Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

December 31, 2023

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District of North Saanich December 31, 2023

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The accompanying financial statements of the District of North Saanich (the "District") are the responsibility of the District's management and have been prepared in compliance with legislation, and in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards as recommended by the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Board of the Chartered Professional Accountants Canada. A summary of the significant accounting policies is described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The preparation of financial statements necessarily involves the use of estimates based on management's judgement, particularly when transactions affecting the current accounting period cannot be finalized with certainty until future periods.

The District'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 financial statements. These systems are monitored and evaluated by management.

The Mayor and Council meet 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 Canada LLP, independent external auditors appointed by the District. The accompanying Independent Auditor's Report outlines their responsibilities, the scope of their examination and their opinion on the District's financial statements.



KPMG LLP

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Mayor and Councilors of the District of North Saanich

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the District of North Saanich (the "District"), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023
- · the statement of operations for the year then ended
- the statement of changes in net financial assets 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 present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the District as at December 31, 2023, and its results of operations, its changes in net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

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 auditor's report.

We are independent of the District 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.



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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the District'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 District or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

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 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 District'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 District'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 District 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.
- 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.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Victoria, Canada April 29, 2024

LPMG LLP

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,787,783 \$	3 13,354,332
Portfolio investments (note 2)	35,782,775	30,379,257
Accounts receivable		
Taxes	568,445	334,513
Other (note 3)	2,900,609	2,798,609
Debt reserve deposits (note 4)	142,701	138,399
	\$ 53,182,313 \$	47,005,110
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 5)	\$ 5,796,843 \$	
Prepaid property taxes	987,315	705,532
Deferred revenue (note 6)	2,488,412	2,208,619
Deposits	1,569,594	1,622,614
Employee future benefit liability (note 7)	463,900	549,200
Asset retirement obligation (note 8)	62,940	-
Debt (note 9)	4,422,351	4,883,220
	\$ 15,791,355 \$	15,167,840
Net financial assets	\$ 37,390,958 \$	31,837,270
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (note 10)	\$ 92,751,612 \$	88,194,143
Inventory of supplies	273,272	252,324
Prepaid expenses	177,828	214,585
	\$ 93,202,712 \$	88,661,052
Accumulated surplus (note 11)	\$130,593,670 \$	120,498,322
Contingencies and commitments (notes 4 and 12)		
Director of Financial Services		
 Mayor		

Statement of Operations

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	Budget (note 17)	2023	2022
Revenues: (note 16)			
Taxes available for municipal purposes (note 14)	\$ 15,264,450 \$	15,334,032 \$	14,565,979
Sale of services			
General	1,303,900	1,384,269	1,222,718
Water utility fees and charges	3,861,600	4,094,812	3,656,094
Sewer utility fees and charges	1,660,700	1,634,467	1,562,671
Income from portfolio investments	510,000	2,119,753	828,735
Contributed assets (note 10)	-	2,158,650	83,350
Government transfers (note 15)	1,114,500	6,216,466	1,563,525
Other revenue	281,700	174,908	320,007
	23,996,850	33,117,357	23,803,079
Expenses: (note 16)			
General government	4,776,440	4,854,498	4,260,345
Protective services	5,280,977	4,689,200	4,304,015
Solid waste management and environment	135,900	63,603	110,774
Planning and community	1,618,592	1,174,242	1,485,954
Transportation	5,571,164	4,092,126	3,590,483
Parks, recreation and culture	2,754,393	2,033,353	2,086,776
Water utility	4,093,899	4,047,777	3,725,174
Sewer utility	2,333,635	2,067,210	1,948,137
	26,565,000	23,022,009	21,511,658
Annual (deficit) surplus	(2,568,150)	10,095,348	2,291,421
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year	120,498,322	120,498,322	118,206,901
Accumulated surplus, end of year	\$117,930,172 \$	130,593,670 \$	120,498,322

Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	Budget		
	(note 17)	2023	2022
Annual (deficit) surplus	\$ (2,568,150)\$	10,095,348 \$	2,291,421
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(12,006,900)	(5,559,745)	(4,349,522)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	3,041,800	3,118,094	3,003,248
Loss (gain) on disposal of capital assets	-	29,060	203,557
Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	-	13,772	222,485
Contributed capital assets	-	(2,158,650)	(83,350)
	(11,533,250)	5,537,879	1,287,839
Acquisition of inventory of supplies	-	(358,915)	(277,572)
Consumption of inventory of supplies	-	337,867	211,170
Acquisition of prepaid expenses	-	(167,303)	(204,016)
Use of prepaid expenses	-	204,060	146,021
Change in net financial assets	(11,533,250)	5,553,688	1,162,442
Net financial assets, beginning of year	31,837,270	31,837,270	30,674,828
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ 20,304,020 \$	37,390,958 \$	31,837,270

