parliamentary Budget Officer and his team will not use the data to attempt to identify a taxpayer.

If desirable, CRA officials would be pleased to offer you an in-person briefing on the tables to facilitate an accurate interpretation of the statistics and to communicate any data limitations.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or Ms. Mireille Laroche, Assistant Commissioner, Chief Service Officer, and Chief Data Officer, Service, Innovation and Integration Branch, at 613-769-4249.

Sincerely,



Bob Hamilton