



**Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board
Financial Statements
March 31, 2013**



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Statement of Management's Responsibility

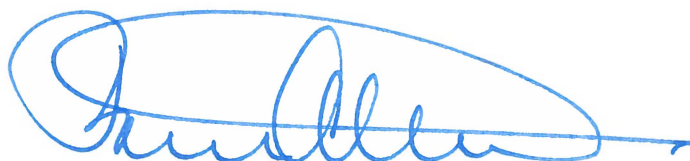
The accompanying financial statements are the responsibility of management of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (the "Board") and have been prepared in compliance with legislation and generally accepted accounting principles established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. The integrity and objectivity of these financial statements are management's responsibility.

Management is also responsible for implementing and maintaining a system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that reliable financial information produced.

The Chair of the Board is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal control and exercises these responsibilities through regular meetings with them. The Chair met with management and its external auditors to review a draft of the financial statements and to discuss any significant financial reporting or internal control matters prior to approval of the financial statements.

The external auditors, Levy Casey Carter MacLean, conduct an independent examination, in accordance with Canadian auditing standards, and express their opinion on the financial statements. The external auditors have full and free access to the financial management of the Board and meet when required.

On behalf of Management of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board:



Paul G. Allen, CA
Executive Director



Sheri L. Aisthorpe, CMA
Controller

June 20, 2013

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements, which comprise the statement of financial position of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board as at March 31, 2013 and the statement of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Board's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board as at March 31, 2013, and the results of its operations, accumulated surplus, changes in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Halifax, Nova Scotia
June 20, 2013


LEVY CASEY CARTER MACLEAN
Chartered Accountants

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NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
MARCH 31, 2013

FINANCIAL ASSETS

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,391,962	\$ 668,512
Investments (note 4)	675,334	1,447,838
Accounts receivable	2,386,895	1,872,259
Due from related parties (note 10)	<u>144,213</u>	<u>436,436</u>
	<u>4,598,404</u>	<u>4,425,045</u>

LIABILITIES

Payables and accruals	1,545,388	1,430,073
Due to related parties (note 10)	235,195	367,694
Advances for working capital (note 5 and note 10)	125,000	125,000
Post retirement benefits liability (note 7)	<u>1,379,067</u>	<u>1,406,042</u>
	<u>3,284,650</u>	<u>3,328,809</u>

Net financial assets	<u>1,313,754</u>	<u>1,096,236</u>
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NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

Tangible capital assets (page 16)	151,860	253,516
Prepaid expenses	<u>68,707</u>	<u>59,039</u>
	<u>220,567</u>	<u>312,555</u>

Accumulated surplus (page 17)	<u>\$ 1,534,321</u>	<u>\$ 1,408,791</u>
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Contractual obligations (note 11)

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013

REVENUE	<u>Budget</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Government operating grants (note 2 and 10)	\$ 2,038,000	\$ 2,038,000	\$ 2,344,000
Recoveries (note 8)	1,641,000	6,095,491	4,639,113
Assessments to utilities (note 2)	1,914,000	1,914,000	1,825,000
Interest income	<u>40,000</u>	<u>42,747</u>	<u>41,898</u>
	<u>5,633,000</u>	<u>10,090,238</u>	<u>8,850,011</u>
EXPENSES			
Quasi-judicial (page 18)	5,549,000	9,816,211	8,749,985
Motor carrier administration and enforcement (page 18)	<u>84,000</u>	<u>148,497</u>	<u>11,670</u>
	<u>5,633,000</u>	<u>9,964,708</u>	<u>8,761,655</u>
Operating surplus	-	125,530	88,356
Accumulated surplus, beginning of the year	1,408,791	1,408,791	2,237,951
Transfer to Province of Nova Scotia	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(917,516)</u>
Accumulated surplus, end of the year	<u>\$ 1,408,791</u>	<u>\$ 1,534,321</u>	<u>\$ 1,408,791</u>

