Ontario Region, Human Resources & Workplace Services

Management Practices Audit of the Ontario Region APPROVAL DATE: 20/06/2011

PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION PLAN	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM RESPONSE
1. The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region should collaborate with Headquarters to define external client services offered by INAC and to develop performance targets for the delivery of these services as part of on-going monitoring and management of the performance against established standards. To ensure a consistent, national approach is adopted, standards, performance expectations and monitoring requirements should be formally communicated by Headquarters to all regions.	RO Headquarters will work with other sectors and regions to develop departmental approaches to service management that are consistent with Treasury Board Secretariat guidance. These approaches include appropriate governance and management oversight, identifying services that the department offers, setting appropriate service standards and monitoring regimes, and clarifying roles and responsibilities. The Regional Directors General will work closely with HQ and other Regions to assist with the development of national approaches.		Ontario Update: Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2012: On going Status: Regional Funding Services have established a service standards document for internal and external timelines. Ontario has shared this action pan with NCR-RO. RO has been working on a related service standards finding in the MPR MAP. A National process is required to standardize the departmental approaches.
	Work is underway. Initial discussions have taken place at DGIOC (April 11, 2011). Actions: Programs with existing service standards: Formalize existing service standards in a document	September 2011	RO Update: Update/Rationale: Underway As of 31/03/2012: The Regional Operations Sector, Operations and Planning Supports Directorate has taken the lead in Service Standard Management within AANDC.

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	Programs without service standards: Direct services	March 2012	Over the past year the following activities have occurred in response to the MPR/MAF Action Items:
	Grants and Contributions Internal Services	March 2012 June 2012	 The Service Management Strategy has been developed and presented to OPS in the Fall of 2011 The Service Inventory List for External Clients was developed and presented to OPS Ctte and Treasury Board in the Fall of 2011. The Service Standard Governance Framework was drafted and presented to OPS in June 2011. The Service Excellence Working Group was established with focus to provide departmental service management oversight and support to DGIOC and OPS Ctte on Service Standard activities. The working group has initiated discussion and consultation with sectors to identify new services
			 which will be reviewed / assessed by risk and importance. Service Standards for Grants and Contributions were developed and

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			presented to OPS Ctte and approval is anticipated in Q1 2012-2013. RO Sector, OPS Directorate focus on internal services which directly impact the delivery of external services. RO will be working with the Working Group and Sr. management to further confirm workplan activities for internal services outside of current plan.
			AES: Closed.
2. The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region should implement a revised, and comprehensive, approach to the development of its annual HR plan	The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region will implement a revised approach to HR planning and reporting. A planning session was held with the Regional Management		As of 31/03/2012: Accomplished with follow up monitoring on going
for 2011-12 and onward. The revised approach should help ensure that the HR Plan aligns with the strategic and operational objectives of the Region, and should include planned actions to reduce the	Committee in early 2011 and follow- up work from that session continues as well as ongoing work with the Regional Operations Sector to ensure a consistent national approach. An enhanced HR planning function will		Status: In Q1 and Q2 there were 22 long- term acting situations (over 12 months and up to three years) at various groups and levels (other than EX). Through strategic planning and implementing actions such as, making indeterminate appointments from pre-qualified
number of key, senior management, acting positions going forward.	also be linked to business planning.		staffing pools, stabilizing position vacancies, and ending acting situations through meeting

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	Acting assignments have been		operational requirements by other means, the
	eliminated at the EX3 and EX2		22 situations were ended by March 31/12.
	levels; work is currently under way		Therefore, the Region met the DM's
	to reduce and regularize the number		expectation that all acting appointments over
	of acting appointments at the EX1		12 months cease.
	level, balanced with efforts to enhance succession planning for that		Furthermore, all EX acting situations are
	classification level.		subject to RDG and ADM approval and any
	Clussification level.		situation over 4 weeks is subject to WMB
	Actions:		approval. Notably, all Ontario Region short-
	Finalization of HR plan	Q1 – 2011-2012	term and long-term EX acting requests and
	-		appointments were eliminated in 2011-12.
	Link with business planning		
	enhanced over the course of the	Q4 – 2011-2012	Update/Rationale:
	year		The Corporate HR Plan 2011-2014 was
	Acting assignments already reduced		developed and coordinated with NCR-HR. The
	Acting assignments already reduced and continue in Q1 with staffing	Q3 – 2011-2012	region continues to monitor and report to NCR-HR on various HR initiatives. e.g. PS
	efforts targeted for completion in Q3	03 - 2011-2012	renewal, FSWEP and student bridging.
	enorts targeted for completion in 25		Teriewai, 1 5 WEF and student bridging.
			The Region continues to strengthen the
			linkages between business and HR planning.
			Not yet fully accomplished due to operational pressures; - ongoing
			AES: Implemented. Closed.

