

25 March 2014

Mr. Richard Fadden
Deputy Minister
National Defence
101 Colonel By Drive
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K2

Richard.Fadden@forces.gc.ca

Information Request: IR0143

Dear Mr. Fadden:

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, the economy, the estimates, and the cost of programs, legislation, and policies. In carrying out this mandate, the PBO often requires access to information held by departments. When such information is needed, the PBO makes a request to the department holding the information.

The PBO is currently undertaking 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 House or a joint committee of both Houses.

In pursuing this work, the PBO would ask that, in accordance with the *Communications Policy of the Government of Canada*, you provide access to the following information:

- The Halifax class's "as-delivered" weight, in light displacement tons, as recorded in the Stability Manual for each ship in the class.

We would appreciate that you provide access to this information by 8 April 2014.

If you would like any of the information you provide to remain confidential, please clearly mark it "confidential."

Since the PBO posts all reply letters on line, we would ask that the requested information not be included in the body of any reply letter you send. This will allow the PBO to maintain confidentiality where necessary.

Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Tejas Aivalli (tejas.aivalli@parl.gc.ca ; 613-286-2687), can be contacted directly.

I want to thank you for your assistance in this regard. 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,

[original signed by Jean-Denis Fréchette]

Jean-Denis Fréchette
Parliamentary Budget Officer

c.c.: Yves Giroux, Acting Assistant Secretary to the Cabinet, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy, Privy Council Office
National Defence, Director Parliamentary Affairs