



# 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-176	BY / DE Mr. Angus (Timmins-James Bay)	DATE April 28, 2016
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Reply by the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs  
Réponse de la ministre des Affaires autochtones et du Nord

Signed by the Honourable Carolyn Bennett

PRINT NAME OF SIGNATORY  
INSCRIRE LE NOM DU SIGNATAIRE

SIGNATURE  
MINISTER OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY  
MINISTRE OU SECRÉTAIRE PARLEMENTAIRE

### QUESTION

With regard to government spending on indigenous affairs: (a) does the government have figures for departmental spending without the 2% cap on annual increases in funding for on-reserve programs and services since the cap was put in place, and if so, what is this amount of this spending, keeping pace with inflation and population growth, broken down by year and by (i) total, (ii) program; (b) based on calculations in (a), does the government have figures for the total amount of departmental spending for all previous years put together without the 2% cap, keeping pace with inflation and population growth for those years, broken down by (i) total, (ii) program; (c) what is the rate of growth in Health Canada's spending on Indigenous peoples for each of the past five years, broken down by (i) First Nations on reserve, (ii) First Nations off reserve, (iii) Inuit by province; (d) what is the required financial investment for the government to fully implement Jordan's Principle; and I as it relates to the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (i) when were the criteria for orthodontics created and what process is in place to update them to ensure they are in keeping with clinical standards, (ii) how do current orthodontic policies account for child development, (iii) what is the most current rate of denials for each level of appeals, broken down by type, such as orthodontics, (iv) does the same individual review appeal decisions from an earlier level of appeal, (v) how much has the government spent rejecting or approving these cases, broken down by case, (vi) how many personnel received financial bonuses for their work in the appeal process, (vii) what were the amounts of each of these bonuses, (viii) what was the total amount spent on these bonuses, (ix) what are the criteria for these bonuses, (x) what processes does Health Canada have in place to ensure its orthodontic pre-approval and appeal processes are accessible to persons speaking Indigenous languages, persons with disabilities and persons with low English or French literacy levels?

### REPLY / RÉPONSE

ORIGINAL TEXT  
TEXTE ORIGINAL



TRANSLATION  
TRADUCTION



Insofar as Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) is concerned, the responses to parts a), b) and d) are as follows:

(a) and (b)

It is important to note that the 2% escalator is allocated to the department annually as a lump-sum amount and not assigned to specific programs. The department has the discretion to allocate the funds to priority areas. Typically, funds are allocated to basic services (e.g. Social / Education / Infrastructure) and for self-government. Funds may

also be reallocated during the year to address emerging priorities.

The escalator (6% in 1995-96, 3% in 1996-97 and 2% in 1997-98) has been calculated on the \$3.4B global figure (established in 1994-95) and compounded annually. This annual increase is then adjusted to the department's base budget. The table below represents the annual escalator from 1995-96 to 2016-17.

2% Calculation			
Year	Base (\$000s)	Increase (\$000s)	Increase (%)
1994-95	3,364,005		
1995-96	3,565,845	201,840	6.00%
1996-97	3,672,820	106,975	3.00%
1997-98	3,746,276	73,456	2.00%
1998-99	3,821,202	74,926	2.00%
1999-00	3,897,626	76,424	2.00%
2000-01	3,975,579	77,953	2.00%
2001-02	4,055,091	79,512	2.00%
2002-03	4,136,193	81,102	2.00%
2003-04	4,218,917	82,724	2.00%
2004-05	4,303,293	84,376	2.00%
2005-06	4,389,361	86,068	2.00%
2006-07	4,477,146	87,785	2.00%
2007-08	4,566,689	89,543	2.00%
2008-09	4,658,023	91,334	2.00%
2009-10	4,751,183	93,160	2.00%
2010-11	4,846,207	95,024	2.00%
2011-12	4,943,131	96,924	2.00%
2012-13	5,041,994	98,863	2.00%
2013-14	5,142,834	100,840	2.00%
2014-15	5,245,692	102,858	2.00%
2015-16	5,350,606	104,914	2.00%
2016-17	5,457,618	107,012	2.00%

The department does not track the 2% escalator funds separately and therefore, would not be able to identify under which programs the 2% escalator funds were spent. However, the total expenditures by fiscal year for programs and services, that the department offers, can be found on the department's Departmental Performance Report using the following link: <https://www.aadnc-aandc.gc.ca/eng/1359569600624/1359569658365>

(d)

The required financial investment for the government to fully implement Jordan's Principle is currently being assessed and developed.