



7 October 2015

Ms. Colleen Swords, Deputy Minister
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
10 Wellington Street
21st Floor
Gatineau, QC
K1A 0H4

Colleen.Swords@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0209

Dear Ms. Swords:

As you are likely aware, the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) provides independent analysis to the Senate and to the House of Commons about the nation's finances and the economy, the estimates of the government, and the cost of programs, legislation, and policies. In carrying out its mandate, the PBO often requires access to information held by government departments. When such information is needed, the PBO makes a request to the department holding the information.

The PBO is currently undertaking an analysis pursuant to section 79.2(a) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to "provide independent analysis to the Senate and to the House of Commons about the state of the nation's finances, the estimates of the government and trends in the national economy."

In pursuing this work, the PBO would ask that, pursuant to section 79.3 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, you provide access to the following information:

- The funding allocated by Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's Funding Services for Aboriginal Governance and Negotiations Unit for the research of specific claims. Include data for all available years.

We would appreciate that you provide access to this information by 23 October 2015. If we do not hear back from you by that date, we may consider your non-response a deemed refusal and, accordingly, report it to our named committees as instructed.

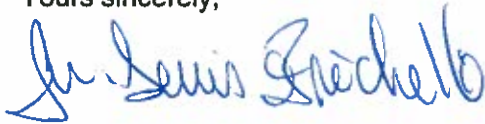
Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by 23 October 2015, whether or not you provide access to the requested information. The details contained in the reply form will assist us in preparing the PBO annual report.

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

Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Mark Mahabir can be contacted directly at Mark.Mahabir@parl.gc.ca, 613-301-6708.

I want to thank you for your assistance in this matter. Providing timely and effective analysis to the Senate and House of Commons is the PBO's primary objective. 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,



Jean-Denis Fréchette
Parliamentary Budget Officer

c.c.: Mr. Douglas Nevison, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet,
Privy Council Office, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy

Attachment: Reply form for IR0209