

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2015

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Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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 Library of Parliament (the "Library"). These financial statements have been prepared by management 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 Library's financial transactions. Financial information submitted in the preparation of the *Public Accounts of Canada*, and included in the *Library's Annual Report*, 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 Library 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 on-going process to identify key risks, to assess effectiveness of associated key controls, and to make any necessary adjustments.

A risk-based assessment of the system of ICFR for the year ended March 31, 2015 was completed in accordance with the Library's Policy on Internal Controls and the results and the action plans are summarized in the annex.

At the request of management, Ernst & Young LLP has audited these financial statements and has expressed an audit opinion on the fair presentation of the financial statements of the Library, which does not include an audit opinion on the annual assessment of the effectiveness of the Library's internal controls over financial reporting.

Sonia L'Heureux

Parliamentary Librarian Ottawa, Canada

August 6, 2015

Lynn Potter

Chief Financial Officer

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Parliamentary Librarian

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Library of Parliament, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2015, the statement of operations and net financial position, the statement of changes in net debt and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, 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.

Auditors' responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audit is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the **Library of Parliament** as at March 31, 2015 and the results of its operations, the change in its net debt and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Ottawa, Canada August 6, 2015 Chartered Professional Accountants Licensed Public Accountants

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Statement of Financial Position

As at March 31

(in dollars)

	2015	2014
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 4)	2,822,213	1,952,587
Vacation pay and compensatory leave	2,076,060	2,001,184
Employee future benefits (note 5(b))	1,712,128	1,543,895
Total net liabilities	6,610,401	5,497,666
Financial assets		
Due from Consolidated Revenue Fund	2,455,983	1,546,503
Accounts receivable and advances (note 6)	366,230	406,084
Total net financial assets	2,822,213	1,952,587
The Library's net debt	3,788,188	3,545,079
Non-financial assets		
Prepaid expenses		3,816
Inventory for resale	289,350	259,277
Tangible capital assets (note 7)	1,891,662	2,126,030
Total non-financial assets	2,181,012	2,389,123
The Library's net financial position	1,607,176	1,155,956

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

Sonia L'Heureux

Parliamentary Librarian Ottawa, Canada

August 6, 2015

Lynn Potter

Chief Financial Officer

Statement of Operations and the Library's Net Financial PositionFor the Year Ended March 31

(in dollars)

	2015 Planned results	2015	2014
Expenses			
Information support for Parliament	42,666,447	42,112,170	40,057,580
Governance and administrative services	11,017,583	9,557,974	10,684,623
Total expenses		51,670,144	50,742,203
Revenues			
Information support for Parliament	1,000,000	629,067	604,796
Total revenues	1,000,000	629,067	604,796
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	52,684,030	51,041,077	50,137,407
Government funding and transfers			
Net cash provided by Government		40,884,865	43,788,180
Change in due from Consolidated Revenue Fund		909,480	(1,539,923)
Services provided without charge by other government departments (note 8(a))		9,833,954	9,777,519
Transfer of the transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears (note 8(b))		(1,038,442)	
Total government funding and transfers		50,589,857	52,025,776
Net cost of operations after government funding and transfers		451,220	(1,888,369)
The Library's net financial position - beginning of year		1,155,956	3,044,325
The Library's net financial position - end of year		1,607,176	1,155,956

Segmented information (note 9)

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

Statement of Change in the Library's Net Debt For the Year Ended March 31

(in dollars)

	2015	2014
Net cost of operations after government funding and transfers	451,220	(1,888,369)
Change due to tangible capital assets		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	295,512	300,657
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(529,880)	(635,845)
Loss on write-down of tangible capital assets		(7,583)
Total change due to tangible capital assets	(234,368)	(342,771)
Change due to inventory for resale	30,073	(28,128)
Change due to prepaid expenses	(3,816)	2,126
Total changes	(208,111)	(368,773)
Net increase (decrease) in the Library's net debt	243,109	(2,257,142)
The Library's net debt - beginning of year	3,545,079	5,802,221
The Library's net debt - end of year	3,788,188	3,545,079

