



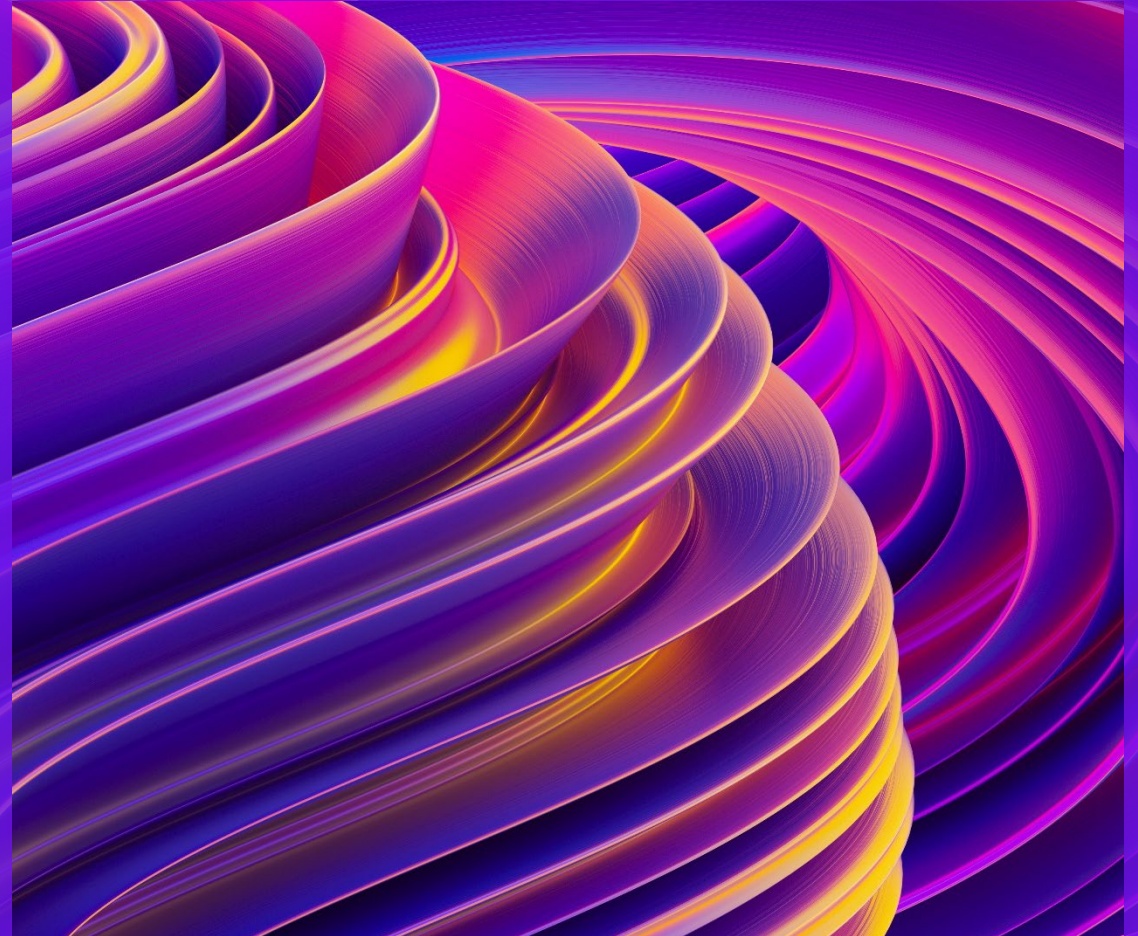
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

Audit Findings Report
for the year ended
December 31, 2023



Prepared for the meeting on April 24, 2024

kpmg.ca/audit



KPMG contacts

Key contacts in connection with this engagement

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Digital use information

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The purpose of this report is to assist you, as a member of the Board of Directors (the “Board”), in your review of the results of our audit of the financial statements as at and for the period ended December 31, 2023. This report is intended solely for the information and use of Management and the Board of Directors and should not be used for any other purpose or any other party. KPMG shall have no responsibility or liability for loss or damages or claims, if any, to or by any third party as this report has not been prepared for, and is not intended for, and should not be used by, any third party or for any other purpose.



Audit highlights



No matters to report



Matters to report – see link for details

Scope

Our audit of the financial statements (“financial statements”) of Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (“the Entity” or “ACRD”) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, was performed in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards.

Status

We have completed the audit of the financial statements (“financial statements”), with the exception of certain remaining outstanding procedures, which are highlighted on the ‘Status’ slide of this report.



Risks assessment and results



Significant risks



No significant risks to report beyond those required by professional standards



Other risks of material misstatement



Other procedures



Going concern matters

Uncorrected misstatements



Uncorrected misstatements

There are no matters to report

Corrected misstatements



Corrected misstatements

The management representation letter includes all misstatements identified as a result of the audit, communicated to management and subsequently corrected in the financial statements. We recommended the revision to the estimate of asset retirement obligations during the year of \$2.6 million be recognized as an adjustment to the asset rather than income.



Control observations



Control observations



We did not identify any control deficiencies that we determined to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting. We have provided an update on prior year control observations.

Policies and practices



Accounting policies and practices



Other financial reporting matters



Status

As of the date of this report, we have completed the audit of the financial statements, with the exception of certain remaining procedures, which include amongst others:

- Completing our discussions with the Board of Directors
- Obtaining evidence of the Board of Directors' acceptance of the financial statements
- Obtaining a signed management representation letter
- Completing subsequent event review procedures up to the date of the Board of Directors' acceptance of the financial statements.

We will update the Board, and not solely the Chair, on significant matters, if any, arising from the completion of the audit, including the completion of the above procedures.

A draft of our auditor's report is included in the draft financial statements.





