



News Release

For Immediate Release

November 30, 2016

Public Appointments and Re-Appointments to Agencies, Boards and Commissions not Timely: Auditor General

(TORONTO) In the last five years, there have been significant delays in appointing people to many of the Province's 544 agencies, boards and commissions, Auditor General Bonnie Lysyk says in her *2016 Annual Report*, released today.

“Good governance over agencies, boards and commissions requires timelier appointments and reappointments in order to continue to ensure the effective functioning of these organizations,” Lysyk said today after the Report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly.

“Delays in making appointments can result in decisions being postponed, lack of oversight of agency management and delays in decision making.”

Public appointments are usually made by the Premier and Ministers to positions at public entities, including their boards of directors. Public entities are organizations created by the government to provide, manage, or advise on public services.

The Report found that in the last five years, positions were vacant an average of 15 to 16 months before new appointments were made, and 15% of reappointments were late by more than two months.

Other findings include:

- Terms of appointees are not staggered to ensure continued effectiveness of operations at some agencies. In the next five years, there will be 208 agencies, boards or commissions with 50% or more of their appointees' terms expiring in the same year.
- As of July 2016, 275 appointees to non-board-governed agencies (or 22%) were serving longer than 10 years in the same position, contrary to the maximum term allowed by the government's Agencies and Appointments Directive.
- The results of a survey we conducted highlighted the need for more transparency in the appointment process, with 28% of the chairs, 21% of the other appointees and 54% of CEOs, rating the transparency of the appointment process as poor or very poor.

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Bonnie Lysyk
Auditor General
(416) 327-1326

To view the report, please visit www.auditor.on.ca.

 @OntarioAuditor