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

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended March 31

(in dollars)

	2015	2014
Operating activities		
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	51,041,077	50,137,407
Non-cash items:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(529,880)	(635,845)
Loss on write-down of tangible capital assets		(7,583)
Services provided without charge by other government departments (note 8(a))	(9,833,954)	(9,777,519)
Transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears (note 8(b))	1,038,442	
Variations in Statement of Financial Position:		
Decrease (increase) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(869,626)	1,823,134
Increase in vacation pay and compensatory leave	(74,876)	(78,160)
Decrease (increase) in employee future benefits	(168,233)	2,335,302
Decrease in accounts receivable and advances	(39,854)	(283,211)
Increase (decrease) in prepaid expenses	(3,816)	2,126
Increase (decrease) in inventory for resale	30,073	(28,128)
Cash used in operating activities	40,589,353	43,487,523
Capital investing activities		
Acquisitions of tangible capital assets	295,512	300,657
Cash used in capital investing activities	295,512	300,657
Net cash provided by Government of Canada	40,884,865	43,788,180

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

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended March 31

1. Authority and objectives

These statements provide the financial information related to all the operations controlled by the Library of Parliament (the "Library").

Formally established under the *Parliament of Canada Act*, the Library's efforts in support of an informed and accessible Parliament pre-date Confederation. The Library provides Senators, Members of Parliament, and parliamentary committees with the independent, non-partisan information they need to examine the issues of the day, consider legislation and hold the government accountable. It preserves Parliament's rich documentary heritage while optimizing access to its important collections. It also welcomes hundreds of thousands of visitors to Parliament each year, and offers interpretive tours and educational programs and products to help the public understand Parliament's role in our democratic system and the important work parliamentarians do.

The activities of the Library can be summarized as follows:

Information support for Parliament – To provide parliamentarians with information, documentation, research and analysis services to help them fulfill their roles as legislators and representatives and to support them in their efforts to make Parliament and information about Parliament accessible to the public.

Governance and administrative services – Activities and resources that enable managers and employees to deliver activities and programs for and about Parliament.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended March 31

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

These financial statements have been prepared using the Government's 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 Library is financed by the Government of Canada through parliamentary authorities. Financial reporting of authorities provided to the Library do not parallel financial reporting according to Canadian generally accepted accounting principles since authorities are primarily based on cash flow requirements. Consequently, items recognized in the Statement of Operations and the Library's 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 basis of reporting. The planned results amounts in the "Expenses" and "Revenues" section of the Statement of Operations and the Library's Net Financial Position and in the Segmented Information (note 9), are based on the amounts in the Library's Main Estimates and have been adjusted to conform to the basis of accounting for these Financial Statements. Planned results are not presented in the "Government funding and transfers" section of the Statement of Operatons and the Library's Net Financial Position and in the Statement of Change in the Library's Net Debt as no planned figures were prepared for these line items.
- (b) Net cash provided by government The Library operates within the Consolidated Revenue Fund (the "CRF"), which is administered by the Receiver General for Canada. All cash received by the Library is deposited to the CRF and all cash disbursements made by the Library are paid from the CRF. The net cash provided from the CRF is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements including transactions between departments of the Government.
- (c) Amounts due from the Consolidated Revenue Fund 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 Library is entitled to draw from the CRF without further appropriations to discharge its liabilities.
- (d) Revenues Revenues are accounted for in the period in which the underlying transaction or event that gave rise to the revenues 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.
 - ii. Services provided without charge by other government departments for accommodation and the employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans are recorded as operating expenses at their estimated cost.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended March 31

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2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

