

Chapter 13

Parks, Culture and Sport

1.0 MAIN POINTS

This chapter reports the results of the annual audits of the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport (PCS, Ministry), and its eleven agencies for the year ended March 31, 2016.

The 2015-16 financial statements for the eleven agencies are reliable. Also, PCS and its agencies complied with governing authorities and had effective rules and procedures to safeguard public resources except that PCS needs to follow its procedures to remove unneeded user access to its computer systems and data promptly.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The mandate of PCS is to support, celebrate, and build pride in Saskatchewan with a focus on quality of life and economic growth. The Ministry works with diverse groups and communities to enhance the province's cultural, artistic, recreational and social life; promote excellence in the arts, culture, heritage and sport; and support a vibrant and growing arts and cultural community. It manages and enhances Saskatchewan's provincial parks system, conserves ecosystems and cultural resources, provides recreational and interpretive opportunities for park visitors and is responsible for the Provincial Capital Commission.¹

2.1 Financial Overview

In 2015-16, PCS spent \$88.0 million (2014-15: \$139.5 million) including net capital acquisitions of \$12.8 million (2014-15: \$13.0 million). Also in 2015-16, PCS raised revenue of \$9.1 million (2014-15: \$7.9 million) from lottery licensing fees and agreements with the Federal Government. In addition, each year PCS raises revenue and incurs expenses through the Commercial Revolving Fund (CRF).²

Information about PCS' revenues and expenses appears in its *Annual Report for 2015-16*.³

Figure 1 – Major Programs and Spending

	Estimates 2015-16	Actual 2015-16
	(in millions)	
Central Management Services	\$ 11.4	\$ 11.0
Parks	32.1	31.8
Resource Stewardship and the Provincial Capital Commission	17.0	15.9

¹ Saskatchewan Ministry of Finance, *2015-16 Saskatchewan Provincial Budget: Estimates*, p. 97.

² The Commercial Revolving Fund collects and distributes funds used in the operation of Saskatchewan's provincial parks.

³ www.finance.gov.sk.ca/PlanningAndReporting/2015-16/2015-16PCSAnnualReport.pdf (14 October 2016).



	Estimates 2015-16	Actual 2015-16
Community Engagement	39.0	37.9
Total Appropriation	99.5	96.6
Capital Asset Acquisitions	(13.0)	(12.8)
Capital Asset Amortization	4.1	4.2
Total Expense	\$ 90.6	\$ 88.0

Source: Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport, *Annual Report for 2015-16*, pp. 25-26.

2.2 Parks, Culture and Sport Agencies

At March 31, 2016, PCS was responsible for the following agencies:

Commercial Revolving Fund
Creative Saskatchewan
Saskatchewan Arts Board
Saskatchewan Heritage Foundation
Community Initiatives Fund
Doukhobors of Canada C.C.U.B. Trust Fund
Provincial Archives of Saskatchewan
Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts
Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation
Saskatchewan Snowmobile Fund
Western Development Museum

3.0 AUDIT CONCLUSIONS AND SCOPE

Our Office worked with Virtus Group LLP, the appointed auditor, to carry out the audit of the Community Initiatives Fund and the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation. We followed the framework in the *Report of the Task Force on Roles, Responsibilities and Duties of Auditors*.⁴

In our opinion, for the year ended March 31, 2016:

- ▶ **PCS and eight of its agencies had effective rules and procedures to safeguard public resources except for PCS not removing unneeded user access promptly as described in this chapter**
- ▶ **PCS and its eleven agencies complied with the following authorities governing their activities related to financial reporting, safeguarding public resources, revenue raising, spending, borrowing, and investing:**

⁴ See our website at www.auditor.sk.ca.

<i>The Active Families Benefit Act</i>	<i>The Multiculturalism Act</i>
<i>The Archives and Public Records Management Act</i>	<i>The Natural Resources Act</i>
<i>The Athletics Commission Act</i>	<i>The Parks Act</i>
<i>The Arts Board Act, 1997</i>	<i>The Public Service Act, 1998</i>
<i>The Creative Saskatchewan Act</i>	<i>The Purchasing Act, 2004</i>
<i>The Culture and Recreation Act, 1993</i>	<i>The Regional Parks Act, 1979</i>
<i>The Doukhobors of Canada C.C.U.B. Trust Fund Act</i>	<i>The Saskatchewan Centre of the Arts Act, 2000</i>
<i>The Financial Administration Act, 1993</i>	<i>The Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation Act (Part IV) – Community Initiatives Fund</i>
<i>The Economic and Co-operative Development Act</i>	<i>The Snowmobile Act</i>
<i>The Executive Government Administration Act</i>	<i>The Trustee Act, 2009</i>
<i>The Heritage Property Act</i>	<i>The Wakamow Valley Authority Act</i>
<i>The Interprovincial Lotteries Act, 1984</i>	<i>The Wanuskewin Heritage Park Act</i>
<i>The Meewasin Valley Authority Act</i>	<i>The Western Development Museum Act</i>
	Orders in Council issued pursuant to the above legislation

▶ The financial statements of each of the eleven agencies are reliable

We used the control framework published by CPA Canada to make our judgments about the effectiveness of PCS and its agencies' controls. The control framework defines control as comprising elements of an organization that, taken together, support people in the achievement of an organization's objectives.

In our 2015-16 audit, we examined the effectiveness of PCS and eight agencies financial-related controls used to administer their spending, revenues, and key assets. This included examining the effectiveness of the controls used to keep reliable financial records and prepare reliable financial reports. We paid particular attention to the Ministry's financial controls over transfers, its key computer systems (e.g., camping permits), and overseeing the lottery system.

4.0 KEY FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATION

In this section, we outline key observations from our assessments and the resulting recommendations.

4.1 Timely Removal of User Access Needed

We recommended that the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport follow its established procedures and promptly remove unneeded user access to its computer systems and data. (2014 Report – Volume 2; Public Accounts Committee agreement September 17, 2015)

Status – Not Implemented

PCS has established procedures for the removal of unneeded user access to its computer systems and data (i.e., properly completing the employee termination checklist). However, staff do not consistently follow them.



In 2015-16, four out of ten individuals that we tested (2014-15: four out of ten) did not have their computer network access removed promptly (i.e., removed between 3 and 104 days after their last day of employ instead of within a day).

Also in 2015-16, we found that three individuals did not have their access to MIDAS⁵ applications removed promptly. Two of these individuals continued to have access to MIDAS HR for 13 to 15 days after their last day of employ, and the Ministry missed requesting removal of access. In addition, one individual had access to MIDAS Financials for 65 working days after their last day of employ.

Not promptly removing user access for former employees increases the risk of inappropriate access to the Ministry's systems and data.

⁵ MIDAS is the central application PCS uses to record and account for its financial activities, including its general ledger, accounts receivable, purchasing and payments, human resources and payroll records, etc. This includes both MIDAS Financials and MIDAS HR/Payroll.