



**NEWS RELEASE**

***For Immediate Release***

**May 31, 2016**

***More work needed in community corrections to address 2011 audit***

VICTORIA - Auditor General Carol Bellringer issued a progress report today on changes made since her Office's 2011 report, *Effectiveness of B.C. Community Corrections*.

The Community Corrections Division has made some progress, but more is needed. Bellringer's team looked at six of the original eight recommendations and concluded that the division has only implemented one recommendation since 2011.

For three of the recommendations that are not yet implemented, the division committed to determining if the changes it has made are working as intended. This will allow them to fully implement the recommendations.

The other two recommendations around evaluating the effectiveness of contracted services and community programs, as well as identifying gaps in staff capacity and caseload level may remain outstanding. The division reported there is nothing more it can do to implement these.

Bellringer notes that by not implementing these recommendations, there is a risk that the division will not have a complete understanding of the impact of its programs and resources.

"The division plays a key role in the province's criminal justice system," says Bellringer. Approximately 90% of offenders are supervised in the community. Only 10% are supervised in jail. She also states that, "community supervision can enhance rehabilitation and reduce the rate of re-offending, and it costs substantially less than a jail sentence."

This progress audit is the first in a new follow-up process adopted by the Select Standing Committee on Public Accounts (PAC). Audited organizations now submit detailed action plans to PAC, along with regular updates on their progress in implementing recommendations. The Auditor General's Office then selects a sample of action plans to audit based on risk, dollar value, impact and more.

Teleconference Date: May 31, 2016

Time: 11:00 a.m. (Pacific Time)

Dial-in Information:



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To ask a question during question and answer period: Press 01

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**About the Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia**

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 staff to conduct audits, report findings and make recommendations.

Contact us:

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