District of North Cowichan

Audit Planning Report for the year ended December 31, 2022

KPMG LLP

Prepared for the Council meeting on January 18, 2023

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Click on any item in the table of contents to navigate to that section.

Audit Quality: How do we deliver audit quality?

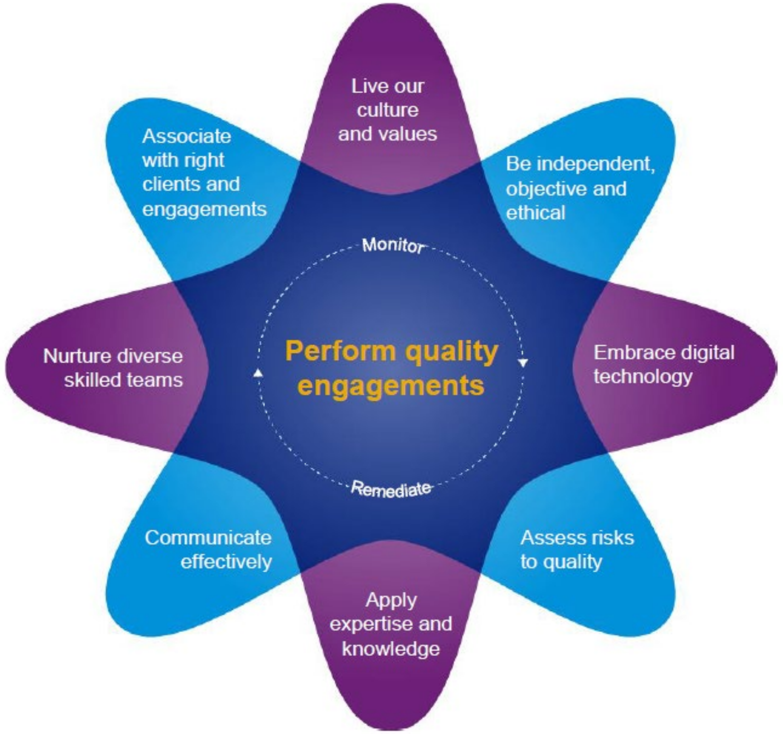
Quality essentially means doing the right thing and remains our highest priority. Our **Global Quality Framework** outlines how we deliver quality and how every partner and staff member contribute to its delivery.

'Perform quality engagements' sits at the core along with our commitment to continually monitor and remediate to fulfil on our quality drivers.

Our **quality value drivers** are the cornerstones to our approach underpinned by the **supporting drivers** and give clear direction to encourage the right behaviours in delivering audit quality.

We define '**audit quality**' as being the outcome when:

- audits are **executed consistently**, in line with the requirements and intent of **applicable professional standards** within a strong **system of quality controls;** and
- all of our related activities are undertaken in an environment of the utmost level of **objectivity, independence, ethics** and **integrity.**



Doing the right thing. Always.

Highlights

Scope of the audit

Our audit of the financial statements ("financial statements") of the District of North Cowichan (the "Entity" or "DNC") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2022, will be performed in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards (CASs).

Materiality

Materiality for planning purposes is set at $1,475,000.

Audit plan updates

Risks and areas of audit focus remain the same as in prior years as discussed in this report.

Significant risks

We have not identified significant risks beyond those required by professional standards related to fraud risk due to management override of controls.

Required communications

We are committed to transparent and thorough reporting of issues to management and to Council. See Appendix: Other required communications.

