



OFFICE OF THE PARLIAMENTARY BUDGET OFFICER
BUREAU DU DIRECTEUR PARLEMENTAIRE DU BUDGET

Cost Estimate of Election Campaign Proposal

Publication Date:	September 2021						
Short Title:	Financial support for mental health care coverage						
Description:	Providing uninsured Canadians mental health counselling and psychotherapy services up to a maximum of 12 sessions per year. This proposal will be effective October 1, 2022.						
Cost of Proposed Measure:	\$ millions	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	Total
	Total cost	-	831	1,715	1,769	1,824	6,138
Notes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Estimates are presented on an accrual basis as would appear in the budget and public accounts.· A positive number implies a reduction in the budgetary balance (lower revenues or higher spending). A negative number implies an increase in the budgetary balance (higher revenues or lower spending).· "-" = PBO does not expect a financial cost.						
Estimation and projection method:	The eligible population expected to utilize mental health care under this program was determined based on data from Statistics Canada. The cost per session was determined based on the fee for psychological services recommended by each province's psychological association. Potential cost saving to the broader healthcare system was not incorporated. Interactions with other programs were not considered.						
Source of Uncertainty:	The main sources of uncertainty relate to the estimated population and the utilization of mental health care services.						
Data Sources:	Variable	Source					
	Population	Statistics Canada					
	Population	PBO EPC baseline					
	Perceived need for counselling in Canada	2012 Canadian Community Health Survey – Mental Health					
	Recommended fee for psychological services	Provincial Psychological Associations					
	Employee wages by occupation, annual	Statistics Canada					