FW: PER statement

From: "Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS)" <lawvin.hadisi@ontario.ca>
To: "Pichelli, Jason (TBS)" <jason.pichelli@ontario.ca>
Date: Tue, 24 Apr 2018 15:09:27 -0400

From: Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS) <Lawvin.Hadisi@ontario.ca>
Date: Tuesday, Apr 24, 2018, 1:53 PM
To: Giroux Namian, Orli (MOF) <Orli.GirouxNamian@ontario.ca>, Gallant, Gabrielle (OPO) <Gabrielle.Gallant4@ontario.ca>, Bossin, Bryan (OPO) <Bryan.Bossin@ontario.ca>, Zeifman, Clancy (OPO) <Clancy.Zeifman@ontario.ca>
Cc: Rubin, Jack (TBS) <Jack.Rubin@ontario.ca>, Koukoulas, Sophia (MOF) <Sophia.Koukoulas@ontario.ca>
Subject: RE: PER statement

Small tweak below from us.

FYI - It's with our officials for fact check.

We thank the Auditor General for her response to the Pre-Election Report. The Treasury Board Secretariat and Ministry of Finance work closely with the OAG on a wide variety of issues on a regular basis, and her oversight and insight is welcomed both during our regular interactions and during the release of special reports, including this one.

~~Our government passed the Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act in 2004~~. The Fiscal Transparency and Accountability Act which our government passed in 2004, is the only legislation of its type in the country and is reflective of our commitment to openness and transparency. Through the Pre-Election Report and the Office of the Auditor General's analysis, Ontarians are given the information they need to make an informed decision ahead of a provincial election.

The Pre-Election Report on Ontario's Finances presented the fiscal plan for 2018–19 to 2020–21 fiscal years. As verified by the Auditor General, Ontario's books are prepared in accordance with cautious assumptions that recognize the need for flexibility in the fiscal plan to respond to an ever changing world.

We know Ontario's economy has grown steadily in recent years, but we know that more must be done to encourage increased growth and create more jobs in an uncertain global economy. As we move forward, we must also ensure that the benefits from this growth are equally shared. The Ontario Liberal government has made a deliberate decision to invest in people – in high quality childcare, homecare, support for seniors and pharmacare, with OHIP+, for children, youth and seniors.

The OAG mentions two specific topics that represent ongoing conversations and technical accounting disputes between government and her office.

The government's position regarding the accounting of pension assets has long-since been supported by a panel of well-known experts, and we continue to acknowledge the appropriateness of the application of the United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles when the Public Sector Accounting Board's standards are silent, as they are in this instance. The government's opinion on this matter has not changed.

Changes made to the IESO's accounting practices hinge on a technical disagreement regarding the agency's status as a rate regulated entity. As the change in the IESO's accounting practice has eliminated a second set of books that was previously kept, has brought greater transparency to $17b worth of transactions and furthermore is consistent with the accounting practices of the IESO's predecessor, the OPA, the government's opinion has not changed.

From: Giroux Namian, Orli (MOF)
Sent: April 24, 2018 12:20 PM
To: Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS); Gallant, Gabrielle (OPO); Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Zeifman, Clancy (OPO)
Cc: Rubin, Jack (TBS); Koukoulas, Sophia (MOF)
Subject: RE: PER statement

Approved on our end

Sent with BlackBerry Work
(www.blackberry.com)

From: Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS) <Lawvin.Hadisi@ontario.ca>
Date: Tuesday, Apr 24, 2018, 10:12 AM
To: Gallant, Gabrielle (OPO) <Gabrielle.Gallant4@ontario.ca>, Giroux Namian, Orli (MOF) <Orli.GirouxNamian@ontario.ca>, Bossin, Bryan (OPO) <Bryan.Bossin@ontario.ca>, Zeifman, Clancy (OPO) <Clancy.Zeifman@ontario.ca>
Cc: Rubin, Jack (TBS) <Jack.Rubin@ontario.ca>, Koukoulas, Sophia (MOF) <Sophia.Koukoulas@ontario.ca>
Subject: RE: PER statement

Minister McMahon asked to see it so I will share it with her. I will preface that it was already approved by senior PO.

From: Gallant, Gabrielle (OPO)
Sent: April 24, 2018 10:08 AM
To: Giroux Namian, Orli (MOF); Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS)
Cc: Rubin, Jack (TBS); Koukoulas, Sophia (MOF)
Subject: RE: PER statement

See highlighted section below. That is included. Any significant changes need to go back through Bevan, RebMac and Jancik, and that's a process in to itself. Given that what you're mentioning is reference, I'd rather not run it through everyone again.

From: Giroux Namian, Orli (MOF)
Sent: April 24, 2018 10:06 AM
To: Gallant, Gabrielle (OPO); Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS)
Cc: Rubin, Jack (TBS); Koukoulas, Sophia (MOF)
Subject: RE: PER statement

Thanks for sending
Minister will have to review and sign off today
Also I think we need to add some of the language that is in the report that is positive. I am trying to get a copy of the report. Our DMO did not have a draft.
There was mention in her report something along the lines that "overall, PER provides a reasonable and somewhat cautious" view for the medium term fiscal forecast. I am trying to get exact language.

From: Gallant, Gabrielle (OPO)
Sent: April-24-18 10:01 AM
To: Bossin, Bryan (OPO); Giroux Namian, Orli (MOF); Hadisi, Lawvin (TBS)
Cc: Rubin, Jack (TBS); Koukoulas, Sophia (MOF)
Subject: PER statement

Hi there – Please find the senior PO approved PER response statement, to attribute to both Ministers. I think it should come from Lawvin, as that's the precedent. It can be sent directly to the gallery, after the AG goes out. Nothing on newsroom, no further distribution. This can and should form the basis for KM's as well.

Thank you thank you,
gg

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Gabrielle Gallant
416–327-6086
Special Advior | Office of the Premier