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PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION PLAN	EXPECTED COMPLETION	PROGRAM RESPONSE
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3. The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region should establish and implement a strategy and related process to review and assess the compliance of individual appointment processes, including the documentation of business rationale, candidate assessments, right fit, and priority appointments.	The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region will establish and implement a strategy and process on compliance for individual appointment processes. This strategy involves elements such as the rejuvenation of a regional human-resources committee and attention at the Regional Management Committee to coordinate processes and share information better. HR Action requests are being more fulsomely reviewed to ensure compliance with documentation and process requirements, with directors and managers being held accountable. Actions: HRC renewed Directors and managers to have a relevant performance indicator	Q1 – 2011-2012 Q1 – 2011-2012	Status: HR processes in the region have been strengthened in 2011-2012 and are subject to approval of NCR WFMB. All Human Resources Action Requests (HRAR) appointments were reviewed and deliberated at the weekly RMC and proposed for approval to the RDG. Before any offer letters are issued, the HR Advisor and the HR Director conduct a strategic document review of the files to ensure the file complies with the Public Service Commission (PSC) standards. All the staffing files include a national documentation checklist. Gaps are identified and followed up with the hiring Manager. Complete files are signed off by the HR Director and only then, are offer letters issued by the Region. The transition to Staffing Classification Action Request Forms (SCARFs) and the Work Force Management Board (WFMB) approval process
	included in EPMs		was implemented in 2011-2012. 100% of Ontario Region's submitted SCARFs to HQ

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	HRARs and documentation being reviewed attentively on an ongoing basis	On-going – 2011-2012	have been approved by NCR-WFMB. Ontario Region developed a MOU with the Canadian School of Public Service (CSPS) and offered a 2 day mandatory training course on staffing for managers to all managers in November 2011. Update/Rationale: Completed Directors and managers will have a relevant performance indicator regarding staffing appointments included in their EPMs in 2012-2013, in the context of WFA appointments. As of 31/03/2012: AES: Implemented. Closed.
4. The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region should ensure that training is provided to regional managers responsible for hiring and promotion activities. The training should identify the appropriate	The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region will ensure that regional managers are trained in staffing. Options for conducting the training are being explored on a priority basis and the training will be		Status: Ontario Region developed a MOU with the CSPS and offered a 2 day mandatory training course on staffing to all managers in November 2011.

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EXPECTED PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS **ACTION PLAN** COMPLETION PROGRAM RESPONSE DATE staffing process to follow and mandatory for all managers, with a identify the required documentation particular emphasis on early training to be retained to demonstrate for those with high staffing activity. compliance with policies and procedures. Completed in November 2011 **Actions:** Options identified Q1 - 2011-2012Delivery 02/03 - 2011-**AES:** Implemented. Closed. 2012 Status: The Regional Director General of the **Implemented** Ontario Region responded to the DM's 5. The Director General of the Ontario Region will work with the DG Q4 - 2010-11 direction that all long-term acting must cease. **Human Resources and Workplace** of HRWSB to revise HR reports as Services Branch (HRWSB) should revise regional human resources described. There are no EX long-term acting assignments reports to help ensure that sufficient in the Region. information is provided to In cooperation with IT Services, management in order to identify and HRWSB released the staffing Any long-term acting situations are approved by the WFMB based on the rational provided monitor exceptional staffing actions, component of "the Human resources such as acting assignment Reporting & Analysis (HRRA) by the Director/Manager. extensions greater than one year, to project". This will enable regions to ensure compliance with relevant produce their own reports and make policies. Where possible, these their own analysis. reports should be consistent nationally and should be In addition, monitoring of the acting incorporated into the existing appointments department-wide is departmental reporting structure. conducted on a regular basis, with follow-ups on remedial actions when **AES:** Closed based on the revisions to the required. Monitoring reports are staffing approval process as a result of the

