

Consultant Expenditures and Fair Allocation in Toronto*

An assessment of Toronto's capital allocation

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The Canadian federal government has been under scrutiny since the widely reported ArriveCAN scandal, which brought to light a severe misappropriation of funds through contractors. In light of these events, I investigate the allocation of funds to consultants by the City of Toronto. Exploring expenditure, I find an increasing budget allocation to consultants, and a tendency to allocate to a few key consultants. I suggest future work which could lead to a more complete evaluation and a possible investigation into the bidding process.

1 Introduction

The CBSA (Canadian Border Security Agency) and Public Health Agency of Canada spent over \$53 Million Dollars on an app which was created using 23 subcontractors. The contract process was unfair and non-competitive, with an internal report finding that the government criteria preferred one contractor over others Canada (2024). The people of a city benefit from fair and efficient markets, as such the allocation of its tax dollars should follow a transparent and robust tender process.

In this paper I seek to explore the City of Toronto's consultant expenditure data, sourced from Gelfand (2022) You can and should cross-reference sections and sub-sections. We use R Core Team (2023) and Wickham et al. (2019).

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows. Section 2....

*Code and data are available at: [LINK](#).

2 Data

Some of our data is of penguins (?@fig-bills), from Horst, Hill, and Gorman (2020).

Rows: 3918 Columns: 8

-- Column specification -----

Delimiter: ","

chr (6): budget_type, city_abc, expense_category, division_board, consultant...

dbl (2): year, expenditure

i Use ``spec()`` to retrieve the full column specification for this data.

i Specify the column types or set ``show_col_types = FALSE`` to quiet this message.

``summarise()`` has grouped output by 'year'. You can override using the ``.groups`` argument.

Warning: Using ``size`` aesthetic for lines was deprecated in ggplot2 3.4.0.

i Please use ``linewidth`` instead.

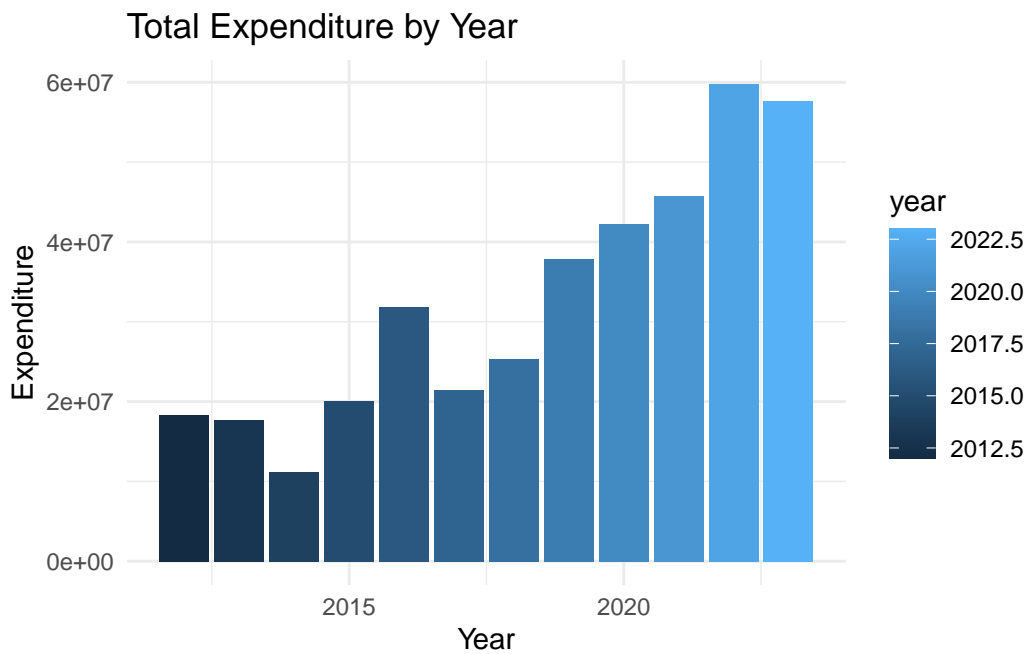


Figure 1: Bills of penguins

Talk way more about it.

