Financial Statements of

NOVA SCOTIA MUNICIPAL FINANCE CORPORATION

And Independent Auditors' Report thereon

Year ended March 31, 2022



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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Directors of Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation (the Corporation), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at end of March 31, 2022
- the statement of operations and accumulated surplus for the year then ended
- the statement of changes in net assets for the year then ended
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies

(Hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Corporation as at end of March 31, 2022, and its results of operations, its changes in net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our auditors' report.

We are independent of the Corporation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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



Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 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 financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Corporation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Corporation's financial reporting process.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.
 - The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Corporation's internal control.



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- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Corporation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Corporation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Halifax, Canada June 24, 2022

KPMG LLP

Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2022

Financial Statements

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Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	2022	2021
Financial assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 5(a)) Accrued interest receivable HST receivable	\$ 7,356,861 7,274,223 1,203	\$ 7,898,601 7,552,659 579
Accounts receivable Municipal operating loans receivable (note 9) Loans (note 2)	31,691,796 757,484,549	87 47,498,896 703,493,580
	803,808,632	766,444,402
Financial liabilities:		
Accounts payable Employee obligation (note 4) Accrued interest payable Short-term loan due to Province of Nova Scotia (note 7)	39,982 46,649 7,265,251 356,179	55,409 46,649 7,545,111 1,128,945
Municipal operating loans payable (note 9) Deposits Debentures (note 3)	31,691,796 20,253 757,322,262	47,498,896 33,049 703,370,774
Bozemaros (noto o)	796,742,372	759,678,833
Net financial assets	7,066,260	6,765,569
Accumulated surplus	\$ 7,066,260	\$ 6,765,569
See accompanying notes to audited financial statements.		
On behalf of the Board:		
Director		
Director		

Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus

Year ended March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

		Budget 2022		Actual 2022		Actual 2021
Revenue:						_
Interest on loans	\$	22,983,103	\$	22,310,484	\$	23,660,822
Interest on short-term investments	Ψ	59,547	Ψ	63,728	Ψ	59,252
Recovery of issue costs		341,668		448,807		148,181
Administration fee		400,000		616,393		171,530
7 tarrimon attorn 100		23,784,318		23,439,412		24,039,785
Expenses:						
Interest on debenture debt and short-term						
loans		22,977,416		22,305,588		23,657,778
Debenture issue expenses		341,699		449,095		146,045
Administrative expenses (schedule)		423,276		384,038		380,381
		23,742,391		23,138,721		24,184,204
Annual operating surplus (deficiency)		41,927		300,691		(144,419)
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year		6,765,569		6,765,569		6,909,988
Accumulated surplus, end of year	\$	6,807,496	\$	7,066,260	\$	6,765,569

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

Year ended March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

	Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Actual 2021
Annual operating surplus (deficiency)	\$ 41,927	\$ 300,691	\$ (144,419)
Increase (decrease) in net financial assets	41,927	300,691	(144,419)
Net financial assets, beginning of year	6,765,569	6,765,569	6,909,988
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ 6,807,496	\$ 7,066,260	\$ 6,765,569

See accompanying notes to audited financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

		2022	2021
Cash provided by (used in):			
Operating activities:			
Annual operating surplus (deficiency) Item not involving cash:	\$	300,691	\$ (144,419)
Increase (decrease) in accrued public service award		-	1,571
Change in non-cash operating working capital (note 5(b))		(17,388)	(133,284)
		283,303	(276,132)
Investing activities:			
Issue of municipal operating loans to municipalities			(47,498,896)
Issuance of loans to units		54,098,202)	(42,882,514)
Payments received on loans to units	1	00,095,112	112,164,632
Due to municipal unit	((675) (54,003,765)	(856) 21,782,366
Financing activities:			
Proceeds of debentures	1	54,098,100	42,883,000
Principal payments on debenture		00,146,612)	(112,215,639)
Change in short-term loan due to Province of Nova	,	,	
Scotia		(772,766)	48,547,841
		53,178,722	(20,784,798)
Cash and cash equivalents		(541,740)	721,436
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year		7,898,601	7,177,165
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$	7,356,861	\$ 7,898,601

