



May 22, 2013

Honourable Thomas Mulcair, P.C., M.P.
Leader of the Official Opposition
New Democratic Party of Canada
House of Commons
Centre Block, Suite 409S
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

RE: PBO Information Request IR0113

Dear Mr. Mulcair:

Thank you for your correspondence of May 20, 2013, seeking a progress report regarding the analysis you requested on Budget 2012 savings initiatives.

On April 25, 2013, we sent information requests to each federal organization affected by the savings measures announced in Budget 2012.¹ I asked that responses be provided by May 10, 2013. I am pleased to report that as of May 21, 2013, almost two-thirds of organizations have submitted responses.

While the majority of organizations have submitted some documentation, very few have provided all of the requested data and information. For instance, many departments and agencies have refused to share data pertaining to service level impacts, some indicating that they believe it to be outside my legislative mandate. As well, others indicate that they do not track cash "outflows" required to achieve savings, such as workforce adjustment costs or capital investments. Finally, several have also classified their responses as "Secret", circumscribing my ability to use these data.

Based on the current number and content of responses, at this time, I am unable to complete the analysis you requested. We will continue to pursue the requested information from the government. We will report back to you in due course.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sonia L'Heureux'.

Sonia L'Heureux
Parliamentary Budget Officer (interim)

¹ http://www.pbo-dpb.gc.ca/files/files/IR0113_Depts_Budget_2012_Request_EN.pdf.