
CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2017

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STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY

**Levy
Casey
Carter
MacLean**

Chartered Professional
Accountants

The accompanying financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board and have been prepared in compliance with legislation and generally accepted accounting principles established by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada. Management is also responsible for the notes and schedules to the financial statements, and for ensuring this information is consistent, where appropriate, with the information contained in the financial statements.

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

The Audit Committee 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 Committee 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 Chartered Professional Accountants, conducted an independent examination, in accordance with Canadian auditing standards, and expressed 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.

Terry Carter Ltd.
Stuart S. MacLean Inc.
J.E. Melvin Inc.
Greg T. Strange Inc.
Tracey Wright Inc.

On behalf of management of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board:



Stuart Pinks
Chief Executive Officer



Christine Bonnell-Eisnor
Director, Regulatory
Affairs & Finance

May 10, 2017

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements, which comprise the statement of financial position of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board as at March 31, 2017 and the statement of operations and accumulated operating surplus, remeasurement gains, changes in net debt 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.

Auditor's 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 Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board as at March 31, 2017, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Halifax, Nova Scotia
May 10, 2017


Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

**Levy
Casey
Carter
MacLean**
Chartered Professional
Accountants

Terry Carter Ltd.
Stuart S. MacLean Inc.
J.E. Melvin Inc.
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CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION MARCH 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,417,297	\$ 2,327,578
Receivables	118,120	88,937
Investments (note 2(j)) (note 3)	<u>2,570,354</u>	<u>2,547,566</u>
	<u>6,105,771</u>	<u>4,964,081</u>
LIABILITIES		
Payables and accruals	956,628	766,767
Payable to governments (note 4)	2,262,432	1,910,466
Supplementary employee retirement plan obligation (note 5)	832,177	754,285
Post-retirement health and retiring allowance obligation (note 6)	<u>1,806,628</u>	<u>1,700,852</u>
	<u>5,857,865</u>	<u>5,132,370</u>
Net financial assets (debt)	<u>247,906</u>	<u>(168,289)</u>
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Prepaid expenses	197,865	424,497
Tangible capital assets (page 16)	<u>322,012</u>	<u>525,022</u>
	<u>519,877</u>	<u>949,519</u>
Accumulated surplus	<u>\$ 767,783</u>	<u>\$ 781,230</u>
Accumulated surplus is comprised of:		
Accumulated operating surplus (page 4)	\$ 725,819	\$ 706,280
Accumulated remeasurement gains (page 5)	<u>41,964</u>	<u>74,950</u>
	<u>\$ 767,783</u>	<u>\$ 781,230</u>

Commitments (note 9)

Contingencies (note 11)

Approved by the Board



Chair



Board member

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND ACCUMULATED OPERATING SURPLUS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

	(Note 12) <u>Budget</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Revenue			
Government grants			
Government of Canada	\$ 4,355,000	\$ 4,355,000	\$ 4,012,500
Government of Nova Scotia	4,355,000	4,355,000	4,012,500
Costs recovered from industry	8,289,198	8,392,724	4,077,204
Interest and other	-	9,149	21,495
Interest on overdue balances	-	58,570	-
	<u>16,999,198</u>	<u>17,170,443</u>	<u>12,123,699</u>
Less:			
Costs recoveries refunded to government (page 17)	8,289,198	8,392,724	4,012,500
Cost recoveries refundable to industry	-	292,391	64,704
Repayment of government grants			
Government of Canada	-	36,210	-
Government of Nova Scotia	-	36,210	-
Interest remitted to government	-	58,570	-
	<u>8,289,198</u>	<u>8,816,105</u>	<u>4,077,204</u>
Net revenue	8,710,000	8,354,338	8,046,495
Expenses			
Regulation of petroleum activities (page 17)	<u>8,710,000</u>	<u>7,950,937</u>	<u>8,023,842</u>
Operating surplus before other revenue (expenses)	-	403,401	22,653
Amortization of tangible capital assets (page 16)	-	(351,867)	(342,417)
Net investment income (note 7)	-	56,829	58,241
	<u>-</u>	<u>(295,038)</u>	<u>(284,176)</u>
Operating surplus (deficit)	-	108,363	(261,523)
Accumulated operating surplus, beginning of year	-	706,280	970,595
Repayment to Government of Canada - prior year surplus	-	(44,412)	(1,396)
Repayment to Government of Nova Scotia - prior year surplus	-	(44,412)	(1,396)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(44,412)</u>	<u>(1,396)</u>
Accumulated operating surplus, end of year	\$ -	\$ 725,819	\$ 706,280

