



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

28 May 2019

The Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister
Finance Canada
90 Elgin Street
Floor 17
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0G5

bill.morneau@canada.ca

Information Request: IR0424

Dear Minister Morneau:

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 documents 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 the following information:

1. For the measures below, please:
 - a. Provide the annual gross and net fiscal impact of the measures introduced under their respective sections on an accrual and cash basis through 2023-24 (in millions).
 - b. Provide on an accrual basis the on-going spending past 2023-24 associated with these measures through 2028-29 (in millions).
 - c. Classify each measure according to the categories set out in Tables A2.5, A2.6, and A2.10 in the Budget 2019 (in millions).

The measures for which this information is required are:

- i. Bringing Innovation to Regulations (Budget 2019 Chapter 2, Part 5, p. 116-119 & p. 125). As there are three measures introduced under this section (Introducing Regulatory Roadmaps, Harmonizing Regulations, and Modernizing Regulations), please detail how these measures reconcile with the spending profile on page 125.

- ii. Introducing a Food Policy for Canada (Budget 2019 Chapter 4, Part 1, p. 161-162, p. 208). As there are several measures under this Policy, please detail how these measures reconcile with the spending profile on page 208 (in millions).
 - iii. Protecting Democracy (Budget 2019 Chapter 4, Part 4, p. 179-180 & p. 209). Given there is a number of measures under this item, please detail how these measures reconcile with the spending profile on page 209 (in millions).
 - iv. Strengthening the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Budget 2019 Chapter 4, Part 4, p.183 & p. 209). Given there are a number of initiatives under this item, please detail how these measures reconcile with the spending profile on page 209 (in millions).
2. For the measures below please classify the gross and net fiscal impact of the measures according to the categories set out in Tables A2.5, A2.6, and A2.10 and as detailed on page 210 in Budget 2019.
- a. Investing in Service Canada (Budget 2019 Chapter 4, Part 6, p. 192 & p. 210)
 - b. Improving Client Services at the Canada Revenue Agency Canada (Budget 2019 Chapter 4, Part 6, p. 193-194 & p. 210)
 - c. Resolving Income Security Program Disputes More Quickly and Easily (Budget 2019 Chapter 4, Part 6, p. 195 & p. 210)

In order to provide the analysis to parliamentarians in a timely manner, I ask the information be provided to my office no later than 11 June 2019. 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, Kristina Grinshpoon can be contacted directly at Kristina.Grinshpoon@parl.gc.ca 613-794-1635.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by **11 June 2019**, 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
Paul Rochon, Deputy Minister, Finance Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0424