

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the accompanying financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2024, and all information contained in these financial statements rests with the management of the Secretariat of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (the Secretariat). These financial statements have been prepared by management using the Government of Canada's accounting policies, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the information in these financial statements. Some of the information in the financial statements is based on management's best estimates and judgment and gives due consideration to materiality. To fulfill its accounting and reporting responsibilities, management maintains a set of accounts that provides a centralized record of the Secretariat's financial transactions. Financial information submitted in the preparation of the Public Accounts of Canada, and included in the Secretariat's Departmental Results Report, is consistent with these financial statements.

Management is also responsible for maintaining an effective system of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR) designed to provide reasonable assurance that financial information is reliable, that assets are safeguarded and that transactions are properly authorized and recorded in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and other applicable legislation, regulations, authorities and policies.

Management seeks to ensure the objectivity and integrity of data in its financial statements through careful selection, training and development of qualified staff; through organizational arrangements that provide appropriate divisions of responsibility; through communication programs aimed at ensuring that regulations, policies, standards, and managerial authorities are understood throughout the Secretariat and through conducting an annual risk-based assessment of the effectiveness of the system of ICFR.

The system of ICFR is designed to mitigate risks to a reasonable level based on an ongoing process to identify key risks, to assess effectiveness of associated key controls, and to make any necessary adjustments.

A risk-based assessment of the system of ICFR for the year ended March 31, 2024 was completed in accordance with the Treasury Board Policy on Financial Management and the results and action plans are summarized in the annex.

The financial statements of the Secretariat have not been audited.

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Lisa-Marie Inman  
Executive Director

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Arryn Ketter  
Chief Financial Officer

Ottawa, Canada  
September 16, 2024

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited)

As at March 31

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 4)	291	242
Vacation pay and compensatory leave	114	82
Employee future benefits (Note 5b)	35	39
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>363</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Due from Consolidated Revenue Fund	207	202
Accounts receivable and advances (Note 6)	89	48
<b>Total net financial assets</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>Departmental net debt</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>113</b>
<b>Non-financial assets</b>		
Tangible capital assets (Note 7)	7	8
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Departmental net financial position</b>	<b>(137)</b>	<b>(105)</b>

Contractual obligations (Note 8)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Lisa-Marie Inman  
Executive Director

Arryn Ketter  
Chief Financial Officer

Ottawa, Canada  
September 16, 2024

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

(in thousands of dollars)	2024 Planned Results	2024 Actual	2023 Actual
<b>Expenses</b>			
Parliamentary Review of National Security and Intelligence Activities	2,997	2,209	2,103
Internal Services	821	1,069	968
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>3,818</b>	<b>3,278</b>	<b>3,071</b>
<b>Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers</b>	<b>3,818</b>	<b>3,278</b>	<b>3,071</b>
<b>Government funding and transfers</b>			
Net cash provided by Government of Canada		3,017	2,833
Change in due from Consolidated Revenue Fund		6	9
Services provided without charge by other government departments (Note 9a)		221	208
Transfer of overpayments		2	(2)
<b>Net cost of operations after government funding and transfers</b>		<b>32</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Departmental net financial position - Beginning of year</b>		<b>(105)</b>	<b>(82)</b>
<b>Departmental net financial position - End of year</b>		<b>(137)</b>	<b>(105)</b>

Segmented information (Note 10)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Statement of Change in Departmental Net Debt (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

<b>(in thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	Actual	Actual
<b>Net cost of operations after government funding and transfers</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Change due to tangible capital assets</b>		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(1)	(4)
<b>Total change due to tangible capital assets</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(4)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in departmental net debt</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Departmental net debt - Beginning of year</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>Departmental net debt - End of year</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>113</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Statement of Cash Flow (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	3,278	3,071
Non-cash items:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(1)	(4)
Services provided without charge by other government departments (Note 9a)	(221)	(208)
Transfer of overpayments	(2)	2
Variations in Statement of Financial Position:		
Increase (decrease) in accounts receivable and advances	40	(30)
Decrease (increase) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(49)	22
Decrease (increase) in vacation pay and compensatory leave	(32)	(12)
Decrease (increase) in future employee benefits	4	(8)
<b>Cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>3,017</b>	<b>2,833</b>
<b>Net cash provided by Government of Canada</b>	<b>3,017</b>	<b>2,833</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### 1. Authority and objectives

On June 22, 2017, the bill to establish the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (NSICOP or Committee) and its Secretariat received Royal Assent. On October 6, 2017, the Governor in Council, on recommendation of the Prime Minister, established NSICOP with the Order in Council. The Secretariat received its funding on December 11, 2017.

