

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**

**Financial Statements  
December 31, 2014**

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### To the Directors of Essex Region Conservation Authority

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Essex Region Conservation Authority, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2014, the statements of operations, cash flow and net surplus for the year then ended, and a summary of accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

*Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Essex Region Conservation Authority, as at December 31, 2014, and the statements of operations, cash flow and net surplus for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

HICKS, MacPHERSON, IATONNA  
& DRIEDGER LLP

*Hicks, MacPherson, Iatonna  
& Driedger LLP*

Leamington, Ontario  
June 9, 2015

Chartered Professional Accountants  
Licensed Public Accountants

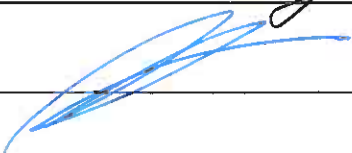
**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**December 31**

|                                            | 2014          | 2013          |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Financial Assets</b>                    |               |               |
| Cash and cash equivalents                  | \$ 2,428,275  | \$ 861,212    |
| Accounts receivable (Note 4)               | 1,256,783     | 1,830,840     |
|                                            | 3,685,058     | 2,692,052     |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b>               |               |               |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities   | 944,159       | 538,068       |
| Deferred revenues                          | 2,051,042     | 1,681,034     |
|                                            | 2,995,201     | 2,219,102     |
| <b>Net Surplus</b>                         | 689,857       | 472,950       |
| <b>Non-Financial Assets</b>                |               |               |
| Tangible capital assets (Notes 1(c) and 2) | 14,869,873    | 14,698,389    |
| Prepaid expenses and inventory             | 33,987        | 32,524        |
|                                            | 14,903,860    | 14,730,914    |
| <b>Accumulated surplus</b>                 | \$ 15,593,717 | \$ 15,203,864 |
| <b>Accumulated surplus consists of:</b>    |               |               |
| Operating deficit                          | \$ (249,872)  | \$ (316,635)  |
| Reserves (Schedule 5)                      | 973,716       | 822,109       |
| Equity in tangible capital assets          | 14,869,873    | 14,698,389    |
|                                            | \$ 15,593,717 | \$ 15,203,864 |

*The accompanying notes and schedules are an integral part of these financial statements.*

On behalf of the Board:

 Chair

 Secretary-Treasurer

**Essex Region Conservation Authority  
Statement of Operations  
for the years ended December 31**

(unaudited)

|                                                   | 2014<br>Budget       | 2014<br>Actual       | 2013<br>Actual       |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Revenues</b>                                   |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Government grants &amp; transfer payments:</b> |                      |                      |                      |
| Provincial - Section 39                           | \$ 202,263           | \$ 202,263           | \$ 202,263           |
| - Drinking Source Water Protection Program        | 179,700              | 282,396              | 384,328              |
| - MNR (Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure)    | 206,250              | 473,754              | 335,496              |
| - Other                                           | 255,000              | 558,890              | 689,998              |
| Federal                                           | 476,570              | 464,350              | 619,815              |
| Municipal                                         |                      |                      |                      |
| Levy - General                                    | 1,746,935            | 1,746,936            | 1,684,210            |
| Levy - Special                                    | 1,050,000            | 1,050,000            | 1,050,000            |
| Other (Remedial projects and studies)             | 455,600              | 662,098              | 740,568              |
| <b>Total government revenues</b>                  | <b>4,572,318</b>     | <b>5,440,687</b>     | <b>5,706,678</b>     |
| <b>Self-generated &amp; other revenues</b>        |                      |                      |                      |
| User fees and admissions                          | 679,099              | 942,563              | 857,454              |
| Leases and property rentals                       | 62,500               | 69,929               | 69,526               |
| Interdepartmental recoveries                      | 592,000              | 646,334              | 588,193              |
| Donations and other grants                        |                      |                      |                      |
| General                                           | 165,500              | 369,286              | 191,864              |
| Essex Region Conservation Foundation              | 117,000              | 105,828              | 103,780              |
| In-kind contributions                             | 185,250              | 79,572               | 109,316              |
| Interest and miscellaneous income                 | 3,000                | 53,597               | 14,413               |
| Gain on sale / expropriation of assets            | -                    | -                    | 193,525              |
| <b>Total other revenues</b>                       | <b>1,804,349</b>     | <b>2,267,108</b>     | <b>2,128,071</b>     |
| <b>Change in deferred revenue</b>                 |                      |                      |                      |
| Net transfers from / (to) deferred revenue        | 499,600              | (370,008)            | 94,637               |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>                             | <b>\$ 6,876,267</b>  | <b>\$ 7,337,787</b>  | <b>\$ 7,929,386</b>  |
| <b>Expenses</b>                                   |                      |                      |                      |
| Watershed management services (Schedule 1)        | 1,647,650            | 2,096,959            | 2,251,645            |
| Conservation services (Schedule 2)                | 3,601,422            | 3,297,488            | 3,246,196            |
| Communications & outreach (Schedule 3)            | 533,743              | 552,786              | 479,067              |
| Corporate services (Schedule 4)                   | 823,425              | 804,277              | 857,431              |
|                                                   | 6,606,240            | 6,751,510            | 6,834,340            |
| Amortization                                      | 209,500              | 196,424              | 213,689              |
|                                                   | 6,815,740            | 6,947,934            | 7,048,028            |
| Gain on disposition of assets                     | -                    | -                    | (15,400)             |
|                                                   | 6,815,740            | 6,947,934            | 7,032,628            |
| <b>Net Surplus for the Year</b>                   | <b>60,527</b>        | <b>389,853</b>       | <b>896,757</b>       |
| <b>Accumulated Surplus, Beginning of Year</b>     | <b>15,203,864</b>    | <b>15,203,864</b>    | <b>14,307,107</b>    |
| <b>Accumulated Surplus, End of Year</b>           | <b>\$ 15,264,391</b> | <b>\$ 15,593,717</b> | <b>\$ 15,203,864</b> |

