# THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF NORTH COWICHAN Consolidated Financial Statements

(Audited)

**DECEMBER 31, 2024** 

# **CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

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#### **KPMG LLP**

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Mayor and Councilors of the Corporation of the District of North Cowichan

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of the Corporation of the District of North Cowichan (the Entity), which comprise:

- the consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024
- the consolidated statement of operations for the year then ended
- the consolidated statement of remeasurement gains and losses for the year then ended
- the consolidated statement of change in net financial assets (debt) for the year then ended
- the consolidated 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 consolidated financial position of the Entity as at December 31, 2024 and its consolidated results of operations, its consolidated changes in net debt, its consolidated remeasurement gains and losses, and its consolidated 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 Entity 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.

#### Other Matter - Supplementary Information

The supplementary information included in notes 12, 15 and 18 as well as in Schedules I - X does not form part of the financial statements. We have not audited or reviewed this supplementary information and, accordingly we do not express an opinion, a review conclusion or any other form of assurance on this supplementary information.

# 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 Entity'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 Entity 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 Entity'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 Entity'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 Entity 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.
- Plan and perform the group audit to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of
  the entities or business units within the group as a basis for forming an opinion on the group financial statements. We
  are responsible for the direction, supervision and review of the audit work performed for the purposes of the group
  audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

**Chartered Professional Accountants** 

Victoria, Canada May 8, 2025

LPMG LLP

# **Statement of Responsibility**

The accompanying consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the management of the District of North Cowichan and have been prepared in compliance with legislation, and in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards for local governments as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board of The Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada.

In carrying out its responsibilities, management maintains appropriate systems of internal and administrative control designed to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are executed in accordance with proper authorization, that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded, and that financial information produced is relevant and reliable.

The North Cowichan Municipal Council met with management and the external auditors to review the consolidated financial statements and discuss any significant financial reporting or internal control matters before approving the consolidated financial statements.

KPMG LLP, as the Municipality's appointed external auditors, has audited the consolidated financial statements. The Auditor's report is addressed to the Mayor and members of Council and appears on the following page. Their opinion is based upon an examination conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, performing such tests and other procedures as they consider necessary to obtain reasonable assurance that the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement and present fairly the financial position and results of the Municipality in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

7eri Vetter

Teri Vetter, CPA, CGA, BCom Director, Financial Services May 8, 2025

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2024, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2023

	2024 Actual			2023 Actual
Financial Assets				
Cash (Note 4)	\$	9,307,715	\$	3,029,488
Portfolio Investments (Note 4)		86,762,957		95,131,066
Accounts receivable (Note 5)		15,809,064	_	9,343,073
	_	111,879,736		107,503,627
Liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 6)		8,369,287		9,330,771
Employee future benefits and compensation payable (Note 7)		4,532,035		4,288,307
Unearned revenue (Note 8)		18,791,811		17,351,273
Asset retirement obligation (Note 11)		28,215,854		29,849,921
Restricted reserves (Note 14)		24,403,609		21,219,421
Debt (Note 16)		31,584,655	_	34,274,193
	_	115,897,251		116,313,886
Net Financial Debt	_	(4,017,515)	_	(8,810,259)
Non-Financial Assets				
Tangible capital assets (Note 10)		368,084,191		361,413,490
Inventory of supplies		674,475		660,639
Prepaid items		566,119		459,513
Property acquired for taxes		2,341,177		2,341,177
		371,665,962	_	364,874,819
Accumulated Surplus (Note 19)	<u>\$</u>	367,648,447	\$	356,064,560

Commitments and Contingent Liabilities (Notes 9, 18 and 21)

Approved by:

Teri Vetter, CPA, CGA Director, Financial Services

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2023

		2024 Budget (Note 20)	_	2024 Actual		2023 Actual
Revenues						
Taxation (Schedule I)	\$	45,572,923	\$	45,512,849	\$	42,974,453
Sales of services		10,997,812		14,247,632		12,321,739
Other revenue from own sources		3,346,238		4,212,448		3,228,027
Return on investments		1,534,760		2,570,478		3,085,324
Grants and government transfers (Schedule II)		32,639,518		4,756,109		11,976,566
Collections from developers and others		3,510,027		7,978,045		8,352,950
Actuarial adjustments to debt		-		678,221		594,727
	_	97,601,278		79,955,782		82,533,786
Expenses (Schedule III)						
General government services		7,881,873		8,099,336		7,891,059
Protective services		15,128,027		16,783,167		13,206,802
Engineering and public works		12,573,505		12,436,221		13,102,715
Environmental health services		4,320,448		2,988,444		2,813,217
Forestry		759,356		465,466		708,551
Community development		2,351,787		2,067,455		1,596,649
Recreation and cultural services		13,137,330		14,506,934		13,689,445
Water		5,770,665		6,081,653		5,786,918
Sewer		5,416,440		6,058,036		5,974,431
	_	67,339,431		69,486,712		64,769,787
Annual Surplus	\$	30,261,847		10,469,070		17,763,999
Surplus from Operations, beginning of year (Note 19)			_	357,868,991		340,104,992
Surplus from Operations, end of year (Note 19)			<u>\$</u>	368,338,060	\$	357,868,991

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF REMEASUREMENT GAINS AND LOSSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	 2024 Actual		2023 Actual
Accumulated remeasurement gains (losses) at the beginning of the year	\$ (1,804,460)	\$	-
Unrealized gains (losses) attributable to:			
Adoption of new accounting standards	-		(2,501,215)
Unrealized gains (losses) on portfolio investments	241,841		(62,206)
Realized losses reclassified to Statement of Operations	 873,006	_	758,961
Accumulated remeasurement gains (losses) at end of year	\$ (689,613)	\$	(1,804,460)

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS (DEBT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2023

			2024 Actual		2023 Actual	
Annual Surplus	\$	30,261,847	\$	10,469,070	\$	17,763,999
		(70 544 072)				(2 ( 222 222)
Acquisition of tangible capital assets		(78,544,873)		(17,894,592)		(24,359,609)
Contributed tangible capital assets		-		(4,442,976)		(6,982,329)
Amortization of tangible capital assets		10,087,300		12,710,677		12,374,328
Net loss on sale of tangible capital assets		-		(35,462)		49,799
Proceeds on sale of tangible capital assets		-		86,778		121,384
Asset retirement obligation (Note 2)		- 2,860,		2,860,662		(28,698,071)
Write-downs of tangible capital assets	_	-		44,207		174,237
		(68,457,573)		(6,670,706)		(47,320,261)
Decrease (Increase) in prepaids		-		(106,607)		81,497
Increase in inventories				(13,836)		(54,634)
			_	(120,443)	_	26,863
Change in net financial assets (debt)		(38,195,726)		3,677,921		(29,529,399)
Net financial assets (debt) at beginning of year		-	_	(8,810,259)	_	22,523,600
Decrease in accumulated remeasurement gain	_	-	_	1,114,823	_	(1,804,460)
Net Debt at end of year	\$	(38,195,726)	<u>\$</u>	(4,017,515)	\$	(8,810,259)