Report highlights

13 Key milestones and deliverables

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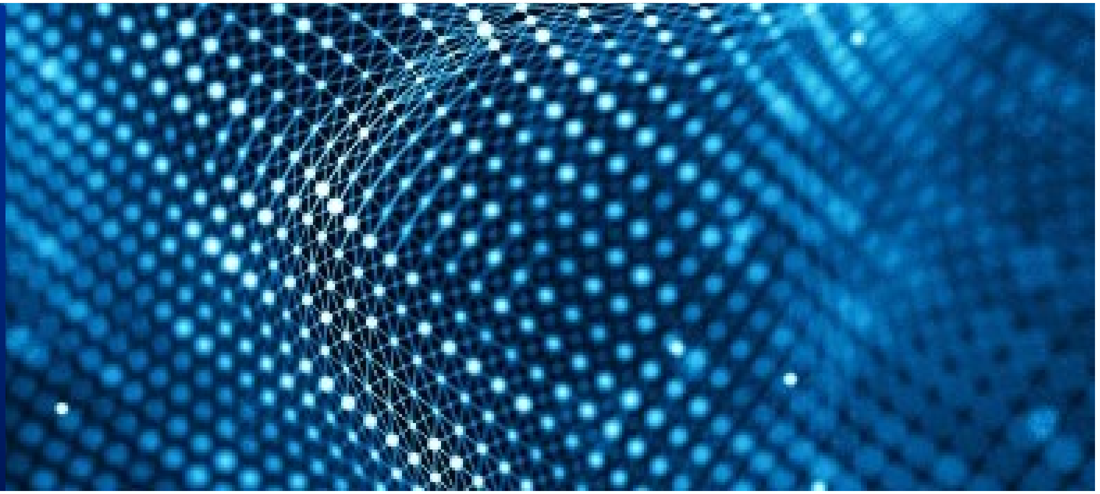
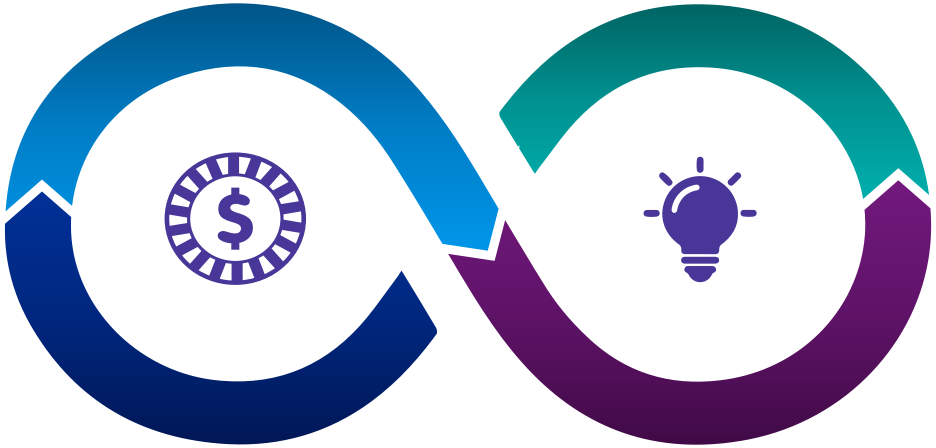


Materiality



We ***initially determine materiality*** at a level at which we consider that misstatements could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users. Determining materiality is a matter of ***professional judgement,*** considering both quantitative and qualitative factors, and is affected by our perception of the common financial information needs of users of the financial statements as a group. We do not consider the possible effect of misstatements on specific individual users, whose needs may vary widely.

We ***reassess materiality*** throughout the audit and revise materiality if we become aware of information that would have caused us to determine a different materiality level initially.

Plan and perform the audit

We ***initially determine materiality*** to provide a basis for:

- Determining the nature, timing and extent of risk assessment procedures;
- Identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement; and
- Determining the nature, timing, and extent of further audit procedures.

We design our procedures to detect misstatements at a level less than materiality in individual accounts and disclosures, to reduce to an appropriately low level the probability that the aggregate of uncorrected and undetected misstatements exceeds materiality for the financial statements as a whole.

Evaluate the effect of misstatements

We also use materiality to evaluate the effect of:

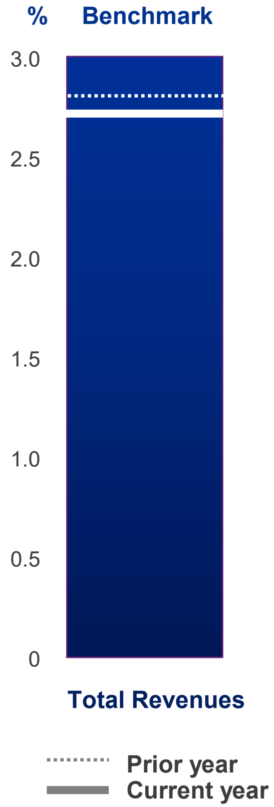
- Identified misstatements on our audit; and
- Uncorrected misstatements, if any, on the financial statements and in forming our opinion.

Materiality

Materiality

$1.5m

(2021: $1.35m)



Prior Year Total Consolidated Expenditures

$54.7 million

(2021: $48.8 million)

No change in benchmark compared to prior year

% of Benchmark

2.7%

(2021: 2.8%)

The prescribed range is between 0.5% and 3.0% of the benchmark.

Audit Misstatement Posting Threshold

$75,000

(2021: $67,500)

Threshold used to accumulate misstatements identified during the audit.

Updates to our prior year audit plan

New significant risks

No significant risks noted

We have not identified significant risks of material misstatement, except for the presumed risk of management override of controls, which is required by professional standards. This assessment is consistent with previous years. Any changes to the audit plan will be communicated to Management and to Council.

No new audit focus areas

During our preliminary risk assessment process, we did not identify any new audit focus areas. Any changes to the audit plan will be communicated to Management and to Council.

