



# MEMBER RELEASE

February 8, 2012

**TO:** Mayor and Council | Chair and Board | Senior Staff  
**FROM:** Union of BC Municipalities Secretariat  
**RE:** **Auditor General for Local Government – Audit Council appointments**

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The Province has advised UBCM that it has begun a process towards appointment of members to the audit council under the proposed *Auditor General for Local Government Act*. The provincial government is actively seeking candidates for the appointments because it anticipates that the proposed act, which is currently at First Reading in the Legislative Assembly, will come into force during the spring 2012 legislative session.

The audit council has a number of responsibilities under the proposed act, primarily relating to accountability of the auditor general. For example, the audit council reviews and monitors the performance of the auditor general, and comments on the annual service plan. In addition, the audit council makes recommendations for appointment, suspension and removal of the auditor general. In order to preserve the independence of the auditor general, the audit council is not involved in decisions related to specific local government performance audits.

Cabinet will make appointments to the audit council on the recommendation of the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. The audit council consists of at least 5 members, with appointment terms of up to three years. The proposed act requires that appointees be qualified in one or more of: accounting; auditing; local, regional or provincial governance; or a subject area set out in the regulations. In addition to these, the Province has established preferred competencies, including competencies in relation to managerial consulting, human resources, legal expertise and previous leadership experience.

The appointment process will be managed through the Province's Board Resourcing and Development Office (BRDO), which is responsible for ensuring such things as merit based appointments, and open, transparent appointment processes for Provincial appointments to the boards of over 300 public agencies. BRDO's guidelines for appointments to governing boards and other public sector organizations state that, barring exceptional circumstances or legislative provisions to the contrary, elected officials and public servants are not normally appointed. Given this, audit council appointments may be better suited to former local government elected officials and staff rather than those currently serving their communities.

If you are interested in being considered, please apply directly to the BRDO, through their website at <http://www.fin.gov.bc.ca/brdo>. The notice of position, including a link to an online application and further information about the audit council's roles and responsibilities and appointee competencies, is available at:

<http://www.brainhunter.com/frontoffice/seekerViewJobDetailAction.do?sitecode=pl526&jobid=1641251&page=search>

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