

## Preface

On October 12, 2004 the Standing Committee on Public Accounts met to decide upon, and plan, future committee business. At that time the Committee agreed to hold a one-day public hearing to follow up on public hearings held in February 2004 and the committee's First Report, which was based on those hearings and issued in July 2004. The focus of the February 2004 hearings was the mandates of six entities created by territorial legislation and the extent to which these mandates are being fulfilled.

Committee members believed that a follow-up public hearing was necessary to establish the credibility of the Committee and ensure that it can fulfil its mandate. The Committee then discussed the number of entities to be recalled, which entities should be recalled and how long the hearing should last. The Committee agreed to call representatives of the Yukon Development Corporation and Yukon College to appear on November 19, 2004. Committee members then worked with officials from the Office of the Auditor General of Canada to develop questions for the follow-up hearing.

The Second Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts is based on the public hearings held on November 19, 2004. In this report the Committee has focused on that testimony it considers worthy of further comment. Appended to the report are the transcripts of the public hearings and a protocol negotiated between the Minister responsible for the Yukon Development Corporation/Yukon Energy Corporation and the corporations. This protocol was negotiated pursuant to a statutory requirement found in section 4 of the *Corporate Governance Act*.

The Committee would like to thank officials from the Office of the Auditor General of Canada – Ron Thompson, Assistant Auditor General; Roger Simpson, Principal (Edmonton office); and Eric Hellsten, Principal (Vancouver office) – for their assistance in preparing the Committee for the hearings. The Committee would also like to thank the witnesses who appeared before it for their candid and forthright responses.

It is also worth noting that the Committee's membership has changed since the First Report was issued. Beginning with the Committee's meeting on October 29, 2004 Steve Cardiff began to substitute for Eric Fairclough. On November 2, 2004 the government House leader, Hon. Peter Jenkins, gave notice of a motion to rescind Mr. Fairclough's appointment and appoint Mr. Cardiff in his place. The motion was agreed to without debate on December 2, 2004.