



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

December 18, 2024

The Honourable Dominic Leblanc  
Minister of Finance and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Finance Canada  
90 Elgin Street, Room 16-027  
James Michael Flaherty Building  
Ottawa ON K1A 0G5

[dominic.leblanc@parl.gc.ca](mailto:dominic.leblanc@parl.gc.ca)

Information Request: IR0810

Dear Minister Leblanc:

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)(a) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to prepare reports analyzing the following federal government documents: (i) a budget tabled by or on behalf of the Minister of Finance; (ii) an economic and fiscal update or statement issued by the Minister of Finance; (iii) a fiscal sustainability report issued by the Minister of Finance; (iv) the estimates of the government for a fiscal year.

For this analysis, I am requesting information my staff requested during the Fall Economic Statement lock-up on Monday December 16<sup>th</sup> that Finance officials indicated was available, but could not be provided at that time. Specifically:

- Additional details from Table A1.5 indicating what amount of the \$21.0 billion was previously provisioned in the fiscal framework in Budget 2024, by category (Indigenous contingent liabilities and adjustments for COVID-19 related support); and,
- The annual demographic projection underlying the GDP per capita calculations and the economic outlook included in the FES 2024.

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 **January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**. 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.

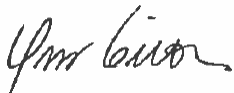
Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Jason Jacques can be contacted directly at [Jason.Jacques@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Jason.Jacques@parl.gc.ca), 613-853-1596.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, 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

Chris Forbes, Deputy Minister, Finance Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0810