

ANNUAL REPORT 2025-2026



On the Road

Discovery Centre's Outreach

Acknowledgements

Discovery Centre is proudly located in Mi'kma'ki, the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. With respect and appreciation, we honour generations of traditions and teachings about the world we live in today.

We also recognize and learn from the contributions of the African Nova Scotian community who have shared these lands for over 400 years.

CORE VALUES



Excellence



Diversity



Collaboration



Innovation



MISSION

Our mission is to bring STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, & math) 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.



VISION

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



STRATEGIC
PILLARS



CONTENT
PRIORITIES

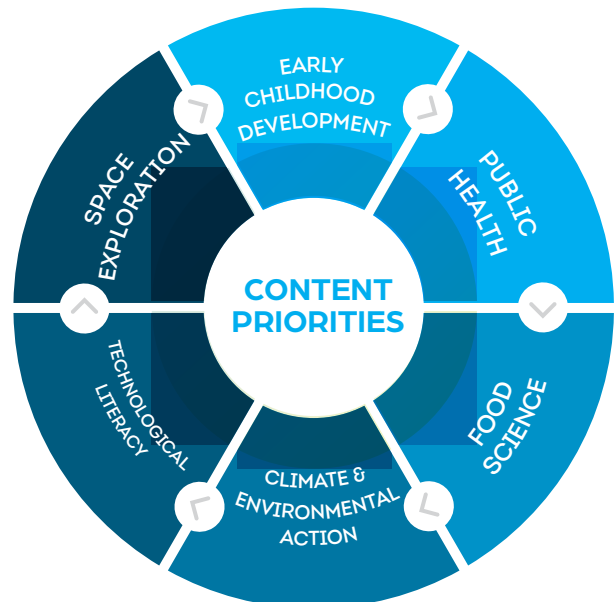


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On the Road – Bringing Science to Every Corner of Nova Scotia



At Discovery Centre, we believe every child deserves the opportunity to experience the wonder of science, regardless of where they live. Through our outreach programs, we bring hands-on science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) learning directly to communities across Nova Scotia and beyond, helping young people explore, question, create, and discover the world around them.

From April 2025 to March 2026, Discovery Centre engaged more than 7,000 students and participants through Science on the Road, Discovery on Demand, virtual workshops, and our portable planetarium. From

large urban centres to small rural communities, our team travelled thousands of kilometres across the province delivering engaging educational experiences designed to spark curiosity, build confidence, and foster a lifelong interest in learning.

Whether exploring the wonders of space beneath the dome of our portable planetarium, investigating the principles of engineering through hands-on challenges, or discovering the fascinating science that shapes everyday life, students are encouraged to think critically, ask questions, and engage with science in meaningful and memorable ways. These experiences help make science approachable, exciting, and relevant while reinforcing skills that are increasingly important in today's world.



Discovery Centre's outreach programs are made possible through the generosity of community foundations, donors, sponsors, and community partners who share our commitment to making science accessible to all. Please recognize and support the donors and sponsors listed in our report! Together, we are helping to ensure that geography is never a barrier to opportunity and that every young person has the chance to explore, discover, and imagine what is possible.

The true measure of this work is found in the moments of discovery that occur every day. For many students, particularly those in rural and underserved communities, our programs provide a rare opportunity to engage with hands-on science outside the traditional classroom. In some cases, a Discovery Centre visit may be a student's first experience looking through a scientific lens at the world around them or considering a future in science, technology, engineering, health care, skilled trades, or innovation.

These experiences are about more than learning scientific facts. They help young people develop curiosity, creativity, problem-solving abilities, resilience, and critical-thinking skills. At a time when society is increasingly shaped by rapid technological change, artificial intelligence, and complex global challenges, helping young people learn how to ask good questions, evaluate information, and think independently is more important than ever.

The enthusiasm we encounter in schools and communities across the province is a powerful reminder of the importance of this work. We regularly see students who arrive hesitant about science leave energized, engaged, and eager to learn more. Teachers tell us our programs help reinforce classroom learning while inspiring students to view science through a new lens. These moments of connection and discovery are at the heart of our mission.



MYRA FREEMAN

The Honourable Myra Freeman CM,
ONS, MSM, CD Chair, Discovery Centre
Board of Directors Former Lieutenant
Governor of Nova Scotia

