December 31, 2014

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Grant Thornton LLP Suite 300 3600 Dundas Street Burlington, ON L7M 488 T (289) 313-0300 F (289) 313-0355 www.GrantThornton.ca

Independent auditor's report

To the Members of Hamilton Region Conservation Authority

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

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

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

Auditor's responsibility

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

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

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

Opinion

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

Burlington, Canada May 7, 2015 Grant Thornton LLP Chartered Accountants Licensed Public Accountants

Grant Thornton LLP

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Statement of Financial Position

December 31	***************************************	2014	 2013
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable Due from Confederation Park	\$	6,588,995 1,124,592 221,515	\$ 6,227,727 628,955 143,059
Due from Hamilton Conservation Foundation		125,923	 233,324
Total financial assets	\$	8,061,025	\$ 7,233,065
Liabilities			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Due to Westfield Heritage Village Employee future benefit costs (Note 6) Deferred revenues (Note 8) Long-term debt (Note 9)	\$	1,375,859 554,302 364,521 469,731 1,597,921	\$ 1,276,842 628,464 389,103 403,930 1,878,518
Total liabilities	\$	4,362,334	\$ 4,576,857
Net financial assets	. \$	3,698,691	\$ 2,656,208
Non-financial assets Inventory Prepaid expenses Tangible capital assets		70,846 151,985 32,755,530	 82,983 174,567 32,833,271
Total non-financial assets	\$	32,978,361	\$ 33,090,821
Accumulated surplus (Note 10)	\$	36,677,052	\$ 35,747,029

Contingent liabilities, contractual obligations and commitments (Notes 12 and 13)

On behalf of the Authority

Chair

Vice Chair

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Statement of Operations

Year Ended December 31	2014	2014	2013
	Budget	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Revenues			
Municipal levy & special projects	\$ 5,475,330	\$ 5,503,760	\$ 5,569,476
Federal & Provincial grants	185,150	650,647	545,912
Hamilton Conservation Foundation	149,017	910,060	704,093
Private and In-Kind donations (Note 11)	121,224	256,480	452,813
Admissions, product, service & program fees		4,064,842	3,868,941
Regulatory fees	350,000	306,258	340,775
Management fees	468,900	488,972	484,771
Rentals	1,099,020	970,151	973,376
Other income	193,127	214,302	633,603
	11,966,098_	13,365,472	13,573,760
Expenditures			
Wages & benefits	6,560,410	6,782,641	6,588,028
Staff expenses	343,725	356,752	310,411
Utilities	553,155	620,992	528,547
Products for resale	303,400	293,107	290,950
Materials & supplies	458,510	943,011	896,226
Contractors / consultants	2,315,225	1,240,238	1,158,155
Professional fees	226,490	226,904	217,613
Miscellaneous expense	1,262,583	1,093,416	714,065
	12,023,498	11,557,061	10,703,995
Amortization	900,000	878,388	875,494
Loss on disposal of capital assets, net	· - .	, <u>.</u>	156,424
, , ,	12,923,498	12,435,449	11,735,913
Annual surplus	\$ (957,400)	\$ 930,023	\$ 1,837,847
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year, as			
previously stated	•		33,927,683
Prior period adjustment (Note 3)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		(18,501)
Accumulated surplus, beginning of year, restated	35,747,029	35,747,029	33,909,182
Accumulated surplus, end of year	\$ 34,789,629	\$ 36,677,052	\$ 35,747,029
·			