- (f) Employee future benefits
 - i. Pension benefits: Eligible employees participate in the Public Service Pension Plan, a multiemployer pension plan administered by the Government of Canada. The Library's contributions to the Plan are charged to expenses in the year incurred and represent the total obligation of the Library to the Plan. The Library'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, the Plan's sponsor.
 - ii. 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 actual remaining liability for employee severance benefits for the Library as a whole.
 - Change in Accounting Estimate Effective March 31, 2015, the obligation relating to the severance benefits earned by employees is calculated using information derived from the actual remaining liability for employee severance benefits for the Library as a whole.
 - iii. Sick leave: Employees are permitted to accumulate unused sick leave which they can only use in the event of an illness. Accumulated unused sick leave upon employee termination is not payable to the employee and no related amount has been accrued in these financial statements.
- (g) Accounts receivable and advances Accounts receivable and advances are stated at the lower of cost and net recoverable value; a valuation allowance is recorded for receivables where recovery is considered uncertain.
- (h) *Inventory for resale* Inventory is held for resale and is valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value on a first-in, first-out basis.
- (i) Foreign currency transactions Transactions involving foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollar equivalents using rates of exchange in effect at the time of those transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in a foreign currency are translated into Canadian dollars using the rate of exchange in effect at yearend.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended March 31

2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(j) *Tangible capital assets* – All tangible capital assets and leasehold improvements having an initial cost of \$2,500 or more are recorded at their acquisition cost. The Library does not capitalize intangible assets, works of art and historical treasures that have cultural, aesthetic or historical value.

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

Asset Class	Amortization Period
Machinery and equipment	5 years
Other equipment	3 - 15 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Computer software	3 years
Leasehold improvements	over the lease term

- (k) *Collections* Collections of books and reference materials owned by the Library are charged to expense in the year of acquisition. During the year, the Library incurred \$1,796,508 in expenditures on collections (\$1,738,018 in 2013-2014).
- (I) 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 severance 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

For the Year Ended March 31

3. Parliamentary authorities

The Library receives most of its funding through annual parliamentary authorities. Items recognized in the Statement of Operations and the Library's Net Financial Position and in the Statement of Financial Position in one year may be funded through parliamentary authorities in prior, current or future years. Accordingly, the Library 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

	2015	2014
	(in dol	lars)
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	51,041,077	50,137,407
Adjustments for items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting authorities:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets	(529,880)	(635,845)
Services provided without charge by other government departments	(9,833,954)	(9,777,519)
Increase in vacation pay and compensatory leave	(74,876)	(78,160)
Decrease (increase) in employee future benefits	(168,233)	2,335,302
Revenue not available for spending	3,123	4,279
Loss on write-down of tangible capital assets		(7,583)
Refund of prior year's expenditures	32,875	78,005
Total items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting authorities	(10,570,945)	(8,081,521)
Adjustments for items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting appropriations:		
Acquisitions of tangible capital assets	295,512	300,657
Transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears	1,038,442	
Increase (decrease) in prepaid expenses	(3,816)	2,126
Increase (decrease) in inventory for resale	30,073	(28,128)
Total items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting authorities	1,360,211	274,655
Current year authorities used	41,830,343	42,330,541

Notes to the Financial StatementsFor the Year Ended March 31

3. Parliamentary authorities (continued)

(b) Authorities provided and used

	<u> 2015</u>	<u> 2014 </u>
	(in dol	lars)
Authorities provided:		
Vote 10 – Operating expenditures	37,317,035	37,817,080
Statutory amounts	4,726,530	4,983,016
Less:		
Lapsed: Operating	(213,222)	(469,555)
Current year authorities used	41,830,343	42,330,541

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended March 31

4. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

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

	2015	2014	
	(in dollars)		
Accounts payable – Other government departments and agencies Accounts payable – External parties	169,005 491,626	292,746 617,365	
Total accounts payable	660,631	910,111	
Accrued liabilities	2,161,582	1,042,476	
Total accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,822,213	1,952,587	

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended March 31

5. Employee future benefits

(a) Pension benefits: The Library'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 Library contribute to the cost of the Plan. Due to the amendment of the *Public Service Superannuation Act* following the implementation of provisions related to *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 \$3,231,056 (\$3,503,559 in 2013-2014). For Group 1 members, the expense 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 Library'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 Library 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. Information about the severance benefits, measured as at March 31, is as follows:

