

Financial Statements of

**FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY
OF BC**

And Independent Auditors' Report thereon

Year ended March 31, 2019

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying financial statements of Forest Enhancement Society of BC ("FESBC") are the responsibility of FESBC's management and have been prepared in compliance with legislation, and in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Section 23.1 of the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act of the Province of British Columbia. A summary of the significant accounting policies are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The preparation of financial statements necessarily involves the use of estimates based on management's judgment, particularly when transactions affecting the current accounting period cannot be finalized with certainty until future periods.

FESBC's management maintains a system of internal controls designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are properly authorized and recorded in compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements, and reliable financial information is available on a timely basis for preparation of the consolidated financial statements. These systems are monitored and evaluated by management.

The Board meets with management and the external auditors to review the financial statements and discuss any significant financial reporting or internal control matters prior to their approval of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been audited by KPMG LLP, independent external auditors appointed by FESBC. The accompanying Auditors' Report outlines their responsibilities, the scope of their examination and their opinion on FESBC's financial statements.



Steve Kozuki
Executive Director



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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Forest Enhancement Society of BC, and
To the Minister of Forests, Land, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development,
Province of British Columbia

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Forest Enhancement Society of BC (the "Society"), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2019
- the statement of operations for the year then ended
- the statement of changes in net debt for the year then ended
- the statement of cash flows 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 as at and for the year ended March 31, 2019 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Section 23.1 of the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act of the Province of British Columbia.

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 "**Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**" section of our auditors' report.

We are independent of the Society 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.



Emphasis of Matter – Financial Reporting Framework

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements which describes the applicable financial reporting framework and the significant differences between that financial reporting framework and Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Section 23.1 of the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act of the Province of British Columbia 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 Society'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 Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

Auditors' 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 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 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 Society'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 Society'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 Society to cease to continue as a going concern.
- 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.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the *Societies Act (British Columbia)*, we report that, in our opinion, the accounting policies applied in preparing and presenting the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'KPMG LLP'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. Below the signature is a horizontal line that starts under the 'K' and ends under the 'P', with a small upward tick at the end.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Victoria, Canada
May 30, 2019

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2019, with comparative information for 2018

	2019	2018
Financial assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$ 147,396,230	\$ 133,204,577
Investments (note 3)	59,800,193	93,959,113
Accounts receivable	74,815	16,164
	<u>207,271,238</u>	<u>227,179,854</u>
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	5,330,067	59,371
Deferred contributions (note 4)	203,368,121	227,165,657
	<u>208,698,188</u>	<u>227,225,028</u>
Net debt	(1,426,950)	(45,174)
Non-financial assets:		
Tangible capital assets (note 5)	52,623	27,410
Prepaid expenses and grants	1,374,327	17,764
	<u>1,426,950</u>	<u>45,174</u>
Commitments (note 8)		
Accumulated surplus	\$ -	\$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved by the Board:



Director



Director

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Statement of Operations

	Budget (note 6)	Year ended March 31, 2019	15 month period from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018
Revenues:			
Deferred contributions recognized	\$ 39,915,000	\$ 27,636,597	\$ 12,819,504
Other	-	585	325
	39,915,000	27,637,182	12,819,829
Expenses:			
Amortization	-	9,846	13,773
Grants issued	37,247,000	25,446,446	10,589,334
Grant administration	1,500,000	1,129,833	1,064,343
Occupancy	67,100	49,473	60,005
Office and general	43,140	57,033	53,649
Professional fees	99,200	222,260	206,647
Salaries and benefits	832,460	600,450	652,955
Travel and transportation	126,100	121,841	179,123
	39,915,000	27,637,182	12,819,829
Annual surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Statement of Changes in Net Debt

	Budget (note 6)	Year ended March 31, 2019	15 month period from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018
Annual surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	-	(35,059)	(20,176)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	-	9,846	13,773
	-	(25,213)	(6,403)
Increase of prepaid expenses	-	(1,356,563)	(11,700)
Change in net debt	-	(1,381,776)	(18,103)
Net debt, beginning of period	(45,174)	(45,174)	(27,071)
Net debt, end of period	\$ (45,174)	\$ (1,426,950)	\$ (45,174)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Statement of Cash Flows

	Year ended March 31, 2019	15 month period from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating activities:		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ -	\$ -
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization	9,846	13,773
Deferred contributions recognized	(27,637,182)	(12,819,504)
Changes in non-cash operating working capital		
Accounts receivable	(58,651)	(11,709)
Prepaid expenses	(1,356,563)	(11,700)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	5,270,696	(49,604)
Interest earned on deferred contributions	3,839,646	4,365,469
	(19,932,208)	(8,513,275)
Capital activities:		
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(35,059)	(20,176)
Investing activities:		
Disposal (purchase) of investments	34,158,920	(93,959,113)
Financing activities:		
Grants received	-	150,000,000
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	14,191,653	47,507,436
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	133,204,577	85,697,141
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 147,396,230	\$ 133,204,577

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2019

Forest Enhancement Society of BC (“FESBC”) was incorporated on February 16, 2016 under the *Society Act* (British Columbia) and transitioned to the new *Societies Act* (British Columbia) on June 9, 2017. Its principal activity is to advance and advocate for the environmental and resource stewardship of BC’s forests.

