



April 3, 2012

Michael Horgan
Deputy Minister of Finance
Finance Canada
140 O'Connor Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0T6

Re: PBO Information Request IR0081

Dear Mr. Horgan:

Pursuant to statutory authority under section 79.3(1) of the Parliament of Canada Act, I am requesting further details regarding the fiscal impact of planned reductions in departmental spending that were outlined in Table 5.1 of Budget 2012 (<http://www.budget.gc.ca/2012/plan/toc-tdm-eng.html>).

In particular, I would like to know how these planned reductions impact the discrete categories of Direct Program Expenses presented in Table 6.6 of Budget 2012 (*Outlook for Program Expenses*). This includes planned reductions to *Operating Expenses, Operating Expenses subject to the Freeze, and Transfer Payments*, as well as details regarding the proportion of overall operating expense reductions that relate to employee terminations.

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

Yours truly,


Kevin Page
Parliamentary Budget Officer

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

PBO Information Request

1) Request Number:	IR0081
2) PBO Contact Name:	Jason Jacques (613-995-3315 or jason.jacques@parl.gc.ca)
3) Type of Request:	One-time.
4) PBO Objective:	To support analysis of the federal program expense outlook, as presented in Budget 2012.
5) Relation to Mandate:	Pursuant to section 79.2(a) of the <i>Parliament of Canada Act</i> , the PBO has a mandate to prepare independent analysis regarding the State of the Nation's Finances.
6) Information and Data Requested:	Identification of five-year and ongoing impact of planned reductions in departmental spending announced in Budget 2012 on discrete categories of Direct Program Spending (<i>e.g.</i> Operating Expenses, Transfer Payments); as well as data regarding how much of the total annual savings will arise from reductions in federal employment.
7) Priority:	Normal
8) Date Request Sent:	April 3, 2012
9) Response Requested By:	April 13, 2012