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operating transactions:		
Annual surplus	\$ 10,095,348 \$	2,291,421
Items not involving cash:		
Contributed tangible capital assets	(2,158,650)	(83,350)
(Gain) loss on disposal of capital assets	29,060	203,557
Amortization of tangible capital assets	3,118,094	3,003,248
Actuarial sinking fund earnings	(165,139)	(164,962)
	10,918,713	5,249,914
Change in non-cash operating assets and liabilities (Note 12)	697,019	763,395
	11,615,732	6,013,309
Capital transactions:		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(5,496,805)	(4,349,522)
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	13,772	222,485
	(5,483,033)	(4,127,037)
Financing transactions:		
Repayment of debt	(295,730)	(269,343)
Investing transactions:		
Purchase of portfolio investments	(4,000,000)	(4,000,000)
Reinvestment of portfolio investment earnings	(1,403,518)	(538,464)
	(5,403,518)	(4,538,464)
(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	433,451	(2,921,535)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	13,354,332	16,275,867
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 13,787,783 \$	13,354,332

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

The District of North Saanich (the "District") is a municipality in the Province of British Columbia that was created on August 19, 1965 pursuant to the Local Government Act of British Columbia and Community Charter of British Columbia. The District provides municipal services such as police, fire, public works, planning, parks and recreation, library, and general government operations.

1. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements of the District are prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board ("PSAB"). Significant accounting policies adopted by the District are as follows:

(a) Basis of presentation

The financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses of the District and the relevant portion of any cost sharing arrangements.

The District participates in the cost sharing agreements with the Town of Sidney for RCMP police services, Library building maintenance and capital improvements, and the operations of the Shoal Senior Centre. Only the District's portion of these costs are recorded in the financial statements. Refer to Note 16 for additional details.

Interdepartmental and inter-fund transactions have been eliminated. The District does not administer any trust activities on behalf of external parties.

(b) Basis of accounting

The District follows the accrual method of accounting for revenues and expenses. Revenues are recognized in the year in which they are earned and measurable. Expenses are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of receipt of goods or services and/or the creation a legal obligation to pay.

(c) Government transfers

Government transfers are recognized in the financial statements as revenues in the period in which events giving rise to the transfer occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria have been met, and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made, except when and to the extent the transfer gives rise to an obligation that meets the definition of a liability. Transfers received for which expenses are not yet incurred are included in deferred revenue and will be recognized over the period the liability is settled.

(d) Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue includes grants, contributions and other amounts received from third parties pursuant to legislation, regulation and agreement which may only be used in certain programs, in the completion of specific work, or for the purchase of tangible capital assets. In addition, certain user charges and fees are collected for which the related services have yet to be performed. Revenue is recognized in the period when the related expenses are incurred, services performed, or the tangible capital assets are acquired.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(e) Taxation revenue

Taxation revenue is recorded at estimated amounts when it has been authorized and the taxable event occurs. Annual levies for non-optional municipal services and general administrative services are recorded as taxes for municipal services in the year they are levied. Taxes receivable are recognized, when they meet the definition of an asset, net of an allowance for anticipated uncollectable amounts. Levies imposed by other taxing authorities are not included as taxes for municipal purposes.

Through the British Columbia Assessments' appeal process, taxes may be adjusted by way of supplementary roll adjustments. The effects of these adjustments on taxes are recognized at the time they are awarded or can be reasonably estimated.

f) Investment income

Investment income is reported as revenue in the period earned except when restricted in use by the funding government or related legal statute. In that event, the investment income earned is added to the deferred revenue balance.

(g) Debt

Debt is recorded net of principal repayments and actuarial earnings.

(h) Employee future benefits

The District and its employees make contributions to the Municipal Pension Plan and the Greater Victoria Labour Relations Association (GVLRA) Long-Term Disability Trust. As these are multi-employer plans, the assets and liabilities of the plan are not segregated by institution, and accordingly, the District accounts for the plan as a defined contribution plan and contributions are expensed as incurred.

Sick, personal, emergency, and family leave benefits and other retirement benefits are also available to the District's employees. The costs of these benefits are actuarially determined based on service and best estimates of retirement ages and expected future salary and wage increases. The obligation under this benefit plan is accrued based on projected benefits as the employees render services necessary to earn the future benefits. Long-term disability income benefits are disclosed according to the Greater Victoria Labour Relations Associations' policy.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(i) Liability for contaminated sites

Contaminated sites are a result of contamination being introduced into air, soil, water or sediment of a chemical, organic or radioactive material or live organism that exceeds an environmental standard. Liabilities are recorded net of any expected recoveries.

A liability for remediation of contaminated sites is recognized when all the following criteria are met:

- (i) the site is no longer in productive use;
- (ii) an environmental standard exists;
- (iii) contamination exceeds the environmental standard; the District is directly responsible or accepts responsibility;
- (iv) it is expected that the future economic benefits will be given up; and
- (v) a reasonable estimate of the amount can be made.

The liability is recognized as management's estimate of the cost of remediation and post-remediation including operation, maintenance and monitoring that are an integral part of the remediation strategy for a contaminated site.

(j) Asset Retirement Obligation

On January 1, 2023, the District adopted Public Accounting Standard PS 3280 – Asset Retirement Obligations. The new accounting standard addresses the reporting of legal obligations associated with the retirement of certain tangible capital assets, such as asbestos removal in retired buildings by public sector entities. The new accounting standard has resulted in a withdrawal of the existing Section PS 3270 – Solid Waste Landfill Closure and Post-Closure Liability. The standard was adopted on the prospective basis at the date of adoption.

