Corporate Overhead Benchmarking Studies

Metrolinx is in the process of completing a benchmarking study which compares its projected 2012-13 corporate overhead costs to other public transit corporations in Canada (i.e., Translink in Vancouver and AMT in Montreal) and the USA, as well as to other Canadian government agencies. The final results of this study should be available in April 2012.

For the purposes of this study, Metrolinx has defined corporate overhead costs as those costs which are not directly tied to a capital project or to the delivery of a service to the public. Corporate overhead includes program related costs such as Board support, executive office, corporate legal, human resources, audit, tax, and non-project communication costs. Appendix A outlines the breakdown of corporate overhead costs for Metrolinx's fiscal 2012-13 budget.

Metrolinx is currently completing research into public transit corporations of similar size and/or mandate. This research includes reviewing their mandate, corporate structure, sources of funds, total investment, the number of employees, and financial data to compare corporate overhead costs. This research is being conducted through publicly available information using professional researchers, websites, search engines and other research tools.

Non-Responsive Information

Transit Corporations – United States

Benchmark*	**Administration costs as a percentage of total operating expenses**
Chicago	9.4%
Boston	9.7%
New York	11.7%
Philadelphia	15.1%
Washington, D.C	15.8%
Los Angeles	16.0%
Seattle	16.5%
Atlanta	19.9%
San Francisco Bay	19.9%
National average	14.3%

- Data as published from The SF Examiner on February 21, 2011 based on a study prepared by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

Metrolinx's overhead percentage of 7.9% compares favourably to the major public transit providers in the United States as well as the United States national average.

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Other Governmental Agencies

Waterfront Toronto performed benchmarking comparisons to other government agencies and organizations in Canada.

These included:

Non-Responsive Information

Metrolinx's 2012-13 budgeted overhead rate of 7.9% compared to public transit service providers in Canada and the United States, as well as compared to other Canadian non-transit government agencies indicate that Metrolinx's overhead expenses appear to be reasonable given the size of its operations and its mandate. The above sample group ranged from a low of 6.3% to a high of 28.8%. With a 7.9% overhead rate, Metrolinx would be ranked fourth best amongst a sample group of 19 agencies.

Non-Responsive Information

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Non-Responsive Information

0735 Design, Marketing, Brand	3,821,729	3,821,729	Advertising budget for ARL/PRESTO and timetable printing have been reduced.

Non-Responsive Information

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