
SUMMARY

December 2012

REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF DRINKING WATER RESOURCES

As part of the 2008/09 audit plan, Internal Audit & Advisory Services (IAAS) was requested by Cabinet to “conduct a review of the province’s water resources plan; review progress and accountabilities over planning for the province’s water resources, including a review of the processes and accountabilities over the Drinking Water Protection

The review assessed the effectiveness of performance management and accountability processes in place that support the province’s drinking water resources, and progress achieved in implementing the actions outlined in “The Action Plan for Safe Drinking Water in British Columbia” (Action Plan), released in June 2002, and the subsequent progress report.

In February 2007, the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) released a report entitled “Progress on the Action Plan for Safe Drinking Water in British Columbia”. The report covered progress from inception of the Drinking Water Protection Act and regulation in May 2003 to March 2005 and included 18 recommendations intended to address safe drinking water for all British Columbians.

In its review the IAAS found there had been limited progress achieved in addressing the 18 recommendations contained in the PHO’s progress report. Subsequent to the completion of the IAAS review, the Ministry of Health has now addressed all the recommendations made within the PHO report, with the exception of implementing a new information (IT) system due to resource constraints.

In May 2012, the PHO released the 2011 Progress Report on the Action Plan for Safe Drinking Water in British Columbia. The report covers progress during the 2007/08 and 2008/09 fiscal years and includes recommendations for additional improvement in the province's drinking water systems.

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