

# FW: FAO's Info Request for the 2018 Spring EFO

---

**From:** "Schuurman, Tim (MOF)" <tim.schuurman@ontario.ca>  
**To:** "Lewis, Brian (MOF)" <brian.lewis@ontario.ca>, "Mayman, Gadi (OFA)" <gadi.mayman@ofina.on.ca>, "Kwan, Ronald (OFA)" <ronald.kwan@ofina.on.ca>, "Veinot, Cindy (TBS)" <cindy.veinot@ontario.ca>, "Whitehead, Russ (TBS)" <russ.whitehead@ontario.ca>, "Hughes, Karen (TBS)" <karen.hughes@ontario.ca>  
**Cc:** "Birks, Ryan (MOF)" <ryan.birks@ontario.ca>, "Tiburcio, Daniel (MOF)" <daniel.tiburcio@ontario.ca>, "Chaput, Brandon (MOF)" <brandon.chaput@ontario.ca>  
**Date:** Mon, 26 Feb 2018 14:56:22 -0500

---

Hi all,

We had a brief follow-up conversation with the FAO (David West) this morning on their EFO request. We conveyed to them the legal advice we received that the OIC prohibits us from sharing information contained in Cabinet Records before the government both makes the decision and publicly announces those decisions. Essentially, we cannot share Budget information in advance but must wait until the Budget is released – however, we would be in a position soon after the Minister delivers his speech to share the requested information.

David expressed some disappointment but understood the predicament.

In response, the FAO has reframed their request for historical figures (up to Q3 2017-18) from their previous questions (Q3 – Q6) highlighted below (Q7 is a new request):

1. Detailed revenue and expense outlooks to 2020-21, before budget measures. These projections would form the basis of the fiscal projections that will be used in the 2018 Budget.
  - a) Details of any changes to program spending since the 2017 FES, that are included in this baseline projection.
  - b) Annual program expense related to OHIP+.
2. Detailed revenue and expense outlooks to 2020-21 from the 2018 Budget, that include budget measures (of course).
  - a) Details of the costs of budget measures (basically the difference between 1 and 2)
3. Detailed information on one-time and other adjustments to tax revenue for 2016-17 and 2017-18, to help inform our revenue projection.
4. Updated information related to the impact of the Auditor General's recommended accounting treatment for assets in jointly-sponsored pension plans;
5. An updated projection of the annual cost of the refinancing portion of the Fair Hydro Plan. (We understand from our discussions with MOE staff that an updated estimate is or will be available)
6. Data on tangible capital assets, amortization expense and gross infrastructure expenditure by sector.
7. [NEW] In addition, the FAO has also asked for the Q4 Economic Accounts before that are released publicly.

Note: Q1 and Q2 would be Budget decisions that we would share post Budget release.

Given that the FAO's new request is for historical information up to Q3 2017-18, it would be good if you

could let me know how much of this information has already been shared with the FAO on previous requests and how much new information would we be able to share.

Ryan will follow-up with your EA's to coordinate a response. I'm hoping we can get back to David by mid-this week as he is going to be sending in an official information request from Commissioner Wake to the DM's.

*Tim Schuurman*  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Office of the Budget, Ministry of Finance  
7 Queen's Park Cres.  
Toronto ON M7A 1Z1  
Tel: 416-327-0173



---

**From:** David West [<mailto:dwest@fao-on.org>]  
**Sent:** February-07-18 3:17 PM  
**To:** Schuurman, Tim (MOF)  
**Cc:** Birks, Ryan (MOF); Luan Ngo; Jeffrey Novak  
**Subject:** FAO's Info Request for the 2018 Spring EFO

Hi Tim,

As we discussed at our meeting with the DMs a couple of weeks ago (time flies), we have put together a request for several pieces of information required for the FAO's Spring EFO.

Specifically, we plan to request the following information:

1. Detailed revenue and expense outlooks to 2020-21, before budget measures. These projections would form the basis of the fiscal projections that will be used in the 2018 Budget.
  - a) Details of any changes to program spending since the 2017 FES, that are included in this baseline projection.
  - b) Annual program expense related to OHIP+.
2. Detailed revenue and expense outlooks to 2020-21 from the 2018 Budget, that include budget measures (of course).
  - a) Details of the costs of budget measures (basically the difference between 1 and 2)
3. Detailed information on one-time and other adjustments to tax revenue for 2016-17 and 2017-18, to help inform our revenue projection.
4. Updated information related to the impact of the Auditor General's recommended accounting treatment for assets in jointly-sponsored pension plans;
5. An updated projection of the annual cost of the refinancing portion of the Fair Hydro Plan. (We understand from our discussions with MOE staff that an updated estimate is or will be available)
6. Data on tangible capital assets, amortization expense and gross infrastructure expenditure by sector.

Requests 2 3 and 4 are essentially the same information requests we made following the 2017 FES and 2017 Budget. Request 1 is new, but I believe reflects the discussion at our meeting. Request 6 is to update our fiscal model. Request 5 is new for an EFO, but will be used to update the FAO's own estimates of the cost of FHP refinancing.

We thought it would be helpful if we could set up a call to discuss these requests before we submit them. The purpose would be to structure the request to both facilitate the Ministry response but also help ensure we get the information needed, as early as possible, to prepare and release our EFO prior the election writ

period on May 9.

Let me know when we would be able to schedule a call. (I'm away Feb 16, 20 and 21).

Hope all is well at Finance during what I'm sure is a busy time.

Thanks again for your help.

David  
416.579.1465