

NEWS RELEASEFor Immediate Release October 1, 2012

AUDITOR GENERAL RELEASES LATEST FOLLOW-UP REPORT

VICTORIA – Auditor General John Doyle has released his annual fall follow-up report, compiling the results of 16 self-assessments by government organizations. These self-assessments, published unedited and in their entirety, detail progress and plans on implementing 86 of the Auditor General's recommendations.

"This is the ninth follow-up report issued during my term, and cumulative implementation rates since we began this process in 2008 are encouraging," said Doyle. "However, the self-assessed progress in this recent report is less than I would have expected. Frankly, I am disappointed."

Of the 86 recommendations followed-up on in this report, 27 (31 per cent) were self-assessed as fully or substantially implemented, or addressed through alternative action. Of the remaining, 54 (63 per cent) were partially addressed, and 5 (6 per cent) had no action taken. Overall, of 563 recommendations followed-up on since October 2008, 471 (83 per cent) have been fully addressed, while 86 (15 per cent) have been partially implemented and 6 have had no action taken.

"In addition to the low implementation rates for initial assessments, I am also concerned by the self-assessed progress reported particularly in the area of information technology. The recommendations arising from IT audits often address security gaps, and can be affected by the quick pace of technological change," said Doyle. "I am therefore disappointed to note that only 7 of 22 outstanding recommendations in this area have been implemented."

"I will need to consider these results more thoroughly in order to determine the most appropriate and effective course of action in this situation."

On behalf of the Legislature's Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts, the Office of the Auditor General follows up with audited agencies in varying formats, including action plans, agency self-assessments, progress assessments and progress audits.

ABOUT THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

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. Please visit www.bcauditor.com/follow-up-process for more information on the follow-up process.



SELF-ASSESSMENTS INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT:

- An Audit of the Environmental Assessment Office's Oversight of Certified Projects
- Organizational Costing of Fee-Based Goods and Services
- The Status of Enterprise Risk Management in the Government Ministries of British Columbia
- British Columbia Coroners Service
- School District 35 Langley
- Conservation of Ecological Integrity in B.C. Parks and Protected Areas
- Audit of the Agricultural Land Commission
- Information Security Management: An Audit of How Well Government is Identifying and Assessing Its Risks
- Wireless Networking Security in Government: Phase 3
- Upkeep of the Provincial Roads Network by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Managing Fraud Risks in Government
- Year-End Government Transfer Expenditures
- Wireless Networking Security in Government: Phase 2
- IT Continuity Planning in Government

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2012/13 Report 6 – Follow-up Report: updates on the implementation of recommendations from recent reports

Contact:

Office of the Auditor General 250-419-6100 www.bcauditor.com

Please contact the respective ministries and organizations for further information or comment regarding their self-assessments. As our Office has not conducted assurance work on their self-assessments, we will not be able to comment on them.