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2023

	2024 Actual	2023 Actual
Operating transactions Annual surplus	\$ 10,469,070 \$	17,763,999
Non-cash items included in surplus:	¥ 13,133,513 ¥	,. 00,000
Amortization	12,710,677	12,374,328
Accretion	1,226,594	1,151,850
Actuarial adjustment to debt	(678,221)	(594,727)
Write-downs of tangible capital assets	44,207	174,237
Net loss on sale of tangible capital assets	(35,462)	49,799
Contributed tangible capital assets	(4,442,976)	(6,982,329
	19,293,889	23,937,157
Changes in non-cash assets and liabilities: Accounts receivable	(0.405.004)	(4.450.005)
	(6,465,991)	(4,452,325)
Inventory of supplies	(13,836)	(54,635)
Prepaid items	(106,603)	81,498
Accounts payable	(961,484)	(615,602)
Employee future benefits and compensation payable	243,728	531,695
Unearned revenue	1,440,538	7,626,806
Restricted reserves	3,184,188	3,035,909
Cash provided by operating transactions	16,614,429	30,090,503
Capital transactions		
Proceeds on sale of tangible capital assets	86,778	121,384
Cash applied to acquire tangible capital assets	(17,894,592)	(24,359,609)
Cash applied to capital transactions	(17,807,814)	(24,238,225)
Investing transactions		
Portfolio investments	9,482,932	(5,770,498)
Cash applied to investing transactions	9,482,932	(5,770,498)
Financing transactions	(2.2.2.2.2)	(4.054.045)
Repayment of debenture debt	(2,011,320)	(1,971,315)
Cash provided by financing transactions	(2,011,320)	(1,971,315
Change in cash	6,278,227	(1,889,535
Cash, beginning of year	3,029,488	4,919,023
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 9,307,715</u> <u>\$</u>	3,029,488
See accompanying notes to the financial statements.		

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 1. GENERAL

The Corporation of the District of North Cowichan (North Cowichan) was incorporated in 1873 under a statute of the Province of British Columbia and operates under the provisions of the Local Government Act and the Community Charter of British Columbia. The principal activities include community development, parks and recreation, police and fire protection, road transportation, forestry management, cemetery, solid waste, water utility, sewer utility, and fiscal services.

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

It is North Cowichan's policy to follow Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) and to apply such principles consistently. The following is a summary of the North Cowichan's significant policies:

#### a) BASIS OF PRESENTATION

These consolidated financial statements consolidate the following operations:

General Capital Fund
General Revenue Fund
Reserve Fund
Water Systems Capital Fund
Water Systems Revenue Fund
Sewer Systems Capital Fund
Sewer Systems Revenue Fund

North Cowichan has an interest in a significant cost sharing arrangement: the Duncan - North Cowichan Joint Utilities Board. Adjustments have been made to these consolidated statements to include North Cowichan's proportionate share of assets, liabilities and net revenues over expenditures of the administrative body at approximately the following percentage:

Duncan-North Cowichan Joint Utilities Board 53.69%

Interfund transactions and balances have been eliminated.

#### b) BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

North Cowichan follows the accrual method of accounting for revenues and expenses. Revenues are normally recognized in the year in which they are earned and measurable. Expenses are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of the delivery of goods or services and/or upon the creation of a legal obligation to pay. Expenses paid in the current period and attributable to a future period are recorded as prepaid.

#### c) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on deposit in qualifying institutions as defined in the Community Charter.

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

#### d) INVESTMENTS AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Investments are recorded at fair value. Investments consist of cash on deposit in the Municipal Finance Authority ("MFA") investment funds that are highly liquid, readily convertible to cash, and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

North Cowichan's financial instruments consists of cash, portfolio investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, restricted reserves, temporary financing and debt. The carrying amount of these financial instruments approximates the fair value because they are short-term in nature or because they bear interest at market rates.

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Derivative instruments, 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 elected to carry MFA Pooled Investment Funds (PIF) at fair value.

Unrealized changes in fair value are recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses until they are realized, when they are transferred to the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

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 Consolidated Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses. When the asset is sold, the unrealized gains and losses previously recognized on the Consolidated Statement of Remeasurement Gains and Losses are reversed and recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations.

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that North Cowichan is not exposed to significant interest or credit risk arising from these financial instruments.

#### e) ASSET RETIREMENT

A liability for an Asset Retirement Obligation (ARO) is recognized at the best estimate of the amount required to retire a tangible capital asset at the financial statement date when there is a legal obligation for the District to incur retirement costs, the past transaction or event giving rise to the liability has occurred, it is expected that future economic benefits will be given up, and a reasonable estimate of the amount can be made. The best estimate of the liability includes all costs directly attributable to asset retirement activities, based on information available at year-end. The best estimate of an ARO incorporates a present value technique, when the cash flows required to settle or otherwise extinguish an ARO are expected to occur over extended future periods.

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

#### e) ASSET RETIREMENT CONTINUED

When a liability for an ARO is initially recognized, a corresponding asset retirement cost is capitalized to the carrying amount of the related tangible capital asset. The asset retirement cost is amortized over the useful life of the related asset. ARO's which are incurred incrementally with use of the asset are recognized in the period incurred with a corresponding asset retirement cost expensed in the period.

At each financial reporting date, the District reviews the carrying amount of the liability. The District recognizes period-to-period changes to the liability due to the passage of time as accretion expense. Changes to the liability arising from revisions to either the timing, the amount of the original estimate of undiscounted cash flows or the discount rate are recognized as an increase or decrease to the carrying amount of the related tangible capital asset. The District continues to recognize the liability until it is settled or otherwise extinguished. Disbursements made to settle the liability are deducted from the reported liability when they are made.

#### f) REVENUE RECOGNITION

- i) Taxation revenues are recognized at the time of issuing the property tax notices for the fiscal year.
- ii) Sale of services and user fee revenues are recognized when the service or product is rendered by North Cowichan. Building permit revenue is recognized when/as performance obligations are satisfied.
- iii) Grant revenues are recognized when the funding becomes receivable.
- iv) Revenue unearned in the current period is recorded as unearned revenue.
- v) Government transfers are recognized 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 or stipulations not met are included in deferred revenue.

#### g) PROPERTY ACQUIRED FOR TAXES - DEEDED TO MUNICIPALITY

Property acquired for taxes is presented at estimated historical values as either financial assets or non-financial assets. Properties that are presented as a financial asset are those which are readily available for sale during the subsequent period. Properties that are presented as non-financial assets are those that are either not saleable or will not be ready for sale within the subsequent period.

