

Financial Results

The Legislative Assembly's third set of audited annual financial statements received an unmodified (clean) opinion from the Auditor General of BC. As per the Audit Report on page 31 of the *Accountability Report 2015-16*, the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

For the year ended March 31, 2016, the Legislative Assembly's net cost of operations was \$63.7 million (budget was \$69.6 million) in comparison to \$62.5 million in the previous year. In addition, the Legislative Assembly purchased \$1.5 million (budget was \$2.8 million) in capital assets in comparison to \$1 million in the previous year.

In addition to the financial statements, the *Accountability Report 2015-16* includes a Management Discussion and Analysis section. This section provides insight and analysis on the Assembly's financial results. Charts and tables are used to visually illustrate and explain past and projected future results.



Accountability Report 2015-16

A Summary Report to British Columbians

Net Cost of Operations (in thousands of dollars)	Budget 2015-16	Actual	
		2015-16	2014-15
Expenses			
Members' Services	36,279	32,682	32,654
Caucus Support Services	7,211	6,806	6,933
Office of the Speaker	418	282	329
Clerk of the House	1,017	1,006	900
Clerk of Committees	628	628	592
Legislative Operations	13,694	12,609	12,078
Sergeant-at-Arms	4,862	4,861	4,436
Hansard Services	3,818	3,574	3,572
Legislative Library	2,171	1,869	1,578
	70,098	64,317	63,072
Revenues			
Miscellaneous Revenue	533	604	555
Net Cost of Operations	69,565	63,713	62,517

Capital Purchases (in thousands of dollars)	Budget 2015-16	Actual	
		2015-16	2014-15
Furniture and Equipment	210	91	137
Computer Hardware and Software	552	422	466
Buildings	1,693	718	0
Vehicles	0	0	0
Specialized Equipment	375	309	388
Total Capital Purchases	2,830	1,540	990



8th Commonwealth Youth Parliament delegates, November 2016

Message from Madame Speaker

The Legislative Assembly Management Committee's *Accountability Report 2015-16* summarizes our continuing work to strengthen financial management and make the Assembly more open and accountable.

We also ensured a secure and accessible environment, with more barrier-free and secure entrances and enhanced security throughout the Legislative Precinct. We designated a new BC Emergency Services Garden of Honour on the Precinct grounds as a place of reflection for families, friends and visitors to pay tribute to first responders who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the province.

We launched a renewed website with more information, and continued our outreach to schools and young people. To find out more about our accountability to British Columbians, please visit our Accountability website at <https://www.leg.bc.ca/learn-about-us/accountability>

One of my priorities as Speaker is mentoring new women Members and encouraging more women to be involved in our political process. As we approach the 100th anniversary in April 2017 of women gaining the right to vote in our province, British Columbians can be proud that their Legislative Assembly leads the country with 38 percent of our Members being women. That is the highest level in Canada's history.

The Legislative Assembly's Members provide a rich diversity of role models who work hard to make our province a better place. Their record and achievements serve to inspire young people – and all of us – to continue to make a positive difference in our communities.



Sincerely,
Honourable Linda Reid, Speaker

For more information and to read the *Accountability Report 2015-16*, visit our website at:

<https://www.leg.bc.ca/learn-about-us/accountability>



@bcLegislativeAssembly



Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

After the May 2013 general provincial election, a new Legislative Assembly Management Committee was established under the leadership of a new Speaker. The Committee committed to a multi-year strategy to strengthen accountability and transparency to British Columbians, ensure prudent management of taxpayers' funds, and modernize financial administration.

Accountability and Transparency to British Columbians

- *Committee meetings and documents are publicly available* – with meetings open to the public, and decisions, meeting documents, and budget and expenditure information available on-line.
- *A public and rigorous annual budget process* – with meetings open to the public, and systematic reporting and approval procedures.
- *Public release of the Assembly's Financial Statements* – as independently audited by the Office of the Auditor General.
- *Expanded quarterly disclosure* – of Members' travel and constituency office expenditures.

Prudent Management and Modernized Financial Administration

- *Prudent budget management* – the Committee agreed to maintain the Assembly's budget authorization for 2016-17 at the 2014-15 level for the second year in a row. The first ever independent Legislative Assembly program review in 2014 resulted in efficiencies, cost savings, and improved service delivery, helping hold the budget for 2016-17 at the 2014-15 level.
- *Careful stewardship of public funds* – the Committee's prudent management and priority-setting enabled the Assembly to return \$5.9 million of its \$69.6 million operating budget and \$1.3 million of its \$2.8 million capital budget to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.
- *Modernized financial controls and policies* – with rigorous and systemic internal controls to ensure the ongoing prudent administration of Assembly expenditures.

A Secure and Safe Environment

- *Enhanced security and safety for Members, staff, and citizens* – through strengthened partnerships with security partners, new equipment, training and up-to-date procedures.
- *Emergency preparedness and business continuity* – by a robust business continuity and emergency preparedness program, with contingency planning, training, equipment and supplies to maintain operations in the event of emergency situations.

Enhancing Openness and Accessibility

- *Legislative Assembly website renewal* – to provide more information and improved accessibility to the public and Members.
- *Enhanced public engagement by parliamentary committees* – through travel to local communities, tele/videoconferencing, expanded public consultation, and the use of social media to promote committee activities.
- *A new strategic plan for the Legislative Library* – with more digital access and services for Members, staff, and British Columbians.

In the year ahead, initiatives under way will advance the modernization of financial and administrative controls, and ensure that the Legislative Assembly is well prepared to deliver cost-effective activities and services to support the Assembly and its Members after the May 2017 provincial general election.



A quilt commemorating missing indigenous women and girls, on display summer 2016

Budgeted Net Cost of Operations

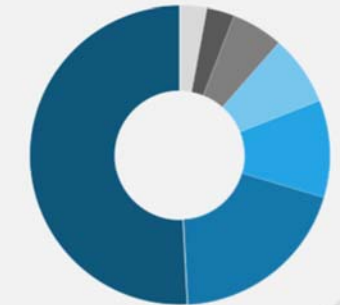
\$69.6 million

Actual Net Cost of Operations

\$63.7 million

OPERATING EXPENSES BY FUNCTION

- Members Services
- Legislative Operations
- Caucus Support
- Office of the Speaker, Clerk of the House and Clerk of Committees
- Sergeant-at-Arms
- Hansard Services
- Legislative Library



85 MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

74 SITTING DAYS

38 BILLS ADOPTED

13 ACTIVE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

KEY INITIATIVES



New website and enhanced digital services



Enhanced financial administration



Enhanced security



Improved accessibility



265,876

Visitors to the Parliament Buildings

1,435

of British Columbians who participated in Parliamentary committee consultations

507

students participated in the Speaker in Schools program



810

Broadcast Hours for Parliamentary Proceedings (audio and video)