



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

April 20, 2021

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland  
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance  
Finance Canada  
90 Elgin Street, Room 16-027  
James Michael Flaherty Building  
Ottawa ON K1A 0G5

Chrystia.Freeland@canada.ca

Information Request: IR0594

Dear Minister Freeland:

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 access to the following data:

1. Please provide a list of all revenue and spending measures undertaken after the Fall Economic Statement 2020 (or following IR0566) and up to and including April 19, 2021 (or Budget 2021). Please also include any revisions to previously provided revenue and spending measures since IR0566.
  - a. I request that the data be classified according to the categories set out in Tables A1.5 and A1.6 of Budget 2021 on an accrual and cash basis until 2025-26.
2. Please provide the underlying data series (on both a cash and accrual basis) of the Recovery Plan measures in Table A1.12 of Budget 2021 that were used in the Economic Impact Assessment. Further, please identify the allocation by expenditure category corresponding to your Department's macroeconomic and fiscal model.
3. Please provide the data series for the pre-pandemic trend and March 2021 survey in Chart 25. Please provide the data series shown in Chart 36 and Chart 37.

4. Please provide the detailed summary of the March 2021 of private sector economists. For example, see the detailed summary of the September 2020 survey: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/services/publications/private-sector-survey/2020/09.html>.

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 **April 30, 2021**. 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](mailto:Kristina.Grinshpoon@parl.gc.ca), 613-794-1635.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by April 30, 2021, 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

Michael Sabia, Deputy Minister, Finance Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0594