Ottawa, November 26, 2015 – Auditor General Ken Hughes presented his annual report to the City’s Audit Committee this morning that includes potential savings in a number of areas.

Specifically, the audit on Winter Operations found that staff are assigned to lower priority duties other than snow removal or salting up to 25% of the time, which may not be required. The audit also recommends the City determine the most cost effective balance between the use of City and contracted resources for winter operations.

In total, the Auditor General presented 8 separate audits to the committee. A separate audit was presented in camera in connection to last year’s breach of the ottawa.ca website.

“Overall, our audits demonstrate that City Management is doing a good job but improvements can be made,” said Mr. Hughes. “For instance, management should be taking advantage of all the technology features available to them and do a better job on costing and measuring some of the work the city performs on behalf of residents.”

Other highlights of the annual report include:

- Risk management in Information Technology needs significant improvement.
- The City did not need to do a total repaving of the McKenzie Bridge that cost more than $1.2 million.
- The waiting times for many 3-1-1 callers is too long and relevant information is not reported to Council.

The Auditor General is pleased that management accepted all of his recommendations. The report is available on the Auditor General’s website at ottawa.ca.

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