



# 2024-2025 Annual Report

CHARTERED
PROFESSIONAL
ACCOUNTANTS
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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# MESSAGE FROM CPABC CHAIR AND PRESIDENT & CEO

By Peter Guo, CPA, CA and Lori Mathison, FCPA, FCGA, LLB, BCL

This year, our major initiatives once again aligned with CPABC's three-year rolling strategic plan, and continued to enhance the protection of the public interest, member and student services, and operational effectiveness.

As we reflect on the past fiscal year, we acknowledge the uncertainty that characterized the province's economic outlook. Despite these challenges, CPABC remained steadfast in delivering on its overarching mandate of protecting the public interest. We also worked to support and educate members and students and leverage diverse delivery models to enhance operational effectiveness.

The regulatory environment continued to evolve rapidly, and in this dynamic context, our regulatory priorities included administrative enhancements to comply with the new provincial *International Credential Recognition Act*, the implementation of the remaining Cullen Commission recommendations to strengthen our antimoney laundering initiatives, and the monitoring and support of practitioners adopting the new Quality Management standards. Throughout, we ensured the ongoing regulation of the profession was both effective and efficient.

Recognizing the critical role that CPAs play in our economy and in our society, we continue to focus on maintaining the attractiveness of the profession, to ensure a steady flow of new CPAs.

Our recruitment activities targeted post-secondary students, Indigenous peoples, and workforce career changers, as well as an increased focus on high school students and a continued interest in internationally educated individuals, despite the newer Federal immigration policies that are diminishing opportunities for international students. Recruitment efforts communicated the value of a CPA designation to prospective students. We also collaborated with other organizations, particularly Indigenous organizations, on initiatives to increase connections with potential students. Development of the new CPA professional program continued to require both financial and staff resources from provincial bodies, including CPABC.

Over the past year, we continued to build on our reputation for providing quality learning products and experiences by sourcing systems, processes, and technologies that enhanced the growth and quality of both synchronous and ondemand learning delivery to provide a better user experience for members.

Throughout the year, we positioned our members as thought leaders and subject matter experts, profiling CPAs in various roles and industries. We also ensured that different stakeholders, such as the business community and government, understood CPABC's role as a regulator and that the public valued CPAs and recognized their expertise and diverse skills.

Lastly, although artificial intelligence (AI) is not new, the availability of emerging technologies demonstrated the efficiencies possible when leveraging AI and technology more broadly. To ensure CPABC remains future-ready, we continuously explore the automation of workflows and processes, leveraging AI where appropriate and always prioritizing data integrity and security.

All of this work was undertaken while CPABC maintained and delivered its existing programs and initiatives to the high standards of the organization. Looking forward, June 24, 2025, marks a significant milestone for the accounting profession in British Columbia. This date is the ten-year anniversary of the *Chartered Professional Accountants Act* coming into force. We are so proud of all that the CPA profession has achieved in the last decade.

**DATED** May 27, 2025

Peter Guo, CPA, CA

CPABC BOARD CHAIR

Lori Mathison, FCPA, FCGA, LLB, BCL

PRESIDENT AND CEO

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# **PURPOSE**

CPABC protects the public interest by empowering CPAs and future CPAs to lead and support sustainable economies and communities.

# **CPABC'S OBJECTS**

The objects of CPABC are:1

- » To promote and maintain the knowledge, skill, and proficiency of members and students in the practice of accounting;
- » To establish qualifications and requirements for admission as a member and continuation of membership, and for enrollment and continuation of enrollment of students:
- » To regulate all matters, including competency, fitness, and professional conduct, relating to the practice of accounting by members, students, professional accounting corporations, and registered firms;
- » To establish and enforce professional standards;
- » Subject to protect the public interest, to represent the interests of members and students; and
- » To protect the public interest.

# **CPABC'S CORE VALUES**



<sup>1</sup>Chartered Professional Accountants Act, 2015, Section 3

# CPABC'S FIVE STRATEGIC PILLARS

In 2024/2025, CPABC refreshed its rolling three-year Strategic Plan, to ensure the organization remains on course to deliver on the CPABC Purpose, and incorporates the following five strategic pillars under the overarching mandate of protecting the public interest:



### **REGULATE**

CPABC will regulate members and students to uphold professional standards.



#### **DELIVER**

CPABC will deliver sufficient and appropriately skilled CPAs to meet market demand.



#### SUPPORT

CPABC will support the needs of its members and students.



#### LEAD

CPABC will lead and will foster member leadership on matters relating to business and accounting.



#### ACCOUNT

CPABC will discharge its mandate in a responsible, transparent, and proactive manner



# Vision

The Canadian CPA is the pre-eminent, globally respected business and accounting designation.

### Mission

CPABC enhances the influence, relevance, and value of the Canadian CPA profession by:

- » Protecting the public interest;
- » Supporting its members and students: and
- » Contributing to economic and social development.

# Member Values

Canadian CPAs are valued for their excellence and integrity.

# **REGULATE**

# Partnership with Government

As part of how CPABC protects the public interest, the organization seeks to support and contribute to relevant government priorities and public policy discussion. To that end, our leadership presented to MLAs from all parties in Victoria, providing an overview of CPABC's role as a regulator. We highlighted the ongoing efforts within the profession to streamline international credential recognition, shared an economic update with insights from the BC Check-Up: Invest report and member survey, and provided an update on Environmental, Social and Governance (**ESG**) standards. Local CPAs were also in attendance, and the content was well received by all.

Coinciding with the enactment of the new International Credential Recognition Act (ICRA), CPABC enhanced its online portal to accept international membership applications under a Mutual Recognition Agreement or Reciprocal Membership Agreement. We also updated our website to meet the additional information requirements mandated by the ICRA, including references to the governing authority, steps to apply, anticipated timelines, and third-party assessments.

CPABC also completed enhancements to its regulatory framework to address the final recommendations made by the Cullen Commission, to strengthen our anti-money laundering (**AML**) initiatives. We added Rule 219 to the CPABC Code of Professional Conduct, requiring members and registered firms to complete specific client identification and verification processes. Simultaneously, we implemented new bylaws and bylaw regulations to establish a trust account oversight program. Combined with the new mandatory AML continuing professional development requirement (Bylaw Regulation 600/2.1), the cash transaction rule (Rule 411), and amendments to the guidance of Rule 102.4 introduced in 2023, these changes marked a significant milestone for the profession in BC.

CPAs play a crucial role in maintaining the integrity of Canada's financial system. CPAs can protect themselves, their clients, and the companies they work for from money laundering by being educated on risks and complying with applicable regulations.



The organization has made considerable progress raising awareness among Indigenous students of the value of careers in business and finance, and of the value of the CPA designation, and is working with Indigenous communities to share the value a CPA provides with regard to financial management capacity and overall nation building.

# Transparent and Accountable Regulation

CPABC is proud of its proactive approach to regulation. Our core mandate is to protect the public interest, which is done by enforcing the highest professional and ethical standards. CPA members recognize that a well-regulated profession benefits everyone.

Given the significance of this responsibility, CPABC produced the Regulatory Report to the Public 2024-2025: Upholding the Highest Standards that summarized the regulatory activities of the prior fiscal year.

To enhance transparency, we updated the online member and firm directories to improve user experience. Membership, public practice licensing and firm registration, and disciplinary history information are now integrated, providing the public with more comprehensive information about members and registered firms.

CPABC's regulatory processes are described on the CPABC website, as are the outcomes of investigation and discipline proceedings. CPABC's regulatory activities include membership certification, continuing professional development, public practice licensure and review, and professional conduct, all of which protects the public interest

# Membership

CPABC only admitted those applicants who met the rigour of the CPA certification process, or met the requirements of a Mutual Recognition Agreement or Reciprocal Membership Agreement, and provided satisfactory evidence that they were of good character. Of the 40,804 CPABC members at March 31, 2025, the majority of them worked in industry in a variety of roles - up to and including the C-Suite - in every sector of the economy.



Of the more than **40,000** CPABC

members, the majority of them worked in industry in a variety of roles — up to and including the C-Suite - in every sector of the economy.

### **Public Practice**

Approximately 19% of CPAs worked in public practice, which included 4,517 members licensed to provide public practice services. These members operated in 2,922 public practice offices in BC. Over 98% of CPA firms were owned by fewer than five professional accountants.

Practice reviews are inspections of CPA firms to determine whether firm activities meet the standards of the profession. They are carried out over a three-year cycle with 1,061 inspections conducted this past year.

CPABC's fully integrated Practice Review System enhanced the user experience for practice inspection officers and firms by increasing the ease of file sharing and communication while also enhancing security.

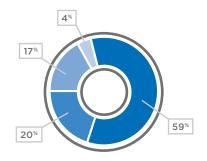
CPABC also held two free "Common Deficiencies from Practice Inspection" courses, one for assurance firms, and a new one for compilation firms. Both were very well received and well attended. The annual "Common Deficiencies" article highlighted key issues identified in practice inspections over the past year, as well as key focus areas for the upcoming year.

# Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

Ongoing education is an important aspect of regulation and CPAs were required to complete and report their professional development activities annually. Those who did not comply ultimately had their memberships cancelled.

CPD requirements include four hours of professional ethics every three years. CPD helps professional accountants stay competent and relevant in their roles, which is crucial for maintaining public confidence and trust in CPAs.

Furthermore, CPAs must complete at least 1.5 hours of verifiable anti-money laundering CPD before December 31, 2026. The new requirement was established to raise and enhance CPA awareness of money laundering and its risks.



