

PROPOSED CANADIAN UMBRELLA ASSURANCE STANDARDS

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OUTLINE

- Canadian context and experience
- Suggestions for moving forward
- Focus on public sector and legislative audit

[2]

Canadian Legislative Audit Environment

- 11 Auditors General (AGs)
- Canadian Council of Legislative Auditors (CCOLA)

[3]

EXISTING STANDARDS

- Standards for Assurance Engagements (1997)
- Standards re Quality Control, Specialists, Internal Audit, General Review Standards (1989 to 2005)
- Supported by AGs
- Quality and accountability (peer reviews)

[4]

WHO

- PSAAB – PSAB
- Joint Task Force (1997)
 - 3 AGs/Assistant AGs & 3 private sector auditors
- Existing Task Force (formed 2009)
 - 4 Assistant AGs, 2 private sector auditors
- AASB
 - Big 6, 2 small firms, 1 academic, 1 internal auditor, 1 retired AG, 2 assistant AGs

[5]

AASB PLANS

ISAE 3000  CSAE 3000

CSAE 3001 for direct engagements

[6]

ATTEST VS. DIRECT

Many similarities but important differences that need to be fully understood and respected

SIMILARITIES

- Independence
- Rigour
- Suitable criteria
- Evidence
- Assurance
- Conclusion

DIFFERENCES

- Management assertion
- Findings
- Original information

Both are important to the public interest

[7]

KEY DIFFERENCES – CSAE 3000

- Assurance engagements – Attestation engagements
- Definition of assurance engagements

[8]

KEY DIFFERENCES – CSAE 3001

- “Subject matter information” – Findings/observations
- No two-step process
- Misstatements – Deviations

[9]

MESSAGES TO CONSIDER

- Attest and direct – many similarities but important differences
- Standards are in the public interest – quality and accountability
- Engage senior, committed and experienced practitioners/leaders
- Resonate with practitioners

[10]

DETAILS OF DIFFERENCES

- See agenda paper for this session

[11]