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

**STATEMENT OF REMEASUREMENT GAINS
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017**

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Accumulated remeasurement gains, beginning of the year	\$ 74,950	\$ 103,387
Unrealized loss arising during the year on investments	<u>(32,986)</u>	<u>(28,437)</u>
Accumulated remeasurement gains, end of year	<u>\$ 41,964</u>	<u>\$ 74,950</u>

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

	(Note 12) <u>Budget</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Operating surplus (deficit)	\$ -	\$ 108,363	\$ (261,523)
Repayment to Government of Canada	-	(44,412)	(1,396)
Repayment to Government of Nova Scotia	-	(44,412)	(1,396)
	<u>-</u>	<u>19,539</u>	<u>(264,315)</u>
Change in tangible capital assets			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(710,000)	(148,856)	(159,699)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	351,867	342,417
Increase in tangible capital assets	<u>(710,000)</u>	<u>203,011</u>	<u>182,718</u>
Change in other non-financial assets			
Use (acquisition) of prepaid expense	-	226,631	(100,649)
Net remeasurement loss (page 5)	-	(32,986)	(28,437)
Increase (decrease) in net financial assets	(710,000)	416,195	(210,683)
Net financial assets (debt), beginning of the year	<u>(168,289)</u>	<u>(168,289)</u>	<u>42,394</u>
Net financial assets (debt), end of the year	<u>\$ (878,289)</u>	<u>\$ 247,906</u>	<u>\$ (168,289)</u>

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Operating Activities		
Operating surplus (deficit)	\$ 108,363	\$ (261,523)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	351,867	342,417
Loss on disposal of investments	1,673	-
Repayment to Government of Canada	(44,412)	(1,396)
Repayment to Government of Nova Scotia	(44,412)	(1,396)
Increase in supplementary employee retirement plan obligation	77,892	76,866
Increase in post-retirement health and retiring allowance obligation	<u>105,776</u>	<u>119,528</u>
	556,747	274,496
Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations (note 8)	<u>739,274</u>	<u>(466,634)</u>
	<u>1,296,021</u>	<u>(192,138)</u>
Investing Activities		
Decrease in accrued interest on investments	978	2,137
Purchase of investments	(565,832)	(420,597)
Proceeds on disposal of investments	<u>505,069</u>	<u>370,205</u>
	<u>(59,785)</u>	<u>(48,255)</u>
Capital Activities		
Purchase of		
Leasehold improvements	(40,205)	-
Furniture and equipment	-	(5,860)
Computer equipment	(99,048)	(144,564)
Computer software	<u>(9,603)</u>	<u>(9,275)</u>
	<u>(148,856)</u>	<u>(159,699)</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents during year	1,087,380	(400,092)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>2,338,355</u>	<u>2,738,447</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	<u>\$ 3,425,735</u>	<u>\$ 2,338,355</u>
Represented by:		
Cash	\$ 3,417,297	\$ 2,327,578
Investment cash	<u>8,438</u>	<u>10,777</u>
	<u>\$ 3,425,735</u>	<u>\$ 2,338,355</u>

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2017

1. Purpose of organization

The Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board was formed to administer the relevant provisions of the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Acts as enacted by the Parliament of Canada and the Legislature of Nova Scotia. The Board is funded primarily by grants from the Federal and Provincial Governments in equal contributions. The Board also collects and remits to the Governments cost recovery charges assessed against industry from regulatory reviews, up to a maximum of 100% of the Board's approved budget. The Board is a non-profit organization and is, therefore, exempt from income tax under Section 149 of the Income Tax Act.

2. Significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of presentation

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with the Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada) and reflect the following significant accounting policies.

(b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, balances with banks and cash held within the investment portfolio.

(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 and the net remeasurement gains or losses, 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. Amortization is recorded using the straight-line method over four years for furniture, fixtures and equipment and over three years for computer equipment and software. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the life of the lease.

(e) Impairment of long-lived assets

Tangible capital assets are tested for recoverability whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized when the asset no longer contributes to the Board's ability to provide services resulting from its use and eventual disposition. The impairment loss is measured as the amount by which the carrying amount of the long-lived asset exceeds its fair value.

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(f) Use of estimates

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 supplementary employee retirement plan obligation and the post-retirement health and retiring allowance obligation are items 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.

(g) Revenue recognition

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. Government transfers are recognized when the transfer is authorized and 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.

Cost recoveries from industry are recognized when invoiced which are based upon estimated costs and units of Board time for the fiscal year, as per the Cost Recovery Guidelines. Cost recoveries are adjusted at the end of each fiscal year based upon the actual full cost of providing regulatory services, as defined in the Cost Recovery Guidelines.

Investment income is recorded as earned.

(h) Supplementary employee retirement plan obligation

The projected unit credit method prorated on services has been used to determine the accrued benefit obligation and current service cost. The objective under this method is to expense each participant's benefits under the plan as they would accrue, taking into consideration future salary increases and the plan's benefit allocation formula.

Obligations are attributed to the period beginning on the employee's date of joining the plan and ending on the earlier of the date of termination, death or retirement.

The Board's fiscal year end date is March 31 and the measurement date of the plan's assets and obligations is March 31.

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(i) Post-retirement health and retiring allowance obligation

Employees of the Board participate in the Province of Nova Scotia Pensioners Extended Health Plan upon retirement. This plan provides health care coverage to age 65. Employees are also eligible for one week of salary for each year of pensionable service, to a maximum of 26 weeks for Board staff who retire upon becoming eligible for retirement. These retirement benefits are recorded on an accrual basis based on an actuary's estimate.

As of June 30, 2015, those employees eligible for the retiring allowance must have been employed on June 30, 2015 and the service period for the benefit was frozen at June 30, 2015. The benefit is calculated based upon the employee's rate of pay on June 30, 2015. Employees who are first employed after June 30, 2015 will not be eligible for the benefit.

Obligations are attributed to the period beginning on the member's date of hire and ending on the date the member reaches first full year of eligibility for benefits for the post-retirement health program and date of retirement for the retiring allowance program.

The Board's fiscal year end date is March 31 and the measurement date of the programs' obligations is March 31.

(j) Investments

The Board has designated its investment portfolio to fund the Board's obligations for supplementary employee retirement plans and post-retirement health and retiring allowances.

(k) 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 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.

Accounts receivable, payables and accruals, payable to governments, supplementary employee retirement plan obligation and post-retirement health and retiring allowance obligations are recorded using the cost method. Cash and investments are recorded using the fair value method utilizing quoted prices in active markets to determine the fair value.

3. Investments

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Investments, at cost	\$ 2,497,241	\$ 2,438,150
Accrued investment income	22,710	23,688
Unrealized gain on investments	41,965	74,951
Investment cash	<u>8,438</u>	<u>10,777</u>
Investments, at fair market value	<u>\$ 2,570,354</u>	<u>\$ 2,547,566</u>

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2017

4. Payable to governments

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Federal government - cost recovery funds	\$ 1,095,006	\$ 955,233
Federal government - government grant	36,210	-
Provincial government - cost recovery funds	1,095,006	955,233
Provincial government - government grant	<u>36,210</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 2,262,432</u>	<u>\$ 1,910,466</u>

5. Pension obligations

(a) Supplementary employee retirement plan (SERP)

The Board Supplementary Employee Retirement Plan provides benefits to its employees who are members of the Public Service Superannuation Plan (PSSP). Employees are eligible for membership in this plan once their pensionable earnings have reached a level such that their benefits under the PSSP are limited by the maximum pension limits under the Income Tax Act.