	2015	2014
	(in do	llars)
Accrued benefit obligation – Beginning of year	1,543,895	3,879,197
Expense for the year	304,138	(570,219)
Benefits paid during the year	(135,905)	(1,765,083)
Accrued benefit obligation – End of year	1,712,128	1,543,895

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended March 31

6. Accounts receivable and advances

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

	2015	2014	
	(in dollars)		
Receivables – Other government departments and agencies Receivables – External parties Employee advances	128,192 235,938 2,100	149,537 253,005 3,542	
Net accounts receivable	366,230	406,084	

Notes to the Financial Statements

Cost

295,512

For the Year Ended March 31

135,558

6,390,788

7. Tangible capital assets

(in dollars)

Leasehold

Total

improvements

Capital asset class	Opening balance	Acquisitions	Disposals and write offs	Closing balance	Opening balance	Amortization	Disposals and write offs	Closing balance	2015	2014
Machinery and equipment	575,983	5,854		581,837	476,455	26,930		503,385	78,452	99,528
Other equipment	2,797,305			2,797,305	1,324,258	185,105		1,509,363	1,287,942	1,473,047
Computer equipment	1,560,205	21,490	15,948	1,565,747	1,320,794	147,175	15,948	1,452,021	113,726	239,411
Computer software	1,321,737	268,168		1,589,905	1,082,930	130,767		1,213,697	376,208	238,807

130,767 1,082,930 1,213,697 376,208 238,807 60,321 39,903 100,224 35,334 4,264,758 529,880 15,948 4,778,690 1,891,662 2,126,030

Net book value

Accumulated amortization

15,948 Amortization expense for the year ended March 31, 2015 is \$ 529,880 (2014 - \$635,845).

135,558

6,670,352

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended March 31

8. Related party transactions

The Library is related, as a result of common ownership, to all Government of Canada departments, agencies, and Crown corporations. The Library enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business and on normal trade terms. In addition, the Library has agreements with the House of Commons related to the provision of information technology services. During the year, the Library received common services that were obtained without charge from other Government departments as presented in part (a) below.

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

During the year, the Library received services without charge from certain common service organizations, related to accommodation and the employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans. These services provided without charge have been recorded in the Library's Statement of Operations and Net Financial Position as follows:

	2015	2014
	(in dol	lars)
Accommodation	7,594,430	7,557,902
Employer's contribution to health and dental insurance plan	2,239,524	2,219,617
Total	9,833,954	9,777,519

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 costs of these services, such as the payroll, cheque issuance and translation services provided by Public Works and Government Services Canada ("PWGSC"), are not included in the Library's Statement of Operations and the Library's Net Financial Position. In addition, the costs of maintenance, identity cards, transportation and messenger services provided by the Senate and the House of Commons are also not included in the Library's Statement of Operations and the Library's Net Financial Position.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended March 31

8. Related party transactions (continued)

(b) Transfer of the transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears

The Government of Canada implemented salary payments in arrears in 2014-2015. 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 Library. However, it did result in the use of additional spending authorities by the Library. Prior to year end, the transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears were transferred to a central account administered by PWGSC, who is responsible for the administration of the Government pay system.

c) Other transactions with related parties

	2015	2014
	(in dollars)	
Accounts receivable – Other government departments and agencies	128,192	149,537
Accounts payable – Other government departments and agencies	169,005	292,746
Expenses – Other government departments and agencies	6,626,763	6,754,548

Expenses disclosed in note 8(c) exclude common services provided without charge, which are already disclosed in note 8(a).

