



6 March 2017

Ms. Hélène Laurendeau, Deputy Minister
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
10 Wellington Street
21st Floor
Gatineau, QC
K1A 0H4

Helene.Laurendeau@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0276

Dear Ms. Laurendeau:

As you are likely aware, the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO) provides independent analysis to the Senate and to the House of Commons about the nation's finances and the economy, the estimates of the government, and the cost of programs, legislation, and policies. In carrying out its mandate, the PBO often requires access to information held by government departments. When such information is needed, the PBO makes a request to the department holding the information.

The PBO is currently undertaking an analysis pursuant to section 79.2(d) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, which mandates the PBO to estimate the financial cost of any proposal that relates to a matter over which Parliament has jurisdiction at the request of a member or committee of either a House or a joint committee of both Houses.

In pursuing this work, the PBO would ask that, pursuant to section 79.3 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, you provide access to the following information:

1. The financial information underpinning the Water and Wastewater programs. To simplify the process, we have enclosed a spreadsheet for your department to complete and return to us in electronic form.

In addition, we request:

2. Salary and Administrative costs of headquarters personnel allocated to the water and wastewater programs, from 2009-10 to 2015-16.
3. Total costs and cost by province for the Circuit Rider Program from program start 2009-10 to 2015-16.

4. From the Neegan Burnside (National Assessment) of water and wastewater infrastructure –
 - a) Community Level Profiles all (including geographic data – water source, elevation, GIS)
 - b) Annual Risk Assessments, based on the Annual Performance Inspections, for First Nations communities from 2011 – 2016
5. The 2011 National Assessment results, Annual Performance Inspections data, the First Nations Infrastructure Investment Plans, the supplementary internal 2011 report prepared by RV Anderson entitled "The National Assessment Findings, Analysis and Path Forward", and the National Priority Ranking Framework and Priority Ranking Framework for water and wastewater projects.

We would appreciate that you provide this information by 3 April 2017. If we do not hear back from you by that date, we may consider your non-response a deemed refusal and, accordingly, report it to our named committees as instructed.

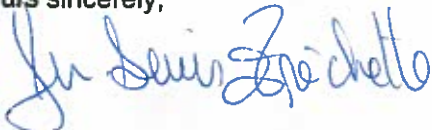
Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by 3 April 2017, whether or not you provide access to the requested information. The details contained in the reply form will assist us in preparing the PBO annual report.

Your response letter will be posted on the PBO website and, therefore, it should not be marked "confidential". Could you please attach the requested information separately. If this information is confidential, please clearly mark it as such, either on the electronic spreadsheet or the hard copy version.

Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Peter Weltman can be contacted directly at peter.weltman@parl.gc.ca, 613-992-8044.

I want to thank you for your assistance in this matter. Providing timely and effective analysis to the Senate and House of Commons is the PBO's primary objective. 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,



Jean-Denis Fréchette
Parliamentary Budget Officer

c.c.: Katharine Rechico, Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet,
Privy Council Office, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy

Attachments: Reply form for IR0276
Electronic Spreadsheet