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

#### h) EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION PAYABLE

North Cowichan and its employees make contributions to the Municipal Pension Plan. The Corporation's contributions are expensed as paid.

Sick leave and other retirement benefits are also available to North Cowichan's employees. The cost of these benefits are actuarially determined based on service and best estimates of retirement ages and expected future salary increases. The obligation under these benefit plans is accrued based on project benefits as the employees render services necessary to earn the future benefits.

#### i) 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. The change in non-financial assets during the year, together with the excess of revenues over expenses, provides the change in net financial assets for the year.

#### j) TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization and are classified according to their functional use. Cost includes all amounts that are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset. Contributed assets are recorded at their estimated fair value upon receipt. Certain tangible capital assets for which historical cost information was not available were recorded at the current fair market values, in the year of recognition, discounted by a relevant inflation factor. Certain assets are disclosed at a nominal value as the determination of current fair market value was not available. The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets is amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

LandIndefiniteLand Improvements10 to 30 yearsBuildings15 to 50 yearsEngineering Structures10 to 60 yearsMachinery & Equipment5 to 40 years

Capital Works In Progress Life determined when complete

Amortization is charged on a monthly basis, starting the month following the date of acquisition and ending in the month of disposition. Capital works in progress are not amortized until the asset is available for productive use. North Cowichan does not capitalize interest costs associated with the acquisition or construction of a tangible capital asset.

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

#### j) TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS CONTINUED

Certain assets, which have historical or cultural value including works of art, historical documents, as well as historical and cultural artifacts, are not recognized as tangible capital assets because a reasonable estimate of the future benefits associated with such property cannot be made. Crown lands that have not been purchased by North Cowichan, water, and other natural resources, are not recognized as tangible capital assets.

Tangible capital assets received as contributions are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date North Cowichan acquires ownership and are recorded as revenue.

Land and infrastructure assets contributed to North Cowichan in 2024 totaled \$4,442,976 (2023 - \$6,982,329).

Tangible capital assets are written down when conditions indicate they no longer contribute to North Cowichan'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.

#### k) MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES

Inventories of materials and supplies are valued at weighted average cost with allowance made for damaged or obsolete goods.

#### I) LIABILITY FOR CONTAMINATED SITES

North Cowichan recognizes a liability for remediation of a contaminated site when the site is no longer in productive use or an unexpected event resulting in contamination has occurred and the following criteria are satisfied: contamination exceeds an environmental standard, North Cowichan is either directly responsible or has accepted responsibility for remediation, it is expected future economic benefits will be given up and a reasonable estimate of the amount can be made. Future economic benefits are expected to be given up if North Cowichan has an external obligation to remediate a site or has commenced remediation on its own accord.

North Cowichan has determined that no owned properties meet the criteria to recognize a liability for contaminated sites.

#### m) LEASES

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

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

#### n) LOAN GUARANTEE

Periodically North Cowichan provides loan guarantees on specific debt issued by related authorities and other entities not consolidated in North Cowichan's financial statements. Loan guarantees are accounted for as contingent liabilities and no amounts are accrued in the consolidated financial statements of North Cowichan until North Cowichan considers it likely that the borrower will default on the specific loan obligation. Should a default occur, North Cowichan's liability would be recorded in the consolidated financial statements.

#### o) APPROPRIATED SURPLUS - GENERAL REVENUE FUND

General Revenue Fund appropriations are non-statutory reserves established at the discretion of Council. These reserves are outlined in Note 19.

- i) The reserve for property acquired for taxes is an amount set aside to offset the carrying value of property acquired for taxes.
- ii) Reserves for future expenditures are amounts set aside from past and current operations for future operating and capital expenditures.
- iii) The reserve for uncollected taxes is an amount set aside to offset uncollected taxes.
- iv) The reserve for the Joint Utilities Board is an amount set aside for future capital expenditures, established at the discretion of the Board.

#### p) USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenditure during the reporting period. Areas requiring the use of management estimates relate to the determination of accrued sick benefits and retirement liability, collectability of accounts receivable, amortization of tangible capital assets, deferred charges, ARO's and provisions for contingencies. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Adjustments, if any, will be reflected in operations in the period of settlement.

#### 3. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICY

On January 1, 2024, the District adopted Public Sector Accounting Standard PS 3400 Revenue (PS 3400) on a prospective basis. The new accounting standard provides direction on accounting for revenues that are not in scope of other existing standards. All revenue streams in scope of PS 3400 have historically been accounted for in accordance with the new standards with the exception of building permit revenue stream. Management has assessed the impact of the adoption of PS 3400 on the financial statements and have identified a \$189,852 reduction to other revenue from own sources in 2024.

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 3. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING POLICY CONTINUED

On January 1, 2024, the District adopted Public Sector Accounting Standard PS 3160 - Public Private Partnerships's on a prospective basis. This new accounting standard addresses the recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure of infrastructure procured by public sector entities through certain types of public private partnership arrangements. Management assessed the impact of adopting PS 3160 on the financial statements of the District and found no existing arrangements that meet the criteria for recognition as a public private partnership.

On January 1, 2024, the District adopted Public Sector Guideline PSG-8, Purchased Intangibles, applied on a prospective basis (PSG-8). PSG-8 defines purchased intangibles as identifiable, non-monetary, economic resources without physical substance acquired through an arm's length exchange transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act. Intangibles acquired through a transfer, contribution, or inter-entity transaction, are not purchased intangibles. Management has assessed the impact of adopting PSG-8 and found that at present, no such items meet the criteria to be recognized as a purchased intangible.

#### 4. CASH AND INVESTMENTS

5.

Cash and investments are comprised of cash on hand, cash on deposit at financial institutions and investments held in Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia investment funds.

	2024		2023
Cash	\$ 9,307	,715 \$	3,029,488
Portfolio Investments	86,762	,957	95,131,066
	\$ 96,070	,672 \$	98,160,554

Investments consist of short-term investments in the Municipal Finance Authority of BC, Government Focused Ultra-short bond fund, CIBC high interest savings, Canaccord, and Raymond James and the market value is equal to the carrying value. Investments have yields ranging from 3.98% to 6.22%.

Included in investments are the following restricted amounts that can only be expended in accordance with the terms of the Reserve and Restricted Reserve Funds.

	2024	2023
Restricted investments	\$ 51,035,246	\$ 49,623,593
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE		
	2024	2023

	 2024	 
Property taxes	\$ 2,569,654	\$ 2,252,692
Utility rates	2,983,318	2,834,727
Federal government	2,256,974	380,647
Provincial government	2,443,388	1,686,374

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 5. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CONTINUED

			2024	2023
	Local government		1,090,026	1,381,168
	General	_	4,465,704	 807,465
		<u>\$</u>	15,809,064	\$ 9,343,073
6.	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES			
			2024	2023
	General	\$	7,047,282	\$ 8,271,418
	Wages and salaries		909,227	657,769
	Accrued interest	_	412,778	401,584
		\$	8,369,287	\$ 9,330,771

#### 7. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION

North Cowichan and its employees make contributions to the Municipal Pension Plan. North Cowichan's contributions are expensed as paid.

