

Bulletin #2024-14

MUNICIPAL AND NORTHERN RELATIONS

Important Notice to Chief Administrative Officers

2023 Audited Financial Statements Due June 30, 2024

2023 Audited Financial Statements Template:

The 2023 audited financial statements template to be used by Municipal Auditors is now available to download from the Department of Municipal and Northern Relations website: https://www.gov.mb.ca/mr/mfas/mfas_psab.html.

Important – Municipalities may now choose to provide a copy of the 2023 audited financial statements template to their auditors or inform their auditors to download the template from the above mentioned website. The department will not send the template to auditors appointed by municipalities.

Updates to the Template:

The 2023 template incorporates many updates from the 2022 template, largely as a result of several new accounting standards coming into effect for 2023. The changes include:

- Statement of Financial Position – updates to include asset retirement obligations and a breakdown of the accumulated surplus.
- Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses – new statement.
- Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets – added net remeasurement gains/losses.
- Statement of Cash Flows – added asset retirement obligations, contaminated sites, and supplementary information regarding interest paid/received.
- Notes to the Financial Statements
 - Note 2 – new or updated text in sections c, d, e, f, j, k, l, n, and o.
 - Note 3 – now reflects cash equivalents.
 - Note 8 – new note for asset retirement obligations.
 - Note 9 – new note for liability for contaminated sites.
 - Note 12 – updated title for contractual obligations.
 - Note 14 – regular update regarding the pension program.
- Schedule 8 – update to report asset retirement obligations, remeasurement gains/losses and the breakdown of the fund surplus for the utility fund.
- Schedule 9 – updated to reflect accretion expenses related to asset retirement obligations.
- Schedule 10 – updated to include accretion expenses.
- Schedule 14 – updated to include accretion expenses.

Filing Deadline:

Please be reminded that municipalities' 2023 audited financial statements are due no later than **June 30, 2024** in accordance with The Municipal Act.

Should you be facing challenges in meeting these deadlines, please contact department officials using the contact information below to explain circumstances and seek solutions.

Municipal auditors must provide a copy of the audited financial statements by June 30, 2024 to the Head of Council and the Minister of Municipal and Northern Relations. An electronic copy of the audited financial statements may be emailed by the auditor to mrmaas@gov.mb.ca no later than June 30, 2024. A hard copy is not required.

Please note that municipal auditors must without delay report to the Minister and the Head of Council any failure of a person or institution to comply with auditors' entitlement to access to the records and information relating to the financial affairs of the municipality (section 189 of The Municipal Act). Auditors can email such a report to mrmaas@gov.mb.ca.

Importance of Audited Financial Statements:

Timely completion of audited financial statements is a key component in assuring the public that their taxes and fees are being used as they expect, providing public accountability and transparency and enabling comparison of actual year-end results with your annual budget. Filing audited financial statements is also required to receive Canada Community Building Fund (formerly Federal Gas Tax) and, at times, other payments.

If you have any questions, please contact Municipal and Northern Relations at (204) 945-2572 or by email at mrmaas@gov.mb.ca.