



October 31, 2022

Mr. Paul Cardegna
Clerk of the Committee
Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates
House of Commons
131 Queen Street, 6th Floor
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Cardegna:

Pursuant to the Committee's motion adopted on October 6, 2022, regarding the provision of documents pertaining to the study of the expenditures of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, please find attached to this email, the first installment of documents from Global Affairs Canada (GAC). As advised on October 26, 2022, a second installment of documents will be provided to the Committee, in both official languages no later than Wednesday, November 30, 2022.

The present installment includes the following documents, in both official languages:

- the programmes of the Governor General's visit to the Middle East;
- an outline of costs, describing the nature of each invoice; and
- accompanying notes explaining the variance between the invoice totals, what was published in Public Accounts 2021-2022, and what will be published in Public Accounts 2022-2023.

In responding to the Committee's request and consistent with the terms of the Committee's motion, GAC has applied the principle of transparency to the greatest extent possible. GAC's review resulted in redactions of information for which disclosure would be injurious to individual and public safety, such as (1) personal information and (2) information that could reasonably facilitate the commission of an offence, information that could expose security postures of the RCMP, or the identities of security/defence personnel. You will notice the applications of the following stamps throughout the programmes provided:

- (1) *Personal Information*, which contextualizes protected information. Severances were applied to the identities of individual(s), other than federal government employees and ministerial exempt staff, unless information about the individual(s) was readily accessible in the public domain.

.../2

(2) *Security Information and Security Personnel*, which contextualizes protected information. GAC considered the potential for injury to mitigate and protect sensitive information that may be exploited through criminal methods and techniques. Information protected in accordance with this review encompassed the procession of vehicle(s) and details of their formation, security information and the composition of security personnel and their unit(s).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colleen Calvert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a distinct loop at the end.

Colleen Calvert
Director General and Corporate Secretary
Corporate Secretariat