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Operating surplus	\$ -	\$ 125,530	\$ 88,356
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(37,000)	(2,525)	(81,246)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	105,000	104,181	127,779
Transfer of tangible capital assets to Province of Nova Scotia		-	452,582
Transfer of accumulated surplus to Province of Nova Scotia	-	-	(917,516)
	<u>68,000</u>	<u>101,656</u>	<u>(418,401)</u>
Acquisition of prepaid expense	(60,000)	(68,707)	(59,039)
Use of prepaid expense	<u>60,000</u>	<u>59,039</u>	<u>66,265</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,668)</u>	<u>7,226</u>
Increase (decrease) in net financial assets	68,000	217,518	(322,819)
Net financial assets, beginning of the year	<u>1,096,236</u>	<u>1,096,236</u>	<u>1,419,055</u>
Net financial assets, end of the year	<u>\$ 1,164,236</u>	<u>\$ 1,313,754</u>	<u>\$ 1,096,236</u>

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Operating activities		
Operating surplus	\$ 125,530	\$ 88,356
Amortization of tangible capital assets	104,181	127,779
Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations (note 9)	<u>(276,240)</u>	<u>720,559</u>
Cash provided by operating activities	<u>(46,529)</u>	<u>936,694</u>
Capital activities		
Transfer of tangible capital assets to Province of Nova Scotia	-	452,582
Transfer of accumulated surplus to Province of Nova Scotia	-	(917,516)
Purchase of tangible capital assets	<u>(2,525)</u>	<u>(81,246)</u>
Cash provided (used) by capital activities	<u>(2,525)</u>	<u>(546,180)</u>
Investing activities		
Purchases of investments	-	(176,546)
Proceeds on redemption of investments	<u>772,504</u>	<u>172,414</u>
Cash provided (used by) investing activities	<u>772,504</u>	<u>(4,132)</u>
Increase in cash during the year	723,450	386,382
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the year	<u>668,512</u>	<u>282,130</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year	<u>\$ 1,391,962</u>	<u>\$ 668,512</u>

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2013

1. Incorporation

The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (the Board) was created on December 14, 1992, through the proclamation of the *Utility and Review Board Act*, Chapter 11 of the Acts of 1992. The Act consolidated the operations of the former Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities, Municipal Board, Expropriations Compensation Board, and Tax Review Board. All assets and liabilities of the former boards were transferred to and assumed by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.

2. Authority

The Board has those functions, powers and duties conferred upon it through Section 4 of the *Utility and Review Board Act*. Section 15 of the *Public Utilities Act* requires the Board to estimate its expenses in administering that Act and assess them against the public utilities of the Province. Regulations made pursuant to Sections 41 and 42 of the *Gas Distribution Act* and Section 44 of the *Pipeline Act* allow the Board to recover certain expenses for activities relating to those Acts. On October 1, 2008 the duties of the Nova Scotia Insurance Review Board were transferred to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. Regulations made pursuant to Section 16AA of the *Insurance Act* permit the Board to recover direct and indirect costs incurred for activities under that Act by way of levies against insurers.

Effective April 1, 2010 regulations made under the *Petroleum Products Pricing Act* permit the Board to recover direct and indirect costs relating to setting prices for gasoline and diesel oil by way of a monthly assessment fee against wholesalers and wholesaler - retailers. Expenses incurred by the Board in administering all other Acts are recovered from the Province of Nova Scotia. Any operating surpluses or deficits are allocated to the Province and the public utilities based on the prorata share of revenue contributed in each year.

Effective April 1, 2012 the Assessment Appeal Cost Recovery Regulations, made under the *Assessment Act*, require the Board to recover direct and indirect costs incurred for assessment appeals from Property Valuation Services Corporation.

3. Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of presentation

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards as issued by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants.

These financial statements have been prepared using the following significant accounting policies:

(b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include balances with banks and short-term investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2013

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(c) Non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are not available to discharge existing liabilities and are held for use in the provision of services. They have useful lives extending beyond the current year and are not intended for sale in the ordinary course of operations. The change in non-financial assets during the year, together with the operating surplus or deficit, provides the change in net financial assets or net debt for the year.