Other significant changes

Newly effective audit standards

- CAS 315 (Revised) *Identifying and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatement*

Newly effective auditing standards

New accounting standards

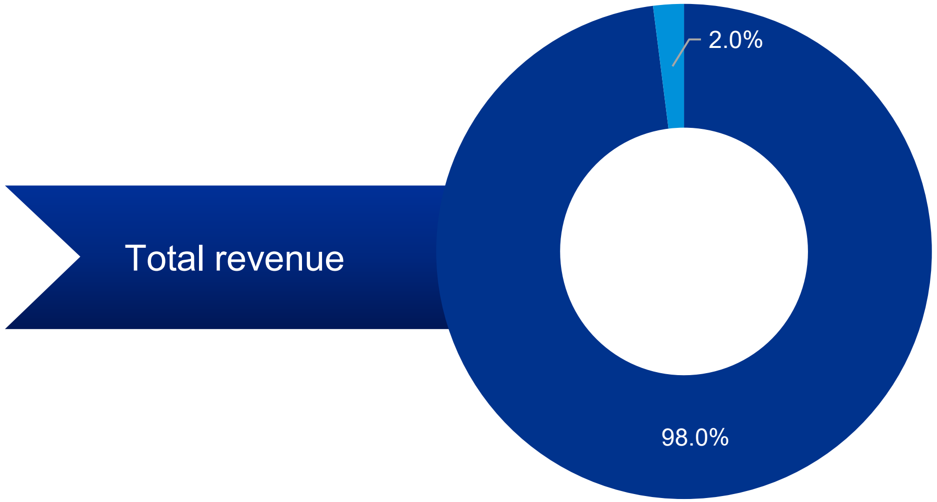
- PSAS 3280 *Asset Retirement Obligations (ARO)*
- Effective for the year ending December 31, 2023

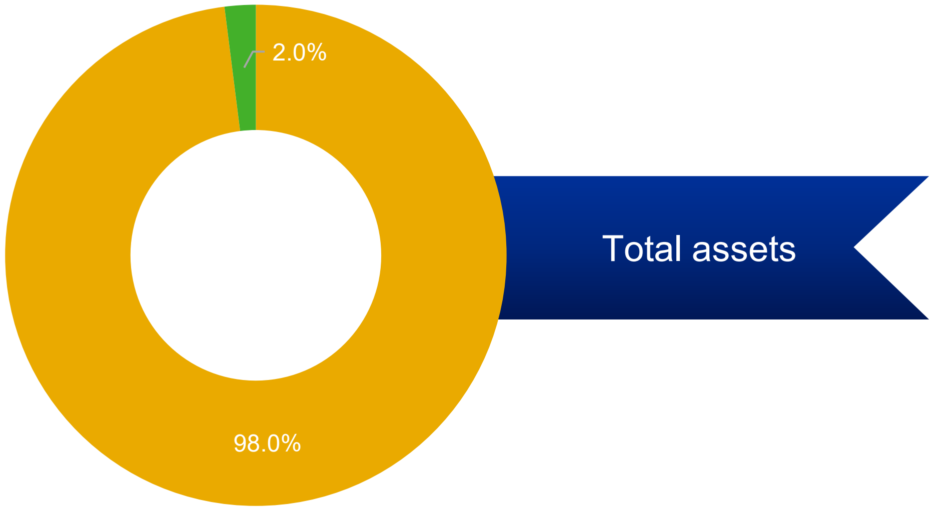
Newly effective accounting standards

Group audit - Scoping

Components

Component name	Classification	Description of involvement	Total revenue	Total assets
Corporation of the District of North Cowichan	Individually financially significant	Full-scope audit	$57.4M	$393.2M
Joint Utilities Board (50% proportionate consolidation)	Non-significant component	Full-scope audit	$2.3M	$6.1M
Total consolidated			**$58.6M**	**$396.4M**





Significant risks

Management Override of Controls

RISK OF FRAUD

Presumption of the risk of fraud resulting from management override of controls

Why is it significant?

Management is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of its ability to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. Although the level of risk of management override of controls will vary from entity to entity, the risk nevertheless is present in all entities.

Audit approach

As this presumed risk of material misstatement due to fraud is not rebuttable, our audit methodology incorporates the required procedures in professional standards to address this risk. These procedures include:

- testing of journal entries and other adjustments,
- performing a retrospective review of estimates
- evaluating the business rationale of significant unusual transactions.

Fraud inquiries of those charged with governance

Inquiries required by professional standards

Professional standards require that we obtain your view on the risk of fraud. We make similar inquiries to management as part of our planning process:

- Are you aware of, or have you identified any instances of actual, suspected, possible, or alleged non-compliance of laws and regulations or fraud, including misconduct or unethical behavior related to financial reporting or misappropriation of assets? If so, have the instances been appropriately addressed and how have they been addressed?
- What are your views about fraud risks in DNC?
- How do you exercise effective oversight of management's processes for identifying and responding to the risk of fraud in the authority and internal controls that management has established to mitigate these fraud risks?
- Has DNC entered into any significant unusual transactions?