An asset retirement obligation is recognized when, as at the financial reporting date, all of the following criteria are met:

- (i) there is a legal obligation to incur retirement costs in relation to a tangible capital asset;
- (ii) the past transaction or event giving rise to the liability has occurred;
- (iii) it is expected that future economic benefits will be given up; and
- (iv) a reasonable estimate of the amount can be made.

The District's asset retirement obligations include the removal of asbestos and lead in District owned buildings. The estimate of the asset retirement obligation includes costs directly attributable to the asset retirement obligations. The recognition of a liability resulted in an accompanying increase to the respective tangible capital assets. The increase to the tangible capital assets is amortized in accordance with the depreciation accounting policies outlined in (I). The estimated liability is not considered material to discount using the present value calculation at this time. The carrying value of the liability is reviewed at each financial reporting date with changes to the timing or amount of the original estimate of cash flows recorded as an adjustment to the liability and related tangible capital asset.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(k) Non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are not available to discharge existing liabilities and are held for use in the provision of services. They have useful lives extending beyond the current year and are not intended for sale in the ordinary course of operations.

(i) Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost which includes amounts that are directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset.

The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets, excluding land are amortized on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

The District does not capitalize interest costs associated with the acquisition or construction of a tangible capital asset.

Estimated useful life for tangible capital assets is as follows:

Asset	Useful life range in years
Buildings	25 to 50
Land improvements	10 to 40
Vehicles, machinery, and equipment	5 to 25
Engineering Structures:	
Roads	10 to 75
Drainage	25 to 80
Water	20 to 80
Sewer	20 to 80
Other	10 to 80

Land has an infinite life and is not amortized. Work in progress is not amortized until the project is substantially completed and put into use.

Tangible capital assets are written down when conditions indicate that they no longer contribute to the District's ability to provide goods and services or when the value of the future economic benefits associated with the asset is less than the book value of the asset.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(ii) Contributions of tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets received as contributions, including tangible capital assets in lieu of developer cost charges, are recorded as revenue at their estimated fair value at the date of receipt.

(iii) Natural resources

Natural resources that have not been purchased are not recognized as assets in the financial statements.

(iv) Works of art and cultural and historic assets

Works of art and cultural and historic assets are not recorded as assets in these financial statements.

(v) Leased tangible capital assets

Leases which transfer substantially all of the benefits and risks incidental to ownership of property are accounted for as leased tangible capital assets. All other leases are accounted for as operating leases and the related payments are charged to expenses as incurred.

(vi) Inventory of supplies

Inventory of supplies is recorded at the lower of cost and replacement cost.

(I) Deposits

Receipts restricted by third parties for future services or repayment are deferred as deposits and are refundable under certain circumstances. Deposits are recognized as revenue when qualifying expenditures are incurred or services provided.

(m) Allocation of expenses

Salary, wages and employee benefit expenses include the costs for District employees. The cost of certain personnel are allocated to the water and sewer utility segments based on an estimate of time spent on those segments.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

1. Significant accounting policies (continued)

(n) 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 revenues and expenses during the period. Significant estimates include assumptions used in estimating useful lives of tangible capital assets, amounts to settle asset retirement obligations, estimating provisions for accrued liabilities, and in performing actuarial valuations of employee future benefits.

Actual results could differ from these estimates. Adjustments, if any, will be reflected in operations in the period of settlement.

(o) Financial instruments

On January 1, 2023, Public Accounting Standard PS 3450 - Financial Instruments, and Public Accounting Standard PS 2601 - Foreign Currency Translation were adopted. The standards were adopted prospectively from the date of adoption. The new standards provide comprehensive requirements for all recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of financial instruments and foreign currency transactions. The new standards had no impact to the financial statements on adoption.

The District's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, portfolio investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities and debt. The carrying amount of these financial instruments approximates their fair value because they are short-term in nature or because they bear interest at market rates. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the District is not exposed to significant interest or credit risks arising from these financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Derivative instruments and equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are reported at fair value. All other financial instruments are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. Management has not elected to carry any other financial instruments at fair value.

Unrealized changes in fair value are recognized in the statement of remeasurement gains and losses until they are realized, when they are transferred to the statement of operations. There are no unrealized changes in fair value as at December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022. As a result, the District does not have a Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses.

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 or effective interest rate method. All financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis.

When a decline is determined to be other than temporary, the amount of the loss is reported in the statement of operations and any unrealized gain is adjusted through the Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses. When the asset is sold, the unrealized gains and losses previously recognized in the Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses are reversed and recognized in the Statement of Operations.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

2. Portfolio investments

The District's portfolio of investments consist of term deposits in credit unions. Term deposits in credit unions have varying maturity dates from January 2024 to May 2026 and have rates of return ranging from 1.00% to 5.80% (2023: 1.0% to 5.35%).

