



## AUDITOR GENERAL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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# BACKGROUND

January 12, 2016

### **CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT**

The Auditor General for Local Government's (AGLG) performance audit report on the topic "Local Government Performance in Managing Police Agreements and Police Budget Oversight" completes the performance audit of the City of New Westminster undertaken by the office of the AGLG.

The report, released today, looked at the City of New Westminster's oversight of its police services and police budget between 2010 and 2013.

The auditors examined the City's use of provisions in the *Police Act* and guidance contained in the *BC Police Board Handbook*.

To carry out the audit, AGLG auditors undertook data analysis, interviews and a review of the City's systems, practices, procedures and documentation. The AGLG assessed the City of New Westminster's management practices related to policing, including its monitoring of budgets and establishment of cost containment objectives all carried out while respecting the independence of policing operations.

The AGLG performance audits are independent assessments of local government operations and initiatives, carried out in accordance with professional standards.

Each AGLG audit report is reviewed throughout its development by an outside technical advisor. The report is also subjected to review by an external engagement quality control reviewer.

As outlined in the *Auditor General for Local Government Act*, the Audit Council reviews and may provide comments for the AGLG's consideration on each AGLG performance audit report.

This is the fourth report the office of the AGLG has released on this topic. The reports released previously on policing oversight involved the City of Surrey, City of Merritt and City of Port Alberni.

The AGLG will release one additional performance audit report on policing in the coming months, covering the City of Williams Lake.

Additional reports will also be released on operational procurement and capital procurement and asset management.

The AGLG will announce expected publication dates for each performance audit report once the proposed final audit report has been shared with the local government.

An AGLG Perspectives Series booklet on Policing Services Performance Assessment has also been recently released. Aimed at all municipalities in BC, it provides suggestions to local governments on performance assessment to assist them in strengthening their oversight and accountability of policing services.

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