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FINANCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, BUSINESS AFFAIRS

TO: Audit Committee

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DATE: June 5 for June 18, 2008.

AGENDA ITEM: 4

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Appointment of External Auditors for 2008-9

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

The Audit Committee's terms of reference state that the Committee recommends the annual appointment of the external auditors to the Business Board, which in turn makes a recommendation to Governing Council.

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The University's purchasing policy requires that the appropriate Vice-President or the CFO is responsible for conducting regular reviews of contracted consulting or professional services, such as audit services, approximately every five years. Factors to be considered in conducting reviews and evaluating tenders when called will include price, service, quality, personnel deployed and track record. A review does not necessarily lead to a tender call if the Vice-President or CFO deems it advisable to continue to engage the same supplier of the service. In 2004, the CFO conducted a full review of the audit services and no issues have arisen that would require a full review at this time. In 2005, the audit partner assigned to the audit was changed by Ernst & Young due to the retirement of Keith Bowman.

FINANCIAL AND/OR PLANNING IMPLICATIONS:

None. Audit fees for 2008-9 to be negotiated by the CFO.

RECOMMENDATION:

A recommendation to the Business Board of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as auditors of the University and for the pension plans.

It is recommended that:

- 1) Ernst & Young LLP be re-appointed as external auditors of the University of Toronto for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2009;
- 2) Ernst & Young LLP be re-appointed as external auditors of the University of Toronto pension plans for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.