



April 29, 2013

Mr. Robert Fonberg
Deputy Minister
Department of National Defence
101 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K2

Re: PBO Information Request IR0116: Canada First Defence Strategy Data

Dear Mr. Fonberg:

Pursuant to my mandate to provide independent analysis to the Senate and the House of Commons under s. 79.3 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, 1985, I would like to request the data used to develop a number of projections presented in the Canada First Defence Strategy (CFDS).

With respect to Chart 1 *Defence program* (CFDS, page 11) I am requesting the underlying financial data, in millions of dollars, for the period illustrated in the chart. Further, the note accompanying this chart indicates that the forecast will be updated through the Estimates and Budget processes. Therefore, I am also requesting that you please provide me with any updates that have been made to the published forecast.

With respect to Chart 3 *Canada First Defence Strategy – Total Defence Spending* (CFDS, page 12), I am requesting clarification of the notes that accompany this table. Note 2 indicates that these investments are have been amortized for a period extending beyond the completion of CFDS, while Note 1 does not. Could you please confirm what portion of the equipment investment is being amortized beyond 2027-28 and the associated amortization period(s)? I am requesting that you also provide me with any updates that have been made to the amortization of equipment.

Finally, with respect to the unnumbered Chart *Canadian Forces Personnel* (CFDS, page 14), I am requesting that you please provide the force numbers for each of the three categories, for the period illustrated in the chart.

Please also provide me with any updates that have been made to the published forecast. This information will allow us to prepare an independent analysis of the Government's Estimates.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact my staff if any clarification is required.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia L'Heureux', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sonia L'Heureux
Parliamentary Budget Officer (interim)

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



PBO Information Request

REQUEST NUMBER: IR0116

PBO CONTACT NAME: Erin Barkel 613-355-8467 or erin.barkel@parl.gc.ca

TYPE OF REQUEST: One-time

PRIORITY: Normal

DATE REQUEST SENT: April 29, 2013

RESPONSE REQUIRED BY: May 13, 2013

PBO OBJECTIVE:

To undertake an independent analysis of the Government's Estimates for National Defence.

RELATION TO MANDATE:

Pursuant to section 79.3 of the Parliament of Canada Act, the PBO may request of a deputy head any financial or economic data in the possession of the department that are required for the performance of his or her mandate.

INFORMATION AND DATA REQUESTED:

Information provided within the body of this letter.