



→ Coalition file

*Judy Wasylycia-Leis, MP  
Winnipeg North Centre*

March 28, 2005

Hon. Ralph Goodale  
Minister of Finance  
207 Confederation Building  
House of Commons

Dear Minister,

I would like to request an update on the government's plan to support the Long Range Plan for Astronomy and Astrophysics.

My understanding is that current government funding of the Plan is progressing, on track, through its multi-year cycle. Canadians have benefited from jobs generated as a result of the Plan and from expanded university programs to train qualified workers to fill related future openings.

When current funding arrangements conclude, however, the Coalition for Canadian Astronomy estimates that \$235 million of additional funding over seven years will be needed for the Plan to continue to make its valuable contribution in developing this field.

As neither the recent budget nor estimates indicate any specific new funding allocation, I am interested in receiving an update on the government's plans to continue its support for this valuable initiative.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

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NDP Finance Critic

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