

2020-2021

ANNUAL REPORT



National Board of Directors Report

While the years 2019-2020 was a year of transition, 2020-2021 continued to be a year of change and tested our resilience. COVID-19 has proven to be a very tenacious foe. Just as we think we are getting ahead, it morphs into a new variant, and we have to adapt yet again.

This year Independent Living Canada welcomed our new Executive Director, Anne McRae, who has lived experience of disability, a demonstrated lifelong personal and professional passion for the independent living movement. Anne has brought with her a wealth of skills, and we have been so thrilled to support her in this role.

We have welcomed many new members to the Board and engaged in new partnerships to further the independent living movement across Canada. Work is underway in partnership to guide the development of the new Canada Disability Benefit. It is our hope that this benefit will lift many Canadians with disabilities out of poverty and enable them to have opportunities to pursue their passions and live on their own terms.

The Board began the year with a refresher on governance training to support respectful collaboration. We are undertaking the work of reviewing and updating policy to reflect best governance practices and to ensure that the policy manual remains current and forward thinking. Additionally, the Board elected to increase organizational insurance coverage in recognition of industry best practices.

Independent Living Canada has made significant steps to improve bilingualism during Board meetings by providing live translation. We have also endeavoured to ensure all materials disseminated internally and externally are available in both English and French.

Continuing to pivot during the pandemic, we have also undertaken work to update the website and include a platform which we hope will continue to improve the ability to connect closely despite geographic divides and unique challenges prevented by COVID. The website is expected to launch shortly.

Independent Living Canada celebrated National Accessibility Week with a press release, an op-ed written by our Executive Director and amplified regional programming to highlight the wonderful work that Independent Centres do.

The Independent Living Philosophy remains as relevant today as it was 35 years ago when Independent Living Canada was founded. Canadians living with disabilities often continue to face service shortfalls and cutbacks within their communities. The Independent Living Centres while diverse all fulfill specific needs within their communities, and it has been an enlightening experience to be able to work closely with many stakeholders. Independent Living Canada is well positioned to continue to be a leader coast to coast among disability focused organizations.

Yours in Independent Living,

Kathleen Odell
Chair, Board of directors

Message from Past Chair Carole Barron:

It has been my distinct honour and privilege to have served as the IL Canada Chair. IL Canada plays an integral role in social development, and the independent living philosophy empowering people with disabilities to control their own lives and participate fully in all aspects of our communities. In the chair's position, you are able to work with a diverse group of dedicated volunteers as Board members, and fully realize and see the magnitude and complexity of the work completed in all of the Centres across Canada in supporting people with disabilities.

2020 – 2021 Independent Living Canada Board of Directors

Kathleen Odell, National Chairperson, Provincial Representative, Ontario

Carrie Ernst, 1st Vice-Chair, Provincial Representative, Nova Scotia

Samantha Walsh, 2nd Vice-Chair, Member at Large, Ontario

Sue Larocque, Treasurer, Member at Large, Ontario

Stephen Wheeler, Secretary, Provincial Representative, Newfoundland and Labrador

Kimberly Yetman Dawson, Member at Large, Newfoundland and Labrador

Cathy La France, Provincial Representative, British Columbia

Ken Taylor, Provincial Representative, Saskatchewan

Julie Haché, Provincial Representative, New Brunswick

Jimmy Tessier Royer, Provincial Representative, Québec

National Executive Director's Report

With much excitement, I put pen to paper to draft my first National Executive Directors report for the IL Canada Annual Report!

I can still remember my first encounter with the Independent Living Movement. I have been working as a disability activist in one way or another since the late 1980s, early 1990s. In 1992, I began working for the Federal Department of Secretary of State, as a project officer, in Halifax, NS. Early on in my career, I was flown to Ottawa for some meetings, and I was introduced to some National Disability Organizations. One of the first introductions made was to Tracy Walters, the National Executive Director of what was then called CAILC (Canadian Association of Independent Living Centres). I was truly in awe of Tracy. She embodied the Independent Living movement to me. She lived independently, raising her children, and ran a national organization. She could access the supports she needed (or could self-advocate for them very effectively). I wanted what she had- a career, family, and disability-related supports to be a full contributor to society. I was glad to learn that IL Centres across the country could empower people with disabilities and provide them the information they needed to make choices, take risks, and create meaningful lives in the community of their choice.