3. Other accounts receivable

Other accounts receivable consists of the following:

	2023	2022
Utility fees and charges	\$ 1,449,120	\$ 1,746,243
BC Active Transportation grant receivable	125,000	-
Other grants receivable	65,244	-
Disaster financial assistance grant receivable	668,197	530,000
GST rebate	403,537	345,289
Trade accounts receivable	125,658	131,720
Receivable from library / other municipalities	36,110	21,546
Deferred property taxes due from the Province of BC	-	3,466
Miscellaneous	27,743	20,345
	\$ 2,900,609	\$ 2,798,609

4. Municipal Finance Authority debt reserve fund and debt reserve deposits

As a condition of these borrowings, a portion of the debenture proceeds is withheld by the MFA as a debt reserve fund. These deposits are held by the MFA to act as security against the possibility of debt repayments default. If the debt is returned without default, the deposits are refunded to the District. At December 31, 2023, deposits of \$142,701 (2022 - \$138,399) are recorded as debt reserve deposits.

Under borrowing arrangements with the Municipal Finance Authority ("MFA"), the District is required to lodge security by means of contingent demand notes and interest bearing cash deposits based on the amount of borrowing. As debt principal is retired, demand notes are released and the cash deposits are refunded.

At December 31, 2023 there were contingent demand notes of \$255,076 (2022 - \$255,076) which are not included in the financial statements of the District.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

5. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities consist of the following:

	2023	2022
Trade accounts payable	\$ 1,254,688 \$	2,036,420
Accrued liabilities	724,380	557,790
Grants in lieu payable to other government organizations	524,478	524,763
Lien holdback payable	511,987	182,688
Accrued payroll liability	453,809	437,038
Contaminated sites liability (a)	210,000	200,000
School tax levy and grant in lieu payable to the Province of BC	1,985,856	1,148,111
PEMO amounts held (b)	131,645	111,845
	\$ 5,796,843 \$	5,198,655

⁽a) A liability for contaminated sites has been recorded in the amount of \$210,000 (2022 - \$200,000). The existence of metals above the BC Contaminated Sites standards has been identified in the soil at Bazan Bay Park. The source of the contamination is a decommissioned sewage treatment plant clarifier tank on the property.

6. Deferred revenue

	2022	Contributions received	Recognized as revenue	2023
Amenity fee contributions	\$ 1,546,527 \$	- \$	- \$	1,546,527
Prepaid building permits	401,705	561,576	(401,705)	561,576
Prepaid utility billings	19,724	21,101	(19,724)	21,101
Sewer upgrade contributions	85,710	-	(85,710)	-
Local Government Climate Action program	116,082	116,082	(20,992)	211,172
Noble Garden Estate Funds	-	75,000	-	75,000
Other	38,871	34,165	-	73,036
	\$ 2,208,619\$	807,924	\$ (528,131) \$	2,488,412

⁽b) Peninsula Emergency Measures Organization (PEMO) provides qualified volunteer support during times of emergency or major disaster. It is supported by the District of Central Saanich, the Town of Sidney, and the District of North Saanich.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

7. Employee future benefit liability

The District provides sick leave, retirement benefits, and personal, emergency, and family leave (PEFL) to its employees in addition to contributions to the Municipal Pension Plan and the GVLRA. These amounts and other employee-related liabilities will require funding in future periods and are set out below:

	2023	2022
Accumulated sick leave	\$ 293,704 \$	350,342
Retirement benefits	170,196	198,858
	\$ 463,900 \$	549,200

Information about the District's benefit plan for sick leave, retirement benefits and PEFL is as follows:

	2023	2022
Accrued benefit obligation - opening:		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 546,000 \$	573,000
Current service cost	61,000	66,700
Interest cost	26,300	15,900
Past Service Cost	-	53,200
Benefits paid	(173,800)	(79,000)
Actuarial loss (gain)	100,900	(83,800)
Accrued benefit obligation - closing	560,400	546,000
Unamortized net actuarial (loss) gain	(96,500)	3,200
Accrued employee future benefit liability	\$ 463,900 \$	549,200

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

7. Employee future benefit liability (continued)

The significant actuarial assumptions adopted in measuring the District's accrued benefit obligations are as follows:

	2023	2022
Discount rates	4.10%	4.50%
Expected inflation rate	3.00%	2.50%

The expected average remaining service life is 12 years (2022 - 12 years). The expected wage and salary increases (including 3.0% inflation estimate) are 3.10% - 5.20% (2022 - 2.58% - 4.50%). The total expense recorded in the financial statements in respect of obligations under this plan amounts to \$88,500 (2022 - \$144,700).

Accumulated sick leave

Accumulated sick leave represents the liability for sick leave banks accumulated for possible draw down at future dates.

Retirement benefits

Retirement benefits represent the District's share of the cost to provide employees with various benefits upon retirement including lump sum retirement payments and death benefits. The amount recorded for these benefits is based on a benefit actuarial valuation. It is recorded in combination with sick, personal, emergency and family leave valuations. The most recent valuation was as at December 31, 2023. The actuarial valuation and assumptions upon which it is based are reviewed on a periodic basis.

Municipal pension plan

The District and its employees contribute to the Municipal Pension Plan (plan) (a jointly trusteed pension plan). The board of trustees, representing plan members and employers, is responsible for administering the plan, including investment of assets and administration of benefits. The plan is a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan. Basic pension benefits are based on a formula. As at December 31, 2022, the plan had about 240,000 active members and approximately 124,000 retired members. Active members include approximately 43,000 contributors from local governments.