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	presented to HRWSMC.		WFMB.
6. The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region should collaborate with HRWSB to adjust EPM requirements. Changes should include the alignment of developmental goals with employee needs, and position and regional competencies requirements. Any developmental goals identified should be used to inform learning plans for the year and there should be a clear link between the two documents (i.e. EPM and Learning Plan). Training should be carried out to help improve the consistency and quality of EPM preparation and assessment. The Ontario Region should also conduct a quality review of a sample of EPMs to verify that they are being completed as intended and expected.	The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region will collaborate with the DG of HRWSB to adjust EPM requirements. Managers will be trained to improve the development of aligned EPMs and learning plans in Q1 of 2011-12, and plans will be implemented for regional employees. A sample review will take place in Q3 of 2011-12 and adjustments will be made as necessary. Actions: Training scheduled by videoconference with HRWSB for April 15, 2011 – for managers and supervisors, entitled "A quality EPM process and meaningful learning plan" and for all staff, "Understanding the EPM and	Q1 – 2011-2012	Status: The Region implemented the new forms, policy and guidelines per the national time-frames. Call letters were issued in follow up to DGHR announcements. In the fall 2011, the Region undertook mid-year discussions with employees to make required adjustments to LPs. The Region's LP completion rate is 90% (excluding Federal School employees). Regional HR continues to track and report to ensure we meet the 90% goal. EPM and LP training has been implemented in the region for managers, supervisors and employees in 2011-2012.

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PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS	ACTION PLAN	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM RESPONSE
	Sample review	Q3 – 2011-2012	
7. The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region should restructure the Learning Plan process in the Region by: splitting the training budget between HR and Directorates; including the rationale for planned learning, including alignment with individual and regional competency requirements; providing training to help implement the learning plan changes made; and ensuring staff that join the Region during the year have learning plans and performance goals established.	The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region will restructure the learning plan process in the Region (as outlined in point 6) and by splitting the regional training budget to allocate 50% to individual RCMs and 50% to HR for common learning needs. Actions: Training budget split (please refer to point 6 as well)	Q1 – 2011-2012	Status: The Directors were assigned training budgets in 2011-2012 as recommended by AES. In 2012-2013 Ontario Region is centralizing the training budget with Human Resources for increased efficiency and improved coordination. This will allow prioritizing mandatory, operational and developmental courses on a region wide basis within the delegated budget. AES: Implemented. Closed.
8. The Director General, HRWSB should review and modify the EPM Completion Rate report generated through the Human Resource Management System (HRMS) to help	In cooperation with IT Services, the reports were updated to eliminate duplicated entries of acting employees.		Status: Ontario Region addressed the findings of the MPR and currently generates the EPM completion rate information using the Human Resources Management System (HRMS). The

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ensure that the manual adjustments, currently required to eliminate duplicate counting of acting employees, are no longer necessary.	For this year, the report will be generated for more accurate data. Actions: Corrections to report parameters completed Report available	Q3 – 2010-2011 Q1 – 2011-12	region no longer has any duplicate counting of employees. The Ontario Region EPM completion rate for 2011-2012 is 91% (excluding Federal School employees). Regional quality control of EPM completion rates is accurate. Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2012: On-going AES: Closed based on the progress made to date by the region.
9. The Director General, HRWSB should collaborate with regions and sectors to review the national deadline for the completion of Learning Plans. Where possible, deadlines should be moved to earlier in the year to better align with the operational workloads of regions/sectors and permit completion of planned learning activities.	The learning plan is developed based on the knowledge gaps and development areas identified by the manager and employee following the confirmation of the work objectives in the EMP form; both are part of an integrated process. Therefore, a change in dates influences both forms. The deadlines identified are the		Status: The Region implemented the new learning plan forms, policy and guidelines per the national time-frames and call letters were issued in follow up to DGHR announcements. In the fall 2011, the Region undertook midyear discussions with employees to make required adjustments to LPs. The Region's LP completion rate is 90% (excluding Federal School employees). Regional HR continues to track and report to ensure we meet the 90% goal.