Significant risks and results

We highlight our significant findings in respect of **significant risks** as identified in our discussion with you in the Audit Plan, as well as any additional significant risks identified.



Fraud risk from management override of controls

This is a presumed fraud risk. Management is in a unique position to perpetrate fraud because of its ability to manipulate accounting records and prepare fraudulent financial statements by overriding controls that otherwise appear to be operating effectively. Although the level of risk of management override of controls will vary from entity to entity, the risk nevertheless is present in all entities. We have not identified any specific additional risks of management override relating to this audit.

Our response

Our procedures included:

- testing of journal entries and other adjustments,
- performing a retrospective review of estimates,
- evaluating the business rationale of significant unusual transactions.

Significant findings

- There were no issues noted in our testing.





Other risks of material misstatement and results



Asset Retirement Obligation

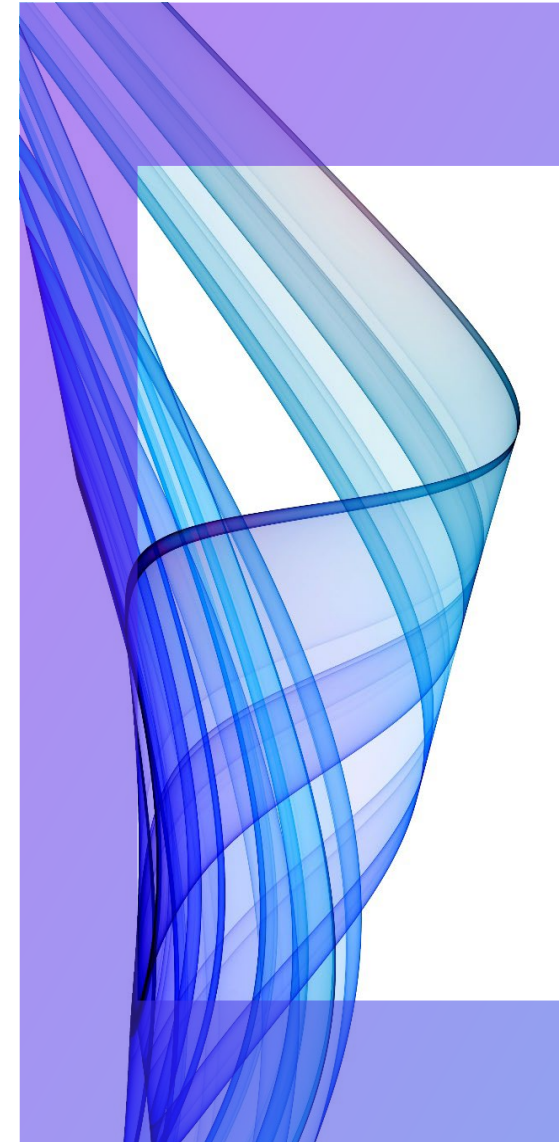
The Entity adopted PS 3280 *Asset Retirement Obligations* (“ARO”) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. This accounting standard addresses the reporting of legal obligations associated with the retirement of certain tangible capital assets. Under the new standard, an entity is required to review its tangible capital assets and identify any legal obligations associated with the retirement of those tangible capital assets (ex: removal of asbestos), estimate the future remediation cost, and record that future obligation as a corresponding depreciable asset and liability in the statement of financial position today.

Management implemented the new standard on a modified retroactive basis which resulted in a liability of \$20.4 million being recognized on adoption at January 1, 2023. The liability relates to asbestos containing materials in a number of buildings (\$1.9 million) as well as the landfill closure and post-closure liability (\$18.5 million). The liability related to the landfill increased by \$8.6 million from previous years due to the new standard requiring the full liability for all active cells be recognized rather than being based on capacity of the landfill consumed. The change in value between the adoption date and year end for all asset retirement obligations was a reduction of \$1.9 million, with a liability of \$18.6 million at December 31, 2023.

Our response

Landfills

- We obtained an updated understanding of management’s process for implementing PS 3280 as it relates to the Alberni Valley and West Coast Landfills.
- We verified the liability recognized includes an estimate of the total cost related to all active cells in use.
- We assessed the inputs used by management to determine the closure and post-closure liabilities and verified the accuracy of liabilities recognized.





Other risks of material misstatement and results



Asset Retirement Obligation (continued)

