



Employment and
Social Development Canada

Emploi et
Développement social Canada

Deputy Minister

Sous-ministre

Mr. John Williamson, M.P.
Chair
Standing Committee on Public Accounts
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Williamson:

In response to your letter of November 8, 2023, requesting documents stemming from the Standing Committee on Public Accounts reports adopted in the 43rd Parliament, I am providing you with an update to Report 6 – Student Financial Assistance, recommendation 1 – on the verification of applications, recommendation 3 – on informing credit bureaus and recommendation 6 – on program evaluation.

With respect to recommendation 1, the Repayment Assistance Plan - Enhanced Verification Model (RAP-EVM) was successfully implemented on November 12, 2023. A final report is attached (Annex A), which outlines the details and key impacts of this enhancement.

Concerning recommendation 3, ESDC has completed significant analysis and associated work to implement the recommendation. This analysis has identified key considerations that has led ESDC to conclude that proceeding with implementation is unadvisable. A more detailed explanation is provided in the attached status report (Annex B) which confirms that ESDC will not be proceeding with implementation.

The Department is on track to fulfill its obligation for recommendation 6, by providing a final evaluation report, no later than March 31, 2024.

Rest assured that the Department will continue to meet its reporting requirements to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Thompson

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