



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

July 29, 2020

Michael Pickup sworn in as British Columbia's new auditor general

VICTORIA – This week marked the start of an eight-year term for Michael Pickup, British Columbia's new Auditor General. Pickup was appointed to the post following the unanimous recommendation by a Special Committee of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia in March 2020.

"I look forward to reporting to the members of the legislative assembly on the results of the independent work we do to audit the operations of government, and in turn, positively contributing to how government services are delivered to the people of British Columbia," said Pickup.

His appointment comes on the heels of a six-year tenure as Nova Scotia's Auditor General. In an impressive career that spans more than 30 years, Pickup has also held various posts with the Office of the Auditor General of Canada.

The auditor general is appointed as the independent auditor of the Government of British Columbia, with a mandate to audit the government reporting entity in accordance with the *Auditor General Act*. The Office of the Auditor General boasts a staff of approximately 115 committed individuals, all of whom work with the highest integrity to report on the results of performance and financial audits.

Pickup added: "I'm keen to start working with my new team to deliver our mandate and am grateful for their continued agility and adaptability during my transition through the ongoing pandemic."

In a typical year, the office audits the financial statements of approximately 40 government organizations, as well as the consolidated Summary Financial Statements for the province of B.C. The office also conducts around a dozen performance audits each year, most recently tabling an audit of the [Skills Immigration Stream of the Provincial Nominee Program](#). More information on the recent work of the office can be found in its [2019/2020 Annual Report](#).

Pickup noted: "I am eager to get to know those running government's many components and building open and professional relationships."

Finally, Pickup expressed special thanks to Russ Jones who's served as acting auditor general for the past seven months. Jones will remain with the office as deputy auditor general working closely with Pickup to lead their dedicated staff and build on a strong history of success.



OFFICE OF THE
Auditor General
of British Columbia

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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.

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