# Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the accompanying financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2015, and all information contained in these statements rests with the management of the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada (FJA). These financial statements have been prepared by management using the Government's accounting policies, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the information in these financial statements. Some of the information in the financial statements is based on management's best estimates and judgment, and gives due consideration to materiality. To fulfill its accounting and reporting responsibilities, management maintains a set of accounts that provides a centralized record of FJA's financial transactions. Financial information submitted in the preparation of the Public Accounts of Canada, and included in FJA's *Departmental Performance Report*, is consistent with these financial statements.

Management is also responsible for maintaining an effective system of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR) designed to provide reasonable assurance that financial information is reliable, that assets are safeguarded and that transactions are properly authorized and recorded in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and other applicable legislation, regulations, authorities and policies.

Management seeks to ensure the objectivity and integrity of data in its financial statements through careful selection, training and development of qualified staff; through organizational arrangements that provide appropriate divisions of responsibility; through communication programs aimed at ensuring that regulations, policies, standards, and managerial authorities are understood throughout FJA and through conducting an annual risk-based assessment of the effectiveness of the system of ICFR.

The system of ICFR is designed to mitigate risks to a reasonable level based on an on-going process to identify key risks, to assess effectiveness of associated key controls, and to make any necessary adjustments.

FJA will be subject to periodic Core Control Audits performed by the Office of the Comptroller General and will use the results of such audits to adhere to the Treasury Board *Policy on Internal Control*.

In the interim, FJA has undertaken a risk-based assessment of the system of ICFR for the year ended March 31, 2015, in accordance with the Treasury Board *Policy on Internal Control*, and the results and action plan are summarized in the annex.

The financial statements of FJA have not been audited.

(original signed by)(original signed by)William A. BrooksNicole SayedCommissionerChief Financial OfficerOttawa, CanadaOttawa, CanadaJuly 27, 2015July 27, 2015

# Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited) As at March 31

(in dollars)

	2015	2014
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		
(Note 4)	\$ 3,211,087	\$ 2,444,908
Vacation pay and compensatory leave	304,762	333,930
Judges' Supplementary Retirement		
Benefits Account (Note 5)	204,406,467	194,758,903
Employee future benefits (Note 6b)	336,648	269,058
Total liabilities	(208,258,964)	(197,806,799)
Financial assets		
Due from Consolidated Revenue Fund	(924,052)	5,099,692
Accounts receivable and advances (Note 7)	1,162,079	769,955
Total financial assets	238,027	5,869,647
Departmental net debt	(208,020,937)	(191,937,152)
Non-financial assets		
Prepaid expenses	304,914	285,875
Tangible capital assets (Note 8)	177,170	214,183
Total non-financial assets	482,084	500,058
Departmental net financial position	\$ (207,538,853)	\$ (191,437,094)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

(original signed by)(original signed by)William A. BrooksNicole SayedCommissionerChief Financial OfficerOttawa, CanadaOttawa, CanadaJuly 27, 2015July 27, 2015

# Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada **Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position (Unaudited)** For the Year Ended March 31

(in dollars)

	2015 Planned Results	2015	2014
Expenses			
Payments Pursuant to the Judges Act	\$ 492,130,000	\$ 505,648,545	\$ 490,627,887
Federal Judicial Affairs	9,919,000	9,467,882	9,514,999
Canadian Judicial Council	1,890,000	3,264,506	2,030,149
Internal Services	729,000	764,703	895,177
Total expenses	504,668,000	519,145,636	503,068,212
Revenues			
Pension contribution credited to revenue	14,100,000	14,315,718	14,017,867
User charges	275,000	28,000	41,510
Total revenues	14,375,000	14,343,718	14,059,377
Net cost of operations before government funding	490,293,000	504,801,918	489,008,835
Government funding			
Net cash provided by Government		493,261,366	477,278,155
Change in due from Consolidated Revenue Fund		(6,023,744)	539,761
Services provided without charge by other government departments (Note 9)  Transfer of the transition payments for		1,651,352	1,678,653
implementing salary payments in arrears (Note 10)		(188,815)	_
Net cost of operations after government funding		16,101,759	9,512,266
Departmental net financial position – Beginning of year		(191,437,094)	(181,924,828)
Departmental net financial position – End of year		\$ (207,538,853)	\$ (191,437,094)