Areas of focus

Areas	Why are we focusing here?	Audit approach
Cash and investments	There is a risk that amounts are not appropriately recorded or the required disclosures are not included in the notes to the financial statements.	✓ We will confirm balances and significant terms ✓ We will verify the existence of investments held with the investment advisor ✓ We will ensure amounts are appropriately recorded at cost or at fair value as required by the financial reporting framework
Tangible capital assets and developer contributed assets	There is a risk that assets and capital projects are not appropriately recorded or amortized in accordance with the financial reporting framework.	✓ We will perform detailed testing of asset purchases, developer contributed assets and disposals ✓ We will review consistency and appropriateness of accounting policies for capitalization ✓ We will perform substantive analytical procedures over amortization expense ✓ We will review assets for indicators of impairment ✓ We will review agreements for contractual commitments and related disclosure requirements
Revenues and receivables	There is a risk that revenues are not recorded in the correct period or in accordance with the financial reporting framework.	✓ We will obtain an understanding of the various revenue stream processes ✓ We will assess revenue recognition in accordance with the financial reporting framework ✓ We will perform substantive analytical procedures including comparisons to prior years and budgets ✓ We will perform detailed testing and recalculation of revenue balances ✓ We will obtain reconciliations of the accounts receivable subledger and the evaluation of the collectability of overdue accounts

Areas of focus (continued)

Areas	Why are we focusing here?	Audit approach
Expenses, procurement, and payables	There is a risk that non-payroll related expenses are not authorized and are inappropriately classified or reported in the wrong period.	✓ We will perform detailed testing of subsequent to year end cash payments and agree them to underlying support ✓ We will perform substantive analytical procedures including comparisons to prior years and budgets
Salaries and benefits	There is a risk that salaries and employee future benefits are recorded at the wrong amount, in the wrong period, or not in accordance with the financial reporting framework.	✓ We will obtain an understanding of the payroll processes ✓ We will perform substantive analytical procedures over payroll expense and payroll accruals based on known staff numbers and salary increases ✓ We will perform completeness and accuracy testing of the underlying payroll data used in the development of our expectations ✓ We will test the reasonability of the future employee benefits by reviewing reporting from the District's actuary and estimate of expected future payments

Key milestones and deliverables

October 2022
- Planning
- Risk Assessment

December 2022
- Interim audit work

January 2023
- Present Audit Planning Report

April 2023
- Year end audit work

May 2023
- Present Audit Findings Report and auditors’ report

May - June 2023
- Audit debrief

Appendices

1. **Other required communications**
2. **Newly effective auditing standards**
3. **Newly effective accounting standards**
4. **Changes to accounting standards**
5. **Thought leadership and insights**

Appendix 1: Other required communications

Auditors' report

A copy of our draft auditors' report setting out the conclusion of our audit will be provided at the completion of the audit.

Engagement letter

The objectives of the audit, our responsibilities in carrying out our audit, as well as management's responsibilities, are set out in the engagement letter. Unless you inform us otherwise, we understand that your acknowledge and agree to the terms of the engagement set out in the Agreement for services dated December 11, 2020.

Audit findings report

At the completion of the audit, we will provide our findings report to Council.

Management representation letter

We will obtain from management certain representations at the completion of the audit.

Independence

We are independent and have a robust and consistent system of quality control. We provide complete transparency on all services and will confirm our independence with Council.

Internal control deficiencies

On a timely basis, identified significant deficiencies will be communicated to Council in writing. Other control deficiencies identified that do not rise to the level of a significant deficiency will be communicated to Management.

Appendix 2: Newly effective auditing standards

CAS 315 (Revised) Identifying and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatement has been revised, reorganized and modernized in response to challenges and issues with the previous standard. It aims to promote consistency in application, improve scalability, reduce complexity, support a more robust risk assessment and incorporate enhanced guidance material to respond to the evolving environment, including in relation to information technology. Conforming and consequential amendments have been made to other International Standards on Auditing.

A **risk of material misstatement** exists when there is a reasonable possibility of a misstatement occurring and being material if it were to occur

Affects both preparers of financial statements and auditors

Applies to audits of financial statements for periods beginning on or after 15 December 2021

See here for more information from CPA Canada

We design and perform risk assessment procedures to obtain an understanding of the:

- entity and its environment;
- applicable financial reporting framework; and
- entity's system of internal control.

The audit evidence obtained from this understanding provides a basis for:

- identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- the design of audit procedures that are responsive to the assessed risks of material misstatement.

Appendix 2: Newly effective auditing standards (continued)

Key change

Overall, a more robust risk identification and assessment process, including:

- New requirement to take into account how, and the degree to which, 'inherent risk factors' affect the susceptibility of relevant assertions to misstatement
- New concept of significant classes of transactions, account balances and disclosures and relevant assertions to help us to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement
- New requirement to separately assess inherent risk and control risk for each risk of material misstatement
- Revised definition of significant risk for those risks which are close to the upper end of the spectrum of inherent risk

Impact on the audit team

When assessing inherent risk for identified risks of material misstatement, we consider the degree to which inherent risk factors (such as complexity, subjectivity, uncertainty, change, susceptibility to management bias) affect the susceptibility of assertions to misstatement.

