

A Template of Questions to be Asked of Your Auditor

Audit Questions

1. In your professional opinion, how would you describe the fiscal health of our Municipality? How has that changed over the past 12 months?
2. Are there any major issues affecting our fiscal health that we should be aware of and do our present policies need to be adjusted?
3. Are there any steps that we could take to improve/enhance the financial integrity of the Municipality?
4. Are there any potential landmines or deficiencies that you foresee that might impair the financial integrity of our Municipality?
5. Are you satisfied with the cooperation you have received to date from our senior management? Have they responded well to any suggestions you have provided in past years relative to strengthening our systems?
6. Are you satisfied with the manner in which our organization tracks and compares actual expenditures to budgeted forecasts? Does our present system enable our administration to properly and accurately maintain an ongoing record of expenditures? What degree of this detail should be made available to the Council on an ongoing basis?
7. Have you assessed the effectiveness of our organizational controls? Are you satisfied?
8. Are you aware of any special audits that could be done by your firm which would assist us in strengthening our system of checks and balances?
9. What would you charge to do a special audit of the expense accounts of our senior management and say 2-3 members of the Council?
10. What is your definition of “materiality”? How does that impact your work on our behalf?
11. What performance indicators should a Municipality of our size have so that we are confident that our municipality will receive “value for money” through its services?
12. Is there a “good governance” model of audit oversight which our Council ought to be providing and can you provide us with that information?