The following amounts are the accrued liabilities in respect of Employee Future Benefits and wages payable:

	 2024		2023
Lieu time payable	\$ 1,329,335	\$	1,279,507
Sick leave cash-out and severance benefits	 3,202,699	_	3,008,800
	\$ 4,532,035	\$	4,288,307

2024

2022

Under the terms of the union contract, sick leave not taken in a year is carried forward to a maximum accumulation of 180 working days for each employee. On retirement or termination of employment, after 5 years of service, sick leave accumulated is paid out at the employee's prevailing wage rate.

North Cowichan also provides 30 days of paid leave at retirement, as prescribed by the Pension (Municipal) Act, at the employee's prevailing wage rate.

The liabilities for sick leave payouts and severance benefits are based on an actuarial valuation as at December 31, 2024.

	 2024	2023
Accrued benefit obligation	\$ 3,351,300	\$ 3,121,600
Unamortized actuarial loss	 (148,600)	(112,800)

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 7. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION CONTINUED

						2024		2023
Accrued benefit liability					_	3,202,700	_	3,008,800
Benefit expense:								
Current service cost						440,900		400,100
Interest cost						128,800		131,500
Amortization of net actuarial (gain)/loss						26,400	_	18,700
					<u>\$</u>	596,100	\$	550,300
Significant actuarial assumptions as at Dece	ember	31 include:						
						2024		2023
Valuation interest rate					_	4.20%		4.10%
Rate of compensation increase						3.00%		3.00%
Expected coverage remaining service life (i	n year	rs)				8.9		8.9
UNEARNED REVENUE								
		2023	_	ontributions and interest		Revenue earned or refunded		2024
Prepaid taxes and licenses	\$	3,018,670	\$	6,817,544	\$	6,374,262	\$	3,461,952
Service fees and deposits		4,623,125		1,849,371		1,492,129		4,980,367
Aquatic Centre unearned revenue		226,782		422,994		421,389		228,387
General unearned revenues	_	9,482,696		1,450,505	_	812,096	_	10,121,105
	\$	17,351,273	\$	10,540,414	\$	9,099,876	\$	18,791,811

#### 9. MUNICIPAL FINANCE AUTHORITY - RESERVE DEPOSITS

8.

North Cowichan issues debt instruments through the Municipal Finance Authority. As a condition of these borrowings, a portion of the debenture proceeds are withheld by the Municipal Finance Authority as a debt reserve fund. North Cowichan also executes demand notes in connection with each debenture.

The debt reserve funds are included in North Cowichan's financial statements as MFA cash deposits. If the debt is repaid without default, the deposits are refunded to North Cowichan. The notes, which are contingent in nature, are held by the MFA to act as security against the possibility of debt repayment default and are not recorded in the financial statements. Upon the maturity of a debt issue, the demand notes are released and debt reserve funds refunded to North Cowichan. As at December 31, 2024, there were contingent demand notes of \$1,456,895 (2023 - \$1,456,895) which are not included in the financial statements of North Cowichan.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

# 10. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

Tangible capital assets consist of the following:

Tangible Capital Assets	December 31, 2023	Additions	Disposals and Writedowns	December 31, 2024
Cost				
Land	58,866,769	3,696,760	-	62,563,529
Land improvements	16,813,505	3,322,723	11,000	20,125,228
Buildings - Cost	56,569,075	44,048,901	-	100,617,976
Eng. Struct Cost	350,150,203	3,867,593	2,946,538	351,071,258
Machinery - Cost	51,957,842	3,318,435	476,131	54,800,146
WIP - Cost	48,014,447	7,213,414	43,174,469	12,053,392
Total cost	582,371,841	65,467,826	46,608,138	601,231,529
	December 31, 2023	Additions	Disposals and Writedown	December 31, 2024
Accumulated amortization Land Imp Accum Amort Buildings - Accum Amort Eng. Struct Accum Amort Machinery - Accum Amort	9,032,981 25,648,627 155,096,235 31,180,508	816,532 2,354,152 7,112,933 2,427,060	11,000 - 72,706 437,984	9,838,513 28,002,779 162,136,462 33,169,584
Total accumulated amortization	220,958,351	12,710,677	521,690	233,147,338
Net book value Land Land improvements Buildings Engineered structures Machinery Work in progress	58,866,769 7,780,524 30,920,448 195,053,968 20,777,334 48,014,447			62,563,529 10,286,715 72,615,197 188,934,796 21,630,562 12,053,392
Total net book value	361,413,490			368,084,191

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 11. ASSET RETIREMENT OBLIGATION

North Cowichan owns and operates buildings that are known to contain asbestos and lead paint, which represent an environmental hazard upon demolition or renovation of the asset and there is a legal obligation related to the removal and disposal of the hazardous materials. Following the adoption of PS 3280 - Asset Retirement Obligations, North Cowichan recognized an obligation relating to the removal of asbestos and lead paint in these buildings as estimated at January 1, 2023. The buildings had an estimated useful life of 20 to 50 years when purchased or constructed.

North Cowichan has adopted this standard prospectively. Under the prospective method, the discount rate and assumptions used on initial recognition are those at the date of adoption of the standard. Estimated costs have been discounted using the present value calculation with a discount rate of 4.53% (2023 - 4.17%).

#### **Total Asset Retirement Obligations**

	2024	2023
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 29,849,921	\$ -
Liabilities incurred for asbestos and lead removal	-	1,075,773
Sewer Lagoon Lease obligation	-	27,622,298
Change in estimated cash flows	(2,860,661)	-
Accretion expense	1,226,594	1,151,850
Estimated total liability	\$ 28,215,854	\$ 29,849,921

#### 12. GROWING COMMUNITY FUND (UNAUDITED)

The province of British Columbia distributed conditional Growing Community Fund (GCF) grants to communities at the end of March 2023 to help local governments build community infrastructure and amenities to meet the demands of population growth. The GCF provided a one-time total of \$1 billion in grants to all 161 municipalities and 27 regional districts in British Columbia. North Cowichan received \$7,686,000 of GCF funding and will spend the grant in accordance with the guidelines provided by the province.

