



The Auditor General of Québec issues the conclusions of the first part of her special audit concerning contract management at the Ministère des Transports, de la Mobilité durable et de l'Électrification des transports – Press Release no. 5

Québec, March 22, 2017 – Today, Ms. Guylaine Leclerc makes public the Winter 2017 Volume of the *Report of the Auditor General of Québec to the National Assembly for 2016-2017*. In **Chapter 5**, she makes known the results of her audit carried out at the Ministère des Transports, de la Mobilité durable et de l'Électrification des transports concerning the first objective of the audit.

The Department has not succeeded in creating certain conditions that would allow for good governance of activities associated with the contract management process. Despite the actions it has implemented since 2009, it is still the subject of criticism in this regard.

The Department's operating structure with regard to contract management is not optimal. First, some responsibilities are neither understood nor fully assumed, which affects accountability in this regard. Second, the expertise in certain areas is insufficient to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of the process.

The Department does not have a structured risk management method to guide its actions with regard to contract management. It therefore has not identified or assessed the risks associated with each step of the process. This would enable it to better determine the necessary controls and avoid making the process unduly burdensome.

Over the past years, the numerous adjustments made to the contract management process and the addition of controls were initially intended to increase its compliance with regulations. However, the Department has paid insufficient attention to the efficiency of the process as well as to monitoring the contracts within the various territories to ensure its effectiveness.

Senior management has not directed the organization's efforts toward optimal contract management. Furthermore, some adjustments will be necessary, particularly with respect to communication, to improve the organizational climate and achieve staff buy-in.

The Highlights are available at www.vgq.qc.ca. The full report and a video summarizing the audit are available only in French.