

REPORT FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT, FINANCE

Justin Melnyk, CPA, CA

Fiscal year April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017

I am pleased to present Recreation Nova Scotia's Audited Financial Statements and Management Report at March 31, 2017.

- 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 September 20, 2017.
- As detailed on the Statement of Operations, RNS ended fiscal 2017 with a surplus of \$370 (2016 - \$21,562);
- Revenues were higher than originally budgeted by \$12K, while expenses were lower by \$30K. The positive variances from budget are primarily attributed to the success of the High Five program and the Atlantic Conference, as well as various other program and admin expenses that were lower than expected. This was all slightly offset by lower than anticipated funding for mental health programs.
- 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 2017 operating results, our acceptable net asset ceiling would be between \$651K and \$976K. Our current net asset balance is \$307k.
- Significant changes on the Statement of Financial Position from the prior year include Cash (decrease of \$235K), Term Deposits (increase of \$100K), and Deferred Revenue (decrease of \$164K), all of which can be explained primarily by a) the decision to invest an additional \$100K in fiscal 2017 and b) the changes in Deferred Revenue which are documented in Note 6 of the Financial Statements. There were also certain timing differences which have impacted working capital (A/R, A/P, prepaids).

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	2017	2016
Program revenues (Schedule 1)*	483,041	408,799
Core Funding – Communities, Culture and Heritage	106,680	106,680
Membership dues	29,580	33,721
Other	31,969	29,623
Gross profit	651,270	578,823
Expenses		
Program expenses (Schedule 2)*	447,400	352,954
Administration (Schedule 3)*	203,500	204,307
	650,900	557,261
Excess of revenue over expenses	370	21,562

Recreation Nova Scotia STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For The Year Ended March 31, 2017
(With Comparative Amounts March 31, 2016)

Assets	2017	2016
Current		
Cash	\$184,189	\$419,160
Accounts receivable	16,585	47,386
Inventory	15,098	16,033
Prepaid expenses	3,548	21,846
Term deposits	171,594	70,989
	391,014	575,414
Capital Assets	392	559
	391,406	575,973
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	14,344	33,515
Deferred revenue	70,365	234,131
		267,646
Net assets		
James Bayer Fund	6,844	8,844
Unrestricted	299,853	299,483
	306,697	308,327
	391,406	575,973



HEALTHIER FUTURES *through* RECREATION

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, the Association is a central resource agency for members and stakeholders of the recreation industry. The Association 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
Acting President	Kerri Penney, District of St. Mary's
Vice President of Finance	Justin Melnyk, NS Department of Finance & Treasury Board
Vice President of Monitoring	Rachel Bedingfield, Town of Kentville
Recording Officer	Mike McIsaac, Canada Games Centre
Director at Large (1 year)	Misty James, Yarmouth Recreation
Director at Large (2 years)	Heather Kelday, Nova Scotia Sea School
Director at Large (1 years)	Gregory MacArthur, Town of Truro
Director at Large (2 years)	Paul Corbin, Town of Stellarton
Director at Large (Student Rep)	Garvin Cius, Acadia University
Dept. of Communities, Culture and Rep (non-voting)	Aaron Nutting, Community, Sport and Recreation Division
Recreation Nova Scotia Staff (ex officio)	Rhonda Lemire, Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Kerri Penney and Rhonda Lemire

This past year has been one of many successes as well as many transitions. One big transition is Kerri! We saw Meg Cuming accept a position with CCH which left this important President position available. Even though Kerri was not able to complete a full year in the President-Elect role, she bravely stepped into the Acting President role.

Our Shared Strategy for Advancing Recreation in Nova Scotia continues to guide our work and offer us many opportunities to align with each other. Many municipalities and organizations are aligning their plans with the Strategy which is an important development for our sector. Some municipalities have even endorsed the Strategy and we certainly hope others follow suit! The strategy influences our educational opportunities with the conference ensuring that program aligns with the five goal areas. Alignment tool has been updated and we thank Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association for collaborating with us through sharing their tools.

Women Active experienced both transition and success. We were sad to see Cindy Russell move on to another career, however were happy to see Gabrielle Gallagher move into the Coordinator role. The former project of RNS has in the past year moved to become its own association, and now stepped into a lead role on Gender Equity through Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity in Nova Scotia. WomenActive is moving forward building strong relationships, supporting work at the provincial, and regional levels, while still connected and aligned with RNS and Sport Nova Scotia. WomenActive continues to collaborate and outreach to areas of the province, supporting provincial and regional networks, provincial staff, committees and community groups around the focus areas of: Female Leadership Development, Communications and Networking, Celebration and Recognition, and Monitoring and Evaluation.

