

**Follow-up Responses to the House of Commons Standing Committee on
Government Operations and Estimates (OGGO)
President of the Treasury Board
November 30, 2020**

1. A clear chart of COVID-19 measures, spending to date, and future planned spending for each measure

(BQ) Mrs. Julie Vignola: Thank you very much. You mentioned, Mr. Duclos, that you like clarity and simplicity. All kinds of measures have been implemented since mid-March to deal with an altogether exceptional situation. As a parliamentarian, but also as citizen, I'd like to have a table with three columns showing a list of the measures taken to deal with COVID-19, the expenditures thus far for each of these measures, and the expenditures expected for these measures. In other words, I would like to see what we are doing, how much it costs and how much it's going to cost. Is it possible to get these figures? How much time would it take to come up with a simple table like that?

President of the Treasury Board: We'll do everything we can to simplify life, Ms. Vignola.

Response

[Chapters 1 and 2 of the Fall Economic Statement](#) presented by the Minister of Finance on November 30th provide the charts of the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan measures, which have been broken up into 3 main categories:

- Protecting Health and Safety;
- Direct Support Measures; and
- Tax and Liquidity Support.

Each measure has a total impact value, which reflects projected cash expenditures and liquidity support primarily in 2020-21. Some measures also include 2019-20 expenditures and projected expenditures beyond 2020-21.

In addition, the charts identify whether amounts for each measure were included in the July 2020 Snapshot, announced since the July 2020 Snapshot, or new in this Fall Economic Statement.

Prior to the presentation of the Fall Economic Statement, planned spending amounts for COVID-19 initiatives were included in Supplementary Estimates A and B. A listing of these initiatives and their authorities can be found on [GC InfoBase](#). Of note, as the Estimates focus on the authorities of appropriated organizations to make payments from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, some of the Government's COVID-19 response measures are excluded.

Regarding spending to date, the Treasury Board Secretariat and other federal departments have provided expenditures in response to a question based on [Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan – Overview](#) from Mr. Seeback (Dufferin-Caledon) on October 22. This response was tabled on December 9th (Q-173 – Annex 1).


With the latest policy actions presented by the Minister of Finance on November 30th, the Treasury Board Secretariat collection is being updated based on the measures presented in the Fall Economic Statement. [GC InfoBase](#) will be updated with authorities by measure in mid-January.

Some departments have provided more detailed information on the implementation of COVID-19 measures on their websites. For example, statistics on the joint efforts by the Canada Revenue Agency and Service Canada in the implementation of the Canada Emergency Responses Benefits can be found on [Canada.ca](#).



**INQUIRY OF MINISTRY
DEMANDE DE RENSEIGNEMENT AU GOUVERNEMENT**

PREPARE IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH MARKING "ORIGINAL TEXT" OR "TRANSLATION"
PRÉPARER EN ANGLAIS ET EN FRANÇAIS EN INDIQUANT "TEXTE ORIGINAL" OU "TRADUCTION"

QUESTION NO./N° DE LA QUESTION Q-173	BY / DE Mr. Seeback (Dufferin—Caledon)	DATE October 22, 2020
Reply by the President of the Treasury Board Réponse du président du Conseil du Trésor		
Greg Fergus		
PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY INSCRIRE LE NOM DU SIGNATAIRE	SIGNATURE MINISTER OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY MINISTRE OU SECRÉTAIRE PARLEMENTAIRE	

QUESTION

With regard to the chart entitled "Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan - Overview" on the government's website, under the "Related resources" tab of the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan webpage: (a) what is the actual amount of actual expenditures made to date, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart; and (b) what is the number of individuals or organizations who have received funding, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart?