Every three years, an actuarial valuation is performed to assess the financial position of the plan and adequacy of plan funding. The actuary determines an appropriate combined employer and member contribution rate to fund the plan. The actuary's calculated contribution rate is based on the entry age normal cost method, which produces the long-term rate of member and employer contributions sufficient to provide benefits for average future entrants to the plan. This rate may be adjusted for the amortization of any actuarial funding surplus and will be adjusted for the amortization of any unfunded actuarial liability. The most recent valuation for the Municipal Pension Plan as at December 31, 2021, indicated a \$3,761 million funding surplus for basic pension benefits on a going concern basis.

The District paid \$518,816 for employer contributions to the plan in fiscal 2023 (2022 - \$506,805) and District employees paid \$468,027 (2022 - \$459,523).

The next valuation will be as at December 31, 2024, with results available in 2025.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

7. Employee future benefit liability (continued)

Employers participating in the plan record their pension expense as the amount of employer contributions made during the fiscal year(defined contribution pension plan accounting). This is because the plan records accrued liabilities and accrued assets for the plan in aggregate, resulting in no consistent and reliable basis for allocating the obligation, assets and cost to the individual employers participating in the plan.

GVLRA/CUPE Long-Term Disability Trust

The Trust was established January 1, 1987 as a result of negotiations between the Greater Victoria Labour Relations Association representing a number of employers and the Canadian Union of Public Employees representing a number of CUPE locals. The Trust's sole purpose is to provide a long-term disability income benefit plan. Employers and employees each contribute equal amounts into the Trust. The total plan provision for approved and unreported claims was fully actuarially determined as at December 31, 2020, with an extrapolation prepared by the actuary as at December 31, 2022. At December 31, 2022, the total plan provision for approved claims was \$24,104,700 (2021 - \$23,012,000) and the provision for unreported claims was \$1,703,800 (2021 - \$1,703,800) with an accumulated deficit of \$3,026,543 (accumulated surplus in 2021 - \$1,664,646). The District paid \$75,681 (2022 - \$68,465) for employer contributions and District employees paid \$75,681 (2022 - \$68,465) for employee contributions to the plan in 2023.

8. Asset Retirement Obligation

The District's asset retirement obligation consists of the following obligations:

a) Asbestos obligation

The District owns and operates buildings that are known to have asbestos, which represents a health hazard upon demolition of the building and there is a legal obligation to remove it. Following the adoption of PS 3280 – *Asset retirement obligations*, the District recognized an obligation relating to the removal of the asbestos in these buildings as estimated at January 1, 2023. The buildings had an estimated useful life of 50 years when they were purchased or constructed. Discounting to the present value is not considered material based on the liability estimated.

b) Lead obligation

The District owns and operates a building known to have lead, there is a legal obligation to properly remove and dispose of lead. Following the adoption of PS 3280 – *Asset retirement obligations*, the District recognized an obligation relating to the removal of the lead in this building as estimated at January 1, 2023. The building had an estimated useful life of 50 years when it was purchased or constructed. Discounting to the present value is not considered material based on the liability estimated.

The transition and recognition of asset retirement obligations involved an accompanying increase to the Buildings capital asset (see note 10).

Changes to the asset retirement obligation in the year are as follows:

Asset Retirement Obligation	Asbestos removal	Lead removal	Total
Balance January 1, 2023	39,900	23,040	62,940
Retirement costs incurred	-		-
Closing balance	\$ 39,900	\$ 23,040	\$ 62,940

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

8. Asset retirement obligation (continued)

c) Lease obligations

The District is involved in various formal and informal lease obligations, some of which involve potential asset retirement obligations if specific lease agreement conditions are requested and/or if the lease ends earlier than originally agreed upon. As at year end no material asset retirement obligations are anticipated. Potential asset retirement obligations related to lease agreements are reviewed at each financial reporting date.

9. Debt

	Interest rate	Year of maturity	Gross Debt	Repayments and actuarial earnings	2023	2022
MFA Issue #102	3.90%	2032	\$ 7,722,907	\$ (4,066,642) \$	3,656,265 \$	3,999,008
MFA Issue #127	3.30%	2029	1,680,000	(913,914)	766,086	884,212
			\$ 9,402,907	\$ (4,980,556) \$	4,422,351 \$	4,883,220

The District issues debt instruments through the MFA, pursuant to security issuing bylaws under authority of the Local Government Act, to finance certain capital expenditures. MFA invests the District's principal payments so that the payments plus the investment income earned on repayments (actuarial earnings), will equal the original outstanding debt amount at the end of the repayment period.

The loan agreements with the MFA provide that if, at any time, the scheduled payments provided for in the agreements are not sufficient to meet the MFA's obligations in respect of such borrowings, the resulting deficiency becomes a liability of the District.

Interest expense on long-term debt for 2023 was \$356,633 (2022 - \$229,205).

The aggregate amount of payments required on the District's debt during each of the next five years and thereafter is as follows:

2024	\$ 295,730
2025	302,014
2026	302,014
2027	302,014
2028	302,014
Thereafter	937,500
Future principal payments	2,441,286
Future actuarial adjustments (estimated)	1,981,065
	\$ 4,422,351

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

10. Tangible capital assets

There are no significant art nor historic treasures owned and held by the District. No tangible capital assets were written down in 2023 or 2022.