*The accompanying notes and schedules are an integral part of these financial statements.*

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Statement of Cash Flow**  
**for the years ended December 31**

|                                                          | <b>2014</b>         | <b>2013</b>       |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
|                                                          | <b>Actual</b>       | <b>Actual</b>     |
| <b>Cash provided for (used in):</b>                      |                     |                   |
| <b>Operating Activities</b>                              |                     |                   |
| Net surplus for the year                                 | \$ 389,853          | \$ 896,757        |
| Non cash items:                                          |                     |                   |
| Amortization                                             | 196,424             | 213,689           |
| Gain on sale of tangible capital assets                  | -                   | (15,400)          |
| In-kind land donations                                   | -                   | (62,000)          |
| (Increase) decrease accounts receivable                  | 574,057             | (578,302)         |
| (Increase) decrease prepaid expenses and inventory       | (1,463)             | 7,666             |
| Increase (decrease) accounts payable and accruals        | 406,091             | (80,101)          |
| Increase (decrease) deferred revenues                    | 370,008             | (94,637)          |
|                                                          | <b>1,934,971</b>    | <b>287,673</b>    |
| <b>Investing/Capital Activities</b>                      |                     |                   |
| Construction of tangible capital assets                  | (46,349)            | (15,744)          |
| Construction of tangible capital assets-work in progress | (302,737)           | (56,020)          |
| Purchase of land                                         | -                   | (153,346)         |
| Purchase of tangible capital assets                      | (18,822)            | (110,079)         |
| Expropriation of land                                    | -                   | 45,000            |
|                                                          | <b>(367,908)</b>    | <b>(290,189)</b>  |
| (Decrease) Increase in cash and cash equivalents         | <b>1,567,063</b>    | <b>(2,516)</b>    |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year             | <b>861,212</b>      | <b>863,728</b>    |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>            | <b>\$ 2,428,275</b> | <b>\$ 861,212</b> |

*The accompanying notes and schedules are an integral part of these financial statements.*

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Statement of Net Surplus**  
**for the years ended December 31**

|                                                            | (unaudited)    |                |                |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                                                            | 2014<br>Budget | 2014<br>Actual | 2013<br>Actual |
| Net surplus for the year                                   | \$ 60,527      | \$ 389,853     | \$ 896,757     |
| Donated land                                               | -              | -              | (62,000)       |
| Acquisition and/or construction of tangible capital assets | (387,400)      | (367,908)      | (335,189)      |
| Expropriation/sale of land                                 | -              | -              | 45,000         |
| Amortization of tangible capital assets                    | 209,500        | 196,424        | 213,689        |
| Loss/(gain) on sale/disposal/destruction of assets         | -              | -              | (15,400)       |
| Change in prepaid expenses and supplies inventory          | -              | (1,463)        | 7,666          |
| Increase in net surplus                                    | (117,373)      | 216,907        | 750,523        |
| Net surplus (debt), beginning of year                      | 472,950        | 472,950        | (277,573)      |
| Net surplus, end of year                                   | 355,577        | 689,857        | 472,950        |

*The accompanying notes and schedules are an integral part of these financial statements.*

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

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**Purpose of Organization**

The Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) is a public sector agency, established under the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario to further the conservation, restoration, development and management of natural resources, exclusive of gas, oil, coal and minerals for the watersheds within its area of jurisdiction.

**1. Summary of Accounting Policies**

- a) **Management Responsibility** – The financial statements of the Essex Region Conservation Authority (“Authority”) are prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards principles for organizations operating in the local government sector as recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants. The integrity and objectivity of these statements are also management’s responsibility. Management is also responsible for all of the notes and schedules to the financial statements and for ensuring that this information is consistent, where appropriate, with the information contained in the financial statements. Management is also responsible for implementing and maintaining a system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that reliable financial information is produced.
- b) **Basis of Accounting** – Revenues and expenditures are reported on the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting recognizes revenues as they become available and measurable; expenditures are recognized as they are incurred and measurable as a result of receipt of goods or services and the creation of a legal obligation to pay.
- c) **Tangible Capital Assets** – Tangible capital assets, comprised of capital assets and capital work-in-progress, are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization and are classified according to their functional use. Donated tangible capital assets are reported at fair market value at the time of donation. Leasehold improvements are amortized on a straight-line basis over the lesser of the economic useful life of the improvement or the term of the related property management agreement or lease. Capital works-in-progress are not amortized until the asset is available for productive use. Tangible Capital Assets do not include: assets unrelated to the Authority’s core business operations, such as ancillary rental dwellings, heritage/historical assets held in perpetuity and minority ownership in assets owned by other public sector organizations.

