



125 Years of Promoting Accountability

The Office of the Auditor General of Ontario celebrates its 125th anniversary in 2011.

On March 25, 1886, Ontario's Legislative Assembly passed its first Audit Act to create the Office of the Provincial Auditor, as it was then known. We became the Office of the Auditor General in 2004.

For 125 years, the Office has been promoting accountability—first by reviewing and signing off on

provincial expenditures, and later by reviewing and commenting on how tax dollars are spent in Ontario.

In the beginning, the Office consisted of three people—a bookkeeper, a clerk, and the Auditor himself. Since then, we've grown to 110 people, most of them accounting professionals, who work hard to help the Legislature ensure Ontario gets value for the money it spends.

The government and government-funded operations that our auditors examine vary from addiction programs to bridge

inspection and maintenance, from agreements to refurbish nuclear power plants to Children's Aid Societies, from school safety to court services, from forest fire management to food safety, and from driver education and examination to hospital emergency departments. Every year, we outline the results of all our work in the Auditor General's Annual Report, which receives a great deal of attention on its release.

Whatever the future holds, one constant will be the Office's reputation for independence and integrity and its dedication to promoting accountability in the public sector.

