

NewsRelease

AG Says Billions Hidden in Unaccountable Foundations Williams – “Are There More Scandals Out There?”



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OTTAWA – The Chair of the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee, and Conservative M.P. for Edmonton-St. Albert, **John Williams**, commented on today’s Report of the Auditor General.

“The latest report from Auditor General Sheila Fraser highlights the continued waste, mismanagement, and general incompetence of this Liberal government,” said Williams. “The Auditor General has taken aim once again at this government’s misuse of foundations to hide billions of taxpayers’ dollars from scrutiny by both the Auditor General and Parliament. How many more reports does she have to issue before this government recognizes that it has an obligation to report to Parliament and the people of Canada?”

“Crown Corporations also remain a major problem for this government,” said Williams. “The Auditor General found that a third of all directors of Crown Corporations, which manage \$78 billion in assets and received \$5 billion in taxpayer funding last year, have expired mandates. Four of the largest Crowns have been without CEOs for far too long. The fact that these were some of the same Crowns that were identified in the Sponsorship Scandal should make Canadians wonder how many millions of their dollars are at risk.”

“The federal government’s information technology security also remains at high risk,” said Williams. “Treasury Board has not done its job enforcing tight IT security. The National Parole Board was perhaps the most at risk through poor management of its IT security, which should give Canadians cause for thought.”

“Finally, the Auditor General has said that the government continues to have poor financial information and cost control,” said Williams. “Everyone knows that there are billions wasted by the federal government, the tools are available to find it and control it. The question must be asked, why does this government fail to act responsibly with taxpayers’ dollars?”

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