

Financial Statements of the

Office of the Secretary to the Governor General

For the Year Ended March 31, 2015

Statement of Management Responsibility

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the accompanying financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2015 and all information contained in these statements rests with the management of the Office of the Secretary to the Governor General. These financial statements have been prepared by management using the Government's accounting policies which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the information in these financial statements. Some of the information in the financial statements is based on management's best estimates and judgment, and gives due consideration to materiality. To fulfill its accounting and reporting responsibilities, management maintains a set of accounts that provides a centralized record of the Office's financial transactions. Financial information submitted in the preparation of the *Public Accounts of Canada* is consistent with these financial statements.

Management is also responsible for maintaining an effective system of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR) designed to provide reasonable assurance that financial information is reliable, that assets are safeguarded and that transactions are properly authorized and recorded in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and other applicable legislation, regulations, authorities and policies.

Management seeks to ensure the objectivity and integrity of data in its financial statements through careful selection, training and development of qualified staff, through organizational arrangements that provide appropriate divisions of responsibility, through communication programs aimed at ensuring that regulations, policies, standards and managerial authorities are understood throughout the Office and through conducting an annual risk-based assessment of the effectiveness of the system of ICFR.

The system of ICFR is designed to mitigate risks to a reasonable level based on an ongoing process to identify key risks, to assess effectiveness of associated key controls, and to make any necessary adjustments.

The Office of the Secretary to the Governor General is subject to periodic Core Control Audits performed by the Office of the Comptroller General and uses the results of such audits to comply with the Treasury Board *Policy on Internal Control*.

The financial statements of the Office have not been audited.

Original signed by

M. Stephen Wallace

Secretary to the Governor General and Herald Chancellor Deputy Head

Ottawa, Canada September 1, 2015 Original signed by

M. Fady Abdul-Nour, P.Eng
Director General, Corporate Services
Chief Financial Officer

Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited)

in dollars)	2015	2014
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 4)	1,637,378	1,063,002
Vacation pay and compensatory leave	643,030	636,709
Deferred revenue (<u>Note 5</u>)	113,327	125,38
Employee future benefits (Note 6)	858,118	620,668
Total liabilities	3,251,853	2,445,76
Financial assets		
Due from the Consolidated Revenue Fund	1,321,457	1,149,99
Accounts receivable and advances (Note 7)	535,792	108,46
Total financial assets	1,857,249	1,258,459
Net debt	1,394,604	1,187 302
Non-financial assets		
Medals and official gifts	480,770	453,59
Gift shop inventory	22,583	22,58
Tangible capital assets (Note 8)	532,523	306,53
Total non-financial assets	1,035,876	782,71
Net financial position	(358,728)	(404,585

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

Original signed by

M. Stephen Wallace

Secretary to the Governor General and Herald Chancellor Deputy Head

Ottawa, Canada September 1, 2015 Original signed by

M. Fady Abdul-Nour, P.Eng
Director General, Corporate Services
Chief Financial Officer

Statement of Operations and Net Financial Position (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31		
(in dellare)	2015	2014
(in dollars)	2015	2014
Expenses		
Governor General support	20,827,760	21,691,922
Internal services	8,065,738	9,633,098
Total expenses	28,893,498	31,325,020
Revenues		
Heraldic user fees	20,880	17,835
Miscellaneous revenues	638	9,415
Gift shop revenues	-	5,678
Total revenues	21,518	32,928
Net cost of operations before government funding	28,871,980	31,292,092
Government funding		
Net cash provided by Government	20,625,566	20,381,817
Change in due from Consolidated Revenue Fund	171,459	(116,189)
Services provided without charge by other government departments (Note 9)	8,552,687	11,457,683
Transfer of the transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears (Note 10)	(431,875)	-
Total Government funding	28,917,837	31,723,311
Net cost of operations after government funding	(45,857)	(431,219)
Net financial position - Beginning of year	(404,585)	(835,804)
Net financial position - End of year	(358,728)	(404,585)

Segmented information (Note 11)

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

Statement of Change in Net Debt (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31		
(in dollars)	2015	2014
Net cost of operations after government funding	(45,857)	(431,219)
Change due to tangible capital assets		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	361,367	158,333
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(135,380)	(135,322)
Total change due to tangible capital assets	225,987	23,011
Change due to inventories	27,172	122,968
Net decrease in net debt	207,302	(285,240)
Net debt - Beginning of year	1,187,302	1,472,542
Net debt - End of year	1,394,604	1,187,302