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended March 31

9. Segmented information

Presentation by segment is based on the Library's program activity structure. 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 activities, by major object of expenses and by major type of revenues. The segment results for the period are as follows:

	2015			2014	
-	Planned results	Information support for Parliament	Governance and administrative services	Total	Total
Expenses					
Salaries and employee benefits	36,484,550	31,032,301	5,448,214	36,480,515	35,848,602
Accommodation	7,553,600	6,522,493	1,071,937	7,594,430	7,557,902
Professional and special services	3,405,080	918,876	1,774,446	2,693,322	2,334,524
Material, equipment and supplies	3,350,000	1,916,073	272,327	2,188,400	2,183,997
Rentals	650,000	135,900	731,078	866,978	731,263
Communications, travel and relocation	650,000	400,564	143,766	544,330	516,115
Amortization of tangible capital assets	635,800	455,697	74,183	529,880	635,845
Information	550,000	389,347	27,521	416,868	584,247
Cost of goods sold	305,000	314,708		314,708	304,062
Repairs and maintenance	100,000	26,211	14,502	40,713	38,063
Loss on write-down of tangible capital assets					7,583
Total expenses	53,684,030	42,112,170	9,557,974	51,670,144	50,742,203
Revenues					
Sales of goods and information products – External entities	1,000,000	604,878		604,878	583,979
Sales of goods and information products – Other Government Departments		24,189		24,189	20,817
Total revenues	1,000,000	629,067		629,067	604,796
Net cost from continuing operations	52,684,030	41,483,103	9,557,974	51,041,077	50,137,407

Annex to the Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Summary of the assessment of effectiveness of the system of internal control over financial reporting and action plan of the Library of Parliament for fiscal year 2014-2015

Preface

With the adoption by the Library of Parliament (the "Library") of the *Policy on Internal Control*, effective November 9, 2010, the Library is required to demonstrate the measures it is taking to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR).

As part of this policy, the Library is expected to conduct an annual assessment of its system of ICFR, establish an action plan to address any necessary adjustments, and to attach to the *Statement of Management Responsibility* a summary of the assessment results and action plan.

An effective system of ICFR aims to achieve reliable financial statements and to provide assurances that:

- transactions are appropriately authorized;
- financial records are properly maintained;
- assets are safeguarded from risks such as waste, abuse, loss, fraud and mismanagement;
 and
- applicable laws, regulations and policies are followed.

It is important to note that the system of ICFR is not designed to eliminate all risks, but rather, to mitigate risk to a reasonable level with controls that are balanced with, and proportionate to, the risks they aim to mitigate.

The maintenance of an effective system of ICFR is an ongoing process designed to identify key risks and associated key controls, assess effectiveness of the controls, and adjust as required, and monitor performance in support of continuous improvement.

1. Introduction

This document is attached to the Library *Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting* for the 2014-2015 fiscal-year. As required by the Library *Policy on Internal Control*, this document provides summary information on the measures taken by the Library to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR). In particular, it provides summary information on the assessments conducted by the Library as at March 31, 2015, including progress, results and related action plans along with some financial highlights pertinent to understanding the control environment unique to the Library. This is the fifth year of publication of this annex.

1.1 Authority, Mandate and Program Activities

Detailed information on the Library's authority, mandate and program activities can be found in the Library *Strategic Outlook 2012-2017*.

Financial highlights

Below is key financial information for fiscal year 2014-2015. More information can be found in the Library's audited Financial Statements and Notes to the Financial Statements.

- Total expenses were \$51.7M, 71% of which is salary;
- Total revenues were \$629K, most of which are from Boutique sales;
- Total assets and liabilities were \$5.0M and \$6.6M respectively. Tangible capital assets comprise 38% of departmental total assets. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities comprise 43% of total liabilities; and
- The Library has a number of information systems that are critical to its operations and financial reporting.

1.2 Audited financial statements

Financial statements of the Library have been audited since 2007. The Library has always received a clean audit opinion, including for fiscal-year 2014-2015.

1.3 Service arrangements relevant to financial statements

The Library relies on other organizations for the processing of certain transactions that are recorded in its financial statements.

- PWGSC centrally administers the payments of salaries and the management of accommodation services:
- Treasury Board Secretariat provides the Library with information used to calculate various accruals and allowances; and
- Under a Memorandum of Understanding, the House of Commons provides system development and maintenance support services for the information systems used in financial reporting and also delivers security monitoring services.

