



NEWS RELEASE

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Fair, competitive procurement is in everyone's best interests

VICTORIA – Auditor General Russ Jones has released his latest report, *Receiving Value for Money from Procured Professional and Advisory Services*.

In the 40 contracts we reviewed, services were procured in a manner that was mostly competitive, fair and cost-effective. However, the ministries could do more to ensure that they receive value for money from awarded contracts.

The Government of British Columbia buys more than \$6 billion worth of goods and services annually of which \$560 million is for professional and advisory services. These services, such as technical studies, strategic advice, and project supervision are procured mostly through contracts with private sector businesses, and are critical to helping government deliver its programs. Government's approach to buying services is designed to provide the best value for money while following a fair, transparent process for the ministries and vendors.

“We found that services were procured in a manner that was mostly competitive, fair and cost-effective. Ministries received the services on time and at the negotiated price,” said Russ Jones, Auditor General of British Columbia. “The ministries in our sample, however, did put themselves at risk of not receiving value for money. For this reason, our report contains six recommendations to support government with receiving the best possible value for taxpayer money and for achieving the intended results.”

Fair, competitive procurement that achieves intended outcomes is in the best interests of government, the vendor community and taxpayers. The report emphasizes the importance of government ensuring its procurement practices and policies are fair and consistently achieve the right services at the right price and time.

About the Office of the Auditor General of BC:

The Auditor General is a non-partisan, independent Officer of the Legislature who reports directly to the Legislative Assembly. The Auditor General Act empowers the Auditor General and his staff (known as the Office of the Auditor General or the OAG) to conduct audits, report findings and make recommendations.

Receiving Value for Money from Procured Professional and Advisory Services -
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