



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Auditor General releases report on Sea-to-Sky P3 projects

VICTORIA – B.C.’s Auditor General, John Doyle, has released his latest report, *Audits of Two P3 Projects in the Sea-to-Sky Corridor*.

The report contains the results of audits of two public-private partnerships (P3s) in British Columbia: the Sea-to-Sky Highway Improvement Project, and the Britannia Mine Water Treatment Plant Project.

“In both audits, we found areas where the projects were fully achieving government’s goals,” said Doyle. “However, we also found areas for improvement, and have made recommendations to address them.”

The audit of the Sea-to-Sky project concluded that the design and construction risks were effectively allocated between the Province and the private-sector partners, and that the concession agreement, with a few exceptions, has been effectively managed. However, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure was not able to demonstrate its success to date in achieving its long-term objectives for the project (improved safety, reliability and capacity).

“I am encouraged that, since the conclusion of the audit, the Ministry has gathered further information, particularly regarding safety,” said Doyle. “This should help the Ministry monitor and report progress towards its main objectives, as recommended in the report.”

The audit of the Britannia Mine Water Treatment Plant Project found that construction met government’s objectives, and that government’s overall financial and environmental objectives for the plant are also substantially being met. However, the ministries involved have not prepared long-term plans and timelines to show how they expect to achieve their desired outcomes for the Britannia Mine Remediation Project, of which the water treatment plant is a key component.

“The Britannia Mine Water Treatment Plant Project is part of a larger environmental objective to complete remediation of the contaminated Britannia Mine site,” said Doyle. “While government is addressing the immediate issue of pollution, it needs to demonstrate how it’s going to achieve its long-term goal of site closure.”

The Office plans to follow up on the ministries’ progress in implementing the recommendations arising from both audits within the year.



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 4 – *Audits of Two P3 Projects in the Sea-to-Sky Corridor*

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