



AUDITOR GENERAL FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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NEWS RELEASE

November 29, 2016

AGLG RELEASES HR AUDIT ON THE DISTRICT OF SQUAMISH

SURREY – A performance audit of the District of Squamish’s human resources practices found that the District is working to manage internal challenges in part due to growth and development pressures, Auditor General for Local Government (AGLG) Gordon Ruth said today.

“Like other communities in fast-growing areas of British Columbia, Squamish is trying to adjust to deliver services to local residents effectively,” said Mr. Ruth, “and our audit identified both strengths and areas where the District could do more to enhance its core human resource management services.”

The audit found that Squamish’s Human Resources Unit could provide additional leadership, coordination and assistance across the organization to help make sure the District responds effectively to challenges such as the recruitment of new staff and workload pressures resulting from rapid local development.

Mr. Ruth said, “We encourage the District to develop a long-term workforce plan to address many of the risks it faces to the delivery of its core services and maintaining desired service levels. As part of this, Squamish should consider the use of shared services with other local governments or contracted services.”

The report’s 13 recommendations are designed to help Squamish – which faces challenges because of its relatively small size – manage the risks created by its human resources challenges. The recommendations cover areas such as human resources planning, staff recruitment, staff training and workplace health.

This is the AGLG’s first of five reports on the topic “*Managing the Inherent Risks of Limited Human Resources within Small Local Governments.*” The other four reports will be on the City of Fernie, City of Nelson, District of Port Edward and District of Tofino. The release of this report completes the performance audit process for the District of Squamish.

This is the 19th AGLG performance audit report released to date, along with 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 Squamish performance audit report is available on the AGLG’s website at www.aglg.ca.

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