In 2023 \$143,750 of drainage asset contributions were received related to developments within the District. The estimated fair market value of these assets is shown as revenue as well as tangible capital asset additions. In 2022 contributed assets worth \$83,350 were received.

On December 5, 2022, the District was named as a beneficiary of two North Saanich properties with a total assessed value of \$2,014,900. The properties were transferred to the District in November of 2023.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

10. Tangible capital assets (continued)

				_		Engin	eering Structui	res				
December 31	Land li	Land nprovement		Vehicles, Machinery & Equipment	Roads	Drainage	Water	Sewer	Other	Work in Progress	Total	Total 2022
Cost		•										_
Opening balance	\$ 22,007,326 \$	4,367,361 \$	8,973,830 \$	9,303,709 \$	41,380,045 \$	8,703,759 \$	15,247,706 \$	28,422,133 \$	65,381 \$	1,646,312	\$140,117,562	\$138,366,949
Add: Additions	1,984,000	90,075	133,771	880,398	2,479,692	102,410	1,829,363	-	-	155,747	7,655,456	4,432,872
Add: TCA ARO			62,940								62,940	
Less: Disposals	-			(303,688)	-	-	(118,259)	-	-	-	(421,947)	(2,682,259)
Completed work in progress	-	91,498 -		4,571	74,560	-	1,453,683	-	-	(1,624,312)	-	
Closing balance	23,991,326	4,548,934	9,170,541	9,884,990	43,934,297	8,806,169	18,412,493	28,422,133	65,381	177,747	147,414,011	140,117,562
Accumulated Amortization												
Opening balance	-	1,265,046	3,115,042	4,053,836	25,723,397	2,211,223	6,146,889	9,359,240	48,747	-	51,923,420	51,176,388
Add: Additions	-	152,789	219,557	769,948	1,064,603	163,607	225,197	521,164	1,229	-	3,118,094	3,003,248
Less: Disposals	-	-	-	(303,688)	-	-	(75,427)	-	-	-	(379,115)	(2,256,217)
Closing balance	-	1,417,835	3,334,599	4,520,096	26,788,000	2,374,830	6,296,659	9,880,404	49,976	-	54,662,399	51,923,419
Net book value	\$ 23,991,326 \$	3,327,194 \$	5,835,942 \$	5,168,799 \$	17,146,297 \$	6,431,339 \$	12,115,834 \$	18,541,729 \$	15,405 \$	177,747	\$ 92,751,612	\$ 88,194,143

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

11. Accumulated surplus

Accumulated surplus consists of individual fund surplus and reserves and reserve funds as follows:

	2023	2022
Surplus		
Invested in tangible capital assets	\$ 88,329,261 \$	83,310,923
Unallocated surplus	6,947,641	7,021,900
Total surplus	95,276,902	90,332,823
Non-statutory reserve funds set aside by Council		
First Nation Relations fund	15,000	15,000
Total non-statutory reserves funds	15,000	15,000
Statutory reserve funds set aside by Council		
Capital reserves	17,655,214	14,761,860
Operating and opportunity reserves	17,646,554	15,388,639
otal statutory reserve funds	35,301,768	30,150,499
	\$130,593,670 \$	120,498,322

12. Changes in non-cash operating assets and liabilities

	2023	2022
Change in non-cash operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable - taxes	(233,932)	94,964
(Increase) in accounts receivable - other	(102,000)	(264,946)
(Increase) in debt reserve deposits	(4,302)	(3,023)
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	36,757	(58,995)
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	598,188	219,633
Decrease in prepaid property taxes	281,783	28,210
Increase in deferred revenue	279,793	26,905
(Decrease) increase in employee future benefit obligations	(85,300)	65,700
(Increase) in materials and supplies	(20,948)	(66,402)
(Decrease) increase in deposits	(53,020)	721,349
	11,615,732	6,013,309

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

13. Contingencies and commitments

(a) Agreements and contracts

The District has entered into various agreements and contracts for services and construction with periods ranging from one to five years.

(b) RCMP

The District has entered into a five-year renewable agreement with the Town of Sidney, effective January 1, 2023, for the use of the RCMP facilities located in the Town of Sidney. This agreement requires that the District reimburse the Town of Sidney for a share of facility, equipment and staffing costs, based upon the ratio of staff assigned to the District and the total number of staff assigned to the detachment under the Policy Agreement.

(c) Insurance

The District is a defendant in various lawsuits and historical circumstances may result in additional legal claims. The District records an accrual in respect of legal claims where there is likely to be a settlement and for which a liability amount is reasonably determinable.

The District is self-insured through membership in the Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia. Under this program, member municipalities are to share jointly for general liability claims against any member in excess of their deductible. Should the Association pay out claims in excess of premiums received, it is possible that the District, along with the other participants, would be required to contribute towards the deficit. No provision has been recorded as there is no expected risk at this time.

(d) CREST

The District is a shareholder and member of the Capital Regional Emergency Service Telecommunications (CREST) Incorporated, which provides centralized emergency communications and related public safety information services to municipalities, regional districts, the provincial and federal governments and their agencies, and emergency service organizations throughout the Greater Victoria region and the Gulf Islands. Members' obligations to share in funding ongoing operations and any additional costs relating to capital assets are to be contributed pursuant to a Members' Agreement.