(d) Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost, which includes all costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction, development, installation or betterment of the tangible capital asset. The Board capitalizes assets with a value greater than \$2,500 and a useful life greater than one year. The asset is amortized over its useful life as follows:

Furniture	straight line over 10 years
Computer equipment	straight line over 3 years
Computer software	straight line over 3 years
Equipment	straight line over 5 years
Leaseholds	straight line over remaining term of lease

(e) Revenues

Revenues are recorded on the accrual basis. Revenues are recognized in the period in which the transactions or events occurred that gave rise to the revenues. Recoveries revenue is recognized as the related expenditures occur. Assessment revenue is recognized when invoiced. Government transfers are recognized as revenue in the period during which the transfer is authorized and any eligibility criteria are met except, when and to the extent, stipulations by the transferor gives rise to an obligation that meets the definition of a liability. Stipulations by the transferor may require that the funds only be used for providing specific services or the acquisition of tangible capital assets. For transfers with stipulations an equivalent amount of revenue is recognized as the liability is settled.

(f) Financial instruments

All financial instruments are measured using either the amortized cost method or the fair value method. Financial instruments included in the amortized cost category are recorded at either cost or amortized cost using the effective interest rate method. Transaction costs are included in the initial cost of financial instruments recognized using the cost method. Financial instruments included in the fair value category are initially recorded at fair value with each subsequent change in fair value recognized in the statement of remeasurement gains and losses (see note 12) until such time that the financial instrument is derecognized. When the financial instrument is derecognized the accumulated remeasurement gain or loss is reversed and recognized on the statement of operations. Transaction costs associated with financial instruments in the fair value category are expensed when incurred.

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2013

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(f) Financial instruments (continued)

Accounts receivable, payables and accruals, and post retirement benefits liability are recorded using the amortized cost method. Cash and investments are recorded using the fair value method utilizing quoted prices in active markets to determine the fair value.

(g) Measurement uncertainty

Uncertainty in the determination of the amount at which an item is recorded in the financial statements is known as measurement uncertainty. Such uncertainty exists when there could be a material difference between the recognized amount and another reasonably possible amount, as there is whenever estimates are used. The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian public sector accounting standards, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reporting amounts of assets and liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. The post retirement benefits liability is an item requiring the use of significant estimates because actual results may differ significantly from the various assumptions about plan members and economic conditions in the marketplace.

Estimates are based upon the best information available at the time of preparation of the financial statements and are reviewed annually to reflect new information as it becomes available. Measurement uncertainty exists in these financial statements and actual results could differ from these estimates.

4. Investments

Investments include a three year ladder GIC portfolio with an average yield of 2.73% maturing between February 18, 2013 and March 2, 2016. A total of \$1,379,067 in investments and cash (2012 - \$1,406,042) have been set aside to fund the post-retirement benefit obligation.

5. Advances for working capital

Upon consolidation, an advance for working capital of \$125,000 was transferred to the Board from the Board of Commissioners of Public Utilities. The authority for the advance for working capital from the Province of Nova Scotia was contained in Section 14 of Chapter 380, RSNS 1989, of the *Public Utilities Act*. The advance is non-interest bearing, with no set terms of repayment.

6. Pensions

(a) Public service superannuation fund

Pursuant to Section 10 of the *Utility and Review Board Act*, all full time employees of the Board are entitled to receive pension benefits under the *Public Service Superannuation Act*. The plan is funded by equal employee and employer contributions. The employer's contributions are included in the Board's operating expenses and totaled \$294,872 (2012 - \$306,346). The Board is not responsible for any unfunded liability.

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2013

6. Pensions (continued)

(b) Supplementary employee retirement plan

The Canadian *Income Tax Act* places limits on the amount of pension that can be paid from a defined benefit pension such as the Province's Public Service Superannuation Plan. In 2004 the Province passed legislation allowing payment of pension benefits for pension amount exceeding the limit set under the *Income Tax Act*. These benefits are paid from the Supplementary Employee Retirement Plan (SERP). During fiscal 2013, the Province of Nova Scotia changed its policy concerning recovery of costs under the SERP. The Board will no longer be responsible for payment of SERP benefits in respect of its former employees. All future amounts will be paid directly by the Province.