# Where CPAs Work

- 59% Industry
- 20%
  Public Practice
- 17% Retired
- **4**%

  Not Reported

### **Professional Conduct Process**

CPABC investigated complaints received about members, students and registered firms. Where grounds were found for breaches of the CPA Act, CPABC Bylaws, or CPABC Code of Professional Conduct, most complaints were dealt with through education, sanctions and financial deterrents to prevent future violations. In some instances there was a suspension or cancellation of membership and/or public practice license.



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# **DELIVER**

# Meeting Market Needs

In BC, the CPA Professional Education program (**PEP**) and CPA preparatory courses are offered through the CPA Western School of Business (**CPAWSB**). CPABC continues to work with CPAWSB and its national and provincial partners to ensure the CPA education program leads to producing competent CPAs.

The profession is also looking ahead. A new, evergreen, CPA Competency Map reflects the changing landscape of the accounting profession and new workplace expectations and requirements. A new CPA certification model was approved that will continue to meet the profession's high standards while preparing learners for the future. CPAWSB will now begin developing the new program, and the existing certification program will be updated to address emerging topics while awaiting the launch of the new program.

Attracting qualified people to the profession and meeting employer demand is critical for BC's financial markets and economy. Many employers continue to note that attracting skilled labour is a challenge. In the most recent BC Check-Up member survey, labour compensation and ability to attract skilled labour were two of the top three concerns for business success, with 76% and 73% of respondents citing them as a major or moderate challenge (housing affordability was number one at 84%).

We conducted research with business leaders who work in BC, and have decision making responsibilities related to who should be hired for financial positions. The market for accounting and finance roles is expected to grow, with half of decision makers anticipating an increase in these roles and most expecting them to grow faster than other roles.

We also conducted a number of market research initiatives to get a better understanding of what may be driving current trends in student enrollment. We are seeking to understand what is influencing prospective students' career choices, and how the attractiveness of the profession and the CPA designation is faring.



5,532

students were enrolled in the CPA PEP program.

1,302
people were
enrolled in the
CPA preparatory
courses.

When looking at attractiveness of the profession and program, students are one half of the equation and training offices are the other. The CPABC Employer Network continued to grow with businesses looking to access hiring and training support and resources. These programs and services were promoted through ongoing employer outreach and engagement. This included hosting a Future Ready panel for CPAs and hiring managers, exhibiting and sponsoring the Chartered Professionals in Human Resources of British Columbia and Yukon conference, and the Government Finance Officers Association of British Columbia Conference.

There was also significant engagement conducted with Indigenous students and communities. In a diverse society, the CPA profession needs to be attractive and accessible to a diverse group of individuals. CPABC actively participated in several events to foster connections and promote our initiatives. At many of these, including the Cando Links to Learning conference, the Indigenous Partnerships Success Showcase (IPSS), the 44th annual Kamloopa Powwow in Kamloops, and the Stalew Pow-wow in Langley, we set up exhibitor booths to engage with attendees. CPABC also participated in the IPSS themed "Reconciliation in Action," which highlighted successful partnerships between the Indigenous business sector and corporate Canada.

Across these events, we shared information on the Indigenous Learning in Accounting (ILA) initiative, scholarships, and Financial Literacy programs with the aim to build strong relationships with First Nation communities, Indigenous organizations, and community leaders. Attendees showed interest in hiring Indigenous CPAs and experts in First Nations taxation, and many planned to share CPABC's Financial Literacy resources within their communities.

The <u>CPABC Careers site</u> continued to see strong engagement from those seeking to hire CPAs and CPA students.



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#### CPA Careers at the Forefront

CPABC engaged 235 competitors in the 2024 COIN Competition for BC high school students. Post-event surveys found that 18% of attendees plan to major in accounting and 20% in business, with 81% of eligible students intending to compete again in 2025.

During the annual Spring Career Week, CPABC connected 26 organizations with 601 job candidates, an 18% increase from the previous year. The event featured four career development workshops, three information sessions, and two employer panels showcasing diverse CPA career paths. The in-person career fair at the Vancouver Convention Centre attracted 285 participants.

In partnership with Junior Achievement BC (JABC) and sponsored by the CPA Education Foundation, CPABC hosted a week-long summer camp for 24 high school students from nine districts to learn about entrepreneurship. The camp concluded with pitch presentations judged by CPAs. CPABC also sponsored the JABC World of Choices panel event, exposing students in grades six through 12 to various career paths. The event saw 118 teachers, 3,101 students, and 465 atrisk students participating, a 70% increase from the previous year.

The annual fall Career Week included virtual and in-person expos in Vancouver and Kelowna, connecting 36 organizations with 813 job candidates. Attendance at the Vancouver expo increased by 21% from the prior year.

CPABC also expanded events for those considering accounting as a second career. The "Value of CPA" series, Career Week Q&A webinar, and "CPA or CFA? Why Not Both!" session all saw increases in interest and attendees.

A new Mentor Mindset session, "Inside the Mentee Experience," was well received and attended and CPABC and KPMG's "Discovery Day" for 50 grade 11 and 12 students from Lord Byng Secondary School aimed to inspire similar future events with other employers.



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The CPA Path to Success event drew over 80 participants, with 82% reporting increased interest in the CPA designation. CPABC also engaged Indigenous youth at the Aboriginal Financial Officer Association of BC & Bear's Lair Youth Entrepreneur Summit, sharing information on accounting opportunities.

# Candidate Support

CPABC continued to build awareness and understanding of the Practical Experience Requirements (**PER**) and updated and refreshed information and resources for employers and candidates to improve the information that is available as they move through their CPA certification journey.

This included an increased number of advising sessions offered to Experience Verification Route (**EVR**) candidates to help them report their experience, particularly candidates reaching their PER time limits. CPABC launched the supplemental technical competency report tool to all EVR students in BC, which is designed to aide students in reporting their experience with more ease and improved understanding.

#### Student Achievement

Individuals who decide to pursue a career in accounting have various options, including enrolling with the CPA Western School of Business for both the CPA PEP and preparatory courses. The school serves British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Student success rates in the programs led to the profession welcoming 1,026 new members admitted to membership in BC by way of the May and September CPA Common Final Examinations (**CFE**).



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# **SUPPORT**

CPAs must meet ongoing professional development requirements to maintain their designation. Together with ongoing regulatory oversight, these professional development requirements set CPAs apart from others working in business and supports CPABC's mandate of "protection of the public interest" by ensuring that members keep their professional knowledge up to date and relevant to current industry, societal, and economic standards.

High-quality and relevant education, services, and resources directly supported and enhanced the regulatory compliance of CPABC's members and promoted an attitude of "lifelong learning."

# Professional Development

CPABC's Professional Development (**PD**) program offered members learning opportunities across a wide range of technical and enabling competencies. Varied delivery methods (in person, virtual live, and On-Demand) increased the flexibility and availability of CPABC PD seminars to members throughout the province. Free and paid seminars supported members in their personal and career development and contributed to the protection of the public interest.

The PD program offered a total of 1,169 synchronous and On-Demand seminars, which was consistent with the prior year. Registrations totaled 84,937, of which 30,773 were for paid seminars and 54,164 were for free seminars demonstrating the popularity of free PD with our membership.

PD offerings included seminars, conferences, and certificate and executive programs. New courses are developed each year to help members stay up to date on new CPA Handbook standards, digital transformation topics including generative AI, and emerging issues of importance to the profession such as AML awareness, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), and Environmental, Social and Governance. In the first year of the AML CPD requirement, there were 14,328 collective registrations in these free PD seminars, which were delivered in an on-demand format making them widely accessible and expanding the CPD eligibility to the on-demand seminars.



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Learning Pathways were launched to guide members to the most suitable courses for their needs and career aspirations. Eight learning pathways created a curriculum of curated learning to support members with gaining knowledge in specific topics or to support career changes and new roles.

In addition, the PD program continued to run courses on the Canadian Standard on Quality Management ("CSQM-1" and "CSQM-2") for non-assurance firms that perform related services engagements, such as CSRS 4200 Compilation Engagements, to assist practitioners with in adopting these newer standards.

# **Engagement and Services**

CPABC received 2,696 enquiries from members and the public which were handled by Professional Standards Advisors, and resources were posted to the Public Practice Knowledge Base. In addition, over 620 members attended 36 virtual and in-person member forum meetings, which received a 99% satisfaction rating on post-meeting surveys. Member Forums brought together CPAs with common interests (tax, public practice, accounting or assurance standards, etc.) and areas of practice (public practice, industry, academia, etc.) to discuss topical issues, and provided an opportunity for members to exchange information, share best practices, collaborate, and strengthen professional relationships. This included a virtual forum for Indigenous members, and hosting Indigenous member meet-ups in Vancouver, Victoria and Kamloops.

The President & CEO and CPABC Board Chair presented a Leadership Update, holding three virtual sessions with over 2,200 members attending, consistent with attendance from the previous year. The overall satisfaction rating was 99%; members appreciated the information related to the economy and labour market, standards changes, and an update on the CPA professional program and Collaboration Accord. The recorded version was created as an On-Demand Free PD seminar for the first time in 2024-2025, thus making it accessible to more members.



The President & CEO and CPABC Board Chair presented a Leadership Update, holding three virtual sessions with over 2,200 members.

The overall satisfaction rating was 99%; members appreciated the information related to the economy and labour market, standards changes, and an update on the CPA professional program and Collaboration Accord.

