

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 1/24/2023 3:46:28 PM
Subject: Upcoming media statement: Response to OAG Audit on Building Permit Fees (Jan. 25, 2023)

Dear Mayor and Council,

As you are aware, tomorrow Auditor General Mike Macdonnell will release his first performance audit report related to building permit fees. In response, the City will release the below statement from management recognizing receipt of the report and acceptance of the recommendations contained within.

The Auditor's report and accompanying news release will be issued at around 9:30 AM tomorrow. The below statement will follow shortly thereafter. Please keep the below embargoed until you see it cross the City's channels.

Best,

Paul

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EMBARGOED

City of Vancouver
Statement
January 25, 2023

Today, the City of Vancouver's Auditor General, Mike Macdonnell, released a performance audit report on building permit fees [\[LINK TO REPORT\]](#). In response, the City's General Manager of Development, Building and Licensing, Andrea Law, released the following statement:

"I thank the Auditor General for his report and recommendations related to Building Permit Fees and accept the five recommendations put forward regarding changes and modifications to the administration of the program.

City leadership appreciated participating in this independent assessment of the current cost valuation process and procedures for determining Building Permit fees for new construction.

The audit offered an opportunity to gain insights into departmental administration of the cost valuation program and to identify inconsistencies and opportunities for improvement.

City leadership also acknowledges the complexities of the current cost valuation tool recognized in the Vancouver Building By-law which may have contributed to some of the inconsistencies identified, and will be exploring other acceptable industry tools that may offer a simplified cost valuation methodology.

I look forward to working with the Auditor General to implement the City's response and next steps as outlined."

About the Office of the Auditor General

The Office of the Auditor General was established by Vancouver City Council on November 4, 2020, with the mandate of assisting Council in holding itself and City administrators accountable for the quality of stewardship over

public funds, and for achievement of value for money in City operations. The performance audit report on building permit fees is the first to be released and can be found at <https://vancouver.ca/your-government/auditor-general.aspx>.

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