2002-706 Audit of RPS Financial Statements 2001/2002 ARC Briefing Note

Audit Objective

The purpose of the audit was to attest to the fair presentation in the financial statements of Real Property Services Revolving Fund, of the financial position and results of operations and changes in financial position for the year ended March 31, 2002 for the purpose of reporting to the Deputy Minister and the ADM Government Operational Service and for reporting in the Public Accounts of Canada.

Audit Results

The audit resulted in the provision of the attached auditor's report (opinion) by PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Real Property Services Revolving Fund

Financial Statements March 31, 2002



June 28, 2002

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP Chartered Accountants 99 Bank Street Suite 800 Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1P 1E4 Telephone +1 (613) 237 3702 Facsimile +1 (613) 237 3963

Auditors' Report

To the Director General, Audit and Ethics Branch Public Works and Government Services Canada

We have audited the balance sheet of the **Real Property Services Revolving Fund** as at March 31, 2002 and the statements of operations, accumulated deficit and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Real Property Services Revolving Fund. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Real Property Services Revolving Fund as at March 31, 2002 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles for Revolving Funds of the Government of Canada as described in note 2.

The financial statements as at March 31, 2001 and for the year then ended were audited by other auditors who expressed an opinion without reservation on those statements in their report dated July 12, 2001.

Chartered Accountants

Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

Balance sheet

Real Property Services Revolving Fund

as at March 31 (in thousands of dollars)	2002	2001
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Assets		
Current		
Accounts receivable		
Government of Canada	200,038	248,111
Outside parties	9,549	14,623
Other assets	3,813	697
	213,400	263,431
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		
Government of Canada	11,223	17,170
Outside parties	144,341	138,699
Professional liability fund	2,347	1,986
Other liabilities	6,200	4,690
	164,111	162,545
Allowance for employee termination benefits	18,609	14,609
•	182,720	177,154
Contractual commitments (note 3)		
Equity of Canada		
Accumulated net charge against the Fund's authority	50,723	193,428
Accumulated deficit	(20,043)	(107,151)
	213,400	263,431

Statement of operations Real Property Services Revolving Fund

Year ended March 31 (in thousands of dollars)	2002	2001
Gross revenues	818,685	712,515
Recoverable disbursements made on behalf of clients	659,521	579,403
Net revenues	159,164	133,112
Operating expenses Salaries and employee benefits	101,678	81,112
Employee termination benefits	4,613	2,100
Overhead chargeback	28,506	23,853
Corporate and administrative services	17,817	14,907
Occupancy costs	3,555	2,916
Provision for claims and other expenditures	4,114	7,753
	160,283	132,641
Net income (loss)	(1,119)	471

Statement of accumulated deficit

Real Property Services Revolving Fund

Year ended March 31 (in thousands of dollars)	2002	2001
Balance, beginning of year	(107,151)	(107,622)
Net income (loss)	(1,119)	471
Write-off of net draw down authority used (note 1)	88,227	
Balance, end of year	(20,043)	(107,151)

Statement of cash flows

Real Property Services Revolving Fund

Year ended March 31		
(in thousands of dollars)	2002	2001
Operating activities		
Net income (loss)	(1,119)	471
Item not affecting use of authority		
Provision for employee termination benefits	4,000	1,285
	2,881	1,756
Changes in working capital (note 4)	51,597	78,657
	54,478	80,413
Investing activities		
Capital assets - disposals / adjustments	0	2,778
Net decrease in accumulated net		
charge against the Fund's authority	54,478	83,191
Write-off of net draw down authority used (note 1)	88,227	0
Accumulated net charge against the Fund's		
authority, beginning of year	(193,428)	(276,619)
Accumulated net charge against the Fund's		
authority, end of year	(50,723)	(193,428)

Notes to the Financial Statements

Real Property Services Revolving Fund

1. Authority and purpose

The Real Property Services Revolving Fund (RPSRF), formerly The Public Works Revolving Fund, was established by the *Adjustment of Accounts Act* (Bill C-22 dated July 22, 1980), which was repealed in 1985 and replaced by Section 5 of the Revolving Funds Act. It allows the Minister of Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) to make expenditures for undertakings by the department, on behalf of other government departments and agencies, other governments, and private sector tenants of federally owned or leased property. Effective April 1, 1996, the Architectural Engineering and Realty Services Revolving Fund began operation under the name of Real Property Services Revolving Fund. The Fund looks after the activities of architectural and engineering, property management, holdings and divestiture, and support services.

