



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

May 11, 2023

The Honourable Marco E. L. Mendicino  
Minister of Public Safety  
Public Safety Canada  
269 Laurier Avenue West  
Building 19, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0P8

[ps.ministerofpublicsafety-ministredelasecuritepublique.sp@ps-sp.gc.ca](mailto:ps.ministerofpublicsafety-ministredelasecuritepublique.sp@ps-sp.gc.ca)

Information Request: IR0692

Dear Minister Mendicino:

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)(b) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to prepare reports on matters of particular significance relating to the nation's finances or economy that are listed in an annual work plan.

For this analysis, I am requesting updated information/data regarding the buy-back program for assault-style firearms, which follows up on a previous [information request](#). More specifically, I require:

- Any updated Government estimates regarding the number of firearms, by type, which would currently be eligible for the buy-back program based on the May 2020 Order in Council;
- Any estimates/data regarding the number of firearms, by type, which would be eligible for the buy-back program based on the [May 2023](#) announcement by the Minister of Public Safety;
- Any data on the average market price, by type of firearm, for both categories listed above.

In addition, I require any information on the methodology and data used to estimate the potential costs to administer the program, including compensating retailers for existing inventory.

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 **May 25, 2023**. 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.

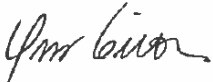
Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Jason Stanton can be contacted directly at [Jason.Stanton@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Jason.Stanton@parl.gc.ca), 613-790-1457.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by May 25, 2023, 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

Shawn Tupper, Deputy Minister, Public Safety Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0692