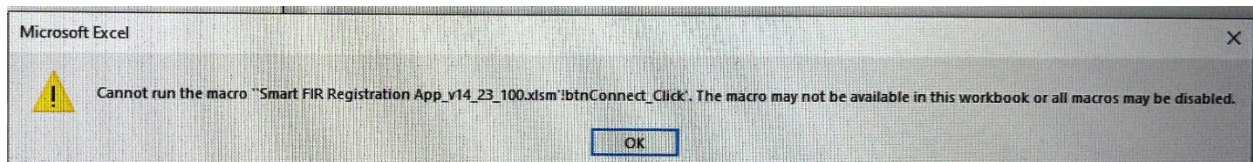


# Smart FIR Support Memo

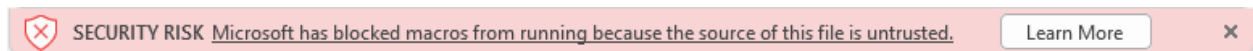
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## *Cannot Run Macro – Macros Blocked or Disabled*

The FIR template (Smart FIR) and the FIR Registration application are both macro-enabled Excel files (.xlsm). In order for these applications to function, macros must be enabled. Upon opening either of these applications, you may receive an error similar to the one below, indicating that Excel cannot run the macro and that “macros may not be available in this workbook or all macros may be disabled.”



Or you may see the following:



There are two reasons why you may be receiving these messages:

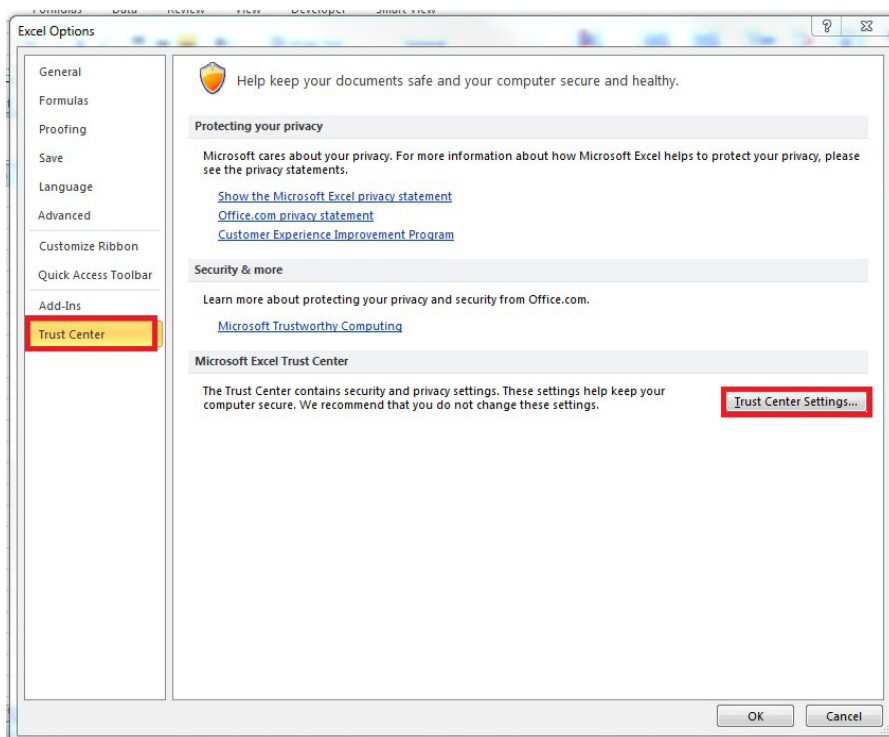
1. Macros have not been enabled within Excel.
2. Microsoft has blocked macros from running in Excel.

For more information contact [FIR@ontario.ca](mailto:FIR@ontario.ca)

## 1. Macros have not been enabled within Excel

To determine whether macros have been enabled, check your Trust Center Settings. The Trust Center can be reached by navigating as follows:

**File --> Options --> Trust Center --> Trust Center Settings**



If either **Disable VBA macros without notification** or **Disable VBA macros except digitally signed macros** is selected, macros will not run. You will need to change your settings.