The Fund has a continuing non-lapsing authority from Parliament to make payments out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the operating expenses, the necessary working capital, and capital expenditures.

In accordance with the former Section 33 of the Adjustment of Accounts Act, and through the 1983-84 Supplementary Estimates (B), the authority of the Fund was amended to include charges on behalf of other Public Works Canada's departmental programs and to increase the financial authority from \$55,000,000 to \$150,000,000. In the 1984-85 Supplementary Estimates (C) the authority was increased from \$150,000,000 to \$300,000,000. Through the 1987-88 Supplementary Estimates (E), the authority was further increased from \$300,000,000 to \$450,000,000.

The Services Program operated as a revolving fund on a direct cost recovery basis from April 1, 1985 to March 31, 1988, supplemented by a payment vote to cover non-recoverable operating expenses from clients, as well as a vote to cover capital acquisitions of the Program. Since April 1, 1988, under revised terms and conditions approved by Treasury Board (TB) Minute 805839 dated June 25, 1987, the objective of the Real Property Services (formerly Public Works) Revolving Fund is to operate as a financially self-supporting entity charging market-based service fees in accordance with the TB approved rate structure for the services provided to clients.

In addition, the Revolving Fund receives funding by way of a separate vote, to cover operating expenses in support of activities serving broader government objectives which are not recovered by revenues. The amount received in 1997-98 and 1996-97 was \$2,589,000.

Through the 2000-2001 Annual Reference Level Update (ARLU) exercise, which was approved on December 9, 1999 (TB Minute 827730), the Revolving Fund presented a revision to its Financial Framework whereby it will no longer be used as a business tool to manage the costs related to the appropriated funding of the Federal Accommodation and Holding Service Line. Effective April 1, 1999, RPSRF is used exclusively for providing services to Other Government Departments and third parties.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Real Property Services Revolving Fund

1. Authority and purpose (Continued)

Finally, in accordance with Section 12 of the *Revolving Fund Act* R.S.C. 1985, c. R-8 to amend subsection 5(3) of the Act and through the 2001-02 Supplementary Estimates (B) - vote 7b and 13b (TB decision 829420 dated December 6, 2001), the draw down authority of the fund was reduced from \$450,000,000 to \$150,000,000 in addition to the write off of \$88,227,114 on the net draw down authority used as of March 31, 2002.

2. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada to the extent that they are in accordance with Government policies and directives. The significant accounting policies include the following:

a) Revenues and expenses

Revenues and expenses are recorded on the accrual basis of accounting. Overhead chargeback and corporate and administrative services are based on budgeted expenditures calculated as a percentage of budgeted net revenues.

b) Inventories

Inventories are valued at cost and are recorded on a first-in, first-out basis.

c) Work in process

Work in process includes labour and disbursements incurred for services performed or goods delivered, less amounts already billed to clients.

d) Pension plan

Employees are covered by the *Public Service Superannuation Act* and the *Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act*. The Government of Canada's portion of the pension cost is included in the employee fringe benefit charge assessed against the Fund. The actual payment of the pension is made from the Public Service Superannuation and Supplementary Retirement Benefits Accounts.

e) Employee termination benefits

Termination benefits accrue to employees over their years of service with the Government of Canada as provided for under collective agreements, and the estimated costs of these benefits are recorded in the accounts as they are earned by the employees.

An accrual was made for severance entitlements on service prior to April 1, 1988. This accrual represented a net liability assumed by the Fund and thus was charged to the Fund's accumulated net charge against the Fund's authority as described in the annex of T.B. Decision Letter #805839 dated June 25, 1987.

f) Insurance

The Fund does not carry insurance on its property. This is consistent with the Government's policy of self insurance.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Real Property Services Revolving Fund

3. Contractual commitments

The Fund is engaged in contractual commitme.	nts. Future payments are as follows:
(in thousands of dollars)	
2002-2003	105,140
2003-2004	14,070
2004-2005	1,267
2005-2006	143
	120,620

4. Changes in working capital

(in thousands of dollars)	2002	2001	Changes
Current assets	213,400	263,431	50,031
Current liabilities	164,111	162,545	1,566
	49,289	100,886	51,597

5. Comparative figures

Certain of the prior years' figures have been reclassified in order to conform to the presentation adopted in the current year.