Our response

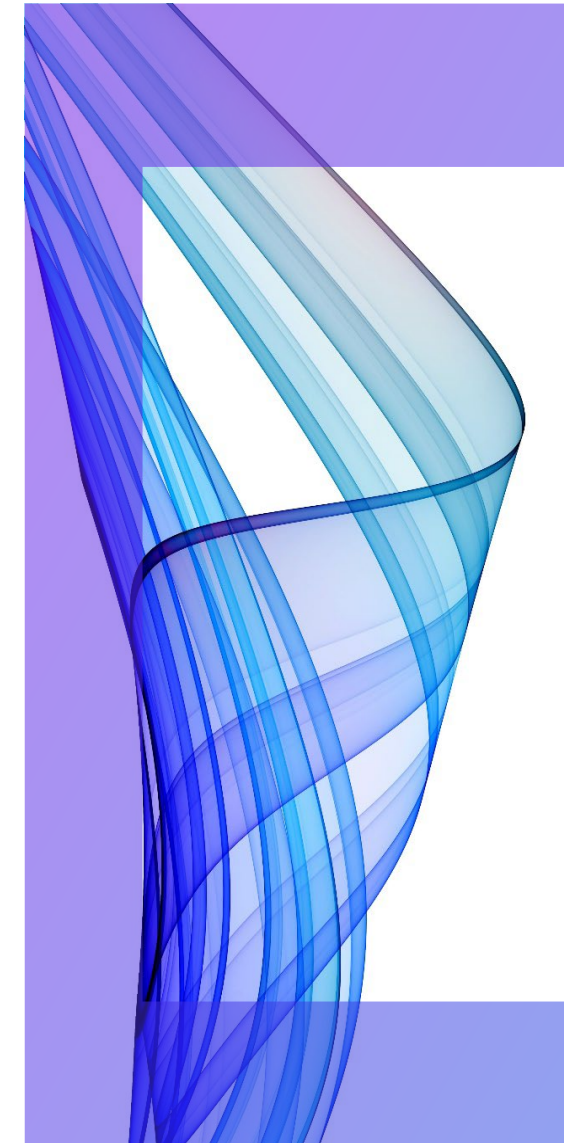
Other Hazardous Materials

- We obtained an understanding of management's process for adopting the standard through discussion with management and review of their scoping and measurement analysis.
- We tested completeness of in-scope identified assets, through discussions with internal experts, review of external hazardous materials reports (where applicable), and review of other external source documents to validate whether any AROs existed at the financial reporting date.
- We tested the accuracy of the calculations made by management to arrive at the estimated remediation cost, including sampling a number of buildings and validating the appropriateness of inputs and assumptions that feed into the calculations.
- We reviewed the related financial statement disclosures and accounting policies.

Findings

We identified a difference relating to the presentation of the change in estimate of \$1,730,529, which was initially recorded as a gain in the statement of operations. In accordance with PS 3280 *Asset Retirement Obligations*, the revision to the estimate should be recorded as a reduction in the ARO asset until the asset value is \$nil.

In addition, because the prior year comparative balances were restated, our auditor's report includes emphasis of matter and other matter paragraphs noting the change in the comparative balances and our audit of the restatement.





Other risks of material misstatement and results



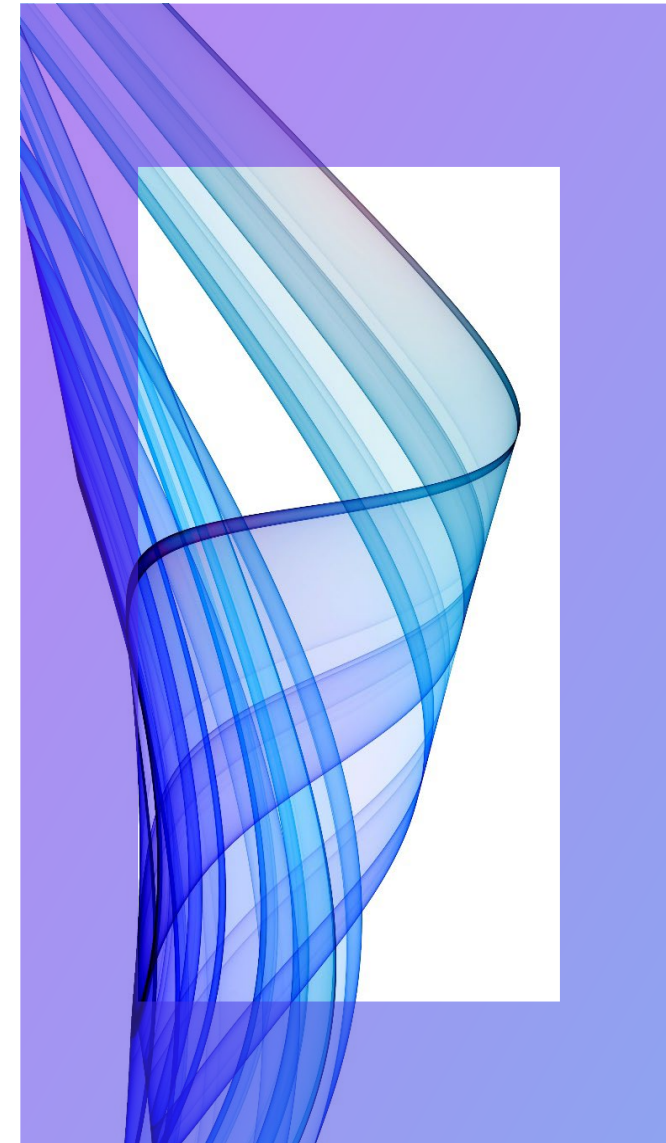
Government transfers and deferred revenue

Our response

- We updated our understanding of the process activities and controls over government transfers and deferred revenue.
- We selected a sample of government transfers received and government transfers recognized as revenue and obtained supporting documentation to validate the appropriateness of accounting treatment either as revenue or as deferred revenue.
- We assessed revenue recognition in accordance with the requirements of public sector accounting standards including government transfers.
- We tested the receipt of the Growing Communities Fund contribution of \$1.8 million as revenue and assessed the appropriateness of the accounting treatment in accordance with public sector accounting standards, including government transfers.

Findings

There were no issues noted in our testing.