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	latest dates at which the forms have to be forwarded (May 31) and entered in PeopleSoft (June 30). Nothing prevents a region/sector from modifying the deadline – for an earlier date – to accommodate their workload realities. Also, nothing prevents an individual with the appropriate financial authority from		HQ consulted with the Region on the time- frames, but no change was made to the May 31 deadline for LP completion.
	approving training, on a case-by- case basis, prior to this deadline; this would entail some risk management on their part.		AES: Closed based on the progress made by the region and the HQ decision to not adjust the LP completion date.
	Actions: Learning and Development Directorate will consult regions/sectors via email to validate these options and explore potential	Q1 – 2011-2012	
	changes by the end of Q1. Results/changes will be communicated in next year's EPM/LP call letter in Q4.	Q4 – 2011-12	
10. The Regional Director General of	Short-term:		Status: Underway
the Ontario Region should develop and implement a formal,	Continue on-going risk assessments (FSR, Compliance, Gas, etc.) and		Update/Rationale: As of 30/09/2012:

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documented approach to risk management, including an on-going process and governance structure for identifying, assessing, and monitoring risk mitigating actions. Headquarters should communicate guidance to all Regions and Sectors to ensure a consistent, national approach to risk management.	continue to report on activities in the quarterly business plans. Medium-term: The Risk Champion for the department, with support from the Chief Risk Officer will develop department-wide risk management tools.	September 2011	Ontario is participating in the monthly national conference calls with the risk management community of practice to ensure we access national capacity and ensure consistent approaches with our HQ and other regional counterparts. Ontario Region is currently conducting a
("Headquarters" includes Policy and Strategic Direction, the INAC Risk Champion, and the Risk Management Centre in Audit and Evaluation Sector).	Regional Directors General will support these and implement risk management tools in their regions that support and are consistent with the national approaches.		regional risk inventory and assessment in Q3. Regional tools have been developed in accordance with the national approaches. The workshops are scheduled for November 20 and 21, 2012. The facilitator of the workshops is from the HQ Risk Office.
	HQ Risk leads visited regions in October 2010 to review risk practices and provide training. Regions to continue ongoing liaison with risk leads re: support for regional risk management practices.		
	Regional Corporate Risk Profiles to be integrated into regional business planning process and documents for	2012/2013	Status: Underway Update/Rationale: As of 30/09/2012:

EXPECTED

2011-06-20 Follow-up Report: Management Practices Audit of the Ontario Region CIDM# 4185717

2012/2013

Ontario Region continues to utilise risk tools

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			and assessment processes in the management of the remote energy files and in the completion of the FMC reallocation request annex "L". Upon completion of the regional risk profile the region will develop a mitigation plan for high risk areas as part of the 2013-2014 business planning process. AES: Implementation ongoing. The recommendation will be closed upon completion of the Regional Risk Profile.
11. The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region should collaborate with Headquarters to expand the financial information captured in the regional planning documents that support the Regional Quarterly report such that the cost of planned activities are reported and monitored.	As articulated in the 2011-14 Corporate Business Plan, the department will work at improving integrated planning and resource alignment by establishing principles and processes (including schedule and calendar) for integrated planning and consult with internal partners (HR, CFO, AES)	March 2012	Status: Request to close (completed) Update/Rationale: As of 30/09/2012: Ontario Region continues to utilize the national templates for the regional planning and quarterly reporting. The Resource and HR staffing plan data as well as the Regional Standard Indicators – Capital are incorporated into the regional processes. AES: Closed- Implemented.

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12. The Regional Director General of the Ontario Region should collaborate with Headquarters to establish service standards for all corporate services, including Accounting, IM/IT, Administration and Resource Management. The standards established should be	Ontario Region, Director Corporate Services & Director Funding Services to engage with RO Regions to gather current performance measures for functional areas, propose recommendations to standardize and address potential gaps.		Status: Ontario Region provided input to the CFO Sector on workload for which service standards were available within the region. This exercise was initiated to determine existing standards and establish consistency and best practices throughout the Department.
applied consistently across the Department and be reported and monitored in the Regional Quarterly Report, as is currently the case for	Provide consolidated Regional RO Sector recommendations for Review and endorsement from the CFO Sector (functional lead).		Update/Rationale: As of 31/03/2012:
Human Resources	Actions:Regional review and consolidation of functional performance indicators.	End of Q1, 2011- 12	Completed for Regional Corporate Services. AES: Implemented. Closed.
	With the CFO Sector, review for implementation.	End of Q2, 2011- 12	