In June 2017, FESBC became part of the Government Reporting Entity and began operating as a Crown Agency. The fiscal year end of FESBC was changed from December 31, to March 31 for consistency with the Province of British Columbia (the “Province”). During this transition period, a 15 month fiscal period from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 is reported.

1. Significant accounting policies:

(a) Basis of accounting:

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Section 23.1 of the Budget Transparency and Accountability Act of the Province of British Columbia supplemented by Regulations 198/2011 issued by the Province of British Columbia Treasury Board. The Budget Transparency and Accountability Act requires that the financial statements be prepared in accordance with the set of standards and guidelines that comprise generally accepted accounting principles for senior governments in Canada, or if the Treasury Board makes a regulation, the set of standards and guidelines that comprise generally accepted accounting principles for senior governments in Canada as modified by the alternate standard or guideline or part thereof adopted in the regulation.

Regulation 198/2011 requires that restricted contributions received or receivable other than for acquiring or developing a depreciable tangible capital asset or contributions in the form of a depreciable tangible capital asset be treated as a deferred contribution and the associated liability reduced, and revenue recognized, in the fiscal period during which the stipulation or restriction the contribution is subject to is met.

For British Columbia tax-payer supported organizations, these contributions include government transfers and externally restricted contributions.

The accounting policy requirements under Regulation 198/2011 are significantly different from the requirements of Canadian public sector accounting standards which requires that

- government transfers, which do not contain a stipulation that creates a liability, be recognized as revenue by the recipient when approved by the transferor and the eligibility criteria have been met in accordance with public sector accounting standard PS3410;
- externally restricted contributions be recognized as revenue in the period in which the resources are used for the purpose or purposes specified in accordance with public sector accounting standard PS3100.

As a result, revenue recognized in the statement of operations and deferred contributions would be recorded differently under Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2019

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(b) Revenue recognition:

Externally restricted contributions are recognized as revenue depending on the nature of the restrictions on the use of the funds by the contributors as described in note 1(a).

Investment income is reported in the period earned. When required by the funding party or related Act, investment income earned on deferred revenue is added to the deferred revenue balance.

(c) Deferred contributions:

Deferred contributions includes contributions received with stipulations that meet the description of restricted contributions in the Restricted Contributions Regulation 198/2011 issued by Treasury Board. When restrictions are met, deferred revenue is recognized as revenue in the fiscal period in a manner consistent with the circumstances and evidence used to support the initial recognition of the contributions received as a liability as detailed in Note 1(a).

(d) Cash and cash equivalents:

Cash and cash equivalents include highly liquid investments with terms to maturity of three months or less at the date of purchase.

(e) Investments:

FESBC has fixed rate investments with maturity dates greater than three months at the time of acquisition. Investments are reported at cost plus accrued interest.

(f) Tangible capital assets:

Tangible capital assets acquired are recorded at cost which includes amounts that are directly related to the acquisition, design, construction, development, improvement or betterment of the assets.

Amortization is provided on a declining balance basis over the estimated useful life of the assets using the following annual rates:

Asset	Basis	Rate
Furniture and fixtures	Declining balance	20%
Computer equipment	Declining balance	55%
Vehicles	Declining balance	30%
Telephones	Declining balance	20%
Leasehold improvements	Straight line	3 years

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2019

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(f) Tangible capital assets (continued):

Tangible capital assets are written down to residual value when conditions indicate they no longer contribute to the ability of FESBC to provide services or when the value of future economic benefits associated tangible capital assets are less than their net book value. The write-downs are accounted for as expenses in the Statement of Operations. Intangible assets are not recorded as assets in these financial statements.

(g) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Equity instruments that are quoted in an active market and derivative contracts that are not designated in a qualifying hedging relationship are subsequently measured at fair value and all changes in the fair value are recognized in the statement of operations in the period incurred. All other financial instruments are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. FESBC has not elected to carry any financial instruments at fair value.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of financial instruments measured subsequently at fair value are expensed as incurred. All other financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs, which are amortized using the straight-line method.

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal period if there are indicators of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, FESBC determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount FESBC expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future period, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial carrying value.

(h) 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 revenue and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2019

2. Cash and cash equivalents:

	2019	2018
Cash in bank	\$ 62,196,378	\$ 49,303,840
Redeemable Guaranteed Investment Certificate due February 22, 2021	80,235,068	81,516,712
Cash on deposit	4,964,784	2,384,025
	<u>\$ 147,396,230</u>	<u>\$ 133,204,577</u>

3. Investments:

Investments consist of Guaranteed Investment Certificates bearing interest at rates varying between 1.98% and 2.18% and maturity dates between May 3, 2019 and May 4, 2020.