Supplemental cash flow information (note 5 (c))

See accompanying notes to audited financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2022

Nova Scotia Municipal Finance Corporation (the "Corporation") was created by the Municipal Finance Corporation Act which was proclaimed on July 31, 1979. The Corporation began operations on January 1, 1980 and has a March 31 fiscal year-end. The object of the Corporation is to provide financing of approved capital projects for municipalities, municipal enterprises, regional school boards, and hospitals through a central borrowing authority. The Corporation is not subject to provincial or federal taxes.

1. Significant accounting policies:

(a) Basis of accounting:

The financial statements of the Corporation have been prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board ("PSAB") of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada ("CPA").

The Corporation follows the accrual method of accounting for revenues and expenses. Revenues are recognized in the year in which they are earned and measurable. Expenses are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of receipt of goods or services and/or the creation of a legal obligation to pay.

(b) Cash and cash equivalents:

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, balances with banks, short-term deposits with the Province of Nova Scotia with maturities of generally three months or less and short-term loans. Cash and cash equivalents are recorded at amortized cost.

(c) Loans:

Loans are recorded at amortized cost less valuation allowances and writeoffs. Periodically loans are assessed for collectibility and risk of loss. To the extent required, a valuation allowance based on past events, current circumstance and all available information at the date of the preparation of the financial statements is recorded to reduce the loans to their expected net realizable value. Losses as a result of a valuation allowance are recorded in the statement of operations.

(d) Employee future benefits:

The Corporation provides certain employee benefits which will require funding in future periods.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2022

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(d) Employee future benefits (continued):

Public service awards:

Upon retirement, certain employees are eligible for a public service award equal to one week's salary per year of service to a maximum of twenty-six years. Management recognizes compensation expense on an accrual basis based on management's best estimate.

Employee pension plan:

Permanent employees participate in the Nova Scotia Public Superannuation Plan (the "Plan"), a contributory defined benefit pension plan, which provides pension benefits based on length of service and earnings. Contributions to the Plan are required by both the employees and the employer. The Corporation is not responsible for any under-funded liability, nor does the Corporation have any access to any surplus that may arise in this Plan. The cost of the Plan is the Corporation's required contributions due to the plan during the period.

(e) Debentures:

Debentures are recorded at amortized cost.

(f) Accumulated surplus:

The accumulated surplus was created from annual accumulated surpluses and interest on funds which had been advanced by the Province of Nova Scotia and interest on other surplus monies. Included in the accumulated surplus is the reserve fund which provides a capital base for the Corporation, as well as funds which may be required for administrative purposes and timing differences. At the February 7, 2019 board meeting, the board amended the reserve fund policy by removing the upper CAP of \$7 million and to have the Audit Committee review the Reserve Fund Fee annually and provide recommendations on its level to the Board.

(g) Revenue recognition:

Interest revenue on loans is recognized on an accrual basis and reported as revenue in the period earned.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2022

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(h) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported 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 year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Loans:

(a) Loans are made on the security of debentures and are due in annual instalments for periods up to a maximum of twenty years. Interest rates on the loans range from 0.400% to 5.940%. Repayment terms are negotiated on specific loans and would normally not exceed twenty years.

	2022	2021
Loans to municipalities Less current portion	\$757,484,549 142,411,911	\$703,493,580 100,107,233
	\$615,072,638	\$603,386,347

(b) Principal payments receivable and due on debentures payable in each of the next five years are as follows:

	Loans	Debentures payable
2023	\$142,411,911	\$142,449,943
2024	116,817,111	116,847,777
2025	94,491,121	94,521,029
2026	79,575,084	79,595,243
2027	54,954,494	54,964,407

3. Debentures:

The debenture debt outstanding at March 31, 2022 totaling \$757,322,262 (2021 - \$703,370,774) is in Canadian funds and are placed with the Province of Nova Scotia, with the exception of the "FCM" loans which are private placements. Interest is payable semi-annually.