In-person events included the Member Recognition event in May 2024, where <u>27 CPAs</u> were recognized for their professional and community achievements. Convocation was attended by 486 of the individuals who passed the May 2024 and September 2024 CFE exams, and over 2,500 friends, family members, and colleagues celebrated the graduates at two ceremonies. Nine new fellows were recognized at the annual FCPA dinner in February 2025 and over 87 guests were in attendance to celebrate their achievements.

The 63rd Annual CPABC Golf Tournament was attended by 122 golfers and the annual Monte Carlo event for CPAs, CFAs, and lawyers was sold out once again. Both events provided CPAs an opportunity to mingle, network, and engage with their peers and other professionals.

CPABC Chapters hosted 74 in-person events and provided CPA members, students, and candidates with local networking, social, and community support opportunities. Chapters offered a broad range of activities in their local communities, including, volunteer tax clinics, community outreach in support of food banks, Lunar New Year celebrations, professional development seminars, and student recruitment events. This included three "Standing Ovation" events, which gave chapter members the opportunity to network with fellow CPAs, welcome new members, and recognize local peers who had attained significant membership milestones. A dedicated virtual training session titled "Leading and Engaging with Emotional Intelligence" was offered to Chapter leaders, and the session provided the volunteers with two hours of verifiable CPD.

CPABC continued to focus on mental wellness of members and students and provided information regarding the free TELUS Health wellness services and resources provided through the Member Assistance Program (MAP).

Ensuring members were aware of programs and services was a substantial undertaking. Information was provided through the member magazine, *CPABC In Focus*, bi-weekly e-newsletters, the website, podcasts, and social media. All members can access benefit and savings programs and numerous national and provincial benefits.



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## **LEAD**

# Leadership in the profession

# Provincial Leadership

CPABC's branding efforts continued to focus on the concept You to the Power of CPA, using CPA as though it's a multiplier that increases the skills, leadership, and value of prospective students. <u>Videos</u> were used on social media and streaming content, and digital display and transit shelter ads were created.

Sponsored content focused on CPAs playing significant roles in diverse organizations, as well as the opportunities and career flexibility open to CPAs. The campaign performed above set benchmarks and drove awareness of the designation and career opportunities open to CPAs to key recruitment audiences. In addition, content was also created for employers and decision makers who hire and train CPAs.

In addition to the branding campaigns, CPABC did extensive work to raise the profile of CPABC and its members through articles, profiles, thought leadership pieces including our BC Check-Up: LIVE, WORK, and INVEST reports and surveys, sponsorships, and government relations.

Member profiles ran in the newsroom, the branding campaign, *CPABC* in Focus, and were used for attracting talent to the profession. These articles featured members with interesting careers not typically associated with CPAs and included members at every stage of their career. Profiles with experienced members demonstrated the leadership that CPAs bring to organizations, while examples of young members highlighted how a CPA's career can align with someone's purpose and passion.

In addition, CPABC continued its series of articles and podcasts on the importance of ESG and artificial intelligence, and what CPAs are doing in these areas.

**PROVINCIAL** 

# You to the Power of CPA





CPABC's branding efforts continued to focus on the concept You to the Power of CPA, using CPA as though it's a multiplier that increases the skills, leadership, and value of prospective students.

Major sponsorships included *Business in Vancouver's* Influential Women in Business and C-Suite Awards, and the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade provincial budget presentation. These opportunities allowed CPABC to partner with other organizations with a strong focus on business to provide information regarding the profession to government and business leaders.

Lastly, CPABC knows that financial literacy helps protect the public interest – if individuals have better financial skills and are informed, they will make better financial decisions. In addition to providing personal finance content in the newsroom, CPABC continued to offer free seminars using volunteer CPAs. Members shared unbiased, functional, and clear financial literacy information at a grassroots level. Sessions were available for adults at a variety of life stages, including entrepreneurs, new Canadians, as well as post-secondary students, and students from grades four to 12.

To promote the CPA financial literacy Indigenous curriculum, CPABC developed a flyer highlighting sessions for Indigenous audiences, including youth, personal finance, and Indigenous entrepreneurship.

There were also several notable Financial Literacy sessions that took place throughout the year:

- » "Managing Your Finances in Retirement" session was delivered in Mandarin for S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Richmond and as a CPABC-hosted webinar.
- » CPABC collaborated with S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Richmond to host the "Effective Tax Strategies" session in Ukrainian, and handouts were also translated into Ukrainian.
- » CPABC partnered with South Arm Community Center in Richmond for the first multilingual offering of, "Protect Your Assets by Planning Ahead," presented in English, Punjabi, and Cantonese. The three sessions at this event were well attended and Service Canada and CPABC volunteers provided additional financial literacy resources.

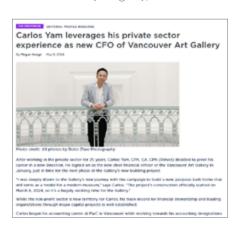
# **Member Profiles**



Rachel McAllister, CPA, CA



Emily Heinrich, CPA, CPA (Oregon),



Carlos Yam, CPA, CA, CPA (Illinois)

- » MLA Henry Yao's office hosted a "Fraud Protection" session in Mandarin.
- » The "Needs and Wants" workshop was delivered to French immersion grade 4/5 students at école Beausoleil in Victoria.
- » CPABC hosted a "Protect Your Assets by Planning Ahead" webinar with 120 attendees, led by an estate planning expert.
- » At the Gathering Our Voices 2025 event hosted by the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, staff participated as booth exhibitors, speaking with 56 Indigenous members, and hosted five different Financial Literacy Workshops with up to 27 youth participating in each session.

Lastly, CPABC sponsored the EMPOWER women's conference in Parksville, featuring themes like leadership, entrepreneurship, and financial wellness. A Financial Literacy volunteer spoke on how CPAs support business growth and participated in a financial wellness panel.

# Pan-Canadian Leadership

CPABC staff and volunteers continued to demonstrate leadership by collaborating formally and informally on various pan-Canadian committees focused on student education, professional development, recruitment, and public trust.



In addition to providing personal finance content in the newsroom,

CPABC continued to offer free seminars using volunteer CPAs.

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Sessions were available for adults at a variety of life stages, including entrepreneurs, new Canadians, as well as post-secondary students, and students from grades four to 12.

# **ACCOUNT**

### Governance and Leadership

CPABC's Board of Directors was comprised of three public representatives appointed by the provincial government and 16 CPAs.

At a governance level, the national CPA Collaboration Accord has governed how the independent national body, CPA Canada, and independent CPA provincial bodies work together. However, in June 2023, CPA Ontario and CPA Quebec announced their intention to withdraw from the Collaboration Accord, triggering an 18-month process that concluded on December 20, 2024. The CPA profession is committed to collaboration, cooperation, and partnership, as well as the harmonization of approaches to common core priorities. Since 2023, we have been working towards a new way to collaborate going forward and much headway has been made.

The Council of Chief Executives (**CCE**), formed under the Collaboration Accord, oversees various Standing Committees. These committees form the backbone of the CCE's work and were established to act upon the key accountabilities identified in the profession's Collaboration Accord. While the structure of these committees may change over time, collaboration will continue in formal and informal ways to ensure the reputation and strength of the CPA profession and brand continues. It is not anticipated that there will be an impact on the portability of the CPA designation or practice rights across Canada.



CPABC has been named a **Top Employer** for BC by Mediacorp Canada every year since 2020.

Based on the last team culture survey taken,
CPABC's employees
were very satisfied
with working for the organization, intend
to stay, and would
recommend it as a good
place to work.

# Talent Management

CPABC continually strives to be an employer of top talent. CPABC has been named a Top Employer for BC by Mediacorp Canada every year since 2020.

CPABC also continued to focus on leadership development and the CPABC L.E.A.D. Program trained another cohort of emerging leaders. We also launched CPABC's first employee Mentorship Program, which paired employees together to facilitate new learning opportunities, knowledge sharing, and cross-departmental communication.

Based on the last team culture survey taken, CPABC's employees were very satisfied with working for the organization, intend to stay, and would recommend it as a good place to work.

# Systems and Processes

CPABC maintained robust and consistent internal accounting and administrative control systems in a remote working environment, and met the requirements of statutes, such as the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the Canadian anti-spam legislation.

Such systems provided reasonable assurance that the financial information was relevant, reliable, and accurate, and that CPABC's assets were appropriately accounted for and adequately safeguarded.

CPABC has pivoted effectively to support hybrid work and believed there were no mission-critical systems, controls, procedures, or deficiencies that impaired its ability to provide reliable and timely disclosure or affected its ability to execute the strategic and operational plans. CPABC continued to improve and enhance the functionalities of existing systems and integrate new systems to support operational efficiencies.

Not only does technology advancements enhance the effectiveness and efficiencies of CPABC's operations, they also increase the sophistication of cybersecurity threats. CPABC continues to focus on strong security processes and systems as well as data governance as part of our cybersecurity maturity. This included mandatory annual staff training and a ransomware tabletop exercise with the full leadership response team.



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We also launched CPABC's first employee

# Mentorship Program,

which paired employees together to facilitate new learning opportunities, knowledge sharing, and cross-departmental communication.