1.4 Accounting changes in fiscal-year 2014-2015

No changes have been made to the Government of Canada Chart of Accounts object code classification and therefore, there was no need to reclassify previous year figures to conform to the current year's presentation.

2. Library's control environment relevant to ICFR

The Library recognizes the importance of setting the tone from the top to help ensure that staff at all levels understand their roles in maintaining effective systems of ICFR and are well equipped to exercise these responsibilities effectively. The Library's focus is to ensure risks are managed well through a responsive and risk-based control environment that enables continuous improvement and innovation guided by the Values and Ethics Code for the Library.

2.1 Key positions, roles and responsibilities

Below are the Library's key positions and committees with responsibilities for maintaining and reviewing the effectiveness of its system of ICFR.

Parliamentary Librarian (PL) – The Library's PL, as Accounting Officer, assumes overall responsibility and leadership for the measures taken to maintain an effective system of internal control. In this role, the PL chairs the Library Executive Committee.

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) – The Library's CFO reports directly to the PL and provides leadership for the coordination, coherence and focus on the design and maintenance of an effective and integrated system of ICFR, including its annual assessment.

Service Heads – The Library's Service Heads, in charge of program delivery, are responsible for maintaining and reviewing the effectiveness of the system of ICFR falling within their mandate.

Library Executive Committee (LEC) – As the Library's central decision-making body, the LEC reviews, approves and monitors the Corporate Risks Profile and the Library system of internal control, including the assessment and action plans relating to the system of ICFR.

2.2 Key measures taken by the Library

The Library's control environment includes a series of measures to equip its staff to manage risks well by raising awareness, and providing appropriate knowledge and tools, as well as developing skills. Key measures include:

- The establishment of a values and ethics code;
- Job descriptions for the Senior Officer, Financial Services and the Chief, Financial Services and Corporate Planning include ICFR responsibilities;
- Annual performance agreements with clearly set out financial management responsibilities for all executives;
- Training programs and communications in core areas of financial management;
- Policies tailored to the Library's control environment;
- A regularly updated delegation of financial signing authorities instrument; and
- Documentation of main business processes and related key risk and control points to support the management and oversight of its system of ICFR.

3. Assessment of the Library's system of ICFR

3.1 Assessment baseline

The Library's financial statements for the fiscal years 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 were audited by Ernst & Young. The financial statements for the previous 5 years were audited by KPMG. In parallel, senior management has been providing increased focus on formalizing its approach to the management and on-going maintenance of its systems of ICFR with the objective of supporting continuous improvement.

In 2010-2011, consistent with the Library *Policy on Internal Control*, the Library also implemented a more systematic risk-based and multi-year assessment plan of the design and operating effectiveness of its systems of ICFR.

Whether it is to support the control-based audit requirements or those of the *Policy on Internal Control*, an effective system of ICFR has the objective to provide reasonable assurance that:

- transactions are appropriately authorized;
- data and financial information are accurate and consistent;
- · financial records are properly maintained;
- assets are safeguarded; and
- applicable laws, regulations and policies are followed.

Over time, this includes assessment of design and operating effectiveness of the system of ICFR leading to ensuring the on-going monitoring and continuous improvement of the Library system of ICFR.

Design effectiveness means to ensure that key control points are identified, documented, and in place, and that they are aligned with the risks (i.e. controls are balanced with, and proportionate to, the risks they aim to mitigate) and that any remediation is addressed. This includes the mapping of key processes and IT systems to the main accounts by location as applicable.

Operating effectiveness means that the application of key controls has been tested over a defined period and that any required remediation is addressed.

The assessment covers all Library control levels, which include corporate or entity, general computer and business process controls.

On-going monitoring means that a systematic integrated approach to monitoring is in place, including periodic risk-based assessment and timely remediation.

3.2 Assessment method at the Library

The self-assessment at the Library is a systematic review conducted to provide assurance on internal control over financial reporting.