Segmented information (Note 11) The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada Statement of Change in Department Net Debt (Unaudited) For the Year Ended March 31 (in dollars)

	2015	2014	
Net cost of operations after government funding	\$ 16,101,759	\$ 9,512,266	
Change due to tangible capital assets			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	53,296	143,580	
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(58,395)	(78,956)	
Total change due to tangible capital assets	(5,099)	64,624	
Change due to prepaid expenses	19,039	(242,222)	
Net increase in departmental net debt	16,115,699	9,334,668	
Departmental net debt – Beginning of year	191,937,152	182,602,484	
Departmental net debt – End of year	\$ 208,052,851	\$ 191,937,152	

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada Statement of Cash Flows (Unaudited) For the Year Ended March 31

(in dollars)

	2015	2014
Operating activities		
Net cost of operations before government funding	\$ 504,801,918	\$ 489,008,835
Non-cash items:	\$ 504,801,918	\$ 409,000,033
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(58,395)	(78,956)
Services provided without charge by other	(30,373)	(70,730)
government departments (Note 9)	(1,651,352)	(1,678,653)
Transition payments for implementing	(1,031,332)	(1,070,033)
salary payments in arrears (Note 10)	188,815	-
Variations in Statement of Financial Position:		
Increase (decrease) in accounts receivable		
and advances	392,124	(835,378)
Increase (decrease) in prepaid expenses	19,039	(242,222)
Decrease (increase) in accounts payable and	- ,	, , ,
accrued liabilities	(766,179)	467,892
Decrease (increase) in vacation pay and		
compensatory leave	29,168	(21,292)
Decrease (increase) in future employee		
benefits	(67,590)	187,447
Decrease (increase) in Judges'	(0, (47, 5, (4)	(0.672.000)
Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account	(9,647,564)	(9,673,098)
Cash used by operating activities	493,239,984	477,134,575
Capital investing activities		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	53,296	143,580
Disposal and Write-off of tangible capital assets	(31, 914)	-
Net cash provided by Government of Canada	\$ 493,261,366	\$ 477,278,155
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The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

### 1. Authority and Objectives

The Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs (FJA) Canada was created in 1978 under the authority of the *Judges Act* to safeguard the independence of the Judiciary and to put federally appointed judges at arm's length from the administration of the Department of Justice. It exists to promote better administration of justice and focuses its efforts on providing a sound support role to the federal judiciary.

FJA administers three distinct and separate components that are funded from different sources. Statutory funding is allocated for the judges' salaries, allowances and annuities, and surviving beneficiaries' benefits. Vote authorities are provided in two separate votes to support the administrative activities of FJA and the administrative activities of the Canadian Judicial Council.

The administration of FJA is structured to reflect the distinctiveness of its role in supporting federal judicial activities. Under the Program Alignment Architecture, in addition to Internal Services, the organization is broken down into three programs: Payments Pursuant to the *Judges Act*, Canadian Judicial Council and Federal Judicial Affairs (FJA).

FJA's organizational priorities are an improved financial control framework, improved performance reporting, human resource and succession planning and information management.

## 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

These financial statements have been prepared using the Government's accounting policies stated below, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards. The presentation and results using the stated accounting policies do not result in any significant differences from Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Significant accounting policies are as follows:

- (a) Parliamentary authorities FJA is financed by the Government of Canada through Parliamentary authorities. Financial reporting of authorities provided to FJA do not parallel financial reporting according to generally accepted accounting principles since authorities are primarily based on cash flow requirements. Consequently, items recognized in the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and in the Statement of Financial Position are not necessarily the same as those provided through authorities from Parliament. Note 3 provides reconciliation between these bases of reporting. The planned results amounts in the "Expenses" and "Revenues" sections of the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position are the amounts reported in the Future-oriented financial statements included in the 2014-2015 Reports on Plans and Priorities. Planned results are not presented in the "Government funding and transfers" section of the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and in the Statement of Change in Departmental Net Debt because these amounts were not included in the 2014-15 Report on Plans and Priorities.
- (b) Net Cash Provided by Government FJA operates within the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF), which is administered by the Receiver General for Canada. All cash received by FJA is deposited to the CRF and all cash disbursements made by departments are paid from the CRF. The net cash provided by the Government is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements including transactions between departments of the Government.
- (c) Amounts due from/to the CRF are the result of timing differences at year-end between when a transaction affects authorities and when it is processed through the CRF. Amounts due from the CRF represent the net amount of cash that FJA is entitled to draw from the CRF without further authorities to discharge its liabilities.