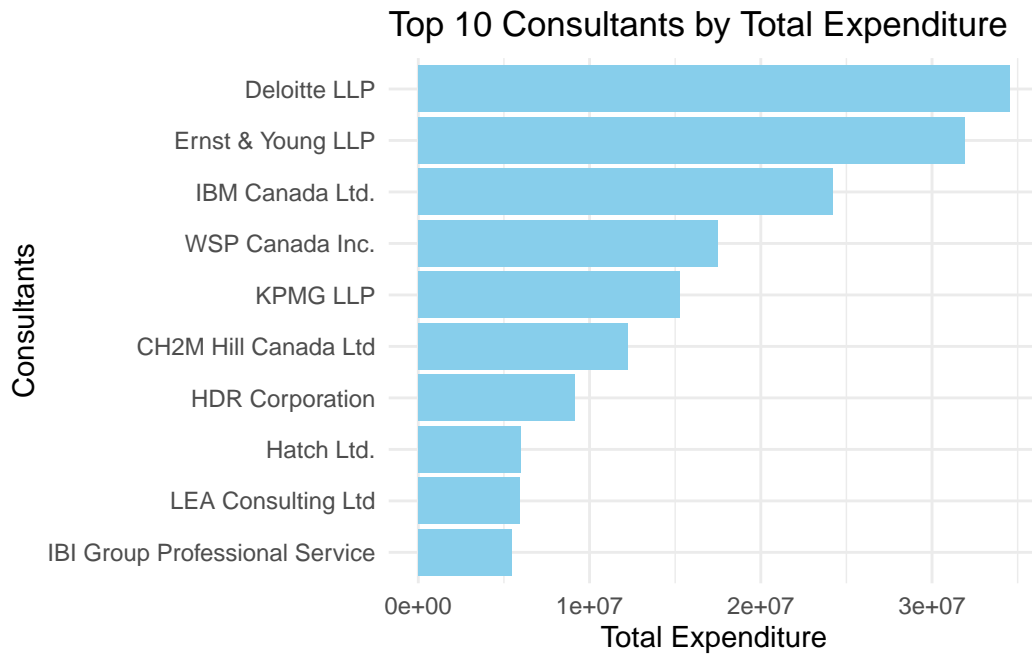


Figure 2: Bills of penguins

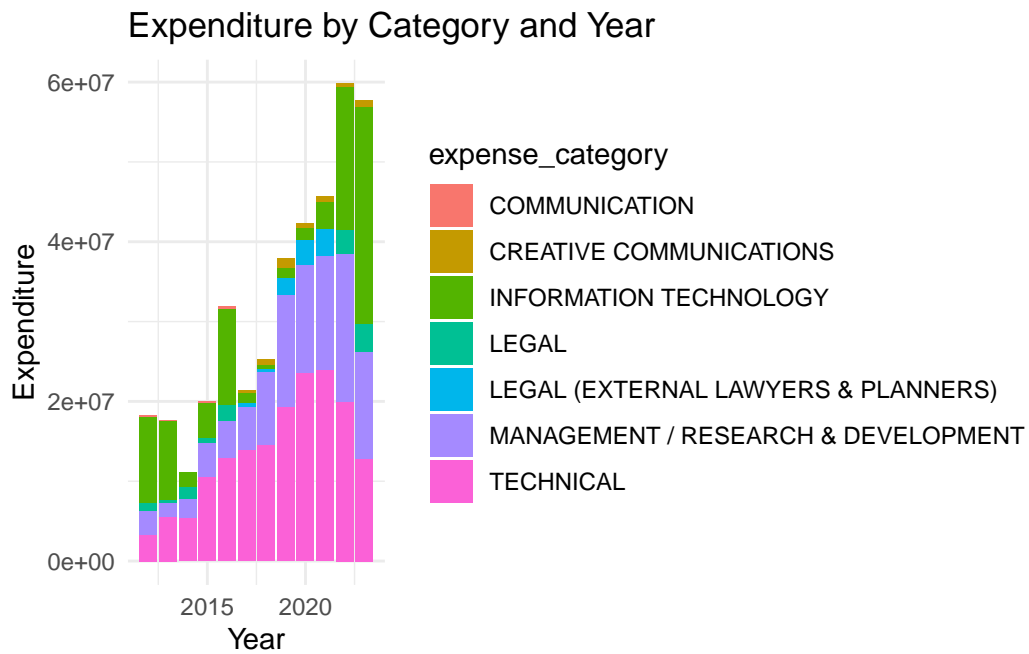


Figure 3: Bills of penguins



Figure 4: Bills of penguins

Expenditure Breakdown for TECHNICAL

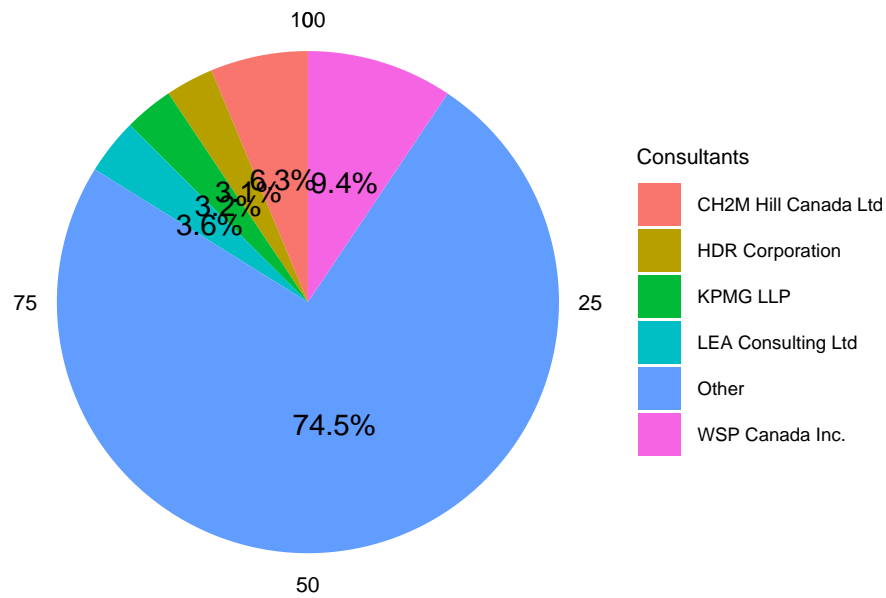