Other risks of material misstatement and results



Tangible Capital Assets

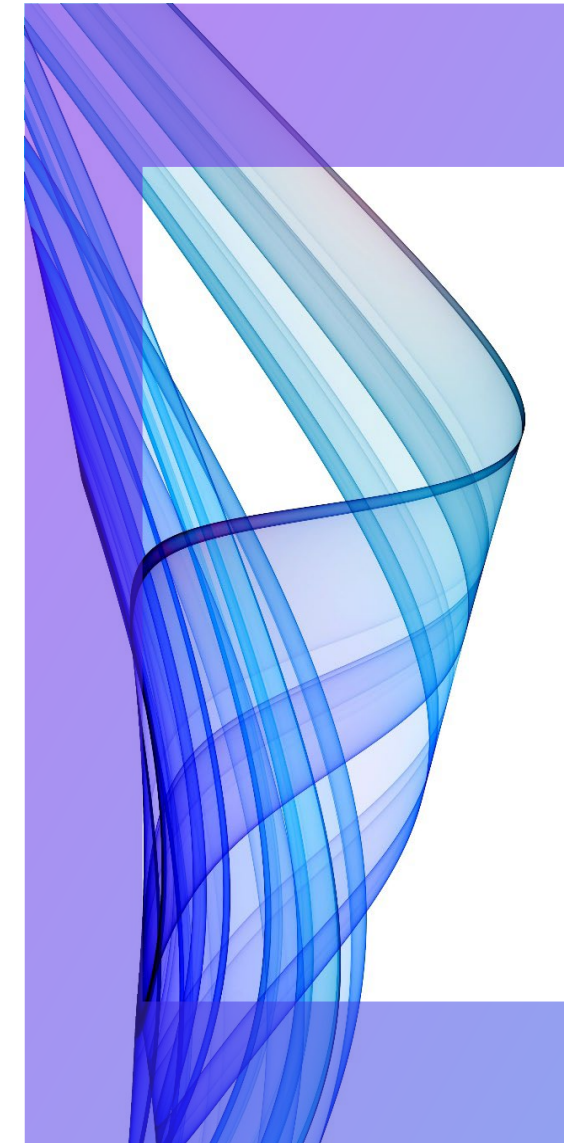
The District has several ongoing capital projects. Tangible capital asset additions during 2023 totaled \$6.6 million related to significant projects such as the fencing project at Long Beach Airport, West Coast multi-use pathway, interior building renovations, Long Beach Airport watermain upgrades and Beaver Creek water infrastructure. The District also adopted PS 3280 *Asset Retirement Obligations* during the year.

Our response

- We updated our understanding of the process activities and controls over capital asset transactions.
- We tested a sample of tangible capital asset additions by agreeing a sample of additions to supporting invoices and payment. For assets put into service, we validated the date put into service, as well as confirmed that the amortization method and useful was in-line with the amortization policy. No issues or errors were noted.
- We performed an analytical procedure over amortization expense by comparing the current year expense, adjusting for current year additions, to prior year. No issues or errors were noted.

Findings

There were no issues noted in our testing.





Other procedures performed



Cash, investments and debt

Response and findings

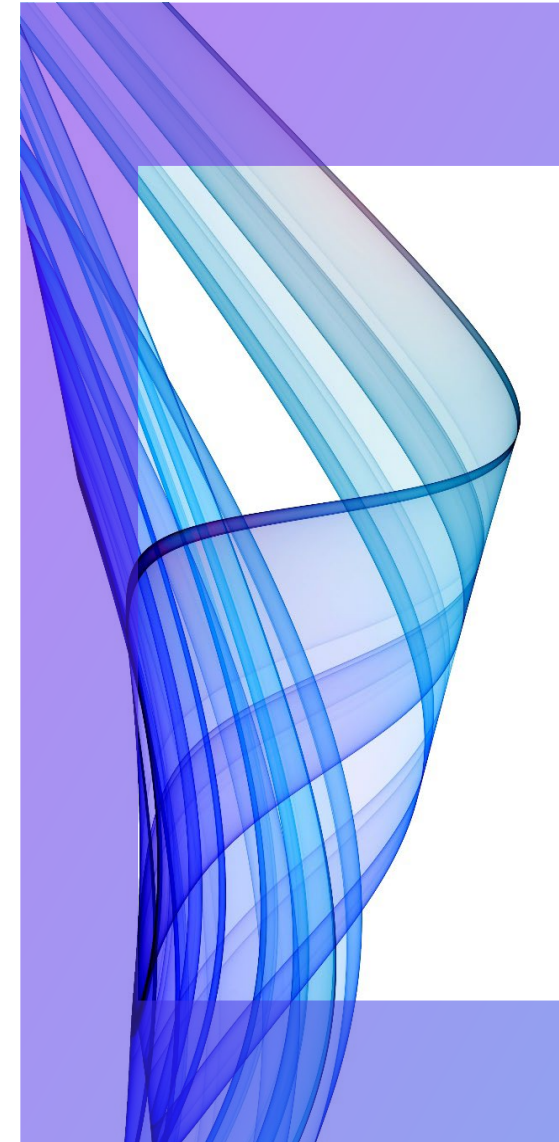
- We confirmed the balances with the respective financial institutions.
- We tested the mathematical accuracy of investment income recognized during the period.
- We tested subsequent payments to determine if they were recorded in the correct accounting period.
- No issues were noted in our testing.



Revenue and expenses

Response and findings

- We completed a test of details over tax requisitions from members by agreeing the amount of the requisition to the approved budget bylaw and cash receipt.
- We perform analytical procedures over sale of service revenue comparing our expectation to actual revenue recognized in the year.
- We completed a test of details over operating goods and services, comparing a sample of expenses recognized to invoice support. We completed analytical procedures over expenses as a whole by developing an expectation based on prior year and budget and comparing to our expectation to actual.
- Salaries and wage expense included testing internal controls over management review of payroll expense as well as comparing actual to prior year, incorporating changes in expected pay rates based on collective agreements and changes in headcount.
- No issues were noted in our testing.





Corrected misstatements

Corrected misstatements include financial presentation and disclosure misstatements.



Impact of corrected misstatements

We identified a difference relating to the presentation of the change in estimate of \$1,730,529, which was initially recorded as a gain in the statement of operations. In accordance with PS 3280 *Asset Retirement Obligations* the revision to the estimate is recognized as a reduction in the asset until the asset value is \$nil.