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

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**1. Summary of Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**c) Tangible Capital Assets (Continued)**

Tangible capital assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

|                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Land/Site Improvements          | 15 to 30 years |
| Buildings                       | 25 to 50 years |
| Engineered Structures           | 15 to 30 years |
| Linear Assets (Sewer and Water) | 35 to 60 years |
| Machinery and Field Equipment   | 7 to 40 years  |
| Vehicles                        | 7 years        |
| Furniture & Fixtures            | 20 years       |
| Computer Hardware & Software    | 4 to 5 years   |

- d) **Reserves** – Reserves for future expenditures and contingencies are established as required using the estimates of management. Increases or decreases in these reserves are made by appropriations to or from operations.
- e) **Corporate Support Recoveries** – Internal charges for the use of the vehicles and equipment are made to the various projects and programs of the Authority. The internal charges are designed to recover the costs of operating the equipment, including replacement. Finance, administration and overhead items are partially charged to programs, on a pro-rata basis.
- f) **In-Kind Contributions** – The Authority records various in-kind contributions made by private landowners and other public sector agencies. A landowner in-kind contribution is recorded when required by government grant programs to satisfy eligibility requirements and when the landowner contribution can be verified and valued. The Authority periodically receives property and tangible goods, donated by various agencies and private landowners, which also results in the recording of an in-kind contribution.

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

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**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

- g) **Government Transfers & Deferred Revenue** – The Authority receives certain amounts for which the related services have yet to be performed. The gross transfer payments received during the year are shown by government program, however, revenue unearned in the current period is recorded as a transfer to deferred revenue.
- h) **Use of Estimates** – The presentation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenditures during the reporting period. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the valuation of accounts receivable, the carrying value of property plant and equipment and accruals. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.
- i) **Cash and Cash Equivalents**– Cash and cash equivalents include cash balances and short term highly liquid investments that are readily converted to cash.

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

**2. Tangible Capital Assets**

| <b>Cost</b>                    | <b>Balance<br/>31-Dec-13</b> | <b>Additions</b>  | <b>Disposals</b>  | <b>Balance<br/>31-Dec-14</b> |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Land                           | \$ 9,358,514                 | \$ -              | \$ -              | \$ 9,358,514                 |
| Land/Site improvements         | 4,156,023                    | 46,349            | -                 | 4,202,373                    |
| Buildings                      | 479,222                      | -                 | -                 | 479,222                      |
| Engineered structures          | 1,429,830                    | 5,700             | (2,000)           | 1,433,530                    |
| Leasehold improvements         | 890,442                      | -                 | -                 | 890,442                      |
| Machinery and field equipment  | 370,151                      | 13,122            | -                 | 383,273                      |
| Vehicles                       | 387,894                      | -                 | -                 | 387,894                      |
| Furniture and fixtures         | 103,280                      | -                 | -                 | 103,280                      |
| Computer hardware and software | 184,235                      | -                 | (5,500)           | 178,735                      |
| Capital works-in-progress      | 56,020                       | 302,737           | -                 | 358,757                      |
|                                | <b>\$ 17,415,610</b>         | <b>\$ 367,908</b> | <b>\$ (7,500)</b> | <b>\$ 17,776,018</b>         |

| <b>Accumulated Amortization</b> | <b>Balance<br/>31-Dec-13</b> | <b>Disposals</b>  | <b>Amortization</b> | <b>Balance<br/>31-Dec-14</b> |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Land                            | \$ -                         | \$ -              | \$ -                | \$ -                         |
| Land/Site improvements          | 671,151                      | -                 | 46,853              | 718,004                      |
| Buildings                       | 290,882                      | -                 | 8,110               | 298,992                      |
| Engineered structures           | 829,694                      | (2,000)           | 31,880              | 859,574                      |
| Leasehold improvements          | 274,778                      | -                 | 34,966              | 309,744                      |
| Machinery and field equipment   | 197,314                      | -                 | 28,090              | 225,404                      |
| Vehicles                        | 208,656                      | -                 | 42,961              | 251,616                      |
| Furniture and fixtures          | 60,512                       | -                 | 3,564               | 64,076                       |
| Computer hardware and software  | 184,235                      | (5,500)           | -                   | 178,735                      |
| Capital works-in-progress       | -                            | -                 | -                   | -                            |
|                                 | <b>\$ 2,717,222</b>          | <b>\$ (7,500)</b> | <b>\$ 196,424</b>   | <b>\$ 2,906,145</b>          |

| <b>Net Book Value</b>          | <b>31-Dec-13</b>     | <b>31-Dec-14</b>     |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Land                           | \$ 9,358,514         | \$ 9,358,514         |
| Land/Site improvements         | 3,484,872            | 3,484,369            |
| Buildings                      | 188,340              | 180,230              |
| Engineered structures          | 600,136              | 573,956              |
| Leasehold improvements         | 615,664              | 580,698              |
| Machinery and field equipment  | 172,837              | 157,869              |
| Vehicles                       | 179,238              | 136,277              |
| Furniture and fixtures         | 42,768               | 39,204               |
| Computer hardware and software | -                    | -                    |
| Capital works-in-progress      | 56,020               | 358,757              |
|                                | <b>\$ 14,698,389</b> | <b>\$ 14,869,873</b> |

