



## Provincial Auditor will not audit the former Communities of Tomorrow partnership

REGINA—February 15, 2024: The Office of the Provincial Auditor will not conduct an audit of the former private-public Communities of Tomorrow partnership. We do not see significant risks around public money being provided by the provincial Government as a portion of the partnership back in 2003 and not being used for the purposes intended.

The Government's decision to fund or not to fund certain entities, or implement research findings is a policy decision of the Government. Our Office's mandate does not include assessing the appropriateness of Government's policy decisions, rather we focus on the Government's administration of public policy. Further, we require an accountability relationship in order to make audit recommendations to improve the Government's processes—an accountability relationship between the Government and Communities of Tomorrow is no longer there given the partnership no longer exists (i.e., ceased operations in 2013).

Our Office has conducted numerous performance audits in the area of drinking water quality. For example, we have examined the Water Security Agency's processes to effectively regulate public waterworks, which included the City of Regina's drinking water.

Public waterworks owners are ultimately responsible for providing safe drinking water to their consumers. The Agency is responsible for regulating public waterworks owners. We found the Agency uses Health Canada's *Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality* as the basis for its standards and requirements in its drinking water permits. By May 2015, we found the Agency implemented all six recommendations from our 2013 audit ([2013 Report – Volume 1, Chapter 17](#)).

*The Provincial Auditor is an independent officer of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan. The Office promotes accountability and better management by providing Legislators and the public with an independent assessment of the government's use of public resources.*

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