



Alberta Seniors and Housing Affordable Housing Follow-up



Executive Summary

November 2018

Who

Alberta Seniors and Housing

What

Follow-up Performance Audit

When

We conducted our field work from April to July 2018. We completed our audit on August 10, 2018.

Learn more

www.alberta.ca/ministry-seniors-housing.aspx

Why we did this audit

In 2007, the Alberta Affordable Housing Task Force recommended that the Government of Alberta enhance capital resources for affordable housing supply. In September 2011, the department reported that it had met its objective of approving funding for the development of 11,000 affordable housing units. In July 2013¹, we made recommendations to improve grant monitoring processes and evaluation systems.

The objective of our follow-up audit was to determine whether the department has implemented our recommendations to improve its grant monitoring processes and evaluation systems.

What we concluded

We concluded that as of July 2018, the Department of Seniors and Housing had implemented our recommendation to improve its systems and processes for monitoring and evaluating its affordable housing grants programs.

Why this is important to Albertans

The department has invested \$1.1 billion to increase Alberta's supply of affordable housing. Albertans need to have confidence that this investment is supporting the development of housing options that serve the needs of low-income Albertans. For Albertans to receive value for money from these programs, those who qualify to live in these units should benefit from increased availability and lower rates for affordable housing.

¹ Report of the Auditor General of Alberta—July 2013, no. 12, page 90, and no.13, page 92.

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What we examined

To perform this follow-up audit, we:

- tested controls and the accuracy and completeness of information within the grant information system
- examined reports from the affordable housing grant information system
- examined the results of field compliance audits completed in the 2016–2017 cycle
- reviewed the program evaluation report and program reporting

What we found

Improved monitoring processes

Our follow-up audit findings show the department has implemented the recommendation by:

- developing an information system to track its grants and monitor compliance of the housing grant recipients
- utilizing a risk-based approach to conduct monitoring activities
- performing field compliance reviews and following up on identified exceptions

Improved evaluation processes

Our follow-up audit findings show the department has implemented our recommendation by:

- developing a grant information system that produces reports management uses to evaluate affordable housing grant programs
- commissioning an external evaluation of the grant program and incorporating the findings into other housing programs
- developing a process to continuously improve the compliance process

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oag.ab.ca

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