

Overview of the Public Accounts

What are the Public Accounts?

The Public Accounts are accountability documents tabled annually in the Legislative Assembly by the Minister of Finance. The requirements for the Public Accounts are specified in [The Financial Administration Act, 1993 \(FAA\)](#).

Contents of the Public Accounts

The FAA provides that the Public Accounts are to contain the [Summary Financial Statements](#), a summary of the financial condition of trust funds managed by a member of the Executive Council and any other information required by the FAA, any other Act or by Treasury Board (subsection 18(2)).

The Public Accounts also include, in accordance with the FAA:

- the net effect of all [virements](#) in the fiscal year, as required by subsection 13(2);
- the information on road-use fuel tax accountability, as required by subsection 18.1(3);
- a detailed statement of [remissions](#), as required by subsection 24(6);
- a report of amounts charged against an appropriation that are in excess of the appropriation for the fiscal year (overexpenditures), as required by subsection 37(3); and
- a report of the facts relating to the pledging of securities, as required by subsection 55(2).

Preparation of the Public Accounts

The FAA provides that the Minister of Finance is to cause the Public Accounts to be prepared as soon as is practicable after the end of the fiscal year in the form directed by Treasury Board (section 18). The FAA also provides that the Provincial Comptroller is to prepare the Public Accounts (clause 10(1)(d)). The Financial Management Branch of the Provincial Comptroller's Office of the Ministry of Finance does the preparation.

Tabling of the Public Accounts

The FAA requires the Minister of Finance to table the Public Accounts on or before October 31 following the end of the fiscal year with respect to which the Public Accounts relate (section 18). After the [Public Accounts](#) are tabled, the documents are available on the Internet on the Ministry of Finance website.

References

- [1200 Role of the Legislature to Control Public Money](#)
- [2005 Form and Content of the Public Accounts](#)
- [2010 Reporting Payee Details in the Public Accounts](#)
- [2100 Overview of General Revenue Fund Accounting](#)