



REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George

**MEDIA
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Regional District welcomes AGLG Report

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is welcoming recommendations stemming from a review of its purchasing practices. The Regional District was the fifth audit conducted by the Auditor General of Local Government (AGLG) examining operational procurement in local government in BC.

The Regional District provides 89 services to residents of its seven electoral areas and to the City of Prince George, District of Mackenzie, Village of Valemount and Village of McBride, with annual operating expenses of just over \$36 million. Operational procurement accounts for roughly 1/3 of that spending.

The audit reviewed the day to day purchasing in the Regional District between 2010 and 2012 and confirmed that the Regional District has well developed principles, bylaws, policies and procedures in place to manage operational procurement. The audit report identified a number of constructive recommendations to enhance the Regional District's efforts to ensure value for money. The AGLG recommendations include

- Improving purchasing and conflict of interest guidelines
- Updating purchasing card policies to address gaps and formalize existing good practice
- Improving reporting on operational procurement, including the development of performance review measures to allow for regular evaluation of procurement practices and increased reporting to Board.

Chair of the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Art Kaehn says the Regional District was pleased to be chosen for this particular audit theme as the Regional District spends in the order of \$12 million dollars annually on goods and services. "The audit confirmed our observations that we do a good job of ensuring that tax dollars are spent with a goal to getting the best value," says Kaehn.

"We operate in an environment of continuous improvement, so we welcomed the opportunity to have our procurement practices reviewed to identify areas where we can perform even better," says Regional District Administrator Jim Martin.

Martin says the Regional District is fully committed to understand the tools and best practices of procurement performance management, and has already developed an action plan to address the recommendations.

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