

REPORT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT, FINANCE

Justin Melnyk

Fiscal year April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016

I am pleased to present Recreation Nova Scotia's Audited Financial Statements and Management Report at March 31, 2016.

- Collins Barrow Nova Scotia Inc. was engaged to perform an independent audit of the Financial Statements for the third consecutive year. A clean, unqualified audit opinion was signed on June 17, 2016.
- As detailed on the Statement of Operations, RNS ended fiscal 2016 with a surplus of \$21,562 (2015 - \$13,366, restated);
- Both revenues and expenses were higher than originally budgeted, however surplus funds for fiscal 2016 can be primarily attributed to an increase in funding for Women Active, Physical Activity Research and Connect.
- As a not-for-profit organization, it is not our intent or objective to incur a yearly surplus, however our auditors have noted that it is not uncommon for comparable organizations to maintain a net asset balance of up to 12-18 months of yearly operating expenses for contingency purposes.
- Based on fiscal 2016 operating results, our acceptable net asset ceiling would be between \$559K and \$839K. Our current net asset balance is \$308k.
- Significant changes on the Statement of Financial Position from the prior year include Cash (increase of \$118K) and Deferred Revenue (increase of \$111K), both of which can be explained by the changes in Deferred Revenue in Note 6 of the Financial Statements.

RNS continues to modify its work plan, budget and direction to find new, creative ways to promote healthy lifestyles and to ensure that high quality recreation and leisure activities are being delivered in communities across Nova Scotia.

A sincere thank you is extended to our network of partners and dedicated volunteers who assist in the promotion and delivery of recreation services. Without their collective efforts, expertise, funds and inspiration, RNS would not be able to address the recreation needs of all Nova Scotians. Many thanks to all RNS Board Members and staff.

Recreation Nova Scotia STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES

For The Year Ended March 31, 2016
(With Comparative Amounts March 31, 2015)

Revenues	2016	2015
Facilitate education and development	\$243,086	\$283,006
Champion/promote/advocate for recreation	98,582	35,496
Promote connectivity	20,000	87,450
Other general	219,364	255,119
Gross profit	581,032	661,071
Expenses		
Facilitate education and development	210,834	268,565
Champion/promote/advocate for recreation	55,181	37,661
Promote connectivity	34,426	101,526
Other general	259,029	239,953
	559,470	647,705
Excess of revenue over expenses	21,562	13,336

Recreation Nova Scotia STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For The Year Ended March 31, 2015
(With Comparative Amounts March 31, 2015)

Assets	2016	2015
Current		
Cash	\$419,160	\$300,976
Accounts receivable	47,386	34,091
Inventory	16,033	22,946
Prepaid expenses	21,846	20,669
Term deposits	70,989	70,520
	575,414	449,202
Capital Assets	559	800
	575,973	450,002
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	33,515	38,945
Deferred revenue	234,131	122,804
	267,646	161,749
Net assets		
James Bayer Fund	8,844	10,332
Unrestricted	299,483	277,921
	308,327	288,253
	575,973	450,002



RNS AT A GLANCE

Recreation Nova Scotia (RNS) is a not for profit organization dedicated to building and sustaining active healthy lifestyles and communities in Nova Scotia. RNS exists to lead, inspire and support Nova Scotians toward healthier futures through recreational experiences. Established in 1998, RNS is a central resource agency for members and stakeholders of the recreation industry. RNS provides leadership, training, and support to help meet national, provincial and local priorities. Through a diverse network of partners and extensive programs and services, RNS actively advocates accessibility and inclusiveness to recreation.

RNS has a strong membership, which includes community leaders, practitioners, students, academics, elected officials, and voluntary sector organizations across Nova Scotia who are the direct providers of recreation and related opportunities at the community level.

RNS'S 5 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

- **Champion, promote and advocate for recreation as an essential element in building healthy, caring and vibrant communities.**
- **Facilitate the education and development of recreation professionals & volunteers.**
- **Promote connectivity between recreation sector professionals, influencers and beneficiaries.**

MISSION STATEMENT

Recreation Nova Scotia inspires and supports a diverse and comprehensive network of partners committed to addressing the recreation needs of all Nova Scotians, through provision of leadership and a strong provincial voice.

RNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President	Meg Cuming, Volunteer
Vice President of Finance	Justin Melnyk, NS Department of Finance & Treasury Board
Vice President of Monitoring	Rachel Bedingfield, Town of Kentville
Recording Officer	Paul Corbin, Town of Stellarton
Director at Large (1 year)	Misty James, Yarmouth Recreation
Director at Large (1 year)	Aron Ashton, Nova Scotia Health Authority (currently resigned)
Director at Large (2 years)	Heather Kelday, Nova Scotia Sea School
Director at Large (2 years)	Gregory MacArthur, Town of Truro
Director at Large (Student Rep)	Sarah MacNeil, Dalhousie University
Dept. of Communities, Culture and Recreation	Aaron Nutting, Community, Sport and Recreation Division
Recreation Nova Scotia Staff (ex officio)	Rhonda Lemire, Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Meg Cuming and Rhonda Lemire

Since the National Framework for Recreation in Canada was endorsed by PT ministers in February 2015, several sub-committees have been struck to identify implementation needs and coordinate resources. We know the work of these committees will greatly benefit our province as we work together to strengthen our networks and increase opportunities for quality recreation. Most ambitious of these sub-committees was the Parks Task Force that held a national Parks Summit last April in Alberta. Parks leaders from around the country gathered in Canmore, Alberta to identify priority items and begin a national dialogue. This national work is bolstering the work of The NS Outdoor Network, which, in June, released its Strategic Plan as well as a revised online hub to support outdoor recreation. This volunteer-led Outdoor Advisory Committee has identified creative ways to encourage more people to choose to be in nature and we hope that all RNS members will continue to engage with this exciting initiative.

Also at the National level, the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA), with support from the Provinces and Territories, has been heavily engaged in lobbying efforts on behalf of the sector. The most significant fruits of this labour is the Federal Government's renewed commitment to some infrastructure investment for sport and recreation facilities. The Federal Government's announcement came on the heels of the release of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' report card which confirmed what we all already know - that our sport and recreation infrastructure is becoming aged and outdated. Closer to home, RNS advocated on behalf of its members in Province house in order to re-established the Regional Facility Development Grants which were cut by the province last year. The RFDs have been reinstated, preserving much needed grant funding for community facilities.

WomenActive, a collaborative initiative, between RNS, Sport NS and the Provincial Government was launched with initial funding for two years from the Department of Communities Culture and Heritage. The initiative has a strong workplan and leadership that increased participation and leadership opportunities for women and girls in the physical activity, sport and recreation sector.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the in depth membership review undertaken this spring. The review confirmed your support for the work of RNS as a network for professionals and the voice of recreation in the province. Of course, we can always do better and we have heard from our members that there is a need for stronger advocacy, further outreach into rural communities, more networking opportunities, and more practical membership benefits for individuals and organizations. This feedback has been incorporated into this year's workplan and we continue to look for opportunities to better serve our membership. We appreciate all of your feedback and encourage you to get involved with RNS.

To support our advocacy goals most immediately, we have created an election resource for the Municipal Election taking place on October 15, 2016. Members can use this resource to educate candidates on the benefits of recreation to their communities and to make sure that recreation remains a top priority election issue.

We look forward to the next few years when the Shared Strategy for Advancing Recreation in Nova Scotia continues to positively influence our work. Recent provincial implementation efforts include development of an alignment tool, a collection of promising practices, regional summits and developing a stream at this year's conference.

What will shape up next?? We can't wait to be a part of it!

