

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION
(Operating as Aware NS)
Financial Statements
Year Ended March 31, 2025

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

(Operating as Aware NS)

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Nova Scotia Health and Community Services Safety Association operating as Aware NS

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Nova Scotia Health and Community Services Safety Association, operating as Aware NS, (the "Association"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2025, and the statements of revenues and expenditures and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at March 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO).

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 *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with 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.

Other Matter

The financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2024 were reviewed by another accounting firm who expressed an unmodified conclusion on those financial statements on September 14, 2024.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, 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 Association'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 Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

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Auditor's 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 auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted 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 Association'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 Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

HBA Chartered Professional Accountants

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
September 4, 2025

HBA Chartered Professional Accountants

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

(Operating as Aware NS)

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures and Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
REVENUES		
Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care	\$ 919,048	\$ 1,111,587
Department of Opportunities and Social Development	323,341	320,740
Other revenue	1,596	-
Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration	794	6,450
	1,244,779	1,438,777
EXPENDITURES		
Project payroll <i>(Note 10)</i>	466,032	426,517
Programs	401,322	639,280
Salaries and wages <i>(Note 10)</i>	223,009	238,012
Professional fees	41,616	39,403
Rental	38,999	42,973
Program development	13,693	13,813
Office	9,570	17,338
Governance	8,221	12,623
Advertising and promotion	6,526	2,591
Telephone	5,033	5,570
Amortization	3,677	4,497
Travel	3,555	3,249
Insurance	2,395	1,148
Business taxes, licenses and memberships	1,870	1,181
Interest and bank charges	1,166	1,104
Human resources review	-	15,211
	1,226,684	1,464,510
NET EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	18,095	(25,733)
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	8,864	34,597
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 26,959	\$ 8,864

See notes to financial statements

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

(Operating as Aware NS)

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 981,871	\$ 1,150,066
Restricted funds	296,077	263,657
Accounts receivable	367	-
Harmonized sales tax recoverable	6,897	32,536
Prepaid expenses	3,758	3,312
	1,288,970	1,449,571
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT <i>(Note 7)</i>	4,147	6,535
	\$ 1,293,117	\$ 1,456,106
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 38,095	\$ 193,255
Employee deductions payable	25,973	15,334
Deferred revenue <i>(Note 8)</i>	1,202,090	1,238,653
	1,266,158	1,447,242
NET ASSETS	26,959	8,864
	\$ 1,293,117	\$ 1,456,106

LEASE COMMITMENTS *(Note 12)*

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

Director

Director

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

(Operating as Aware NS)

Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	\$ 18,095	\$ (25,733)
Item not affecting cash:		
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	3,677	4,497
	21,772	(21,236)
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(367)	11,199
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(155,160)	141,455
Deferred revenue	(36,563)	203,767
Prepaid expenses	(446)	159
Harmonized sales tax payable	25,639	(16,976)
Employee deductions payable	10,639	(2,402)
	(156,258)	337,202
Cash flow from (used by) operating activities	(134,486)	315,966
INVESTING ACTIVITY		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(1,289)	(2,520)
Cash flow used by investing activity	(1,289)	(2,520)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW	(135,775)	313,446
Cash - beginning of year	1,413,723	1,100,277
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 1,277,948	\$ 1,413,723
CASH FLOWS SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION		
Interest paid	\$ 1,166	\$ 1,106
CASH CONSISTS OF:		
Cash	\$ 981,871	\$ 1,150,066
Restricted funds	296,077	263,657
	\$ 1,277,948	\$ 1,413,723

See notes to financial statements

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

(Operating as Aware NS)

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2025

1. PURPOSE OF THE ASSOCIATION

Nova Scotia Health and Community Services Safety Association, Operating as Aware NS (the "Association") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated provincially under the Societies Act of Nova Scotia. The Association was incorporated on September 1, 2009 and began official operations on January 1, 2010. The Association is dedicated to designing and implementing training programs to help reduce Workers Compensation payout's to community and health care sector employees in Nova Scotia. Under the Income Tax Act of Canada, the Association is not subject to income taxes.

2. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO).

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting estimates

Accounting estimates are included in financial statements to approximate the effect of past business transactions or events, or to approximate the present status of an asset or liability. Examples include accruals for pension benefits, medical benefits, accounting fees, and estimated useful life of an asset. It is possible that changes in future conditions could require changes in the recognized amounts for accounting estimates. Should an adjustment become necessary, it would be reported in earnings in the period in which it became known.

Revenue recognition

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Deferred revenue includes restricted amounts received for future periods.

Other revenue is recognized when received or receivable and collection is reasonably assured.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes bank balances held with financial institutions less outstanding cheques.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or deemed cost less accumulated amortization and is amortized over its estimated useful life on a declining balance basis at the following rates and methods:

Equipment	3 years	straight-line method
Furniture and fixtures	30%	declining balance method
Leasehold improvements	term of the lease	straight-line method
Website	30%	declining balance method
Computer software	50%	declining balance method

The Association regularly reviews its property, plant and equipment to eliminate obsolete items.