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31		
(in dollars)	2015	2014
Operating activities		
Net cost of operations before government funding	28,871,980	31,292,092
Non-cash items:		
Services provided without charge by other government departments (Note 9)	(8,552,687)	(11,457,683)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(135,380)	(135,322)
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	9,415
Transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears (Note 10)	431,875	-
Variations in Statement of Financial Position:		
Increase (decrease) in accounts receivable and accountable advances	427,331	5,853
Increase (decrease) in gift shop inventory	-	1,301
Increase (decrease) in medals and official gifts	27,172	121,667
Decrease (increase) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(574,376)	111,583
Decrease (increase) in vacation pay and compensatory leave	(6,321)	49,264
Decrease (increase) in deferred revenue	12,058	(385)
Decrease in future employee benefits	(237,453)	235,114
Cash used in operating activities	20,264,199	20,232,899
Capital investing activities		
Acquisitions of tangible capital assets	361,367	158,333
Proceeds from disposal of tangible capital assets	-	(9,415)
Cash used in capital investing activities	361,367	148,918
Net cash provided by Government of Canada	20,625,566	20,381,817

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

1. Authority and objectives

The Office of the Secretary to the Governor General (the Office) was designated an agency for purposes of the *Financial Administration Act* by P.C. 1952-1903 dated March 31, 1952.

The primary objectives of the Office are to enable the Governor General, representing the Crown in Canada, to fulfill state and ceremonial public duties, including the recognition of excellence. The Office also provides for expenditures in respect of pensions and activities performed by former Governors General. To reflect these objectives, the operations of the Office are divided into two programs:

- (a) Governor General Support The Office provides support and advice to the Governor General of Canada in his/her unique role as the representative of The Queen in Canada as well as commander-in-chief. The Office assists the Governor General in carrying out constitutional responsibilities, in representing Canada at home and abroad, in bringing Canadians together, and in granting armorial bearings. The Office also supports the Governor General in encouraging excellence through the administration of the Canadian Honours System and by organizing the presentations of national honours, decorations, medals and awards. The Office manages a visitor services program at both of the Governor General's official residences and oversees the day-to-day operations of these residences. The Office also provides support to former Governors General, including pensions to former Governors General and their spouses.
- (b) Internal Services Internal Services are groups of related activities and resources that are administered to support the needs of programs and other corporate obligations of an organization. These groups are: Management and Oversight Services; Communications Services; Legal Services; Human Resources Management Services; Financial Management Services; Information Management Services; Information Technology Services; Real Property Services; Materiel Services; Acquisition Services; and Travel and Other Administrative Services. Internal Services include only those activities and resources that apply across an organization and not to those provided specifically to a program.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared using Government of Canada accounting policies stated below, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards. The presentation and results using the stated accounting policies do not result in any significant differences from Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Significant accounting policies are as follows:

(a) Parliamentary authorities

The Office is financed by the Government of Canada through parliamentary authorities. Financial reporting of authorities provided to the Office do not parallel financial reporting according to generally accepted accounting principles since authorities are primarily based on cash flow requirements. Consequently, items recognized in the Statement of Operations and Net Financial Position and in the Statement of Financial Position are not necessarily the same as those provided through authorities from Parliament. Note 3 provides a reconciliation between the bases of reporting.

(b) Net cash provided by Government

The Office operates within the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF), which is administered by the Receiver General for Canada. All cash received by the Office is deposited to the CRF and all cash disbursements made by the Office are paid from the CRF. The net cash provided by Government is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements including transactions between departments of the Government.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(c) Due from the CRF

Amounts due from the CRF are the result of timing differences at year-end between when a transaction affects authorities and when it is processed through the CRF. Amounts due from the CRF represent the net amount of cash that the Office is entitled to draw from the CRF without further authorities to discharge its liabilities.

(d) Revenues

Funds received from external parties for specified purposes are recorded upon receipt as deferred revenues. These revenues are recognized in the period in which the related expenses are incurred.

Funds that have been received are recorded as deferred revenue, provided the Office has an obligation to other parties for the provision of goods, services or the use of assets in the future.

Other revenues are accounted for in the period in which the underlying transaction or event that gave rise to the revenue takes place.