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

**2. Tangible Capital Assets--(Continued)**

| <b>Cost</b>                     | <b>Balance<br/>31-Dec-12</b>        | <b>Additions</b>   | <b>Disposals</b>    | <b>Balance<br/>31-Dec-13</b>        |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Land                            | \$ 9,188,168                        | \$ 215,346         | \$ (45,000)         | \$ 9,358,514                        |
| Land/Site improvements          | 4,156,023                           | -                  | -                   | 4,156,023                           |
| Buildings                       | 479,222                             | -                  | -                   | 479,222                             |
| Engineered structures           | 1,410,860                           | 18,970             | -                   | 1,429,830                           |
| Leasehold improvements          | 890,442                             | -                  | -                   | 890,442                             |
| Machinery and field equipment   | 364,151                             | 6,000              | -                   | 370,151                             |
| Vehicles                        | 340,640                             | 119,479            | (72,226)            | 387,894                             |
| Furniture and fixtures          | 103,280                             | -                  | -                   | 103,280                             |
| Computer hardware and software  | 184,235                             | -                  | -                   | 184,235                             |
| Capital works-in-progress       | 3,226                               | 56,020             | (3,226)             | 56,020                              |
|                                 | <b>\$ 17,120,246</b>                | <b>\$ 415,815</b>  | <b>\$ (120,452)</b> | <b>\$ 17,415,610</b>                |
| <b>Accumulated Amortization</b> | <b>Balance<br/>31-Dec-12</b>        | <b>Disposals</b>   | <b>Amortization</b> | <b>Balance<br/>31-Dec-13</b>        |
| Land                            | \$ -                                | \$ -               | \$ -                | \$ -                                |
| Land/Site improvements          | 624,298                             | -                  | 46,853              | 671,151                             |
| Buildings                       | 277,388                             | -                  | 13,494              | 290,882                             |
| Engineered structures           | 795,689                             | -                  | 34,005              | 829,694                             |
| Leasehold improvements          | 239,812                             | -                  | 34,966              | 274,778                             |
| Machinery and field equipment   | 169,009                             | -                  | 28,305              | 197,314                             |
| Vehicles                        | 232,696                             | (72,226)           | 48,183              | 208,656                             |
| Furniture and fixtures          | 56,948                              | -                  | 3,564               | 60,512                              |
| Computer hardware and software  | 179,917                             | -                  | 4,319               | 184,236                             |
| Capital works-in-progress       | -                                   | -                  | -                   | -                                   |
|                                 | <b>\$ 2,575,757</b>                 | <b>\$ (72,226)</b> | <b>\$ 213,689</b>   | <b>\$ 2,717,222</b>                 |
|                                 | <b>Net Book Value<br/>31-Dec-12</b> |                    |                     | <b>Net Book Value<br/>31-Dec-13</b> |
| Land                            | \$ 9,188,168                        | \$ -               | \$ -                | \$ 9,358,514                        |
| Land/Site improvements          | 3,531,725                           | -                  | -                   | 3,484,872                           |
| Buildings                       | 201,834                             | -                  | -                   | 188,340                             |
| Engineered structures           | 615,171                             | -                  | -                   | 600,136                             |
| Leasehold improvements          | 650,630                             | -                  | -                   | 615,664                             |
| Machinery and field equipment   | 195,142                             | -                  | -                   | 172,837                             |
| Vehicles                        | 107,944                             | -                  | -                   | 179,238                             |
| Furniture and fixtures          | 46,332                              | -                  | -                   | 42,768                              |
| Computer hardware and software  | 4,318                               | -                  | -                   | -                                   |
| Capital works-in-progress       | 3,226                               | -                  | -                   | 56,020                              |
|                                 | <b>\$ 14,544,489</b>                | <b>\$ -</b>        | <b>\$ -</b>         | <b>\$ 14,698,389</b>                |

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

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**2. Tangible Capital Assets (Continued)**

The Authority owns historic treasures which are not included above, including the Kingsville Train Station and the John R. Park Homestead and its related artifacts. The assets have significant heritage and historical value in perpetuity and are not amortized or recorded as tangible capital assets in the financial statements.

**3. Financial Instruments**

The fair values of cash, accounts receivables, accounts payables and accrued liabilities and deferred revenues approximate their carrying values because of their expected short term maturity and treatment on normal trade terms. It is management's opinion that the Authority is not exposed to significant interest or currency risks arising from these financial instruments.

**4. Accounts Receivable**

Included in accounts receivable is a GST/HST Rebate of \$296,141 (2013 – \$299,037).

**5. Pension Agreements**

The Essex Region Conservation Authority belongs to the Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement Fund ("OMERS"), which is a multi-employer plan, on behalf of the members of its staff. This plan is a defined benefit plan which specifies the amount of the retirement benefit to be received by the employees based on the length of service and rates of pay. The cost of the plan is the employer's contribution to the plan.

The 2014 employer's portion of OMERS pension contributions was \$216,897 (2013 – \$218,351).

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

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**6. Expenses by Object**

|                                               | <b>2014</b>        | <b>2013</b>        |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Wages and benefits                            | \$3,128,337        | \$3,171,164        |
| Construction                                  | 996,267            | 999,162            |
| Engineering and other technical consulting    | 342,471            | 626,813            |
| Supplies, office, maintenance, and janitorial | 481,220            | 399,453            |
| Plant materials and landowner grants          | 518,987            | 387,137            |
| Corporate support and shared services         | 346,111            | 322,877            |
| Vehicle, travel & equipment                   | 377,491            | 318,532            |
| Rent, insurance, taxes and utilities          | 298,927            | 262,084            |
| Amortization                                  | 196,424            | 213,689            |
| Repairs and maintenance                       | 98,092             | 172,839            |
| Audit and legal                               | 20,295             | 54,169             |
| Contributed supplies and services             | 68,743             | 47,316             |
| Dues and memberships                          | 40,147             | 38,601             |
| Board and member expenses                     | 20,300             | 20,840             |
| Bank, interest and credit card charges        | 14,123             | 13,352             |
| Land acquisition assistance                   | –                  | –                  |
|                                               | <b>\$6,947,934</b> | <b>\$7,048,028</b> |