The Board measures its accrued benefit obligations and the fair value of plan assets for accounting purposes as at March 31 of each year. An actuarial valuation of the retirement plan for funding purposes was completed as of March 31, 2015 and was extrapolated to March 31, 2017. An updated actuarial valuation is completed at least every three years.

The Board has adopted the recommendations of Section 3250 of the Public Sector Accounting Standards Handbook. The following is required for disclosure purposes:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Components of Supplementary Employee Retirement Plan Cost</u>		
Current service cost	\$ 29,864	\$ 28,688
Interest cost	35,762	34,298
Amortization of net actuarial losses	<u>40,259</u>	<u>41,637</u>
Supplementary Employee Retirement Plan Cost	<u>\$ 105,885</u>	<u>\$ 104,623</u>
 <u>Weighted-Average Assumptions for Expense</u>		
Discount rate	<u>4.10%</u>	<u>4.10%</u>
Rate of compensation increase	<u>2.25%</u>	<u>2.25%</u>
 <u>Weighted-Average Assumptions for Disclosure</u>		
Discount rate	<u>4.10%</u>	<u>4.10%</u>
Rate of compensation increase	<u>2.25%</u>	<u>2.25%</u>

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2017

5. Pension obligations (continued)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Change in Accrued Benefit Obligation</u>		
Accrued benefit obligation at the end of the prior year	\$ 871,306	\$ 836,077
Current service cost	29,864	28,688
Interest cost	35,762	34,298
Benefits paid	(27,993)	(27,757)
Actuarial loss	<u>47,195</u>	<u>-</u>
Accrued benefit obligation at the end of the year	<u>\$ 956,134</u>	<u>\$ 871,306</u>
<u>Reconciliation of Funded Status to Accrued Benefit Liability</u>		
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$ 956,134	\$ 871,306
Unamortized net actuarial loss	<u>(123,957)</u>	<u>(117,021)</u>
Accrued benefit liability	<u>\$ 832,177</u>	<u>\$ 754,285</u>

(b) Multiemployer defined benefit pension plan

The Board contributes to a pension plan under the Public Service Superannuation Act administered by the Public Service Superannuation Plan Trustee Inc. The Board matches employees' contributions calculated as follows: 8.4% (2016 - 8.4%) on that part of their salary that is equal to or less than the "Year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings" (YMPE) under the Canada Pension Plan and 10.9% (2016 - 10.9%) on the part of their salary that is in excess of the YMPE. The Board has recognized contributions of \$397,909 in 2017 (2016 - \$390,693). There is no further liability with respect to past service at March 31, 2017.

6. Post-retirement health and retiring allowance obligation

The Board provides other retirement benefits to its employees by participating in the Province of Nova Scotia's post-retirement health insurance program and also provides retiring allowance benefits to those employees who retire from the Board. Both benefits are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis. The Board funds on a cash basis as contributions are made.

As described in note 2(i), an amendment was made to the retiring allowance program as of June 30, 2015. The retiring allowance benefit is not payable to employees who terminate employment prior to retirement or those employees who are employed after June 30, 2015. The service period is frozen at June 30, 2015 with the allowance being based upon the employee's salary as at June 30, 2015. The amendment to the retiring allowance program is considered a plan curtailment under Section 3250 of the Public Sector Accounting Standards Handbook and, therefore, all unamortized actuarial gains and losses on the plan curtailment are recognized immediately.

An actuarial valuation of the retirement plan for funding purposes was completed as of March 31, 2015 and was extrapolated to March 31, 2017. 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.