### Macro Settings

- ☒ **Disable VBA macros without notification**
- ☐ Disable VBA macros with notification
- ☐ **Disable VBA macros except digitally signed macros**
- ☐ Enable VBA macros (not recommended; potentially dangerous code can run)

Select one of the following settings:

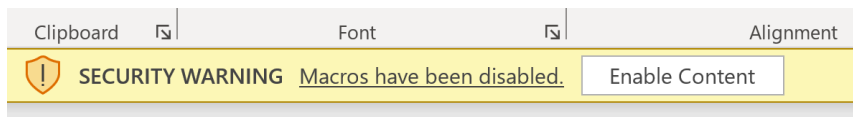
**a) Disable VBA macros with notification.**

**Macro Settings**

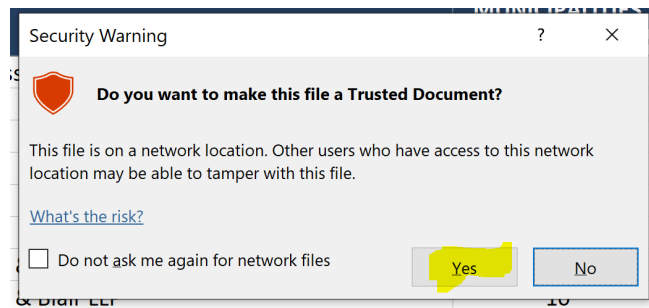
- ☐ Disable VBA macros without notification
- ☒ **Disable VBA macros with notification**
- ☐ Disable VBA macros except digitally signed macros
- ☐ Enable VBA macros (not recommended; potentially dangerous code can run)

This is the recommended option.

If you select this option, you will see the following when you first open a macro-enabled Excel file:



Click on Enable Content.



When prompted with **Do you want to make this file a Trusted Document?**, click “Yes”

**b) Enable all macros (not recommended; potentially dangerous code can run)**

**Macro Settings**

- ☐ Disable VBA macros without notification
- ☐ Disable VBA macros with notification
- ☐ Disable VBA macros except digitally signed macros
- ☒ **Enable VBA macros (not recommended; potentially dangerous code can run)**

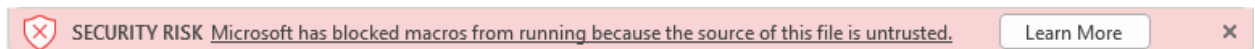
This option should only be selected if you trust the source of the macro-enabled Excel files you will be opening.

## 2. Microsoft has blocked macros from running in Excel

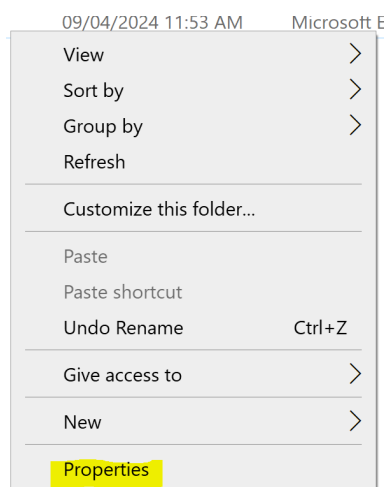
If macros have been enabled in Excel and you are still unable to run macros, it is likely because Microsoft has blocked macros from running.

Microsoft's default policy for Microsoft Office / 365 applications is to block macros from running if the file has come from an external source (i.e., email attachment, downloaded from the internet). This is done to protect users from potentially malicious code (malware and ransomware) in macros from untrusted sources.

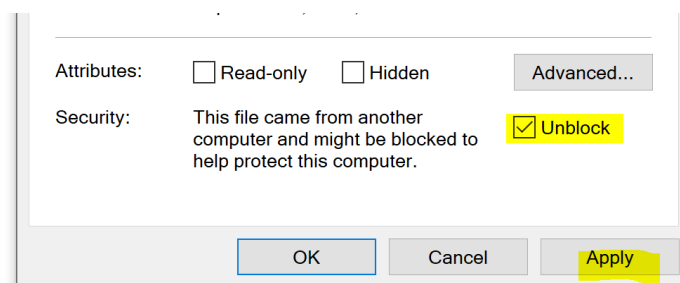
If Microsoft has blocked macros, you will see the following when you open the file.



To unblock the macros, first close Excel. Use File Explorer and navigate to the folder where the Excel file (i.e. Smart FIR template) is stored. Right-click on the file and select Properties.



At the bottom of the Properties box, check "Unblock" and "Apply".



Click OK to close the properties box.