- (d) Revenues Revenues are accounted for in the period in which the underlying transaction or event that gave rise to the revenue takes place.
- (e) Expenses Expenses are recorded on an accrual basis:

Vacation pay and compensatory leave are accrued as the benefits are earned by the employees under their respective terms of employment.

Services provided without charge by other government departments for accommodation and the employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans are recorded as operating expenses at their estimated costs.

- (f) Employee and federally appointed judges' future benefits:
  - (i) Pension benefits: Eligible employees participate in the Public Service Pension Plan (PSSA), a multiemployer pension plan administered by the Government. FJA's contributions to the Plan are charged to expenses in the year incurred and represent the total departmental obligation to the Plan. FJA's responsibility with regard to the Plan is limited to its contributions. Actuarial surpluses or deficiencies are recognized in the financial statements of the Government of Canada, as the Plan's sponsor.
  - (ii) Severance benefits: Employees entitled to severance benefits under labour contracts or conditions of employment earn these benefits as services necessary to earn them are rendered. The obligation relating to the benefits earned by employees is calculated using information derived from the results of the actuarially determined liability for employee severance benefits for the Government as a whole.
  - (iii) Federally appointed judges' pension benefits: Eligible federally appointed judges and their survivors are entitled to fully indexed annuities providing that the judges meet minimum age and service requirements. The main benefits paid from this plan are recorded on a pay-as-you-go basis. They are included in the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position as a component of salaries and benefits, and the judges' contributions are credited to revenue. Contributions made by FJA and the judges pertaining to the portion of the plan that relates to indexation of benefits is recorded in a Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account, which is presented in the Statement of Financial Position. FJA's contribution towards indexation is expensed at the time it is accrued in accordance with the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act. The actuarial liability associated with the judges' pension plan is recorded in the financial statements of the Government of Canada, the ultimate sponsor of the plan.
- (g) Accounts receivables are stated at the lower of cost and net recoverable value. A valuation allowance is recorded for receivables where recovery is considered uncertain.
- (h) Tangible capital assets All tangible capital assets and leasehold improvements having an initial cost of \$5,000 or more are recorded at their acquisition cost. FJA does not capitalize intangibles, works of art, and historical treasures that have cultural, aesthetic or historical value, assets located on Indian Reserves and museum collections.

Amortization of tangible capital assets is done on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset as follows:

Asset Class	Amortization Period
Machinery & Equipment	5 to 10 years
Informatics Hardware	3 years
Informatics Software	3 years
Other Equipment including Furniture	10 years

(i) Measurement of uncertainty - The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses reported in the financial statements. At the time of preparation of these statements, management believes the estimates and assumptions to be reasonable. The most significant items where estimates are used are the liability for employee future benefits and the useful life of tangible capital assets. Actual results could significantly differ from those estimated. Management's estimates are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary, are recorded in the financial statements in the year they become known.

# 3. Parliamentary Authorities

FJA receives most of its funding through annual parliamentary authorities. Items recognized in the Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and the Statement of Financial Position in one year may be funded through parliamentary authorities in prior, current or future years. Accordingly, FJA has different net results of operations for the year on a government funding basis than on an accrual accounting basis. The differences are reconciled in the following tables:

## (a) Reconciliation of net cost of operations to current year authorities used

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Net cost of operations before government funding	504,801,918	489,008,835
Adjustment for items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting		
authorities:		
Services provided without charge by other government departments	(1,651,352))	(1,678,653)
Decrease in employee future benefits	(67,590)	187,447
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(58,395)	(78,956)
Increase in vacation pay and compensatory leave	29,168	(21,292)
Judges' pension contributions	14,315,718	14,017,867
Refund of prior years' expenditures	5,307	5,407
Gain on disposal of Crown assets	0	<u>268</u>
Total items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting authorities	12,572,856	12,432,088
Adjustments for items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting authorities:		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	37,798	143,580
Transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears	188,815	0
Increase (decrease) in prepaid expenses	19,039	_(242,222)
Total items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting authorities	245,652	(98,642)
Current year authorities used	\$517,620,426	\$501,342,281