Property, plant and equipment acquired during the year but not placed into use are not amortized until they are placed into use.

Property, plant and equipment acquired during the year are amortized at 50% the above rate.

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NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

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Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2025

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

HST recovery

As a registered non-profit organization, the Association is entitled to a rebate of 50% of the HST paid on eligible expenses. The practice of the Association is to record expenditures net of refundable HST.

Government grants

Government grants are recorded when there is a reasonable assurance that the Association has complied with and will continue to comply with, all the necessary conditions to obtain the grants.

Financial instruments

Measurement

The Association initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value.

The Association subsequently measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost. Amortized cost is the amount at which a financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition minus principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortization of any difference between that initial amount and the maturity amount, and minus any reduction (directly or through the use of an allowance account) for impairment.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at amortized cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of any write-down is recognized in net income. Any previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures.

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

(Operating as Aware NS)

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2025

4. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the Association's risk exposure and concentration as of March 31, 2025.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Association is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The Association mitigates this risk through budget preparation and careful cash flow management.

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Association is not exposed to significant other price risks arising from these financial instruments.

5. PENSION PLAN

The Association contributed to a defined benefit pension plan on behalf of its employees. The benefit plan is the Nova Scotia Association of Health Employees' Pension Plan, which is a multi-employer defined benefit plan administered by its Board of Trustees. The Plan is administered in compliance with Plan documents, Canada's Income Tax Act and the Nova Scotia Pension Benefits Act. The Association matches employee contributions, calculated as a percentage of salary. Contributions of \$51,735 have been expensed for the year ended March 31, 2025 (2024 - \$47,966). The Association bears no direct financial liability for the plan as the responsibility lies with the plan administrators.

6. CREDIT FACILITIES

The Association has five credit cards with Royal Bank of Canada with a total maximum authorized limit of \$25,000 (2024 - \$25,000). As at year-end, \$4,393 (2024 - \$4,627) has been advanced on these facilities.

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

(Operating as Aware NS)

Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2025

7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2025 Net book value
Equipment	\$ 54,498	\$ 51,528	\$ 2,970
Furniture and fixtures	36,572	35,395	1,177
Leasehold improvements	20,793	20,793	-
Website	29,806	29,806	-
Computer software	614	614	-
	\$ 142,283	\$ 138,136	\$ 4,147

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2024 Net book value
Equipment	\$ 53,209	\$ 48,355	\$ 4,854
Furniture and fixtures	36,572	34,891	1,681
Leasehold improvements	20,793	20,793	-
Website	29,806	29,806	-
Computer software	614	614	-
	\$ 140,994	\$ 134,459	\$ 6,535

8. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2024	Funding received	Revenue recognized	2025
Department of Opportunities and Social Development	\$ 279,656	\$ 205,820	\$ (323,341)	\$ 162,135
Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care	525,000	525,000	(483,899)	566,101
Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care -WSI	415,447	475,800	(435,149)	456,098
Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration	18,550	-	(794)	17,756
	\$ 1,238,653	\$ 1,206,620	\$ (1,243,183)	\$ 1,202,090

Deferred revenues are recognized when the associated expenses are incurred.

9. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

The Association has received funding from the Department on Seniors and Long-Term Care and the Department of Opportunities and Social Development totaling \$1,000,800 and \$205,820 respectively, in support of their safety programs. The amount is recorded as revenue when expenses are incurred.

NOVA SCOTIA HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES SAFETY ASSOCIATION

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Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2025

10. STATEMENT OF COMPENSATION

Section 3 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act of the Province of Nova Scotia, requires public sector bodies to publicly disclose the amount of compensation it pays or provides, directly or indirectly, to any person in the fiscal year if the amount of compensation to that person is one hundred thousand dollars or more including compensation paid to, or for the benefit of, each of its board members, officers, employees, contractors and consultants.

	2025
Dawn Pickering (includes pension of \$12,763 and retro pay of \$603)	\$ 137,082
Heather Matthews (includes pension of \$11,174 and retro pay of \$3,964)	123,933
	<u>\$ 261,015</u>

11. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The Association derives a significant portion of its revenues from government grants. The Association is expected to receive \$525,000 (2024 - \$525,000) from the Department of Seniors and Long-Term Care to fund operations in fiscal 2026.

Any significant change to the frequency or amounts of funding from these sources could impact the Association's future level of operations.

12. LEASE COMMITMENTS

The Association has a long term lease with respect to its premise expiring August 2025 and photocopier expiring August 2027. As of September 1, 2025 the Association is on a month to month lease. Under the premises lease, the Association is required to pay monthly rent of \$3,275 which includes base rent, electricity, air conditioning, internet, parking, cleaning, and additional common area fees. Future minimum lease payments as at March 31, 2025, are as follows:

2026	\$ 20,420
2027	4,045
2028	<u>1,685</u>
	<u>\$ 26,150</u>