In 2010-2011, a scoping and planning exercise was undertaken to identify key business processes and to document financial statement assertions and control categories. Key business processes and subprocesses were identified, documented and the design effectiveness was tested.

In 2011-2012, the Library assessed the operating effectiveness of the key controls in the areas of compensation, goods and services, and financial systems access security.

In 2012-2013, the operating effectiveness of the key controls in the areas of planning, budgeting and forecasting, preparation of financial statements, and preparation of Public Accounts were assessed.

Furthermore, the Library has documented its entity-level controls that are needed to support the achievement of the Library's mission, strategies, and related business objectives.

In 2013-2014, the Library completed the first draft of its IT General Controls that are needed to support the achievement of the Library's mission, strategies, and related business objectives.

In 2014-2015, the operating effectiveness of the key controls for the Boutique, including sales and purchases, were assessed. Furthermore, the assessment of the Library's entity-level controls and documentation and assessment of the IT general and application controls were completed.

4. Assessment results as of March 31, 2015

During 2014-2015, the Library has continued to make solid progress in assessing and improving its key controls. The Library has:

- Completed the documentation and identification of its IT general and application controls, and assessed the design and test of operating effectiveness of its entity-level controls and its IT general and application controls;
- Identified necessary remediation plans to address gaps or issues of operating effectiveness for both the entity-level controls and the IT general and application controls; and
- Reported the results of the assessment and made recommendations to address gaps and issues identified.

On this basis, the Library has documented its approach and results in order to articulate its multi-year action plan and related implementation requirements.

There were no material deficiencies noted which would cause a significant weakness in internal controls over financial reporting.

The results from the operating effectiveness testing identified the requirement for a remediation plan in the following area:

• Security standards and procedures for IT should be developed and implemented.

Looking ahead, the Library will continue to ensure that controls are effective over time, taking into account the initial assessment, as well as results from annual assessments and audits. In 2015-2016, this will involve developing and implementing a well-integrated monitoring program to raise awareness and understanding of the Library's system of ICFR at all levels of the organization and to equip staff with the knowledge, skills, and tools needed to maintain a robust system of ICFR.

Library's action plan

Building on progress to date the Library has developed a multi-year plan to fully implement the requirements of the Policy on Internal Control and is positioned to implement an ongoing monitoring process in 2015-2016. The action plan below highlights the progress towards ensuring an effective system of internal control over financial reporting is in place.

	Completed	2015-2016	<u>2016-2017</u>
Scoping and Planning	✓		
Process Controls	Completed	<u>2015-2016</u>	2016-2017
Documentation and Identification of Controls			
Compensation	✓		
Goods and services	✓		
Boutique	✓		
Planning, budgeting and forecasting	✓		
Preparation of financial statements	✓		
Preparation of Public Accounts	✓		
Financial systems access security	✓		
Test of Design			
Compensation	✓		
Goods and services	✓		
Boutique	✓		
Planning, budgeting and forecasting	✓		
Preparation of financial statements	✓		
Preparation of Public Accounts	✓		
Financial systems access security	✓		
Test of Operating Effectiveness			
Compensation	✓		
Goods and services	✓		
Boutique	✓		
Planning, budgeting and forecasting	✓		
Preparation of financial statements	✓		
Preparation of Public Accounts	✓		
Financial systems access security	✓		

IT General and Application Controls	Completed	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>
Documentation and identification of controls	√		
Test of design	✓		
Test of operating effectiveness	✓		

Entity Level Controls	Completed	<u>2015-2016</u>	2016-2017
Documentation and identification of controls	√		
Test of design	✓		
Test of operating effectiveness	✓		

Monitoring	Completed	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>2016-2017</u>
On-going monitoring		✓	✓

The Library is fully committed to this action plan. However, attainment of the milestones identified above will be contingent on the Library being able to maintain its current level of resources to implement the requirements of the Policy on Internal Control. Any major changes to the Library structure could certainly have an impact on the associated timelines. The Library will update its action plan on an annual basis.