**7. Budget Amounts:**

The 2014 budget amounts that were approved on February 13, 2014, were not prepared on a basis consistent with that used to report actual results (Public Sector Accounting Board Standards). The budget included capital items such as infrastructure replacements and estimated costs for constructed assets, as project expenses, but the actual expenses have been removed in the Statement of Operations. The revenues attributable to these items continue to be included in the Statement of Operations, resulting in a significant positive variance for the surplus reported for the year. The following analysis is provided to assist readers in their understanding of differences between the approved budget and the audited financial statements:

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

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**7. Budget Amounts (Continued):**

**Budget Reconciliation Note to F/S**

|                                                                        | <b>Approved<br/>Budget</b> | <b>Actual</b>    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Surplus for the year per Statement of Operations</b>                | <b>\$ 60,527</b>           | <b>389,853</b>   |
| Assets capitalized as TCA (Works in progress and infrastructure)       | -                          | (354,786)        |
| Acquisition of fleet & equipment                                       | (35,000)                   | (13,122)         |
|                                                                        | <u>25,527</u>              | <u>21,946</u>    |
| Land Acquisition/Protection                                            | (352,400)                  | -                |
| Amortization                                                           | <u>209,500</u>             | <u>196,424</u>   |
| <b>(Required from)/available for reserves and/or deficit reduction</b> | <b>(117,373)</b>           | <b>218,370</b>   |
| Net transfers from/(to) reserves (Schedule 5)                          | 172,900                    | (151,607)        |
| <b>Decrease in Operating Deficit</b>                                   | <b>\$ 55,527</b>           | <b>\$ 66,763</b> |

**8. Credit Facility**

The Authority maintains an operating line facility with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce which bears interest at prime less .25% and is due on demand. As of December 31, 2014, no balance (2013 - \$0) was payable under this facility.

**9. Commitments**

On May 4, 2001 the Authority entered into a 30 year property management agreement, with the Province of Ontario (Ministry of Natural Resources), to manage the property known as Holiday Beach Conservation Area. The agreement can be terminated at any time, if notice is served at least 120 days in advance of the termination date.

**10. Related Entity**

*Essex Region Conservation Foundation*

Essex Region Conservation Authority ("ERCA") has an economic interest in the Essex Region Conservation Foundation ("Foundation"). The Foundation was established for the purpose of raising funds and disbursing grants to ERCA and other organizations, which are working towards a shared vision of environmental sustainability.

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

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The Foundation was incorporated under the laws of Ontario without share capital or benefit for its members and is therefore exempt from income taxes. The income generated by the Foundation is distributed to ERCA and other qualifying donees as the funds are requested and approved. The accounting policy followed in reporting the Foundation is note disclosure.

The transactions with the Foundation include \$105,828 (2013 – \$103,780) recorded as revenue. All amounts have been measured at the exchange amount.

The assets, liabilities, results of operations and cash flow for the Foundation for the years ended December 31 are as follows:

|                                      | 2014       | 2013       |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| <b><i>Financial position:</i></b>    |            |            |
| Total assets                         | \$ 495,874 | \$ 429,599 |
| Total liabilities                    | \$ 51,329  | \$ 60,063  |
| Net assets                           | 444,545    | 369,536    |
|                                      | \$ 495,874 | \$ 429,599 |
| <b><i>Results of operations:</i></b> |            |            |
| Total revenue                        | \$ 232,851 | \$ 378,174 |
| Total expenses                       | 157,842    | 169,141    |
| Net income for the year              | \$ 75,009  | \$ 209,033 |
| <b><i>Cash flows:</i></b>            |            |            |
| Operating                            | \$ 204,948 | \$ 366,842 |
| Distributions                        | (169,194)  | (155,124)  |

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended December 31**

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**11. Comparative Figures**

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

**Essex Region Conservation Authority  
Schedules to Statement of Operations  
For the year ended December 31**

(unaudited)