I also remember the first time I heard Al Simpson speak. He came to Nova Scotia to talk about the self-managed care model of service delivery. Those in attendance who required attendant care were so excited about the possibility of being able to manage their care. To hire and fire their attendants and to be able to create a schedule that met their individual needs.

Fast forward 30-odd years later, and my family now benefits greatly from this service. My husband and I have a 25-year-old son who requires personal support, and we can use the self-managed care program to hire his workers. There is such freedom in controlling who works for you and when they work for you.

While there have been positive advances over the years, there is still much to be done. COVID-19 has laid bare the inequities and gaps in providing support and services to people with disabilities in this country.

IL Canada surveyed its staff, volunteers, and members to determine if they had concerns about COVID19. This is what we heard:

- 80% of respondents were "concerned" about not being able to get regular food and grocery supplies.
- 72% were "concerned" about not having enough money during the pandemic to buy food or pay rent.
- 79% were "concerned" about not having access to Personal Protective Equipment.
- 81% were "concerned" about not having the right or ability to be immediately tested.
- 84% were "concerned" about not receiving the same level of medical treatment.
- 82% were "concerned" about not being consulted like others about being treated.
- 85% were "concerned" about being more socially isolated than ever before, and
- 76% were "concerned" about, triage protocols and whether they would be provided the care they needed.

We promised a follow-up to this survey. There has been great concern about whether people with disabilities would be prioritized during vaccine roll-out throughout the pandemic. We also knew that people were hesitant to receive the vaccine because of their disabilities for various reasons. We wanted to hear from people with disabilities about their experience in accessing the vaccine. We are currently developing such a survey in partnership with ARCH Disability Law Centre.

When I was hired, there were a few key priorities:

- 1) Continue to expand the relationship with our Centres and begin looking at ways to grow the movement. This work would include accrediting 9 Centres this year and 11 next year.
- 2) Form partnerships with other national organizations to bring an IL Lens to the national stage.
- 3) Diversify funding and
- 4) create a new strategic plan for the organization.

Work in each of these areas is underway:

One of the key deliverables in our current funding with SDPP is to review and revise our strategic plan. To this end, we are pleased to be working with Common Goods Solutions to develop a 2-year strategic plan. This work will begin with a virtual retreat with the Board of Directors, where we will look at our current Mission and Vision statements.

We will then host a series of focus groups with our Centres, partners, and funders to determine IL Canada's role on the National stage. It is anticipated that the Strategic Plan will be completed in late fall.

One of my first tasks as National Executive Director was to meet with each Centre across the country. I was so impressed with the passion that each Executive Director brings to their role and the variety of programs and services we offer to people with disabilities across the country. Each month we meet to update each other on the work we do and seek to find ways to work together to move the IL movement forward in Canada.

Not only am I impressed with their vision and passion, but the programs and services they have offered, particularly during COVID-19, has been amazing to witness. In many cases, Centres have had to pivot very quickly to on-line programming. While online programming does not work for everyone, in many cases it has meant that people who could not typically participate in programs because of transportation, financial or disability-related barriers, has meant for the first time that they could participate in programs. As Centres begin to grapple with returning to in-person programming, many want to keep the on-line options intact, to ensure that as many people as possible can access their programming.

Many families have struggled through this pandemic financially. They have lost their jobs; the cost of housing and food has gone up putting a strain on people with disabilities. Many of our Centres have worked with other partners to ensure that members would have access to the nutrition and supports they required to eat a healthy diet and maintain their homes.

Employment is also a key service that IL Centres offer. Despite the pandemic, online programs have been offered and people with disabilities are still learning new skills and finding employment.