The Secretariat provides support to an independent committee of Parliamentarians whose mandate is to review Canada's national security and intelligence community. The Secretariat's Executive Director, appointed in May 2021, has the rank and powers of a deputy head. The Secretariat's priorities are based on its core responsibility and program described below.

**Core Responsibility:** Parliamentary review of national security and intelligence activities

The Secretariat's core responsibility consists of a range of activities to support the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians. Among other things, the Secretariat provides strategic and expert advice in conducting reviews and development of reports, assists the Committee in obtaining access to relevant documents and information, and ensures compliance with security requirements. Results and indicators, approved by Treasury Board in 2020-21, have been in place since the 2021-22 fiscal year.

**Program:** Reviews

This program supports the reviews conducted by the Committee. The Secretariat's activities in this program include securing access to relevant information (by identifying both relevant documents and witnesses), conducting research and analyzing information to provide strategic and drafting advice to the Committee, and assisting the Committee in setting its workplan. This work supports the review by the Committee of the legislative, regulatory, policy, administrative and financial framework for national security and intelligence, or any activity carried out by a federal department in relation thereto and enables the development of findings and recommendations.

**Program:** Internal Services

Internal Services are those groups of related activities and resources that the Federal Government considers to be services in support of programs or required to meet corporate obligations of an organization. Internal Services refer to the activities and resources of ten distinct services that support program delivery in the organization, regardless of the Internal Services delivery model in a department. These services are: Acquisition Management Services, Communications Services, Financial Management Services, Human Resources Management Services, Information Management Services, Information Technology Services, Legal Services, Materiel Management Services, Management and Oversight Services and Real Property Management Services.

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

These financial statements are prepared using the department's accounting policies stated below, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards. The presentation and results using the stated accounting policies do not result in any significant differences from Canadian public sector accounting standards.

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Significant accounting policies are as follows:

#### (a) Parliamentary authorities

The Secretariat is financed by the Government of Canada through Parliamentary authorities. Financial reporting of authorities provided to the Secretariat do not parallel financial reporting according to generally accepted accounting principles since authorities are primarily based on cash flow requirements. Consequently, items recognized in the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and in the Statement of Financial Position are not necessarily the same as those provided through authorities from Parliament.

Note 3 provides a reconciliation between the bases of reporting. The planned results amounts in the "Expenses" section of the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position are the amounts reported in the Future-oriented Statement of Operations included in the 2023-24 Departmental Plan. Planned results are not presented in the "Government funding and transfers" section of the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and in the Statement of Change in Departmental Net Debt because these amounts were not included in the 2023-24 Departmental Plan.

#### (b) Net cash provided by Government

The Secretariat operates within the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF), which is administered by the Receiver General for Canada. All cash received by the Secretariat is deposited to the CRF, and all cash disbursements made by the Secretariat are paid from the CRF. The net cash provided by Government is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements, including transactions between departments of the Government.

#### (c) Amounts due from or to the CRF

Amounts due from or to the CRF are the result of timing differences at year-end between when a transaction affects authorities and when it is processed through the CRF. Amounts due from the CRF represent the net amount of cash that the Secretariat is entitled to draw from the CRF without further authorities to discharge its liabilities.

#### (d) Expenses

Vacation pay and compensatory leave are accrued as the benefits are earned by employees under their respective terms of employment. Services provided without charge by other government departments for accommodation and employer contributions to the health and dental insurance plans are recorded as operating expenses at their carrying value.

#### (e) Employee future benefits

##### i. Pension benefits

Eligible employees participate in the Public Service Pension Plan, a multiemployer pension plan administered by the Government. The Secretariat's contributions to the Plan are charged to expenses in the year incurred and represent the total departmental obligation to the Plan. The Secretariat's responsibility with regard to the Plan is limited to its contributions. Actuarial surpluses or deficiencies are recognized in the financial statements of the Government of Canada, as the Plan's sponsor.

##### ii. Severance benefits

The accumulation of severance benefits for voluntary departures ceased for applicable employee groups. The remaining obligation for employees who did not withdraw benefits is calculated using information derived from the results of the actuarially determined liability for employee severance benefits for the Government as a whole.

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### (f) Financial instruments

A contract establishing a financial instrument creates, at its inception, rights, and obligations to receive or deliver economic benefits. The financial assets and financial liabilities portray these rights and obligations in the financial statements. The Secretariat recognizes a financial instrument when it becomes a party to a financial instrument contract.