Figure 5: Bills of penguins

Expenditure Breakdown for MANAGEMENT / RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

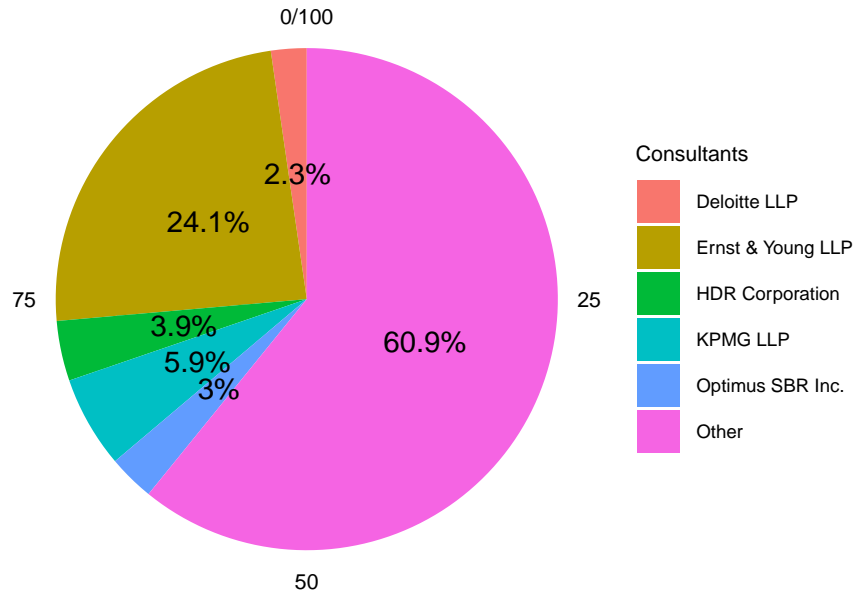


Figure 6: Bills of penguins

Expenditure Breakdown for INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