IL Canada is currently involved with other national organizations to work on issues of national concern. We were part of a coalition that continues to voice our concerns about the MAID legislation passed this spring.

We are also working with ARCH Disability Law Centre and other disability organizations to voice our concerns about triage protocols that will seriously disadvantage people with disabilities if they were enacted. IL Canada is also part of the Pan-Canadian Disability Coalition that looks at ways the community can better work together on issues of mutual concern. Last but not least, we are part of the Disability without Poverty movement. This movement is coalescing around the announcement by the federal government that they would create a disability benefit.

This is a grassroots organization that wants to ensure that the disability benefit will meet the needs of people with disabilities and that First Voice will have a direct say in its creation and implementation. IL Canada sits on the leadership table of this exciting initiative.

We are also working with partners and various funders to diversify funding sources for IL Canada. This is a longer-term goal. I should have much more to report when I take pen to paper to draft my second Annual Report. I am excited about the future for IL Canada, and I look forward to eventually meeting many of you in person once this pandemic is over.

Stay safe!
Respectfully Submitted,

E. Anne MacRae
National Executive Director

Treasurer's Report

Wow! What an unprecedented time we live in!
A pandemic!

Nonetheless, we have continued to strive, work hard and diligently towards our goal of a more inclusive and independent living movement for all persons living with a disability. We have adapted to a changing world by using more technology and have conducted more of our daily business using Zoom and such other products.

I would like to thank the voting delegates who have given me the opportunity to return to IL Canada and to the Board members for having chosen me for their treasurer, again. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mark Green, who was the treasurer at the start of this fiscal year for his hard work and knowledge of finances along with the team that supported him.

To the members of Independent Living Canada, I present the Audited Financial Statement for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2021. The Financial Statement was prepared by Frouin Group Professional Corporation Chartered Accountants.

Total revenue for the year was \$1,143,738, and our total expenditures were \$1,130,172 which shows a surplus of \$13,566.

A deferred contribution of revenue has been deferred in the amount of 97,744 due to the pandemic and is to be spent in the first 3 months of our next fiscal year (Note 7).

At the start of the year, our fund balance was in a surplus of \$114,087 and at the end of the year March 31, 2021 our fund balance is in a surplus of \$127,709.

The work of IL Canada would not be possible without the contributions of our funders to which I would like to express a sincere thank you for your continued support and believe in our organization. We look forward to our continued successful partnership with you.

Sue Larocque,
Treasurer

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

Independent Auditors' Report
Statement of Financial Position
Statement of Revenue and Expenses
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
Statement of Cash Flows
Notes to Financial Statements



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Directors of:
Independent Living Canada

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Independent Living Canada, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2021, and the statement of operations, statement of changes in net assets and cash flows statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Independent Living Canada as at March 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

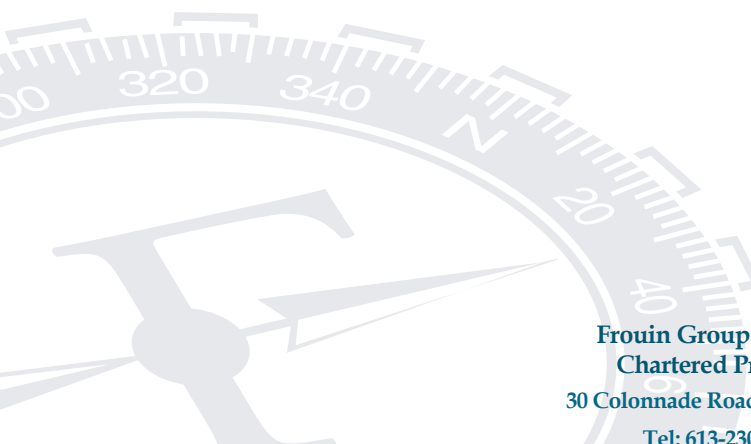
We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the 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 audit 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 accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, 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 Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization's assets or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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



Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of 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 these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted audit 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 controls.
- 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.
- 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 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 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 matter that achieves fair presentation.

We 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.



