

The Regional Municipality of York

Audit Committee

June 10, 2020

Report of the Acting Director, Audit Services

Audit Services Branch Report

1. Recommendation

Council receive this report for information.

2. Summary

This report provides an update on the activities of the Audit Services Branch since the last Audit Committee meeting.

3. Background

On October 11, 2000 the Audit Committee approved the development of the Audit Services function through the report of the Chief Administrative Officer. The Audit Committee Charter indicates the Audit Committee is to meet at least twice a year.

4. Analysis

Audit Plan Execution

The Audit Services Branch has been actively executing the approved 2019-2022 Four Year Audit Plan and other consulting engagements. A summary of the activities since the last Audit Committee meeting is outlined in Attachment 1.

At the time of our follow up for outstanding audit recommendations for audit reports issued prior to March 31, 2020, the Region had already declared a state of emergency on March 23, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through discussion with the CAO, it was agreed that management would be given the option to defer providing an update to the status of their outstanding recommendation(s) at this time. This was due to the restricted resources available in the office and staff redeployments.

Audit Services continues to work with management in minimizing disruption to management's objectives in providing essential services to the citizens of York Region. Emerging risk areas are being evaluated and highlighted to management as necessary. Assistance is being provided to management as requested. Audit Services has made three members of its branch redeployable as per the Business Continuity Plan.

A follow up of outstanding audit recommendations for audit reports issued prior to March 31, 2020 indicates that for the responses received, management remains cognizant and active in implementing Audit Services recommendations.

Audit Reports Issued

The Audit Reports issued since the last Audit Committee meeting are:

- Environmental Services – Forestry Contract Management Audit (Attachment 2)
- Community & Health Services – Paramedic Services – Fleet Management Audit (Attachment 3)
- June 2020 Outstanding Audit Recommendations Follow Up Report (Attachment 4)

Audit Services Branch supports Vision 2051

The Audit Services Branch, through both audit and consulting engagements, assists the Region in achieving operational excellence and fiscal responsibility, which are two of the action areas in Vision 2051 under Open & Responsive Governance. The audit and consulting assignments assist management in ensuring processes are efficient, effective and economical.

5. Financial

Audit Services Branch will manage its workload within the Audit Services budget.

6. Local Impact

The Audit Services Branch provides audit services to seven of the local municipalities through an Audit Services Memorandum of Understanding, on a cost recovery basis.

7. Conclusion

Audit Services continues to work with Region management at all levels to provide them with an independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve the Region's operations. Audit Services does this by bringing a systematic and disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control,

and governance processes through guidance provided by the *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing*.

For more information on this report, please contact Antonio Bianchi, Senior Internal Auditor, Audit Services Branch at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 71218. Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Recommended by:

for **Michelle Morris**
Director, Audit Services

June 3, 2020
Attachments (4)
eDocs # 10801920