



AUDITOR GENERAL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

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AGLG RELEASES AUDIT ON CITY OF CAMPBELL RIVER

SURREY – A performance audit of the City of Campbell River’s capital procurement and asset management activities between 2010 and 2012 has found that the City had many of the elements of an asset management framework that are useful building blocks for strong capital asset management, Auditor General for Local Government (AGLG) Gordon Ruth said today.

“Generally this is a positive report,” said Mr. Ruth. “While we found areas where the City could make improvements, these would be enhancements to an already sound foundation.”

Among the areas where the AGLG noted room for improvement were Campbell River’s need for an overarching asset management policy and supporting strategy and its need for a more consistent approach to asset management practices across City departments.

Mr. Ruth said, “We also found that the City has taken a number of significant steps since the period covered by the audit to strengthen its approach to asset management, including establishing a ten year financial plan, an asset infrastructure management committee and restructuring its reserves policy. In addition, the City had sound processes and controls to protect taxpayer interests in the planning and procurement of capital.”

The report recommends that Campbell River continue to develop its asset management framework and finalize its balanced, long term financial planning approach to address the risks related to its infrastructure deficit. It also recommends updates to the City’s purchasing policy.

“I’m pleased with Campbell River’s positive response to the audit and its commitment to act on our recommendations,” said Mr. Ruth.

This is the AGLG’s fourth report on the topic Learnings from Local Government Capital Procurement Projects and Asset Management Programs. Overall, it is the 15th AGLG performance audit report released to date.

The office has also released four AGLG Perspectives booklets, which aim to provide a wide range of local governments with helpful advice and information relating to audit topics the office has explored. The four booklets are on Oversight of Capital Project Planning & Procurement, Asset Management, Policing Services Performance Assessment and Improving Local Government Procurement Processes.

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

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