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2017

6. Post-retirement health and retiring allowance obligation (continued)

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
<u>Components of Post-Retirement Health and Retiring Allowance Cost</u>		
Current service cost (employer portion)	\$ 50,610	\$ 61,925
Interest cost	68,093	64,765
Actuarial loss (gain)	<u>(802)</u>	<u>1,242</u>
Post-Retirement Health and Retiring Allowance Cost	<u>\$ 117,901</u>	<u>\$ 127,932</u>
<u>Weighted-Average Assumptions for Expense</u>		
Discount rate	<u>4.10%</u>	<u>4.10%</u>
Rate of compensation increase	<u>2.25%</u>	<u>2.25%</u>
Initial weighted average health care trend rate	<u>6.83%</u>	<u>7.00%</u>
Ultimate weighted average health care trend rate	<u>4.50%</u>	<u>4.50%</u>
Year ultimate rate reached	<u>2030</u>	<u>2030</u>
<u>Weighted-Average Assumptions for Disclosure</u>		
Discount rate	<u>3.71%</u>	<u>4.10%</u>
Rate of compensation increase	<u>2.25%</u>	<u>2.25%</u>
Initial weighted average health care trend rate	<u>6.67%</u>	<u>6.83%</u>
Ultimate weighted average health care trend rate	<u>4.50%</u>	<u>4.50%</u>
Year ultimate rate reached	<u>2030</u>	<u>2030</u>
<u>Change in Accrued Benefit Obligation</u>		
Accrued benefit obligation at the end of the prior year	\$ 1,641,544	\$ 1,624,530
Current service cost (employer portion)	50,610	61,925
Interest cost	68,093	64,765
Curtailment	-	(81,968)
Benefits paid	(12,125)	(27,708)
Actuarial loss	<u>109,072</u>	<u>-</u>
Accrued benefit obligation at the end of the year	<u>\$ 1,857,194</u>	<u>\$ 1,641,544</u>
<u>Reconciliation of Funded Status to Accrued Benefit Liability</u>		
Benefit obligation at the end of year	\$ 1,857,194	\$ 1,641,544
Unamortized net actuarial loss	<u>(50,566)</u>	<u>59,308</u>
Accrued benefit liability	<u>\$ 1,806,628</u>	<u>\$ 1,700,852</u>

7. Net investment income

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Investment income	\$ 73,627	\$ 73,167
Gain (loss) on disposal of investments	(1,673)	-
Portfolio management fees	<u>(15,125)</u>	<u>(14,926)</u>
	<u>\$ 56,829</u>	<u>\$ 58,241</u>

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2017

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

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash from changes in:		
Receivables	\$ (29,182)	\$ (37,854)
Prepaid expenses	226,631	(100,649)
Payables and accruals	189,858	(408,908)
Payable to governments	351,967	128,277
Deferred grants	<u>-</u>	<u>(47,500)</u>
	<u>\$ 739,274</u>	<u>\$ (466,634)</u>

9. Commitments

The Board has entered into various lease agreements for premises and equipment. The approximate minimum payments required over the next five fiscal years are as follows:

2018	\$	305,342
2019	\$	127,966
2020	\$	111,604
2021	\$	105,670
2022	\$	101,431

10. 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 regulated entities and the regular review of their credit limits. The Board does not have a significant exposure to any individual regulated entity or counterparty. 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 guaranteed investment certificates, debentures, bonds, mid and medium term notes and high-interest savings accounts which bear interest at fixed rates ranging between 1.65% and 5.04%. Consequently, the Board's exposure to interest rate risk on these investments is minimal.

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2017

10. Financial instruments (continued)

(c) Market rate 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. The debentures, bonds and mid and medium term notes held in the Board's investment portfolio expose the Board to market risk as such investments are subject to price changes in the open market.

(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.