# 2024-25 CPABC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Peter Guo, CPA, CA Chair



J. Alain LeFebvre, FCPA, FCA First Vice-Chair



Alexander (Sandy) Stedman, FCPA, FCA Second Vice-Chair



Alicia Williams, CPA, CPA (Arizona) Treasurer



Bernard Achampong, CPA, CMA Director



Bill Chan, CPA, CGA Director



Jayana Darras, CPA, CA Director



David Diebolt, CPA, CA Director



Craig Elliott, CPA, CGA Director



Wendy Ham, CPA, CGA Director



Bill Lau, CPA, CA Director



Josie Lim, CPA, CA Director



Regan McGrath, CPA, CA Director



Tiffany Snauwaert, CPA, CA Director



Andrew Sweeney, CPA, CA
Director



Peter Tingling, CPA, CGA Director



**Ken Leung**Public Representative



**Bijan Pourkarimi** Public Representative



**Grace Wong**Public Representative

# ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE (ESG)

CPABC is focused on measuring its impact and performance in Environmental, Social, and Governance measures. From everyday practices to long-term strategies, we are committed to a sustainable future for our organization and profession and will strive for continuous improvement.

In order to measure progress, CPABC will aim to follow core reporting standards issued by the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (SASB), which are internationally known and widely used. In addition, like many other organizations around the world, CPABC may also adopt parts of other reporting standard(s) to ensure its reporting is relevant and comprehensive.

While CPABC is in the early stages of its ESG journey, this past year, work has begun on many initiatives with measurable results (already available and/or planned) and had existing programs already in place prior to the assessment against SASB. CPABC is working to mitigate the gaps found and some notable accomplishments are:

#### **Environment**

To ensure future generations can enjoy the benefits of a healthy and sustainable planet we must protect and preserve the environment. CPABC is doing its part by reducing paper wastage through digital transformation, participating in a comprehensive building recycling program, and providing employees with a public transit subsidy. Most importantly, CPABC continues to build a green culture and awareness within the organization.



In order to measure progress, CPABC will aim to follow core reporting standards issued by the Sustainability

Accounting Standards

Board (SASB).

#### Social

Employees, members, and the communities in which CPABC operates are critical to the future of the organization. In past years, we have invested considerable resources developing an Indigenous Engagement Strategy and an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (**EDI**) Strategy to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable community.

In our ongoing commitment to EDI, CPABC has undertaken several impactful initiatives. We launched a regular EDI Alliance newsletter that highlighted the EDI book club, Pride, and Mental Health Week. In recognition of Black History month, staff received a lesson in Canadian and BC Black History from Amorell Saunders N'Daw the Principal and Senior Advisor at Amorell & Co., and for Asian Heritage Month, we hosted Karen Dosanjh, author of Untold Stories: The South Asian Pioneer Experience in BC. As part of our Indigenous strategy staff also received information on opportunities linked to Indigenous Peoples Day and for Truth and Reconciliation Day/Orange Shirt Day, had the opportunity to hear from Sam George, an Elder of the Squamish Nation, an educator with the Indian Residential School Survivors Society, a survivor of St. Paul's Indian Residential School, and author of the memoir "The Fire Still Burns; Life in and After Residential School."

To foster an inclusive and respectful workplace, we conducted a staff workshop on "Building an Inclusive, Respectful Workplace: Exploring Microaggressions" and held a well-attended Lunch & Learn session with Michael Pickup, FCPA, FCA, Auditor General of BC, to commemorate Pride. Additionally, we provided an EDI workshop on Allyship for all employees. These initiatives reflect our dedication to fostering an inclusive and respectful environment for all members and staff.

We also conducted an EDI website audit to assess the current state, identifying strengths and gaps to improve overall inclusion. This analysis focused on ensuring the information is inclusive, accessible, and not harmful. Our communications staff participated in an EDI workshop to enhance their understanding of authentic representation when profiling members and discussed best practices for content creation. A member profile audit was conducted, and a brand tone guideline was developed for the website.



In our ongoing commitment to EDI, CPABC has undertaken several impactful initiatives.

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We also conducted an

EDI website audit to

assess the current state,
identifying strengths and
gaps to improve overall
inclusion.

CPABC's board is also committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion, and had a guided tour of the Chinese Canadian Museum, which provided valuable learning about the contributions and plight of Chinese Canadians in BC and Canada. They also participated in a guided tour at the Shipyard in North Vancouver to learn about the role of women in the war efforts during WWII as well as bring the history, people, and stories of the area to life through the context of the shipbuilding operations which took place during World War II at Burrard Dry Dock. The CPABC board also invests in ongoing learning as part of the Indigenous engagement strategy and participated in an Indigenous Blanket Exercise workshop. The workshop's goal was to build understanding about the shared history of Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada.

CPABC continued to focus on further engagement with Indigenous communities and conducted respectful dialogue, listening to understand community needs and how the CPA profession could add value and be a partner. Key engagement, education, recruitment, and sponsorship activities were undertaken.

CPABC also has a long history of being active within the community with its Day of Giving, United Way campaigns, and the volunteer driven Financial Literacy Program.

#### Governance

Governance refers to an organization's leadership, ethical behavior, and transparency. As the provincial regulatory body for Chartered Professional Accountants, CPABC holds itself to a high standard when it comes to governance. Board composition, risk management, ethics, reporting, and anti-corruption mechanisms are already well-established and follows best practices within the organization. In particular, CPABC will continue to implement our rolling three-year Cybersecurity strategy to ensure the organization's data is secured and protected.



CPABC also has a long history of being active within the community with its Day of Giving, United Way campaigns, and the volunteer driven Financial Literacy Program.

# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

In 2024/25, CPABC generated a net contribution of \$396,000 compared to a deficit of \$1,280,000 in the prior year. In comparison to the prior year, the net contribution was largely due to:

- » A net contribution from CPA Western School of Business of \$3,102,000 compared to \$2,077,000 in the prior year for delivering the CPA education program in B.C. as both PEP and Preparatory modules had a higher registration volume as well as increased fees compared to the year before.
- » Spending on the new CPA professional program was \$53,000 compared to \$421,000 in the prior year. The profession completed the design phase of the new program and is now entering the build phase with implementation expected in early 2027.
- » Net investment income of \$3,501,000 for the current year was up from \$3,296,000 in the prior year. The increase reflected strong equity market performance in early 2024 driven by favourable monetary policies in Canada whereby the interest rates decreased from 5% to 3.25%.



#### Net investment income

of \$3,501,000 for the current year was up from \$3,296,000 in the prior year.

Net contribution
from CPA Western
School of Business of
\$3,102,000 compared to
\$2,077,000
in the prior year.

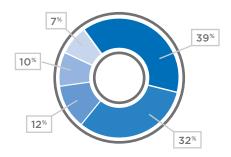
#### Revenues

Total revenue in 2024/25 for CPABC was \$56,248,000 compared to \$53,333,000 in the prior year.

The increase in revenue is primarily attributable to the increase in net contribution from CPAWSB and investment income as described above.

As a result of the operating agreement with CPAWSB as an agent delivering education on behalf of the four western provinces, the portion of student annual dues and module fees pertaining to BC students and candidates are recorded on CPABC's financial statements. Student annual dues and module fees (\$21,772,000) accounted for 39% of the revenues in 2024/25.

Aside from the student dues and module fees, other significant sources of funding for the profession's programs and services were membership dues (\$18,194,000), professional development revenue (\$6,791,000), and public practice and regulatory affairs revenue (\$5,329,000) which represented 32%, 12%, and 9% of revenues, respectively.



# 2024/25 Revenue

- **39**% Student Annual Dues and Module Fees
- 32% Membership Dues
- **12**\* Professional Development
- 10% Public Practice and Regulatory Affairs
- 7% Other Revenue

# **Total Revenues**

2024/25 **\$56,248,000** 

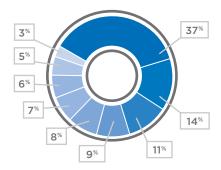
2023/24 \$53,333,000

# **Expenditures**

Total expenditures in 2024/25 for CPABC were \$55,852,000 which are comparable to expenditures of \$54,613,000 in the prior year.

As a result of the Operating Agreement with CPAWSB mentioned above, expenses incurred by CPAWSB in the delivery of education on behalf of CPABC were recorded in CPABC's financial statements as Student Education Program expenses in the amount of \$18,670,000. Savings of \$286,000 in Student Education Program expenses were due to lower review centre costs, resulting from fewer CFE writers and Capstone 2 learners. Additionally, laptop costs decreased due to the implementation of shared laptop rentals across all exams during the fiscal year.

As a regulatory body, CPABC's legislated mandate is to protect the public interest. In 2024/25, CPABC incurred higher regulatory costs fulfilling its mandate. In addition to the ongoing programs to protect the public interest and the support of members and students, the 2024/25 expenditures reflected continued funding for the Indigenous Engagement Strategy and building the Financial Literacy program.



# 2024/25 Expenditures

- **37**% Student Education and Practical Experience Program
- **14**% Public Practice and Regulatory Affairs
- 11% Professional Development
- 9% Administration Support
- **8**% External Affairs and Communications
- **7**% Member Services and Engagement
- 6% Information Technology
- **5**% Student Recruiting and Employer Relations
- **3**% Governance and Executive Office

# **Total Expenditures**

2024/25 **\$55,852,000** 

2023/24 **\$54,613,000** 

# FINANCIAL RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The ongoing operations of CPABC funded from revenues were derived primarily from three sources.

