

March 5, 2018

Helen Angus
Deputy Minister, Treasury Board Secretariat
Whitney Block Rm 5320, 99 Wellesley St W
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Scott Thompson
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Finance
Frost Building South, 7th Floor,
7 Queen's Park Crescent
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y7

RE: FAO Information Request (EFO-Spring 2018)

Dear Deputies Angus and Thompson:

My mandate as Temporary Financial Accountability Officer is to provide the Legislative Assembly of Ontario with the economic and financial analysis it needs to perform its constitutional functions.

My staff are currently preparing analysis to support the FAO's bi-annual Economic and Fiscal Outlook (EFO) report. This work is undertaken under paragraph 10(1)(a) of the *Financial Accountability Officer Act, 2013* (the Act), which allows the Officer to "provide, on his or her own initiative, an independent analysis to the Assembly about the state of the Province's finances, including the budget, and trends in the provincial and national economies."

As per subsection 12(1) of the Act, I request that your ministries provide me with information outlined in this letter by completing Attachment 3. Specifically, I am requesting that you direct your staff to provide me with the following background information by March 16, 2018:

1. The latest estimates from the data tables of the Fourth Quarter 2017 Ontario Economic Accounts, as of March 16, 2018;
2. An updated projection of the annual cost of the refinancing portion of the Fair Hydro Plan to 2048;
3. A projection of annual OHIP+ expense to 2022-23*;
4. Data on tangible capital assets, amortization expense and gross infrastructure expenditure by sector from 2010-11 to 2016-17; and
5. Detailed information on one-time and other adjustments to revenue for 2016-17 and 2017-18.

* The FAO requests the forecast to 2022-23 or the latest year available.

In addition, immediately following the release of the 2018 Budget, I request that you provide us with the following Budget-related information:

6. Updated information related to the impact of the Auditor General's recommended accounting treatment for assets in jointly-sponsored pension plans to 2022-23*;
7. Data on tangible capital assets, amortization expense and gross infrastructure expenditure by sector from 2017-18 to 2027-28;
8. Detailed revenue outlook to 2022-23* from the 2018 Budget;
9. Detailed expense outlook to 2022-23* from the 2018 Budget;
10. Details of changes by year to the revenue projection in the 2018 Budget to 2022-23*, since the 2017 Fall Economic Statement, including individual budget measures; and
11. Details of changes by year to the program spending projection in the 2018 Budget to 2022-23*, since the 2017 Fall Economic Statement, including individual budget measures.

* The FAO requests the forecasts for these data to 2022-23 or the latest year available.

Following the release of the Budget, I will be requesting additional background information on specific tax and spending measures announced in the 2018 Budget. My staff will provide you with details on this request for additional background information within 48 hours of the release of the Budget. If possible, I ask that this information be provided within two business days of the request.

In addition, I request that your ministries complete Attachment 1 by outlining any disclosure restrictions related to the information request.

- If you believe that some or all of the requested information falls under the Cabinet records exception under subsection 12(2) of the FAO Act and that Cabinet has not consented to provide that information to the FAO in the Cabinet records order-in-council (see OC 1412/2016, Attachment 2), please describe the information in the Cover spreadsheet (Attachment 1) and explain why you believe the exception prevents you from providing me with the information.
- If you believe that some or all of the information that you are providing in response to this request is subject to the disclosure restrictions under the Cabinet records order-in-council, please clearly identify the information in question.
- If you believe that some or all of the requested information is personal information and/or personal health information exceptions under subsection 12(3) of the FAO Act, please

describe the information in the Cover spreadsheet (Attachment 1), and explain why you believe that exception applies and why you have been unable to redact the information in accordance with subsection 12(4) of the FAO Act.

- If you believe that some or all of the information that you are providing in response to this request is subject to the disclosure restrictions in paragraphs 2, 3 and/or 4 of section 13 of the FAO Act, please identify the information in question and in the Cover spreadsheet (Attachment 1), identify which condition applies, citing the specific provision of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

If the restriction is intended to protect the interests of other public institutions, governments, third parties and/or legal privilege holders, please specifically identify any institutions, governments, third parties and/or legal privilege holders whose interests would be affected by the disclosure of the information.

I have enclosed the *Guide to Responding to Information Requests from the FAO*, including the Cabinet records order-in-council (Attachment 2) to assist you with this information request.

Please note that any cover letter accompanying your response to this request will be posted publicly on the FAO website, but attachments will not.

Should you or your staff have any questions about this request, I would ask that you contact Luan Ngo at Ingo@fao-on.org or by phone at 416-277-1856.

I would like to thank you for your assistance in this matter. My primary objective is to provide timely and relevant analysis to the Legislative Assembly. My ability to do so depends on the timely provision of information held by your ministries, which I believe is necessary for the work of the FAO. By providing me with this information, you are assisting me in better serving all Members of Provincial Parliament.

Sincerely,



The Honourable J. David Wake
Temporary Financial Accountability Officer

Enclosures: 3

Attachment 1: EFO-Spring 2018 Cover Spreadsheet

Attachment 2: Guide to Responding to Information Requests from the FAO

Attachment 3: EFO-Spring 2018 Information Request Spreadsheet

cc.

Karen Hughes

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