Frouin Group Professional Corporation
Ottawa, Ontario
September 3, 2021

Authorized to practice public accounting by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario

FROUIN
GROUP

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
AUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT MARCH 31, 2021

	2021	2020
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 291,535	\$ 110,044
Accounts receivable	0	10,628
HST receivable	3,684	8,531
Prepaid expenses	<u>4,880</u>	<u>4,394</u>
	300,099	133,597
CAPITAL ASSETS (Notes 2b and 3)	<u>70</u>	<u>126</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ <u>300,169</u>	\$ <u>133,723</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)	\$ 14,221	\$ 18,660
Deferred sponsorship revenue	425	850
Deferred project revenue (Note 7)	<u>97,744</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>112,390</u>	<u>19,510</u>
CANADA EMERGENCY BUSINESS		
ACCOUNT LOAN (CEBA) (Note 12)	<u>60,000</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>172,390</u>	<u>19,510</u>
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	70	126
Unrestricted funds	<u>127,709</u>	<u>114,087</u>
	<u>127,779</u>	<u>114,213</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ <u>300,169</u>	\$ <u>133,723</u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

Director 

Director 

(See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements)

FROUIN
GROUP

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
AUDITED STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

	2021	2020
REVENUE		
Project contributions (Note 7)	\$ 1,118,264	\$ 1,200,004
Membership fees	12,000	12,500
Other	<u>13,474</u>	<u>19,288</u>
	<u>1,143,738</u>	<u>1,231,792</u>
EXPENSES		
Amortization	56	102
Board meetings	37	804
Centres funding	924,300	924,300
Communications	2,208	1,451
Consulting services	34,949	23,128
Translation services	800	649
Printing and office	9,163	10,115
Professional fees	4,885	4,937
Promotion	1,698	1,262
Rent	10,169	10,630
Salaries and benefits	138,428	131,494
Face-to-face meetings	3,220	85,824
Travel and accommodation	<u>259</u>	<u>7,487</u>
	<u>1,130,172</u>	<u>1,202,183</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	<u>\$ 13,566</u>	<u>\$ 29,609</u>

(See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements)

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
AUDITED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

	2021	2020
INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 126	\$ 228
Amortization	<u>(56)</u>	<u>(102)</u>
Balance, end of year	<u><u>\$ 70</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 126</u></u>
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 114,087	\$ 84,376
Excess of revenues over expenses	13,566	29,609
Amortization of capital assets	<u>56</u>	<u>102</u>
Balance, end of year	<u><u>\$ 127,709</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 114,087</u></u>

(See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements)

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
AUDITED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

	2021	2020
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenue over expenses for the year	\$ 13,566	\$ 29,609
Add: Amortization of capital assets	<u>56</u>	<u>102</u>
	<u>13,622</u>	<u>29,711</u>
 Cash flows from current operating items	 <u>107,869</u>	 <u>(27,057)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Increase/(decrease) in loan payable	<u>60,000</u>	<u>0</u>
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH	181,491	2,654
CASH, beginning of year	<u>110,044</u>	<u>107,390</u>
CASH, end of year	<u>\$ 291,535</u>	<u>\$ 110,044</u>
 REPRESENTED BY:		
 Cash	 <u>\$ 291,535</u>	 <u>\$ 110,044</u>

(See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements)

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
NOTES TO AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

1. ORGANIZATION

The Independent Living Canada is a non-profit, charitable organization, created to promote Independent Living Centres throughout Canada for the benefit of persons with disabilities. As of March 31, 2021 there were 24 affiliated Independent Living Centres across Canada. Independent Living Canada is incorporated under the Canada Corporations Act. The Association is a registered charity within the meaning of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and is exempt from income taxes.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

a. Deferral accounting

The capital asset fund reports the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to the Association's capital assets.