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Statement of Cash Flows

December 31	2014	2013
Increase/decrease in cash and cash equivalents		
Cash Flow from operating transactions		
Annual surplus	\$ 930,023	\$ 1,837,847
Non-cash changes to operations		
Amortization	878,388	875,494
Retirements of capital assets	2,445	· -
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	_,	156,424
Increase in accounts receivable	(495,637)	(124,120)
Decrease (increase) in inventory	12,137	(1,606)
Decrease in prepaid expenses	22,582	44,230
Decrease in employee future benefit costs	(24,582)	(34,039)
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	99,017	26,364
Decrease (increase) in Due from	00,011	20,001
Hamilton Conservation Foundation	107,401	(249,898)
Increase in Due from Confederation Park	(78,456)	(289,442)
Decrease in Due to Westfield Heritage Village	(74,162)	(104,839)
Increase (decrease) in deferred revenues	65,801	(173,913)
morease (desirease) in delerrea revendes	1,444,957	1,962,502
	1,777,001	1,002,002
Financing Activities		
Repayment of long term debt	(280,597)	(270,251)
Capital		
Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	57,788	23,831
Purchase of tangible capital assets	(860,880)	(1,867,075)
	(803,092)	(1,843,244)
Not increase (decrease) in each and each equipplents	264 260	(150,003)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	361,268	(150,993)
Cash and cash equivalents		
Beginning of year	6,227,727	6,378,720
beginning of year	0,221,121	0,070,720
End of year	\$ 6,588,995	\$ 6,227,727
•		

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

December 31	2014	2014	2013
	Budget	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Annual surplus	\$ (957,400)	\$ 930,023	\$ 1,837,847
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	_	(860,880)	(1,867,075)
Write off of infrastructure improvements	- .	2,445	-
Loss on sale of tangible capital assets	-	-	156,424
Net proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	-	57,788	23,831
Amortization	900,000	878,388	875,494
Change in inventory of supplies	_	12,137	(1,606)
Change in prepaids	-	22,582	44,230
	900,000	112,460	(768,702)
Change in net financial assets	(57,400)	1,042,483	1,069,145
Net financial assets, beginning of year	2,656,208	2,656,208	1,587,063
Net financial assets, end of year	\$ 2,598,808	\$ 3,698,691	\$ 2,656,208

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Schedule of Corporate Support

Year Ended December 31	2014	2014	2013
	Budget	<u>Actual</u>	Actual
Revenues			
Municipal lew & special projects	\$2,409,180	\$ 2,412,142	\$ 2,819,620
Federal & Provincial grants	24,900	24,900	24,900
Hamilton Conservation Foundation	127,017	174,301	299,620
Private and In-Kind donations	-	208,850	289,439
Admissions, product, service & program fees	71,130	127,337	89,409
Management fees	468,900	488,972	484,771
Rentals	510,820	353,798	366,165
Other income	74,500	120,852	328,659
	3,686,447	3,911,152	4,702,583
Expenditures			
Wages & benefits	2,452,129	2,513,668	2,281,235
Staff expenses	188,772	182,207	151,544
Utilities	308,455	333,606	279,880
Materials & supplies	184,000	238,336	211,156
Contractors / consultant	182,432	128,361	306,885
Professional fees	108,040	140,275	112,096
Miscellaneous expense	622,173	468,223	143,363
	4,046,001	4,004,676	3,486,157
Amortization	200,000	181,464	201,247
Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	_	(346)
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	4,246,001	4,186,140	3,687,058
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ (559,554)	\$ (274,988)	\$ 1,015,525

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Schedule of Watershed Planning and Engineering Operations Year Ended December 24

Year Ended December 31	2014	2014	2013
	Budget	<u>Actual</u>	Actual
Revenues			
Municipal lew & special projects	\$1,415,600	\$1,440,995	\$1,549,014
Federal & Provincial grants	160,250	361,198	302,122
Hamilton Conservation Foundation	, -	113,026	75,800
Private and In-Kind donations	121,224	47,630	162,012
Regulatory fees	350,000	306,258	340,775
Other income	101,077	52,235	272,283
	2,148,151	2,321,342	2,702,006
Expenditures			
Wages & benefits	1,708,628	1,706,382	1,742,347
Staff expenses	39,700	30,862	40,573
Utilities	23,150	23,609	21,484
Materials & supplies	31,600	40,279	20,651
Contractors / consultant	446,043	326,405	386,999
Professional fees	10,000	9,075	6,180
Miscellaneous expense	192,057	60,196	68,571
·	2,451,178	2,196,808	2,286,805
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$ (303,027)	\$ 124,534	\$ 415,201