	2024	2023
Opening balance of unspent funds	\$ 6,760,855	\$ -
Amount received during the year	-	7,686,000
Investment Income	281,817	261,567
Eligible costs		
Fire Hall Replacement	 3,219,848	1,186,712
	\$ 3,822,824	\$ 6,760,855

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 13. FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

These funds account for assets, which must be administered as directed by agreement or statute for certain beneficiaries. In particular, these funds are for the Cemetery Trust Fund. Trust funds are not included in North Cowichan's Consolidated Financial Statements. A summary of trust fund activities by North Cowichan is as follows:

	 2024	 2023
Assets		
Cash and short term investments	\$ 544,220	\$ 494,775
Equity		
Opening balances	494,775	457,567
Contributions	 49,445	 37,208
	\$ 544,220	\$ 494,775

#### 14. RESTRICTED RESERVES

Receipts which are restricted by the legislation of senior governments are deferred and reported as liabilities. Included in liabilities are reserves for development cost charges, the use of which, with any earnings thereon, is restricted by legislation or agreement with external parties. These amounts are recognized as revenue in the period in which corresponding expenditures are incurred.

Development Cost Charges	2024	2023
Opening	\$ 21,219,421	\$ 18,183,512
Contributions	2,077,258	2,109,723
Investment income (loss)	1,106,930	926,186
	\$ 24,403,609	\$ 21,219,421

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 15. CANADA COMMUNITY-BUILDING FUND (UNAUDITED)

Canada Community-Building funding (CCBF) is provided by the Government of Canada. The use of the funding is established by a funding agreement between North Cowichan and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities. CCBF may be used towards designated public transit, community energy, water, wastewater, solid waste and capacity building projects, as specified in the funding agreements.

		2024	2023
Opening balance of unspent funds	\$	3,453,523	\$ 2,842,317
Amount received during the year		1,520,040	1,422,951
Investment Income		174,749	130,454
Eligible Costs		(338,817)	(942,199)
	\$_	4,809,495	\$ 3,453,523

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### **16. DEBT**

North Cowichan holds debt through the Municipal Finance Authority, pursuant to security issuing bylaws under the authority of the Community Charter, to finance certain capital expenditures. Sinking fund balances, managed by MFA, are used to reduce long-term debt.

	M.F.A. Issue Number	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	Originally Approved	2024 Net Unmatured	2023 Net Unmatured
General Capital Fund						
Maple Bay Fire Hall	95	0.91%	Apr 12, 2025	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 109,901	\$ 216,601
Maple Bay Fire Hall	103	3.79%	Apr 23, 2028	500,000	133,547	163,786
Cowichan Aquatic Ctr	104	4.30%	Nov 20, 2028	15,000,000	4,006,411	4,913,593
Cowichan Aquatic Ctr	106	4.10%	Oct 12, 2029	2,265,500	742,116	873,861
Duncan Curling Club	N/A	2.11%	Jan 15, 2032	551,500	246,534	276,015
Tier 2 Flood Protection	121	3.39%	Oct 4,2032	745,475	367,733	406,985
Tier 2 Flood Protection	124	4.52%	Apr 8, 2033	1,000,000	545,941	596,814
Municipal Hall Expansion	126	4.52%	Sep 26, 2033	1,500,000	818,911	895,221
Stoney Hill Road	131	2.20%	Apr 8, 2040	2,000,000	1,467,598	1,535,213
Tier 4 Flood Protection	137	2.60%	Apr 19, 2036	1,700,000	1,155,868	1,232,350
Tier 4 Flood Protection	141	2.80%	Apr 7, 2037	200,000	142,967	151,855
RCMP Building	158	4.09%	Sep 23, 2042	22,000,000	20,416,884	21,222,056
Fire Equipment loan	N/A	2.80%	Dec 31, 2024	516,700		191,204
				49,579,175	30,154,411	32,675,554
Water Capital Fund						
Crofton	106	4.10%	Oct 13, 2029	530,000	173,613	204,435
Chemainus	110	1.28%	Apr 08, 2030	1,750,000	669,178	767,883
Chemainus	137	2.60%	Apr 19, 2036	864,000	587,453	626,324
				3,144,000	1,430,244	1,598,642
				\$ 52,723,175	\$ 31,584,655	\$ 34,274,196

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 16. DEBT CONTINUED

Future payments on net outstanding debt over the next five years and thereafter are as follows:

	General Water		Total	
Principal repayments:				
2025	\$ 1,708,633	\$ 112,683	\$ 1,821,316	
2026	1,644,686	112,683	1,757,369	
2027	1,645,987	112,683	1,758,670	
2028	1,644,405	112,683	1,757,088	
2029	1,128,232	112,683	1,240,915	
Thereafter	11,637,033	213,864	11,850,894	
	19,408,976	777,279	20,186,252	
Actuarial adjustments (estimated):				
2025	707,790	61,763	769,553	
2026	748,255	68,029	816,284	
2027	836,625	74,521	911,146	
2028	928,319	81,246	1,009,565	
2029	403,460	88,214	491,674	
Thereafter	7,120,986	279,192	7,400,178	
	10,745,435	652,965	11,398,400	
	\$ 30,154,411	\$ 1,430,244	\$ 31,584,655	

Interest paid during the year was \$1,953,325 (2023 - \$1,754,963).

#### 17. LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSING INITIATIVE FUND (UNAUDITED)

The Province of British Columbia distributed conditional Housing Initiative Fund grants to local governments in January 2024 to support and supplement local government activities and projects in meeting the new legislative requirements arising from Bill 44, 46, and 47. The Local Government Housing Initiative Fund provided a one-time total of \$51 million in funding to all 161 municipalities and 27 regional districts in British Columbia. North Cowichan received \$299,774 in 2024 and will be expending the funding in accordance with the guidelines provided by the province.

		2024
Amount received during the year	\$	299,774
Eligible expenses	_	99,681
Total remaining	\$	200,093

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 18. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

- a) North Cowichan has guaranteed a commercial loan to a maximum of \$400,000 to the Duncan-Cowichan Chamber of Commerce. The loan matures January 1, 2025 at an annual interest rate of 3.75%.
- b) North Cowichan and its employees contribute to the Municipal Pension Plan (a jointly trusted 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, 2023 the plan has about 256,000 active members and approximately 129,000 retired members. Active members include approximately 45,000 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 rate is based on an 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 next valuation will be as at December 31, 2024.

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 individual employers participating in the plan.