|                                                                                          | 2014<br>Budget | 2014<br>Actual | 2013<br>Actual |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Schedule 1- Watershed Management Services</b>                                         |                |                |                |
| <b>Flood &amp; Erosion Prevention &amp; Management</b>                                   |                |                |                |
| Wages, benefits & professional development                                               | \$ 103,000     | \$ 111,673     | \$ 124,332     |
| Computers, data, & telecommunications                                                    | 14,450         | 19,620         | 21,589         |
| Supplies, insurance, corporate services                                                  | 22,800         | 24,274         | 21,183         |
| Construction, consulting & technical resources                                           | 33,000         | 15,068         | 4,462          |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment usage                                                  | -              | 13,647         | 250            |
|                                                                                          | 173,250        | 184,282        | 171,817        |
| <b>Regulations Compliance &amp; Development Services</b>                                 |                |                |                |
| Wages, benefits & professional development                                               | 305,500        | 304,747        | 249,653        |
| Supplies, insurance, corporate services                                                  | 61,750         | 87,906         | 62,803         |
| Legal fees and consulting                                                                | 5,000          | -              | 5,197          |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment usage                                                  | 11,000         | 11,354         | 10,943         |
|                                                                                          | 383,250        | 404,006        | 328,597        |
| <b>Municipal Planning Support &amp; Planning Related Studies</b>                         |                |                |                |
| Wages, benefits & professional development                                               | 191,100        | 224,038        | 162,197        |
| Supplies, insurance, corporate services                                                  | 24,800         | 42,140         | 29,713         |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment usage                                                  | 2,000          | 4,394          | 1,868          |
|                                                                                          | 217,900        | 270,572        | 193,778        |
| <b>Remedial Water &amp; Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects &amp; Studies (WECI)</b> |                |                |                |
| Consulting                                                                               | -              | 193,639        | 317,633        |
| Construction, landscape materials & equipment                                            | 291,250        | 618,705        | 504,772        |
| Wages, supplies, travel & allocated overhead                                             | 15,500         | 17,800         | 46,513         |
|                                                                                          | 306,750        | 830,144        | 868,918        |
| <b>Shoreline Restoration and Special Municipal Projects</b>                              |                |                |                |
| Construction, landscape materials & technical resources                                  | 350,000        | 199,451        | 442,396        |
| Wages, benefits & professional development                                               | 70,000         | 50,029         | 53,358         |
| Supplies & overhead                                                                      | 9,500          | 10,288         | 10,450         |
|                                                                                          | 429,500        | 259,768        | 506,204        |
| <b>Long-term Healthy Watershed Initiatives</b>                                           |                |                |                |
| Wages, benefits & professional development                                               | 98,300         | 81,933         | 110,811        |
| Supplies & overhead                                                                      | 20,900         | 37,161         | 53,132         |
| Construction, landscape materials & technical resources                                  | 16,500         | 26,531         | 16,746         |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment usage                                                  | 1,300          | 2,562          | 1,643          |
|                                                                                          | 137,000        | 148,187        | 182,331        |
|                                                                                          | \$ 1,647,650   | \$ 2,096,959   | \$ 2,251,645   |

**Essex Region Conservation Authority  
Schedules to Statement of Operations  
For the year ended December 31**

(unaudited)

|  | 2014<br>Budget | 2014<br>Actual | 2013<br>Actual |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|

**Schedule 2 - Conservation Services**

**Conservation Areas, Land Protection & Restoration**

**Program Planning, Management & Development**

|                                            |            |            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development | \$ 139,000 | \$ 122,691 | \$ 148,793 |
| Supplies, insurance & corporate support    | 23,294     | 27,574     | 32,735     |
| Travel & vehicle                           | 1,035      | 2,879      | 4,849      |
|                                            | 163,330    | 153,144    | 186,376    |

**Land Acquisition & Planning**

|                                                      |        |        |        |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development           | 12,500 | 16,832 | 18,488 |
| Supplies, insurance & corporate support              | 500    | 3,803  | 5,955  |
| Surveys, appraisals, consulting, assessments & legal | 15,000 | 14,744 | 16,345 |
|                                                      | 28,000 | 35,379 | 40,787 |

**Tree Planting and Land Restoration**

|                                            |         |         |         |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development | 349,900 | 340,080 | 310,937 |
| Landscape materials & technical resources  | 224,000 | 318,371 | 266,531 |
| Supplies & overhead                        | 97,501  | 106,679 | 97,655  |
| Vehicle & field equipment usage            | 61,571  | 61,500  | 61,554  |
| Landowner contributions (donated services) | 10,000  | 14,930  | 7,002   |
|                                            | 742,972 | 841,560 | 743,678 |

**Water, Soil or Septic Improvements (Landowner Incentive & Outreach Programs)**

|                                                 |         |         |         |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development      | 44,000  | 36,501  | 53,814  |
| Landowner grants/contributed landowner services | 258,450 | 93,176  | 81,328  |
| Supplies, insurance & corporate support         | 15,100  | 7,083   | 39,297  |
| Professional, technical consultants & resources | 8,500   | 114     | 16,911  |
| Vehicle & equipment                             | 2,000   | 1,575   | 1,692   |
|                                                 | 328,050 | 138,449 | 193,042 |

**Conservation Areas Maintenance**

|                                                    |         |         |         |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development         | 195,700 | 178,955 | 155,015 |
| Utilities, taxes, insurance & corporate allocation | 120,696 | 122,009 | 113,002 |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment usage            | 61,177  | 112,869 | 63,833  |
| Supplies - office & small maintenance              | 42,014  | 62,903  | 53,043  |
| Construction & capital items                       | 36,300  | 45,268  | 32,272  |
| Landscape materials                                | 5,000   | 4,518   | 8,115   |
|                                                    | 460,886 | 526,522 | 425,279 |

**John R Park Homestead Conservation Area**

**Revenues**

|                                  |          |         |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| Admissions, sales & program fees | 63,600   | 53,193  | 68,672   |
| General levy                     | 110,805  | 110,808 | 110,051  |
| Government grants                | 27,500   | 24,889  | 29,654   |
| Other grants & donations         | 6,000    | 14,864  | 7,613    |
| Interdepartmental Recoveries     | 27,000   | 34,464  | 24,853   |
| Net transfers (to)/from reserves | (10,000) | 18,100  | (12,000) |
|                                  | 224,905  | 256,318 | 228,844  |