We use the concept of the spectrum of inherent risk to assist us in making a judgement, based on the likelihood and magnitude of a possible misstatement, on a range from higher to lower, when assessing risks of material misstatement

The changes may affect our assessments of the risks of material misstatement and the design of our planned audit procedures to respond to identified risks of material misstatement.

If we do not plan to test the operating effectiveness of controls, the risk of material misstatement is the same as the assessment of inherent risk.

Impact on management

If the effect of this consideration is that our assessment of the risks of material misstatement is higher, then our audit approach may increase the number of controls tested and/or the extent of that testing, and/or our substantive procedures will be designed to be responsive to the higher risk.

We may perform different audit procedures and request different information compared to previous audits, as part of a more focused response to the effects identified inherent risk factors have on the assessed risks of material misstatement.

Appendix 2: Newly effective auditing standards (continued)

Key change	Impact on the audit team	Impact on management
Overall, a more robust risk identification and assessment process, including evaluating whether the audit evidence obtained from risk assessment procedures provides an appropriate basis to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement	When making this evaluation, we consider all audit evidence obtained, whether corroborative or contradictory to management assertions. If we conclude the audit evidence obtained does not provide an appropriate basis, then we perform additional risk assessment procedures until audit evidence has been obtained to provide such a basis.	In certain circumstances, we may perform additional risk assessment procedures, which may include further inquires of management, analytical procedures, inspection and/or observation.
Overall, a more robust risk identification and assessment process, including performing a 'stand back' at the end of the risk assessment process	We evaluate whether our determination that certain material classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures have no identified risks of material misstatement remains appropriate.	In certain circumstances, this evaluation may result in the identification of additional risks of material misstatement, which will require us to perform additional audit work to respond to these risks.

Appendix 2: Newly effective auditing standards (continued)

Key change	Impact on the audit team	Impact on management
Modernized to recognize the evolving environment, including in relation to IT	New requirement to understand the extent to which the business model integrates the use of IT. When obtaining an understanding of the IT environment, including IT applications and supporting IT infrastructure, it has been clarified that we also understand the IT processes and personnel involved in those processes relevant to the audit. Based on the identified controls we plan to evaluate, we are required to identify the: • IT applications and other aspects of the IT environment relevant to those controls • related risks arising from the use of IT and the entity's general IT controls that address them. Examples of risks that may arise from the use of IT include unauthorized access or program changes, inappropriate data changes, risks from the use of external or internal service providers for certain aspects of the entity's IT environment or cybersecurity risks.	We will expand our risk assessment procedures and are likely to engage more extensively with your IT and other relevant personnel when obtaining an understanding of the entity's use of IT, the IT environment and potential risks arising from IT. This might require increased involvement of IT audit professionals. Changes in the entity's use of IT and/or the IT environment may require increased audit effort to understand those changes and affect our assessment of the risks of material misstatement and audit response. Risks arising from the use of IT and our evaluation of general IT controls may affect our control risk assessments, and decisions about whether we test the operating effectiveness of controls for the purpose of placing reliance on them or obtain more audit evidence from substantive procedures. They may also affect our strategy for testing information that is produced by, or involves, the entity's IT applications.
Enhanced requirements relating to exercising professional skepticism	New requirement to design and perform risk assessment procedures in a manner that is not biased toward obtaining audit evidence that may be corroborative or toward excluding audit evidence that may be contradictory. Strengthened documentation requirements to demonstrate the exercise of professional scepticism.	We may make changes to the nature, timing and extent of our risk assessment procedures, such as our inquires of management, the activities we observe or the accounting records we inspect.

Appendix 2: Newly effective auditing standards (continued)

Key change	Impact on the audit team	Impact on management
Clarification of which controls need to be identified for the purpose of evaluating the design and implementation of a control	We will evaluate the design and implementation of controls that address risks of material misstatement at the assertion level as follows: • Controls that address a significant risk. • Controls over journal entries, including non-standard journal entries. • Other controls we consider appropriate to evaluate to enable us to identify and assess risks of material misstatement and design our audit procedures	We may identify new or different controls that we plan to evaluate the design and implementation of, and possibly test the operating effectiveness to determine if we can place reliance on them. We may also identify risks arising from IT relating to the controls we plan to evaluate, which may result in the identification of general IT controls that we also need to evaluate and possibly test whether they are operating effectively. This may require increased involvement of IT audit specialists.

Appendix 3: New accounting standards

PS 3280 Asset Retirement Obligations ("PS 3280") is a new accounting standard effective for the District's fiscal year ending December 31, 2023. This standard addresses the reporting of legal obligations associated with the retirement of certain tangible capital assets by public sector entities. This significant new accounting standard has implications that have the potential to go beyond financial reporting.

