

Lansdowne audit: the Ottawa AG wants to hear from you

This crucial audit is looking at whether the Lansdowne financing proposition is feasible or will leave Ottawans with a tax time bomb that detonates every year for the next 40. Those who have studied it are clear that this version of the Lansdowne project is unaffordable.

Under the by-law governing her Office, it is Ms. Gougeon's responsibility to ensure that every citizen gets value from our tax dollars. ReImagine Ottawa is supporting her effort by encouraging public input. Please take a minute to [email her](#) about financial or other auditable concerns. The audit is already underway so don't wait!

Some questions you might ask:

- What would be the burden on the City & taxpayers if the \$419 million balloons to double or more than that amount?
- Is it wise for the City to take responsibility for cost overruns, given the City's history?
- What impact would a likely second downtown sports and entertainment centre have on Lansdowne?
- What is the plan if, as was the case for Lansdowne 1.0, retail does not perform as projected?
- Will an audit of the OSEG/City of Ottawa contract be done to ensure it is in the best interest of citizens?
- Will there be an examination of the process by which the financial proposal and the contract were prepared?
- Will there be an assessment of staff capability to evaluate and manage a Public-Private Partnership of this magnitude?
- Were options such as renovation seriously considered?
- Was there sufficient emphasis on the social benefit to the community and the city?
- Did the City's public participation efforts provide the best results? Were the surveys unbiased and fairly executed?
- Should councillors who have received significant donations from developers associated with OSEG be permitted to sit on committees voting on matters related to Lansdowne? If yes, how is the Code of Conduct for Members of Council (By-law No. 2018-400) to be interpreted, which states "members . . . shall avoid conflicts of interest, both apparent and real."?