

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

<b>COMMITTEE</b> House Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates	<b>BY</b> Mrs. Julie Vignola (BQ) Beauport—Limoilou, Quebec	<b>DATE</b> 2022-09-22	<b>QTON #</b> 44.1.26a
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**QUESTION:**

Mrs. Julie Vignola: Lieutenant-General Kenny, a while ago, you stated that it would not be possible to know what parts of the meal costs were not linked to the food, because the caterer invoiced the total amount. That is what I understood. If we ask you to break down the \$80,000 to include management, meal delivery, storage, waste disposal and airport fees, administrative fees, security costs and taxes, you would not be able to do so. Is that correct?

**REPLY:**

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All invoices related to the Governor General's Middle East trip between 16 and 24 Mar 2022 are being provided alongside this submission as part of National Defence's response to a Motion to Produce Papers adopted on October 6, 2022. These invoices include a breakdown of the catering items purchased and have been grouped according to the category of cost incurred. Please see the annotated invoice summary included in that response for costing details.

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House Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates	Mrs. Julie Vignola (BQ) Beauport—Limoilou, Quebec	2022-09-22	44.1.26b

### QUESTION:

Mrs. Julie Vignola: Would it be possible to get a copy of the invoices sent for these meals by the various caterers? You indicated that some caterers were not able to provide itemized invoices, whereas others were. Would it be possible to send us the invoices? What we really want is to understand. As my colleague has said previously, if in Qatar things cost an arm and a leg, at least we would know and we could plan accordingly.

(...)

Mr. Kelly McCauley (Edmonton West, CPC): Thanks, Mr. Chair. Just very quickly, some of the committee members have asked for copies of the menus and that. There would have provided a banquet event order or catering event order for that. Can you confirm, please, you'll provide that to this committee as soon as possible for this issue?

(...)

Mrs. Julie Vignola: Thank you. Mr. Chair, I would like not only the menus to be provided to committee members, but also the breakdown of expenditures, as I asked for previously, as soon as possible, of course. I do understand that certain catering agencies do not provide an itemized breakdown, but I would be surprised to learn that every caterer refused to provide a such an invoice.

### REPLY:

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All invoices related to the Governor General's Middle East trip between 16 and 24 March 2022 are being provided alongside this submission as part of National Defence's response to a Motion to Produce Papers adopted on October 6, 2022. These invoices include a breakdown of the catering items purchased and have been grouped according to the category of cost incurred. Please see the annotated invoice summary included in that response for costing details.

Contracts are not established with catering companies for VVIP transport, and were not established with catering companies for the Governor General's Middle East flight. Caterers are solicited during the pre-planning phase for VVIP travel and are selected based upon their ability to meet the menu requirements set by GAC Protocol within the timeline for planning the trip.

Often, there is only one catering vendor available at a particular airport. When multiple catering options are available, factors other than cost must also be taken into consideration to ensure passenger safety and delivery of service. This includes the ability of the caterer to meet the specific demands of each catering request, for example: meal selection, dietary constraints, delivery time specifications, time in flight, health and safety standards, and delivery equipment specifications.

National Defence will provide a menu to the catering provider and seek an estimate from the caterer in advance when possible. Given the realities of global air catering, final invoices are often only received well after catering services are provided. In airports frequented by National Defence, flight stewards will base caterer and menu selection on previous transactions to find efficiencies in costs and ensure delivery of service.

GAC has provided the Committee with the menus related to this trip.

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<b>COMMITTEE</b> House Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates	<b>BY</b> Mr. Kelly McCauley (CPC) Edmonton West	<b>DATE</b> 2022-09-22	<b>QTON #</b> 44.1.26c
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### QUESTION:

Mr. Kelly McCauley: Okay. Would you provide us with the estimates, then, and the final bill and the menus, please, to the committee?

LGen Eric Kenny: If I can. Once we look through it, and we have the final invoices, the total cost turned out to be \$80,000.

Mr. Kelly McCauley: Will you provide us, please, with those estimates, the contracts and the menus for all the flights in question?

LGen Eric Kenny: We'll take it on in order to look into those...providing what we have for you.

