

Province of Nova Scotia
Community Economic Development Fund

And Independent Auditor's Report thereon

Year ended March 31, 2023



KPMG LLP
Purdy's Wharf Tower One
1959 Upper Water Street, Suite 1000
Halifax NS B3J 3N2
Canada
Tel 902-492-6000
Fax 902-429-1307

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister of Business, Province of Nova Scotia

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Community Economic Development Fund (the Entity), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023
- the statement of operations for the year then ended
- the statement of changes in net financial assets for the year then ended
- the statement of continuity of fund 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 Entity as at end of March 31, 2023, and its results of operations, its changes in net financial assets and its continuity of fund 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 "***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***" section of our auditor's report.

We are independent of the Entity 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 Entity'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 Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

Auditor's 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 auditor's 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 Entity's internal control.



Page 3

- 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 Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity 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.

KPMG LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Halifax, Canada

July 7, 2023

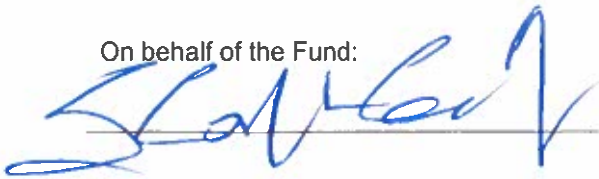
Province of Nova Scotia
Community Economic Development Fund
Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
Financial Assets		
Contributions authorized but unadvanced (note 2)	3,320,894	1,770,392
Loan receivable	0	576,327
Allowance for doubtful accounts	0	(576,327)
Uncommitted balance of fund (note 3)	20,099,848	23,021,580
Net financial assets	23,420,742	24,791,972
 Accumulated Surplus - Committed and Uncommitted		
Authorized funds, net of contributions advanced:		
Community Economic Development Fund Act	23,420,742	24,791,972
	23,420,742	24,791,972

See accompanying notes to financial statements

On behalf of the Fund:



Province of Nova Scotia
Community Economic Development Fund
Statement of Operations

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
Contributions advanced	(1,371,230)	(3,019,050)
Bad debt recovery (expense)	0	600,000
Total expenditures	\$ (1,371,230)	\$ (2,419,050)

See accompanying notes to financial statements

Province of Nova Scotia
Community Economic Development Fund
Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	March 31, 2023	March 31, 2022
Change in net financial assets:		
Contributions advanced	\$ (1,371,230)	\$ (3,019,050)
Loans repaid (advanced)	\$ 0	\$ 600,000
Decrease in net financial assets	\$ (1,371,230)	\$ (2,419,050)
Net financial assets, beginning of year	\$ 24,791,972	\$ 27,211,022
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ 23,420,742	\$ 24,791,972

See accompanying notes to financial statements

Province of Nova Scotia
Community Economic Development Fund
Statement of Continuity of Fund

For the year ended March 31, 2023

	March 31, 2023		March 31, 2022	
Fund balance, beginning of year	\$	24,791,972	\$	27,211,022
Total expenditures	\$	(1,371,230)	\$	(2,419,050)
Fund balance, end of year	\$	23,420,742	\$	24,791,972

See accompanying notes to financial statements

**Province of Nova Scotia
Community Economic Development Fund**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended March 31, 2023, with comparative figures for 2022

The Community Economic Development Fund (the "Fund") was established by the Invest Nova Board Act on May 1, 2014. The Minister of Finance and Treasury Board effective April 1, 2015 pursuant to Order in Council 2015-125, authorized the transfer of up to \$40,000,000 to the Fund. In 2022, the Invest Nova Board Act was amended to be cited as the Community Economic Development Fund Act, and the Fund was renamed to the Community Economic Development Fund. The Fund's purpose is to foster an economic environment to achieve sustained economic development and growth, with economic incentives that have broad benefits across sectors, innovation systems or regions.

The administrative responsibility for the Fund is assigned to the Department of Economic Development (the "Department"). The Fund's account and assistance management activities are performed by staff of the Department. All administrative expenses of the Fund are the responsibility of the Department and are not presented.

1. Significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. These financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses and fund balances of the Fund. The more significant policies are described below.

(a) Basis of accounting:

The Fund follows the accrual method of accounting for revenue and expenses. Revenues are normally 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) Contributions:

Contributions made by the Fund to recipients are subject to formal agreements and approval by the Minister of the Department. Contributions advanced are recognized as an expense when conditions of the contribution agreements have been met.

(c) Government transfers:

Government transfers are recognized in the financial statements in the period in which events giving rise to the transfer occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria have been met, and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made.

(d) Financial assets:

Contributions authorized but unadvanced and uncommitted balance of the fund are classified as financial assets as they represent commitments from the Province of Nova Scotia to fund commitments of the fund made under existing or future contribution agreements.

**Province of Nova Scotia
Community Economic Development Fund**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended March 31, 2023, with comparative figures for 2022

1. Significant accounting policies continued

(e) Statement of cash flows:

A statement of cash flows is not provided since the Fund does not maintain a cash account and disclosures in the statements of financial position, statement of operations, statement of net financial assets, and statements of continuity of the funds adequately represent the changes in Fund balances.

(f) 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. Significant estimates included in the financial statements relate to the valuation of the financial assets and guarantees. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Contributions authorized but unadvanced:

The Fund has committed to contributions to organizations once conditions of their agreements have been met. During the year the following contributions were authorized and advanced:

	2023	2022
Opening Balance	\$ 1,770,392	\$ 4,462,442
Contributions authorized	2,921,732	327,000
Contributions advanced	(1,371,230)	(3,019,050)
Ending balance	\$ 3,320,894	\$ 1,770,392

3. Uncommitted balance of Fund:

Pursuant to an Order in Council, the Fund can make contributions of up to \$40,000,000 of which the Fund has committed or advanced a total of \$19,900,152 as at March 31, 2023 (2022 - \$16,978,420) including amounts distributed as loans receivable adjusted for repayments received.