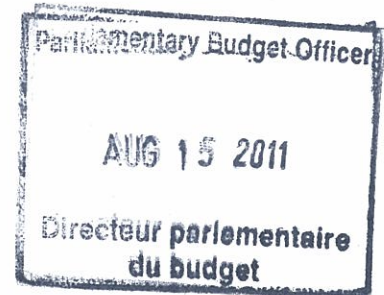




AUG 10 2011

Mr. Kevin Page
Parliamentary Budget Officer
Library of Parliament
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A9



Dear Mr. Page:

Thank you for your letter of July 25, 2011, in which you requested “data pertaining to funding authority adjustments contained in the Supplementary Estimates, delineated by Program Activity”, as per section 79.2(a) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, 1985.

While I appreciate that you are making your request under section 79.2(a) of the Act, I note that section pertains to providing “...independent analysis...about...the estimates of the government”, which presumes the Estimates as tabled. I also note that sections 79.2 (b) and (c) provide for the PBO to “...undertake research for that committee into the nation’s finances and economy” when requested to do so by one of the committees identified, or when requested by a committee “that is mandated to consider the estimates of government” to “undertake research for that committee into those estimates”. Finally, section 79.3 (1) entitles the PBO, “...by request made to the deputy head of a department...to free and timely access to any financial or economic data in the possession of the department that are required for the performance of his or her mandate” with section 79.3(2) qualifying the nature of the financial or economic data.

Your request does not appear to fall under these sections since the information requested is not currently available in the (Supplementary) Estimates of the government, nor is the request made to undertake research by a committee, nor is the information financial or economic data required for the performance of the mandate of a deputy head.

Nonetheless, since the Secretariat was planning to produce electronically, in due course, supplementary estimates by program activity architecture, we are pleased to be able to facilitate your access to such information by working with our colleagues in all departments and agencies. As a result, starting with 2011-12 Supplementary Estimates B, departments and agencies will provide directly to the PBO adjustments to budgeted total program activity architecture expenditures. Please note that since Parliamentary control of departmental expenditures is at the vote level, any delineation of planned spending by program activity by departments and agencies reflects their respective plans and assumptions.

Please do not hesitate to contact officials in the Expenditure Management Sector of the Secretariat should you have any questions concerning the information to be provided. I look forward to our continuing collaborative engagement.

Yours sincerely,



Michelle d'Auray

c.c. Rick Stewart
Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet
Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy
Privy Council Office