



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

February 8th, 2023

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance
Finance Canada
90 Elgin Street, Room 16-027
James Michael Flaherty Building
Ottawa ON K1A 0G5

Chrystia.Freeland@canada.ca

Information Request: IR0674

Dear Minister Freeland:

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 annual expenditure profile for each funding element, by operating line, in the federal government's "Working together to improve health care for Canadians" announcement, including:

- \$2 billion over 10 years in CHT top-up for pediatric hospitals and emergency rooms.
- Projected \$17.3 billion over 10 years resulting from the 5 per cent CHT guarantee.
- \$25 billion over 10 years in tailored bilateral agreements with provinces and territories.
- \$1.7 billion over five years in to support wage increases for personal support workers and related professions.
- \$2.4 billion over five years in remaining funding for mental health and substance use.
- \$2.4 billion over five years in remaining funding for home and community care.
- \$3 billion over five years in remaining funding for long-term care.
- \$150 million over five years for the Territorial Health Investment Fund.
- \$2 billion over 10 years to support Indigenous priorities.

- \$505 million over five years to the Canadian Institute for Health Information, Canada Health Infoway, and federal data partners.

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 22nd, 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.

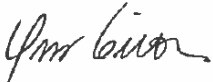
Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Robert Behrend can be contacted directly at Robert.Behrend@parl.gc.ca, 613-294-2790.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by February 22nd, 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

Michael Sabia, Deputy Minister, Finance Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0674