Mr. Kelly McCauley: I'm not asking you to look into it. Will you provide it for us, please?

LGen Eric Kenny: We'll take a look at it, yes, or to provide.

Mr. Kelly McCauley: I think I have the will of the committee to ask that you provide it for us.

### REPLY:

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National Defence is providing the Committee with the final invoices related to catering and to all other costs of this trip in its response to the October 6 motion for the production of papers. Please see the annotated invoice summary included in that response for costing details.

Contracts are not established with catering companies for VVIP transport. The process is described in the answer to the previous question.

GAC has provided the Committee with the menus related to this trip.

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<b>COMMITTEE</b> House Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates	<b>BY</b> Mr. Kelly McCauley (CPC) Edmonton West	<b>DATE</b> 2022-09-22	<b>QTON #</b> 44.1.26d
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**QUESTION:**

Mr. Kelly McCauley: I'm going to share a bit of my time with my colleague, Mr. Redekopp. Just quickly, Lieutenant-General Kenny, would be able to provide us with the flight length of each of the trips involved that we're discussing?

LGen Eric Kenny: Thank you for the question, Mr. Chair—

Mr. Kelly McCauley: Sorry. Just to the committee. Not right now. Just when you have time.

**REPLY:**

A breakdown of flying hours are located in the table below.

<b>Governor General's March Middle East Trip Flying Hours</b>	
<b>Flight Leg</b>	<b>Flying Time (in hours)</b>
<b>Trenton, ON – Ottawa, ON*</b>	0.8
<b>Ottawa, ON - Stansted, UK</b>	6.3
<b>Stansted, UK - Dubai, UAE</b>	7.1
<b>Dubai, UAE - Doha, Qatar</b>	1.1
<b>Doha, Qatar – Kuwait City, Kuwait</b>	1.3
<b>Kuwait City, Kuwait - Stansted, UK</b>	7.4
<b>Stansted, UK - Ottawa, ON</b>	7.7
<b>Ottawa, ON - Trenton, ON*</b>	0.8
	<b>TOTAL FLYING TIME: 32.5</b>

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\* Air crew transport only.

<b>Prime Minister's March Europe Trip Flying Hours</b>	
<b>Flight Leg</b>	<b>Flying Time (in hours)</b>
<b>Trenton, ON – Ottawa, ON*</b>	0.8
<b>Ottawa, ON - Stansted, UK</b>	7.1
<b>Stansted, UK - Riga, LV</b>	2.6
<b>Riga, LV – Berlin, DE</b>	2.3
<b>Berlin, DE – Warsaw, PL</b>	1.8
<b>Warsaw, PL – Ottawa, ON</b>	8.8
<b>Ottawa, ON – Trenton, ON*</b>	1.2
	<b>TOTAL FLYING TIME: 24.6</b>

<b>Prime Minister's September Trip to London/New York Flying Hours</b>	
<b>Flight Leg</b>	<b>Flying Time (in hours)</b>
<b>Trenton, ON – Ottawa, ON*</b>	0.8
<b>Ottawa, ON - Stansted, UK</b>	6.7
<b>Stansted, UK - Newark, NJ</b>	7.8
<b>Newark, NJ – Ottawa, ON</b>	1.3
<b>Ottawa, ON – Trenton, ON*</b>	0.8
	<b>TOTAL FLYING TIME: 17.4</b>

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### QUESTION:

Mr. Kelly McCauley: Okay. What was the cost per person for the recent trip the Prime Minister and the GG took to London, and then to New York?

LGen Eric Kenny: Thank you for the question, Mr. Chair. I do not know what the cost was per person.

Mr. Kelly McCauley: Could you provide that for us, and the contracts and the menus?

### REPLY:

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Contracts are not established with catering companies for services during the transportation of officials. National Defence has received the following catering invoices associated with the Prime Minister's 16-20 September flight between Ottawa – London – New York – Ottawa:

- **Annex A:** Ottawa, 16 September 2022 Gate Gourmet
- **Annex B:** London, 19 September 2022, Royal Blue

The menu for the Prime Minister's Ottawa – London – New York legs of the trip has been included in **Annex C:** Menus: Ottawa – London – New York.

