



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

October 26th, 2023

The Honourable Patty Hajdu
Minister of Indigenous Services
Indigenous Services Canada
10 Wellington Street
28th Floor, Room 2812, Mail Stop 2738BH
Gatineau QC K1A 0H4

ministresa-ministeris@sac-isc.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0713

Dear Minister Hajdu:

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 information regarding the amount of expenses recorded by the government related to Indigenous claims over the last three fiscal years (2020-21 to 2022-23). For example, in the Public Accounts of Canada 2022-23, it states that the government recorded expenses totaling approximately \$26 billion related to Indigenous claims.

Please provide a breakdown of this information by:

- The main categories highlighted in the Public Accounts (comprehensive land claims, specific claims, general litigation claims being pursued through the courts, and special claims); and,
- New claims and revised estimates for existing claims.

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 **November 9th, 2023**. 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, Jason Stanton can be contacted directly at Jason.Stanton@parl.gc.ca, 613-790-1457.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by November 9th, 2023, 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

Gina Wilson, Deputy Minister, Indigenous Services Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0713