7. Post retirement benefits

The Board sponsors two defined benefits retirement programs, other than the Public Service Superannuation Plan, for substantially all of its employees. First, Public Service Awards are paid on similar conditions to those found in the *Civil Service Act* to employees retiring from service. Next, the Board contributes 65% of the cost of medical plan premiums on behalf of retiring employees and their survivors.

The Board is responsible for funding and eventual payment of all benefit programs as described above. The Board may fund post retirement benefit obligations through a combination of cash, investments and other assets. This obligation is fully funded as of March 31, 2013.

During the year the Province announced that the Board is no longer responsible for payments to the Province's Supplementary Employee Retirement Plan (SERP) for employee's whose pension benefits exceed certain limits set by the Canadian *Income Tax Act*. The SERP retirement benefit liability of \$67,474, calculated and recorded to October 31, 2012, was removed from the statement of financial position at year end and recorded in recoveries as a gain.

Actuarial valuations for accounting purposes are performed triennially. The most recent actuarial report was prepared at March 31, 2011. The valuation was based on a number of assumptions about future events, such as inflation rates, interest rates, medical inflation rates, wage and salary increases, and employee turnover and mortality. The assumptions used reflect the Board's best estimates.

There are assets specifically earmarked to fund the post retirement benefits that are currently held in investments and cash and are valued at market value. However, these assets have not been recognized in the disclosure presented below. Instead, the post retirement benefit fund assets are discussed in note 4.

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2013

7. Post retirement benefits (continued)

Information about the post retirement obligations as at March 31, 2013 is as follows:

	March 31 2013	March 31 2012
<i>Post retirement benefits accrued benefit obligation</i>		
Accrued benefit obligation, beginning of year	\$ 1,547,450	\$ 1,462,336
Retirement benefit service cost for the year	91,831	92,103
Benefit payments	(107,967)	(15,557)
Interest on accrued benefit obligation	38,943	38,667
Actuarial (gains) / losses at end of year	<u>(56,079)</u>	<u>(30,099)</u>
Accrued benefit obligation, end of year (before SERP removed)	<u>\$ 1,514,178</u>	<u>\$ 1,547,450</u>
<i>Unamortized gains</i>		
Unamortized actuarial gain (loss), beginning of year	\$ (141,408)	\$ (196,008)
Actuarial gain (loss) - accrued benefit obligation	56,079	30,099
Amortization recorded during the year	<u>17,692</u>	<u>24,501</u>
Unamortized actuarial gain (loss), end of year	<u>\$ (67,637)</u>	<u>\$ (141,408)</u>
<i>Liability recorded on the Statement of Financial Position</i>		
Accrued benefit obligation, closing balance	\$ 1,514,178	\$ 1,547,450
Less: SERP retirement benefit liability removed	\$ (67,474)	\$ -
Less: unamortized actuarial loss	<u>(67,637)</u>	<u>(141,408)</u>
Post retirement benefits liability	<u>\$ 1,379,067</u>	<u>\$ 1,406,042</u>
<i>Post retirement benefits expense</i>		
Retirement benefit service cost for the year	\$ 91,831	\$ 92,103
Interest on accrued benefit obligation	38,943	38,667
Amortization of actuarial (gain) loss	<u>17,692</u>	<u>24,501</u>
Post retirement benefits expense	<u>\$ 148,466</u>	<u>\$ 155,271</u>

The significant assumptions adopted in measuring the Board's accrued benefit obligations are as follows:

Liability discount rate	2.50% per year
General inflation	2.50% per year
YMPE increases	2.50% per year
Increase in maximum pension in	\$2,552 for 2011, indexed starting
	in 2012 at 2.50% per year
Indexing of pension in retirement	1.25% each year to 2015 and 50% of
	CPI (i.e. 1.25%) thereafter

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2013

7. Post retirement benefits (continued)

Extended health care cost increases	
Fiscal 2013 expense	0% as of April 1, 2012; 6.45% as at April 1, 2013 decreasing at 0.15% per year over 13 years to an ultimate rate of 4.50% per year
March 31, 2012 accrued benefit obligation	0% as at April 1, 2013; 6.3% as at April 1, 2014; decreasing at 0.15% per year over 13 years to an ultimate rate of 4.50% per year
Rate of compensation increase	2.50% to 5.00% depending on age

8. Recoveries

Consultants are engaged by the Board to provide advice related to matters such as utility and natural gas operations and to provide expert testimony during hearings. Consulting fees for specific hearings are generally recovered directly from the entities involved. Expenses and recoveries relating to large hearings cannot be reasonably predicted or estimated in advance. Accordingly, no provision is made for these activities in the budget figures shown in the Statement of Operations.