At year-end, the total debentures due to the Province of Nova Scotia was \$749,170,055 (2021 - \$697,438,197).

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2022

3. Debentures (continued):

				2022
				Amortized
				cost
		Maturity date		of debt
Series	Date issued	Calendar Year	Interest rate	outstanding
BB	Jan. 9/03	2022 to 2023	5.913	917,055
BF	Sept. 1/04	2022 to 2024	5.880-5.940	16,500,000
BL	June 1/07	2022	4.770	9,452,000
BM	Oct. 17/07	2022	5.210	1,907,000
BN	July 7/08	2022 to 2023	5.034-5.088	5,980,000
BP	Oct. 24/08	2022 to 2023	5.430-5.480	4,521,000
BQ	June 1/09	2022 to 2024	5.359-5.644	9,245,000
BR	Oct. 27/09	2022 to 2024	4.719-4.939	719,000
BS	June 29/10	2022 to 2025	4.655-4.875	11,876,000
BT	Nov. 9/10	2022 to 2025	4.110-4.410	902,000
BU	May 30/11	2022 to 2026	4.301-4.597	3,475,000
BV	Nov. 9/11	2022 to 2026	3.766-4.026	2,267,000
FCM-E*	Mar. 26/12	2023 to 2032	2.000	221,411
BW	May 15/12	2022 to 2027	3.480-3.856	10,083,000
FCM-F*	July 3/12	2022 to 2032	2.000	1,000,148
BX	July 6/12	2022	3.156	17,600,000
FCM-G*	Aug. 22/12	2022 to 2032	2.000	2,200,000
BY	Nov. 9/12	2022 to 2027	3.160-3.580	22,801,000
BZ	May 15/13	2022 to 2028	2.812-3.489	29,829,000
CA	Nov. 15/13	2022 to 2028	3.469-4.114	21,960,000
CB	June 5/14	2022 to 2029	3.003-3.792	18,867,000
CC	Nov. 17/14	2022 to 2029	2.873-3.559	33,080,000
CD	June 1/15	2022 to 2030	2.330-3.205	17,277,000
FCM-H*	Oct. 30/15	2022 to 2025	1.750	1,016,548
CE	Nov. 20/15	2022 to 2030	2.373-3.449	40,465,000
CF	May 16/16	2022 to 2031	2.218-3.475	40,224,000
CG	Nov. 15/16	2022 to 2031	1.854-3.108	12,054,000
CH	May 9/17	2022 to 2032	1.860-3.209	26,155,000
CI	Nov. 9/17	2022 to 2032	2.466-3.382	33,167,000
CJ	May 30/18	2022 to 2033	2.761-3.501	39,901,000
FCM-I*	Oct. 31/18	2022 to 2028	2.250	700,000
CK	Nov. 9/18	2022 to 2033	2.963-3.551	45,798,000
CL	May 9/19	2022 to 2034	2.039-3.048	11,819,000
CM	Nov. 15/19	2022 to 2034	2.129-2.829	69,243,000
CN	July 7/20	2022 to 2035	0.859-2.378	40,002,000
CP/CQ	May 28/21	2022 to 2036	0.400-2.809	121,786,000
CR	Oct 22/21	2022 to 2036	0.500-2.677	29,298,000
FCM-J*	Mar 15/22	2023 to 2032	3.650	3,014,100
			\$	757,322,262

All debt directly placed with the Province of Nova Scotia except:

Amounts repayable over the next five years are presented in note 2(b).

^{*} Placed with Federation of Canadian Municipalities

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2022

4. Employee obligations:

(a) Public Service Awards:

As at March 31, 2022, the Corporation has recorded a liability in the amount of \$46,649 (2021 - \$46,649) in respect of the provincial public service award ("PSA") for the employees of the Corporation.