Below is a summary of the impact of the corrected misstatements:

Description	Statement of operations	Financial position		
	Annual Surplus (Decrease) Increase	Assets (Decrease) Increase	Liabilities (Decrease) Increase	Opening accumulated surplus (Decrease) Increase
Revaluation of ARO – landfill	(1,730,529)	(1,730,529)	-	-
Total misstatements	(1,730,529)	(1,730,529)	-	-



Control deficiencies

Consideration of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR)

In planning and performing our audit, we considered ICFR relevant to the Entity's preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on ICFR.

Our understanding of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described above and was not designed to identify all control deficiencies that might be significant deficiencies. The matters being reported are limited to those deficiencies that we have identified during the audit that we have concluded are of sufficient importance to merit being reported to those charged with governance.

Our awareness of control deficiencies varies with each audit and is influenced by the nature, timing, and extent of audit procedures performed, as well as other factors. Had we performed more extensive procedures on internal control over financial reporting, we might have identified more significant deficiencies to be reported or concluded that some of the reported significant deficiencies need not, in fact, have been reported.

A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting

A deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A deficiency in design exists when (a) a control necessary to meet the control objective is missing or (b) an existing control is not properly designed so that, even if the control operates as designed, the control objective would not be met. A deficiency in operation exists when a properly designed control does not operate as designed, or when the person performing the control does not possess the necessary authority or competence to perform the control effectively.

Significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting

A deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, is important enough to merit the attention of those charged with governance.

We did not identify any significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.



Accounting policies and practices

We also highlight the following:



Significant accounting policies



- Management adopted PS 3280 Asset Retirement Obligations during the year using the modified retroactive method. There were no issues noted as a result of adoption.
- Management adopted PS 3450 *Financial Instruments* and PS 2601 *Foreign Currency Translation* during the year. There were no issues noted as a result of adoption.
- There were no significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas.
- There were no issues noted with the timing of ACRHD's transactions in relation to the period in which they were recorded.
- There were no issues noted with the extent to which the financial statements are affected by a significant unusual transactions and extent of disclosure of such transactions.
- There were no issues noted with the extent to which the financial statements are affected by non-recurring amounts recognized during the period and extent of disclosure of such transactions.



Significant accounting estimates



- There were no issues noted with management's identification of accounting estimates.
- There were no issues noted with management's process for making accounting estimates.
- There were no indicators of possible management bias.



Significant qualitative aspects of financial statement presentation and disclosure



- There were no issues noted with the judgments made, in formulating particularly sensitive financial statement disclosures.
- There were no issues noted with the overall neutrality, consistency, and clarity of the disclosures in the financial statements.
- There were no significant potential effects on the financial statements of significant risks, exposures and uncertainties.

Appendices

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Audit quality

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Changes in accounting
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Environmental, social
and governance (ESG)





Appendix 1: Required communications



Auditor's report

Refer to the draft report attached to the financial statements.

Engagement letter

The objectives of the audit, our responsibilities in carrying out our audit, as well as management's responsibilities, are set out in the engagement letter.



Independence

As required by professional standards, we have considered all relationships between KPMG and the Entity that may have a bearing on independence. We confirm that we are independent with respect to the Entity within the meaning of the relevant rules and related interpretations prescribed by the relevant professional bodies in Canada and any other standards or applicable legislation or regulation from January 1, 2023 up until the date of this report.

Management representation letter

We will obtain from management certain representations at the completion of the audit. In accordance with professional standards, a copy of the representation letter is attached.



Appendix 2: Management representation letter

KPMG LLP
St. Andrew's Square II
800-730 View Street
Victoria, BC V8W 3Y7

April 24, 2024

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are writing at your request to confirm our understanding that your audit was for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements (hereinafter referred to as "financial statements") of Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District ("the Entity") as at and for the period ended December 31, 2023.

General:

We confirm that the representations we make in this letter are in accordance with the definitions as set out in [Attachment I](#) to this letter.

We also confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

Responsibilities:

- 1) We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the engagement letter dated September 29, 2022. including for:
 - a) the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements and believe that these financial statements have been prepared and present fairly in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework.
 - b) providing you with all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial statements ("relevant information"), such as financial records, documentation and other matters, including:
 - the names of all related parties and information regarding all relationships and transactions with related parties;
 - the complete minutes of meetings, or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared, of the board of directors and committees of the board of directors that may affect the financial statements. All significant actions are included in such summaries.
 - c) providing you with unrestricted access to such relevant information.
 - d) providing you with complete responses to all enquiries made by you during the engagement.

- e) providing you with additional information that you may request from us for the purpose of the engagement.
- f) providing you with unrestricted access to persons within the Entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
- g) such internal control as we determined is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. We also acknowledge and understand that we are responsible for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- h) ensuring that all transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- i) ensuring that internal auditors providing direct assistance to you, if any, were instructed to follow your instructions and that we, and others within the entity, did not intervene in the work the internal auditors performed for you.

Internal control over financial reporting:

- 2) We have communicated to you all deficiencies in the design and implementation or maintenance of internal control over financial reporting of which we are aware.

Fraud & non-compliance with laws and regulations:

- 3) We have disclosed to you:
 - a) the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
 - b) all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of that involves:
 - management;
 - employees who have significant roles in internal control over financial reporting; or
 - otherswhere such fraud or suspected fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
 - c) all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the financial statements, communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators, or others.
 - d) all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations, including all aspects of contractual agreements, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.

- e) all known actual or possible litigation and claims whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.

Subsequent events:

- 4) All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which the relevant financial reporting framework requires adjustment or disclosure in the financial statements have been adjusted or disclosed.

Related parties:

- 5) We have disclosed to you the identity of the Entity's related parties.
- 6) We have disclosed to you all the related party relationships and transactions/balances of which we are aware.
- 7) All related party relationships and transactions/balances have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework.

Estimates:

- 8) Measurement methods and significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

Going concern:

- 9) We have provided you with all information relevant to the use of the going concern assumption in the financial statements.

