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HISTORY OF THE OFFICE

In the Public Interest - 150 years of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office

The Victorian Auditor-General's Office is one of the few public sector agencies in Victoria whose history dates back to the colony's separation from New South Wales in 1851.

In its early years, the Office was embroiled in controversy over its role in the financial crisis that played a large part in the events leading to the 1854 Eureka uprising. It experienced further controversy in the mid-1990s when the legislative powers of the Auditor-General were significantly changed.

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office, Dr Peter Yule was engaged to prepare the history of the Office. Peter is one of Australia's most respected historians, and has written extensively on both Australian and British history, and his work is widely published, especially in the field of Victorian local and economic history.

The book sheds new light on many aspects of the history of Victoria. It makes fascinating reading for anyone interested in the development of public accountability in the state, and the personalities and key events that have characterised the operations of the Office over the past 150 years.

The book was officially launched by the Hon. Bruce Chamberlain MP, President of the Legislative Council on 27 May 2002, at a ceremony at Parliament House, Melbourne. The book is available for purchase from the [Information Victoria Bookshop](#), 505 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, Phone: 1300 366 356, Fax: 03 9603 9920, or from leading booksellers

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