- » Student annual dues and module fees were 39% of total revenue with a net contribution of \$3,102,000. The profession continues to train qualified CPAs, while ensuring the CPA Education Program remained accessible and attractive to students, meeting the needs of employers, and market demand for CPAs.
- » Member dues were 32% of total revenue, funding many critical programs. With many members close to retirement and the continued demand for CPAs, recruitment programs to attract sufficient CPAs to meet labour market needs were of continued importance. In addition to recruitment efforts, member support and satisfaction were critical for maintaining sustainable levels.
- » The professional development program accounted for 12% of CPABC's total revenue. New courses are introduced regularly, and delivery methods are adjusted to meet member demand. Uncertain participation rates, changing member preferences and ongoing and expanding competition were financial risks to the organization. CPABC managed these risks by only holding synchronous PD courses with projected break-even registration levels, and by collaborating and cost sharing with other CPA provincial bodies to minimize the member impact of cancelled seminars due to low registration.

One significant funding risk is related to CPABC's role as a regulator. Discipline cases can be complex and have unpredictable costs, causing uncertainty in terms of time, effort, and resources. CPABC has no control over these variables. To mitigate this risk, the Board has established a Protection of the Public Reserve to ensure funding is available for CPABC to fulfil its regulatory mandate.

In the normal course of business, CPABC was exposed to financial risks, such as those related to credit, liquidity, and other price risks, which have the potential to adversely affect operating and financial performance. For an explanation of CPABC's exposure to the risks associated with its financial instruments, refer to the notes to the audited financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2025.

# NON-FINANCIAL RISKS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

#### National Collaboration

The Collaboration Accord has been the framework that maps out how Canadian CPA bodies work together to ensure the protection of the public interest. On June 2023, CPA Ontario and CPA Quebec announced that they were withdrawing from the Collaboration Accord effective December 20, 2024. CPABC remains a party to the Collaboration Accord. In addition, a new model of national collaboration, including with CPA Ontario and CPA Quebec, is being developed and significant progress has been made.

# Regulatory

There were several risks associated with regulation of members and adherence to new standards that CPABC actively mitigated throughout the course of the year.

CPABC had representatives on national regulatory committees. Accounting regulation is harmonized wherever possible across Canada, which enhances the profession's adoption of best practices.

CPAs must stay abreast of emerging accounting and assurance standards and must be aware of and adapt to regulatory change in a timely manner. There is a risk that members cannot keep up with the increasing complexity and volume of standard changes. To mitigate this, CPABC provided tools and support to help members adjust to evolving standards and maintain the quality of their work.

In addition, CPABC focused on member education to ensure awareness and compliance during a time of extensive regulatory change and monitored the quality of the work performed by public practitioners through practice review with a goal of helping them deal with the increased complexity.

In terms of managing and ensuring compliance of members, CPABC worked with volunteers (members and public representatives) to effectively deliver its regulatory mandate: maintaining student enrolment, membership admission, public practice licensure and firm registration, and mandatory continuing education requirements; conducting reviews of public practice firms; investigating complaints; and disciplining members, firms, and students.

To mitigate the risks associated with the use of volunteers in such a critical area, CPABC ensured that those participating on regulatory committees had an appropriate level of expertise.

With the exception of the Disciplinary Committee, which received most of its powers directly from the CPA Act, CPABC's Board played an active role in the oversight of regulatory committees.

Oversight activities included:

- » Appointing a board member to be a liaison officer for each of the key regulatory committees.
- » Approving governance policies that determined how the committees were to operate.
- » Approving all committee appointments.
- » Receiving timely updates on committee activities throughout the year.
- » Requiring committee chairs attend a board meeting and formally present the activities of the committee at least annually.

# **Attracting Students**

CPABC continued its effort to promote the CPA program in order to attract students to the profession. However, there remains a risk that the program may not attract a sufficient number of applicants. One contributing factor is the high cost of housing in British Columbia, which has resulted to a net migration from BC to other provinces. Most recently, post-secondary institutions (**PSIs**) have also experienced a shrinking potential student pipeline, exacerbated by the Federal government's announcements in January 2024 and 2025 to reduce the number of study permits issued to international individuals by 35% to 40% over the next two years. This is expected to narrow the pipeline of future students for the CPA program, though the full impact is still being assessed.

To ensure that the CPA PEP evolves to meet or exceed marketplace standards and continues to attract applicants, the profession has future-proofed itself by updating the Competency Map making it evergreen. This updated map will form the basis of a modernized program of studies aligned with evolving business needs.

#### **CPA Brand**

CPAs worked in every sector of the economy and provided insight and guidance on many significant financial decisions. They operated in a complex, fluid, and changing environment where public and government expectations could shift with respect to financial reporting, transparency, and the role of auditors.

One of CPABC's members or firms could come under the media spotlight in a negative way, which could have a negative impact on the CPA brand and the reputation of the profession. CPABC monitored media daily to assess how CPAs and CPABC was being portrayed in the media.

# **CPABC** Operations

When looking at delivery of services, CPABC relied on the services of volunteers to complete many of its programs and regulatory responsibilities. The talent and expertise of volunteers are among its most valuable resources.

There is always some risk that volunteers may not be as willing or able to donate their time and CPABC could eventually incur a significant cost in trying to replace lost expertise. To mitigate this risk, CPABC worked to ensure positive and rewarding experiences for volunteers and create flexible volunteer opportunities.

Talent management is a key element of success for any organization, and ensuring employee engagement is critical. To mitigate the risk of high staff turn over or burn out, CPABC offered a high-quality work environment with a competitive total compensation package. There was also a focus on engagement activities and training opportunities on mindfulness, mental wellness, and resilience that support staff's mental health.

# CAPABILITY TO DELIVER RESULTS

At March 31, 2025, cash and investments available to the organization totalled \$48,380,000 (2024 - \$48,775,000), a decrease of \$395,000 due to the investment in capital expenditures and funding of operational activities.

CPABC continued to engage an external discretionary investment advisor. Staff and CPABC's treasurer continued to meet with the investment advisor quarterly. In addition, the Audit Committee reviewed the investment policy and portfolio performance semi-annually. The primary objective of CPABC's investment policy is preservation of capital, with secondary objectives of maximizing return on investments, providing sufficient liquidity to allow the organization to meet its changing cash requirements, and cash flow generation.

The goal is to achieve an annual return that exceeds a benchmark based on the asset allocation weighting.

CPABC believes its current cash and short-term investments, combined with the anticipated cash flow from operations, are sufficient to meet the working capital and capital expenditure requirements for the foreseeable future.

# **NET ASSETS**

The net assets available are as follows:

	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2024
Total unrestricted net assets	20,646	19,180
Invested in tangible and intangible assets	3,176	3,233
Strategic opportunity fund	2,402	3,415
Protection of the Public Reserve	2,500	2,500
Fee Stabilization Fund	1,000	1,000
Total Net Assets	29,724	29,328

In 2024/25, the total capital expenditures were \$970,000, of which \$648,000 related to computer hardware and software purchases, \$140,000 for the development of the practice review system, and \$184,000 for leasehold improvement, furniture and equipment.

The unrestricted net assets remain in excess of the target threshold as per the Board approved Net Asset Policy. In 2014/15, the respective Boards and Council of the legacy bodies internally restricted amounts for the Strategic Opportunity Fund, \$2,402,000 (2024 - \$3,415,000) for projects benefiting the profession and its members and students. This year, \$960,000 was spent on outreach to Indigenous communities through collaboration with key partners, and the online delivery of the CPA Canada Financial Literacy program in BC. As well, \$53,000 was spent on the new CPA professional Program, which is a significant project in support of the evolving needs of the profession.

In 2017/18, the Board internally restricted \$2,500,000 for a Protection of the Public Reserve, which is comprised of those resources to offset unexpected costs in the event of a significant disciplinary case that could not be absorbed within the operational budget. The Board also internally restricted \$1,000,000 for the Fee Stabilization Fund to set aside resources to mitigate significant increases in provincial member fees that could otherwise be impacted by one-time operational priorities.

The Board and management believe the net assets of the profession are sufficient to:

- a) Provide the financial capital needed to meet any unexpected financial risks CPABC may encounter in the near future; and
- b) Maintain reasonable stability in the annual membership dues payable by members.

# **OUTLOOK FOR 2024/25**

Heading into the next fiscal year there is extreme uncertainty regarding the province's economic outlook due to tariffs and political turmoil. Against this backdrop, CPABC will continue to deliver on its overarching mandate of protecting the public interest and supporting members and students, leveraging diverse delivery models to enhance operational effectiveness.

As the regulatory environment evolves, CPABC must adapt. This means providing additional resources to ensure that we demonstrate leadership in connection with anti-money laundering measures and putting more supports in place to address the increasing complexity of regulatory proceedings, such as those related to professional conduct. We will also be implementing a new case management application that will streamline processes, provide a better user experience, and better support the disciplinary process.

Our new Practice Review Solution (**PRS**), implemented two years ago, is now fully functional and has enhanced the efficiency and security of the review process. This will be further enhanced with a disaster recovery solution to ensure continuity of this critical regulatory function.

Another of our priorities is strengthening CPABC's security posture. With the increasing reliance on technology, particularly artificial intelligence, cybersecurity remains a top priority. At the same time, we recognize that AI provides opportunities for improvement, so we are continuing to explore and implement AI tools to enhance services and streamline operations including the automation of workflows, which will allow staff to pivot to more value-added tasks. For example, the PD scheduling automation project aims to modernize course and instructor scheduling, enhancing reporting capabilities and communication. Another example is the development of an AI chatbot, and once it's successfully deployed it will likely pave the way for the use of similar technology across other platforms.