**Expenses**

|                                                    |         |         |         |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development         | 180,500 | 185,944 | 183,786 |
| Utilities, taxes, insurance & corporate allocation | 16,900  | 19,820  | 16,165  |
| Supplies - office, site & curatorial               | 20,800  | 15,584  | 14,279  |
| Events and cost of goods sold                      | 12,100  | 12,412  | 11,290  |
| Capital maintenance and repairs                    | 2,200   | 35,447  | 14,866  |
|                                                    | 232,500 | 269,207 | 240,387 |

**Essex Region Conservation Authority  
Schedules to Statement of Operations  
For the year ended December 31**

(unaudited)

|  | 2014   | 2014   | 2013   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|
|  | Budget | Actual | Actual |

**Schedule 2 - Conservation Services (Continued)**

**Holiday Beach Conservation Area**

**Revenues**

|                                   |         |         |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Admissions, events & camping fees | 146,500 | 159,607 | 149,371 |
| General levy                      | 71,830  | 71,832  | 54,466  |
| Property/land rental              | 7,500   | 6,153   | 13,403  |
| Other grants & donations          | 500     | -       | 602     |
| Net transfers from reserves       | -       | 19,000  | -       |
|                                   | 226,330 | 256,591 | 217,841 |

**Expenses**

|                                                                      |         |         |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development                           | 104,200 | 125,892 | 120,028 |
| Site, capital & major maintenance                                    | 33,100  | 65,729  | 39,888  |
| Utilities, taxes, insurance & corporate allocation                   | 42,000  | 46,212  | 48,858  |
| Supplies - office, network, events, janitorial & credit card charges | 28,850  | 43,669  | 30,907  |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment usage                              | 27,500  | 24,032  | 25,998  |
| Consulting                                                           | -       | 228     | 2,541   |
|                                                                      | 235,650 | 305,762 | 268,220 |

**Conservation Areas Improvements & Special Projects**

|                                                                    |         |         |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Contract construction, materials, consulting & technical resources | 891,000 | 232,998 | 167,430 |
| Wages, benefits & professional development                         | 13,800  | 41,562  | 30,550  |
| Insurance, legal & corporate allocation                            | 1,200   | 11,685  | 22,398  |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment usage                            | -       | 557     | 10,508  |
|                                                                    | 906,000 | 286,803 | 230,886 |

**Science, Research & Monitoring**

**Drinking Water Source Protection and Landowner Incentive Programs - Ministry of the Environment**

|                                                      |         |         |         |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development           | 116,000 | 202,257 | 314,052 |
| Professional, technical consultants & resources      | 20,000  | -       | 85,380  |
| Supplies, advertising, insurance & corporate support | 34,700  | 31,659  | 50,463  |
| Landowner grants                                     | -       | -       | 26,041  |
| SPA board member per diems                           | 5,000   | 5,500   | 5,500   |
| Travel                                               | 4,000   | 2,661   | 4,820   |
|                                                      | 179,700 | 242,077 | 486,256 |

**Water Quality Related Activities And Studies- (Research & Monitoring, Greenhouse/Nutrient Loading Studies)**

|                                                            |         |         |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development                 | 114,800 | 125,453 | 113,150 |
| Supplies, insurance & corporate support                    | 28,800  | 31,530  | 59,517  |
| Professional, technical consultants & speciality equipment | 13,500  | 65,695  | 45,586  |
| Landowner grants & construction                            | -       | 106,480 | 39,813  |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment usage                    | 5,000   | 12,916  | 8,691   |
|                                                            | 162,100 | 342,074 | 266,757 |

**Other Watershed Studies (Tall Grass Mapping, Integrated Watershed Management Plans )**

|                                            |       |       |        |
|--------------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development | 2,000 | 4,022 | 12,448 |
| Supplies, insurance & corporate support    | -     | 1,883 | 1,554  |
|                                            | 6,800 | 5,904 | 14,001 |

**Demonstration Farm**

|                                                         |        |        |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development              | 19,000 | 19,557 | 10,268 |
| Supplies & overhead                                     | 7,927  | 4,552  | 6,268  |
| Construction, landscape materials & technical resources | 7,775  | 9,928  | 2,731  |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment                       | 2,433  | 1,039  | 2,636  |
|                                                         | 37,135 | 35,075 | 21,904 |

**Essex Region Conservation Authority  
Schedules to Statement of Operations  
For the year ended December 31**

(unaudited)

|  | 2014<br>Budget | 2014<br>Actual | 2013<br>Actual |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|

**Schedule 2 - Conservation Services (Continued)**

**Fleet & Equipment**

**Fleet & Field/Shop Equipment**

|                                                 |              |              |              |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Maintenance, repairs & non-capital replacements | 47,800       | 54,212       | 65,042       |
| Fuel, supplies & rentals                        | 46,000       | 45,001       | 45,648       |
| Insurance & licences                            | 14,800       | 12,408       | 10,637       |
| Wages, benefits & professional development      | 9,700        | 3,909        | 7,293        |
|                                                 | 118,300      | 115,531      | 128,621      |
|                                                 | \$ 3,601,422 | \$ 3,297,488 | \$ 3,246,196 |

**Schedule 3 - Communications & Outreach**

**Corporate Communications & Program Outreach**

|                                            |            |            |            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development | \$ 222,800 | \$ 215,334 | \$ 202,515 |
| Supplies, insurance & corporate support    | 22,700     | 16,884     | 27,350     |
| Travel, vehicle & equipment                | 1,500      | 4,051      | 2,378      |
|                                            | 247,000    | 236,269    | 232,243    |

