

The background features abstract, overlapping green geometric shapes in various shades, including light lime green, medium green, and dark forest green, creating a modern, layered effect.

City of
St. John's
Audit Function
Review

“What we heard” at the public
session, June 28, 2018

Purpose

The City of St. John's has struck a 3 person Panel to:

Advise if the current governance process for its Internal Audit Function best serves the goals of accountability and transparency to members of the public

Members of the Panel are:

Mr. Terry Paddon, CPA, CA - Chair
Ms. Lynn Zurel, CPA, CA
Mr. Simon Lono

Public Engagement process

- ▶ A public session was held on June 28 at City Hall
- ▶ Four residents, Councillor Burton and the three-member panel were in attendance along with city staff
- ▶ Council Chair, Terry Paddon provided the group with an overview of the panel's mandate, work to date and options being considered.
- ▶ The group was invited to provide their input into the options or present other options or considerations.
- ▶ The engagestjohns.ca page is open and people can provide input there as well.

Summary of discussion at public session

- There is a general perception that, while the City seems to be well run, there is a lack of accountability at the City of St. John's
- The governance structure related to the Internal Audit function does not appear to be working as it should
- The Audit Committee should be more active
- Changes could be made to the current governance structure related to the Internal Audit function to provide a greater level of independence
- The current staffing level of 2 auditors within the existing Internal Audit function at the City of St. John's is insufficient
- The City must ensure there is better communication of what is happening (in terms of the audit function) and the results of the work of the audit team; the work of the Internal Audit department must be visible
- The Internal Audit department and the Audit Committee should ensure that Value for Money is front of mind when planning and executing audits.
- The results of Value for Money audits should link to the City's Strategic Plan