

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Generally Good Progress Being Made In Implementing Audit Recommendations: Auditor General

(TORONTO) The government has acted on 75% of the recommendations made in our Office's 2014's value-for-money audits, Bonnie Lysyk says in her *2016 Annual Report*.

Improvements have been made to the licensed child-care program, the immigrant nominee program, source water protection, and Infrastructure Ontario's loan program.

As well, 78% of our recommendations were implemented from our 2012 Ornge and 2015 Winter Highway Maintenance special reports. In particular, the Ministry of Transportation has made significant progress in implementing or fully implementing most of our winter road maintenance recommendations.

This year, for the first time, follow-up reports from audits have been published in a separate volume. Volume 2 includes follow-up reports on: the 12 audits we conducted in 2014; eight reports issued by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts; and special reports on Ornge air ambulance, winter highway maintenance, and the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation's modernization plan.

"Although some progress has been made, the government still has work to do to improve programs and services vital to Ontarians," Lysyk emphasized.

Recommendations the government has not yet implemented include:

- The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care plants to fully implement its overhaul of the immunization program only by 2020, six years after being audited.
- The Ministry of Energy has made little progress to reduce the duplication of smart-meter processing costs.
- The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has not yet implemented any recommendations to palliative care, as it is still in the early stages of creating an improved system.
- The Financial Services Commission of Ontario has not developed strategies to mitigate financial risk to sponsors and members from underfunded pension plans.
- The Ministry of Community and Social Services has not made progress on wait times or inspections of residential services for people with developmental disabilities.

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For more information, please contact: Bonnie Lysyk Auditor General (416) 327-1326

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

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The Office of the Auditor General is an independent Office of the Legislative Assembly that conducts value-for-money and financial audits of the provincial government, its ministries and agencies. We also audit organizations in the broader public sector that receive provincial funding. Our vision is to deliver exceptional value and assurance to members of the Legislative Assembly, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, and all Ontarians through high-quality work that promotes accountability, value for money and effective governance in the Ontario public sector.