



Prince Edward Island

Legislative Assembly

Office of the Clerk
PO Box 2000, Charlottetown PE
Canada C1A 7N8

Île-du-Prince-Édouard

Assemblée législative

Bureau du greffier
C.P. 2000, Charlottetown PE
Canada C1A 7N8

February 29, 2024

Sean Casey	Hon. Lawrence MacAulay	Heath MacDonald	Robert Morrissey
MP – Charlottetown	MP – Cardigan	MP – Malpeque	MP – Egmont
House of Commons	House of Commons	House of Commons	House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6	Ottawa ON K1A 0A6	Ottawa ON K1A 0A6	Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear MPs Casey, MacAulay, MacDonald and Morrissey;

On behalf of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts at the Legislative Assembly of PEI, we have sent the enclosed letter to Ministers Freeland, LeBlanc and Anand in support of the Canadian Audit and Accountability Foundation's (CAAF) funding request to the federal government.

As explained in the letter, both the current and previous Public Accounts Committees in PEI have benefitted from the professional development assistance of the CAAF toward fulfilling their oversight functions. In fact, the CAAF assists committees and parliamentarians throughout Canada and internationally. The PEI committee values the CAAF's work and believes federal funding would be worthwhile. As experienced representatives, you likely have an appreciation for the unique and demanding role of Public Accounts Committees and see the value in an organization such as the CAAF that can help them carry out their mandates effectively. Therefore, we ask you to support CAAF's request within your caucus, in the hope that funding can be secured, and they can continue their important work.

On behalf of the PEI Public Accounts Committee, thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Gordon McNeilly
Chair
Standing Committee on Public Accounts
/rr

Sidney MacEwen
Vice Chair
Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Enclosure: Letter to Ministers Freeland, LeBlanc and Anand
CC Members of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Paul Forgues, President and CEO, CAAF
Lesley Burns, Vice-President – Oversight, CAAF



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Hon. Chrystia Freeland
Minister of Finance
and Deputy Prime Minister
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Hon. Dominic LeBlanc
Minister of Public Safety,
Democratic Institutions and
Intergovernmental Affairs
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Hon. Anita Anand
President of the Treasury
Board
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Ministers Freeland, LeBlanc and Anand;

On behalf of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts at the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island, we are writing in support of the funding request for the Canadian Audit and Accountability Foundation (CAAF).

The work of CAAF enables elected officials to improve the accountability for government spending, and in turn ensure public money is spent in the most effective way. The current Public Accounts Committee in PEI was appointed in spring 2023; like many elected officials, committee members had limited or no experience with performance or financial audits prior to their time on this committee. A training session led by the CAAF early in the committee's mandate helped familiarize members with public sector auditing and oversight. It also demonstrated the benefit of taking a non-partisan approach to the committee's work and the various practices that can promote committee effectiveness. Public Accounts Committees in previous PEI General Assemblies have benefited from CAAF's assistance as well.

We understand that both the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees and the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Accounts Committee have passed motions in support of CAAF's funding request. Clearly our community values the research and capacity development work that CAAF has done. CAAF has indicated that it will use the requested funding to support programming, such as:



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- Sustaining workshops for oversight committees across Canada;
- Increasing support provided to committee Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and support staff;
- Providing workshops to all provincial and territorial oversight committees annually;
- Expanding work to include municipalities and indigenous communities;
- Increasing the number of capacity development tools and publications produced; and
- Responding to requests to support the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees.

On behalf of the PEI Public Accounts Committee, we hope your government will provide the requested support to the CAAF, which will be used to promote accountability in the management of public funds.

Yours sincerely,

Gordon McNeilly
Chair
Standing Committee on Public Accounts

Sidney MacEwen
Vice Chair
Standing Committee on Public Accounts

/rr

CC Members of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Paul Forgues, President and CEO, CAAF
Lesley Burns, Vice-President – Oversight, CAAF