

**public sector accounting handbook  
highlight summary no. 30  
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**HIGHLIGHT SUMMARY**

(Note: New Handbook material or changes in existing material are identified in each HANDBOOK REVISIONS RELEASE.)

**Introduction to Public Sector Accounting Standards**

Appendix B, Standards Applicable to Government Organizations, has been deleted as a result of the adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards by certain government organizations. Appendix B will remain in effect until the adoption of IFRSs for fiscal periods beginning on or after January 1, 2011, unless a government organization has elected early adoption.

**Liability for contaminated sites, Section PS 3260**

This new Section establishes recognition, measurement and disclosure standards for liabilities relating to contaminated sites of governments and those organizations applying the CICA Public Sector Accounting Handbook.

The main features of the new Section are as follows:

- A liability should be recognized when contamination exceeds an accepted environmental standard and the entity is directly responsible, or accepts responsibility for, the damage.
- A liability should be measured at the entity's best estimate of the costs directly attributable to remediation of the contamination.
- Outstanding site assessments do not negate the requirement to assess whether a liability exists.

This Section is effective for fiscal periods beginning on or after April 1, 2014. Earlier adoption is encouraged.

**Government assistance — application of CICA Handbook – Accounting Section 3800, Section PS 3800**

This Section has been withdrawn as a result of the adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) by certain government organizations. Section PS 3800 will remain in effect until the adoption of IFRSs for fiscal periods beginning on or after January 1, 2011, unless a government organization has elected early adoption.

**Archived Pronouncements**

To give Handbook readers continued access to the Introduction to Public Sector Accounting Standards, including Appendix B, and Section PS 3800, this material is refiled under Archived Pronouncements. This material will be withdrawn from the Handbook when it is no longer effective.

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