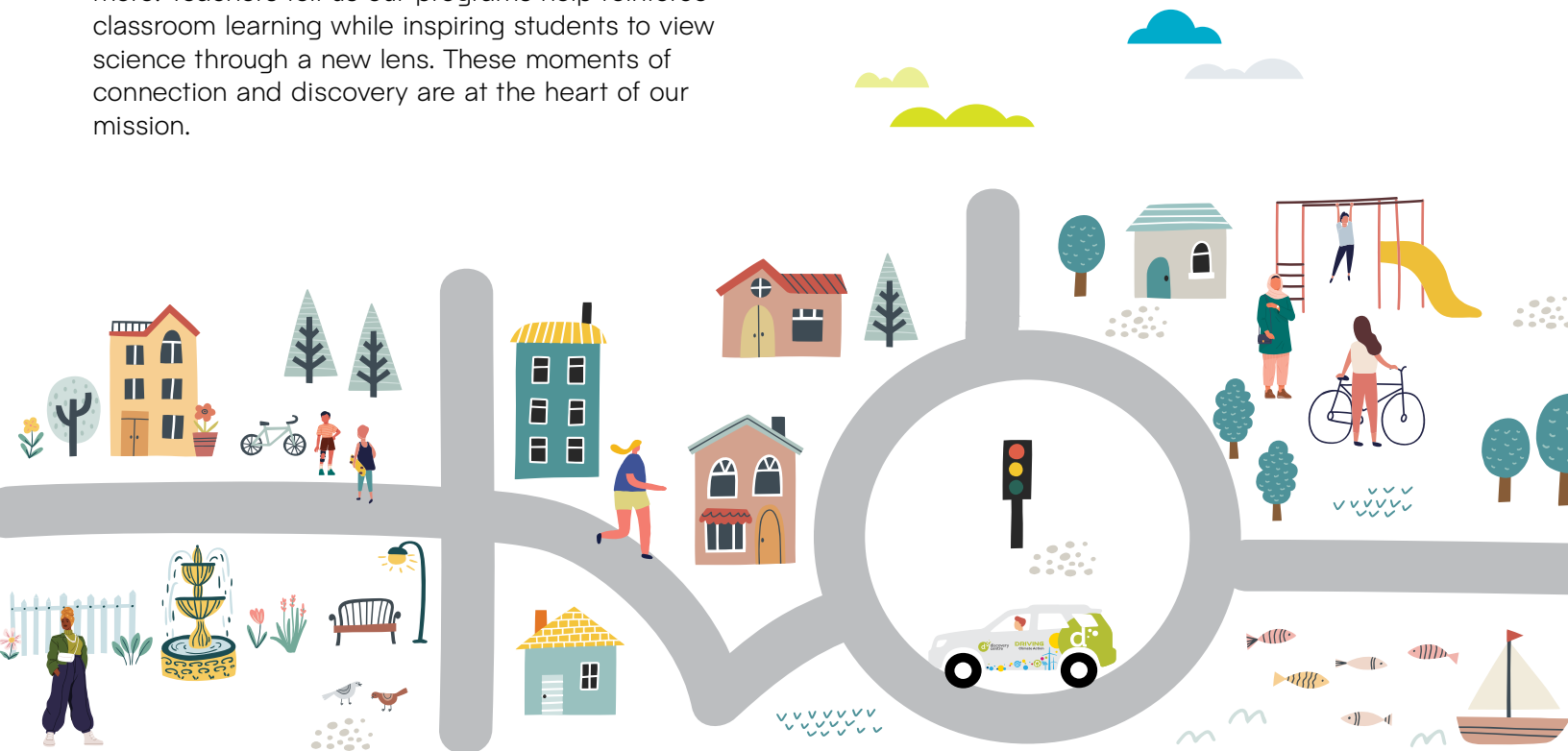
Myra A. Freeman



DOV BERCOVICI

President & CEO

Dov Bercovici



Sprouting Science



Sprouting Science is an impactful program that invites youth of Black ancestry across Nova Scotia to get hands-on with gardening and grow big ideas. In partnership with **Imhotep's Legacy Academy**, **Akoma Holdings Inc.**, the **Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield**, and the **Halifax Youth Foundation**, this program has become a staple in our summer programming.

During summer camps 2025, with partnership support from the **Black Business Initiative's (BBI)** youth entrepreneurship branch, **Business is Jammin'**, 86 youth dug deep with growing and harvesting, learned about sustainability, food security, and how entrepreneurship can help shape a greener future. Thanks to support from BBI, it was possible to welcome double the number of campers typically registered at our Spryfield and Westphal locations and students' experiences weren't just in the garden – they also created real products and got to practice their business and sales skills by pitching them at our Youth Market Day.

Sprouting Science continued into the school year with the return of the Sprouting Science Club, a free school-day enrichment program designed to support students of African descent in developing scientific literacy and STEM confidence.

Delivered in partnership with Clayton Park Junior High and Duc d'Anville Elementary School, the program was adapted to an in-school model to increase accessibility and reduce participation barriers for families.

Through weekly sessions hosted at participating schools and Discovery Centre, students explored plant science as a lens for developing foundational scientific skills, including experimental design, observation, critical thinking, data collection, and scientific journaling. Over five weeks, 15 participants engaged in hands-on investigations that encouraged curiosity, inquiry, and evidence-based problem-solving while strengthening their connection to science learning.

We gratefully acknowledge the ongoing partnership and dedicated support of Mr. Phillip Jackson, African Nova Scotian Student Support Worker, whose collaboration has been instrumental in connecting students with meaningful STEM learning opportunities and supporting the continued success of Discovery Centre programming initiatives.



Halifax Youth
Foundation

IMHOTEP'S
LEGACY ACADEMY

AKOMA
HOLDINGS INCORPORATED

Fondation
Rideau Hall
Foundation



URBAN FARM MUSEUM
SOCIETY OF SPRYFIELD





Fabric Footprint

With support from **Divert Nova Scotia**, Discovery Centre reached ten additional schools across the province each school year, delivering free, curriculum-connected school workshops to over 1,800 grade 7-8 students with the goal of educating students about the impacts of waste and empower them to take tangible actions to champion waste reduction in our province. Discovery Centre continued delivery of the newest grade 7 Science on the Road workshop, *Fabric Footprint* this fiscal year, delivering the program 27 times!

This one-hour workshop engages learners in hands-on activities and discussions on the environmental impact of textile waste in Nova Scotia. Students examine the role of textile production in climate change and ocean health, the extent of textile waste in landfills, and, most importantly, the actions they can take to reduce their fabric footprint.





Ocean Action

Discovery Centre and **Divert Nova Scotia** launched the inaugural *Divert NS Ocean Action Camp*, engaging 39 youth aged 11–14 in Halifax and Truro with hands-on learning focused on sustainability, waste reduction, and marine conservation. Through immersive activities, experiments, and outdoor investigations, participants explored topics including microplastics, ocean acidification, marine ecosystems, and environmental stewardship, building the knowledge and skills needed to become advocates for healthier oceans and communities.

The five-day camp was enriched by visits from local environmental leaders who shared their expertise on waste management, shoreline protection, and community action. These experiences connected campers with real-world environmental initiatives and highlighted pathways for youth engagement in conservation efforts.



Ocean Action Camp builds on the ongoing partnership between Divert NS and the Discovery Centre, which includes the renewed Divert Ocean Action Zone exhibit and curriculum-linked educational programming. Together, these initiatives continue to provide meaningful opportunities for Nova Scotia youth to explore environmental science, deepen their understanding of the relationship between waste and marine ecosystems, and take action toward a more sustainable future.

Thank you, Divert NS for helping us make a difference in environmental education!



“ Every day on the road looks different, but we see youth empowerment in science consistently at each school.

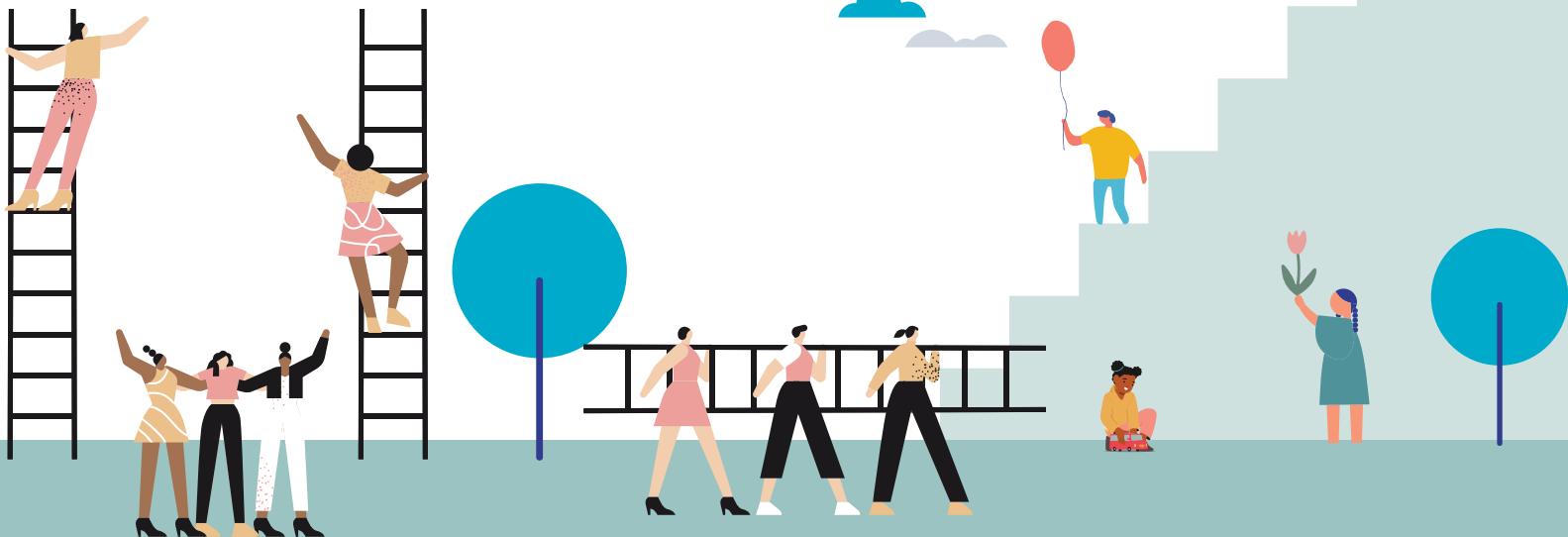
Often we hear “I don’t like science” turn into “this is the best day ever” all within an hour-long program. It shows how one positive interaction with science can be enough to change the way students view the topic completely. Our visits become even more impactful in rural communities, as sometimes we are the students’ only exposure to science outside of traditional classroom learning.

We recently received a card signed by an entire school as a thank you for traveling to Cape Breton with our portable planetarium, and this is just one example of the extreme gratitude staff and students feel at rural schools.

It’s important we continue to deliver programming province wide to ensure all students feel included and empowered in science!



– Ailish Sullivan,
Senior Science
Educator



Future of Efficiency

The *Future of Efficiency initiative* at Discovery Centre, presented by **Efficiency Nova Scotia**, is a three-part program designed to inspire people to learn more about sustainability, explore a future in green careers, and find out all of the little things that can be done to use energy more efficiently in daily life.

It includes a free summer camp for girls aged 12-16, a Green Careers Day for high school students, and a Free Access Day for the public — all reducing barriers to hands-on STEAM learning and fostering interest in green careers and sustainability.

Future of Efficiency Summer Camps

The *Future of Efficiency Summer Camps* provided an engaging and empowering STEM experience for 22 girls aged 12-16, with priority access for participants from underrepresented communities. Through free, hands-on learning opportunities, campers explored renewable energy, energy efficiency, engineering, and climate solutions while connecting with female professionals working across the sustainability sector.

Throughout the week, participants engaged with mentors from industry and community organizations, visited innovative local facilities showcasing energy-efficient design and renewable energy technologies (IKEA Dartmouth), and explored applied research environments (NSCC Ivany Campus).

Drawing on these experiences, campers collaborated to design and build model homes that incorporated energy-efficient principles, strengthening their understanding of sustainable technologies while developing problem-solving, teamwork, and critical thinking skills.

The program inspired participants to see themselves as future innovators and leaders in building a more sustainable future. Many thanks to our partners at **Efficiency Nova Scotia**, to our special guest mentors from Green Schools Nova Scotia, Habit Studio, Efficiency One, Integral Energy Performance, and Net Zero Atlantic and to our field hosts at IKEA and the NSCC Ivany Campus Applied Research Lab.





Future of Efficiency Green Careers Day

Discovery Centre and our partners welcomed over 300 middle school and high school students from across Nova Scotia for the *Future of Efficiency Green Careers Day*. Students explored opportunities in green industries through interactive booths and industry presentations from **Efficiency One, Green Schools Nova Scotia, ASHRAE**, and hands-on activities and trivia with Discovery Centre's Science Education team.

Future of Efficiency Free Access Day

The *Future of Efficiency Free Access Day*, held on November 15, 2025, welcomed visitors to the Discovery Centre free of charge for a day of exploration, learning, and discovery focused on sustainability and energy efficiency. Guests of all ages participated in hands-on activities, interactive demonstrations, and engaging experiences designed to highlight practical solutions for a more sustainable future. The event was made possible through the participation of valued community partners, including **Efficiency Nova Scotia, Green Schools Nova Scotia, Green Career Centre, ASHRAE Halifax, and Net Zero Atlantic**, whose expertise helped bring energy efficiency and sustainability concepts to life for attendees. By making these topics accessible and engaging, the event inspired visitors to consider how everyday actions can contribute to a more sustainable future.

efficiency
NOVA SCOTIA





Digital Discovery

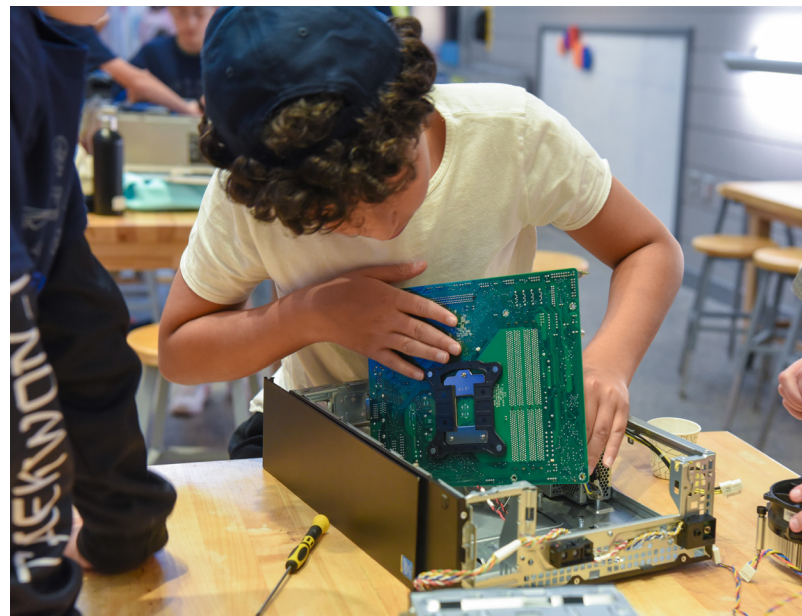
We continued to see great success with our *Digital Discovery program*, which celebrated a decade of delivery and partnership with Digital Nova Scotia in 2025!

We are very thankful for the continued partnership and support of **Digital Nova Scotia**, as well as long-time sponsors and funders, including **REDspace** and **ACOA**. In addition to two weeks at Discovery Centre, the camps reach communities across Nova Scotia annually, including Bridgewater, New Glasgow, Spryfield, Yarmouth, and Sydney, with seven camps of 15 campers per group for a total reach of 105 students.



Atlantic Canada
Opportunities
Agency

Agence de
promotion économique
du Canada atlantique





Science of Safety Online Course

Discovery Centre partnered with the **Nova Scotia Department of Education** and Early Childhood Development to produce *Science of Safety*, an online educational resource for grades 7-12.

The video series and interactives feature Discovery Centre science educators and students from Auburn Drive High School.

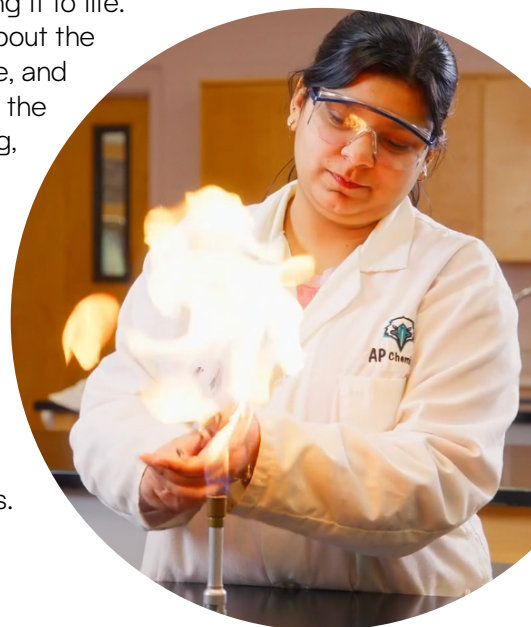
The course is freely accessible in English and French, can be self-paced or used as a teaching tool for class discussions, and introduces students to the lab and a safe approach to exploring science, whether it's chemistry, physics, biology, or the outdoor environment.

A safety mindset, controlling hazards, accident response, and best practices are the main themes explored.

This project was an exciting way to extend our reach into schools, and all Discovery Centre departments contributed to bringing it to life.

We are passionate about the safety around science, and we wanted to ensure the videos were engaging, educational, and accessible.

The online course is a key feature of Nova Scotia's online Science Safety Hub and is linked directly for teachers in their curriculum resources.





Microscope

Microscope is an innovative science outreach initiative that brings microbiology and genomics education to classrooms and communities across Nova Scotia. A collaboration between Discovery Centre and **Dalhousie University's Institute for Comparative Genomics (ICG)**, the *Microscope* program engages learners of all ages in hands-on, experiential learning about the invisible world of microbes. Since its beginning in Spring of 2024, *Microscope* has reached over 1,900 participants in person, fostering curiosity and scientific literacy.

In 2025, Discovery Centre hosted *Microscope Biodiversity Day* in the spring and International Microorganism Day in the fall, celebrating the critical role of microbes in ecosystems and human health. Visitors participated in interactive demonstrations, games, and hands-on activities, exploring microscopic samples, genomics, and soil health. These events highlighted the importance of biodiversity and deepened public understanding of the microbial world.

Microscope also played a key role in Discovery Centre's Sprouting Science Club, where youth explored garden science through hands-on activities focused on soil health and microbes. Campers explored connections between soil, microbes, and thriving ecosystems, enriching the camp experience and encouraging scientific curiosity.

Microscope's impact has since extended into schools and professional development days for educators. In October, Discovery Centre and ICG participated in the Association of Science Teachers Conference at Halifax West High School, and *Microscope* volunteers and Discovery Centre Science Educators have visited junior high and high school classrooms across Nova Scotia presenting on biodiversity, eDNA, and microbiomes.

Powered by an NSERC PromoScience grant with support from Genome Atlantic, *Microscope* continues to inspire curiosity, bridge research with education, and bring the fascinating microbial world to communities across Nova Scotia.



Reaching Our Online Audiences

Since January 2026, Discovery Centre has changed the way we use our social media to connect with our audiences with great success.

We made an intentional choice to focus on putting people at the forefront, use video as much as possible, and have fun while still maintaining our brand.

When people think of Discovery Centre, they think of fun and nostalgia, and we want that to show through our social media channels. By focusing on posting consistently, balancing event promotions with fun in-Centre videos, and delivering our all-important Discovery Centre educational content in a new and exciting way, we were able to see significant growth in just a few months.

Social media highlights:

- Notable rise in engagement across all Facebook and Instagram content
- Interaction rates outperform previous periods
- Visual and dynamic content (photos & reels), along with links, drive the most engagement



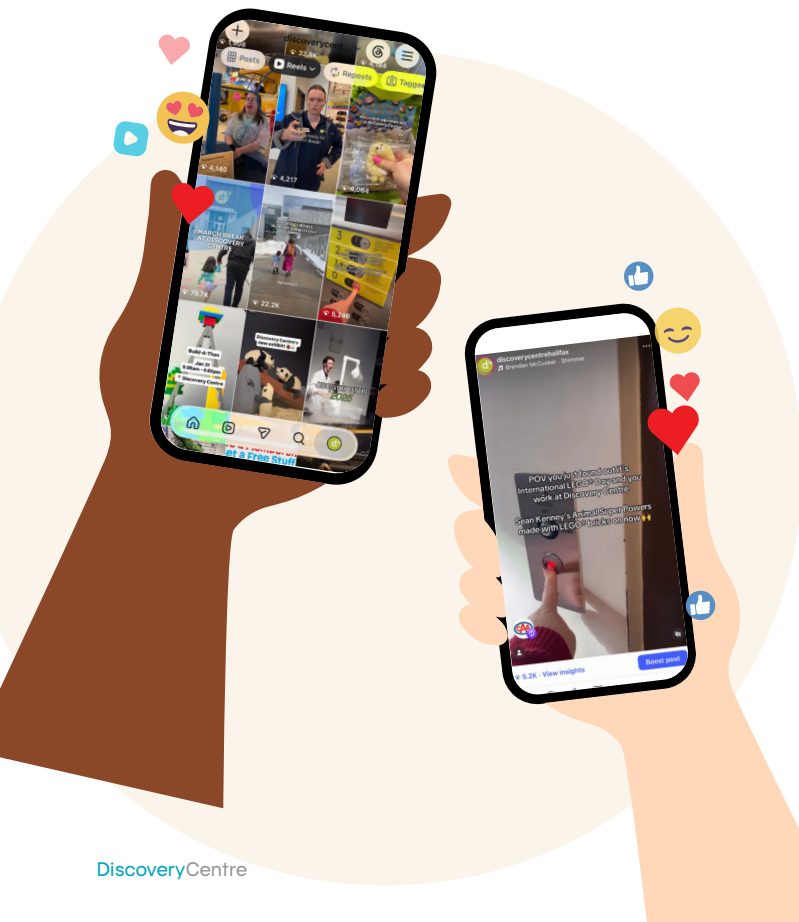
We are excited to continue this momentum and focus on the following themes in our social posts:

- Awareness of our registered charity status
- Membership benefits
- Event promotion
- Venue rentals
- Donor recognition
- Impact stories
- Education and donor related
- Fun facts with science educators and staff scientists
- And much more!

With a mix of organic and paid ads, we can reach our current and prospective audiences and ensure they are aware of all the incredible things happening in the Centre and in our communities.

Social media allows you to tell your story, and there are so many aspects of our story that haven't been told.

Look forward to more fun and educational content from Discovery Centre in the year to come!



Discovery Awards

The 23rd Annual Discovery Awards for Science & Innovation brought together Nova Scotia's leading researchers, innovators, and emerging talent for an inspiring evening of celebration and recognition.

The Discovery Awards showcased the extraordinary achievements taking place across our province, highlighting individuals and organizations whose work is advancing science, technology, and discovery. From groundbreaking scientific advancements to meaningful community impact, this year's finalists and recipients demonstrated the incredible innovation that is helping to shape a brighter future for Nova Scotia and beyond.



More than 400 guests gathered to celebrate and support Discovery Centre's mission of fostering a culture of lifelong learning. As our signature fundraising event, the Discovery Awards raised \$145,000 to support engaging STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) programming that reaches youth, families, and communities throughout Nova Scotia. These programs inspire future innovators and provide hands-on learning experiences that make science accessible, relevant, and exciting for all.

The 2025 Discovery Awards served as a powerful reminder that when innovation, collaboration, and curiosity come together, incredible things can happen. The achievements recognized throughout the evening reflect the strength of Nova Scotia's innovation ecosystem and the tremendous potential of those working to advance knowledge, solve complex challenges, and create positive change in our communities and around the world.

2025 AWARD RECIPIENTS:



Hall of Fame
Dr. Jean Gray
Professor Emerita of
Medical Education,
Medicine and Pharmacology,
Dalhousie University



Hall of Fame
Dr. Carlyle Smith Beals
(1899-1979)
Dominion Astronomer of
Canada, Astrophysicist



Youth Award
Syd West
Grade 12 Student,
Horton High School



**Professional
of Distinction**
Chérif F. Matta
Professor, Mount Saint
Vincent University



Emerging Professional
Dr. Ejemai Eboeime
Assistant Professor,
Dalhousie University



**Innovation
CarbonRun**
Edmund Halfyard,
Luke Connell, Shannon Sterling



Science Champion
Dr. Paola Marignani
Professor, Dalhousie University



**Research Nova Scotia
Public Impact Award**
Dr. Nicoletta Faraone
Associate Professor, Acadia University

SPONSORS



Award Sponsors



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In-Centre Events



After a six-year hiatus, Discovery Centre was excited to bring back our popular 19+ Discover Love event. Held on Valentine's Day, the evening welcomed 400 guests for a unique celebration of science, relationships, and connection.

Sponsored by the **Downtown Halifax Business Commission**, the evening featured a diverse lineup of engaging experiences including workshops on sex toys and pleasure presented by **Venus Envy**, specialty cocktails crafted by **Clever Barkeep**, and a thought-provoking presentation from **Dalhousie University's Dr. Natalie Rosen** on the science-based factors that promote sexual desire in long-term relationships.

Guests also enjoyed a special Dome Theatre show and explored interactive activities throughout the Centre, creating a memorable evening that combined learning, entertainment, and discovery in a fun and welcoming atmosphere.

★ ★ *Discovery at Night Sleepovers* ★ ★

This fiscal year, Discovery Centre hosted three exciting Discovery at Night sleepovers in partnership with the **Girl Guides of Canada**. The Centre was filled with laughter, curiosity, and hands-on learning as Sparks, Embers, Guides, and Pathfinders spent an unforgettable night exploring science together.

Campers explored all floors of the Centre, enjoyed exciting live science demonstrations, experienced an immersive star show in the Dome Theatre, participated in hands-on crafts and interactive science activities, and spent the night sleeping among the exhibits.

A total of 323 participants, including one daytime event, took part in activities designed to help them earn badges aligned with science and space. Sleepover campers also earned a custom Discovery Centre Sleepover Badge by demonstrating curiosity, teamwork, and a passion for discovery.



Featured Exhibitions



Dinosaur Explorer:

January 18, 2025 – May 4, 2025

Dinosaur Explorer was a ROAR-some exhibit featuring life-sized animatronic dinosaurs, real fossil displays, and fun hands-on activities.

produced by
imagine



Mazes and Brain Games:

May 17, 2025 – January 4, 2026

Mazes and Brain Games was an interactive exhibit created to challenge the minds of visitors and spark their curiosity. The exhibit was packed with over 40 hands-on games, puzzles, and challenges for all ages.

**MAZES
& BRAIN GAMES**



minotaur mazes

DiscoveryCentre



Sean Kenney's Animal Super Powers made with LEGO® bricks:

January 17, 2026 – May 3, 2026

Sean Kenney's Animal Super Powers made with LEGO® bricks showcased the amazing abilities of the animal kingdom with larger-than-life LEGO® brick sculptures. Visitors were inspired by the sculptures made with over 1,000,000 LEGO® bricks and were invited to create their own masterpieces.

produced by
imagine



Camps, Clubs and Workshops

Discovery Centre had a record-breaking camp season, engaging over 800 campers across the province in a variety of hands-on day camps and clubs. This was made possible through the strong support of our camp communities and partners, including **Efficiency Nova Scotia**, **Digital Nova Scotia**, and **IGNITE Atlantic** and a generous donation of STEAM club kits supplied by **4M**.

IGNITE's Up and Atom

Discovery Centre once again supported **IGNITE's Up and Atom** Science of Sport Camps in the communities of New Glasgow, Sydney, and East Preston. Throughout the camp, Discovery Centre supported participant engagement in hands-on STEM experiences, designed to spark curiosity, encourage scientific exploration, and build problem-solving and critical thinking skills. These camps had about 60 students per camp week and were open to participants between the ages of 5-18.

IGNITE

Fall Clubs

With support from **4M**, Discovery Centre launched a fall STEAM club for our home school students. Over 4 weeks in September, students ages 8-11, completed 5 hands-on kits focused on science and art, generously donated by 4M.

For our youngest home school learners, (ages 5-7), Discovery Centre hosted a 4-week Space Club, packed with hands-on learning and astronomical experiences in our immersive Dome Theatre.



STEAM & Specialty Summer Camps

We engaged 465 campers between the ages of 5-13 across Discovery Centre's on-site STEAM & Specialty camps and saw a jump in new registrations with over 60% of campers attending a Discovery Centre camp for the first time!

STEAM camp themes for summer 2025 included:

- Daring Detectives
- Backyard Biodiversity
- Chemists and Creators
- Space Voyagers
- Budding Biologists
- Ocean Heroes

On-site Specialty Camps included: the ever-popular Digital Discovery Camps (15 participants in grades 4-6; 15 participants in grades 6-8), the Ocean Technology Camp (15 participants in grades 6-8), the Divert Ocean Action Camp, and the new Engineering Works camp, with support from the Honda Canada Foundation.





Engineering Works Camp

With support from the **Honda Canada Foundation**, 15 participants between the ages of 11-16 participated in the new, free Engineering Works Camp at Discovery Centre. With priority registration given to girls, gender-diverse youth, and BIPOC youth, this camp was aimed at addressing the gaps in STEAM opportunities for specific communities in NS.

During the camp, participants had the opportunity to explore how things move, operate, and come to life through exciting projects in robotics, renewable energy, bridges, buildings, and more. Through special guest appearances from Jetson Infinity and tours of local engineering labs at Saint Mary's University and Dalhousie University, participants gained career inspiration and a look at real world applications in engineering.



PD Camps

Discovery Centre hosted 18 action-packed PD Day Camps, welcoming a combined total of 375 curious campers across our junior and senior camp groups, engaging youth in grades 1-2 and 3-5 respectively. Campers engaged in hands-on, interactive STEAM learning and exhibit exploration across themes of chemistry, neuroscience, robotics, biology (insects, animals and ecology), seasonal science and engineering. These camps helped turn a day with no classes into a fun and educational experience for all involved.



March Break Camps

Discovery Centre was once again alive with activity over March Break with 61 enthusiastic campers, aged 5 to 13, engaged across three camp groups: Junior (grades P-2), Senior (grades 3-5), and Digital Discovery (Grades 4-6). Campers dove into hands-on science experiments and enjoyed exploring Discovery Centre's galleries, especially in the featured exhibition, Sean Kenney's Animal Super Powers made with LEGO® bricks!

Participants in our junior and senior camps were engaged in hands-on learning related to the science of joy, how to be a sustainability superstar, formation and discovery of fossils, the wonders of weather, and space exploration. Participants in our Digital Discovery Camp were engaged in a weeklong digital journey with the theme Cyber Superspies. During the week, participants experienced hands-on learning with circuitry, robotics, and coding as well as field trips to Maritime Digital Art and Design and REDspace.

A huge thank you to our camp partner **Digital Nova Scotia**, generous sponsors **REDspace** and **ACOA**, and to our incredible special guests for helping spark a passion for technology and innovation in the next generation!

In-Centre Workshops

In addition to our successful camps, Discovery Centre engaged over 4,000 students with our Science in the Centre workshops, with thousands more joining us on school field trips throughout the year!

We are also proud to continue providing a home school program, expanding our offerings this fiscal to include additional new workshop sessions and extended to an older age bracket (ages 11 – 15) to meet demand and interest from our home school families. Over this fiscal year, Discovery Centre's education team engaged 174 home school students ages 5-15 in a combination of hands-on workshops and educational Dome Theatre experiences.

Leadership Team

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Arshi Arshi
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Ailish Sullivan
Senior Science Educator

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Jenna Clarke
Staff Scientist

Nora Connolly
Staff Scientist

Meredith Mooney
STEAM Facilitator

Angus Bauer
STEAM Facilitator

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Janis Joseph
Customer Service Representative

Tanya Madden
Graphic Designer

Laura Jones
Marketing Coordinator

Margaret Campbell
Exhibit Development Lead

John Eaton
Exhibits & Facilities Specialist

Kyle Sveinson
Exhibits & Facilities Technician

Will Cool-Gaudin
Exhibits & Facilities Specialist

Chris McDonald
Technical Lead



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OF COMPANIES

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divert^{NS}
Nothing Wasted

CN

BMO

Fondation
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Foundation

Halifax Youth
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Dr. Noni MacDonald

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Financial statements of Discovery Centre

March 31, 2026

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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, 2026, 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, 2026, 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.

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.

Chartered Professional
Accountants
DATE: June 24, 2026
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Discovery Centre
Statement of financial position
As at March 31, 2026

	Notes	2026 \$	2025 \$
Assets			
Current assets			
Accounts receivable		256,118	126,202
Government contributions receivable		—	150,978
Prepaid expenses		118,170	97,003
Inventories		14,043	15,298
		388,331	389,481
Long-term investment	3	1,000,000	1,000,000
Property and equipment	5	11,254,714	12,801,960
		12,643,045	14,191,441
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Bank indebtedness	4	260,262	49,844
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		823,055	972,209
Deferred revenue and deferred contributions	11	203,267	324,720
Current portion of long-term debt	6	1,724,163	2,036,924
		3,010,747	3,383,697
Net assets			
Investment in property and equipment		9,528,620	10,763,105
Internally restricted reserve	9	100,000	100,000
Endowment fund	10	72,000	72,000
Unrestricted		(68,322)	(127,361)
		9,632,298	10,807,744
		12,643,045	14,191,441
Commitments	13		

Approved by the Board

_____, Director

_____, Director

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

Discovery Centre
Statement of changes in net assets
Year ended March 31, 2026

	Investment in property and equipment \$	Internally restricted reserve \$ (Note 9)	Endowment fund \$ (Note 10)	Unrestricted \$	2026 \$	2025 \$
Net assets, beginning of year	10,763,105	100,000	72,000	(127,361)	10,807,744	12,397,442
Transfers	444,417	-	-	(444,417)	-	—
Excess of expenditures over revenue for the year	(1,678,902)	-	-	503,456	(1,175,446)	(1,589,698)
Net assets, end of year	9,528,620	100,000	72,000	(68,322)	9,632,298	10,807,744

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

Discovery Centre
Statement of revenue and expenditures
Year ended March 31, 2026

	Notes	2026 \$	2025 \$
Revenue			
Admissions, memberships and workshops		1,507,810	1,576,426
Government contributions	8	886,906	1,459,666
Fundraising and donations		1,240,735	865,788
Retail income		129,542	161,469
Special events	7	135,949	187,232
Other		214,193	203,048
		4,115,135	4,453,629
Expenditures			
Salaries and benefits		2,075,211	2,153,373
Exhibits, programs and administration		1,090,958	1,722,257
Rent and common area charges		246,919	201,240
Special events	7	97,149	119,931
Retail cost of goods sold		80,006	91,288
		3,590,243	4,288,089
Excess of revenue over expenditures before the following expenses		524,892	165,540
Amortization of property and equipment		1,586,004	1,581,950
Interest on long-term debt		114,334	173,288
		1,700,338	1,755,238
Excess of expenditures over revenue		(1,175,446)	(1,589,698)

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

Discovery Centre
Statement of cash flows
Year ended March 31, 2026

	Notes	2026 \$	2025 \$
Operating activities			
Excess of expenditures over revenue for the year		(1,175,446)	(1,589,698)
Changes to excess of revenue over expenditures not involving cash			
Amortization of property and equipment		1,586,004	1,581,950
		410,558	(7,748)
Net changes in non-cash working capital items related to operations			
Accounts receivable		(129,916)	37,375
Government contributions receivable		150,978	202,318
Prepaid expenses		(21,167)	136,383
Inventories		1,255	(48)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		(149,154)	50,805
Deferred revenue and deferred contributions		(121,453)	12,785
		141,101	431,870
Financing activity			
Repayment of long-term debt		(312,761)	(412,156)
Investing activity			
Acquisition of property and equipment		(38,758)	(46,379)
Net change in bank indebtedness during year		(210,418)	(26,665)
Bank indebtedness beginning of year		(49,844)	(23,179)
Bank indebtedness, end of year		(260,262)	(49,844)

Non-cash transactions

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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:

	Years
Exhibits	10
Equipment and fixtures	3-5
Computer equipment	2
Leasehold improvements	(Lease term) 25

(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 contributor 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 when 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:

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
Total assets	1,077,279	577,575
Total liabilities	297,794	303,060
Net assets	779,485	274,515
Revenue	2,061,133	1,669,071
Expenses	1,556,163	1,766,534
Cash flows from operating activities	(18,036)	150,401
Cash flows from investing activities	(16,288)	—

4. Bank indebtedness

The Centre has an authorized revolving demand facility in the amount of \$750,000 (\$750,000 in 2025) which bears interest at prime plus 0.25% and the Centre has provided a general security agreement over all assets as security for the operating line facility. \$372,356 (\$587,723 in 2025) was undrawn at year-end.

5. Property and equipment

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2026 Net book value	2025 Net book value
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Exhibits	9,653,289	8,065,244	1,588,045	2,536,789
Equipment and fixtures	373,221	352,847	20,374	33,025
Computer equipment	239,834	216,748	23,086	3,886
Leasehold improvements	15,123,610	5,500,401	9,623,209	10,228,260
	25,389,954	14,135,240	11,254,714	12,801,960

Of the additions to property and equipment during the year \$10,558 (\$5,000 in 2025) 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

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
CIBC non-revolving demand instalment loan, repayable in monthly principal instalments of \$26,063 plus interest, bearing interest at the bank's prime rate plus 0.25%, amortized to September 2031. Secured by first-priority security interest in all assets of the Centre	1,724,163	2,036,924

Amounts under this loan are repayable on demand by CIBC. Assuming the loan is not called on demand and maturing debt is renewed at similar terms to existing arrangements, the aggregate amount of principal repayments of long-term debt in each of the next five fiscal years ending March 31 are as follows:

	\$
2027	312,761
2028	312,761
2029	312,761
2030	312,761
2031	312,761
Thereafter	160,358

Under the terms of the 5th Amendment to the CIBC Credit Agreement (the "Credit Agreement"), effective March 31, 2026, the Centre is required to maintain a minimum debt service ratio of 1.0 to 1.0. The Credit Agreement defines the debt service ratio as earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortization divided by the total of scheduled principal repayments due in the next fiscal year and interest expense on the loan. As at March 31, 2026, the Centre was in compliance with this covenant.

7. Special events

During the year, the Centre held one special event. The event resulted in a net excess of revenue over expenditures of \$38,800 (\$67,301 in 2025).

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Sponsorships and registration revenue	135,949	187,232
Expenditures	(97,149)	(119,931)
	38,800	67,301

8. Government contributions

During the year, the Centre recorded government contributions for the operations of the Centre as follows:

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Government of Canada	—	563,107
Government of Nova Scotia	507,950	530,000
Halifax Regional Municipality	200,000	200,000
Employment grants	178,956	166,559
	886,906	1,459,666

9. 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 2026. As a result, \$100,000 (\$100,000 in 2025) of cash in the operating fund is restricted from general use by the Centre.

10. 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.

11. Deferred revenue and deferred contributions

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Deferred private and public sector contributions received	83,750	204,200
Deferred revenue and deposits	119,517	120,520
	203,267	324,720

12. 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 the term loan, as outlined in Note 6. Fluctuations in the prime interest rate will have moderate impact on the Centre's result of operations.

12. Financial instruments (continued)

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, 2026, management believes the Centre has no significant liquidity risk as its assets are liquid in nature.

13. Commitments

The Centre is in a twenty-year lease with a five-year renewal option with Nova Scotia Power Inc. for the premises as 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 two years are as follows:

	\$
2027	8,215
2028	3,423

14. Comparative figures

Certain figures for 2025 have been reclassified to conform to the presentation adopted in 2026.