(e) Regional District debt

Regional District debt is, under the provisions of the Local Government Act, a direct, joint and several liability of the Regional District and each member municipality within the Regional District, including the District.

(f) Sandown operating lease

In 2020 the District entered into a lease agreement with Circular Farm and Food Society: Vancouver Island to operate the Sandown lands. Within this lease agreement the District agreed to provide funding during the first three years of operation (2020 - 2022). Council has extended their funding arrangement and the District's cost for 2023 is \$125,000.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

13. Contingencies and commitments (continued)

(g) Roundabout agreement

In December 2022, the District entered into a cost sharing agreement with the Victoria Airport Authority and the Town of Sidney for the design and construction of road improvements in the area of Beacon Avenue West, Galaran Road and Stirling Way in the Town of Sidney. The District's share of the costs is capped at \$520,000.

(h) Liquidity risk

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

14. Taxes available for municipal purposes

	Budget	2023	2022
Taxes collected for general municipal purposes:	 		
Property and business taxes	\$ 12,545,500 \$	12,582,038 \$	11,851,417
Grants in lieu of taxes	1,375,500	1,405,358	1,344,705
Water and sewer system parcel taxes	1,343,450	1,346,636	1,369,857
Total	15,264,450	15,334,032	14,565,979
Taxes collected on behalf of and paid to other governments:			
School Authorities	-	11,294,830	10,113,886
Regional Hospital District	-	1,198.246	1,195,716
Municipal Finance Authority	-	1,920	1,706
British Columbia Assessment Authority	-	332,292	308,505
BC Transit Authority	-	1,979,169	1,624,677
Regional District	-	3,678,705	3,603,033
Total	-	18,485,162	16,847,523
Gross taxes collected	\$ - \$	33,819,194 \$	31,413,502

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

15. Government transfers

The following government transfers have been included in revenues:

	Budget	2023	2022
Transfers			
Provincial	\$ 561,500 \$	5,639,282 \$	1,010,554
Federal	553,000	577,184	552,971
	\$ 1,114,500 \$	6,216,466 \$	1,563,525

16. Segmented information

The District is a diversified government organization that provides a wide range of services to its citizens as follows:

Protective Services - RCMP, Fire Department and Animal Control

The mandates of the RCMP and Fire Departments are to enforce laws, prevent crime and maintain peace, order and security by protecting life, property and the environment through the provision of emergency response thus, ensuring safe homes and community. The District cost shares with the Town of Sidney to provide policing services through the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP). District animal control services are provided under contract by the Capital Regional District.

Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

The Parks division of the Infrastructure Services Department is responsible for providing and facilitating high quality parks and recreational facilities. The District cost shares with the Town of Sidney to provide access to recreation and cultural services through the Mary Winspear Centre and Shoal Centre located nearby in the Town of Sidney. The District is a member of the Vancouver Island Regional Library which provides access to information through the library facility located in the Town of Sidney.

General Government Services - Legislative; Corporate Services; Financial and Information Technology Services

The functions within General Government Services are responsible for adopting bylaws; adopting administrative policy; levying taxes; acquiring, disposing and managing District assets; ensuring effective financial and human resource management; monitoring performance and ensuring that high quality District service standards are met.

Transportation Services - Engineering and Public Works; Roads; Drainage

The Infrastructure Services Department is responsible for the delivery of municipal transportation and storm drainage systems and services and for approving subdivision plans.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

16. Segmented information (continued)

Solid Waste Management and Environmental Services

The management of garbage pickup on municipal public property is the responsibility of the Infrastructure Services Department. Council, through the establishment of Commission and Committees of the District, are provided with feedback and advice to assist in providing policy direction to protect and enhance rural, agricultural, heritage and environmental characteristics.

Planning and Community Services

The Planning and Community Services Department is responsible for preparing land use plans, bylaws and policies for sustainable development of the District; and conducting building inspections and bylaw enforcement.

Water Utility - Infrastructure Services, Utilities

The Utilities Division of the Infrastructure Services Department installs and maintains the water mains and pump stations and oversees the distribution of water purchased from the Capital Regional District.

Sewer Utility - Infrastructure Services, Utilities

The Utilities Division of the Infrastructure Services Department installs and maintains the sewer mains and pump stations of the District.

Statement of Segmented Information

The following statement provides additional information for the foregoing functions. The accounting policies used in these segments are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the financial statements as disclosed in Note 1.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