We continue to make progress on our Indigenous Engagement Strategy, aiming to increase the number of Indigenous students and candidates, and will continue to collaborate with Indigenous organizations and to be present at Indigenous career fairs and events. We will also continue to engage with our Indigenous members who have voluntarily self-declared their Indigenous status.

Our financial literacy program continues to make a significant impact, and we will continue to work with CPA volunteers and host organizations to better serve communities across the province, including Indigenous communities.

Strengthening CPABC's brand is a key priority. As we move forward into another year, we will continue to enhance our digital presence through targeted social media campaigns, a refreshed website, and engaging content that highlights the value of the CPA designation. By showcasing success stories and the diverse career paths of our members, we aim to attract new talent and reinforce our members' reputation as strategic thinkers who create value for organizations in every sector of the economy. Our provincial branding campaign will focus largely on recruitment and content will be geared to individuals at every stage of their education journey – from high school to post graduate studies, and an employer campaign will highlight the benefits of hiring or training a CPA.

Lastly, we will continue to support our members and students in meaningful and impactful ways, ensuring they remain effective financial stewards for our province in the protection of the public's interest.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# Management responsibility for financial reporting

The accompanying financial statements and all other information contained in this annual report are the responsibility of the management of the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia (CPABC). The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and have been approved by the Board of Directors.

Preparation of financial information is an integral part of management's broader responsibilities for the ongoing operations of CPABC. Management maintains a system of internal accounting controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are accurately recorded on a timely basis and are properly approved, resulting in the presentation of reliable financial information. Such information also includes amounts based on management's best estimate and judgment.

The Audit Committee (the "Committee") reviews the annual financial statements and recommends them to the Board of Directors for its approval. In addition, the Committee meets periodically with management and the external auditor. The Committee reports directly to the Board of Directors and reviews the annual report in its entirety.

The accompanying financial statements have been audited by BDO Canada LLP, who is engaged by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Committee, and whose appointment was approved by the members at the annual general meeting. The external auditor has access to the Committee, without management present, to discuss the results of the audit

**DATED** May 27, 2025

Lori Mathison, FCPA, FCGA, LLB, BCL

PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Amy Y. Lam FCPA, FCA

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT,

CORPORATE SERVICES AND

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



Tel: 604 688 5421 Fax: 604 688 5132 vancouver@bdo.ca BDO Canada LLP Unit 1100 - Royal Centre 1055 West Georgia Street Vancouver, BC V6E 3P3 Canada

## Independent Auditor's Report

#### To the Board of Directors of the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as of March 31, 2025, and the Statements of Operations, Changes in Net Assets and Cash Flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia as at March 31, 2025 and the results of its operations, changes in net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, 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 Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia'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 Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia'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 these financial statements.

BDO Canada LLP, a Canadian limited liability partnership, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms.



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 Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia'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 Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

BDO Canada LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants

Vancouver, British Columbia May 27, 2025

## **Statement of Financial Position**

As at March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	\$ 12,491	\$ 13,821
Accounts receivable	11,188	10,711
Short term investments (Note 2)	7,515	7,009
Prepaid and other assets	1,687	1,361
	32,881	32,902
Prepaid expenses	211	110
Investments (Note 3)	28,374	27,945
Equipment and leaseholds (Note 5)	2,074	2,090
Intangible assets (Note 6)	1,836	2,015
	\$ 65,376	\$ 65,062
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 7)	\$ 9,151	\$ 10,273
Deferred revenue (Notes 8,14)	25,768	24,590
	34,919	34,863
Deferred Lease Inducements (Note 9)	733	871
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital and intangible assets (Note 12)	3,176	3,233
Internally restricted (Note 11)	5,902	6,915
Unrestricted	 20,646	 19,180
	29,724	29,328
	\$ 65,376	\$ 65,062

On behalf of the Board.

Peter Guo, CPA, CA Chair of the Board Alicia Williams, CPA, CPA (Arizona)

Treasurer

# **Statement of Operations**For the year ended March 31, 2025

		2025		2024
REVENUES (Note 18)				
Student annual dues and module fees (Note 14)	\$	21,772	\$	21,033
Membership dues		18,194		16,975
Professional development		6,791		6,373
Regulatory affairs:				
Public practice fees		4,227		3,918
Admission fees		1,063		1,050
Discipline fines		39		18
Investment income (Note 4)		3,501		3,296
Other revenue		346		369
Employment referral services		193		196
Member services and events		122		105
	\$	56,248	\$	53,333
Student education delivery (Note 14)	\$	18,670	\$	18,956
EXPENSES (Note 18)	•	40.000	•	10.050
Professional development	•	5,482	Ψ	5,301
Regulatory affairs		0, .02		0,00
Public practice registration and review		3,598		3,119
All other regulatory affairs		4,392		4,292
Administration support		5,225		4,769
External affairs and communications		4,266		4,154
Member services and engagement		4,039		3,803
Information technology		3,529		3,372
Student recruitment and employer relations		2,904		2,713
Practical experience and education		1,974		2,576
Governance and executive office		1,773		1,558
Governance and excedence office	<b>\$</b>	55,852	\$	54,613
	Ψ	33,032	Ψ	J <del>4</del> ,013
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$	396	\$	(1,280)

# **Statement of Changes in Net Assets** For the year ended March 31, 2025

	Invested in Capital & Intangible Assets (Note 12)	Internally Restricted ( <u>Note 12</u> )	Unrestricted	Total Net Assets
Opening Net Assets, April 1, 2023	\$ 3,040	\$ 8,282	\$ 19,286	\$ 30,608
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	(888)	(1,367)	975	(1,280)
Net investments (Note 12)	1,081	-	(1,081)	-
Net Assets, March 31, 2024	\$ 3,233	\$ 6,915	\$ 19,180	\$ 29,328
Opening Net Assets, April 1, 2024	\$ 3,233	\$ 6,915	\$ 19,180	\$ 29,328
Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(1,024)	(1,013)	2,433	396
Net investments (Note 12)	967	-	(967)	-
Net Assets, March 31, 2025	\$ 3,176	\$ 5,902	\$ 20,646	\$ 29,724

## **Statement of Cash Flows**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses	\$ 396	\$ (1,280)
Changes in non-cash items:		
Amortization of equipment and leaseholds	700	672
Amortization of intangible assets	462	354
Loss on disposal of equipment and leaseholds	3	17
Reinvested distributions from pooled funds	(584)	(449)
Realized gain on sale of investments	(1,504)	(218)
Unrealized gain on investments	(278)	(1,497)
Amortization of deferred lease inducements	(138)	(138)
	\$ (943)	\$ (2,539)
Change in non-cash working capital items		
Accounts receivable	(477)	(2,220
Loan receivable	-	330
Prepaid and other assets	(427)	(23)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(1,122)	1,969
Deferred revenue	1,178	946
	\$ (1,791)	\$ (1,537)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of investments	\$ (15,747)	\$ (16,219)
Proceeds on sale of investments	17,178	17,061
Purchase of equipment and leaseholds	(687)	(413)
Purchase of intangible assets	(283)	(685)
	\$ 461	\$ (256)
Net change in cash	\$ (1,330)	\$ (1,793
Cash, beginning of year	13,821	15,614
Cash, end of year	\$ 12,491	\$ 13,821

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

## **Purpose and Nature of Organization**

On June 24, 2015, the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia (CPABC) was legally established under the *Chartered Professional Accountants Act (CPA Act)*. Under the CPA Act, only members of CPABC are recognized as Chartered Professional Accountants in BC and are subject to regulation by CPABC. CPABC is a member organization of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada) and is a tax-exempt body under Section 149 of the Income Tax Act.

CPABC has the following objects as outlined in the Chartered Professional Accountants Act:

- a. to promote and maintain the knowledge, skill and proficiency of members and students in the practice of accounting;
- b. to establish qualifications and requirements for admission as a member and continuation of membership, and for enrollment and continuation of enrollment of students;
- c. to regulate all matters, including competency, fitness and professional conduct, relating to the practice of accounting by members, students, professional accounting corporations and registered firms;
- d. to establish and enforce professional standards;
- e. subject to paragraph (f), to represent the interests of members and students;
- f. to protect the public interest

## 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### a) Basis of Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations applied within the framework of the accounting policies summarized below.

#### b) Revenue Recognition

CPABC follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred.

Membership dues and admission fees, are recognized as revenue in the year in which they apply. Membership fees received in advance of the membership year to which they relate are recorded as deferred revenue.

*Professional development revenue* is recognized when the course is delivered. The liability is recorded as deferred revenue for the portion of course revenues collected but not yet delivered and passport revenue not yet used. The passport term runs from September 1 through August 31 of the following fiscal year.

Public practice fees are recognized as revenue in the year in which they apply and the amount collected are allocated proportionately over 12 months commencing September 1, first day of the licensing year, and the portion not yet earned is recorded as deferred revenue.

Discipline fines are recognized when their collection is assured and all of CPABC's internal processes and any known external appeals are complete.

Student annual dues are recognized as revenue in the year in which they apply. Student annual dues received in advance of the year to which they relate are recorded as deferred revenue.

Module fees are recognized when the courses are delivered. The liability for the portion of module fees collected but not yet delivered is recorded as deferred revenue.

Investment income includes interest income, dividends and realized and unrealized gains and losses.

Other revenue is recognized on an accrual basis as earned.