Financial reporting implications

A liability for asset retirement costs will be recorded with a corresponding increase in the cost of tangible capital assets in productive use, resulting in a decrease (increase) to the net financial assets (net debt) reported in the Statement of Financial Position.

Asset retirement obligations associated with tangible capital assets that are not recognized or no longer in productive use are expensed.

Additional non-cash expenses for the amortization of tangible capital assets and accretion will be recognized annually.

The total cost of legally required retirement activities will be recognized earlier in a tangible capital asset's life. There is no change to the total cost recorded over an asset's life.

A rigorous process needs to be established to support updates to the ARO measurement on an annual basis post-initial implementation.

Asset management implications

The asset retirement date used to determine the asset retirement liability needs to be consistent with the useful life of the related tangible capital asset. As a result, public sector entities need to assess whether the useful lives of tangible capital assets continue to be accurate and consistent with asset management plans.

Many public sector entities are using the implementation of PS 3280 as an opportunity to develop or refine their asset management plans.

Funding implications

PS 3280 does not provide guidance on how the asset retirement liability should be funded. Many public sector entities currently fund retirement costs as they are incurred at the end of the asset's life. Public sector entities will need to assess whether this practice remains appropriate or if funding will be obtained over the life of the asset.

Budget implications

In addition to budgeting for costs associated with the initial implementation of PS 3280, public sector entities will need to consider if the non-cash accretion expense and additional amortization expense will be included in the annual budget.

Public sector entities operating under balanced budget legislation or similar guidelines will need to obtain guidance from the provincial government or governance bodies to determine the impact of PS 3280 on current requirements.

Capital planning implications

PS 3280 requires legal obligations associated with the retirement of tangible capital assets to be recorded when the assets are acquired, constructed, or developed. As a result, the cost of legally required retirement activities will need to be considered at the inception of a capital project to determine the financial viability and impact of the project.

Appendix 4: Changes in accounting standards

Standard	Summary and implications
Financial instruments and foreign currency translation	• The new standards PS 3450 *Financial instruments*, PS 2601 *Foreign currency translation*, PS 1201 *Financial statement presentation* and PS 3041 *Portfolio investments* are effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2022. • Equity instruments quoted in an active market and free-standing derivatives are to be carried at fair value. All other financial instruments, including bonds, can be carried at cost or fair value depending on the public sector entity's choice and this choice must be made on initial recognition of the financial instrument and is irrevocable. • Hedge accounting is not permitted. • A new statement, the Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses, will be included in the financial statements. Unrealized gains and losses incurred on fair value accounted financial instruments will be presented in this statement. Realized gains and losses will continue to be presented in the statement of operations. • PS 3450 *Financial instruments* was amended subsequent to its initial release to include various federal government narrow-scope amendments.
Revenue	• The new standard PS 3400 *Revenue* is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023. • The new standard establishes a single framework to categorize revenue to enhance the consistency of revenue recognition and its measurement. • The standard notes that in the case of revenue arising from an exchange transaction, a public sector entity must ensure the recognition of revenue aligns with the satisfaction of related performance obligations. • The standard notes that unilateral revenue arises when no performance obligations are present, and recognition occurs when there is authority to record the revenue and an event has happened that gives the public sector entity the right to the revenue.

Appendix 4: Changes in accounting standards (continued)

Standard	Summary and implications
Purchased Intangibles	• The new Public Sector Guideline 8 *Purchased intangibles* is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023 with earlier adoption permitted. • The guideline allows public sector entities to recognize intangibles purchased through an exchange transaction. The definition of an asset, the general recognition criteria and GAAP hierarchy are used to account for purchased intangibles. • Narrow scope amendments were made to PS 1000 *Financial statement concepts* to remove the prohibition to recognize purchased intangibles and to PS 1201 *Financial statement presentation* to remove the requirement to disclose purchased intangibles not recognized. • The guideline can be applied retroactively or prospectively.
Public Private Partnerships	• The new standard PS 3160 *Public private partnerships* is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023. • The standard includes new requirements for the recognition, measurement and classification of infrastructure procured through a public private partnership. • The standard notes that recognition of infrastructure by the public sector entity would occur when it controls the purpose and use of the infrastructure, when it controls access and the price, if any, charged for use, and it controls any significant interest accumulated in the infrastructure when the public private partnership ends. • The public sector entity recognizes a liability when it needs to pay cash or non-cash consideration to the private sector partner for the infrastructure. • The infrastructure would be valued at cost, which represents fair value at the date of recognition with a liability of the same amount if one exists. Cost would be measured in reference to the public private partnership process and agreement, or by discounting the expected cash flows by a discount rate that reflects the time value of money and risks specific to the project. • The standard can be applied retroactively or prospectively.

