

Name:	Approved by	
<b>CU Audit &amp; Risk Committee Mandate</b>	CU Audit & Risk Committee	July 28, 2021
	CU GOCOM	October 28, 2021
	CU Board of Directors	November 10, 2021
	Owned by	
	Chair CU Audit & Risk Committee	

## **PURPOSE**

The Audit & Risk Committee (the “Committee”) of Canadian Utilities Limited (the “Corporation”) is responsible for contributing to the effective stewardship of the Corporation by assisting the Board of Directors of the Corporation (“Board”) in fulfilling its oversight of:

- The integrity of the Corporation’s financial statements.
- The Corporation’s compliance with applicable legal and regulatory requirements.
- The independence, qualifications and appointment of the Corporation's external auditor.
- The performance of the Corporation’s internal audit function and external auditor.
- The accounting and financial reporting processes of the Corporation.
- Audits of the financial statements of the Corporation.
- The risk management processes of the Corporation.

## **AUTHORITY**

The Committee is empowered to:

- Determine the public accounting firm to be recommended to the Board for appointment as external auditors, and be directly responsible for the compensation and oversight of the work of the external auditors. The external auditors will report directly to the Committee.
- Pre-approve all auditing and permitted non-audit services performed by the Corporation’s external auditors.
- Conduct or authorize investigations into any matters within the Committee’s scope of responsibilities. The Committee shall have the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisors as it determines necessary to carry out its duties, to set and pay the compensation for any advisors employed by the Committee, and to communicate directly with the internal and external auditors.
- Inspect all the books and records of the Corporation and its subsidiary entities and to discuss such books and records in any manner relating to the financial position and/or risk related issues of the Corporation and its subsidiary entities with the officers, employees and internal and external auditors of the Corporation and its subsidiary entities. All employees are directed to cooperate with the Committee’s requests.
- Meet with the Corporation’s officers, external auditors or outside counsel, as necessary.
- Delegate authority, to the extent permitted by applicable legislation and regulation, to one or more designated members of the Committee, including the authority to pre-approve all auditing and permitted non-audit services provided by the Corporation’s external auditor.

## COMPOSITION

The Board shall elect annually from among its members an Audit & Risk Committee comprised of not less than three directors. Each member of the Committee must be:

- a director of the Corporation;
- independent (within the meaning of sections 1.4 and 1.5 of National Instrument 52-110); and
- financially literate (within the meaning of section 1.6 of National Instrument 52-110).

In order to be considered to be independent for the purposes of membership on the Committee, a director must have been determined by the Board to have no direct or indirect material relationship with the Corporation and must satisfy all other applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

The Board will appoint one member of the Committee as Chair. Any member of the Committee may be removed or replaced at any time by the Board, and a member shall cease to be a member of the Committee upon ceasing to be a director of the Corporation or upon ceasing to be independent.

## MEETINGS

The Committee shall meet at least four times per year and whenever deemed necessary by the Chair of the Committee or at the request of a Committee member or the Corporation's external or internal auditor. Matters related specifically to Risk Management as described under "DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES" will be on the agenda for two of the Committee meetings each year.

- The Chair of the Committee shall prepare and/or approve an agenda in advance of each meeting.
- Reasonable notification of meetings, which may be held in person, by telephone or other communication device, shall be sent to the members of the Committee, the external auditor and any additional attendees as determined by the Chair of the Committee.
- The external auditor has the right to appear before and be heard at any meeting of the Committee.
- Meetings will be scheduled to permit timely review of Committee materials.
- A majority of the Committee will constitute a quorum.
- Minutes of each meeting will be prepared by the person designated by the Committee to act as secretary and will be kept by the Corporate Governance & Secretarial Department.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### 1. Financial and Operating

