



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

February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier  
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
200 Kent Street, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room S009  
Ottawa ON K1A 0E6

min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0756

Dear Minister Lebouthillier:

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)(e) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to estimate the financial cost of any proposal that relates to a matter over which Parliament has jurisdiction at the request of a committee of either a House or a joint committee of both Houses.

I am carrying out an updated costing analysis of the Government of Canada's procurement of Polar Icebreakers. To this end, I request the following information:

- the most recent cost estimate of the Polar Icebreakers;
- a breakdown by respective cost of the April 2023 announcement for a minimum of \$8.5 billion for Chantier Davie Canada Inc. to build 1 Polar Icebreaker, 6 program icebreakers, and 2 ferries;
- project timelines and assumptions, specifically detailing each phase of Development, Acquisition, and Delivery;
- reasons for delays, if present, relative to the timeline presented to PBO through [IR0599](#) in 2021;

- the total estimated cost of the procurement, along with relevant detail on estimated labour and material costs, cost of initial spares, and the cost of installed equipment;
- a detailing of any costs already incurred by fiscal year;
- the current status of the project, and current phase of procurement;
- the financial risk analysis and exposures associated with the project including the Risk Register and the estimated low, most likely, and high-end financial impacts of each identified risk;
- a high-level detailing of the platform's general characteristics, including displacement (both lightship displacement and full-load), dimensions, major systems (i.e., propulsion), complement, endurance, range, and speed; and,
- the date as of which the information provided is considered current.

Please clearly identify what portion of the information provided reflects changes relative to information previously provided to PBO through [IR0599](#) in 2021.

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 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. 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.

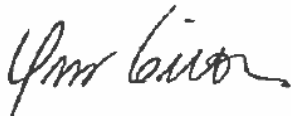
Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Albert Kho can be contacted directly at [Albert.kho@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Albert.kho@parl.gc.ca).

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 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

Annette Gibbons, Deputy Minister, Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Mario Pelletier, Commissioner of the Canadian Coast Guard

Attachment: Reply form for IR0756

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+1.613.992.8026 • [pbo-dpb@parl.gc.ca](mailto:pbo-dpb@parl.gc.ca) • [www.pbo-dpb.ca](http://www.pbo-dpb.ca) • Ottawa, Canada