Appendix 4: Changes in accounting standards (continued)

Standard	Summary and implications
Concepts Underlying Financial Performance	• The revised conceptual framework is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2026 with earlier adoption permitted. • The framework provides the core concepts and objectives underlying Canadian public sector accounting standards. • The ten chapter conceptual framework defines and elaborates on the characteristics of public sector entities and their financial reporting objectives. Additional information is provided about financial statement objectives, qualitative characteristics and elements. General recognition and measurement criteria, and presentation concepts are introduced.

Financial Statement Presentation	• The proposed section PS 1202 *Financial statement presentation* will replace the current section PS 1201 *Financial statement presentation*. PS 1202 *Financial statement presentation* will apply to fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2026 to coincide with the adoption of the revised conceptual framework. Early adoption will be permitted.
	• The proposed section includes the following:
	  • Relocation of the net debt indicator to its own statement called the statement of net financial assets/liabilities, with the calculation of net debt refined to ensure its original meaning is retained.
	  • Separating liabilities into financial liabilities and non-financial liabilities.
	  • Restructuring the statement of financial position to present total assets followed by total liabilities.
	  • Changes to common terminology used in the financial statements, including re-naming accumulated surplus (deficit) to net assets (liabilities).
	  • Removal of the statement of remeasurement gains (losses) with the information instead included on a new statement called the statement of changes in net assets (liabilities). This new statement would present the changes in each component of net assets (liabilities), including a new component called “accumulated other”.
	  • A new provision whereby an entity can use an amended budget in certain circumstances.
	  • Inclusion of disclosures related to risks and uncertainties that could affect the entity’s financial position.
	• The Public Sector Accounting Board is currently deliberating on feedback received on exposure drafts related to the reporting model.

Appendix 4: Changes in accounting standards (continued)

Standard	Summary and implications
Employee benefits	• The Public Sector Accounting Board has initiated a review of sections PS 3250 *Retirement benefits* and PS 3255 *Post-employment benefits, compensated absences and termination benefits*. • The intention is to use principles from International Public Sector Accounting Standard 39 *Employee benefits* as a starting point to develop the Canadian standard. • Given the complexity of issues involved and potential implications of any changes that may arise from the review of the existing guidance, the new standards will be implemented in a multi-release strategy. The first standard will provide foundational guidance. Subsequent standards will provide additional guidance on current and emerging issues. • The proposed section PS 3251 *Employee benefits* will replace the current sections PS 3250 *Retirement benefits* and PS 3255 *Post-employment benefits, compensated absences and termination benefits*. It will apply to fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2026. Early adoption will be permitted and guidance applied retroactively. • This proposed section would result in public sector entities recognizing the impact of revaluations of the net defined benefit liability (asset) immediately on the statement of financial position. Organizations would also assess the funding status of their post-employment benefit plans to determine the appropriate rate for discounting post-employment benefit obligations. • The Public Sector Accounting Board is in the process of evaluating comments received from stakeholders on the exposure draft.

Appendix 5: Thought leadership and insights

Thought leadership – Public sector

Voices on 2030: Digitalizing Government

What will the world like in 2030? How will citizen and customer expectations evolve? And what can public sector organizations be doing today to help ensure they can meet these expectations? We spoke with leaders and disruptors from around the world, across the public and private sector to explore answers to these questions.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Global Economic Outlook

2022 has arguably been one of the most challenging years the world has experienced in modern times. KPMG's Global Economic Outlook is an invaluable asset, helping to map out some of the challenges and opportunities ahead and enables corporate leaders to plan for the future and prepare for an eventual return to sustainable, long-term growth.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Why Audit Committees Should Know About Asset Retirement Obligations

Many public sector entities are currently working through the various aspects of the implementation of the Asset Retirement Obligation standard. In this publication we have provided some key insights to make this complex topic easy to understand by senior level management and those charged with governance at these organizations.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Perspectives on PS 3280 Asset Retirement Obligations

This guide provides KPMG's perspective on key implementation issues and technical interpretations of the guidance in PS 3280.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Appendix 5: Thought leadership and insights (continued)

Thought leadership – Local government

The Future of Cities

The Future of Cities report unpacks our KPMG Global research and insights on the future of local government, providing an international viewpoint. The report traces the unprecedented journey ahead. Cities worldwide are now poised at a significant inflection point, as their leaders realize that long-held 'one-size-fits-all' approaches to planning and policies will likely no longer work to shape cities for a future that is truly healthy, sustainable, efficient and prosperous for all.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

The Future of Local Government

The Future of Local Government report provides a Canadian perspective for how local governments can meet the rapidly changing needs and expectations of their stakeholders – the citizens, partners and leaders across diverse cities and communities they serve.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

The Future of Government

The Future of Government report considers all levels of government and provides additional perspective from the content in the Future of Local Government report. It discusses the opportunity for governments to consider a different vision of Canadian social systems and how they can adapt their operations to reflect the needs of a modern Canada.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Cities Portal

KPMG in Canada provides insights and resources for municipalities on a variety of topics including achieving sustainable infrastructure, the new reality for government in Canada, drinking water supply and park access.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Appendix 5: Thought leadership and insights (continued)

