

# 2020-21 Annual Report on Travel, Hospitality and Conference Expenditures

## Privy Council Office

As required by the Treasury Board [Directive on Travel, Hospitality, Conference and Event Expenditures](#), this report provides information on travel, hospitality and conference expenditures for the Privy Council Office (PCO) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021, except for information withheld under the [Access to Information Act](#) or the [Privacy Act](#).

Travel, hospitality and conference expenditures incurred by a federal department or agency relate to activities that support the department or agency's mandate and the government's priorities.

PCO's travel, hospitality and conference expenditures support the delivery of the following core responsibility:

PCO supports the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, Cabinet and Cabinet Committees in advancing Government priorities, through providing non-partisan advice on matters of national and international importance, ensuring that the Cabinet decision-making process runs smoothly and helping implement the Government's agenda, by fostering an effective Public Service.

In 2020-21, the Ministers' Regional Offices Program was transferred to PCO from Public Works and Government Services Canada and the department began providing administrative and financial management support to the Joint Public Inquiry into the Nova Scotia April 2020 Tragedy.

Additional information on the PCO programs and activities may be found on the department's website and in its [2020-21 Departmental Plan](#).

Total annual PCO expenditures for travel, hospitality and conferences for the 2020-21 fiscal year and the 2019-20 fiscal year are summarized in the table below.

<b>Expenditure Category</b>	<b>Expenditures for year ended March 31, 2021 (\$ thousands)</b>	<b>Expenditures for year ended March 31, 2020 (\$ thousands)</b>	<b>Variance (\$ thousands)</b>
<b>Travel</b>			
Operational Activities	413	3,297	(2,884)
Key Stakeholders	2	165	(163)
Internal Governance	1	5	(4)
Training	2	72	(70)
Other	57	16	41
<b>A. Total Travel</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>3,555</b>	<b>(3,080)</b>
<b>B. Hospitality</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>(340)</b>
<b>C. Conference Fees</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>(28)</b>
<b>Total (A+B+C)</b>	<b>543</b>	<b>3,991</b>	<b>(3,448)</b>
<b>International travel by ministers and ministers' staff (included in travel)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>(10)</b>

### **Significant variances compared with previous fiscal year**

Compared to fiscal year 2019-20, departmental travel, hospitality and conference expenditures decreased by more than \$3.4 million. This year's decrease is primarily attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic, which curtailed many plans for travel, hospitality and conferences. As public health measures continue to ease and should in-person meetings and travel continue to resume, expenditures on these items are expected to increase from the amounts incurred in 2020-21.

<sup>1</sup> Expenditures related to the Prime Minister's International Trips are reported by Global Affairs Canada