### (b) Authorities provided and used

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Authorities provided:		
Vote 20 - Operating expenditures - FJA	9,167,040	9,228,335
Vote 25 - Operating expenditures - CJC	3,212,464	1,614,741
Statutory amounts	506,515,330	491,263,105
Less:		
Authorities available for use in future years	269	0
Lapsed: Operating	(1,274,677)	(763,900)
Current year authorities used	<u>\$517,620,426</u>	<u>\$501,342,281</u>

#### 4. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

The following table presents details of FJA's accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Accounts payable - Other government departments and agencies	319,778	280,534
Accounts payable - External parties	2,867,133	2,142,974
Total accounts payable	3,186,911	2,423,508
Accrued liabilities	24,176	21,400
Total accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$3,211,087	\$2,444,908

## 5. Judges' Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Liability, beginning of year	194,758,903	185,085,805
Contributions	6,722,932	6,471,590
Interest	2,924,632	3,201,508
Liability, end of year	\$204,406,467	\$194,758,903

The pension plan for federally appointed judges provides fully indexed annuities to judges and to all eligible survivors providing they meet minimum age and service requirements. Unlike other pension plans, the judges' plan lacks an explicit accrual rate for benefits. Instead the full benefit amount is generally payable when the member has completed 15 years of pensionable service and the total of the member's age and years of service totals 80. Judges who elect Supernumerary Status or judges who qualify for retirement make required contributions of 1% of salary. All other judges make contributions of 7% of salary.

The main benefits from this plan are expensed on a pay-as-you-go basis. However, by virtue of the *Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act*, for the portion of the plan that relates to indexation of benefits, the 1% portion of salary contributed by the judges is recorded in a Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account, along with a matching contribution of 1% recorded by FJA. In addition, interest is accrued on the outstanding balance of the Account. The actuarial liability associated with the judges' pension plan is recorded in the financial statements of the Government of Canada.

## 6. Employee future benefits

### (a) Pension benefits

FJA employees participate in the public service pension plan (the "Plan"), which is sponsored and administered by the Government of Canada. Pension benefits accrue up to a maximum period of 35 years at a rate of 2 percent per year of pensionable service, times the average of the best five consecutive years of earnings. The benefits are integrated with Canada/Québec Pension Plan benefits and they are indexed to inflation.

Both the employees and FJA contribute to the cost of the Plan. Due to the amendment of the *Public Service Superannuation Act* following the implementation of provisions related to Canada's Economic Action Plan 2012, employee contributors have been divided into two groups – Group 1 relates to existing plan members as of December 31, 2012 and Group 2 relates to members joining the Plan as of January 1, 2013. Each group has a distinct contribution rate.

The 2014-2015 expense amounts to \$564,460 (\$641,697 in 2013-2014). For Group 1 members, the expense represents approximately 1.41 times (1.6 times in 2013-2014) the employee contributions and, for Group 2 members, approximately 1.39 times (1.5 times in 2013-2014) the employee contributions.

FJA's responsibility with regard to the Plan is limited to its contributions. Actuarial surpluses or deficiencies are recognized in the financial statements of the Government of Canada, as the Plan's sponsor.

## (b) Severance benefits

FJA provides severance benefits to its employees based on eligibility, years of service and salary at termination of employment. These severance benefits are not pre-funded. Benefits will be paid from future authorities. Information about the severance benefits, measured as at March 31, is as follows:

As part of collective agreement negotiations with certain employee groups, and changes to conditions of employment for executives and certain non-represented employees, the accumulation of severance benefits under the employee severance pay program ceased for these employees commencing in 2012. Employees subject to these changes have been given the option to be immediately paid the full or partial value of benefits earned to date or collect the full or remaining value of benefits on termination from the public service. These changes have been reflected in the calculation of the outstanding severance benefit obligation.