RNS partnered with CCH to research issues that municipalities may be experiencing when transition their structure. Several recommendations had been identified resulting in supports being provided to future transitioning communities.

We were pleased this past year to launch the Outdoor Network. We know that this network will serve outdoor recreation well and will ultimately see more Nova Scotians recreating in our beautiful outdoors.

We hope you join us for the third annual Recreation and Facilities Conference in Charlottetown at the Rodd Charlottetown and Confederation of the Arts May 30-June 1, 2018.

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 developing 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+K

RNS STAFF

Executive Director	Rhonda Lemire/Crystal Watson
Recreation Coordinator	Janet Barlow
HIGH FIVE Coordinator	Debbie Bauld
Program Assistant	Colleen MacDonald
Bookkeeper	Christa Schaffhauser
Shared Strategy Coordinator	Heather Hanlon

VOLUNTEERS

RNS Conference	RNS Awards	Outdoor Advisory Council	Mental Health Advisory Committee
Kerri Penney, Paul Corbin, Marlene Melanson, Michelle Young, Heather Brennan, Misty James	Krista Dove, Charlotte MacDonald, Brendon Smithson	Heather Kelday, Sandra Fraser, Brendon Smithson, Pat Maher, Carrie Drake, Rick Gilbert, Janet Barlow, Mike Hudson, Terri Peace, Jen Organ	Susan Hutchinson, Karen Gallant, Debbie Bauld, Pam McGee

Shared Strategy Task Team

Lana McMullen, Janet Barlow, Rhonda Lemire, Rick Gilbert, Brendon Smithson, Robin Norrie

A YEAR IN REVIEW

Highlights from the third year of our **Recreation for Mental Health Project** include the completion of six “first voice” videos where community members share how recreation has impacted their life; practical guidelines and training to help recreation practitioners create welcoming and inclusive environments; and a third and final symposium with 75 participants

June is Recreation Month was promoted through social media, including the “Don't Wait to Recreate” campaign, and included merchandise sales.

Take the Roof Off Winter encouraged outdoor activity throughout the winter months on social media.

Lucky Duck Lotto distributed over 55,000 tickets to schools, daycares, clubs, and community groups participating this year, generating more than \$25,000 for their programs and services.

ParticipACTION Teen Challenge welcomed 35 new organizations and distributed over \$17,000 in funding. The Teen Challenge Program came to end this year and Recreation Nova Scotia would like to extend a huge thank you to ParticipACTION and Coca Cola for helping us fund so many great initiatives and programs over the years.

The **19th Annual Conference & Trade Show, hosted by RNS** was held September 28th and 29th at the Pictou County Wellness Centre. The theme “Change the Playbook - Strategy, Partnership, Success” attracted over 130 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 year the **Nova Scotia Outdoor Network** put its focus on capacity building and promotions. Initial asset mapping began and work was done to populate the website. The Outdoor Network also formed working groups to ensure that the mail goals were being reached. These main goals include Capacity Building, Communication, Skill Building, Leadership & Education, Professional Networking & Development, Research & Evaluation, and Advocacy.

NSConnect.ca – The regional partners have been working to improve record quality as well as to increase the number of records. There has been a continued effort to have frontline staff educated on the use of the Connect database so that they can refer the public to connect.ca and search the database themselves to help answer customer questions. Statistics are being collected to show increase in website access and use. Marketing has been a focus for many regions in effort to promote the connect sites as a ‘one stop shop’ for things to do in Nova Scotia.

2016's **RNS Awards** were great fun with Sheree Fitch as host. Eight individuals or groups were presented with awards including “A for Adventure” receiving the Innovation Award.

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

HIGH FIVE continues to grow in amazing ways. In 2016-17, we certified 954 frontline people, with the most significant increase occurring in High FIVE Sport with 511 trained. As of this year, HIGH FIVE training is now recognized as professional development (PD) within the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP).

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS & CONTRIBUTORS

Program Sponsors / Funders:

Communities, Culture and Heritage

ParticipACTION

2017 Conference Sponsors:

Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, MacDonald Chisholm Trask Insurance, TD Bank, Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs, Nova Scotia Department of Environment, Nova Scotia Provincial Lotteries and Casino Corporation, Nova Scotia Department of Seniors, Municipality of the District of Guysborough, Municipality of the District of St. Mary's, Town of New Glasgow, Town of Stellarton, Pictou County Chamber of Commerce, Town of Westville, Town of Trenton, Town of Pictou, Town of Antigonish, County of Antigonish, Municipality of the County of Pictou