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NEWS RELEASE

August 19, 2015

OFFICE OF AGLG RELEASES PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT ON DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER CAPITAL PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT

SURREY – A performance audit of the District of North Vancouver’s capital procurement and asset management activities has found the District had generally sound processes and controls in planning and procuring capital projects and was developing strong capital asset management practices, the acting Auditor General for Local Government (AGLG) Arn van Iersel said today.

“The report found that the District’s processes and controls protected the interests of taxpayers and helped it ensure value for money” said Mr. van Iersel. “The report also found that the District was well on its way to assuming a leadership role in capital asset management”.

The audit report, released today on the Office of the Auditor General for Local Government’s website (www.aglg.ca) includes reviews of the Fire Hall #3 Upgrade and the William Griffin Sports Field Artificial Turf Replacement projects. The report also includes a review of the District’s capital asset management practices.

The District introduced an asset management framework in 2011 which established a vision and mission for all capital asset management activities as well as a road map to provide direction on developing asset management plans.

By developing asset management plans for bridges, parks and roads, the District was in a position to make informed capital investment decisions on those assets in the future as well as manage asset risks, maintenance and renewal. Moreover, the District implemented a performance management system for its assets. These steps combined with an organizational approach to building asset management capacity, improving its asset condition information and an increasing emphasis on financial sustainability showed that the District was in the process of developing strong capital asset management practices.

The report recommended that the District:

- Continue to enhance its asset management plans to support the District’s overall capital planning process including identifying and prioritizing capital projects;

- Enhance its capital planning and procurement and capital asset management policies; and
- Require the preparation of a business case prior to Council approving significant projects.

In addition to releasing the audit report, the acting AGLG released an AGLG Perspectives booklet on capital asset management aimed at providing helpful advice and information to a wide range of local governments. This is in addition to an AGLG Perspectives booklet released in 2014 on capital project planning and procurement.

The release of the District of North Vancouver audit report completes the audit process for the District. While much of the work on the audit was completed prior to the appointment of Mr. van Iersel as acting AGLG, he has reviewed the report and discussed its contents with AGLG staff and is confident it has been prepared to professional standards. Prior to being finalized, the report was also reviewed by the independent Audit Council, which has the statutory authority to provide the AGLG with comments to assist with the completion of each performance audit report.

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CONTACT:

Arn van Iersel
Acting Auditor General for Local Government
Arn.vanIersel@aglg.ca
604-930-7100
www.aglg.ca