Stay cool, R+M

RNS STAFF

Executive Director	Rhonda Lemire
Recreation Coordinator	Janet Barlow
HIGH FIVE Coordinator	Debbie Bauld
Mental Health Coordinator	Brittany Naugler
Program Assistant	Colleen MacDonald
Director, Women Active	Cindy Russell
Bookkeeper	Christa Schaffhauser

VOLUNTEERS

RNS Conference

Andrea Gaudet, Bob Powell, John Ansara, Rachel Bedingfield, Alan Warner, Jill Jackson, Kathy Kehoe, Misty James, Samantha Goreham, Cara Sunderland, Trudy Payne, Réanne Flynn, Cindy O'Neil

RNS Awards

Linda Atkinson, Krista Dove, Charlotte MacDonald, Brendon Smithson
[Canadian Sport 4 Life](#)
Damion Stapledon

Outdoor Advisory Council

David Graham, Heather Kelday, Sandra Fraser, Rick Gilbert, Mike Hudson, Terri Peace, Helen Smith, Peter Labour, Christine Krochak, Brin Jones, Wayne McKay, Pat Maher, Janet Barlow
[Shared Strategy Task Team](#)
Max Chauvin, Andrea Waters, Greg MacArthur

Mental Health Advisory Committee

Heidi Weigand, John Roswell, Damion Stapledon, Katherine Taylor, Tara Moore, Gary Comeau, Steve Oliver, Keith Anderson, Debby Smith, Ashley Eisan, Dori Palmiere, TRAAC President (Dana Mills), Karen Gallant, Susan Hutchinson, Pamela McGee

A YEAR IN REVIEW

The **Recreation for Mental Health Project** welcomed 130 participants at our second symposium and hosted an art project which showcased artworks from 37 first voice artists. The project has undertaken research to compile evidence of the benefits of recreation for mental health.

June is Recreation Month was promoted through social media and included merchandise sales.

Take the Roof Off Winter encouraged outdoor activity throughout the winter months on social media and also promoted a new campaign called "What Winter Means to Me."

RNS co-hosted the 2nd **Atlantic Recreation and Facilities Conference** in Truro in April. The conference welcomed over 150 delegates from all four provinces.

Lucky Duck Lotto distributed over 65,000 tickets to schools, daycares, clubs, and community groups participating this year, generating more than \$35,000 for their programs and services.

ParticipACTION Teen Challenge welcomed 40 new organizations and distributed over \$20,000 in funding.

The **18th Annual Conference & Trade Show**, was held October 13th to 16th at the beautiful Digby Pines Golf Resort and Spa. Last year's theme, Recreation!, Innovation! And Inspiration! attracted over 150 delegates.

Canadian Parks and Recreation Association welcomed Minister of Sport, Carla Qualtrough to a meeting and discussed joint initiatives and strategies. A reception on the hill was well attended by many cabinet members and MPs.

This was a transition year for the **Nova Scotia Outdoor Network**, formerly known as Wanderstream. Originally, the focus of the NS Outdoor Network was the creation of an online hub for outdoor recreation. Focus has changed back to launching the Outdoor Network, a coalition of the NS outdoor sector, while also launching nsoutdoornetwork.ca. A network strategic plan was developed along with plans for its launch in June 2016.

NSConnect.ca – a new project for RNS – is made up of several regional Connect.ca initiatives which are online databases for active living and recreation information. Starting in October 2015, RNS and regional partners began the process to transfer the provincial management to RNS.

RNS Awards were presented to 8 individuals or groups including Brenda Robertson receiving the CPRA Award of Merit.

RNS's **General Liability Insurance Program** continues to support many volunteer organizations through discounted premiums.

HIGH FIVE trained over 1000 frontline leaders and certified 20 new trainers. We welcomed three new Registered Organizations which means every county in Nova Scotia engages in HIGH FIVE.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS & CONTRIBUTORS

Program Sponsors / Funders:

Department of Health and Wellness (Active Living Branch & Mental Health, Children's Services and Addictions Branch)
Department of Labour and Advanced Education
ParticipACTION

2015 Conference Sponsors:

Halifax Regional Municipality, Doctors Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, MacDonald Chisholm Trask Insurance, Municipality of the District of Digby, Lawton's Home HealthCare, Nova Scotia Department of Health and Wellness, Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs, Nova Scotia Department of Environment, Subway