



National Defence

Défense nationale

Deputy Minister

Sous-ministre

National Defence Headquarters
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K2

Quartier général de la Défense nationale
Ottawa, (Ontario)
K1A 0K2

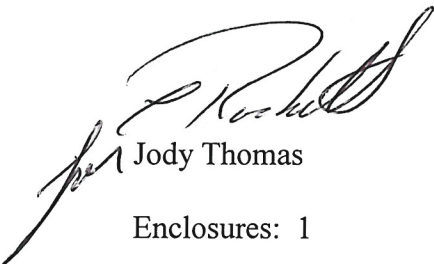
DEC 27 2019

Chair, Standing Committee on Public Accounts
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

As requested in the Sixty-sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts entitled *Report 2: Conserving Federal Heritage Properties, of the 2018 Fall Reports of the Auditor General of Canada*, National Defence submits its response to Recommendation 1.

National Defence originally committed to provide an update on this recommendation by 30 September 2019. While this deadline was not possible as it fell during the federal election, it is my pleasure to offer this update so that committee members will have the latest information when the Committee is reconstituted in the New Year.

Sincerely,



Jody Thomas

Enclosures: 1

Canada 

**Response to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts'
Report 2: Conserving Federal Heritage Properties, of the 2018 Fall Reports
of the Auditor General of Canada**

Recommendation 1

That, by 30 September 2019, Parks Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and National Defence provide the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Accounts with reports outlining what progress has been made with regard to updating their asset management databases to accurately reflect complete information on the number and current condition of their heritage properties.

Background

In the fall 2018 report on Conserving Federal Heritage Properties, the Auditor General noted that National Defence had complete data on the number of heritage buildings (292) in its property portfolio and these data were already in its corporate database, but that information on the current condition of heritage properties was incomplete. The Auditor General recommended that National Defence update its asset management database to have complete information on the number and current condition of its heritage properties.

In its Management Action Plan, National Defence agreed with the recommendation and committed to entering new condition assessment data obtained between 2016 and 2018 for all buildings, including 214 of 292 heritage buildings, by December 2018. National Defence also committed to assessing the remaining 78 heritage buildings in its portfolio and entering the data into its database by March 2020.

Progress on reporting new condition assessments

National Defence has completed this commitment. National Defence entered the condition assessment for 214 of 292 heritage properties into its database by September 2018, prior to the December 2018 deadline, and subsequently submitted the data to the Treasury Board Secretariat for certification.

Progress on the remaining condition assessments

National Defence is on track to meet its remaining Management Action Plan commitment and address the Auditor General's recommendation. An external contractor completed four assessments by August 2019 and is scheduled to complete 28 additional assessments by mid-December 2019. The contractor is scheduled to assess the remaining 46 properties by the end of March 2020.

As the contractor completes the assessments, National Defence is concurrently verifying the data for quality before entering them into its database. National Defence plans to complete this process by the end of March 2020, once the contractor

completes its final assessments. National Defence will then submit the data to the Treasury Board Secretariat by 31 May 2020.

On completion of the 78 final assessments, the information on the number and condition of National Defence's heritage properties in its database will be complete and fully up to date. In accordance with its Management Action Plan commitment, National Defence will continue reviewing its full portfolio on a five-year cycle.