



AUDITOR GENERAL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

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OFFICE OF AGLG RELEASES PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT ON THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER'S OVERSIGHT OF ITS POLICING SERVICES

SURREY – A performance audit of the City of New Westminster's oversight of its police services and police budget between 2010 and 2013 has found that the City provided an appropriate level of oversight, Auditor General for Local Government Gordon Ruth said today.

“We found that New Westminster had robust strategic and financial planning practices, which enabled the City to make sure its police services were aligned with the City's priorities and to continuously monitor policing performance and the results of policing initiatives,” said Ruth. “The audit also found that there may be opportunities to enhance the performance metrics New Westminster currently uses.”

The audit report, released today on the AGLG website (www.aglg.ca) outlines the findings of a detailed examination of the City's systems, practices and policies related to policing between 2010 and 2013. The audit process included review of relevant documentation and discussions with key management and staff.

“Overall, this performance audit report is positive and our recommendations to the City of New Westminster are largely enhancements to existing practices and processes. I'm pleased with the City's positive response to the audit and its commitment to act on our recommendations,” said Ruth.

This is the AGLG's fourth audit report on the topic of Local Government Performance in Managing Policing Agreements and Police Budget Oversight. One additional report on this topic will be released in the coming months.

In addition to releasing the audit report, the AGLG recently released an AGLG Perspectives Series booklet on Policing Services Performance Assessment. The booklet provides local governments with suggestions on a policing performance assessment framework to assist them in strengthening their oversight and accountability of policing services.

The booklet is in addition to two other AGLG Perspectives Series booklets released in 2014 and 2015 on the topics of capital procurement and asset management.

The release of the New Westminster audit report completes the audit process for the City. Prior to being finalized, the report was reviewed by the Audit Council, which has the statutory authority to provide comments to assist the AGLG in completing each performance audit report.

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