

AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHARTER

I. PURPOSE

The Audit Committee is a committee of the Board of Directors. The primary function of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board of Directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by:

- reviewing the financial reports and other financial information provided by the Corporation to any governmental body or the public and other relevant documents;
- recommending the appointment and reviewing and appraising the audit efforts of the Corporation's independent auditor and providing an open avenue of communication among the independent auditor, financial and senior management and the Board of Directors;
- serving as an independent and objective party to monitor the Corporation's financial reporting process and internal controls, the Corporation's processes to manage business and financial risk, and its compliance with legal, ethical and regulatory requirements;
- encouraging continuous improvement of, and fostering adherence to, the Corporation's policies, procedures and practices at all levels.

The Audit Committee will primarily fulfill these responsibilities by carrying out the activities enumerated in Section III of this Charter.

II. COMPOSITION AND MEETINGS

The Audit Committee shall be comprised of three or more directors as determined by the Board, the majority of whom shall be independent directors, and free from any relationship that, in the opinion of the Board, would interfere with the exercise of his or her independent judgment as a member of the Committee. All members of the Committee shall have a working familiarity with basic finance and accounting practices, and at least one member of the Committee shall have accounting or related financial management expertise. Committee members may enhance their familiarity with finance and accounting by participating in educational programs conducted by the Corporation or an outside consultant.

The members of the Committee shall be elected by the Board at the annual organizational meeting of the Board or until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified. Unless a Chair is elected by the full Board, the members of the Committee may designate a Chair by majority vote of the full Committee membership.

The Committee shall meet at least four times annually, or more frequently as circumstances require. The Committee shall meet within sixty (60) days following the end of the first three financial quarters to review and discuss the unaudited financial results for the preceding quarter and the related Management Discussion & Analysis and shall meet within 120 days following the end of the fiscal year end to review and discuss the audited financial results for the year and related Management Discussion & Analysis.

The Committee may ask members of management or others to attend meetings and provide pertinent information as necessary. For purposes of performing their audit related duties, members of the Committee shall have full access to all corporate information and shall be permitted to discuss such information and any other matters relating to the financial position of the Corporation with senior employees, officers and independent auditors of the Corporation.

As part of its job to foster open communication, the Committee should meet at least annually with management and the independent auditor in separate executive sessions to discuss any matters that the Committee or each of these groups believe should be discussed privately. In addition, the Committee or at least its Chair should meet with the independent auditor and management at least annually to review the Corporation's financial statements.

Quorum for the Sale of business at any meeting of the Audit Committee shall be a majority of the number of members

of the Committee or such greater number as the Audit Committee shall by resolution determine.

Meetings of the Audit Committee shall be held from time to time and at such place as the Audit Committee or the Chairman of the Committee shall determine upon 48 hours' notice to each of the members. The notice period may be waived by a quorum of the Committee. Each of the Chairman of the Committee, members of the Committee, Chairman of the Board, independent auditors, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or Secretary shall be entitled to request that the Chairman of the Audit Committee call a meeting which shall be held within 48 hours of receipt of such request.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

To fulfill its responsibilities and duties the Audit Committee shall:

1. Create an agenda for the ensuing year.
2. Review and update this Charter at least annually, as conditions dictate.
3. Describe briefly in the Corporation's annual report and more fully in the Corporation's Management Information Circular the Committee's composition and responsibilities and how they were discharged.
4. Submit the minutes of all meetings of the audit committee to the Board of Directors.

Documents/Reports Review

5. Review the organization's annual financial statements and any reports or other financial information submitted to any governmental body, or the public, including any certification, report, opinion, or review rendered by the independent auditor.
6. Review policies and procedures with respect to directors' and officers' expense accounts and management perquisites and benefits, including their use of corporate assets and expenditures related to executive travel and entertainment, and review the results of the procedures performed in these areas by the independent auditor, based on terms of reference agreed upon by the independent auditor and the Audit Committee.
7. Review with financial management and the independent auditor any filings with regulatory bodies such as securities commissions prior to filing or prior to the release of earnings. The Chair of the Committee may represent the entire Committee for purposes of this review.