December 31, 2023	General Government	Protective Services		Planning and Community	Transportation	Parks, Recreation and Cultural	Water Utility	Sewer Utility	2023
Revenues									
Taxes available for municipal purposes	\$ 13,987,396 \$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ - :	\$ - :	\$ 975,800	\$ 370,836 \$	15,334,032
Sale of services	194,437	118,606	69,569	854,465	108,949	38,243	4,094,812	1,634,467	7,113,548
Income from portfolio investments	1,364,116	-	-	-	-	-	332,480	423,157	2,119,753
Contributed assets	2,014,900	-	-	-	143,750	-	-	-	2,158,650
Government transfers	6,216,466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,216,466
Other revenue	1,750	-	-	-	-	-	12,272	160,886	174,908
	23,779,065	118,606	69,569	854,465	252,699	38,243	5,415,364	2,589,346	33,117,357
Expenses									
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	2,632,348	1,426,941	53,125	1,042,105	1,718,160	361,028	549,213	255,649	8,038,569
Contracted services	1,721,050	2,699,414	9,814	115,950	761,355	1,456,524	75,989	769,030	7,609,126
Supplies and materials	155,815	179,513	664	4,688	180,903	74,082	3,083,877	135,030	3,814,572
Interest and bank charges	31,709	55,440	-	-	-	-	-	311,667	398,816
Amortization	313,576	327,892	-	11,499	1,431,708	141,719	295,866	595,834	3,118,094
Loss on disposal of capital assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	42,832	-	42,832
	4,854,498	4,689,200	63,603	1,174,242	4,092,126	2,033,353	4,047,777	2,067,210	23,022,009
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ 18,924,567 \$	(4,570,594)	\$ 5,966	\$ (319,777)	\$ (3,839,427)	\$ (1,995,110)	\$ 1,367,587	\$ 522,136 \$	10,095,348

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

December 31, 2022	General Government	Protective		Planning and Community	Transportation	Parks, Recreation and Cultural	Water Utility	Sewer Utility	2022
Revenues									
Taxes available for municipal purposes	\$ 13,196,122 \$	-	\$ - 9	- :	\$ - 9	- :	\$ 974,400	\$ 395,457 \$	14,565,979
Sale of services	149,142	93,618	72,978	762,192	87,997	56,791	3,656,094	1,562,671	6,441,483
Income from portfolio investments	556,355	-	-	-	-	-	118,122	154,258	828,735
Contributed assets	-	-	-	-	83,350	-	-	-	83,350
Government transfers	1,563,525	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,563,525
Other revenue	69,490	-	-	-	45,326	-	43,000	162,191	320,007
	15,534,634	93,618	72,978	762,192	216,673	56,791	4,791,616	2,274,577	23,803,079
Expenses									
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	2,354,183	1,141,103	53,275	1,203,712	1,640,035	387,095	609,012	246,722	7,635,137
Contracted services	1,483,016	2,566,700	56,089	261,334	334,562	1,264,673	59,272	726,730	6,752,376
Supplies and materials	156,833	189,371	1,410	10,616	216,317	75,087	2,801,599	158,039	3,609,272
Interest and bank charges	15,101	55,440	-	-	-	-	-	184,239	254,780
Amortization	240,437	350,613	-	10,292	1,399,569	120,334	249,597	632,407	3,003,249
Loss on disposal of capital assets	10,775	788				239,587	5,694	-	256,844
	4,260,345	4,304,015	110,774	1,485,954	3,590,483	2,086,985	3,725,174	1,948,137	21,511,658
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ 11,274,289 \$	(4,210,397)	\$ (37,796)	(723,762)	\$ (3,373,810)	\$ (2,029,985)	\$ 1,066,442	\$ 326,440 \$	2,291,421

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

17. Budget data

The budget data presented in these financial statements is based upon the 2023 budget in Financial Plan Bylaw #1560, Schedule A passed by Council on May 1, 2023.

	2023
Revenues	
Taxes available for municipal purposes	\$ 15,264,450
Water utility fees and charges	3,861,600
Sewer utility fees and charges	1,660,700
General sale of services	1,303,900
Income from portfolio investments	510,000
Government transfers	1,114,500
Other revenue	281,700
Total revenue	23,996,850
Expenses	
Interest and bank charges	356,700
Amortization	3,041,800
General operating fund	18,025,800
Water operating fund	3,803,000
Sewer operating fund	1,337,700
	26,565,000
Annual deficit before allocations	(2,568,150)
ALLOCATIONS	
Add	
Amortization expense	3,041,800
Transfers from surplus	1,254,600
Transfers from Non-Statutory Reserves	15,000
Transfers from reserve funds	10,559,350
Total additions	14,870,750
Deduct	
Principal payments on debt	295,700
Capital expenditures	12,006,900
Total deductions	12,302,600
Financial Plan balance	\$ -

Supplementary Financial Information Year ended December 31, 2023

UNAUDITED

SCHEDULE 1: COVID-19 SAFE RESTART GRANT

The District of North Saanich received a \$2,711,000 COVID-19 Restart Grant for Local Governments in November, 2020. Please see the schedule below for a summary of the eligible costs incurred in 2022.

Balance, year ending December 31, 2022		\$	904,804
Eligible 2023 costs incurred:			
Revenue Shortfalls	(110,000)		
General Government	(145,934)		
Protective Services	(114,113)		
Planning and Community	(60,000)	_	
Total eligible costs:			(430,047)
Balance, year ending December 31, 2023		\$	474,757

SCHEDULE 2: GROWING COMMUNITIES FUND (GCF)

The District of North Saanich received a \$4,459,000 Growing Communities Fund Grant for Local Governments in 2023. The principal objective of the GCF is for local governments to invest in community infrastructure and amenities in order to support the local housing supply.

Funding received in 2023	\$	4,459,000
Eligible 2023 costs incurred:		
Park Improvements((90,000)	
Total eligible costs:		(90,000)
Interest earned		92,158
Balance, year ending December 31, 2023	<u>\$</u>	4,461,158