Certain direct and indirect expenses incurred by the Board in relation to its duties pursuant to the *Liquor Control Act*, *Gaming Control Act*, *Theatre and Amusements Act*, and *Consumer Protection Act* are recovered from the Province of Nova Scotia. Regulations made pursuant to Sections 41 and 42 of the *Gas Distribution Act* and Section 44 of the *Pipeline Act* allow the Board to recover certain expenses for activities relating to those Acts from permit holders and licensees. The Board recovers direct and indirect costs incurred for activities under the *Insurance Act* by way of levies against insurers.

Effective April 1, 2010 regulations made under the *Petroleum Products Pricing Act* permit the Board to recover direct and indirect costs relating to setting prices for gasoline and diesel oil by way of a monthly assessment fee against wholesalers and wholesale-retailers. In prior years the Board recovered expenses under this Act from Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

Effective April 1, 2012 the Assessment Appeal Cost Recovery Regulations, made under the *Assessment Act*, require the Board to recover direct and indirect costs incurred for assessment appeals from Property Valuation Services Corporation.

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2013

8. Recoveries (continued)

The Board also recovers certain transcription, copying and other expenses from various sources. Recoveries, by mandate are as follows:

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Public utilities	\$ 4,231,330	\$ 2,788,988
Natural gas	477,596	687,502
Automobile insurance	697,059	617,366
Petroleum product pricing	354,643	354,896
Assessment	248,000	-
Alcohol, gaming and amusements	5,124	134,435
Payday loans	-	19,717
Motor carrier	2,342	(619)
All other recoveries	<u>79,397</u>	<u>36,828</u>
	<u>\$ 6,095,491</u>	<u>\$ 4,639,113</u>

9. Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations

Increase (decrease) in cash from changes in:	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Accounts receivable	\$ (514,828)	\$ (118,858)
Due from related parties	292,414	(118,821)
Inventory	-	1,003
Prepaid expenses	(9,668)	7,226
Due to related parties	(132,499)	350,465
Post retirement benefits liability	(26,975)	139,714
Payables and accruals	<u>115,316</u>	<u>459,830</u>
	<u>\$ (276,240)</u>	<u>\$ 720,559</u>

10. Related party transactions

The Board is a quasi-judicial tribunal operating independently from the Government of the Province of Nova Scotia. A significant amount of the funding for the Board is provided from the Consolidated Fund of the Province through a public service vote.

Direct expenses incurred by the Board in relation to its duties pursuant to the *Liquor Control Act* and *Theatre and Amusement Act*, the regulation of petroleum product pricing under the *Petroleum Product Pricing Act*, and payday loans under the *Consumer Protection Act* were recovered from Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

The Board purchases certain stationery supplies from the central government stationery stockroom. Purchases are included in office supplies expense.

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2013

10. Related party transactions (continued)

Transactions with the Province by financial statement category are as follows:

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
<i>Statement of Operations</i>		
Grant from the Province of Nova Scotia	\$ 2,038,000	\$ 2,344,000
Recoveries		
Alcohol, gaming and amusements adjudicative costs	\$ 5,124	\$ 134,435
Petroleum product pricing mandate	\$ 354,643	\$ 354,896
Payday loans mandate	\$ -	\$ 19,717
Office supplies expense	\$ 8,570	\$ 15,705
<i>Statement of Financial Position</i>		
Due from related parties	\$ 144,213	\$ 436,436
Due to related parties	\$ 235,195	\$ 367,694
Advances for working capital	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000
Surplus	\$ 971,395	\$ 865,511

The transactions described above were recorded at the exchange amount which was the agreed upon amount by the parties.