North Cowichan paid \$1,575,424 (2023 - \$1,452,265) for employer contributions while employees contributed \$1,452,206 (2023 - \$1,340,379) to the Plan in fiscal 2024.

c) At the end of the year North Cowichan was involved in a number of legal actions the outcomes of which are indeterminate at this time. North Cowichan carries liability insurance with a current deductible of \$25,000, and believes it is adequately insured to mitigate any material financial impact.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 19. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

	_	2024	2023	
Operating Funds				
Unappropriated:	•	0.040.404	<b>A</b> 5.440.00	
General	\$	3,910,134		
Water Systems		7,699,610	7,202,63	
Sewer Systems	_	25,382,794	22,180,28	39
	_	36,992,538	34,495,30	18
Appropriated:				
Reserves for property acquired for taxes		2,341,177	2,341,17	7
Reserves for future expenditures		(9,289,704)	(7,870,49	(8
Reserve for uncollected taxes		1,295,091	1,295,09	)1
Reserve for Joint Utilities Board	_	(25,639,300)	(27,454,79	92)
	_	(31,292,736)	(31,689,02	<u> 22)</u>
	_	5,699,802	2,806,28	36
Capital Funds				
General Capital		255,076,580	242,766,39	96
Water Capital		34,260,514	33,610,89	)3
Sewer Capital		20,307,493	20,637,25	9
Joint Utilities Board Capital	_	26,362,036	29,644,10	)1
	_	336,006,623	326,658,64	9

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 19. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS CONTINUED

	2024	2023
Reserve Funds		
Land Sales	3,684,548	4,317,566
Machinery and Equipment	4,231,630	4,528,884
Local Area Service	1,631,114	1,500,071
Forest	559,936	792,775
Park Development	241,009	229,401
Parkland Purchase	223,489	866,761
Chemainus Parking	196,098	186,654
Agriculture	362,929	345,449
Self-Insurance	183,417	236,453
Climate Action and Energy Plan	721,109	803,831
Maple Bay Sewer	102,905	97,949
Cowichan Aquatic Centre	381,967	130,000
Evans Park	122,212	142,776
Fuller Lake Arena	539,851	77,378
Harbours Crofton	111,585	93,696
Harbours Chemainus	482,715	451,852
Mural Protection	2,968	2,825
Canada Community-Building Fund (Note 15)	4,809,495	3,453,524
Quamichan Lake	832,081	683,200
IT Asset Management	727,198	618,278
Growing Community Fund (Note 12)	3,725,906	6,760,855
Infrastructure Replacement	1,702,435	1,380,516
Gravel Pits	613,616	584,063
Affordable Housing	138,945	119,328
Buildings	302,477	
	26,631,635	28,404,085
	368,338,060	357,869,020
Accumulated remeasurement losses	(689,613)	(1,804,460)
Accumulated Surplus	\$ 367,648,447	\$ 356,064,560

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 20. BUDGET DATA

The budget data presented in these financial statements is based upon the 2024-2028 Financial Plan Bylaw adopted by council February 7, 2024. The chart below reconciles the approved budget to the budget figures reported in these financial statements.

	2024
Financial Plan Bylaw surplus for the year	\$ -
Add back:	
Principal debt repayment	2,058,688
Capital expenditures	78,544,876
Less:	
Amortization	(10,087,300)
Proceeds from borrowing	(5,000,000)
Budgeted transfers to reserve funds	(11,861,927)
Budgeted transfers from accumulated surplus	 (23,392,490)
Adjusted Annual Surplus	\$ 30,261,847

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 21. JOINT UTILITIES BOARD

Financial results for the Joint Utilities Board are consolidated into North Cowichan's financial statements proportionately based on the units owned by each partner. In 2024, North Cowichan's proportion for consolidation purposes was 53.69% (2023 – 53.69%). Condensed financial information for the Joint Utilities Boards is as follows:

		2024		2023
Net Financial Debt	\$	(47,756,232)	\$	(51,137,618)
Non-Financial Assets	_	49,102,417	_	55,215,651
Accumulated Surplus	_	1,346,185	_	4,078,033
Revenues	\$	2,114,933	\$	1,904,858
Expenses		4,846,780	_	4,923,982
Annual Deficit	_	(2,731,847)	_	(3,019,124)
North Cowichan Proportionate Share:				
Net Financial Assets	\$	(25,639,300)	\$	(27,454,693)
Non-Financial Debt	_	26,362,036	_	29,644,101
Accumulated Surplus	_	722,736	_	2,189,408
Revenues	\$	1,135,462	\$	1,022,678
Expenses		2,602,133	_	2,643,581
Annual Deficit	\$	(1,466,671)	\$	(1,620,903)

The Duncan – North Cowichan Joint Utilities Board is a government partnership that operates and maintains joint sewer lagoons on behalf of the City of Duncan and the District of North Cowichan. The distribution of expenditures related to operations is based on the number of users in each municipality as well as users from surrounding areas in the Cowichan Valley Regional District and the Cowichan Tribes.

The Joint Utilities Board leases the sewage lagoon lands under an operating lease which expires July 31, 2060. North Cowichan's proportionate share of the lease payments for 2025 is \$232,416 and has an annual increase of 2.2%. The proportionate share of the total lease payments over the remaining term are estimated at \$12.8 million.

Because the percentage of units owned by the partners may change from year-to-year which produces different cost shares for each partner, there may be a write down or write up of asset balances. In 2024 North Cowichan recorded an adjustment to assets in the amount of \$0 (2023 - \$0).

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 22. SEGMENT REPORTING

North Cowichan's operations and activities are organized and reported by fund. Services are provided by departments and their activities are reported in these funds. Certain departments have been separately disclosed in the segmented information, which is outlined in Schedule I, along with the services they provide as follows:

#### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

This segment includes Administration, Finance, Information Technology and other Corporate Services.

#### **PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

This segment includes police protection, fire protection, building and plumbing inspections, animal control, weed control, and other protective services.

#### **ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS**

This segment is responsible for the construction and maintenance of North Cowichan's infrastructure, including drainage and transportation systems.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

This segment is comprised of garbage and recycling collection, energy management and the Mountain View Cemetery.

#### **FORESTRY SERVICES**

This segment is responsible for the maintenance and management of the Municipal Forest Reserve.

#### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

This segment includes planning and development, which includes processing development applications and developing related policies and regulations.

#### **RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES**

The Parks and Recreation department manages, facilitates, and maintains a system of services, facilities, and parks to enhance the quality of life for the citizens of North Cowichan.

#### **WATER**

This segment includes all of the operating activities related to the treatment and distribution of water throughout North Cowichan.

#### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### 22. SEGMENT REPORTING CONTINUED

#### **SEWER**

This segment includes all of the operating activities related to the collection and treatment of wastewater (sewage) throughout North Cowichan.

#### **RESERVE FUNDS**

These funds have been created to hold assets for specific future requirements pursuant to the Community Charter.

For each reported segment, revenues and expenses represent both amounts that are directly attributable to the segment and amounts that are allocated on a reasonable basis. Taxes, grants-in-lieu of taxes and any revenues not directly attributable to a segment are apportioned to the General Revenue Fund service based on the net annual budget. The accounting policies used in these segments are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the financial statements as disclosed in Note 1.

