



February 19, 2013

Mr. Ian Shugart  
Deputy Minister  
Human Resources and Skills Development Canada  
Deputy Minister's Office, HRSDC  
140 Promenade du Portage  
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0J9

**Re: Cost Estimate of Bill C-464: *Parental Leave for Multiple Births or Adoptions***

Dear Mr. Shugart:

*Ian*

I am writing with respect to the potential fiscal cost of Bill C-464: *Parental Leave for Multiple Births or Adoptions*.

To begin, let me thank you again for your timely and detailed response to my information request of November 2012. Following review of your material and cost estimates prepared by other third-parties, my staff published our own cost estimate in December 2012.

A key assumption underpinning all estimates is the number of individuals that would potentially be eligible for these enriched Employment Insurance benefits. This is based, in part, on the number of multiple births that occur each year in Canada. These data are presented in CANSIM Table 102-4515 *Live births and fetal deaths (stillbirths), by type (single or multiple), Canada, provinces and territories*.

After further consultation with Statistics Canada, it is our understanding that this data series identifies the total number of children born in multiple birth events, rather than the number of multiple birth events itself. Accordingly, we will be revising our estimate from approximately \$80 million per annum to approximately \$40 million per annum.

Yours truly,

*Kevin Page*

Kevin Page  
Parliamentary Budget Officer