11. Contractual obligations

The Board has entered into an agreement to lease its premises until October 31, 2014. The annual rent consists of a minimum rent plus the Board's portion of common costs such as maintenance, power, water and property taxes. Minimum rent payable for premises, including common costs, in aggregate and for the next fiscal year is as follows:

2014	473,808
2015	<u>276,388</u>
	<u>\$ 750,196</u>

The Board has entered into a binding agreement with its existing landlord for a new lease having a ten year term commencing November 1, 2014. The estimated minimum rent payable for premises, including common costs, in aggregate and for each of the next five fiscal years is as follows:

2015	216,183
2016	518,838
2017	518,838
2018	518,838
Subsequently	3,415,684
	<u>\$ 5,188,381</u>

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2013

12. Statement of remeasurement gains and losses

The Board has no significant remeasurement gains or losses therefore, no statement of remeasurement gains or losses has been provided.

13. Financial instruments

The following are the significant risks that the Board is exposed to through its financial instruments:

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure. The Board's main credit risks relate to its accounts receivable. In order to reduce its credit risk, the Board has adopted credit policies which include the analysis of the financial position of its customers and the regular review of their credit limits. The Board does not have a significant exposure to any individual customer or counterpart. Management reviews accounts receivable on a case by case basis to determine if an allowance is necessary to reflect an impairment in collectability.

(b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Board has investments in GIC's which bear interest at fixed rates. Consequently, the Board's exposure to interest rate risk on these investments is minimal. The Board has an authorized line of credit of \$250,000 with interest payable monthly at a rate of prime plus 0.50%. As security, the Board has pledged certain accounts receivable. Changes in the bank's prime lending rate can cause fluctuation in interest payments and cash flows. There was no balance outstanding on this facility as of March 31, 2013.

(c) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Board will encounter difficulty in meeting its obligations associated with its financial liabilities as they become due. The Board's ability to meet its obligations depends on the receipt of funds whether in the form of revenue or advances. Annually, the Board estimates its working capital requirements and may restrict a certain portion of its surplus every year for the purpose of ensuring there is adequate funds available to meet working capital requirements. Management believes its exposure to liquidity risk is low.

14. Budget Information

The budget figures presented are for comparison purposes and are unaudited. The budget is approved annually by the Chair of the Board.

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
SCHEDULE OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013

	COST				ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION				2013	2012
	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>Closing</u>	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Amortization</u>	<u>Disposals</u>	<u>Closing</u>	<u>Net Book Value</u>	<u>Net Book Value</u>
Furniture	\$ 235,275	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 235,275	\$ 196,957	\$ 7,630	\$ -	\$ 204,587	\$ 30,688	\$ 38,318
Computer equipment	124,278	2,525	21,984	104,819	119,375	5,744	21,984	103,135	1,684	4,903
Computer software	162,727	-	-	162,727	136,709	19,329	-	156,038	6,689	26,018
Leaseholds	310,271	-	-	310,271	197,341	44,760	-	242,101	68,170	112,930
Equipment	244,602	-	-	244,602	173,255	26,718	-	199,973	44,629	71,347
TOTAL	<u>\$ 1,077,153</u>	<u>\$ 2,525</u>	<u>\$ 21,984</u>	<u>\$ 1,057,694</u>	<u>\$ 823,637</u>	<u>\$ 104,181</u>	<u>\$ 21,984</u>	<u>\$ 905,834</u>	<u>\$ 151,860</u>	<u>\$ 253,516</u>

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
SCHEDULE OF ACCUMULATED SURPLUS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013