#### 23. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation adopted in the current year.

# **TAXATION**

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

				SCHEDULE I
	2024 Budget	2024		2023
Municipal Purposes:				
General taxation	\$ 38,330,877	\$ 38,297,671	\$	35,936,039
Business Improvement Area	146,287	146,287		143,419
Local Area Service	95,350	95,348		95,348
Utilities	917,177	917,177		1,083,443
Grants-in-lieu of taxes	329,295	361,832		330,139
Water systems	2,624,050	2,604,882		2,464,103
Sewer systems	3,129,887	 3,089,652		2,921,961
Total Municipal Taxes	 45,572,923	 45,512,849	_	42,974,452
Collections for Other Governments:				
School	15,810,000	17,015,675		16,188,739
Cowichan Valley Regional Hospital District	4,369,680	4,678,491		4,385,764
Cowichan Valley Regional District	13,712,470	14,563,995		11,764,010
BC Assessment	479,961	514,778		502,693
Municipal Finance Authority	 2,332	2,572	_	2,565
Total Collections for Other Governments	 34,374,443	 36,775,511		32,843,771
	 79,947,366	82,288,360		75,818,223
Deduct: requisitions remitted to other taxing authorities	(34,374,443)	 (36,775,511)		(32,843,770)
Total Taxes Levied	\$ 45,572,923	\$ 45,512,849	\$	42,974,453

# **GRANTS AND GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

			SCHEDULE II
	2024 Budget	2024	2023
Operating Grants			
Traffic fines revenue	\$ 260,000	\$ 240,000	\$ 234,000
Other grants	1,418,795	2,935,911	10,125,904
	1,678,795	3,175,911	10,359,904
Capital Grants			
Canada Community-Building Fund	3,931,402	1,520,040	1,422,951
Infrastructure Grants (Prov/Fed)			
Diking	23,658,157	-	-
Water	500,000	-	-
Sewer	2,871,164	-	-
Other		53,058	165,011
	27,029,321	53,058	165,011
Provincial and Other Grants			
ICBC grants		7,100	28,700
		7,100	28,700
	\$ 32,639,518	\$ 4,756,109	\$ 11,976,566

# **OPERATIONS BY SEGMENT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### SCHEDULE III

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024	General government services	Protective services	Engineering and public works	Environmental health services	Forestry services	Community development	Recreation and cultural services	Water	Sewer	Reserve Funds	Capital	Consolidated
Revenues												
Taxation	\$ 5,716,037	\$ 10,082,955	\$ 5,355,725	\$ 1,932,358	\$ -	\$ 1,250,412	\$ 9,112,410	\$ 2,604,882	\$ 3,089,652	\$ 1,695,316	\$ 4,673,102	\$ 45,512,849
Sales of services	726,033	1,392,501	936,716	2,297,755	121,919	-	2,686,709	3,567,102	2,518,897	-	-	14,247,632
Other revenue from own sources	673,136	3,039,229	158,384	-	-	242,416	14,400	53,018	31,865	-	-	4,212,448
Return on investments	870,936	22,567	582,518	95,359	40,280	500,037	71,867	365,074	1,128,710	(1,106,870)	-	2,570,478
Grants and government transfers	240,000	284,731	-	175,884	150,000	15,373	2,309,923	-	-	-	1,580,198	4,756,109
Collections from developers and others	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,510,027	-	-	25,042	4,442,976	7,978,045
Actuarial adjustments to debt	21,167	82,179	60,038	-	-	-	459,122	55,715	-	-	-	678,221
	8,247,309	14,904,162	7,093,381	4,501,356	312,199	2,008,238	18,164,458	6,645,791	6,769,124	613,488	10,696,276	79,955,782
Expenses												
Salaries, wages and benefits	5,715,975	5,700,342	4,232,501	1,110,993	168,302	1,536,643	6,092,632	1,729,073	1,002,786	-	-	27,289,247
Contract services	2,011,559	7,196,346	1,948,878	1,194,700	203,497	463,795	3,421,318	1,134,163	1,217,353	-	-	18,791,609
Materials and supplies	(176,779)	1,281,991	186,630	634,631	84,585	67,017	2,698,593	1,819,239	910,608	-	-	7,506,515
Amortization	472,447	1,660,329	5,892,748	48,120	9,082	-	1,549,458	1,333,184	1,745,309	-	-	12,710,677
Accretion	8,334	4,659	4,233	-	-	-	29,384	5,297	1,174,687	-	-	1,226,594
Interest	67,800	939,500	164,272				715,549	58,911	7,293			1,953,325
Expenditures before losses, write downs and transfers Loss on sale, write downs and transfer of TCA	8,099,336	16,783,167	12,429,262 6,959	2,988,444	465,466	2,067,455	14,506,934	6,079,867 1,786	6,058,036	- - -	- - -	69,477,967 8,745
,	8,099,336	16,783,167	12,436,221	2,988,444	465,466	2,067,455	14,506,934	6,081,653	6,058,036			69,486,712
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 147,973	\$ (1,879,005)	\$ (5,342,840)	\$ 1,512,912	\$ (153,267)	\$ (59,217)	\$ 3,657,524	\$ 564,138	\$ 711,088	\$ 613,488	\$ 10,696,276	\$ 10,469,070

# **OPERATIONS BY SEGMENT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

#### SCHEDULE III

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023	General government services	Protective services	Engineering and public works	Environmental health services	Forestry services	Community development	Recreation and cultural services	Water	Sewer	Reserve Funds	Capital	Consolidated
Revenues												
Taxation	\$ 6,911,554	\$ 10,727,760	\$ 5,648,844	\$ (148,827)	\$ -	\$ 1,478,297	\$ 7,687,731	\$ 2,464,103	\$ 2,921,961	\$ 2,004,283	\$ 3,278,747	\$ 42,974,453
Sales of services	163,823	597,690	706,261	2,201,070	167,016	-	2,422,685	3,692,675	2,370,519	-	-	12,321,739
Other revenue from own sources	586,129	2,321,047	136,476	-	-	107,597	14,531	39,402	22,845	-	-	3,228,027
Return on investments	(380,830)	490,364	258,207	(6,803)	-	67,573	351,405	253,677	870,167	1,181,564	-	3,085,324
Grants and government transfers	234,000	964,158	-	180,082	100,000	-	8,881,664	-	-	-	1,616,662	11,976,566
Collections from developers and others	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,289,121	-	-	81,500	6,982,329	8,352,950
Actuarial adjustments to debt	21,323	50,680	53,683	-	-	-	419,163	49,878	-	-	-	594,727
	7,535,999	15,151,699	6,803,471	2,225,522	267,016	1,653,467	21,066,300	6,499,735	6,185,492	3,267,347	11,877,738	82,533,786
Expenses												
Salaries, wages and benefits	5,388,871	4,501,119	4,086,380	1,105,625	301,112	1,306,937	5,696,081	1,609,958	934,809	-	-	24,930,892
Contract services	1,806,223	5,993,430	1,952,728	1,063,189	300,413	230,435	3,159,133	1,192,711	1,124,350	-	-	16,822,612
Materials and supplies	77,889	989,706	792,735	579,898	95,812	59,277	2,444,942	1,560,225	910,621	-	-	7,511,105
Amortization	557,683	778,541	5,888,262	64,505	11,214	-	1,868,118	1,365,757	1,840,249	-	-	12,374,329
Accretion	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,151,850	-	-	1,151,850
Interest	60,393	944,006	160,574		-		521,171	58,267	10,551			1,754,962
Expenditures before losses, write downs and transfers	7,891,059	13,206,802	12,880,679	2,813,217	708,551	1,596,649	13,689,445	5,786,918	5,972,430	-	-	64,545,750
Loss on sale, write downs and transfer of TCA			222,036						2,001			224,037
	7,891,059	13,206,802	13,102,715	2,813,217	708,551	1,596,649	13,689,445	5,786,918	5,974,431			64,769,787
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ (355,060)	\$ 1,944,897	\$ (6,299,244)	\$ (587,695)	\$ (441,535)	\$ 56,818	\$ 7,376,855	\$ 712,817	\$ 211,061	\$ 3,267,347	\$ 11,877,738	\$ 17,763,999