(e) Expenses

Expenses are recorded on the accrual basis:

- ✓ Vacation pay and compensatory leave are accrued as the benefits are earned by employees under their respective terms of employment.
- ✓ Services provided without charge by other government departments for accommodation and employer contributions to the health and dental insurance plans are recorded as operating expenses at their estimated cost.

(f) Employee future benefits

- ✓ **Pension benefits:** Eligible employees participate in the Public Service Pension Plan, a multiemployer pension plan administered by the Government. The Office's contributions to the Plan are charged to expenses in the year incurred and represent the total Office obligation to the Plan. The Office's responsibility with regard to the Plan is limited to its contributions. Actuarial surpluses or deficiencies are recognized in the financial statements of the Government of Canada, as the Plan's sponsor.
- ✓ Severance benefits: Employees entitled to severance benefits under labour contracts or conditions of employment earn these benefits as services necessary to earn them are rendered. The obligation relating to the benefits earned by employees is calculated using information derived from the results of the actuarially determined liability for employee severance benefits for the Government as a whole.

(g) Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are stated at the lower of cost and net recoverable value. A valuation allowance is recorded for receivables where recovery is considered uncertain.

(h) Gift Shop Inventory

Gift shop inventory consists of items for resale and is valued at the lower of cost using the average cost method or net realizable value.

(i) Medals and Official Gifts

Medals and official gifts consists of medals for the Order of Canada insignia and other honours as well as official gifts held for distribution in the future are valued at original cost or net realizable value.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(j) Tangible capital assets

All tangible capital assets having an initial cost of \$5,000 or more are recorded at their acquisition cost. The Office does not capitalize intangibles, works of art and historical treasures that have cultural, aesthetic or historical value or museum collections.

Amortization of tangible capital assets is done on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset as follows:

Capital assets class	Amortization period
Computer Hardware	3 years
Computer Software	7 years
Vehicles	5 years
Other Equipment	10 years

(k) Annuity payments to former Governors General

Pursuant to provisions contained within the Governor General's Act and the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Act, taxable annuities are paid to: (i) former Governors General; and (ii) surviving spouses of former Governors General. These annuities are indexed annually to the Consumer Price Index and are recognized as an expense in the period in which payment is due.

(1) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses reported in the financial statements. At the time of preparation of these statements, management believes the estimates and assumptions to be reasonable. The most significant items where estimates are used are the liability for employee future benefits and the useful life of tangible capital assets. Actual results could significantly differ from those estimated. Management's estimates are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary, they are recorded in the financial statements in the year they become known.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

3. Parliamentary authorities

The Office receives most of its funding through annual parliamentary authorities. Items recognized in the Statement of Operations and Net Financial Position and the Statement of Financial Position in one year may be funded through parliamentary authorities in prior, current or future years. Accordingly, the Office has different net results of operations for the year on a government-funding basis than on an accrual accounting basis. The differences are reconciled in the following tables:

(a) Reconciliation of net cost of operations to current year authorities used

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Net cost of operations before government funding	28,871,980	31,292,092
Adjustments for items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting authorities:		
Services provided without charge by other government departments	(8,552,687)	(11,457,683)
Medals and official gifts issued	(243,136)	24,032
Decrease in employee future benefits	(237,453)	235,114
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(135,380)	(135,322)
Gift shop inventory costs	-	248
Decrease (increase) in vacation pay and compensatory leave	(6,321)	49,264
Revenues	21,518	32,928
Refund of previous year expenditures	78,969	8,810
	(9,074,490)	(11,242,609)
Adjustments for items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting authorities:		
Purchase of medals and official gifts	270,308	97,635
Purchase of gift shop inventory	-	1,053
Acquisitions of tangible capital assets	361,367	158,333
Transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears	431,875	-
	1,063,550	257,021
Current year authorities used	20,861,040	20,306,504

(b) Authorities provided and used

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Authorities provided:		
Vote 1 - Program expenditures	18,160,255	17,756,042
Statutory amounts	2,906,058	3,039,779
Less:		
Authorities available for future years	-	(5,015)
Lapsed authorities: Program expenditures	(205,273)	(484,302)
Lapsed authorities: Statutory expenditures	-	-
Current year authorities used	20,861,040	20,306,504