Financial instruments consist of accounts receivable, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

All financial assets and liabilities are recorded at cost or amortized cost. Any associated transaction costs are added to the carrying value upon initial recognition.

Accounts receivable are initially recorded at cost and, where necessary, an allowance for valuation is recorded to reduce the carrying value of accounts receivable to amounts that approximate their net recoverable value.

### (g) Non-financial assets

The costs of acquiring land, buildings, equipment, and other capital property are capitalized as tangible capital assets and, except for land, are amortized to expense over the estimated useful lives of the assets, as described in Note 7. All tangible capital assets and leasehold improvements having an initial cost of \$5,000 or more are recorded at their acquisition cost. Tangible capital assets do not include immovable assets located on reserves as defined in the *Indian Act*, works of art, museum collection and Crown land to which no acquisition cost is attributable, and intangible assets.

### (h) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported and disclosed amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes at March 31. The estimates are based on facts and circumstances, historical experience, general economic conditions and reflect the Government's best estimate of the related amount at the end of the reporting period. The most significant items where estimates are used are the liability for employee future benefits and the useful life of tangible capital assets.

Actual results could significantly differ from those estimated. Management's estimates are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary, they are recorded in the financial statements in the year they become known.

### (i) Related party transactions

Related party transactions, other than inter-entity transactions, are recorded at the exchange amount.

Inter-entity transactions are transactions between commonly controlled entities. Inter-entity transactions, other than restructuring transactions, are recorded on a gross basis and are measured at the carrying amount, except for the following:

- i. Services provided on a recovery basis are recognized as revenues and expenses on a gross basis and measured at the exchange amount.
- ii. Certain services received on a without charge basis are recorded for departmental financial statement purposes at the carrying amount.



# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### 3. Parliamentary authorities

The Secretariat receives most of its funding through annual parliamentary authorities. Items recognized in the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and the Statement of Financial Position in one year may be funded through parliamentary authorities in prior, current or future years. Accordingly, the Secretariat has different net results of operations for the year on a government funding basis than on an accrual accounting basis. The differences are reconciled in the following tables:

#### (a) Reconciliation of net cost of operations to current year authorities used

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	3,278	3,071
Adjustments for items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting authorities:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(1)	(4)
Services provided without charge by other government departments	(221)	(208)
Decrease / (increase) in vacation pay and compensatory leave	(32)	(12)
Decrease / (increase) in employee future benefits	4	(8)
Refund of prior years' expenditures	-	11
Other	-	(1)
Total items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting authorities	(250)	(222)
Adjustments for items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting authorities:		
Accounts receivable and advances	1	2
Total items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting authorities	1	2
<b>Current year authorities used</b>	<b>3,029</b>	<b>2,851</b>

#### (b) Authorities provided and used

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
<b>Authorities provided:</b>		
Vote 1 - Operating expenditures	3,676	3,580
Statutory amounts	209	201
<b>Less:</b>		
Lapsed: Operating	(856)	(930)
<b>Current year authorities used</b>	<b>3,029</b>	<b>2,851</b>

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### 4. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

The following table presents details of the Secretariat's accounts payable:

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
Accounts payable - Other government departments and agencies	6	1
Accounts payable - External parties	285	241
<b>Total accounts payable and accrued liabilities</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>242</b>

### 5. Employee future benefits

#### (a) Pension benefits

The Secretariat employees participate in the Public Service Pension Plan (the "Plan"), which is sponsored and administered by the Government of Canada. Pension benefits accrue up to a maximum period of 35 years at a rate of 2 percent per year of pensionable service, times the average of the best five consecutive years of earnings. The benefits are integrated with Canada/Québec Pension Plan benefits and they are indexed to inflation.

Both the employees and the employer contribute to the cost of the Plan. Due to the amendment of the *Public Service Superannuation Act* following the implementation of provisions related to Economic Action Plan 2012, employee contributors have been divided into two groups - Group 1 related to existing plan members as of December 31, 2012 and Group 2 relates to members joining the Plan as of January 1, 2013. Each group has a distinct contribution rate.

The 2023-24 expense amounts to \$186,882 (\$182,255 in 2022-23). For Group 1 members, the expense represents approximately 1.02 times (1.02 times in 2022-23) the employee contributions and, for Group 2 members, approximately 1.00 times (1.00 times in 2022-23) the employee contributions.