Misstatements:

- 10) We approve the corrected misstatements identified by you during the audit described in [Attachment II](#).

Non-SEC registrants or non-reporting issuers:

- 11) We confirm that the Entity is not a Canadian reporting issuer (as defined under any applicable Canadian securities act) and is not a United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") Issuer (as defined by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002).
- 12) We also confirm that the financial statements of the Entity will not be included in the group financial statements of a Canadian reporting issuer audited by KPMG or an SEC Issuer audited by any member of the KPMG organization.

Yours very truly,

Daniel Sailland, Chief Administrative Officer

Teri Fong, Chief Financial Officer

cc: Board of Directors

Attachment I – Definitions

Materiality

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered to be material if they, individually or in the aggregate, could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements. Judgments about materiality are made in light of surrounding circumstances, and are affected by the size or nature of a misstatement, or a combination of both.

Fraud & error

Fraudulent financial reporting involves intentional misstatements including omissions of amounts or disclosures in financial statements to deceive financial statement users.

Misappropriation of assets involves the theft of an entity's assets. It is often accompanied by false or misleading records or documents in order to conceal the fact that the assets are missing or have been pledged without proper authorization.

An error is an unintentional misstatement in financial statements, including the omission of an amount or a disclosure.

Attachment II – Summary of Audit Misstatements Schedule

Corrected misstatements in the current period

The following misstatements were identified during the audit and subsequently corrected in the financial statements:

	Statement of operations	Financial position		
Description	Annual Surplus (Decrease) Increase	Assets (Decrease) Increase	Liabilities (Decrease) Increase	Opening accumulated surplus (Decrease) Increase
Revaluation of ARO – landfill	(1,730,529)	(1,730,529)	-	-
Total misstatements	(1,730,529)	(1,730,529)	-	-

Presentation and Disclosures:

1. Omission of disclosure of the nature of tangible capital assets; and
2. Omission of disclosure of segmented disclosure note



Appendix 3: Audit quality - How do we deliver audit quality?

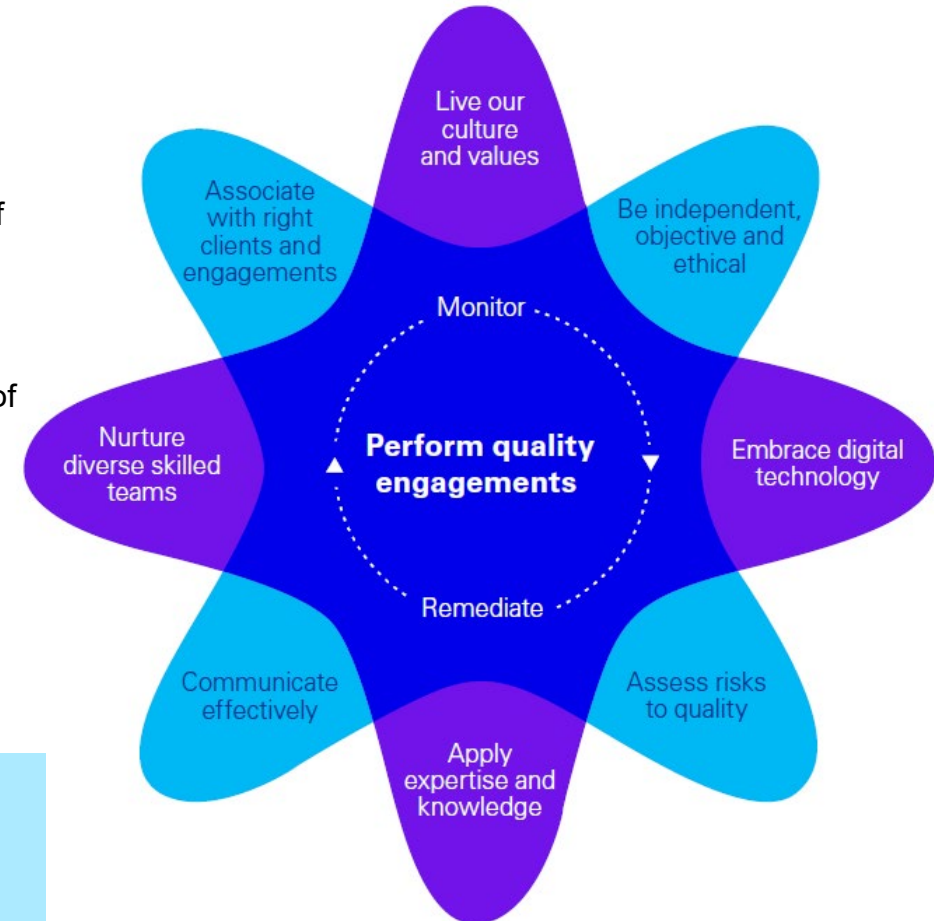
Quality essentially means doing the right thing and remains our highest priority. Our Global Quality Framework outlines how we deliver quality and how every partner and staff member contributes to its delivery.

The drivers outlined in the framework are the ten components of the KPMG System of Quality Management (SoQM). Aligned with ISQM 1/CSQM 1, our SoQM components also meet the requirements of the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) and the relevant rules of professional conduct / code of ethics applicable to the practice of public accounting in Canada, which apply to professional services firms that perform audits of financial statements. Our Transparency Report includes our firm's Statement on the Effectiveness of our SoQM.

 [KPMG 2023 Audit Quality and Transparency Report](#)

We define 'audit quality' as being the outcome when:

- audits are **executed consistently**, in line with the requirements and intent of **applicable professional standards** within a strong **system of quality management**; and
- all of our related activities are undertaken in an environment of the utmost level of **objectivity, independence, ethics and integrity**.