Internally-restricted net assets are assets that have been restricted by the board for future expenses.

b. Capital assets

Capital assets are recorded at cost. Amortization expense is reported in the capital asset fund. Amortization is provided on the declining balance basis using the following annual rate:

Computer equipment	45%
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In the year of acquisition, amortization is provided at one half of the annual rate.

c. Revenue recognition

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year received or receivable. Contributed materials and services are not recognized in the financial statements. Services revenue is recognized as revenue when earned. Membership fees are recognized as revenue in the period in which they apply.

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
NOTES TO AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

d. 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 income and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results may differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

e. Financial instruments

Financial instruments of the Association consist mainly of accounts receivable, bank indebtedness, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The carrying values of these financial assets and liabilities approximate their fair value due to their short-term nature, unless otherwise disclosed.

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value 2021	Net Book Value 2020
Computers	\$ <u>71,565</u>	\$ <u>(71,495)</u>	\$ <u>70</u>	\$ <u>126</u>

4. BANK INDEBTEDNESS

The Association has available an overdraft credit facility of \$150,000 at prime plus 2.25%.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

The Association has accounts payable and accrued liabilities that consist of:

	2021	2020
Trade payables	\$ 3,128	\$ 10,590
Accrued Liabilities	<u>11,093</u>	<u>8,070</u>
	\$ <u>14,221</u>	\$ <u>18,660</u>

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
NOTES TO AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

6. COMMITMENT

The Association rents office space under an office lease agreement with the RA Centre. The lease agreement was negotiated as of March 1, 2019, and the minimum annual rent payable is approximately \$8,391 plus HST each year. This contract will continue for three years.

7. PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS

The Association received contributions from the Federal Government during the year to support Independent Living Centres:

	2021	2020
Project contribution received	\$ 1,216,008	\$ 1,200,004
Contributions spent	<u>1,118,264</u>	<u>1,200,004</u>
Deferred contribution revenue	<u>\$ 97,744</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

8. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The Association's objective in managing capital (fund balances) is to ensure that sufficient resources are in place to deliver on the priorities set by the Board of Directors during its annual budget. It also ensures that it safeguards the Association's ability to continue as a charitable organization and meet the objectives of its various projects.

The Association manages a single funding agreement with external restrictions that specify the conditions for using these financial resources. The Association believes it has complied with the requirements respecting these restricted contributions.

The Association monitors its capital by reviewing various financial metrics, including cash flows and variances to forecasts and budgets.

9. GUARANTEES

The project contributions from the government are subject to restrictions as to the use of the funds. The Association's accounting records as well as those of member institutions subcontracted to execute the projects, are subject to audit by the government to identify instances, if any, in which the amounts charged to projects have not complied with the terms and conditions, and which, therefore, would be refundable to the funding agency.

INDEPENDENT LIVING CANADA
NOTES TO AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

10. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

The Association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the risks at March 31, 2021.

a) Credit risk

Bank indebtedness are held with Canadian chartered banks. Credit risk associated with receivables is minimal since they primarily consist of GST/HST rebates receivables and government grants which are expected to be fully collectible. Consequently, the overall exposure to credit risk is considered to be low.

b) Currency risk

The Association's functional currency is the Canadian dollar. The Association does not enter into foreign currency transactions and does not use foreign exchange forward contracts.

c) Liquidity risk

The Association manages its liquidity risk by regularly monitoring forecasted and actual cash flow and financial liability maturities, and by holding assets that can be readily converted into cash. Accounts payable are normally paid within 30 days.

d) Interest rate risk

The Association is exposed to interest rate risk with regards to its bank indebtedness. Fluctuations in market rates of interest on bank indebtedness do not have a significant impact on the Association's results of operations.

11. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The Association derives a major portion of its revenue from the Canadian Government through the Employment and Social Development Canada department. During the year the Association received a total of \$1,118,264 (2020: \$1,200,004) in government funding.

12. COVID-19 AND OPERATIONS

The declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 has had an impact on the Association's activities in the current fiscal year as they have had to comply with government-mandated closures and health and safety protocols.

The Association has mitigated these impacts by reducing expenses accordingly and taking advantage of government assistance such as the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) Loan. This loan is repayable by December 2022, at which time 25% of the balance will be forgiven.