

August 3, 2023

The Honourable Anita Anand  
President of the Treasury Board  
Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat  
90 Elgin Street  
8th Floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0R5  
[president@tbs-sct.gc.ca](mailto:president@tbs-sct.gc.ca)

Information Request: IR0703

Dear President Anand:

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)(b) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to prepare reports on matters of particular significance relating to the nation's finances or economy that are listed in an annual work plan.

For this analysis, I am requesting the following information:

The estimated cost or savings to the Public Service Health Care Plan (PSHCP) resulting from 1) switching from Sun Life to Canada Life; and 2) changes made to the PSHCP such as changes to claim limits, coverage terms and eligibility that were approved in the fall of 2022. If available, I am requesting specifically the cost or savings related to the drug plan only as well as for the entire PSHCP.

I am also requesting, for calendar year 2022, an estimate of:

- the total PSHCP expenditure.
- the expenditure for the drug plan; and,
- the number of members or beneficiaries for each

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 **August 18, 2023**. If access to the requested information cannot be granted by that date, a response must be provided by you or the Secretary of the Treasury Board of Canada as soon as possible.

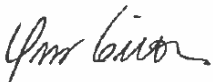
Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Lisa Barkova can be contacted directly at Lisa.Barkova@parl.gc.ca, 613-295-2908.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by August 18, 2023, whether or not you provide access to the requested information. Should you refuse to provide access to the requested information, you or the Secretary of the Treasury Board of Canada 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

Graham Flack, Secretary of the Treasury Board of Canada, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

Attachment: Reply form for IR0703