Catering services were not provided for the leg from New York to Ottawa on 20 September 2022.

The invoices for the Governor General's flights during this time-period are still being processed. National Defence will provide the Committee with these at the earliest opportunity. Processing invoices also entails verification post-travel, which may account for additional details in the final reporting on travel.

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

<b>COMMITTEE</b> House Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates	<b>BY</b> Mr. Brad Redekopp (CPC) Saskatoon West	<b>DATE</b> 2022-09-22	<b>QTON #</b> 44.1.26f
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### QUESTION:

Mr. Brad Redekopp (Saskatoon West, CPC): Thank you, Mr. Chair. I want to pick up on that point of contingencies. You've mentioned that there were contingencies, you eliminated part of them in 2019, and now again. Can you tell us a bit more about that? When you had the beef, chicken and pork options, how much contingency did you actually have if you had, say, 30 people on board—did you have 35 meals? What were the typical contingencies? What would happen to those excess meals once the flights were completed?

LGen Eric Kenny: The contingency percentage...I don't actually have the exact number of meals that were purchased for each flight and the contingency amount. What I can tell you is when you go on an airline right now, they'll often go in order, the first person has two choices, they get what they want, and as they go down, they run out of a specific meal set, so that's the contingency where that's offered to more people than not, and that's what we've reduced specifically.

Mr. Brad Redekopp: Could you provide the committee with that information—what was the reduction, what was the contingency in 2019, what did you reduce it to, and then what did you reduce it to now?

LGen Eric Kenny: We can look into that.

Mr. Brad Redekopp: If you could provide that, that would be great.

(...)

M. Pierre Paul-Hus: My last question pertains to planning supplementary meals. What is the percentage of supplementary meals that are provided for? Is it 50%?

Lgén Eric Kenny: It is now set at 20%.

M. Pierre Paul-Hus: We learned that the figure has been changed. What was the percentage beforehand?

Lgén Eric Kenny: The percentage was changed in June.

M. Pierre Paul-Hus: What was it before?

Lgén Eric Kenny: It was set at 65%.

### REPLY:

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In 2019, the contingency fee was reduced to 65% from 100%. In June 2022, the contingency percentage was further reduced from 65% to 20%.

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<b>COMMITTEE</b> House Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates	<b>BY</b> Mr. Kelly McCauley (CPC) Edmonton West	<b>DATE</b> 2022-09-22	<b>QTON #</b> 44.1.26g
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### QUESTION:

Mr. Kelly McCauley: The previous week, to the GG's trip to the Middle East, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and 58 other people went on a trip to London, Poland, various stops, eight stops, 60 people and the cost was about two-thirds, so we had about 50% more travelling and yet two-thirds less cost for that trip for catering.

How do we end up with such a massive discrepancy between caring for the Prime Minister—so it's not like it's 60 members of OGGO, you know, we're talking top echelon—how do we end up with such a massive difference?

LGen Eric Kenny: Thank you for the question, Mr. Chair. I don't have the specifics of those costs with me.

Mr. Kelly McCauley: It's on the same order paper. Maybe you can let us know.

### REPLY:

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National Defence provides the same level of service when it provides transport to the Governor General or the Prime Minister.

In March 2022, the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister traveled to Europe along the following flight path: Ottawa - London - Riga - Berlin - Warsaw – Ottawa. The final catering costs for this trip was \$84,271.93. Catering costs provided in response to OPQ 512, were based on available invoices National Defence had received prior to the submission of the OPQ response.

Catering costs for VVIP travel are subject to many variables, including: destinations, delivery time specifications, time in flight, health and safety standards, and delivery equipment specifications. For example, shorter flight legs may not require catering.

The Prime Minister's March 2022 Europe trip involved 24.6 hours of flight time. The Governor General's Middle East trip in March 2022 had 32.5 hours of flight time. A detailed breakdown of flight time per leg are provided in response to Mr. McCauley's question with respect to flight times.

Additionally, catering costs are subject to available catering options at airports globally. The Governor General's March 2022 trip required landing in three Middle Eastern locations where catering and airport costs are typically higher than the costs at the European airports involved in the Prime Minister's March Europe trip.