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

## 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### c) 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 the disclosure of contingencies at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The most significant areas requiring management estimates and assumptions include the useful lives of equipment, leaseholds and intangible assets for calculating amortization; the determination of the deferred portion of Professional Development (PD) passport fees; the allocation of education program expenses from the CPA Western School of Business (CPAWSB); contingencies and the allocation of expenses to the appropriate functional category on the statement of operations.

## d) Short term investments

Short-term investments consist of guaranteed investment certificates with maturity dates up to twelve months from the date of acquisition and the portion of fixed income fund that will be redeemed within the next fiscal year.

Guaranteed investment certificates are measured at amortized cost. Investments in pooled fixed income funds are initially recognized and subsequently measured at fair value, determined using market information. Transaction costs and net gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are immediately recognized in the statement of operations. Transaction costs are added to the initial acquisition cost for instruments carried at amortized cost.

## e) Investments

Investments consist of pooled fixed income and equity funds, private asset and infrastructure funds which are initially recognized and subsequently measured at fair value, determined using market information. Transaction costs and net gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are immediately recognized in the statement of operations.

#### f) Equipment, Leaseholds and Intangible Assets

Equipment and leaseholds are recorded at cost. Amortization is calculated on a straight-line basis over the expected useful lives of the assets as follows:

Leasehold improvements remaining term of lease
Office furnishings and equipment five to ten years
CPABC member database ten years
Computer equipment three years
Practice review software ten years

Website and software three to seven years

Equipment, leaseholds and intangible assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that its carrying amount may not be recoverable. If any potential impairment is identified, the amount of the impairment is quantified by comparing the carrying value of the equipment, leaseholds, or intangible asset to its fair value or replacement cost. Any impairment of these assets is charged to income in the period in which the impairment is determined.

An impairment loss is not reversed if the fair value of the equipment, leaseholds or intangible asset subsequently increases.

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

## 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### g) Lease Inducements

CPABC accounts for lease inducements received by deferring such amounts and amortizing them on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

## h) Controlled Entities

Controlled not-for-profit entities are not consolidated in CPABC's financial statements as the bylaws and trust agreements of the entities specify that the entities' assets are to be used for specific purposes only and are not available to CPABC even in the event of the entities' dissolution. CPABC believes separate note disclosure of controlled entities provides a more meaningful presentation of CPABC's activities.

## i) Significantly Influenced not-for-profit organization

The Board of Directors of CPAWSB, a not-for-profit organization, is comprised of the CEOs from the four western provinces. CPABC has 25% representation on the board of directors which meets the definition of significant influence over CPAWSB. CPABC is also one of four members of CPAWSB and CPABC's membership is not transferrable. Accordingly, no ownership interest of CPAWSB is reflected in the financial statements.

## i) Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Accounts receivable are reviewed on a monthly basis and are provided for when it is determined that the likelihood of collection is low.

## k) Donated Services

CPABC and its members benefit greatly from donated services in the form of volunteer time for various activities. Since these services are not normally purchased by CPABC and because of the difficulty of determining their fair value, donated services are not recognized in these financial statements.

#### 2. SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS

	2025	2024
Guaranteed investment certificates (GICs)	\$ 175	\$ 175
Pooled fixed income funds	2,292	2,818
Money market funds	 5,048	4,016
Total short term investments	\$ 7,515	\$ 7,009

GICs have an effective interest rate of 3.40% (2024 – 4.75%) with a maturity date of November 2025 (2024 – November 2024). Fixed income funds include high grade corporate and government bonds.

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

#### 3. INVESTMENTS

	2025	2024
Pooled fixed income funds	\$ 8,843	\$ 8,317
Pooled equity funds	16,021	16,860
Private asset and infrastructure funds	3,039	2,405
Money market funds	467	360
US money market fund	4	3
Total investments	\$ 28,374	\$ 27,945

Pooled fixed income funds include high grade corporate and government bonds, with a varying mix between medium and longer term maturities. Equity funds are invested in Canadian and international securities holding publicly-traded common shares, and convertible securities. The Canadian and International portion of the portfolio was 62%, 38% respectively as of March 31, 2025 (2024 – 61%, 39%). The private infrastructure fund is invested in international private and diverse infrastructure projects.

#### 4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
Interest and dividend income	\$ 1,135	\$ 1,132
Reinvested distribution from pooled funds	584	449
Realized gain on sale of investments	1,504	218
Unrealized gain on fair value of investments	278	1,497
Total investment income	\$ 3,501	\$ 3,296

## 5. EQUIPMENT AND LEASEHOLDS

	Cost	 umulated ortization	Net B	ook Value 2025	Net I	Book Value 2024
Harbour Centre leasehold improvements	\$ 2,971	\$ 1,727	\$	1,244	\$	1,316
Computer equipment	2,356	1,719		637		568
Office furnishings and equipment	801	608		193		206
Total equipment and leaseholds	\$ 6,128	\$ 4,054	\$	2,074	\$	2,090

#### 6. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Cost	 cumulated nortization	Net B	ook Value 2025	Net B	ook Value 2024
Practice review software	\$ 1,484	\$ 161	\$	1,323	\$	1,317
Website and software	1,288	961		327		303
CPABC member database	1,917	1,731		186		395
Total intangible assets	\$ 4,689	\$ 2,853	\$	1,836	\$	2,015

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

## 7. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	2025	2024
Trade payables	\$ 4,965	\$ 5,934
Accrued liabilities and other	3,441	3,670
Government remittances	 745	669
Total accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 9,151	\$ 10,273

#### 8. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2025	2024
Membership dues	\$ 14,939	\$ 13,640
Student annual dues and module fees	7,632	8,016
Public practice fees	1,864	1,738
Professional development	1,274	1,151
Other	59	45
Total deferred revenue	\$ 25,768	\$ 24,590

#### 9. DEFERRED LEASE INDUCEMENTS

CPABC received leasehold inducements of \$2,063 to fund leasehold improvements for the Harbour Centre premises in 2015 and 2016. These inducements have been deferred and are being amortized on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

	2025	2024
Opening balance	\$ 871	\$ 1,009
Current year amortization	(138)	(138)
Closing balance	\$ 733	\$ 871

#### 10. COMMITMENT AND CONTINGENCIES

a) The lease term for Harbour Centre commenced August 1, 2015 and extends through to July 31, 2030 with two options to renew for two further 5-year terms. In addition to the minimum lease payments, CPABC is required to pay a portion of operating costs and property taxes of \$645 (2024 – \$714).

Minimum lease payments required under the terms of the Harbour Center lease are as follows:

2026	\$ 731
2027	752
2028	752
2029	752
2030 and thereafter	 1,002
Total	\$ 3,989

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

## For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

## 10. COMMITMENT AND CONTINGENCIES (continued)

b) CPABC has issued statements of complaint and is involved with certain legal actions related to various matters arising from its regulatory process. The outcomes of these matters are not determinable, and the associated costs cannot be reasonably estimated. CPABC has no reason to expect that the ultimate disposition of any of these matters will have a material adverse impact on its financial position, results of operations or its ability to carry on any of its business activities.

#### 11. INTERNALLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

CPABC's main objective when managing capital is to maintain financial flexibility in order to preserve its ability to meet financial commitments, including possible contingencies and unforeseen external events. CPABC has established criteria for sound financial management through the unrestricted net assets policy which sets an appropriate target range.

CPABC maintains a policy to internally restrict an amount equal to the net assets invested in equipment, leaseholds and intangible assets, net of leasehold inducements of \$733 (2024 – \$871).

In addition, the Board approved the following categories of internally restricted net assets:

- Strategic Opportunity Fund of \$2,402 (2024 \$3,415), which is comprised of those resources the Board is restricting for projects that will benefit the profession and its members and students.
- Protection of the Public Reserve of \$2,500 (2024 \$2,500), which is comprised of those resources restricted to fund significant disciplinary activities which protect the public.
- Fee Stabilization Fund of \$1,000 (2024 \$1,000), which is comprised of those resources available to offset potential costs in order to minimize fluctuation in provincial member fees.

These internally restricted amounts are not available for any other purpose without prior approval from the Board. As of March 31, 2025, the following amounts remain internally restricted:

	2025	2024
Invested in capital & intangible assets	\$ 3,176 \$	3,233
Strategic opportunity fund	2,402	3,415
Protection of the public reserve	2,500	2,500
Fee stabilization fund	1,000	1,000
Closing balance	\$ 9,078 \$	10,148

			Int	ternal	lly Restri	cted				Un	restricted	Total Net Assets
	Invested Capital & Intangible Assets	Opp	ategic ortunity und	o P	tection of the ublic eserve	Stabi	Fee ilization und	In	FOTAL ternally estricted			
Net Assets, April 1, 2024	\$ 3,233	\$	3,415	\$	2,500	\$	1,000	\$	10,148	\$	19,180	\$ 29,328
Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expense	(1,024)		(1,013)		-		-		(2,037)		2,433	396
Net investments (Note 12)	967		-		-		-		967		(967)	-
Net Assets, March 31, 2025	\$ 3,176	\$	2,402	\$	2,500	\$	1,000	\$	9,078	\$	20,646	\$ 29,724

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

#### 12. NET ASSETS INVESTED IN CAPITAL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS:

a) Net assets invested in capital and intangible assets are calculated as follows:

	2025	2024
Equipment and leaseholds	\$ 1,222	\$ 1,100
Intangible assets	1,954	2,133
	\$ 3,176	\$ 3,233

b) Changes in net assets invested in capital and intangible assets is comprised of the following:

	2025	2024
Deficiency of revenue over expenses		
Amortization of equipment and leaseholds	\$ (700)	\$ (672)
Amortization of intangible assets	(462)	(354)
Amortization of deferred lease inducements	138	138
	\$ (1,024)	\$ (888)
Net investment in invested in capital and intangible assets:		
Purchase of equipment and leaseholds	\$ 687	\$ 413
Purchase of intangible assets	283	685
Loss on disposal of computer equipment	(3)	(17)
	\$ 967	\$ 1,081

#### 13. RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

The transactions described below are measured at the exchange amount – the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the other parties.

a) Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada (CPA Canada) is the national body which supports the provincial accounting bodies that have unified as Chartered Professional Accountants (CPA) in Canada.

