

PSAB/Asset Management

NEWSLETTER NO. 14

Tangible Capital Asset Accounting HOTLINE

By: Bruce E. Ratford, CMA

MFOA and AMCTO are pleased to announce that they have set up a special email hotline service for members. This service will address member questions or concerns relating to implementing accounting for tangible capital assets. On-line help psab@mfoa.on.ca is now available to you, and it is intended to offer this service at least until Labour Day, 2008.

If you are looking for information on how to proceed, or need a second opinion on some issue, this service will endeavour to provide you with an answer. Bruce Ratford, CMA, who authored the Ontario Municipal Benchmarking Initiative (OMBI) Reference Manual on tangible capital asset accounting, has been retained to research and respond to questions submitted. You may send your questions to psab@mfoa.on.ca

You will receive a personal response as soon as possible, depending on the complexity of your enquiry. We will incorporate many of the questions and responses in future PSAB/Asset Management newsletters, so that other members can also benefit in case they may have a similar problem.

Both organizations are providing this as a service to individual members, particularly those in smaller municipalities, who may have to undertake this assignment on their own, or with very limited assistance. It is hoped that providing this service will help ease the task, especially when perplexing or bewildering issues arise.

We will endeavour to address every question sent in that relates to the theory and the practical requirements of implementing accounting for tangible capital assets. At the same time, it is not the purpose of the hotline to make decisions on an issue for a questioner, or to be involved in the actual implementation project. This is strictly an added cost-free resource for advice on theoretical or practical matters relating to your implementation.

In submitting a question or problem that you are encountering, it will be most helpful if the issue is stated in some detail, along with some indication as to what are your specific concerns about the issue. Please also include your telephone number, in case Mr. Ratford needs to follow up for clarification purposes.

Finally, the provision of this service is made possible by funding from the Province of Ontario. MFOA and AMCTO gratefully acknowledge the contribution the Province has made to PSAB training and education.

As always, we invite you to let us know if there is an issue that you would like to see addressed in the Newsletters. We are also interested in having our members submit anything that you come across with regard to tangible capital assets, financial reporting, asset management or long-term financial planning including any reports or presentations that you have given or prepared that could be of use to others.

For more information and resources regarding tangible asset management, go to [PSAB/Asset Management](#), or contact:

Dan Cowin
Executive Director
MFOA
dan@mfoa.on.ca
Tel: 416-362-9001 x 223

Andy Koopmans
Executive Director
AMCTO
akoopmans@amcto.com
Tel: 905-602-4294 x 26

This Newsletter has been made available as a result of financial support from the Province of Ontario.