**Student Education Program**

|                                            |        |         |        |
|--------------------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development | 71,800 | 90,249  | 76,384 |
| Supplies, insurance & corporate support    | 3,323  | 9,919   | 2,431  |
| Travel, vehicle & equipment                | 2,450  | 337     | 6,875  |
|                                            | 77,573 | 100,505 | 85,690 |

**Community Initiatives & Events (Friends of Watersheds, Earth Day, Children's Water Festival)**

|                                                       |            |            |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development            | 79,000     | 89,240     | 78,822     |
| Plant materials, event supplies & technical resources | 107,000    | 102,262    | 58,549     |
| Supplies & overhead                                   | 20,170     | 20,356     | 19,254     |
| Travel, vehicle & field equipment                     | 3,000      | 4,154      | 4,509      |
|                                                       | 209,170    | 216,011    | 161,134    |
|                                                       | \$ 533,743 | \$ 552,786 | \$ 479,067 |

**Schedule 4 - Corporate Services**

**Expenses**

**Corporate & Shared Services (Administration, Finance, Human Resources & Information Systems)**

|                                               |              |              |              |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Wages, benefits & professional development    | \$ 520,500   | \$ 489,377   | \$ 560,071   |
| Occupancy                                     | 108,000      | 106,521      | 104,057      |
| Professional fees - audit, legal & consulting | 24,000       | 24,312       | 33,521       |
| Dues & memberships                            | 34,000       | 32,568       | 33,294       |
| Foundation support                            | 33,300       | 51,364       | 34,919       |
| Equipment, computers & telecommunications     | 33,250       | 40,977       | 28,052       |
| Supplies & miscellaneous                      | 32,500       | 24,587       | 26,485       |
| Board meetings & per diems                    | 18,500       | 16,544       | 18,840       |
| Travel (Staff & members)                      | 11,575       | 10,428       | 11,213       |
| Retiree benefits                              | 6,000        | 5,756        | 4,969        |
| Insurance                                     | 1,800        | 1,843        | 2,008        |
|                                               | 823,425      | 804,277      | 857,431      |
|                                               | \$ 6,606,240 | \$ 6,751,510 | \$ 6,834,340 |

**Essex Region Conservation Authority**  
**Schedule 5- Continuity of Reserves**

|                                      | <b>Actual<br/>Balance at<br/>December 31,<br/>2013</b> | <b>Budgeted<br/>Transfers<br/>to<br/>Reserves</b> | <b>Actual<br/>Transfers<br/>to<br/>Reserves</b> | <b>Budgeted<br/>Transfers<br/>from<br/>Reserves</b> | <b>Actual<br/>Transfers<br/>from<br/>Reserves</b> | <b>Budgeted<br/>Balance at<br/>December 31,<br/>2014</b> | <b>Actual<br/>Balance at<br/>December 31,<br/>2014</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Canard River Low Flow                | 20,319                                                 | -                                                 | -                                               | -                                                   | -                                                 | 20,319                                                   | 20,319                                                 |
| Canard River Maintenance             | 26,692                                                 | -                                                 | 1,302                                           | -                                                   | 456                                               | 26,692                                                   | 27,538                                                 |
| Turkey & Little River Water Sampling | 1,342                                                  | -                                                 | -                                               | -                                                   | -                                                 | 1,342                                                    | 1,342                                                  |
| Tree Replacement                     | 90,000                                                 | -                                                 | -                                               | -                                                   | -                                                 | 90,000                                                   | 90,000                                                 |
| Infrastructure & Major Maintenance   | 544,716                                                | 425,000                                           | 444,232                                         | 706,000                                             | 479,891                                           | 263,716                                                  | 509,057                                                |
| Revenue Stabilization                | 24,000                                                 | 24,000                                            | 24,000                                          | -                                                   | -                                                 | 48,000                                                   | 48,000                                                 |
| Project Grant Matching               | 20,000                                                 | 20,000                                            | 20,000                                          | -                                                   | -                                                 | 40,000                                                   | 40,000                                                 |
| Office, Computers & Network          | 15,400                                                 | 15,400                                            | 15,400                                          | 6,000                                               | 8,500                                             | 24,800                                                   | 22,300                                                 |
| Vehicle & Equipment Replacement      | 2,787                                                  | -                                                 | 75,000                                          | -                                                   | -                                                 | 2,787                                                    | 77,787                                                 |
| Legal & Insurance                    | 13,000                                                 | 3,000                                             | 23,000                                          | -                                                   | -                                                 | 16,000                                                   | 36,000                                                 |
| Human Resources                      | 2,000                                                  | 2,000                                             | 2,000                                           | -                                                   | -                                                 | 4,000                                                    | 4,000                                                  |
| Historic Properties                  | 61,854                                                 | 16,700                                            | 21,000                                          | 17,000                                              | 35,480                                            | 61,554                                                   | 47,374                                                 |
| Amortization Funding Phase-In        | -                                                      | 50,000                                            | 50,000                                          | -                                                   | -                                                 | -                                                        | 50,000                                                 |
|                                      | <b>\$ 822,109</b>                                      | <b>\$ 556,100</b>                                 | <b>\$ 675,934</b>                               | <b>\$ 729,000</b>                                   | <b>\$ 524,327</b>                                 | <b>\$ 599,209</b>                                        | <b>\$ 973,716</b>                                      |