Doing the right thing. Always.



Appendix 4: Changes in accounting standards

Standard	Summary and implications
Revenue <div data-bbox="206 486 443 544" style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 2px 10px; display: inline-block;">Effective FY2024</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new standard PS 3400 <i>Revenue</i> is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023. The new standard establishes a single framework to categorize revenue to enhance the consistency of revenue recognition and its measurement. The standard notes that in the case of revenue arising from an exchange transaction, a public sector entity must ensure the recognition of revenue aligns with the satisfaction of related performance obligations. The standard notes that unilateral revenue arises when no performance obligations are present, and recognition occurs when there is authority to record the revenue and an event has happened that gives the public sector entity the right to the revenue.
Purchased Intangibles <div data-bbox="206 736 443 793" style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 2px 10px; display: inline-block;">Effective FY2024</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new Public Sector Guideline 8 <i>Purchased intangibles</i> is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023 with earlier adoption permitted. The guideline allows public sector entities to recognize intangibles purchased through an exchange transaction. The definition of an asset, the general recognition criteria and GAAP hierarchy are used to account for purchased intangibles. Narrow scope amendments were made to PS 1000 <i>Financial statement concepts</i> to remove the prohibition to recognize purchased intangibles and to PS 1201 <i>Financial statement presentation</i> to remove the requirement to disclose purchased intangibles not recognized. The guideline can be applied retroactively or prospectively.
Public Private Partnerships <div data-bbox="206 1136 443 1193" style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 15px; padding: 2px 10px; display: inline-block;">Effective FY2024</div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new standard PS 3160 <i>Public private partnerships</i> is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023. The standard includes new requirements for the recognition, measurement and classification of infrastructure procured through a public private partnership. The standard notes that recognition of infrastructure by the public sector entity would occur when it controls the purpose and use of the infrastructure, when it controls access and the price, if any, charged for use, and it controls any significant interest accumulated in the infrastructure when the public private partnership ends. The public sector entity recognizes a liability when it needs to pay cash or non-cash consideration to the private sector partner for the infrastructure. The infrastructure would be valued at cost, which represents fair value at the date of recognition with a liability of the same amount if one exists. Cost would be measured in reference to the public private partnership process and agreement, or by discounting the expected cash flows by a discount rate that reflects the time value of money and risks specific to the project. The standard can be applied retroactively or prospectively.



Appendix 4: Changes in accounting standards (continued)

Standard	Summary and implications
Employee benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Public Sector Accounting Board has initiated a review of sections PS 3250 <i>Retirement benefits</i> and PS 3255 <i>Post-employment benefits, compensated absences and termination benefits</i>. • The intention is to use principles from International Public Sector Accounting Standard 39 <i>Employee benefits</i> as a starting point to develop the Canadian standard. • Given the complexity of issues involved and potential implications of any changes that may arise from the review of the existing guidance, the new standards will be implemented in a multi-release strategy. The first standard will provide foundational guidance. Subsequent standards will provide additional guidance on current and emerging issues. • The proposed section PS 3251 <i>Employee benefits</i> will replace the current sections PS 3250 <i>Retirement benefits</i> and PS 3255 <i>Post-employment benefits, compensated absences and termination benefits</i>. It will apply to fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2026. Early adoption will be permitted and guidance applied retroactively. • This proposed section would result in public sector entities recognizing the impact of revaluations of the net defined benefit liability (asset) immediately on the statement of financial position. Organizations would also assess the funding status of their post-employment benefit plans to determine the appropriate rate for discounting post-employment benefit obligations. • The Public Sector Accounting Board is in the process of evaluating comments received from stakeholders on the exposure draft.



Appendix 4: Changes in accounting standards (continued)

Standard	Summary and implications
Concepts Underlying Financial Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revised conceptual framework is effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2026 with earlier adoption permitted. The framework provides the core concepts and objectives underlying Canadian public sector accounting standards. The ten chapter conceptual framework defines and elaborates on the characteristics of public sector entities and their financial reporting objectives. Additional information is provided about financial statement objectives, qualitative characteristics and elements. General recognition and measurement criteria, and presentation concepts are introduced.
Financial Statement Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed section PS 1202 <i>Financial statement presentation</i> will replace the current section PS 1201 <i>Financial statement presentation</i>. PS 1202 <i>Financial statement presentation</i> will apply to fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2026 to coincide with the adoption of the revised conceptual framework. Early adoption will be permitted. The proposed section includes the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocation of the net debt indicator to its own statement called the statement of net financial assets/liabilities, with the calculation of net debt refined to ensure its original meaning is retained. Separating liabilities into financial liabilities and non-financial liabilities. Restructuring the statement of financial position to present total assets followed by total liabilities. Changes to common terminology used in the financial statements, including re-naming accumulated surplus (deficit) to net assets (liabilities). Removal of the statement of remeasurement gains (losses) with the information instead included on a new statement called the statement of changes in net assets (liabilities). This new statement would present the changes in each component of net assets (liabilities), including a new component called “accumulated other”. A new provision whereby an entity can use an amended budget in certain circumstances. Inclusion of disclosures related to risks and uncertainties that could affect the entity’s financial position. The Public Sector Accounting Board is currently deliberating on feedback received on exposure drafts related to the reporting model.



Appendix 5: Audit and assurance insights

Our latest thinking on the issues that matter most to the Finance and Audit Committee, board of directors and management.

[KPMG Audit & Assurance Insights](#)

Curated research and insights for audit committees and boards.

[Board Leadership Centre](#)

Leading insights to help board members maximize boardroom opportunities

[Current Developments](#)

Series of quarterly publications for Canadian businesses including Spotlight on IFRS, Canadian Securities & Auditing Matters and US Outlook reports.