REPLY / RÉPONSE

ORIGINAL TEXT
TEXTE ORIGINAL

TRANSLATION
TRADUCTION

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS) on behalf of the Government of Canada (GC):

Bills C-12 through C-15 and C-20 (of the 43rd Parliament, 1st Session) and Bills C-4 and C-9 of the current session have all provided varying forms of statutory spending authority in response to the pandemic and related economic crisis. In particular, the Public Health Events of National Concern Payments Act (Bill C-13 and Bill C-4), provides for many of the Government's key medical response measures and emergency supports.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, statutory payments are providing direct support to Canadian individuals, businesses, and provincial and territorial governments – particularly when large-scale expenditures are required on an urgent basis. Statutory authorities are presented in the Estimates for information only, to provide additional transparency to Parliament. Voted authorities, for which the government seeks Parliament's approval annually through the appropriation acts, have also provided for COVID supports and are clearly identified in the Estimates. These payment authorities can also be found on GC InfoBase at canada.ca/gcinfobase.

To facilitate the GC-response to this question, information currently gathered by TBS on measures outlined in the chart entitled "Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan - Overview" under the "Related resources" tab of the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan on Canada.ca is provided in Annex 1.

Questions about the actual expenditures listed are properly directed to the lead department for each initiative. Information about items in the online table for which TBS does not hold current data will be provided through other departmental responses to this question.

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS):

TBS has not incurred expenditures related to measures outlined in the chart entitled "Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan - Overview" on the government's website, under the "Related resources" tab of the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan webpage.

Canada School of Public Service (CSPS):

CSPS has not incurred expenditures related to measures outlined in the chart entitled "Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan - Overview" on the government's website, under the "Related resources" tab of the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan webpage and does not provide funding to individuals or organizations.

Public Sector Pension Investment Board (PSPIB):

It should be noted that PSPIB is neither a department nor an agency of the Crown and therefore, does not fall within the same guidelines for disclosure. PSPIB is subject to disclosure requirements as set out in the *Public Sector Pension Investment Board Act* and the *Access to Information Act* and reports to the President of the Treasury Board.

Q-173 - Annex 1

Q-173² — October 22, 2020 — Mr. Seeback (Dufferin—Caledon) — With regard to the chart entitled "Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan - Overview" on the government's website, under the "Related resources" tab of the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan webpage: (a) what is the actual amount of actual expenditures made to date, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart; and (b) what is the number of individuals or organizations who have received funding, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart?

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS)

Measures	(a) what is the actual amount of actual expenditures made to date, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart;
Funding for Personal Protective Equipment and Supplies (of which, \$200 million in 2019-20)	\$1,069,453,676
Health and Social Support for Northern Communities (critical priorities, air carriers, food subsidy enhancement)	\$114,900,000
Consular Assistance (of which, \$36 million in 2019-2020)	\$54,537,138
Virtual Care and Mental Health Tools for Canadians	\$41,757,325
Enhancing Public Health Measures in Indigenous Communities	\$250,179,111
Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB)	\$72,662,212,578
Essential Workers Wage Top-up	\$2,540,149,109
Advertising Campaign: Government of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan 2020-2021	\$10,000,000
COVID-19 Communications and Marketing	\$558,160
Canada Emergency Student Benefit	\$2,954,189,864
Canada Student Service Grant	\$0 ¹
One-Time Payment to OAS and GIS recipients	\$2,461,389,766
New Horizons for Seniors Program expansion	\$19,551,674
Contribution of \$9 million through United Way for local organizations (in 2019-20)	N/A ²
Indigenous Community Support Fund (Updated with May 21st announcement)	\$519,588,237
Supporting the On Reserve Income Assistance Program	\$260,873,094
Support for women's shelters and sexual assault centres, including in Indigenous communities	\$39,962,000
Protecting and Supporting Indigenous Women and Girls Fleeing Violence (first two years)	\$0 ³
Support for People experiencing Homelessness (through Reaching Home)	\$157,113,152
Support for Children and Youth (Kids Help Phone)	\$2,767,478
Support for Food Banks and Local Food Organizations (of which, \$25 million in 2019-20)	\$76,071,233
Support for Charities and Non-Profits Serving Vulnerable People	\$349,326,288
Support for Persons with Disabilities (\$1M in existing funding)	\$759,436,854
Support for the Canadian Red Cross	\$39,459,600
Alternative Credit Support for Businesses Unable to Access other Emergency Measures (RDAs, Community Futures Network, Futurpreneur Canada, and Industrial Research Assistance Program)	\$837,817,235
Support for Indigenous Businesses and Aboriginal Financial Institutions	\$139,925,000
Financial Relief for First Nations through the First Nations Finance Authority	\$4,300,000
Support for Northern Businesses (from existing resources)	\$8,216,418

