

## Chapter 27

# Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation – Maintaining Facilities

### 1.0 MAIN POINTS

By January 31, 2017, the Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation (SOCO) had fully addressed the two recommendations that were outstanding from our 2012 audit. SOCO had completed and approved its individual asset management plans. In addition, it has incorporated these into an overall corporate maintenance plan and into a capital forecast. This forecast includes short- and long-term capital plans for each building and by major building components.

Having comprehensive maintenance plans will decrease the risk of unexpected costs and/or downtime for emergency maintenance.

### 2.0 INTRODUCTION

In our *2012 Report – Volume 1*, Chapter 18, we concluded that SOCO had effective processes to maintain facilities at Innovation Place in Saskatoon in a sustainable way except in three areas. We made three recommendations. In 2015, we reported that by January 2015, SOCO had made some improvements by implementing one of the three recommendations.

To conduct this review engagement, we followed the standards for assurance engagements published in the *CPA Canada Handbook – Assurance*. To evaluate SOCO's progress towards meeting our recommendations, we used the relevant criteria from the original audit. SOCO's management agreed with the criteria in the original audit. To do this follow-up, we discussed the relevant actions taken by SOCO to implement the recommendations, and reviewed related documentation (e.g., asset management plans, capital forecast).

### 3.0 STATUS OF RECOMMENDATIONS

This section sets out each recommendation including the date on which the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies agreed to the recommendation, the status of the recommendation at January 31, 2017, and SOCO's actions up to that date. We found that SOCO had implemented both recommendations outstanding from our 2012 audit.



### 3.1 Information on Facilities Compiled and Corporate Maintenance Plan Completed

We recommended that Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation document for each of its facilities, current condition, key risks, and remaining life span in the context of the facility's intended use. (2012 Report – Volume 1; Crown and Central Agencies Committee agreement September 15, 2015)

**Status** – Implemented

We recommended that Saskatchewan Opportunities Corporation expand its corporate maintenance plan to include all its maintenance objectives and priority strategies for the short and long term. (2012 Report – Volume 1; Crown and Central Agencies Committee agreement September 15, 2015)

**Status** – Implemented

In 2016, SOCO completed assessments on facility condition for each of its facilities at Innovation Place. It documented these assessments in an asset management plan for each facility. Facility condition drives maintenance planning for each facility.

Each of its asset management plans contain key information for the facility (e.g., the purpose of the facility, results of building condition assessment surveys, the facility's service history, key risks for the facility, remaining lifespan, rehabilitation or replacement activities required, the associated costs within the short and long term).

Also in 2016, SOCO had expanded its corporate maintenance plan to include all of its maintenance objectives and to prioritize strategies for the short and long term.

By January 2017, SOCO had compiled the information from the asset management plans into its Vertical Assets Capital Forecast which includes short- and long-term capital plans for each building and by major building components.

SOCO is responsible for managing 16 specialized facilities used primarily by technology and service organizations at its technology parks located in Regina and Saskatoon. Comprehensive maintenance plans and forecasts will decrease the risk of unexpected costs and/or downtime for emergency maintenance, and help make effective use of maintenance dollars.