The Secretariat's responsibility with regard to the Plan is limited to its contributions. Actuarial surpluses or deficiencies are recognized in the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Government of Canada, as the Plan's sponsor.

#### (b) Severance benefits

Severance benefits provided to the Secretariat's employees were previously based on an employee's eligibility, years of service and salary at termination of employment. However, since 2011 the accumulation of severance benefits for voluntary departures progressively ceased for substantially all employees. Employees subject to these changes were given the option to be paid the full or partial value of benefits earned to date or collect the full or remaining value of benefits upon departure from the public service. By March 31, 2024, substantially all settlements for immediate cash out were completed. Severance benefits are unfunded and, consequently, the outstanding obligation will be paid from future authorities.

The changes in the obligations during the year were as follows:

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
<b>Accrued benefit obligation - Beginning of year</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>31</b>
Expense (adjustments) for the year	(4)	8
Benefits paid during the year	-	-
<b>Accrued benefit obligation - End of year</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### 6. Accounts receivable and advances

The following table presents details of the Secretariat's accounts receivable and advances balances:

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
Receivables - Other government departments and agencies	86	44
Receivables - External parties	2	2
Employee advances	1	2
<b>Net accounts receivable</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>48</b>

The following table provides an aging analysis of accounts receivable from external parties and the associated valuation allowances used to reflect their net recoverable value.

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
Accounts receivable from external parties		
Not past due	2	2
Number of days past due		
1 to 30	-	-
31 to 60	-	-
61 to 90	-	-
91 to 365	-	-
Over 365	-	-
Sub-Total	2	2
Less: Valuation allowance	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### 7. Tangible capital assets

Amortization of tangible capital assets is done on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset as follows:

Asset class	Amortization Period
Informatics hardware	3 to 10 years
Other equipment	3 to 30 years

Capital Asset Class (in thousands of dollars)	Cost					Accumulated Amortization					Net Book Value	
	Opening Balance	Acquisitions	Adjustments	Disposals and Write-Offs	Closing Balance	Opening Balance	Amortization	Adjustments	Disposals and Write-Offs	Closing Balance	2024	2023
Informatics hardware	14	-	-	-	14	14	-	-	-	14	-	-
Other equipment	13	-	-	-	13	5	1	-	-	6	7	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### 8. Contractual obligations

The nature of the Secretariat's activities may result in some large multi-year contracts and obligations whereby the Secretariat will be obligated to make future payments in order to carry out its programs or when the services/goods are received. Significant contractual obligations that can be reasonably estimated are summarized as follows:

(in thousands of dollars)	Transfer payments	Operating leases	Other obligations with related parties	Total
2025	-	85	473	558
2026	-	-	95	95
2027	-	-	-	-
2028	-	-	-	-
2029	-	-	-	-
2030 and subsequent	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>653</b>

### 9. Related party transactions

The Secretariat is related as a result of common ownership to all government departments, agencies, and Crown corporations. Related parties also include individuals who are members of key management personnel or close family members of those individuals, and entities controlled by, or under shared control of, a member of key management personnel or a close family member of that individual. The Secretariat enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business and on normal trade terms.

During the year, the Secretariat has an agreement with Privy Council Office related to the provision of finance and administration services which is included in section b). During the year, the Secretariat received common services which were obtained without charge from other government departments as disclosed below:

#### a) Common services provided without charge by other government departments

During the year, the Secretariat received services without charge from certain common service organizations, related to the employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans and accommodations. These services provided without charge have been recorded at the carrying value in the Secretariat's Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position as follows:

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
Accommodation	91	90
Employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans	130	118
<b>Total</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>208</b>

The Government has centralized some of its administrative activities for efficiency, cost-effectiveness purposes and economic delivery of programs to the public. As a result, the Government uses central agencies and common service organizations so that one department performs services for all other departments and agencies without charge. The costs of these services, such as the payroll and cheque issuance services provided by Public Services and Procurement Canada are not included in the Secretariat's Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position. The costs of information technology infrastructure services provided by Shared Services Canada, following the transfer of responsibilities in November 2011 are also not included in the Secretariat's Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position.

#### b) Other transactions with other government departments and agencies

(in thousands of dollars)	2024	2023
Expenses	1,605	1,446

Expenses disclosed in (b) exclude common services provided without charge, which are already disclosed in (a).

