



March 5, 2010

Mr. Michael Horgan  
Deputy Minister, Finance  
Department of Finance Canada  
140 O'Connor Street  
Ottawa ON K1A 0G5

**Re: PBO Information Request 026**

Dear Mr. Horgan:

Further to your correspondence of [December 8, 2009](#), I would like to reiterate my earlier request regarding data and analysis held by the Department of Finance regarding amending the *Income Tax Act* to create a tax exemption for employer-provided transit benefits ([original request attached](#)).

For your information, I have attached a copy of a publication in the Canadian Tax Journal that specifically references data and analysis that has already been released to the public under your department's Access to Information processes (see footnotes 54, 63, 64 and 65 [attached](#)). I believe that these referenced memoranda are relevant to my original request and would be helpful in preparing cost estimates for the legislative proposal that have been brought before Parliament.

Pursuant to the information access provisions contained in section 79.3(1) of the *Parliament of Canada Act*, I trust that the Department of Finance is willing to afford at least the same level of transparency to the Parliamentary Budget Officer as that provided to the general public.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please let us know if any part of this request requires clarification.

Yours truly,

*[signature]*

Kevin Page  
Parliamentary Budget Officer  
Email: PageK@parl.gc.ca

**Encl. (2)**

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



### PBO Information Request

1) Request Number:	026
2) PBO Contact Name:	Jason Jacques (613-995-3315 or jacquj@parl.gc.ca)
3) Type of Request:	One-time
4) PBO Objective:	To prepare a cost estimate for a parliamentarian.
5) Relation to Mandate:	The PBO is mandated to prepare cost estimates when requested by parliamentarians.
6) Information and Data Requested:	Analysis and data pertaining to legislative proposals to create a tax exemption for employer-provided public transit benefits.
7) Priority:	Standard
8) Date Request Sent:	March 5, 2010
9) Response Required By:	March 17, 2010