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS)

Measures	(a) what is the actual amount of actual expenditures made to date, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart;
Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance	\$2,111,140,696
Granville Island Emergency Relief Fund	\$8,013,242
Wage Subsidy for Staff of the Non-Public Funds, Canadian Forces	\$8,740,000
Support for the Federal Bridge Corporation Limited	\$1,928,482
Support for the Air Transportation Sector	\$7,944
Support for Food Inspection Services	\$10,960,262
Support for Firms that Hire Temporary Foreign Workers	\$25,242,536
Support for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations	\$499,971,803
Support for the Broadcasting Industry	\$16,669,148
Support for Canada's National Museums	\$22,039,825
Supporting the National Arts Centre during COVID-19	N/A ⁴
Emissions Reduction Fund for the Oil and Gas Sector (over two years)	\$288,072
Cleaning up Former Oil and Gas Wells	\$720,000,000
Emergency Funding for Safety Measures in Forest Operations	\$85,938
Support for Canada's Farmers, Food Businesses, and Food Supply	\$114,564,123
Support for Canada's Fish Harvesters	\$127,703,458
<p>Notes: The actual expenditures represent in-year estimates of cumulative actual expenditures for fiscal year 2020-2021 recorded by departments, agencies, and Crown corporations in their implementation of Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response plan as of October 31, 2020. These amounts are subject to in-year adjustments for a number of reasons, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delays in recording payments: the estimates of actual expenditures are based on recorded payments, which do not reflect the overall financial commitments made by departments to these response measures for the fiscal year; - Delays in recording expenditures are typical and partially the result of prudent cash management. The Directive on Payments establishes the norm that suppliers are paid on the due date. A 30-day payment term is used and starts when "both an invoice is received, and the goods or services are accepted". A delayed invoice can result in spending being recorded several months after the initial receipt of the goods or services; - For some measures, payment is dependent on terms and conditions being met by provinces and territories (e.g., confirming testing and contract tracing are in place) and subject to other implementation delays; - Other associated costs: the estimates of actual expenditures from departments, agencies, and Crown corporations may include other associated costs incurred that are either indirectly related to the measure or to be recovered from another department by the end of the fiscal year; and - Variances in materiality thresholds: each department, agency, and Crown corporation has determined their own materiality thresholds and methodology in order to provide the earliest possible estimations of cumulative spending, as the measures do not conform to the standardized reporting codes used in both departmental and central financial management reporting systems. 	
<p>Note¹: Expenditures have been reimbursed and are therefore presented as \$0.</p>	
<p>Note²: 2019-2020 expenditures are scheduled for collection in December 2020.</p>	
<p>Note³: Implementation of this measure expected to begin later this fiscal year.</p>	
<p>Note⁴: Funds have been spent and expenditures have been reported under 'Support for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations'.</p>	



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Reply by the Minister of Digital Government
Réponse de la ministre du Gouvernement numérique

Greg Fergus

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SIGNATURE
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REPLY / RÉPONSE

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TRADUCTION

Shared Services Canada (SSC):

- (a) The requested information on expenditures under the measures outlined in the chart entitled "Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan - Overview" on the government's website, under the "Related resources" tab of the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan webpage is provided in Annex 1.
- (b) SSC's expenditures under these measures do not include funding to individuals or organizations. SSC does not provide specific support to individuals or organizations but rather overall supporting services to departments.

Q-173 - Annex 1

Q-173² — October 22, 2020 — Mr. Seeback (Dufferin—Caledon) — With regard to the chart entitled "Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan - Overview" on the government's website, under the "Related resources" tab of the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan webpage: (a) what is the actual amount of actual expenditures made to date, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart; and (b) what is the number of individuals or organizations who have received funding, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart?

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Shared Services Canada (SSC)

Measures	(a) what is the actual amount of actual expenditures made to date, broken down by each initiative listed on the chart;
Youth Employment and Skills Development Programs (updated June 25)	\$16,000