



December 3, 2008

Mr. Rob Wright
Deputy Minister, Finance
Finance Canada
140 O'Connor
Ottawa ON K1A 0G5

Re: PBO Information Request 002

Dear Mr. Wright:

I would like to request from your Department data related to the Spending Restraint Exercise, the Strategic Review Exercise and the Corporate Asset Management Review. Our plan is to analyze the impact of these measures on the government's fiscal estimates.

Attached is a detailed description of the data we require from each initiative to complete our analysis.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We appreciate your cooperation. Please let us know if any part of this request requires clarification.

Yours truly,

[signature]

Kevin Page
Parliamentary Budget Officer
Email: PageK@parl.gc.ca

c.c. Paul Rochon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Finance Canada



PBO Information Request

1) Request Number:	002
2) Type of Request:	One-time
3) PBO Objective:	The data will be used to complete the PBO's analysis of the government's fiscal estimates.
4) Relation to PBO's Mandate:	To provide independent analysis to the Senate and House of Commons on the government's estimates and the state of the nation's finances.
5) Information and Data Requested:	The specific data required are detailed in the attached Request for Information page.
6) Priority:	Normal
7) Date Request Sent:	December 3, 2008
8) Response Requested by:	December 10, 2008

Request for Information

Gross-Net Spending Restraint Benchmarks and Asset Divestitures

This information request pertains to information required by the Parliamentary Budget Officer to complete his analysis of the government's fiscal estimates and the state of the nation's finances.

Part I

The first part of this request relates to fiscal estimates presented in the 2006 Economic and Fiscal Update and Budget 2008 regarding the Spending Restraint Exercise and Strategic Review Exercise, respectively.

To fulfill our legislated mandate, we require:

1. A complete list of individual measures organized by department and agency, including the title and amount of each reduction, as per the original savings estimates presented in the 2006 Economic and Fiscal Update and Budget 2008.
2. A complete list of any amendments (increases, decreases, deferrals, eliminations, additions) made to the list of individual measures referred to in (1), subsequent to their original presentation in the 2006 Economic and Fiscal Update and Budget 2008.

Part II

The second part of this request relates to fiscal estimates presented in the 2008 Economic and Fiscal Statement regarding the government's Corporate Asset Management Review.

To fulfill our legislated mandate, we require:

3. A complete list of the non-financial assets used to substantiate the divestiture revenue target in 2009-10, including their respective book values as of March 31, 2008.
 - Should any of this information be commercially sensitive, section 79.4 of the *Parliament of Canada Act* allows for this information to be provided on a confidential basis.