

Minister of
Fisheries and Oceans



Ministre des
Pêches et des Océans

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0E6

August 21, 2020

Mr. Yves Giroux
Parliamentary Budget Officer
Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer
900-99 Bank Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0A9

Dear Mr. Giroux:

Thank you for your correspondence of May 21, 2020, requesting data on measures taken by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (Information Request IR0482). I regret the delay in responding to your request, which my office received on July 8, 2020, as the initial request from your office was sent to an invalid email address.

The reply form for your request has been filled out and is attached to this letter.

With respect to the Canadian Seafood Stabilization Fund (CSSF), the Fish Harvester Benefit (FHB), and the Fish Harvester Grant (FHG), respectively, you have requested data on the number of organizations using these measures and the associated dollar amounts.

The CSSF opened to applications on June 22, 2020, and is being delivered by the three regional development agencies that serve the regions within the scope of the program: the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency; Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions; and Western Economic Diversification Canada. These three agencies would be best placed to provide your office with the requested data on the CSSF. I have copied my colleague the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages, on this response, as the Minister responsible for these agencies.

With respect to the FHB and the FHG, DFO is currently working with its delivery partner, Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC), to set up these programs, which will be available for harvester applications for four weeks between August 24 and September 21, 2020. Once the programs have launched, DFO will work with ESDC to ensure that your office is provided with this data in a timely manner.

.../2

I hope that this information is useful to you. Should you or your office have further questions concerning this response, please contact Mr. Robert Holmes, Manager of Cabinet Business, at < Robert.Holmes@dfo-mpo.gc.ca >.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'BJ', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

The Honourable Bernadette Jordan, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

Attachment

c.c.: The Honourable Mélanie Joly, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages
Mr. Antoine Brunelle-Côté
Privy Council Office
Mr. Jean-Guy Forgeron
Fisheries and Oceans Canada