



Yukon Legislative Assembly

Standing Committee on Public Accounts

34th Yukon Legislative Assembly

February 27, 2019

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE RELEASES REPORT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Whitehorse - The Standing Committee on Public Accounts of the 34th Yukon Legislative Assembly has released its third report in which the committee highlights its concerns regarding the development of the new climate change strategy.

The subject of the committee's report is a report of the Office of the Auditor General of Canada entitled *Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the Yukon Legislative Assembly - 2017: Climate Change in Yukon*. This report was released on December 5, 2017 and can be accessed at http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/yuk_201712_e_42706.html.

The committee held a public hearing on the report of the Auditor General on February 14, 2018. Witnesses appeared from the Department of Community Services, the Department of Environment, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, and the Department of Highways and Public Works. Transcripts of the public hearing are available on the Public Accounts Committee's webpage at: <http://www.legassembly.gov.yk.ca/committees/pac.html>

The committee endorses the recommendations made by the Auditor General and the committee is encouraged by the departments' acceptance of the Auditor General's recommendations. The committee is concerned, however, by the lack of action to deal with the problems identified in the report. Based on the evidence provided by witnesses during the public hearing, the committee believes that the departments have not taken sufficient action to address the Auditor General's recommendations.

The committee has included four recommendations in its report:

Recommendation No. 1: THAT the departments should differentiate between targets and commitments.

Recommendation No. 2: THAT timelines should be assigned to all departmental commitments.

Recommendation No. 3: THAT one department be responsible for leading the new strategy on climate change and THAT the departments advise the committee which department is taking the lead.

Recommendation No. 4: THAT the framework for the new strategy on climate change be submitted to the committee by August 1, 2019.



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The committee would like to thank officials from the Office of the Auditor General of Canada for their assistance. The committee would also like to thank the department officials who appeared as witnesses at the public hearing and provided additional information after the public hearing.

For more information please contact:

Stacey Hassard, Chair
Standing Committee on Public
Accounts
Phone: (867) 393-7104

Allison Lloyd,
Clerk to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Phone: (867) 667-5498

Paolo Gallina, Vice-Chair
Standing Committee on Public
Accounts
Phone: (867) 393-7470