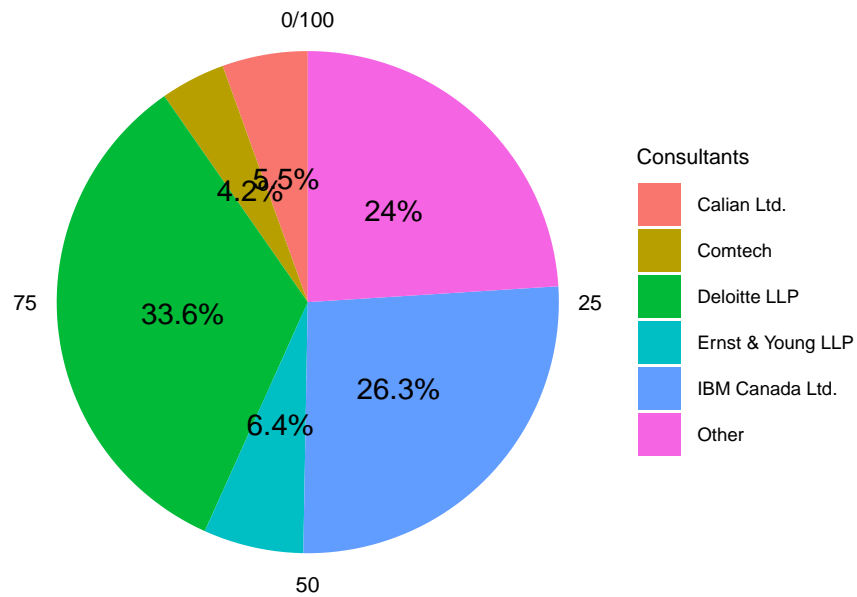


Figure 7: Bills of penguins

Expenditure Breakdown for LEGAL

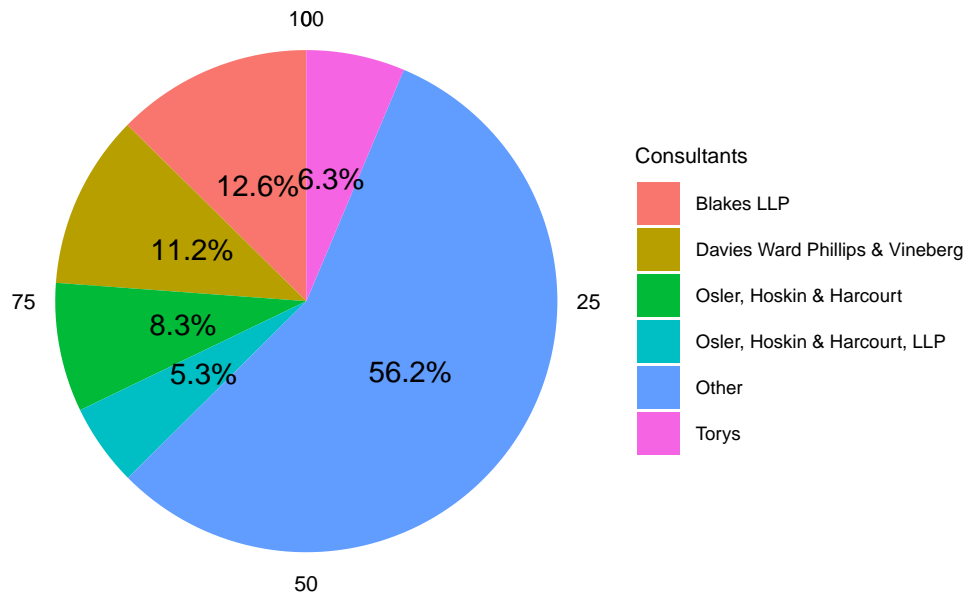


Figure 8: Bills of penguins

Expenditure Breakdown for LEGAL (EXTERNAL LAWYERS & PLANNERS)