11. Contingencies

The Board has been involved with the following legal proceedings throughout the year:

- (a) A judicial review application was submitted by Geophysical Service Incorporated (GSI) to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia in June 2016, concerning the Board's authority to obtain and possess information seismic survey information in a digital format. A hearing was scheduled in December but GSI discontinued the application upon the Board filing its response brief.
- (b) In 2013, GSI filed an action in Federal Court of Canada in relation to an alleged copyright infringement regarding Board materials in circulation in 2013 and pre-dating that year. GSI claims damages for copyright infringement and reserves its right to elect to claim statutory damages under the Copyright Act. It also claims exemplary or punitive damages. This case is in abeyance and the Board has requested it discontinue. To date, GSI has denied the request.
- (c) In April 2017, the Board entered into a tolling agreement with Jebco Canada (Jebco) who are defending another separate action by GSI in Alberta. The tolling agreement freezes Jebco from commencing third party claims against the Board and avoids the expiry of any limitation periods under Alberta and Nova Scotia law.

At this time, the outcome of these legal proceedings is not determinable. No liability has been recognized in these financial statements with regard to the above mentioned claims due to their uncertainty.

12. Budget information

The budget figures presented are for comparison purposes and are unaudited. Amortization was not contemplated in the development of the budget and, as such, has not been included.

13. Comparative figures

In some cases, the comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

SCHEDULE OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

COST

	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Additions</u>	Write Downs/ <u>Disposals</u>	<u>Closing</u>
Leasehold improvements	\$ 639,095	\$ 40,205	\$ 601,239	\$ 78,061
Furniture and fixtures	453,564	-	-	453,564
Computer equipment	1,571,359	99,048	1,067,390	603,017
Computer software	1,283,191	9,603	667,255	625,539
Equipment	<u>198,430</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>198,430</u>
	<u>\$ 4,145,639</u>	<u>\$ 148,856</u>	<u>\$ 2,335,884</u>	<u>\$ 1,958,611</u>

ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION

	<u>Opening</u>	<u>Additions</u>	Write Downs/ <u>Disposals</u>	<u>Closing</u>
Leasehold improvements	\$ 600,652	\$ 42,303	\$ 601,239	\$ 41,716
Furniture and fixtures	445,459	3,015	-	448,474
Computer equipment	1,346,042	136,736	1,067,390	415,388
Computer software	1,049,030	162,214	667,255	543,989
Equipment	<u>179,433</u>	<u>7,599</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>187,032</u>
	<u>\$ 3,620,616</u>	<u>\$ 351,867</u>	<u>\$ 2,335,884</u>	<u>\$ 1,636,599</u>

NET BOOK VALUE

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Leasehold improvements	\$ 36,345	\$ 38,443
Furniture and fixtures	5,090	8,105
Computer equipment	187,629	225,316
Computer software	81,550	234,161
Equipment	<u>11,398</u>	<u>18,997</u>
	<u>\$ 322,012</u>	<u>\$ 525,022</u>

CANADA-NOVA SCOTIA OFFSHORE PETROLEUM BOARD

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

	(Note 12) <u>Budget</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Cost recoveries refunded to government			
Government of Canada	\$ 4,144,599	\$ 4,196,362	\$ 2,006,250
Government of Nova Scotia	<u>4,144,599</u>	<u>4,196,362</u>	<u>2,006,250</u>
Total cost recoveries refunded to government	<u>\$ 8,289,198</u>	<u>\$ 8,392,724</u>	<u>\$ 4,012,500</u>
Regulation of petroleum activities			
Personnel and Board members	\$ 5,470,000	\$ 5,274,138	\$ 5,035,275
General office and support	1,547,000	1,247,749	1,348,391
Office and laboratory premise costs	716,000	694,929	679,128
Consulting and legal	743,000	500,335	699,189
Supplementary employee retirement plan cost	106,000	105,885	104,623
Post-retirement health and retiring allowance cost	118,000	117,901	147,236
Diving certification	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total regulation of petroleum activities	<u>\$ 8,710,000</u>	<u>\$ 7,950,937</u>	<u>\$ 8,023,842</u>