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Accrued benefit obligation, beginning of year	269,058	456,505
Expense for the year	67,590	-
Benefits paid during the year	-	(187,447)
Accrued benefit obligation, end of year	\$336,648	<u>\$269,058</u>

#### 7. Accounts receivable and advances

The following table presents details of FJA's accounts receivable and advances:

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Receivables - Other government departments and agencies	544,116	199,385
Receivables - External parties	26,409	40,445
Advances	591,554	530,125
Total accounts receivable and advances	\$1,162,079	<u>\$769,955</u>

# 8. Tangible capital assets

(in dollars)	Cost			Acc	<b>Accumulated Amortization</b>				Net Book Value	
			Disposals				Disposals			
Capital asset	Opening	Acquisi-	and	Closing	Opening	Amorti-	and	Closing		
class	Balance	tions	write-offs	Balance	Balance	zation	write-offs	Balance	2015	2014
Machinery &										
Equipment	79,362	9,318	(16,416)	72,264	52,686	8,933	(16,416)	45,203	27,061	26,676
Informatics										
Hardware	330,569	19,200	-	349,769	219,616	41,535	-	261,151	88,618	110,953
Informatics										
Software	318,335	-	-	318,335	264,901	21,360	-	286,261	32,074	53,434
Other Eqmt.										
including										
Furniture	49,384	24,778	(15,498)	58,664	26,264	2,983	-	29,247	29,417	23,120
TOTAL	777,650	53,296	(31,914))	799,032	563,467	74,811	(16,416)	621,862	<u>177,170</u>	214,183

### 9. Related party transactions

FJA is related as a result of common ownership to all Government departments, agencies, and Crown Corporations. FJA enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business and on normal trade terms. During the year, FJA received common services which were obtained without charge from other Government departments as disclosed below.

### (a) Common services provided without charge by other government departments

During the year, FJA received services without charge from certain common service organizations related to accommodation and employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans. These services provided without charge have been recorded in FJA's Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position as follows:

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Accommodation	1,227,414	1,229,045
Employer's contribution to health and dental insurance plans	423,938	449,608
Total	\$1,651,352	\$1,678,653

The Government has centralized some of its administrative activities for efficiency, cost-effectiveness purposes and economic delivery of programs to the public. As a result the Government uses central agencies and common service organizations so that one department performs services for all other departments and agencies without charge. The costs of these services such as payroll and cheque issuance services provided by Public Works and Government Services Canada, and audit services provided by the Office of the Auditor General are not included in FJA's Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position.

#### (b) Other transactions with related parties

(in dollars)	2015	2014	
Accounts receivable with other government departments and			
agencies (Note 7)	544,116	199,385	
Accounts payable to other government departments and			
agencies (Note 4)	319,778	280,534	
Expenses – Other government departments and agencies	1,215,025	1,225,173	
Revenues – Other government departments and agencies	28,000	36,103	

Expenses and revenues disclosed in (b) exclude common services provided without charge, which is already disclosed in (a).

#### 10. Transfer of Accounts Receivable to Public Works and Government Services Canada

The Government of Canada implemented salary payments in arrears in 2014-15, a one- time payment was issued to employees and will be recovered from them in the future. The transition to salary payments in arrears forms part of the transformation initiative that replaces the pay system and also streamlines and modernizes the pay processed. This change to the pay system had no impact on FJA's expenses. However, it did result in the use of additional spending authorities by FJA, along with the creation of an interim account receivable. Prior to year end, this interim account receivable was transferred to Public Works and Government Services Canada, who is responsible for the administration of the Government pay system.