# Supplementary Schedules (Unaudited)

# **SALES OF SERVICES**

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

#### **SCHEDULE IV**

	2024 Budget		2024	2023
General government service	\$ 43,31	0 \$	34,922	\$ 34,308
Protective services	400,15	2	1,087,747	383,717
Fire protection	274,04	8	304,754	213,973
Engineering and public works	343,78	9	936,716	706,261
Residential garbage - municipal	1,998,47	4	2,077,033	2,000,767
Forestry	108,20	0	121,919	167,016
Cowichan Aquatic Centre	1,493,54	3	2,013,357	1,883,153
Fuller Lake Arena	299,01	6	343,471	275,283
Other recreation	58,55	0	85,772	70,031
Wharves	216,93	8	244,110	194,219
Miscellaneous	110,12	3	691,110	129,514
Cemetery	177,75	0	220,722	200,303
Water	3,239,08	5	3,567,102	3,692,675
Sewer	2,234,83	4	2,518,897	2,370,519
	\$ 10,997,81	2 <b>\$</b>	14,247,632	\$ 12,321,739

# OTHER REVENUE FROM OWN SOURCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

#### **SCHEDULE V**

	2024 Budget	2024	2023
Licences and permits	\$ 1,402,674	\$ 1,569,334	\$ 2,148,473
Tax penalties and interest	439,421	638,058	545,586
Fines	9,190	12,446	5,249
Rentals	1,480,510	1,907,727	466,472
Water	14,443	53,018	39,402
Sewer	-	31,865	22,845
	\$ 3,346,238	\$ 4,212,448	\$ 3,228,027

# **GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

# **SCHEDULE VI**

	2024 Budget	2024	2023
Legislative	\$ 476,276	\$ 414,908	\$ 422,889
Administrative	5,597,141	5,632,597	5,098,125
Financial services	1,271,084	1,213,307	1,252,306
Common services	992,032	1,183,122	1,225,244
Miscellaneous	280,150	158,140	187,169
Administration recoveries	(1,006,740)	(1,051,319)	(912,750)
Interest	67,800	67,800	60,393
Amortization	204,130	472,447	557,683
Accretion		8,334	
	\$ 7,881,873	\$ 8,099,336	\$ 7,891,059

# **PROTECTIVE SERVICES**

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

			s	CHEDULE VII
	2024 Budget	2024		2023
Police protection:				_
R.C.M.P. contract	\$ 6,235,870	\$ 6,160,698	\$	5,259,809
Municipal employees	1,903,718	1,903,926		1,969,167
Crime prevention	26,420	308,532		7,100
Building maintenance	607,455	563,872		277,415
Bylaw enforcement	 922,978	1,001,526		669,051
	9,696,441	9,938,554		8,182,542
Fire protection:				
General fire protection	663,395	789,795		387,890
Chemainus fire hall	555,913	533,490		408,038
Crofton fire hall	533,989	467,808		438,330
Maple Bay fire hall	523,482	542,996		490,918
South End fire hall	678,998	857,619		593,290
	 2,955,777	 3,191,708		2,318,466
Other protection:				
Building and plumbing inspections	795,877	830,442		770,651
Animal control	188,260	194,700		187,374
Weed control	15,294	4,726		5,055
Mosquito control	20,400	18,549		20,167
	 1,019,831	 1,048,417		983,247
Interest	939,118	939,500		944,006
Amortization	516,860	1,660,329		778,541
Accretion	 -	4,659		-
	1,455,978	2,604,488		1,722,547
	\$ 15,128,027	\$ 16,783,167	\$	13,206,802

# **ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

# **SCHEDULE VIII**

	2024 Budget	2024		2023
Administration	\$ 2,927,435	\$ 2,564,597	\$	2,526,578
Small tools and equipment	57,040	51,608		54,301
Workshop and yard maintenance	238,419	265,898		257,398
Roads - construction	54,619	40,384		49,227
Roadway and surfaces maintenance	1,412,575	1,723,402		1,653,129
Snow and ice removal	554,518	510,576		494,245
Bridge - maintenance	26,757	7,661		2,636
Street lighting	442,970	397,890		481,462
Signs and line painting	424,147	417,086		395,936
Drainage	934,398	1,093,676		1,041,492
Sidewalk maintenance	41,980	22,466		24,858
Other transportation	412,465	512,731		429,271
Administration recoveries	(793,400)	(1,239,966)		(578,690)
Loss on sale, write downs and transfer of TCA	-	6,959		222,036
Interest	164,272	164,272		160,574
Amortization	5,675,310	5,892,748		5,888,262
Accretion	 	4,233	_	
	\$ 12,573,505	\$ 12,436,221	\$	13,102,715

# **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

# **SCHEDULE IX**

				_	
		2024 Budget	2024		2023
Garbage collection and recycling	\$	2,929,555	\$ 1,893,298	\$	1,648,394
Cemetery		200,449	225,450		238,146
Environmental		1,109,874	821,576		862,172
Amortization		80,570	 48,120		64,505
	<u>\$</u>	4,320,448	\$ 2,988,444	\$	2,813,217

# **RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 (UNAUDITED)

# **SCHEDULE X**

	2024 Budget	2024	2023
Administration	\$ 228,184	\$ 256,319	\$ 296,352
Crofton swimming pool	75,446	91,358	79,738
Cowichan Aquatic Centre	4,351,230	4,904,507	4,611,670
Fuller Lake Arena	1,237,976	1,363,058	1,312,529
Parks common services	2,017,959	322,676	164,973
Community recreation program	193,307	184,470	174,356
Chemainus parks and playgrounds	77,878	571,352	590,914
Crofton parks and playgrounds	60,914	241,991	241,796
South End parks and playgrounds	73,022	1,460,801	1,465,330
Wharves	186,385	183,878	186,775
Library	2,136,007	2,136,007	1,793,335
Grants-in-aid	717,764	496,126	382,388
Interest	496,478	715,549	521,171
Amortization	1,284,780	1,549,458	1,868,118
Accretion		29,384	
	\$ 13,137,330	\$ 14,506,934	\$ 13,689,445