[Audit Committee Guide – Canadian Edition](#)

A practical guide providing insight into current challenges and leading practices shaping audit committee effectiveness in Canada.

[Accelerate 2023](#)

The key issues driving the audit committee agenda in 2023.

[Momentum](#)

A quarterly newsletter with the latest thought-leadership from KPMG's subject matter leaders across Canada and valuable audit resources for clients.

[KPMG Climate Change Financial Reporting Resource Centre](#)

Our climate change resource center provides insights to help you identify the potential financial statement impacts to your business.

[IFRS Breaking News](#)

A monthly Canadian newsletter that provides the latest insights on international financial reporting standards and IASB activities.



Appendix 6: How we can help along your ESG reporting journey

Preparing for ESG reporting in accordance with regulatory standards will take substantial time and resources – it is a journey. The end goal is implementing and sustaining ESG external reporting in compliance with the applicable reporting frameworks in such a way that the ESG information and metrics reported can be verified and assured.

As your financial statement auditor, we are able to support you across a number of activities throughout your ESG reporting journey, prior to undertaking assurance readiness or formal assurance on your reported ESG information and metrics.



Establish

- Findings and observations with respect to **materiality assessment**, governance structure, reporting strategy
- **Gap assessment** to global reporting standards (e.g., IFRS S1 and S2)
- **Peer benchmarking and insights** on industry best practices



Implement / Report

- ESG reporting **training** to Board and Management



Assess

- Feedback on **current state operating model**, including processes, people, technology, service delivery model and data
- Review existing **data and estimation methodologies**



Design

- Provide management with feedback on the **reporting roadmap**
- Findings and observations on draft **external disclosures** based on leading practice





Appendix 6: Why your auditors should be engaged in the reporting journey

We are one-team at KPMG.

With KPMG's one-team approach, you will benefit from the efficiencies gained by having members of your financial statement audit team engaged in your ESG reporting journey along with our ESG subject matter experts.



We know you

It is important to have a general understanding of the entity and its control environment (e.g., IT systems and underlying processes) to best support you in your ESG reporting journey



Coordinated approach

Management meetings are carried out once and leveraged across your financial statement and ESG journey process, wherever possible



Synergies gained

Key messages and reports to management and the audit committee will be consistent and include both financial and ESG information



Connected to financial statements

Increased demand for consistency between ESG reporting and financial reporting puts us in the best position to support you



Single point of contact

Having KPMG as your ESG service provider – your key audit points of contacts will enable you to get clear perspectives on all your reporting needs when you need them



Future efficiencies

Engaging us in the reporting process today will be an investment that will lead to efficiencies when undergoing limited assurance in the future



Appendix 6: IFRS Sustainability disclosure standards

Environmental, social and governance (“ESG”)

First IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards

The arrival of the first two IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards marks a key milestone in sustainability reporting and is a significant step towards creation of a global baseline for stakeholder-focused sustainability reporting that local jurisdictions can build on. **Although the standards are not required to be adopted by ACRD, the new IFRS sustainability standards provide key insights into what the future of sustainability reporting may look like for ACRD. The Canadian Sustainability Standards Board released the first proposed Canadian standards for public comments due by June 10, 2024.**

Summary of the recently released standards

The standards build on the four-pillar structure of the **Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures**.

The **general requirements standard (IFRS S1)** defines the scope and objectives of reporting and provides core content, presentation and practical requirements.

It requires disclosure of material information on all sustainability-related risks and opportunities – not just on climate.

The **climate standard (IFRS S2)** replicates the core content requirements and supplements them with climate-specific reporting requirements.



Visit KPMG’s Sustainability Reporting website for more information, including a comprehensive summary of the new requirements and KPMG’s insights and illustrative examples for the new standards.

[Click here](#) to access KPMG’s portal



Appendix 6: ESG: Thought leadership and insights (continued)

Thought leadership – Environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) (continued)

Note: Click on images to visit document link.

How the 'S' in ESG is changing the way we do business

The social component of ESG calls for more heart, empathy and interconnectedness

The "S" in ESG is becoming critical as people and organizations become more conscious about how the social aspect of business will impact their future.

This article touches on the social movements driving business change.

Climate change, human rights and institutional investors

The adverse impacts to people from a changing climate will create risks for institutional investors throughout the value chain

As the severity of climate impacts increase, so do the socio-economic disruptions due to the risk and fall of climate impacted sectors and projects.

This article breaks down the impact on institutional investors.

The numbers that are changing the world

Revealing the growing appetite for responsible investing



This article outlines how ESG is impacting valuation and performance of the underlying companies institutional investors have a stake in.

Market statistics highlight the issues surrounding responsible investment.



Appendix 6: Thought leadership and insights (continued)

Thought leadership – Environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) (continued)

Note: Click on images to visit document link.



Intentional adoption of smart, digital, experience-centric solutions have become indispensable in overcoming today’s challenges and aligning city services to the future needs and well-being of the public. We invite you to explore this report on KPMG’s global research and insights on The future of local government.



The Green City outlines the need of the cities and the buildings in them to reflect climate consciousness.

The link provides guidance on what that looks like and the first steps to meeting those objectives.

KPMG’s Climate Change Financial Reporting Resource Centre

KPMG’s climate change resource centre provides FAQs to help you identify the potential financial statement impacts for your business.

[Click here](#) to access KPMG’s portal.

A closer look at the GHG Protocol

Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada) and the Institute for Sustainable Finance (ISF) produced a 23-page report ([click here](#)) on the GHG Protocol. The report looks to inform potential preparers and users of emissions disclosure; policy makers; standard setters; regulators; and others, and to spur important additional research into key aspects of emissions disclosure and standards that require closer attention.



<https://kpmg.com/ca/en/home.html>

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