



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

June 6, 2023

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: IR0697

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: long-term data (2015-2016 to 2055-2056, if available) associated with fiscal sustainability published in Budget 2023, as noted in the Overview (page 22, 25) and Annex 1 (page 223) of the Budget 2023 document. Specifically, total revenues, tax revenues, other revenues, program spending, major transfers to persons, major transfers to governments, public debt charges, federal debt, nominal GDP, the effective interest rate, the 3-month treasury bill and 10-year government bond rates.

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 **June 21st, 2023**. If access to the requested information cannot be granted by that date, a response must be provided by you or your Interim deputy minister as soon as possible.

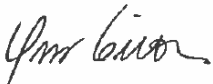
Should you or your staff have any questions about this information request, the analyst responsible, Mark Creighton can be contacted directly at Mark.Creighton@parl.gc.ca, 613-795-1651.

Attached is a reply form. It too should be filled out and returned by June 21st, 2023, whether or not you provide access to the requested information. Should you refuse to provide access to the requested information, you or your Interim 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

Nick Leswick, Interim Deputy Minister, Finance Canada

Attachment: Reply form for IR0697