



# Yukon Legislative Assembly

## Standing Committee on Public Accounts

34<sup>th</sup> Yukon Legislative Assembly

August 11, 2017

### PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE RELEASES FIRST REPORT

Whitehorse - The Standing Committee on Public Accounts of the 34<sup>th</sup> Yukon Legislative Assembly has released its first report.

The subject of the committee's first report is a report of the Office of the Auditor General of Canada entitled *Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Yukon Legislative Assembly - 2017: Government Transfers to Societies - Yukon*. This report was released on March 6, 2017 and can be accessed at [http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/yuk\\_201703\\_e\\_41989.html](http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/yuk_201703_e_41989.html).

The committee held a public hearing on the report of the Auditor General on June 28, 2017. Witnesses appeared from the Department of Community Services, the Department of Economic Development, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, the Department of Finance and the Executive Council Office. Transcripts of the public hearing are available on the Public Accounts Committee's webpage at: <http://www.legassembly.gov.yk.ca/committees/pac.html>

The committee accepts and endorses the recommendations made by the Auditor General. The committee is encouraged by the departments' responses to the Auditor General's observations and their acceptance of the report's recommendations. Based on the written responses to the recommendations, and the evidence provided by witnesses during the public hearings, it is the opinion of the committee that the departments have seriously considered the Auditor General's recommendations.

Nonetheless, the committee believes that certain issues merit further comment and has included five recommendations in its report:

**Recommendation No. 1:** THAT the departments collaborate in order to standardize systems across the public service; and THAT the departments report to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts what steps have been taken by April 1, 2018.

**Recommendation No. 2:** THAT the creation and implementation of a corporate evaluation policy be prioritized and completed by November 1, 2018.

**Recommendation No. 3:** THAT the departments consider creating separate policies for different categories of transfer payment agreements.

**Recommendation No. 4:** THAT the departments embrace risk assessments as a tool to help identify weaknesses in projects and better support societies; and THAT the departments report to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts what progress has been made by November 1, 2018.



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**Recommendation No. 5:** THAT the departments make efforts to reduce the burdens placed on societies receiving government transfers; and THAT the departments report to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts what steps have been taken by April 1, 2018.

The committee would like to thank officials from the Office of the Auditor General of Canada for their assistance. The committee would also like to thank the department officials who appeared as witnesses at the public hearing and provided additional information after the public hearing.

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