

Minister of  
Families, Children and  
Social Development



Ministre de  
la Famille, des Enfants et  
du Développement social

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0J9

FEB 14 2018

Mr. Jean-Denis Fréchette  
Parliamentary Budget Officer  
Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer  
50 O'Connor Street, 10th Floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A9

Dear Mr. Fréchette:

I am responding to your letter of December 15, 2017, addressed to my colleague, the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour. You wrote to request an update on the April 2017 data provided by Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) on its federal budget 2016 social infrastructure investments. I regret the delay in replying.

Please find enclosed the completed Reply Form and a list of projects that received Budget 2016 Social Infrastructure Funding under ESDC programs: the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS), the Enabling Accessibility Fund and the Early Learning and Child Care Framework, including an Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care component, which includes investments made through the First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative.

As you may be aware, the Budget 2016 funding allocated to the HPS was provided as a top-up to an existing program. Agreements that have been identified in the enclosed information reflect instances where both new and amended agreements have been put in place to enhance the activities of the program's regional and national streams.

In the case of projects funded in Quebec, it should be noted that the Department is unable to isolate its Investing in Canada Plan investments. This is because the HPS is jointly administered with the Province of Quebec and delivered through the Canada-Quebec Agreement on the Homelessness Partnering Strategy 2014–2019. Under the Agreement, the Government of Quebec leads a number of activities, including launching calls for proposals and recommending projects for approval for HPS funding. The project selection and recommendation process did not differentiate the source of funds.

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In addition, the early learning and child care funding is distributed through bilateral agreements with provinces and territories, rather than as individual projects. Provinces and territories determine their respective areas of investment, within the parameters of the Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework, through their individual action plans. This can include investments in capital and operating funding for regulated early learning and child care, fee subsidies and training, among other areas. Governments will report annually on progress made in relation to the Framework and bilateral agreements. To date, ESDC has publicly announced signed agreements with the provinces of Ontario, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Nunavut, and Newfoundland and Labrador. It is expected that the remaining agreements will be publicly announced in the coming months.

To conclude, I consent to the public disclosure of this information, and I have signed the Reply Form.

Yours sincerely,



The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Families, Children and Social Development

Enclosures: 2

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

The Honourable Patty Hajdu, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour

The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Science and Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities