

# OVERSIGHT

## Supporting Public Accounts Committees and Other Oversight Bodies

### KEY PERFORMANCE CHECKLIST – 2014-15

#### Targets 2014-15

- Assess the capacity development needs of Canada's PACs based on the results of the August 2013 PAC survey, advice from the CCAF Oversight Advisory Group, and interviews with legislative auditors, PAC staff and members.
- Update the publication *Attributes of an Effective Public Accounts Committee* based on the 2013 survey results.
- Subject to demand/needs, deliver up to 6 orientation and/or topic specific workshops in Canadian jurisdictions, and conduct follow-up to assess impact.
- Support planning, and deliver and facilitate sessions at, the CCPAC-CCOLA annual conference in St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador in August 2014.
- Offer support to host jurisdiction (Manitoba) for August 2015 CCPAC-CCOLA annual conference.

#### Results 2014-15

- Deferred to 2015-16 – to be integrated into larger training needs assessment and PAC workshop review.
- In process – Attributes revised in 2014-15 and will be published in 2015-16.
- 1 workshop delivered:
  - Québec – Orientation (Sept. 2014).
- Conference successfully planned and delivered, including CCAF facilitation of four sessions, including:
  - Jurisdictional Updates
  - Issuing PAC Recommendations
  - Demystifying the Public Accounts
  - Interactive Voting Session on PAC Effectiveness & PAC/Legislative Auditor Collaboration
- Provided recommendations and support to host jurisdiction in development of agenda and planning for CCPAC event.

#### Key Results 2011-15



### Resources for PAC Members

#### *The Attributes of an Effective Public Accounts Committee*

In 2010, CCAF published *The Attributes of an Effective Public Accounts Committee*, which identifies twelve attributes for PACs to focus on to enhance their effectiveness. This publication has been included in CCAF's 'boxed-set' of resources for PAC members, which also includes:

- A Guide to Strengthening Public Accounts Committees*
- Statement of Mandate and Powers & Operating Principles and Practices*
- Preparation for Hearings and Frequently Asked Questions*
- Guide for Witnesses*
- Guidance on Reporting and Follow-up*



#### *Sharing International Practices – A Profile of Legislative Oversight Committees In the United Kingdom and Scotland*

This publication looks at legislative oversight practices in these two jurisdictions and profiles them against CCAF's *Attributes of an Effective Public Accounts Committee*. The practices cited in this profile were identified through extensive interviews conducted with elected and non-elected officials in the UK and Scotland, as well as through additional research conducted by CCAF.

These publications, available on the CCAF Website, form the basis of our orientations and workshops for members of PAC.



SG #2 - TOTAL EXPENSES	YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2015	YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2014
OVERSIGHT PROGRAMS & SERVICES	\$165,123	\$172,949

### CCAF Supports Planning and Delivery of 2014 CCPAC Conference and CCPAC-CCOLA Joint Conference



Every year the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees (CCPAC) holds its annual conference, coinciding with a Joint Conference of CCPAC and the Canadian Council of Legislative Auditors (CCOLA). The 2014 conference, held in St. John's Newfoundland & Labrador from August 10-12, was an opportunity for elected officials, legislative auditors, and committee staff to share experiences and discuss issues of mutual interest.

CCAF plays a key facilitation role for this event, supporting the development of the agenda, as well as leading a number of sessions.

### CCAF Workshops – Building Capacity of Public Accounts Committees in Canada

CCAF offers a tailored approach to help public accounts committees (PACs) build their capacity and enhance their effectiveness. Our workshops are designed to meet the individual needs of each PAC and are delivered in coordination with each jurisdiction's legislative auditor, as well as legislative support staff. We currently have five workshops available:

- General Orientation to PAC
- Effective Questioning of Committee Witnesses
- Performance & Impact
- Taking Corrective Action: Recommendations and Follow-up
- Stakeholder Relations