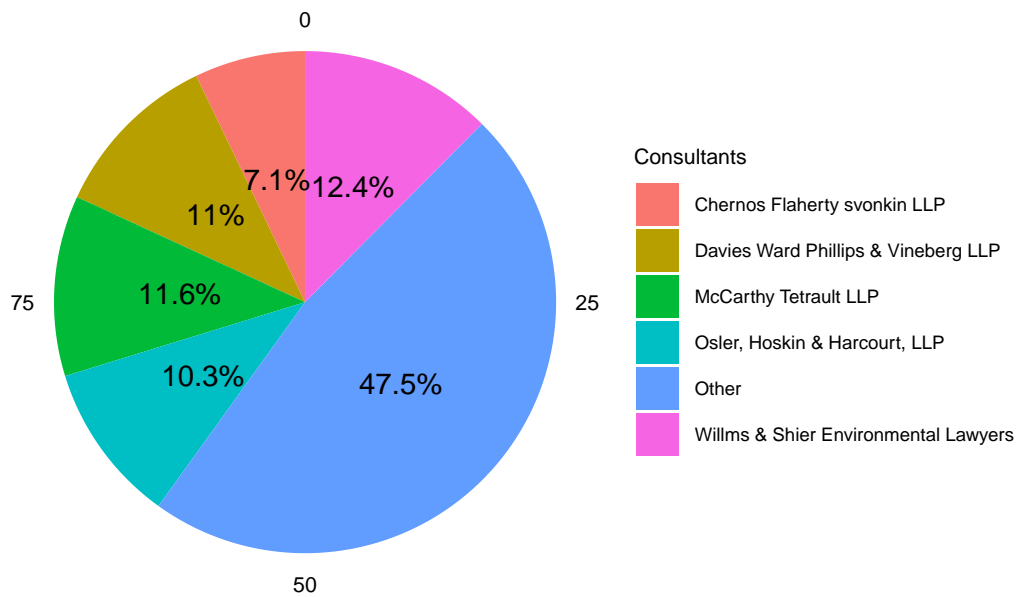


Figure 9: Bills of penguins

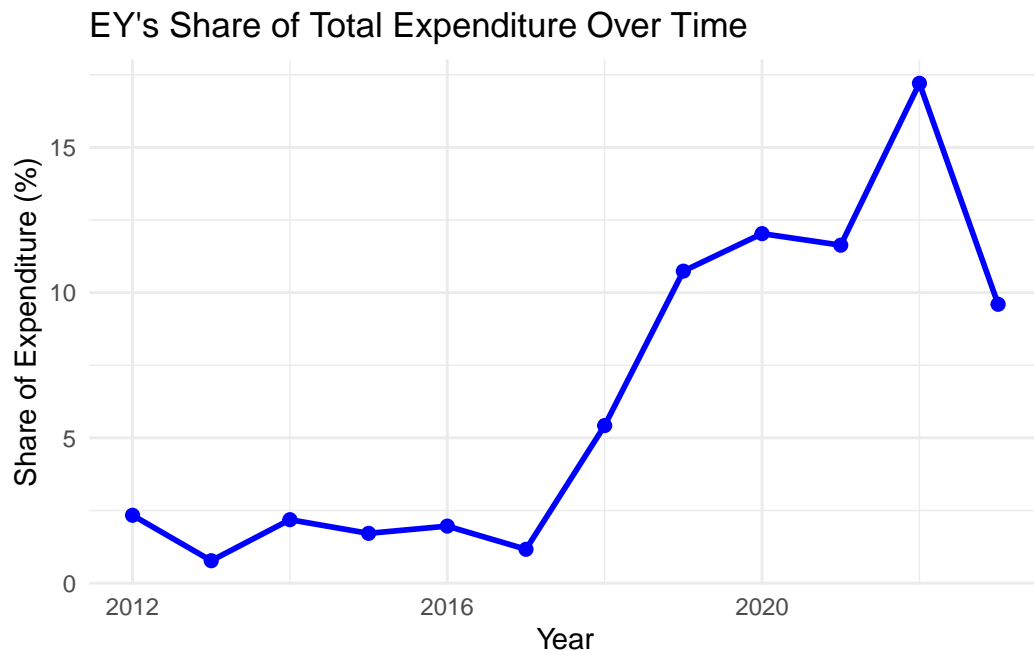


Figure 10: Bills of penguins

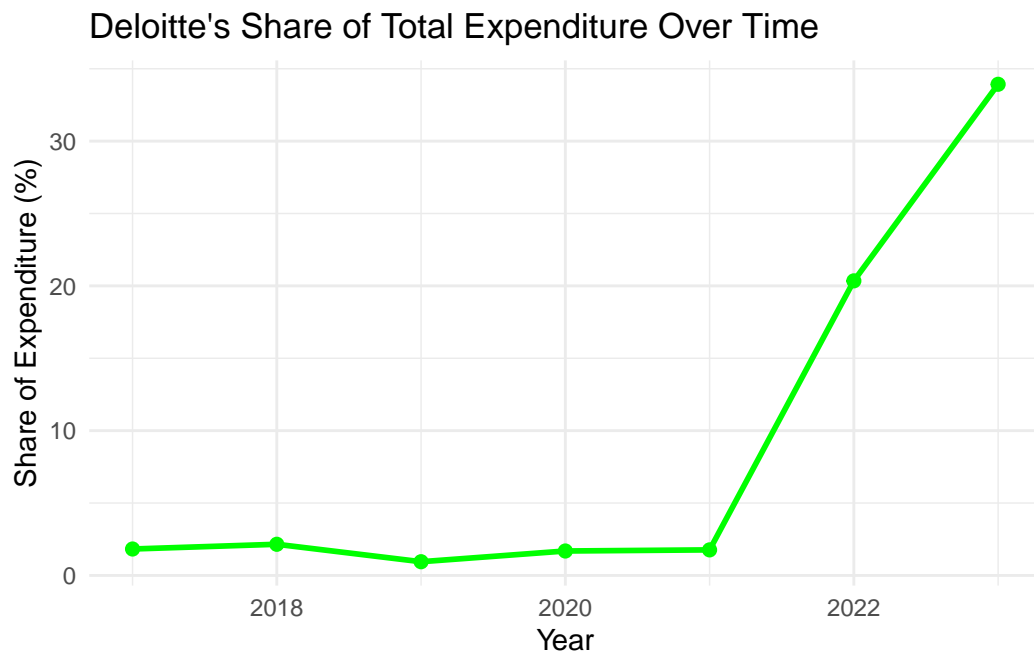


Figure 11: Bills of penguins

3 Results

Our results are summarized in `?@tbl-modelresults`.

4 Discussion

4.1 First discussion point

If my paper were 10 pages, then should be at least 2.5 pages. The discussion is a chance to show off what you know and what you learnt from all this.

4.2 Second discussion point

4.3 Third discussion point

4.4 Weaknesses and next steps

Weaknesses and next steps should also be included.

Appendix

A Additional data details

References

- Canada. 2024. “Procurement Practice Review of ArriveCAN - Office of the Procurement Ombudsman.” *Opo-Boa.gc.ca*. <https://opo-boa.gc.ca/praapp-prorev/2024/epa-ppr-01-2024-eng.html>.
- Gelfand, Sharla. 2022. *Opendatatoronto: Access the City of Toronto Open Data Portal*. <https://sharlagelfand.github.io/opendatatoronto/>.
- Horst, Allison Marie, Alison Presmanes Hill, and Kristen B Gorman. 2020. *Palmerpenguins: Palmer Archipelago (Antarctica) Penguin Data*. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3960218>.
- R Core Team. 2023. *R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing*. Vienna, Austria: R Foundation for Statistical Computing. <https://www.R-project.org/>.
- Wickham, Hadley, Mara Averick, Jennifer Bryan, Winston Chang, Lucy D’Agostino McGowan, Romain François, Garrett Grolemond, et al. 2019. “Welcome to the tidyverse.” *Journal of Open Source Software* 4 (43): 1686. <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.01686>.