4. Deferred contributions:

On March 31, 2016, the Province provided FESBC with a grant of \$85,000,000 to be used to further FESBC's purposes, aims, and objectives in collaboration with stakeholders, including the provincial government. On February 24, 2017, the Province provided FESBC with a further grant of \$150,000,000 for the same purpose. If any of the funds cannot be actively committed to achieving FESBC's stated purposes and objectives, they must be returned to the Province. The grants were recognized as deferred contributions, and are used to fund the operating expenses and grants issued by FESBC. Interest earned on the grants is deferred and used to fund eligible expenses incurred by FESBC.

	2019	2018
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 227,165,657	\$ 85,619,692
Restricted contributions received	-	150,000,000
Restricted interest income	3,839,061	4,365,469
Amount recognized as revenue in the period	(27,636,597)	(12,819,504)
Balance, end of period	<u>\$ 203,368,121</u>	<u>\$ 227,165,657</u>

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2019

5. Tangible capital assets:

March 31, 2019	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 18,200	\$ 7,940	\$ 10,260
Computer equipment	12,263	10,527	1,736
Vehicles	35,059	-	35,059
Telephones	947	403	544
Leasehold improvements	15,072	10,048	5,024
	\$ 81,541	\$ 28,918	\$ 52,623

March 31, 2018	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 18,200	\$ 5,375	\$ 12,825
Computer equipment	12,263	8,406	3,857
Telephones	947	267	680
Leasehold improvements	15,072	5,024	10,048
	\$ 46,482	\$ 19,072	\$ 27,410

6. Budget:

The budget figures presented were approved by the Board on February 21, 2018. Grants issued and tangible capital asset acquisitions were approved as included in FESBC's Service Plan dated February 2018.

7. Financial risks and concentration of risk:

(a) Interest rate risk:

Interest rate risk refers to the adverse consequences of interest rate changes in FESBC's cash flows, financial position and annual surplus. Cash and cash equivalents earn interest on variable rates based on Prime and Bank of Canada rates. FESBC manages interest rate risk by forecasting cash flow needs and investing in fixed rate guaranteed investment certificates set to mature when cash expenditures are forecasted to occur.

(b) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that FESBC will be unable to fulfill its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. FESBC manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements. FESBC prepares budget and cash flow forecasts to ensure it has sufficient funds to fulfill its obligations.

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2019

7. Financial risks and concentration of risk (continued):

(c) Currency risk:

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in the foreign exchange rates. FESBC is not exposed to currency risk, as all transactions are denominated in Canadian dollars.

8. Commitments:

FESBC has entered into a contract to administer services related to the delivery and implementation of FESBC's Forest Enhancement Program. The fees payable for administration are based on the value of grants under administration, ranging from 3.5-5% per annum.

FESBC has entered into a Letter of Agreement with The Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation ("HCTF") to jointly assess projects for co-funding that meet each agency's desired goals. The agreement does not commit a financial obligation on either party, rather results in an opportunity by FESBC to contribute towards projects that have undergone the HCTF technical review process. The maximum amount to be contributed towards co-funded projects during the one year Letter of Agreement period is \$3,000,000. The fees payable to HCTF for administration are 7.5% based on the value of grants under administration.

FESBC has entered into a Letter of Agreement with The Union of BC Municipalities ("UBCM") to contribute funding towards projects administered through the FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program. The maximum amount to be contributed towards the project during the period from September 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019 is \$2,000,000. The fees payable to UBCM for administration are 5% based on the value of grants under administration.

FESBC has entered into an operating lease commitment for premises with monthly payments of \$1,497 until July 2020.

Approved and unadvanced grants at March 31, 2019 were \$21,874,087 (2018 - \$14,387,983).

9. Remuneration paid to directors, employees and contractors:

Under the new British Columbia Societies Act, effective November 28, 2016, FESBC is required to disclose in the annual financial statements all remuneration paid to directors and the annual remuneration paid to employees and contractors receiving greater than \$75,000 (up to a maximum of 10 individuals).

FESBC paid \$506,023 to four employees (2018 - \$548,252 to five employees) for services, each of whom received total annual remuneration of \$75,000 or greater. No contractors were paid remuneration of \$75,000 or greater during the years presented.

FOREST ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY OF BC

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2019

9. Remuneration paid to directors, employees and contractors (continued):

During the year, FESBC paid total remuneration of \$26,725 (2018 - \$27,275) to directors. For director remuneration, the requirement is to disclose all remuneration paid to directors.

Director	\$ 11,725
Director	8,850
Director	4,800
Director	1,350

10. Related party transactions:

FESBC is related to all Provincial ministries, agencies, school districts, health authorities, colleges, universities, and crown corporations in the Province. Transactions with these entities, unless disclosed separately, are considered to be in the normal course of operations and are recorded at the exchange amount.

During the year, up to two of five directors of the Board were employees of the Province, and FESBC purchased services from related parties through employee secondment from the Province. These services were purchased on a cost recovery basis and totaled \$384,589 (2018 - \$266,178).