### 11. Segmented information

Presentation by segment is based on FJA's program alignment architecture. The presentation by segment is based on the same accounting policies as described in the Summary of significant accounting policies in Note 2. The following table presents the expenses incurred and revenues generated for the main programs, by major object of expenses and by major type of revenues. The segmented results for the period are as follows:

(in dollars)	Internal Services	Federal Judicial Affairs	Canadian Judicial Council	Payments Pursuant to Judges' Act	2015 Total	2014 Total
<b>Operating Expenses</b>	-					
Salaries and employee benefits	547,695	4,609,200	1,251,177	472,676,481	479,084,553	460,713,321
Transportation and telecommunication	61,909	446,209	107,109	27,498,748	28,113,975	29,605,980
Information	6,885	33,756	12,988	21,950	75,579	83,835
Professional and special services	136,105	2,767,379	1,697,483	9,732	4,610,699	5,202,842
Accommodation	-	1,096,037	131,378	-	1,227,415	1,229,045
Rental	9,316	132,581	15,031	25,312	182,240	180,364
Repairs and maintenance	2,793	52,269	11,387	-	66,449	85,815
Utilities, materials and supplies	-	36,720	19,102	375	56,197	77,807
Machinery and equipment	-	110,628	9,226	0	119,854	131,285
Amortization	-	58,395	-	-	58,395	78,956
Other subsidies/payments		124,708	9,625	5,415,947	5,550,280	5,678,962
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	764,703	9,467,882	3,264,506	505,648,545	519,145,636	503,068,212
Revenues						
Pension contribution*	-	-	-	14,315,718	14,315,718	14,017,867
User charges	-	28,000	-	-	28,000	41,510
<b>Total Revenues</b>		28,000	-	14,315,718	14,343,718	14,059,377
Net Cost of Operations Before Government Funding	\$764,703	\$9,439,882	\$3,264,506	\$491,332,827	\$504,801,918	\$489,008,835

<sup>\*</sup>Judges' pension contribution credited to revenue

Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada Annex to the Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 (unaudited)

#### 1. Introduction

In support of an effective system of internal control, FJA annually assesses the performance of its financial controls to ensure that:

- financial arrangements or contracts are entered into only when sufficient funding is available;
- payments for goods and services are made only when the goods or services are received or the conditions of contracts or other arrangements have been satisfied; and
- payments have been properly authorized.

Over time, this includes assessment of the design and operating effectiveness of the system of ICFR which will ensure the ongoing monitoring and continuous improvement of its departmental system of ICFR.

**Design effectiveness testing (DET)** ensures that key control points are identified, documented and in place, and that they are aligned with the risks they aim to mitigate, and that any required remediation is addressed in a timely manner.

**Operating effectiveness testing (OET)** means that the application of key controls has been tested over a defined period and that any required remediation is addressed in a timely manner.

### 2. Assessment results during fiscal year 2014-2015

As planned in FJA's 2013-2014 annex to the Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, the business processes related to Vote Netting Authority, Procure to Pay, Government Acquisition Cards, Management of the Delegation of Financial Signing Authorities, Hospitality, Travel and Travel cards were documented and tested in 2014-2015.

Expense claim processing pursuant to the *Judges' Act*, Information Technology General Controls and Planning and Budgeting were deferred to a later date. Several business processes have been accelerated and are expected to be completed in 2015-2016 including Accountable Advances, and Financial Close.

#### a) Design effectiveness of key controls

FJA has completed Design Effectiveness Testing (DET) on the following business process in 2014-2015:

- Vote Netting Authority
- Procure to Pay
- Government Acquisition Cards
- Managing the Delegation of Financial Authorities
- Hospitality
- Travel and Travel Cards

FJA has identified those controls that are effectively designed and those that required improvement, and have begun implementation of the corrections which will continue into 2015-2016.

Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada Annex to the Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting for Fiscal Year 2014-2015 (unaudited)

### b) Operating effectiveness of key controls

FJA has conducted in-depth Operating Effectiveness Testing (OET) on the following business process in 2014-2015:

- Vote Netting Authority
- Procure to Pay
- Government Acquisition Cards
- Managing the Delegation of Financial Authorities
- Hospitality
- Travel and Travel Cards

As with DET, FJA has determined which controls are operating as designed and those that required improvement, and have begun implementation of the corrections which will continue into 2015-2016.

### 3. Action Plan for future years

For the fiscal year 2015-2016, FJA plans to document and test the design effectiveness and operating effectiveness of the following business processes:

- Travel expense claim processing pursuant to the *Judges' Act*
- Pay administration
- Contracting policy and procurement strategy
- Planning and budgeting
- Accountable advances
- Financial close

For the fiscal year 2016-2017, FJA plans to document and test the design effectiveness and operating effectiveness of the following business process:

• Information technology general controls