



Government Finance Officers Association
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Chicago, Illinois 60601-1210
312.977.9700 fax: 312.977.4806

July 09, 2024

Elma Hamming
Director, Financial Services
City of Vernon, British Columbia British Columbia

Dear Elma:

A panel of independent reviewers have completed their examination of your Annual budget document for the period beginning January 2024. We are pleased to inform you that the panel has voted to award your budget document the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). Please note that the Award has been granted on a qualified basis.

As you know, certain criteria of the Budget Awards Program are mandatory. Normally, failure to satisfy one of the mandatory criteria as determined by two or all three reviewers would preclude an organization from obtaining the award. Our review indicated that your budget document failed to satisfy the following criteria:

Performance measures

Because of your organization's past participation in the Budget Awards Program, this deficiency will not disqualify your budget document from receiving the Award this year. However, we encourage your entity to correct this deficiency by your next budget submission, or within two budget cycles at the latest, in order to continue to be eligible to receive the GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. Its attainment represents a significant achievement by your organization. In addition to receiving the award, your entity's budget received the following special recognition:

Strategic goals & strategies

Special recognition is given when all three reviewers give the highest possible score in particular categories.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is valid for one year. To continue your participation in the program, it will be necessary to submit your next budget document to GFOA within 90 days of the proposed budget's submission to the legislature or within 90 days of the budget's final adoption.

Your electronic award package contains the following:

- **Scores and Comments.** Each entity submitting a budget to the program is provided with reviewers' scores for each of the categories on which the budget document was judged along with reviewers' confidential comments and suggestions for possible improvements to the budget document. We urge you to carefully consider these suggestions as you prepare your next budget.
- **Budget Award.** A camera-ready reproduction of the Award is included for inclusion in your next budget. If you reproduce the camera-ready image in your next budget, it should be accompanied by a statement indicating continued compliance with program criteria. Please refer to the instructions for reproducing your Award in your next budget (also included in your award package).

- **Certificate of Recognition.** When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated as being primarily responsible for its having achieved the award.
- **Sample press release.** Attaining this Award is a significant accomplishment. The sample press release may be used to give appropriate publicity to this notable achievement. In addition, award recipients will receive via mail either a plaque (if the government is a first-time recipient or has received the Award fifteen times since it received its last plaque) or a brass medallion to affix to the plaque.

We appreciate your participation in this program, and we sincerely hope that your example will encourage others in their efforts to achieve and maintain excellence in governmental budgeting. The most current list of award recipients can be found on GFOA's website at www.gfoa.org. If we can be of further assistance, please contact the Awards Programs staff at (312) 977-9700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Mark Levine". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michele Mark Levine
Director, Technical Services Center