- review significant accounting and reporting issues and understand their impact on the financial statements. These issues include:
  - (a) complex or unusual transactions and highly judgmental areas;
  - (b) major issues regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentations, including any significant changes in the Corporation's selection or application of accounting principles; and
  - (c) the effect of regulatory and accounting initiatives, as well as off-balance sheet structures, on the financial statements of the Corporation.
- Review analyses prepared by management and/or the external auditors, setting forth significant financial reporting issues and judgements made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements, including analyses of the effects of new or revised IFRS methods on the financial statements.
- Review with management and the external auditors the results of the audit, including any difficulties encountered.
- Review the Corporation's annual and interim financial statements, Management's Discussion & Analysis ("MD&A") and earnings press releases and the Annual Information Form ("AIF") before the Corporation publicly discloses this information.
- Review reports prepared by Designated Audit Directors and directors appointed to corporate entities including joint ventures or partnerships (which do not have an appointed Designated Audit Director) regarding any significant items pertaining to year-end financial disclosure documents.
- If delegated by the Board, approve the interim financial statements, interim MD&A and interim earnings press releases before the Corporation publicly discloses this information.
- Recommend to the Board the approval of the Corporation's annual financial statements, AIF and annual MD&A.
- Be satisfied that adequate procedures are in place for the review of the Corporation's public disclosure of financial information extracted or derived from the Corporation's financial statements, and periodically assess the adequacy of these procedures.
- Be satisfied that the Corporation has implemented appropriate systems of internal control over financial reporting and that these systems are operating effectively.

## 2. External Auditor

- Recommend to the Board:
  - (a) the external auditor to be nominated for the purpose of preparing or issuing an auditor’s report or performing other audit, review or attestation services for the Corporation; and
  - (b) the compensation of the external auditor.
- Be directly responsible for overseeing the work of the external auditor engaged for the purpose of preparing or issuing an auditor’s report or performing other audit, review or attestation services for the Corporation, including the resolution of disagreements between management and the external auditor regarding financial reporting.
- Pre-approve all non-audit services to be provided to the Corporation or its subsidiaries by the external auditor of the Corporation (“Non-audit Services”). The Committee may delegate to one or more of its members the authority to pre-approve Non-audit Services. All Non-audit Services provided by the external auditor shall be summarized and reported to the Audit & Risk Committee on a cumulative basis for the year at each quarterly meeting.
- The Committee shall adopt and periodically review practices and procedures for the engagement of Non-audit Services that are detailed as to the particular service, that do not include delegation of the Committee’s responsibilities to management, and that are designed to manage the pre-approval process and comply with all applicable legal and regulatory requirements.
- Review and approve the Corporation’s hiring policies regarding partners, employees and former partners and employees of the present and former external auditors of the Corporation.

## 3. Internal Auditor

- Be satisfied that the internal audit function has been effectively carried out and the internal auditor has adequate resources.
- Review and approve the annual Audit Plan.
- Review and approve Internal Audit’s annual budget and resource plan.

## 4. Risk Management

- Understand the principal risks of the Corporation:
  - (a) review and consider with management the Corporation's risk taking philosophy;
  - (b) review and discuss with management the Corporation's risk inventory and related mitigation plans;
  - (c) receive presentations, reports and other information about extraordinary risks, emerging risks and significant trends that could materially affect the Corporation's ability to achieve its strategic objectives;
  - (d) review reports prepared by Designated Audit Directors and directors appointed to corporate entities including joint ventures or partnerships (which do not have an appointed Designated Audit Director) regarding any significant risks identified by management;
  - (e) review and discuss with management a summary of safety and environmental performance.
- Be satisfied that management has appropriate processes in place to identify, assess, manage and monitor risk.
- Review the Corporation's insurance programs for adequacy annually.

## 5. Other

- Ensure that the Corporation has appropriate procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Corporation regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters.
- Provide a means for confidential and anonymous submission by employees of the Corporation of concerns regarding accounting or auditing matters.
- Review and reassess annually the adequacy of this mandate and recommend any proposed changes to the Board for approval.
- Review and approve annually the Disclosure Committee, Designated Audit Directors, and Internal Audit mandates.
- The Committee will inquire into any other matters referred to it by the Board.

## REPORTING

The Committee shall report to the Board on such matters and questions relating to the financial position or risk management of the Corporation as the Board may from time to time refer to the Committee. A summary of all meetings will be provided to the Board by the Chair of the Committee. Supporting schedules and information reviewed by the Committee will be available for examination by any director upon request. The external auditor and the Vice President, Internal Audit of the Corporation shall report directly to the Committee. The Committee is expected to maintain free and open communication with the Corporation's external auditor, internal auditor and management. This communication shall include private sessions, at least annually, with each of these parties.