Thought leadership – Local government (continued)

CX Coffee Chats: Modernizing Government

As a result of the pandemic, government organizations have been faced with unprecedented demand for digital transformation in the delivery of services to Canadians. In the latest installment of the CX Coffee Chat series, industry specialists discuss the evolving needs of Canadians and the opportunities for government organizations to deliver online services citizens can count on.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

20 Predictions for the Next 20 Years

This series looks at how new technologies could evolve and how these advances will change every facet of our lives, including the industries and sectors that drive them. We asked KPMG in Canada subject matter specialists, across industries and sectors, to tell us know they think the world will change in the next two decades. Specifically for local governments, the political and regulatory predictions may be especially relevant.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Gov take 5

Gov take 5 is an always-on platform for KPMG practitioners from around the world to share insights and ideas on a timely basis and trends facing the government and public sector. The ongoing video series will cover a variety of topics including digital transformation, ESG, economic growth and more.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Principles for Digital Transformation in Cities

This report was authored by KPMG and published as part of the World Government Summit. The report highlights the realization of 'smart digitalization' and how it differs across cities.

Click here to access the World Government Summit portal.

Appendix 5: Thought leadership and insights (continued)

Thought leadership – Audit quality

Audit Quality and Transparency Report

Learn about KPMG's ongoing commitment to continuous audit quality improvement. We are investing in new innovative technologies and building strategic alliances with leading technology companies that will have a transformative impact on the auditing process and profession. How do we seek to make an impact on society through the work that we do?

Click here to access KPMG’s portal.

Audit and Assurance Insights

KPMG provides curated research and insights on audit and assurance matters for audit committees and boards.

Click here to access KPMG’s portal.

Thought leadership – Digital and technology

Going Digital, Faster in Canada

Pre-COVID-19, private and public organizations were moving towards a digital business model, travelling at varying speeds. But the pandemic forced a dramatic acceleration, both in the speed of change and the required investment to digitally transform. According to Canadian insights from KPMG’s recent global survey, organizations are investing heavily in technology to address immediate concerns, ranging from falling revenue and interrupted supply chains to building longer-term competitiveness and operational resilience.

Click here to access KPMG’s portal.

Five Questions Boards Should Ask About Digital Transformation Projects

Boards and management committees alike have increasingly expressed interest in technology investments that improve operations, enable customer relationships, and support virtual workforces. Based on our experience working with organizations across many industries, five questions have been identified to help a Board understand and ‘sponsor’ a project successfully.

Click here to access KPMG’s portal.

Appendix 5: Thought leadership and insights (continued)

Thought leadership – Boards, Audit Committees and C-Suite

2022 CEO Outlook – Canadian Insights

With a potential recession on the horizon, Canadian CEOs are preparing for some rocky roads ahead. However, they remain optimistic about the growth of their businesses and believe any turbulence will be mild and short lived.

These are among the core themes in the latest KPMG CEO Outlook survey and small and medium-sized business poll.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Audit Committee Guide – Canadian Edition

The Audit Committee Guide – Canadian Edition from our Board Leadership Centre provides timely, relevant and trusted guidance to help both new and seasoned audit committee members stay informed.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Board Leadership Centre

KPMG in Canada Board Leadership Centre engages with directors, board members and business leaders to discuss timely and relevant boardroom challenges and deliver practical thought leadership on risk and strategy, talent and technology, globalization and regulatory issues, financial reporting and more.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Momentum

Offering curated insights for management, boards and audit committees, our quarterly newsletter provides the latest thought leadership from KPMG's subject matter leaders across Canada and valuable audit resources for clients.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Accelerate Series

The role of the audit committee is expanding, and their expertise has never been more in need. In today's environment it's hard to stay fully informed of the issues, never mind manage for them. In this year's Accelerate insights series, KPMG examines some of the pressing issues organization will face in 2023 and spotlight questions audit committees should be asking.

Click here to access KPMG's portal.

Appendix 5: Thought leadership and insights (continued)

Thought leadership – Environmental, social and governance (“ESG”)

Note: Click on images to visit document link.

CoP26 made progress towards tackling climate change, but there is much more to do.

At KPMG, we’re committed to accelerating the changes required to fight climate change.

The Green City outlines the need of the cities and the buildings in them to reflect climate consciousness.

The link provides guidance on what that looks like and the first steps to meeting those objectives.

In this report, KPMG considers how leading corporations and investors can take action to capture the value that can be found in a healthy, sustainable ocean economy.

This report outlines the updates in regulatory sustainability reporting.

Its focus is comparing and contrasting proposals from the ISSB, EFRAG, and the SEC.

This highlights a five-part framework to help organizations shape the total impact of strategy and operations on performance both externally, and internally.

This article outlines the importance of Gender-lens investing and how it aims on promoting equity and sustainability.

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