	2013				2012			
	Province of Nova Scotia	Petroleum Products Pricing	Public Utilities	TOTAL	Province of Nova Scotia	Petroleum Products Pricing	Public Utilities	TOTAL
Internally restricted								
Balance, beginning of year	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64,259	\$ -	\$ 11,741	\$ 76,000
Transferred to general	-	-	-	-	(64,259)	-	(11,741)	(76,000)
Balance, end of year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital assets								
Balance, beginning of year	172,268	21,489	59,759	253,516	647,040	28,556	77,035	752,631
Current year purchases	1,250	-	1,275	2,525	45,680	-	35,566	81,246
Amortization of capital assets	(48,062)	(7,067)	(49,052)	(104,181)	(67,870)	(7,067)	(52,842)	(127,779)
Transferred to Province of Nova Scotia	-	-	-	-	(452,582)	-	-	(452,582)
Balance, end of year	125,456	14,422	11,982	151,860	172,268	21,489	59,759	253,516
Capital assets - future acquisitions								
Balance, beginning of year	153,100	-	120,200	273,300	672,502	-	78,600	751,102
Current year funding	(24,650)	-	10,875	(13,775)	(8,788)	-	77,166	68,378
Capital asset purchases	(1,250)	-	(1,275)	(2,525)	(45,680)	-	(35,566)	(81,246)
Transferred to Province of Nova Scotia	-	-	-	-	(464,934)	-	-	(464,934)
Balance, end of year	127,200	-	129,800	257,000	153,100	-	120,200	273,300
General								
Balance, beginning of year	540,143	50,579	291,253	881,975	313,201	108,773	236,244	658,218
Operating surplus	105,884	(90,559)	110,205	125,530	86,025	(65,261)	67,592	88,356
Transferred from internally restricted	72,712	7,067	38,177	117,956	140,917	7,067	(12,583)	135,401
Balance, end of year	718,739	(32,913)	439,635	1,125,461	540,143	50,579	291,253	881,975
Total accumulated surplus	\$ 971,395	\$ (18,491)	\$ 581,417	\$ 1,534,321	\$ 865,511	\$ 72,068	\$ 471,212	\$ 1,408,791

The internally restricted surplus represents amounts restricted for working capital to ensure the ongoing and future operations of the Board.

The capital assets surplus represents the Board's net investment in capital assets.

The capital assets - future acquisitions surplus represents funds set aside by the Board for future capital asset acquisitions.

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD
SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2013

	2013 Budget			2013 Actual			2012 Actual		
	Quasi-judicial	Motor carrier	TOTAL	Quasi-judicial	Motor carrier	TOTAL	Quasi-judicial	Motor carrier	TOTAL
Salaries, wages and benefits	\$ 3,934,000	\$ -	\$ 3,934,000	\$ 3,959,196	\$ -	\$ 3,959,196	\$ 3,956,190	\$ (30,488)	\$ 3,925,702
Consulting and legal fees	381,000	30,000	411,000	4,734,389	78,345	4,812,734	3,664,024	-	3,664,024
Rent and business taxes	510,000	42,000	552,000	518,155	42,467	560,622	503,739	40,441	544,180
Amortization	105,000	-	105,000	104,181	-	104,181	127,779	-	127,779
Transcribing and printing	42,000	-	42,000	118,818	3,132	121,950	99,384	1,003	100,387
Advertising	35,000	9,000	44,000	19,208	23,173	42,381	60,742	-	60,742
Travel	125,000	3,000	128,000	58,030	1,374	59,404	54,592	8	54,600
Staff training and development	75,000	-	75,000	67,673	-	67,673	53,877	-	53,877
Office supplies and services	80,000	-	80,000	70,012	6	70,018	53,684	-	53,684
Dues and fees	39,000	-	39,000	37,379	-	37,379	46,823	-	46,823
Books and reports	42,000	-	42,000	34,681	-	34,681	33,074	-	33,074
Sundry expenses	22,000	-	22,000	22,595	-	22,595	27,641	-	27,641
Maintenance	42,000	-	42,000	12,430	-	12,430	26,714	-	26,714
Telecommunications	19,000	-	19,000	13,985	-	13,985	24,251	-	24,251
Equipment	98,000	-	98,000	45,479	-	45,479	17,471	706	18,177
TOTAL	\$ 5,549,000	\$ 84,000	\$ 5,633,000	\$ 9,816,211	\$ 148,497	\$ 9,964,708	\$ 8,749,985	\$ 11,670	\$ 8,761,655