



Follow-up on Recommendations from Prior Years' Performance Audit Chapters

Report of the Auditor General – Volume II, Chapter 6 - 2020

Why Is This Important?

- When recommendations are not implemented, risks may remain and could worsen over time.
- Our follow up work promotes transparency by informing the Legislative Assembly of the success departments and Crown Corporations have had implementing AGNB recommendations.
- This chapter is a tool for the Public Accounts Committee and the public to hold government departments and Crown agencies accountable.

Overall Conclusions

- Entities self-report they have implemented 81% of our recommendations from performance audits in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018. We selected two chapters from 2015 (Silviculture, Private Wood Supply) and one chapter from 2016 (Agricultural Fair Associations) to review in detail.

What We Found

Poor Implementation Rate of AGNB Recommendations Reported for 2018 Chapters

- Only 63% (57 of 90) of 2018 self-reported responses indicate recommendations have been implemented.
- Self-reported rates for 2017, 2016 and 2015 are more favourable, with departments reporting 91%, 76% and 81% implemented (respectively).

2016 Chapter - Agricultural Fair Associations Recommendations

- 88% of recommendations were implemented from the 2016 Chapter.
- Service New Brunswick has not implemented an AGNB recommendation to develop and implement a standardized process and procedures to evaluate eligibility of tax class 50 exemption requests (property tax exemption under section 4 and 7 of the *Assessment Act*).

2015 Chapter - Silviculture Recommendations

- 67% of recommendations were implemented from the 2015 Chapter.
- The Department has not implemented AGNB recommendations to:
 - reduce clear-cut harvest area on Crown forest;
 - calculate and record the value of the Crown timber asset in the annual report; or
 - adopt a more equitable sharing arrangement for silviculture work.

2015 Chapter - Private Wood Supply Recommendations

- 74% of recommendations were implemented from the 2015 Chapter.
- The Department has not yet implemented AGNB recommendations to fulfil their responsibilities under the *Crown Lands and Forests Act* related to the principles of proportionate supply and sustained yield.