During 2013, CPA Canada established a Collaboration Accord that defines roles and governance processes for the unified profession going forward. Under these mechanisms, CPA Canada and the participating unifying provincial bodies undertook a series of projects to implement the CPA profession's strategic initiatives and to collaborate nationally. CPA Canada accumulates the related costs and invoices the participating provincial bodies their proportionate share totaling \$1,452 (2024 – \$1,620). CPABC's contribution to funding these projects amounted to \$148 (2024 – \$252). These transactions are reflected in the appropriate cost function on the statement of operations.

On February 1, 2017, CPA Canada and the provincial bodies signed the Education Agreement which outlines the model to allocate costs and resulting net deficits or surplus for the national CPA pre-certification programs. Under this agreement, CPA Canada accumulates the related revenues and costs and distributes to the provincial bodies their proportionate share of the net payable totalling \$1,173 (2024 – \$1,118) of which CPABC's share is \$180 net deficit (2024 – \$173).

On June 20, 2023, CPA Ontario and CPA Quebec announced that they were concluding their agreement under the Collaboration Accord with CPA Canada effective December 20, 2024. A new model of national collaboration is being developed.

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

## For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

## 13. RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS (continued)

For the fiscal year, CPABC collected member dues on behalf of CPA Canada totalling \$11,938 (2024 – \$11,814). At March 31, 2025, a net amount of \$4,537 (2024 – \$5,610) was owed to CPA Canada.

b) The **Chartered Professional Accountants of Yukon (CPA Yukon)** is administered by CPABC and administrative fees of \$45 (2024 – \$40) were charged to CPA Yukon for the services rendered. CPABC also runs practice review and licensing on behalf of CPA Yukon. Fees of \$24 (2024 – \$23) were charged by CPABC for services rendered in relation to practice review and licensing.

In 2023, CPABC and CPA Yukon signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the two organizations which outlines the agreement for CPABC to remit to CPA Yukon online and on-demand PD sales associated with CPA Yukon members less any direct costs. A payment was made by CPABC in the amount of \$18 (2024 – \$68).

c) CPA Insurance Plans West (CPAIPW) administers benefit plans for members of the CPA bodies in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories, and the Yukon. CPAIPW is a not-for-profit organization under the Income Tax Act. Each of the four western provinces, including CPABC, nominates two persons to serve on CPAIPW's eight-member board.

#### 14. SIGNIFICANTLY INFLUENCED NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

CPA Western School of Business (CPAWSB) is responsible for delivering pre-certification education to students in the four western provinces and the territories, in accordance with an agreement signed by the CPA bodies in Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba and CPAWSB effective September 29, 2015. Effective June 1, 2018, the western CPA provincial bodies approved changes relating to the governance structure of CPAWSB. The new Board of Directors of CPAWSB is comprised of the CEOs from the four western provinces. CPAWSB and the four western provinces signed an operating agreement effective April 1, 2019 whereby CPAWSB acts as an independent agent collecting revenue and incurring costs on behalf of the western provinces for delivery of the CPA Education Program.

On October 3, 2022 CPAWSB restructured its operations, became a new entity incorporated as a not-for-profit society. As a newly incorporated not-for-profit organization, the new CPAWSB purchased the net assets and assumed all existing contracts, including the operating agreement referred to above, from the previous organization. Thus, there is no change to the agency relationship with CPABC.

CPABC recognized \$21,772 (2024 – \$21,033) student annual dues and module fees as revenue of which of \$13,756 (2024 – \$13,553) was collected by CPAWSB on behalf of CPABC during the year and \$8,016 (2024 – \$7,480) was collected in the prior year. As of March 31, 2025, CPABC recorded \$7,632 (2024 – \$8,016) (note 8) as deferred revenue with a corresponding amount in accounts receivable, pertaining to student programs to be delivered on or after April 1, 2025.

Student annual dues and module fees deferred revenue		2025	2024
Opening balance	\$	8,016	\$ 7,480
Collected during the year		21,388	21,569
Student annual dues and module fees recognized during the yea	r	(21,772)	(21,033)
Closing balance	\$	7,632	\$ 8,016

Education program costs of \$38,848 (2024 – \$38,582) were incurred by CPAWSB on behalf of the western provinces, of which \$18,670 (2024 – \$18,956) were allocated to CPABC.

At March 31, 2025, \$10,708 (2024 – \$9,769) was owing from CPAWSB.

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

#### 15. CONTROLLED ENTITIES

All the entities noted below are controlled by CPABC as it appoints the members, directors and trustees that govern each entity. The accounts of the controlled entities noted below have not been consolidated in CPABC's financial statements, as the bylaws and trust agreements of these entities specify that the entities' assets are to be used for specific purposes only and are not available to CPABC even in the event of the entities' dissolution. It is believed that a separate note disclosure provides a more meaningful presentation of activities.

The transactions described below are measured at the exchange amount, being the amount of consideration, established and agreed to by the related parties. The summary financial statements of each entity have been provided.

a) The Chartered Professional Accountants' Education Foundation of British Columbia (CPAEF) is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. The CPAEF's mandate is to enhance the quality and quantity of students entering the CPA profession, sponsor relevant and practical research, and stimulate the ongoing educational experience of CPABC's members. CPAEF elects its board members from candidates recommended by CPABC.

At March 31, 2025, a net amount of \$5 was owing from CPAEF (2024 - \$18 owing to CPAEF).

During the fiscal year, CPABC entered into a service agreement with CPAEF. Under the terms of the agreement, CPABC provides services to CPAEF to advance accounting education within the province of British Columbia. CPABC performs its obligations at arm's length and services rendered at fair market value.

The total value of services rendered under this agreement for the year was \$124 (2024 - nil).

b) The Benevolent Fund of the Chartered Professional Accountants of British Columbia (Benevolent Fund) is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. It was established to provide financial assistance to CPABC's members who are experiencing unusual financial hardships.

At March 31, 2025, an amount of \$11 was owing to the Benevolent Fund (2024 - \$10).

CPABC provides administrative and support services for the above entities without charge.

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

## 15. CONTROLLED ENTITIES (continued)

#### Summarized Financial Information

	С	PAEF		Benevole	ent Fun	d
	2025		2024	 2025		2024
Financial position						
Total assets	\$ 7,399	\$	7,203	\$ 643	\$	631
Total liabilities	42		22	9		8
Net assets	\$ 7,357	\$	7,181	\$ 634	\$	623
Results of operations						
Investment income earned during the year	\$ 662	\$	717	\$ 57	\$	58
Donations	68		51	19		27
Total revenue	\$ 730	\$	768	\$ 76	\$	85
Education funding, benevolence and expenses	\$ 554	\$	278	\$ 65	\$	84
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 176	\$	490	\$ 11	\$	1
Cash Flows						
Operating	\$ (254)	\$	6	\$ (15)	\$	7
Net investments acquired	187		(212)	-		-
Net (decrease) increase in cash	\$ (67)	\$	(206)	\$ (15)	\$	7

## **16. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

CPABC's financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, investments, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

#### Interest Rate Risk

CPABC mitigates the risk and volatility of the fair value of its fixed income investments caused by market interest rate fluctuations by investing in instruments with varying terms and maturity dates.

## **Currency Risk**

CPABC mitigates the currency risk of its foreign bonds and equities by limiting its currency exposure and investing mostly in Canadian securities. The Canadian portion of the portfolio was 62% at March 31, 2025 (2024 - 61%).

#### Credit and Other Price Risk

CPABC has an investment policy that restricts the types and amounts of its eligible investments and requires dealing with highly rated counterparties. Risk and volatility of investment returns are mitigated through the diversification of investments within the pooled funds.

## **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the year ended March 31, 2025

All in \$000's

#### 17. ALLOCATION OF OVERHEAD COSTS

Expenses directly related to a functional area are charged to that area, including salaries and benefits, contractor costs and all other expenses. Overhead costs have been allocated to the various functional areas on the basis of estimated usage as follows:

- Expenses related to premises, including rent, maintenance and amortization proportionately based on the office space used;
- Expenses related to general administration, including insurance, telephone and supplies proportionately based on the number of staff; and
- Expenses related to information technology, including computer equipment and connectivity proportionately based on the number of staff.

The overhead costs allocated per functional areas are as follows:

	2025	2024
Regulatory Affairs:		
Public practice registration and review	\$ 439	\$ 405
All other regulatory affairs	596	587
Administration support	863	792
Information technology	724	702
Professional development	590	539
Member services and engagement	565	520
Student recruitment and employer relations	528	505
External affairs and communications	467	459
Practical experience program	322	379
Governance and executive office	159	122
	\$ 5,253	\$ 5,010

#### 18. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

The comparative for certain figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.



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