# NEWS RELEASE
*For Immediate Release*
*Jan. 30, 2014*

### Auditor General reports on IT Capital Spending, General IT Controls and Web Application Security

VICTORIA — Auditor General Russ Jones released a compendium report reviewing three different aspects of Information Technology within the Government of British Columbia.

Jones commented that, "information technology (IT) is critical to government's day-to-day functions". From delivering services such as healthcare and education to processing billions of dollars in transactions, IT systems handle sensitive information that impacts the daily lives of British Columbians.

The first report, *An Overview of the BC Government's Capital Spending in Information Technology*, shows that government spends about $500 million on IT each year to deliver essential services to British Columbians. It also provides an overview of some particularly large IT projects such as the e-Health Initiative.

The second report, *Report on the Status of General Information Technology Controls in the Government of British Columbia*, provides a self-assessment of the health of general IT controls across government entities. Finally, the *Web Application Security Audit* assesses the security of government's web applications and if they are protected and managed effectively to minimize security threats.

"Given the importance of IT to government's operations, citizens expect government to have controls in place that ensure sensitive information is protected, transactions are processed correctly and systems are free from lengthy interruption," said Jones. "Government needs to determine the appropriate general IT controls maturity level and address gaps in web application security to achieve these outcomes."

Recommendations focus on processes that ensure the protection of public web applications.

**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 his staff (known as the Office of the Auditor General or the OAG) to conduct audits, report findings and make recommendations.

Jan. 30 – IT Compendium Report

For more information or to speak with the Auditor General, please contact:

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