

Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation

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Main points

In this chapter, we report that the Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation (SPMC) has made progress in developing a disaster recovery plan. Many government agencies rely on the continuity of SPMC's operations to deliver their services. A disaster recovery plan would help to ensure the continuity of SPMC's operations in the event of a disaster.

In addition, SPMC provides government agencies with accommodation and transportation services. To provide these services, it uses key infrastructure consisting of buildings, vehicles, and aircraft. Legislators and the public need information to know whether SPMC is properly managing its infrastructure. In this chapter, we note SPMC needs to improve the information it makes public about its infrastructure.

Introduction

The Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation (SPMC) operates under the authority of *The Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation Act*. SPMC provides accommodation and commercial services to government agencies as well as to other levels of government and various non-government agencies.

SPMC's 2003 financial statements show SPMC had revenues of \$220 million, net income of \$4.5 million, and held assets of \$444 million at March 31, 2003.

Our audit conclusions and findings

Our Office worked with Deloitte & Touche LLP, the appointed auditor for SPMC, using the framework recommended in the *Report of the Task Force on Roles, Responsibilities and Duties of Auditors* (to view a copy of this report, see our web site at <http://www.auditor.sk.ca/rrd.html>). The appointed auditor and our Office formed the following opinions.

In our opinion, for the year ended March 31, 2003:

- ◆ **SPMC's financial statements are reliable;**
- ◆ **SPMC had adequate rules and procedures to safeguard public resources except that SPMC needs a disaster recovery plan; and**
- ◆ **SPMC complied with the authorities governing its activities relating to financial reporting, safeguarding public resources, revenue raising, spending, borrowing, and investing.**

We also report another matter for the attention of the Legislative Assembly.

Disaster recovery plan needed

SPMC needs a disaster recovery plan.

SPMC relies on a number of computer systems to deliver its services to customers and to manage its financial affairs. Also, SPMC's customers rely on the continuity of SPMC's operations so that they can deliver their services. As a result, it is important that SPMC's computer systems are available to ensure the continuity of SPMCs operations.

SPMC safeguards its data in various ways, but does not have a written and tested plan to minimize the impact of a disaster on it or its customers. Such plans are typically known as disaster recovery plans. During 2002-2003, SPMC made good progress in developing a disaster recovery plan but by March 31, 2003 had not tested or approved the plan.

In our 2002 Fall Report – Volume 2, we recommended that SPMC approve a written and tested disaster recovery plan. In May 2003, the Standing Committee on Public Accounts agreed with our recommendation. We continue to recommend that SPMC approve a written and tested disaster recovery plan.

Reporting on infrastructure

In chapter 12 of this Report, we set out the results of our assessment of the adequacy of information made public by SPMC about its infrastructure in 2002 and in the first seven months of 2003. In that chapter, we recommend that SPMC provide the public with additional information:

- ◆ about the capacity of its facilities and vehicles including their current condition and potential volume of service; and
- ◆ about the extent to which the use of its key infrastructure (i.e., facilities, vehicles, and aircraft) achieved its operational and financial plans, and explain significant differences between actual and planned results.