On April 7, 2015, the Province announced that the PSA would be discontinued on a go-forward basis for excluded (non-union) employees accrued to August 11, 2015.

(b) Employee pension plan:

Permanent employees of the Corporation participate in the Nova Scotia Public Service Superannuation Plan (the "Plan"), a contributory defined benefit pension plan administered by the Province, which provides pension benefits based on length of service and earnings.

Contributions to the Plan are required by both the employees and the employer. The Corporation's contributions range from 8.4% to 10.9% of employee salary. Total employer contributions for 2022 were \$25,100 (2021 - \$24,645) and are recognized in administrative expenses in the financial statements.

Actuarial valuations of the Plan are conducted annually and provide an estimate of the accrued pension obligation (Plan liabilities) calculated using various economic and demographic assumptions, based on membership data as at the valuation date. The Plan's consulting actuaries, Mercer, performed a valuation as at Dec 31, 2020 and issued their report in June 2021. The report indicated that the Plan had a funding deficit of \$156,497,000 (Dec 31, 2019 - deficit of \$105,080,000)

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2022

5. Supplemental cash flow information:

(a) Cash and cash equivalents include:

	2022			
Cash Short-term investments	\$ 7,000,682 356,179	\$	6,769,656 1,128,945	
	\$ 7,356,861	\$	7,898,601	

(b) Change in non-cash working capital:

	2022	2021
Accrued interest receivable Other receivables Accounts payable Accrued interest payable	\$ 278,436 (537) (15,427) (279,860)	\$ 968,889 (101) 3,919 (1,105,991)
	\$ (17,388)	\$ (133,284)

(c) Supplemental cash flow information:

	2022	2021
Interest paid	\$ 22,585,448	\$ 24,622,553
Interest received	\$ 22,589,332	\$ 24,363,641

6. Financial instruments:

Risk management relates to the understanding and active management of risks associated with all areas of the business and the associated operating environment. The Corporation's financial instruments are primarily exposed to interest rate volatility, credit and liquidity risk.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2022

6. Financial instruments (continued):

(i) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that future earnings or the market value of the Corporation's investments and debt will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk is mitigated due to the fact that the Corporation's mandated rate of interest charged on loans is directly matched to its cost of borrowing, thereby mitigating the risk of equity erosion. Also, interest rates are fixed for longer term loans and borrowings reducing the fluctuation in future cash flows and earnings. As a result, it is management's opinion that the Corporation is not exposed to significant interest rate risk arising from financial instruments.

(ii) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or counterparty will be unable or unwilling to meet a commitment that it has entered into with the Corporation. Due to the existing statutory provision for the recovery of any defaults by municipalities an allowance for doubtful accounts is not required. Cash deposits are held with tier one Canadian financial institutions to reduce the credit risk. It is management's opinion that the Corporation is not exposed to significant credit risk arising from financial instruments. The maximum exposure to credit risk is equal to the carrying amount of the loans and cash and cash equivalents.

During the year and at year-end, there are no loans which are past due or considered impaired and therefore no allowance for loan losses.

(iii) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. Liquidity requirements are managed through the receipt of payments on the loans and short-term investments and interest earned on the loans and short-term investments. These sources of funds are used to satisfy debt service requirements on the debentures and short-term loans and to pay expenses. In the normal course of business, the Corporation enters into contracts that give rise to commitments for future payments which may also impact the Corporation's liquidity. The Corporation also maintains cash on hand for liquidity purposes and to pay accounts payable and accrued liabilities. It is management's opinion that the Corporation is not exposed to significant liquidity risk arising from financial instruments.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2022

6. Financial instruments (continued):

(iii) Liquidity risk (continued):

The following table summarizes the contractual maturities for all financial liabilities as at March 31, 2022:

	Within 1 year	2 to 5 years	6 to 10 years	Over 10 years	March 31, 2022 total
Accounts payable Accrued interest payable Employee obligations Short-term loan Debentures (principal) Debentures (interest)	\$ 39,982 7,265,251 - 356,179 142,449,943 20,253,666	\$ 46,649 31,691,796 345,928,455 47,349,636	\$ 231,855,926 21,068,377	\$ 37,087,938 1,967,810	\$ 39,982 7,265,251 46,649 32,047,975 757,322,262 90,639,489
	\$ 170,365,021	\$ 425,016,536	\$ 252,924,303	\$ 39,055,748	\$ 887,361,608

7. Short-term loan due to PNS:

The Corporation entered into a Line of Credit Agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia as represented by the Minister of Finance and Treasury Board. The Province has extended a revolving unsecured credit facility of \$50 million. The purpose of this line of credit is to provide short-term financing to municipalities for completed capital projects until long-term financing can be arranged. The current amount outstanding on the Line of Credit is \$356,179 (2021 - \$1,128,945). The balance bears interest at the Canadian Bankers acceptance rate and will be paid off through the bi-annual debenture issuance.

8. Related party transactions:

The Corporation is related to the Province of Nova Scotia as it was created by the Municipal Finance Corporation Act of Nova Scotia and is primarily financed by debentures from the Province of Nova Scotia (note 3). The amount of interest charged in debentures is measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended March 31, 2022

9. Municipal operating loans program:

On April 28, 2020 the Province of Nova Scotia announced a new operating loan program to help municipalities with reduced cash flow due to COVID-19. The \$380 million loan program, which was developed in collaboration with the Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities and the Association of Municipal Administrators, was available through the Corporation.

As of March 31, 2022, there were 4 municipalities that have accessed the program for a total of \$31,691,796 all at the 3-year rate of 1.10%. The following table summarizes the contractual maturities of loans in years 2 and 3 of the program:

	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Operating loans (principal) Operating loans (interest)	\$ 15,845,899 261,528	\$ 15,845,897 87,224	\$ 31,691,796 348,752
	\$ 16,107,427	\$ 15,933,121	\$ 32,040,548

Schedule of Administrative Expenses

Year ended March 31, 2022, with comparative information for 2021

\$	423,276		\$	384,038	\$	380,381
	5,000			5,000		5,000
	•					2,500
						733
				,		1,755
	500			78		70
	985			1,021		972
	3,300			2,974		2,984
	12,450			1,130		1,586
	5,220			500		200
	8,975			1,766		1,791
	180			30		170
	34,600			34,600		36,075
	400			60		128
	1,400			1,645		1,372
	1,800			1,158		758
	2,600			5,049		5,844
,			•		•	227
\$	313.952		\$	319.289	\$	318,216
	Budget			Actual		Actual
						2021
-	\$	5,000 2,600 1,800 1,400 400 34,600 180 8,975 5,220 12,450 3,300 985 500 2,200 8,214 16,500 5,000	\$ 313,952 5,000 2,600 1,800 1,400 400 34,600 180 8,975 5,220 12,450 3,300 985 500 2,200 8,214 16,500 5,000	\$ 313,952 \$ 5,000 2,600 1,800 400 34,600 180 8,975 5,220 12,450 3,300 985 500 2,200 8,214 16,500 5,000	Budget Actual \$ 313,952 \$ 319,289 5,000 368 2,600 5,049 1,800 1,158 1,400 1,645 400 60 34,600 34,600 180 30 8,975 1,766 5,220 500 12,450 1,130 3,300 2,974 985 1,021 500 78 2,200 1,755 8,214 769 16,500 6,846 5,000 5,000	Budget Actual \$ 313,952 \$ 319,289 \$ 5,000 368 2,600 5,049 1,158 1,158 1,400 1,645 400 60 34,600 34,600 34,600 30 8,975 1,766 5,220 500 12,450 1,130 3,300 2,974 985 1,021 500 78 2,200 1,755 8,214 769 16,500 6,846 5,000