



June 28, 2013

Mr. Michael Horgan
Deputy Minister, Finance
Department of Finance Canada
140 O'Connor Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0G5

Re: Clarification of PBO Information Request IR0118

Dear Mr. Horgan,

Thank you for your letter dated June 21, 2013. I appreciate the clarification you provided with respect to the methodology used in calculating the estimated income that will be generated from the closing of tax loopholes, including the reliance on data published by third parties.

With respect to your concerns over confidentiality, I should clarify that I am not requesting personal information, the disclosure of which can be (but not must be) resisted under s. 19 of the *Access to Information Act* RSC 1985 c A-1. Personal identifiers of taxpayers are not necessary for my staff to undertake their analysis.

When a request is made to a Deputy Head and the data contains personal identifiers, it is up to the Deputy Head how to respond. Either, he can provide my staff with data that includes personal information falling within s. 19 on the understanding that the information is to be kept confidential or anonymize the data. I am expressly competent to receive confidential information by virtue of s. 79.4 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*.

If you feel that s. 241 of the *Income Tax Act* requires you to anonymize the data before providing it to my office, please feel free to do so.

My staff continue to be available should you require any clarification or assistance in complying with my request. I look forward to receiving the data in due course.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia L'Heureux'.

Sonia L'Heureux
Parliamentary Budget Officer (interim)

c.c.: Rick Stewart, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Privy Council Office, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy