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## Reports to go ahead despite auditor's firing

By RENATO GANDIA, CALGARY SUN

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It won't be until early next year before the city hires another auditor after Tracy McTaggart was sacked by council, but the short-staffed office will keep working on planned audits, says an alderman.

Ald. Brian Pincott, chairman of the audit committee, said morale has been low in the auditor's office but vowed he'd do everything to keep the six staff working.

"They're the professionals, they're the experts, they want to do their jobs," he said. "My God, I'm going to do everything I can to make that happen."

Twelve council members except Ald. Andre Chabot, who voted against, and Ald. Joe Ceci and Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart, who were absent, agreed to fire McTaggart Monday, following a third party probe on the city auditor's office.

Pricewaterhouse Coopers found compliance deficiencies in McTaggart's ability to run the office, including some issues with human resources.

Over the past four years, the auditor's office has been experiencing significant staff turnover and some hires during this period have left shortly after starting, said the Pricewaterhouse report.

Pincott said the remaining staff is concerned about their jobs.

"People are saying pretty horrible things about them. As expected, they take it personally," he said.

Pincott said given the department is now without a city auditor, he doesn't expect the remaining 17 planned audits for this year would be all finished.

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