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

4. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

The following table presents details of the Office's accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Accounts payable - External parties	617,176	444,707
Accounts payable - Other government departments and agencies	114,452	136,164
Total accounts payable	731,628	580,871
Accrued liabilities	905,760	482,131
Total accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,637,378	1,063,002

5. Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue represents the balance at year-end of unearned revenues received as gifts, donations or bequests to Rideau Hall from private organizations and individuals to fund specific initiatives. Revenue is recognized in the period in which these expenditures are incurred or in which the service is performed. Details of the transactions related to this account are as follows:

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Opening balance	125,385	125,000
Amounts received	61,501	77,153
Revenues recognized	(73,559)	(76,768)
Net closing balance	113,327	125,385

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

6. Employee future benefits

(a) Pension benefits

The Office's employees participate in the public service pension plan (the "Plan"), which is sponsored and administered by the Government of Canada. Pension benefits accrue up to a maximum period of 35 years at a rate of 2 percent per year of pensionable service, times the average of the best five consecutive years of earnings. The benefits are integrated with Canada/Québec Pension Plan benefits and they are indexed to inflation.

Both the employees and the Office contribute to the cost of the Plan. Due to the amendment of the Public Service Superannuation Act following the implementation of provisions related to Canada's Economic Action Plan 2012, employee contributors have been divided into two groups – Group 1 relates to existing plan members as of December 31, 2012 and Group 2 relates to members joining the Plan as of January 1, 2013. Each group has a distinct contribution rate.

The 2014-2015 expense amounts to \$1,416,996 (\$1,548,384 in 2013-2014). For Group 1 members, the expenses represents approximately 1.41 times (1.6 times in 2013-2014) the employee contributions and, for Group 2 members, approximately 1.39 times (1.5 times in 2013-2014) the employee contributions.

The Office's responsibility with regard to the Plan is limited to its contributions. Actuarial surpluses or deficiencies are recognized in the financial statements of the Government of Canada, as the Plan's sponsor.

(b) Severance benefits

The Office provides severance benefits to its employees based on eligibility, years of service and salary at termination of employment. These severance benefits are not pre-funded. Benefits will be paid from future authorities.

As part of collective agreement negotiations with certain employee groups, and changes to conditions of employment for executives and certain non-represented employees, the accumulation of severance benefits under the employee severance pay program ceased for these employees commencing in 2012. Employees subject to these changes have been given the option to be immediately paid the full or partial value of benefits earned to date or collect the full or remaining value of benefits on termination from the public service. These changes have been reflected in the calculation of the outstanding severance benefit obligation. Information about the severance benefits measured as at March 31, is as follows:

(in dollars)	2015	2015
Accrued benefit obligation, beginning of year	620,665	855,779
Expense for the year	443,704	78,919
Benefits paid during the year	(206,251)	(314,033)
Accrued benefit obligation, end of year	858,118	620,665

7. Accounts receivable and advances

The following table presents details of the Office's accounts receivable and advances balances:

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Receivables - Other government departments and agencies	509,396	93,689
Receivables - External parties	23,696	12,072
Employee advances	2,700	2,700
Total accounts receivable and advances	535,792	108,461

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

8. Tangible capital assets

Capital Asset Class

Cost

(in dollars)	Opening Balance	Acquisitions	Disposals and write-offs	Closing Balance
Computer hardware	505,893	283,059	-	788,952
Computer software	33,617	32,864	-	66,481
Vehicles	102,277	-	-	102,277
Other equipment	18,422	45,444	-	63,866
Total	660,209	361,367	-	1,021,576

Accumulated amortization

(in dollars)	Opening Balance	Acquisitions	Disposals and write-offs	Closing Balance
Computer hardware	307,225	108,188	-	415,413
Computer software	1,784	4,893	-	6,677
Vehicles	30,080	20,456	-	50,536
Other equipment	14,584	1,843	-	16,427
Total	353,673	135,380	-	489,053

Net book value

(in dollars)	2013	2014
Computer hardware	198,668	373,539
Computer software	31,833	59,804
Vehicles	72,197	51,741
Other equipment	3,838	47,439
Total	306,536	532,523

9. Related party transactions

The Office is related as a result of common ownership to all government departments, agencies and Crown corporations. The Office enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business and on normal trade terms. During the year, the Office received common services which were obtained without charge from other government departments as disclosed below.