Independent Auditor

8. Recommend to the Board of Directors the selection of the independent auditor, considering independence and effectiveness and approve the fees and other compensation to be paid to the independent auditor. Instruct the independent auditor that the Board of Directors, as the shareholders' representative is the independent auditor's client.
9. Monitor the relationship between management and the independent auditor including reviewing any management letters or other reports of the independent auditor and discussing any material differences of opinion between management and the independent auditor.
10. Review and discuss, on an annual basis, with the independent auditor all significant relationships they have with the Corporation to determine their independence.
11. Review and approve requests for any management consulting engagement to be performed by the independent auditor and be advised of any other study undertaken at the request of management that is beyond the scope of the audit engagement letter and related fees.

12. Review the performance of the independent auditor and approve any proposed discharge of the independent auditor when circumstances warrant. Consider with management and the independent auditor the rationale for employing accounting/auditing firms other than the principal independent auditor.
13. Periodically consult with the independent auditor out of the presence of management about significant risks or exposures, internal controls and other steps that management has taken to control such risks, and the fullness and accuracy of the organization's financial statements. Particular emphasis should be given to the adequacy of internal controls to expose any payments, transactions, or procedures that might be deemed illegal or otherwise improper.
14. Arrange for the independent auditor to be available to the Audit Committee and the full Board of Directors as needed.

Financial Reporting Processes

15. In consultation with the independent auditor review the integrity of the organization's financial reporting processes, both internal and external.
16. Consider the independent auditor's judgments about the quality and appropriateness, not just the acceptability, of the Corporation's accounting principles and financial disclosure practices, as applied in its financial reporting, particularly about the degree of aggressiveness or conservatism of its accounting principles and underlying estimates and whether those principles are common practices or are minority practices.
17. Consider and approve, if appropriate, major changes to the Corporation's accounting principles and practices as suggested by management with the concurrence of the independent auditor and ensure that the accountants' reasoning is described in determining the appropriateness of changes in accounting principles and disclosure.

Process Improvement

18. Establish regular and separate systems of reporting to the Audit Committee by each of management and the independent auditor regarding any significant judgments made in management's preparation of the financial statements and the view of each as to the appropriateness of such judgments.
19. Review the scope and plans of the independent auditor's audit and reviews prior to the audit and reviews being conducted. The Committee may authorize the independent auditor to perform supplemental reviews or audits as the Committee may deem desirable.
20. Following completion of the annual audit and quarterly reviews, review separately with each of management and the independent auditor any significant changes to planned procedures, any difficulties encountered during the course of the audit and reviews, including any restrictions on the scope of work or access to required information and the cooperation that the independent auditor received during the course of the audit and reviews.
21. Review any significant disagreements among management and the independent auditor in connection with the preparation of the financial statements.
22. Where there are significant unsettled issues the Committee shall ensure that there is an agreed course of action for the resolution of such matters.
23. Review with the independent auditor and management significant findings during the year and the extent to which changes or improvements in financial or accounting practices, as approved by the Audit Committee, have been implemented. This review should be conducted at an appropriate time subsequent to implementation of changes or improvements, as decided by the Committee.

24. Review activities, organizational structure, and qualifications of the chief financial officer and the staff in the financial reporting area and see to it that matters related to succession planning within the Corporation are raised for consideration at the full Board of Directors.

Ethical and Legal Compliance

25. Review and update periodically a Code of Ethical Conduct and ensure that management has established a system to enforce this Code. Review through appropriate actions taken to ensure compliance with the Code of Ethical Conduct and to review the results of confirmations and violations of such Code.
26. Review management's monitoring of the Corporation's system in place to ensure that the Corporation's financial statements, reports and other financial information disseminated to governmental organizations, and the public satisfy legal requirements.
27. Review, with the organization's counsel, legal and regulatory compliance matters, including corporate securities trading policies, and matters that could have a significant impact on the organization's financial statements.

Risk Management

28. Review management's program of risk assessment and steps taken to address significant risks or exposures, including insurance coverage.

General

29. Conduct or authorize investigations into any matters within the Committee's scope of responsibilities. The committee shall be empowered to retain independent counsel, accountants and other professionals to assist it in the conduct of any investigation.
30. Perform any other activities consistent with this Charter, the Corporation's By-laws and governing law, as the Committee or the Board deems necessary or appropriate.
31. Notwithstanding the foregoing and subject to applicable law, the Committee shall not be responsible to plan or conduct internal or external audits or to determine that the Corporation's financial statements are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as these are the responsibility of management and the independent auditor. Nothing contained in this Charter is intended to require the Committee to ensure the Corporation's compliance with applicable laws or regulations.