

Follow-Up Reports on Special Reports

Summary

Under Section 17 of the *Auditor General Act*, we perform special assignments as requested by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (Committee) or by a Minister of the Crown, but these activities shall not take precedence over the other duties of the Auditor General under the Act. It is our practice to make specific recommendations in our special reports and ask ministries, agencies of the Crown and organizations in the broader public sector to provide a written response to each recommendation, which we include when we publish these audit reports. Our follow-up on the status of these recommendations consists primarily of inquiries and discussions with the government, the relevant ministries or broader public sector entities and a review of selected supporting documentation. In a few cases, the organization's internal auditors also assisted us with this work. As this is not an audit, we cannot provide a high level of assurance that the corrective actions described have been implemented effectively. The actions taken or planned may be more fully examined and reported on in future audits. Status reports will be considered in deciding whether future audits should be conducted in these same areas.

This Chapter provides an update on the status of actions taken to address our recommendations in the following special reports.

- **Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation's (OLG) Modernization Plan**—Due to the nature of the request from the Committee for this Special Report (tabled in April 2014), this report did not contain any recommendations; however, we committed to issuing an update on the status of the Plan once all associated procurement was complete. At the time of the Special Report, OLG was expected to complete all modernization-related procurements by March 2015. As of September 30, 2016, the procurement completion date had been extended to August 2018. While we plan to issue another update at that time, we are providing a two-year status update in the interim.
- **Ornge Air Ambulance and Related Services**—Our Special Report was tabled in March 2012. We conducted a follow-up this year in response to a request as noted in the 2014 Summary Report tabled by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts on their review of Ornge Air Ambulance and its Related Services. Overall, progress has been made toward implementing 72% of our recommended actions, including 61% that have been fully implemented. More

work is needed on the remainder. The Committee's Summary Report also listed a number of concerns, including those from the Committee's prior Interim Report on Ornge. The Summary Report indicated that the Committee wanted the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and Ornge to take the necessary steps to address its concerns in a timely manner. We also followed up on the Committee's concerns as summarized in **Chapter 3, Section 3.05** of this report.

- **Winter Highway Maintenance**—Our Special Report was tabled in March 2015. In response, the Minister of Transportation requested that

our Office conduct a follow-up review of the winter maintenance program in 2015/16 in order to provide an update on the Ministry's progress. As noted in **Figure 1**, overall progress has been made toward implementing 84% of our 19 recommended actions, including full implementation of 42% or eight of them within the last year. More work is needed on 11% or two recommended actions and 5% or one recommendation will not be implemented.

More specific details on the follow-ups on these reports are presented in the sections that follow **Figure 1**.

Figure 1: Overall Status of Implementation of Recommendations from Our Special Reports

Prepared by the Office of the Auditor General of Ontario

Special Report	# of Recs	# of Actions Recommended	Status of Actions Recommended			
			Fully Implemented	In Process of Being Implemented	Little or No Progress	Will Not Be Implemented
2.01 Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation's Modernization Plan	As this report did not include recommendations, we followed up on the status of the Modernization Plan.					
2.02 Ornge Air Ambulance and Related Services	5	18	11	2	4	1
2.03 Winter Highway Maintenance	8	19	8	8	2	1
Total	13	37	19	10	6	2
%		100	51	27	16	6