(a) Common services provided without charge by other government departments

During the year, the Office received services without charge from the National Capital Commission (NCC) and Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) related to accommodation. In addition, the employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans is provided by Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS). These services provided without charge have been recorded in the Office's Statement of Operations and Net Financial Position as follows:

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

9. Related party transactions (continued)

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Accommodation	7,471,970	10,336,973
Employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans	1,080,717	1,120,710
	8,552,687	11,457,683

In addition to the support provided by the Office, four federal government departments and agencies are also mandated to support the activities of the Governor General. The level of support and services provided to the Office is determined by each of the contributors and funded out of the budgets of those organizations. The various contributing departments are responsible for allocating and managing the funds they provide to support the activities of the Governor General and the Office and are subject to Treasury Board guidelines. The amounts spent by the departments in question do not appear in the accounts of the Office nor are they recorded as operating expenses by the Office:

- ✓ The Department of National Defence provides logistical support and transportation (similar to the support provided to the prime minister) to the Governor General in an official capacity;
- ✓ The Royal Canadian Mounted Police provides support in matters related to the security and personal protection services (similar to the support provided to the prime minister) for the Governor General and his or her spouse, domestically and abroad;
- ✓ The Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development advises the Governor General on all matters related to foreign policy and funds activities related to incoming State visits, as well as the Governor General's international program and activities undertaken at the request of the prime minister; and
- ✓ The Office also works closely with other agencies such as the Department of Canadian Heritage, which is the lead department for activities including Royal visits, State funerals, national memorial services and special anniversary celebrations.

The Government has centralized some of its administrative activities for efficiency, cost-effectiveness purposes and economic delivery of programs to the public. As a result, the Government uses central agencies and common service organizations so that one department performs services for all other departments and agencies without charge. The cost of these services, such as payroll and cheque issuance services provided by PWGSC and audit services provided by the Office of the Auditor General are also not included in the Office's Statement of Operations and Net Financial Position.

(b) Other transactions with related parties

(in dollars)	2015	2014
Expenses - Other Government departments and agencies	3,020,389	3,158,913
Revenues - Other Government departments and agencies	638	9,415

Expenses and revenues disclosed in (b) exclude common services provided without charge, which are already disclosed in (a).

10. Transfer of the transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears

The Government of Canada implemented salary payments in arrears in 2014-15. As a result, a one-time payment was issued to employees and will be recovered from them in the future. The transition to salary payments in arrears forms part of the transformation initiative that replaces the pay system and also streamlines and modernizes the pay processes. This change to the pay system had no impact on the expenses of the Office. However, it did result in the use of additional spending authorities by the Office. Prior to year end, the transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears were transferred to a central account administered by Public Works and Government Services Canada, who is responsible for the administration of the Government pay system.

Notes to the Financial Statements (Unaudited)

For the year ended March 31

11. Segmented Information

Presentation by segment is based on the Office's program alignment architecture. The presentation by segment is based on the same accounting policies as described in the Summary of significant accounting policies in note 2. The following table presents the expenses incurred and revenues generated for the main program, by major object of expense and by major type of revenue. The segment results for the period are as follows:

(in dollars)	Governor General support	Internal services	2015	2014
Operating Expenses				
Salaries and employee benefits	12,030,715	4,555,999	16,586,714	16,574,394
Accommodation	5,524,339	1,947,631	7,471,970	10,336,973
Materials and supplies	645,431	183,609	829,040	627,737
Professional and other services	954,224	445,324	1,399,548	1,460,617
Travel	684,003	17,030	701,033	576,070
Pensions to former Governors General	551,361	-	551,361	545,374
Telecommunication services	23,050	280,742	303,792	306,627
Information services	285,773	38,571	324,344	273,188
Purchase repair and maintenance	8,047	788	8,835	24,676
Postage, freight, express, and cartage	10,968	75,446	86,414	91,764
Rentals	36,679	358,754	395,433	269.505
Amortization expense	-	135,380	135,380	135,322
Utilities	4,017	102	4,119	3,526
Miscellaneous expenditures	69,153	26,362	95,515	99,247
Total operating expenses	20,827,760	8,065,738	28,893,498	31,325,020
Revenues				
Heraldic user fees	20,880	-	20,880	17,835
Gift shop revenues	-	-	-	5,678
Others	-	638	638	9,415
Total revenues	20,880	638	32,928	32,928
Net cost of operations before government funding	20,806,880	8,065,100	28,871,980	31,292,092

12. Comparative information

Comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.