



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

October 23rd, 2024

The Honourable Mélanie Joly
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Global Affairs Canada
125 Sussex Drive
Lester B Pearson Building, Tower A
Ottawa ON K1A 0G2

Melanie.Joly@international.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0802

Dear Minister Joly:

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)(f) 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 member of the Senate or of the House of Commons.

For this analysis, I am requesting the following information (by region if available):

- The number of persons that would be affected by Bill C-71.
- For the past 5 years, the total and average costs and revenues associated with:
 - issuing a passport;
 - granting citizenship;
- For the past 10 years, the total and average costs and revenues associated with other consular services provided to Canadian citizens abroad, including non regular services provided in situation of crisis or emergency abroad.
- The proportion of persons who apply for citizenship among those who are eligible and living outside of Canada.
- The proportion of Canadian citizens living outside of Canada who apply for a passport.

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 **November 8th, 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, Eskandar Elmarzougui can be contacted directly at Eskandar.Elmarzougui@parl.gc.ca, 613-797-5698.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by November 8th, 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.: Mathew Sajkunovic, Privy Council Office, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy

David Morrison, Deputy Minister, Global Affairs Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0802