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the Year Ended March 31

### 10. Segmented information

Presentation by segment is based on the Secretariat's core responsibility. The presentation by segment is based on the same accounting policies as described in the Summary of significant accounting policies in note 2. The following table presents the expenses incurred for the main core responsibilities by major object of expense. The segment results for the period are as follows:

<b>(in thousands of dollars)</b>	<b>Parliamentary Review of National Security and Intelligence Activities</b>	<b>Internal Services</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Expenses				
Salaries and employee benefits	1,486	362	1,848	1,759
Professional and special services	584	526	1,110	1,051
Accommodation	-	188	188	184
Transportation and communications Information	30	1	31	39
	11	1	12	8
Acquisition of machinery and equipment	33	-	33	5
Amortization of tangible capital assets	1	-	1	4
Rentals	6	-	6	4
Utilities, materials and supplies	13	-	13	5
Other	41	(9)	32	12
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2,209</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>3,278</b>	<b>3,071</b>
<b>Net cost from continuing operations</b>	<b>2,209</b>	<b>1,069</b>	<b>3,278</b>	<b>3,071</b>

# SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

## Annex to the Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control over Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year 2023-24

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### 1. Introduction

This document provides summary information on the measures taken by the Secretariat of the National Security and Intelligence Committee of Parliamentarians (the Secretariat) to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR) as well as information on internal control management, assessment results and related action plans.

Detailed information on the Secretariat's authority, mandate, and core responsibilities can be found in the Departmental Plan for the 2024-25 fiscal year and the Departmental Results Report for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/secretariat-national-security-intelligence-committee-parliamentarians/corporate/transparency/departmental-plan/2024-2025-glance.html>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/secretariat-national-security-intelligence-committee-parliamentarians/corporate/transparency/departmental-results-report/2022-2023.html>

### 2. Departmental system of internal control over financial reporting

#### 2.1 Internal control management

The Secretariat recognizes the importance of setting the tone from the top to help ensure that staff at all levels understand their roles in maintaining effective systems of ICFR and are well equipped to exercise these responsibilities effectively. In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding, the Secretariat's financial transactions are processed by the Privy Council Office (PCO) within their financial system and are subject to the same control environment.

The Secretariat relies on PCO control measures to a large extent; but, also recognizes the importance of ensuring that it implements its own complementary measures. In collaboration with PCO, a departmental internal control management framework is in place and comprises:

- organizational accountability structures as they relate to internal control management to support sound financial management including the roles and responsibilities of senior departmental managers for control management in their areas of responsibility;
- values and ethics;
- ongoing communication and training on the legislative and policy requirements for sound financial management and control; and
- monitoring and regular updates on internal control management, as well as provision of related assessment results and action plans to the deputy head and senior departmental management and, as applicable, the Departmental Audit Committee (DAC).

#### 2.2 Service arrangements relevant to financial statements

The Secretariat relies on other departments for processing certain transactions that are recorded in its financial statements, as follows:

##### Common service arrangements:

- Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) administers the payments of salaries, the procurement of goods and services, and provides accommodation services;
- Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS), provides information on public service insurance and centrally administers payment of the employer's share of contributions toward statutory employee benefit plans;
- Department of Justice Canada provides legal services; and
- Shared Services Canada (SSC) provides information technology (IT) infrastructure services. SSC also provides the service for the acquisition and provision of hardware and software for workplace technology devices to the Secretariat. The scope and responsibilities are addressed in the interdepartmental arrangement between SSC and the Secretariat.

Readers of this annex may refer to the annexes of the above-noted departments for a greater understanding of the systems of internal control over financial reporting related to these specific services.

### **Specific arrangements**

- Financial transactions are processed by PCO and are for the most part subject to the same control environment. These services are the subject of a MOU between the two organizations.
- TBS provides the Secretariat with a SAP financial system platform to capture and report all financial transactions.

## **3. Departmental assessment results during fiscal year 2023-24**

**Progress during the 2023-24 fiscal year** - The Secretariat has established its business processes and implemented its control environment by leveraging the processes and controls implemented at PCO. Progress is disclosed in the Annex of PCO's Statement of Management Responsibility.

**New or significantly amended key controls** - New or significantly modified internal controls are disclosed in the Annex of PCO's statement of management responsibility.

**On-going monitoring program** - The Secretariat's monitoring program for the above noted business processes leverages PCO's rotational on-going monitoring plan disclosed in the Annex of PCO's statement of management responsibility.

## **4. Departmental action plan**

### **4.1 Departmental action plan for the next fiscal year and subsequent fiscal years**

Any action plans for the aforementioned business processes are disclosed in the Annex of PCO's Statement of Management Responsibility.