



NEWS RELEASE
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AUDITOR GENERAL EXAMINES CROWN AGENCY BOARD GOVERNANCE

VICTORIA – Auditor General John Doyle has released his latest report, *Crown Agency Board Governance*. This report presents the findings from examinations of four Crown agencies.

Strong board governance structures and practices for ministries and Crown agencies help an organization achieve its goals and ensure taxpayers' contributions are used effectively. When an organization has a foundation of good governance it demonstrates accountability, leadership, integrity, stewardship and transparency.

To build on the Office's past work and assess the public sector's progress in implementing good governance principles, the Auditor General examined board governance structures and practices at BC Transit, Camosun College, the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority and the University of Northern British Columbia.

“We examined four organizations in three sectors, yet many of the key findings were similar,” said Doyle. “While each board met the core principles of good governance, they all experienced challenges in the areas of board composition, performance evaluation and communication with their respective ministry.”

In addition to areas for improvement, the report also notes some good practices in place at each of the four boards.

"Providing effective board governance is a process of continual improvement, and I commend BC Transit, UNBC, Camosun College and the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority for their progress to date," said Doyle.

"I plan to conduct more governance examinations to identify further opportunities for improved governance at the Crown agency level and to assess whether there are issues that require coordinated action by central government."

The Auditor General will follow up on the 25 recommendations made within the report in 2013.

About the Office of the Auditor General of B.C.

The Auditor General is a non-partisan, independent Officer of the Legislature who reports directly to the Legislative Assembly. The *Auditor General Act* empowers the Auditor General and staff (known as the Office of the Auditor General or OAG) to conduct audits, report findings and make recommendations.

2012/13 Report 2 – Crown Agency Board Governance



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Auditor General
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Contact:

Office of the Auditor General

250-419-6100

www.bcauditor.com