ANNUAL REPORT
2021–2022

it’s time for
CLIMATE ACTION

IT’S TIME FOR CLIMATE ACTION
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Discovery Centre is proudly located in Mi’kma’ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi’kmaw People. With respect and appreciation, we honour generations of traditions and teachings about the world we live in today. We also recognize the contributions of the African Nova Scotian community who have shared these lands for over 400 years.

VISION

The vision of Discovery Centre is to advance science literacy and evidence-based decision making in Atlantic Canada while inspiring a sustainable and innovative culture.

MISSION

The mission of Discovery Centre is to bring STEAM to life through fun and interactive learning experiences. We are committed to leveraging our people, facility, and programming to create an inclusive environment that ignites a passion for science and discovery.

CORE VALUES

- Excellence: Strive for service and content excellence that sets us apart from competitors. Be recognized as a one-of-a-kind, state-of-the-art leader in our industry, with impactful touchpoints for our key audiences.
- Diversity: Ensure our spaces and outreach programming are accessible and representative of all abilities, incomes, languages, ethnic backgrounds, identities, genders, and geographic locations.
- Collaboration: Engage, include, and listen to diverse communities who bring perspectives that enrich our offerings and experiences. Collaborate with key stakeholders who invest in Discovery Centre’s brand and mission, such as universities, colleges, our research community, science centres, other local NGO & NFPs, all levels of government, industries, and donors.
- Innovation: Inspire creative thinking in problem solving. Demonstrate the successful steps to fostering and implementing new ideas. Showcase by example with the latest in science and technology.

In 2021 as provincial restrictions eased, our doors re-opened safely to visitors. Our staff proudly welcomed guests to one of the safest environments for in-person play and educational development.

We got back to schools with our award-winning educational programs but stayed mindful of hesitancies by continuing our sought-after virtual programming for schools, including those as far away as the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Alberta, and Northern Ontario. Our virtual programming made us a trusted community resource for visitors and educators alike. Although Discovery Centre has successfully proven its ability to adapt and overcome over the past two years, it was still a thrill to get back in person and make meaningful connections in the Centre, and across the province.

Even in the midst of a global pandemic, Discovery Centre continues to set the bar as a champion in science. Leading a national four-year climate change initiative called GenAction is just one of the significant projects we are championing. In our 2021-2022 Annual Report, you will also hear about our progress with Why Immunize?—which is still evolving at a critical time for our province, our Dome Theatre upgrades that now offer acceptance and uptake among marginalized Nova Scotian communities. Funding also helped kick-start the national GenAction initiative in partnership with the Government of Canada.

A special thank you to our Federal, Provincial, and Municipal governments, donors, and sponsors recognized in this annual report. This support enabled the Centre to prioritize building Why Immunize? resources with diverse perspectives. Support also helped to begin work on our Trusted Voices initiative with co-created educational resources to increase COVID-19 vaccine acceptance and uptake among marginalized Nova Scotian communities. Funding also helped kick-start the national GenAction initiative in partnership with the Government of Canada.

A big thanks to Nova Scotia’s Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD), for supporting programs like Driving Discovery and Discovery@School. Together we created video-based learning resources, with accompanying teachers’ guides, and hands-on activities to help teachers navigate the inclusion of new skills in the renewed Nova Scotia curriculum.

Special thanks to this year’s retiring board members including Cary Kaplan, Christine Christensen, Pamela Scott Crace, James Robar and Kristin Williams. We also want to extend a huge thank you to our board, staff, and all of Discovery Centre’s supporters. Thank you for believing in our mission to bring STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) education to youth across the province and beyond.

Colin Dodds
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INTRODUCTION

IT’S TIME FOR CLIMATE ACTION

The theme of the 2021-2022 Annual Report is CLIMATE ACTION. Climate Change has certainly emerged as a critical issue and youth are stepping up to be part of the solution. This year, Discovery Centre embraced its role to shed further light on the science behind climate change and what we can do together to build a more sustainable future for our planet.

Climate change is at the forefront of news, government policy, industry practices, and community discussions. We are witnessing the rise of global temperatures and the impacts they are having regionally and nationally. Forest fires, floods, and droughts are just a few examples of the effects climate change has had here in Nova Scotia. As a leader in science and innovation, Discovery Centre has a role to educate Nova Scotian families on how to combat climate change now, and into the future. What can we do to make a difference and slow the impacts of greenhouse gases and global emissions?

TAKE ACTION!

Engaging our next generation of policymakers in the science behind climate change, and equipping youth with the knowledge and resources to take action will transform the future of our planet. Discovery Centre has made a concerted effort to make climate change a priority in our exhibits and galleries, educational programming, and outreach initiatives. Our team has taken action to highlight the science behind climate change, by creating programming around our Divert NS Ocean Action Zone that teaches visitors about our waterways, ocean acidification, erosion, and waste. Our Dome Theatre live-programming touches on weather patterns and the rise of sea levels due to climate change. And most recently, Discovery Centre has been leading a national initiative coined, GenAction, to bring climate change education into science centres and communities across Canada.

Discovery Centre has replaced climate “change” with climate “action”, as we continue to inspire youth and communities through STEAM education to make a difference now and into the future.
As part of the $37.8 million Climate Action and Awareness Fund, the Government of Canada invested $6 million toward a youth-focused climate change project, coined GenAction.

Led by Discovery Centre, GenAction programming aims to reach 200,000 kindergarten to grade twelve youth and 5,200 Indigenous youth, nationally, inspiring them to take climate action.

Discovery Centre led the naming and branding of GenAction. The bold brand is a fun, action-oriented, comic book style that resonates with all audiences. Its impact will inspire youth to become climate superheroes now and into the future. The branding was transformed into a toolkit that provides GenAction messaging and graphics to unite science centres through a national campaign.

In the winter, Discovery Centre helped lead the selection of twenty-eight other science centres across Canada, who will use the funds to create and deliver GenAction climate change engagement programs in their region. Programming includes camps, outreach initiatives, and school workshops. Discovery Centre is currently offering seven school-based GenAction workshops that are a mix of Science on the Road, Science in the Centre and Virtual Workshops, and developed climate action camps for summer 2022.

Discovery Centre hired a team to facilitate climate-focused programming and lead the development of bilingual climate research guides as part of the GenAction initiative. These Science Spotlights will become a library of thirty plus accessible resources for educators, contributed by the twenty-six science centres.

As of March 31, 2022, three community programs have been delivered with Discovery Centre partners:

- Greenhouse Effect Bottle Biosphere outreach workshop, partnership with Mi’kmaw Native Friendship Centre
- (Re)Construire Durablement outreach workshop, partnership with Alliance Francaise and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial
- Aliens in our Ecosystem outreach workshop for Atlantic and Indigenous Youth Forums, partnership with Learning for a Sustainable Future

6 MILLION Investment

29 Science Centres

5,200 Indigenous Youth Targeted

200,000 Youth Targeted

We are proud to support the Discovery Centre, this local organization is a proven leader in creating innovative, science-based opportunities for youth.

Seeing the impacts they have made in our city, I strongly believe that they, along with their partner organizations, have the ability to reach thousands of young people from coast to coast to coast.

– ANDY FILLMORE, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, HALIFAX
In partnership with MEOPAR, Discovery Centre is preparing to launch bilingual climate-related research features for educators in 2022. The research features will serve as additional resources for teachers in classrooms.

Sixteen features will live on Discovery Centre’s website, and their topics have been selected based on their impact and relevance to Atlantic Canada, our coasts, and rural and Indigenous communities.

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In 2019, The World Health Organization named vaccine hesitancy as one of the top 10 global threats to health. This, along with a global pandemic and the prevalence of fake news, gave rise to the “Why Immunize?” initiative. In 2020 the focus of Why Immunize? was to develop a website that provides educators and families with access to free, bilingual resources to make immunology and vaccinology fun, engaging, and accessible.

Diverse Perspectives
Over the past year, Discovery Centre has been working on expanding Why Immunize? resources with the perspectives of indigenous and marginalized communities and support from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. Dr. Bernie Francis, Mi’kmaw Linguist, worked with Discovery Centre to create two videos, in the Mi’kmaw language, that discuss the importance of vaccines in fighting COVID-19 and protecting communities and elders. Why Immunize? continues to expand its resources, collaborating with Mi’kmaw Kina’matnewey schools and local communities.

Why Immunize? was developed in partnership with Nova Scotia Health and made possible by the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Telus Friendly Future Foundation, and the SM Blair Family Foundation.

This past year, Public Health had the opportunity to partner with Discovery Centre on a program called “Why Immunize? Give Science a Shot” pre-pandemic. The initiative was born to help provide education on immunizations, like the annual flu shot and MMR vaccine, delivering engaging and educational resources for all age groups.

— DR. ROBERT STRANG, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF NOVA SCOTIA
Discovery Centre was all a flutter! Amazing Butterflies flew in for summer 2021 from Minotaur Mazes, a Seattle-based, worldwide travelling exhibitions company. The exhibit provided a low-touch, interactive maze for visitors to explore the mysterious lifecycle from caterpillar to butterfly, identify different butterfly species, learn about their unique survival challenges, and discover how a caterpillar transforms and grows wings.

Discovery Centre’s exhibits crew also installed a beautiful butterfly garden in our front entrance, filled with plants and habitats our flying friends will love every year. Amazing Butterflies surprised summer visitors with its many twists and turns, and educational games before it migrated to its next adventure. It was the perfect exhibit to ease visitors back into Discovery Centre during the loosening of provincial COVID-19 restrictions.

During the closure with provincial restrictions, Atlantic Canada’s only Dome Theatre was upgraded to Digistar 7’s advanced operating system, which provides Discovery Centre’s visitors with the ultimate 360 digital experience. Its screen now displays 4K laser projection, allowing for higher depth and quality films.

Since January 2022, Discovery Centre has welcomed more than 4,000 visitors back to the Dome Theatre to experience new Dome Films and Live Star Shows that explore the curiosities of our planet and beyond. New to the film repertoire are Beyond the Sun, Amazon Adventure and the award-winning Backyard Wilderness, which explores nature and science in our backyards through stunning imagery that captivates audiences. New films will be introduced in the Dome Theatre on a quarterly basis to keep visitors coming back for more.

Discovery Centre now also offers bilingual films and live star shows, creating a more inclusive experience for our French speaking visitors and school groups.

October 2, 2021 – April 17, 2022

Get up. Try again. Push further.
Developed in partnership with the Ontario Science Centre and Science North, Beyond Human Limits: Extreme Sports took visitors inside the minds and bodies of extreme athletes to explore the psychology, physiology, and physicality of some of the most extreme activities in the world. The high-energy exhibition had visitors experience the thrill of extreme sports through exciting, interactive exhibits and immersive environments.

The exhibit included a giant rock-climbing wall, virtual ski slopes, and a parkour course, making it a challenge for all ages to enjoy.

New Exterior
New Memories
New Films

-supported by:

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The 2021 Discovery Awards for Science and Technology, held virtually on November 24th, celebrated trailblazers in six categories who are making waves across Nova Scotia and internationally! In its 19th year, attendees joined together for a virtual Discovery Awards celebration to honour the finalists and recipients in four prestigious categories, introduce a new inductee to the Science Hall of Fame, and recognize this year’s inspiring Youth Award recipient.

To highlight our local science community which has been contributing to vital testing science and vaccinology for COVID-19, and to recognize the global achievements of our province, we were delighted to welcome The Honourable Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia, and Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Medical Officer of Nova Scotia. Their kind words left all nominees, recipients, and attendees further grateful of the leadership of our province during the pandemic.

The 2021 Discovery Awards was co-presented by Dalhousie University and Saint Mary’s University in support of Discovery Centre.

The Discovery Awards are an important reminder of the incredible science and technology sectors we have in Nova Scotia, and the inspiring innovators, researchers, and scientists, locally, who have gained our Province international recognition. This year, in particular, reinforced Nova Scotia’s leadership in this sector, as we led Nova Scotians through the COVID-19 pandemic...”

– THE HONOURABLE TIM HOUSTON, PREMIER OF NOVA SCOTIA

The 2021 award recipients include:

- Hall of Fame Inductee: Dr. Noni MacDonald
- Emerging Professional: Dr. Rita Orji
- Innovation: Maskwimini
- Youth Award: Silas Eastwood
- Professional of Distinction: Dr. Gail Tomblin Murphy
- Science Champion: Dr. Lisa Barrett
- Media Sponsor: CTV
- Science Challenge Sponsor: CIBC
- Award Sponsor: researchNNS
- Champion Sponsors: Nova Scotia Science Center, Nova Scotia Science Pavilion
- Friend: Nova Scotia Innovation Council

Driving Discovery
Le Moteur de la Découverte

Driving Discovery is a unique province-wide outreach program supporting teachers and students in the transition to inquiry and skill-based science learning. In collaboration with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (EECD), Discovery Centre’s team worked to make Driving Discovery resources publicly accessible to continue supporting grades 7 and grade 8’s new skills-based curriculum.

The Driving Discovery team engaged over 350 students in classrooms throughout Nova Scotia. The team also led live, virtual sessions for educators across the province during the EECD Summer Learning Academy SLA and Acadian Teachers Conference. Discovery Centre’s team engaged educators with an inquiry-based learning activity using Arduino science journal to model how IBL can be done in the classroom, highlighted Driving Discovery online resources and gave an overview about how teachers may use these resources in the classroom.

Discovery@School
Découverte à l’école

Discovery Centre, in collaboration with the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, created and launched 26 video-based learning resources, with accompanying teachers’ guides, and hands-on activities. Discovery@School will help teachers navigate the inclusion of new skills in the renewed Nova Scotia curriculum. All assets are bilingual and accessible on Discovery Centre’s website for educators to have their learners inquire, create, and explore in a fun and interactive way.
Discover Centre delivered 45 workshops in the centre, offering one new workshop “Creature Detective”, and adapting some programming under the GenAction lens.

Thank you to our Science in the Centre workshop sponsors Atlantic Canada Aerospace and Defense Association, Efficiency Nova Scotia, and Halifax Harbour Bridges.

A climate-based GenAction virtual workshop was also added our ever-popular “Creature Detective” has now been modified to align with new climate-focused programming as part of our GenAction initiative.

CAMPS
March Break: BMO

Discovery Centre had 41 campers join for March Break. Campers participated in exciting hands-on science experiments and enjoyed Beyond Human Limits. Our older campers took part in a hybrid Digital Discovery camp, combining all-time favorite science activities and demos with a Digital Twist.

Many thanks to Digital Nova Scotia, REDspace, ACOA and Skills Canada for helping to spark curiosity among campers.

Summer Camps:

Over 240 children aged 5-12 years joined us for our summer camps this year. Our campers enjoyed a variety of COVID-19-safe hands-on STEAM activities, virtual visits from special guests, and open-air fieldtrips around the waterfront and surrounding parks. Thank you to Efficiency NS for helping us inspire and encourage our next generation of scientists and energy problem-solvers in Nova Scotia.

DIGITAL DISCOVERY CAMPS

This year a sold-out crew of campers aged 10-14 years dove headfirst into our popular Ocean Tech camp. Joining forces with the Ocean Technology Council of Nova Scotia, this camp was full of exciting challenges surrounding the latest ocean technology and research, here in Nova Scotia. With hands-on activities, field trips, and special guests who work in ocean tech, campers were inspired to go forward, educate others about the ocean, and maybe even become the next generation of ocean engineers, scientists, and technicians.

Summer Camps with Neptune Theatre

Discovery Centre expanded its partnership with Neptune Theatre to deliver two in-person summer camps. Twenty youth aged 7-15 enjoyed mixing drama, science, and technology with themes ranging from exploring natural wonders to video gaming, to spies, mysteries, and myths.

Clubs

Discovery Centre Clubs

In Maker League, over the course of four weeks, participants ages 7-12 years old learned how to design, model, and code their own creations using a variety of different platforms and cutting-edge technology. This fun and innovative club builds strong critical thinking, communication, and teamwork skills and was made possible with the generous support of accomplished entrepreneur and believer in our youth, Wade K. Dawe.

Little Learners

More than 180 toddlers and their families and caregivers took part in Discovery Centre-based Little Learners programming presented by Scotiabank. At Discovery Centre, little ones explored the joy and STEAM in aerodynamics, experimented with chemistry, and explored how insects flutter and crawl.

SCIENCE IN THE CENTRE

Science in the Centre

Despite the restrictions this past year, Discovery Centre hosted 637 students for curriculum-connected field trips and experiential workshops. Students enjoyed learning about extreme sports in Beyond Human Limits, and exploring the many other exhibits and experiences available at Discovery Centre. Whether they joined us for a full day or just a few hours, students left smiling and inspired.

What’s in Your Water & Stormy Science

Presented by Halifax Water, “What’s in Your Water” is a new hands-on public program designed to instill an appreciation for the science behind water treatment and testing, dispel misinformation around water treatment additives and the importance of protecting the full water cycle. Visitors use an array of digital LabQuest sensors and custom equipment to explore real water quality variables analyzed through Halifax Water’s comprehensive water monitoring and testing program. Visitors interact with Discovery Centre staff scientists to discuss the chemistry of chlorine and fluoride and why they are so important in treating our water.

Also presented by Halifax Water, “Stormy Science” features custom models that simulate household property runoff with and without storm services, highlighting the need for storm water mitigation. This facilitated program explores the complex system protecting our communities, making connections between the increasing need for these services and higher frequencies of storm events due to climate change.

Science on the Road Workshops

The success of Virtual Workshops offerings continued with support from Connected North, which helped Discovery Centre’s team to reach and engage students in remote Indigenous communities from areas such as the North West Territories, Nunavut, Alberta, and Northern Ontario. Discovery Centre hosted 154 virtual workshops, throughout Nova Scotia and beyond.

The Education team also created a new virtual program “Upcycled Racers” to showcase the Divert NS Ocean Action Zone gallery. Upcycle Racers workshops were delivered free of charge to grade 4 students during June in 24 schools to over 560 students.

Science on the Spot

Lift Off & Potato Protective Equipment

Our two complimentary WCB Science on the Spot experiences introduce youth to safe workplaces, in key target areas of safe lifting and slips-trips-falls, through Lift-Off and Potato Protective Equipment. With real-time biomechanical sensor feedback, Lift-Off participants compete head-to-head to build a structure, focusing on the safety of their work, rather than the speed.

In Potato Protective Equipment, participants explore the surprising magnitude of forces involved in even short falls, leading them to the data-and-experience-driven conclusion that prevention is easier than protection and should be prioritized.

Virtual Science on the Road Workshops

Remote Science in the Centre

Many thanks to Digital Nova Scotia, REDspace who provided incredible insight to a virtual world. Campers participated in real hands-on challenges in hardware and software programming, and met with chemistry, and explored how insects flutter and crawl. Campers had the opportunity to be mentored by Scotia’s most prestigious professionals in Information and Communications Technology (ICT) as special guests.

Redspace: Presented by REDspace, our new virtual 2-week Summer Camp offered more than 200 children the opportunity to learn about the latest ocean technology and research, here in Nova Scotia. Our Digital Discovery Camps: Ocean Tech camp was full of exciting challenges surrounding the latest ocean technology and research, here in Nova Scotia. This camp was full of exciting challenges surrounding the latest ocean technology and research, here in Nova Scotia. With hands-on activities, field trips, and special guests who work in ocean tech, campers were inspired to go forward, educate others about the ocean, and maybe even become the next generation of ocean engineers, scientists, and technicians.

Clubs

Theatre to deliver two in-person summer camps. Twenty youth aged 7-15 enjoyed mixing drama, science, and technology with themes ranging from exploring natural wonders to video gaming, to spies, mysteries, and myths.

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Josh Bulgin
Science Educator
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Exhibits Specialist
Jennifer Douglas
Senior Science Educator
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Exhibit Specialist
Lily Fox
Exhibit Technician
Alyssa Giles
Science Educator
Kim Griffon
Customer Service Representative
Priya Gupta
Staff Scientist
Alexandra Hall
Customer Service Representative
Andrew Howe
Science Educator
Nicole Jessop
Ocean Gallery Staff Scientist
Bernadette Kavanagh
Science Educator – Driving Discovery
Roger Kent
Exhibit & Facilities Coordinator
Emilie Knighton
Science Educator
Tanya Maddon
Graphic Designer
Michelle Mann
Science Educator – Driving Discovery
Chris McDonald
Digital & Network Specialist
Emily McAusac
Science Educator, Driving Discovery
Jillian Phillips
Coordinator of Science Education
Japna Sidhu-Birar
Science Educator, Dome Theatre Presenter
Emma Touchie
Science Educator

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Steve Ashton
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Helen Dolan

Charles and Sharron Dolan
Hon. Myra A. Freeman
Leila Gashua
Orlando Hung
Keating Family: Gregg, Ann Marie, Susan, Cathy

Robert & Janice MacKay
Bob and Wendy McDonald
Ashley Moriarty
Kelvin Ogilvie
Wynne Potter
J. William Ritchie

The Verschuren Family
Robert and Mary Anne White
David Wicks
Kristin Williams
Michele Williams

The Dr. & Mrs. H.E. Christie Community Foundation
UNIRENT HOLDINGS LIMITED
The McCain Foundation
Rick and Nan MacDonald Foundation

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Agence de la santé publique du Canada

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Financial statements of Discovery Centre

March 31, 2022

Independent Auditor’s Report  1–2
Statement of financial position  3
Statement of changes in net assets  4
Statement of revenue and expenditures  5
Statement of cash flows  6
Notes to the financial statements  7–12
Independent Auditor’s Report

To the Members of Discovery Centre

Opinion
We have audited the financial statements of Discovery Centre (the "Centre"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2022, and the statements of revenue and expenditures, 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 (collectively referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Centre as at March 31, 2022, and its financial performance 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 ("Canadian GAAS"). 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 Centre in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Matter
The financial statements of the Centre for the year ended March 31, 2021 were audited by another auditor who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements on June 23, 2021.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements
Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian 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 Centre’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 Centre or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Centre’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 GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian GAAS, 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 Centre’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 Centre’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 Centre 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.

Deloitte LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants
June 27, 2022
Discovery Centre  
Statement of financial position  
As at March 31, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and short-term investments</td>
<td>2,594,242</td>
<td>1,578,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>109,923</td>
<td>255,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government contributions receivable</td>
<td>339,024</td>
<td>63,234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>74,927</td>
<td>40,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>26,097</td>
<td>39,057</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,144,213</td>
<td>1,977,268</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Long-term investment          | 3,000,000 | 1,000,000 |
| Property and equipment        | 17,159,000 | 18,613,218 |
| **Total**                     | 21,303,213 | 21,520,488 |

| Liabilities                   |        |        |
| Current liabilities           |        |        |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 820,714 | 341,281 |
| Deferred revenue and deferred contributions | 1,277,187 | 1,077,475 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 414,999 | 610,718 |
| **Total**                     | 2,512,900 | 2,069,474 |

| Net assets                    |        |        |
| Investment in property and equipment | 13,857,088 | 14,600,971 |
| Internally restricted reserve   | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Endowment Fund                 | 72,000  | 72,000  |
| Unrestricted                   | 1,874,310 | 1,386,512 |
| **Total**                      | 15,833,398 | 16,159,483 |

| Total                          | 21,303,213 | 21,520,488 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

---

Discovery Centre  
Statement of changes in net assets  
Year ended March 31, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investment in property and equipment</th>
<th>Internally restricted reserve</th>
<th>Endowment Fund</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Note 10)</td>
<td>(Note 11)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning of year</td>
<td>14,600,971</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>72,000</td>
<td>1,386,512</td>
<td>16,159,483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers</td>
<td>946,504</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(946,504)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenues in excess of (less than)</td>
<td>(Note 11)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expenditures</td>
<td>(1,690,387)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,424,202</td>
<td>(256,086)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(202,073)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, end of year</td>
<td>13,857,088</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>72,000</td>
<td>1,874,310</td>
<td>15,903,398</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Approved by the Board

[Signature]
Director

[Signature]
Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.
### Discovery Centre

#### Statement of revenue and expenditures

**Year ended March 31, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campaign funding</td>
<td>202,000</td>
<td>755,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions, memberships and workshops</td>
<td>759,324</td>
<td>338,813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government contributions</td>
<td>3,769,449</td>
<td>2,065,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and donations</td>
<td>875,711</td>
<td>1,065,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail income</td>
<td>111,137</td>
<td>43,890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>99,898</td>
<td>106,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>36,657</td>
<td>12,563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>5,854,186</td>
<td>4,388,035</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits, programs and administration</td>
<td>2,151,388</td>
<td>777,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and benefits</td>
<td>1,929,726</td>
<td>1,606,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent and common area charges</td>
<td>210,358</td>
<td>196,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>67,246</td>
<td>54,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail cost of goods sold</td>
<td>61,166</td>
<td>26,952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4,415,854</td>
<td>2,665,692</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Excess of revenue over expenditures before the following expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,434,302</td>
<td>1,723,343</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Amortization of property and equipment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,580,766</td>
<td>1,574,103</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Interest on long-term debt**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>109,621</td>
<td>206,299</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Transaction costs associated with repayment of long-term debt**

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>142,934</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Excess of expenditures over revenue for the year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(256,085)</td>
<td>(202,073)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

---

### Discovery Centre

#### Statement of cash flows

**Year ended March 31, 2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating activities</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excess of expenditures over revenue for the year</td>
<td>(256,085)</td>
<td>(202,073)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes to excess of revenue over expenditures not involving cash</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amortization of property and equipment</td>
<td>1,580,766</td>
<td>1,574,103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net changes in non-cash working capital items related to operations</td>
<td>1,324,681</td>
<td>1,372,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>145,166</td>
<td>193,969</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government contributions receivable</td>
<td>(275,790)</td>
<td>280,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>(34,819)</td>
<td>(9,264)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>13,860</td>
<td>17,162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
<td>479,433</td>
<td>(102,346)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue and deferred contributions</td>
<td>199,712</td>
<td>(928,234)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,852,243</td>
<td>833,769</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financing activities</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repayment of long-term debt</td>
<td>(710,333)</td>
<td>(4,924,972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proceeds of long-term debt</td>
<td></td>
<td>4,364,247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transaction costs associated with repayment of long-term debt</td>
<td></td>
<td>(142,934)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>(710,333)</td>
<td>(702,659)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investing activity</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acquisition of property and equipment</td>
<td>(126,548)</td>
<td>(226,755)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Net change in cash and short-term investments during year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,015,362</td>
<td></td>
<td>(97,648)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cash and short-term investments, beginning of year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,578,880</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,676,525</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cash and short-term investments, end of year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,594,242</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,576,084</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.
1. Description

Discovery Centre (the "Centre") is a non-profit organization, which operates a hands-on science and technology centre. The Centre is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act and therefore, is not required to pay income taxes.

2. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements of the Centre are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO") in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook applied within the framework of the accounting policies summarized below.

a) Inventories

Inventories are recorded at the lower of cost and net realizable value. The cost of inventory is determined using the first-in, first-out basis.

b) Property and equipment

Leasehold improvements, equipment and fixtures, and exhibits are recorded at cost or in the case of donated assets, at estimated fair market value where determinable with reasonable certainty. Salaries, materials and other costs directly attributed to the construction of exhibits are capitalized. Amortization of property and equipment is provided on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets once put into commercial use at the following rates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset Type</th>
<th>Amortization Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment and fixtures</td>
<td>3-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasehold improvements</td>
<td>(Lease term) 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c) Long-term investments

The Centre accounts for its investment in The Discovery Centre International Inc. ("DCI"), a controlled non-profit entity, at cost. The Centre determines whether there are indications of possible impairment. When there is an indication of impairment, and the organization determines that a significant adverse change has occurred during the period in the expected timing or amount of future cash flows, a write-down is recognized in income. If the indicators of impairment have decreased or no longer exist, the previously recognized impairment loss shall be reversed to the extent of the improvement. The carrying amount of the financial asset may not be greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in income.

d) Revenue recognition

The Centre follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions, which include government grants. Contributions and income related to future periods are recorded as deferred revenue and are only recognized as revenue when earned.

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

d) Revenue recognition (continued)

Restricted contributions for the purchase of property and equipment are deferred and amortized to revenue on the same basis as the amortization on the purchased property and equipment. A restricted contribution may be provided for a certain area of activity, without the contribution specifying which portion is to be used to acquire property and equipment. In order for a contribution to be accounted for as a contribution restricted for the purchase of a property and equipment, the contributor must specify the portion of the contribution that is to be used to purchase property and equipment. If the contributor does not so specify, then the contribution would be recognized as revenue when spent for the particular purpose covered by the restriction, regardless of the fact that some of the expenditures may relate to the purchase of property and equipment.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable to the extent that amounts to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

e) Pledges

A pledge is recorded as revenue if collection is reasonably assured.

f) Use of estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported assets and liabilities and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses for the period then ended. Significant estimates used in these financial statements include allowance for doubtful accounts, useful lives for the amortization of tangible capital assets, deferred revenue and certain accruals. Actual results could materially differ from those estimates.

g) Financial instruments

The Centre has evaluated the fair value of its financial instruments based on the current interest rate environment, market values and the actual prices of financial instruments with similar terms. The carrying value of financial instruments is considered to approximate fair value. Financial Instruments consist of accounts receivable, which will result in future cash receipts, as well as accounts payable and accrued liabilities and long-term debt, which will result in future cash outlays.

Fair value estimates are made at a specific point in time, based on relevant market information and information about the financial instruments. These estimates are subjective in nature and involve uncertainties and matters of judgment and, therefore, cannot be determined with precision. Changes in assumptions could affect the estimates.

Financial instruments are to be recognized depending on their classification and the Centre has implemented the following classifications:

- Cash and short-term Investments are classified as "Financial Assets Held-for-Trading". These financial assets are marked-to-market through the statement of changes in net assets at each year end.
- Accounts receivable are classified as "Loans and Receivables". After their initial fair value measurement, they are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method.
- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities and long-term debt are classified as "Other Financial Liabilities". After their initial fair value measurement, they are measured at amortized cost, net of transaction costs, using the effective interest method.
3. Long-term investment

The Centre has an Investment in DCI, a wholly owned non-profit entity, in order to expand its initiatives in science and technology and with the objective that all net revenue will be repatriated back to the Centre as and when available to support the Centre's mission. No net revenue was recognized in the current year.

A summary of DCI's financial information is provided below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>525,266</td>
<td>667,675</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total liabilities</td>
<td>22,296</td>
<td>78,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets</td>
<td>502,970</td>
<td>588,978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>202,842</td>
<td>4,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>288,850</td>
<td>149,188</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash flows from operating activities</td>
<td>(111,457)</td>
<td>(110,186)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Bank indebtedness

The Centre has an authorized revolving demand facility in the amount of $500,000 which bears interest at prime plus 0.3% and the Centre has provided a general security agreement over all assets as security for the operating line facility.

5. Property and equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost</td>
<td>Accumulated amortization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibits</td>
<td>9,338,993</td>
<td>4,258,208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment and fixtures</td>
<td>333,658</td>
<td>288,351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment</td>
<td>209,209</td>
<td>196,268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasehold improvements</td>
<td>15,101,330</td>
<td>3,081,363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>24,083,190</td>
<td>7,824,190</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the additions to property and equipment during the year $80,501 ($22,678 in 2021) had not been paid at year end and was included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities. These amounts were excluded from the statement of cash flow.

6. Long-term debt

CIBC non-revolving term loan, repayable in monthly principal installments of $33,333 plus interest, bearing interest at the bank's prime rate plus 0.5%, due January 2026, amortized to January 2031. Secured by first-priority security interest in all assets of the Centre.

2,897,581

CIBC non-revolving term loan, repayable in amounts tied to receipt of certain pledges and contributions, bearing interest at the bank's prime interest rate plus 0.3%, due January 2026. Secured by first-priority security interest in all assets of the Centre.

404,333

The aggregate amount of principal repayments on the long-term debt, assuming maturing debt is renewed at similar terms to the existing debts, in each of the next five fiscal years ending March 31 are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2023</th>
<th>2024</th>
<th>2025</th>
<th>2026</th>
<th>2027</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,886,615</td>
<td>414,999</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>789,334</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Special events

During the year, the Centre held one special event. The event resulted in a net excess of revenue over expenditures of $32,652 ($52,741 in 2021).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorships and registration revenue</td>
<td>99,896</td>
<td>106,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenditures</td>
<td>67,246</td>
<td>54,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>32,652</td>
<td>52,741</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8. Government contributions
During the year, the Centre recorded government contributions for the operations of the Centre as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government of Canada</td>
<td>$2,889,812</td>
<td>$1,183,537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government of Nova Scotia</td>
<td>$37,500</td>
<td>$605,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax Regional Municipality</td>
<td>145,000</td>
<td>145,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment grants</td>
<td>167,137</td>
<td>132,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,799,449</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,085,922</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the year, the Centre was eligible for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ("CEWS") and Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy ("CERS"). These programs were implemented by the Government of Canada to support businesses and employees through the COVID-19 pandemic. The Centre received $647,649 ($785,363 in 2021) as a reimbursement for direct salaries and payroll expenses and $144,507 ($58,174 in 2021) for rent expenses. The Centre has a government contribution receivable of $61,063 ($77,277 in 2021) and $77,628 ($10,957 in 2021) as at March 31, 2022, related to CEWS and CERS, respectively.

9. Campaign funding
During the year, the Centre received funding from private donors to support the construction and operations of the new Centre in the amount of $202,000 ($755,849 in 2021).

10. Internally restricted revenue
In 2005, the Board approved the creation of an internally restricted reserve, which can only be used for specific expenditures. No transfers were approved through fiscal 2022. As a result, $100,000 ($100,000 in 2021) of cash in the operating fund is restricted from general use by the Centre.

11. Endowment fund
During 2009, a $252,000 grant was received from Democracy 250, of which $72,000 was specifically identified to be maintained as an Endowment fund to be invested in a GIC or other secure investment vehicle approved by the donor. Annual income derived from the investment will support youth to participate in the Science on the Road Program.

12. Deferred revenue and deferred contributions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deferred private and public sector contributions received</td>
<td>$1,169,826</td>
<td>$1,025,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>$103,111</td>
<td>$48,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred deposits</td>
<td>$4,250</td>
<td>$3,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,277,187</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,077,475</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Financial instruments

Market risk
Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of the Centre’s financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk is comprised of currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The Centre is exposed to certain of these risks, as described below.

Interest rate risk
Management believes that the Centre has no significant interest rate risk as the only financial instruments that have variable interest rates are the revolving demand facility, as outlined in Note 4, and two of the term loans, as outlined in Note 6. Fluctuations in the prime interest rate will have moderate impact on the Centre’s result of operations.

Credit risk
Management believes the Centre is exposed to normal credit risk with respect to its accounts receivable. Provisions are maintained for potential credit losses and no such losses have been recognized to date. Management believes the Centre is not subject to significant credit concentration or other credit risk.

Liquidity risk
The Centre’s objective is to have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due. The Centre monitors its cash balances and cash flows generated from operations to meet its requirements. As at March 31, 2022, management believes the Centre has no significant liquidity risk as its assets are liquid in nature.

14. Commitments
The Centre is in a twenty-year lease with a five-year renewal option with Nova Scotia Power Inc. for the premises at 1215 Lower Water Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia. The Centre will pay a nominal minimum base rent of one dollar per year during the term of the lease agreement.

Minimum annual lease payments for vehicle operating leases during the next four years are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>12,937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>7,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>7,315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2026</td>
<td>4,267</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THANK YOU

discovery centre

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