

Auditor General – Halifax Regional Municipality – Management of the Fire Inspection Program Audit
September 15, 2021

Halifax Fire is not effectively overseeing and managing its fire inspection program Auditor General, Evangeline Colman-Sadd, said in her report released today, September 15, 2021.

Halifax Fire is not meeting its legislated fire inspection obligations. Fire senior management determined the fire inspection model was not sustainable. While some changes have been made, adequate plans of how further improvements will be achieved are lacking. “Halifax Fire should detail plans for an adequate system of fire inspection, including identifying the processes and resources needed to maintain it,” the auditor general said.

Fire inspections are not completed in a timely manner; 40% of the inspections examined were not performed on time. In addition, there are no reliable lists of buildings to inspect. “Without an adequate inventory, it is difficult to know if a property exists, and whether and when a building should be inspected,” Colman-Sadd said.

The audit also found inspection quality assurance and staff training processes need improvement.

Management agreed to implement all fourteen audit recommendations.

The report is available on the auditor general’s website.

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In her report released today, Auditor General Evangeline Colman-Sadd said, Halifax Fire is not effectively overseeing and managing its fire inspection program. Fire is not fulfilling its legislated inspection obligations and management does not have sufficient plans to improve the situation.

Fire inspections are not always completed in a timely manner and there is no reliable inventory of buildings to inspect.

Management agreed to implement all fourteen audit recommendations.

The report is available on the auditor general’s website.

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