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Schedule of Land Management Operations

Year Ended December 31		2014	 2014	 2013
		Budget	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Revenues				
Municipal lew & special projects	\$	1,650,550	\$ 1,650,623	\$ 1,200,842
Federal & Provincial grants		-	264,549	218,890
Hamilton Conservation Foundation		22,000	622,733	328,673
Private and In-Kind donations		-	-	1,362
Admissions, product, service & program fees		3,853,200	3,937,505	3,779,532
Rentals		588,200	616,353	607,211
Other income		17,550	41,215	 32,661
		6,131,500	7,132,978	 6,169,171
Expenditures				
Wages & benefits		2,399,653	2,562,590	2,564,446
Staff expenses		115,253	143,684	118,295
Utilities		221,550	263,777	227,183
Products for resale		303,400	293,107	290,950
Materials & supplies		242,910	664,396	664,419
Contractors / consultants		1,686,750	785,472	464,271
Professional fees		108,450	77,554	99,337
Miscellaneous expense		448,353	 564,997	 502,132
		5,526,319	5,355,577	4,931,032
Amortization		700,000	696,924	674,247
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets			-	156,770
		6,226,319	6,052,501	5,762,049
Annual surplus (deficit)	\$	(94,819)	\$ 1,080,477	\$ 407,122
	_			

Hamilton Region Conservation Authority Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets

		Land		Building & Building	Machinery &		Work In	Dec. 31	Dec.31
Cost	Land	Improvements	Infrastructure	Improvements	Eduipment	Venicies	Progress (WIP)	2014	20.13
Beginning of year	\$21,122,712	\$ 3,149,123	\$16,635,593	\$ 5,924,587	\$ 397,760	\$2,483,620	\$ 94,437	\$ 49,807,832	\$ 48,519,644
Additions	191,000	ı	419,930	ı	49,359	89,764	110,827	860,880	1,867,075
Disposals Retirements* Transfer from WIP	(60,000)	1 1 1	50,692	(77,982)	(14,986)	(37,531)	(2,446)	(112,517) (80,428)	(544,321) (34,566)
End of year	21,253,712	3,149,123	17,106,215	5,846,605	432,133	2,535,853	152,126	50,475,767	49,807,832
Accumulated Amortization	ization								
Beginning of year	1	1,901,374	9,940,003	3,207,004	120,926	1,805,254	i	16,974,561	16,497,698
Annual amortization	1	116,959	449,937	133,133	43,632	134,727	1	878,388	875,494
Disposals Retirements≛		1 1	T I	(77,982)	(14,986)	(37,531)		(52,517) (80,195)	(364,065)
End of year	i	2,018,333	10,389,940	3,262,155	149,572	1,902,450	1	17,720,237	16,974,561
Net book value	\$21,253,712	\$ 1,130,790	\$ 6,716,275	\$2,584,450	\$ 282,561	\$ 633,403	\$ 152,126	\$32,755,530	\$32,833,271

*Retirements - Computer hardware and software, once fully amortized, are removed from both assets and accumulated amortization

December 31, 2014

1. Nature of operations

The Hamilton Region Conservation Authority (the Authority) was established in 1966 under the Conservation Authorities Act of Ontario to manage a designated watershed of approximately 11,000 acres. The Authority is financed from municipal contributions, government grants, donations, user fees, product sales and services.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

The financial statements of the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority are prepared by management in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards. The more significant accounting policies are summarized as follows:

Basis of accounting

These statements reflect the incorporation of the full accrual basis of accounting and the reporting of the change in net financial assets and accumulated surplus.

Revenues and expenditures

Revenues are comprised of grants, contributions, user fees and revenue from other Authority services. Revenues are recorded in the period in which the transactions or events occurred that gave rise to the revenues. Expenditures are recorded in the period that the goods or services are acquired, whether or not revenues for those expenditures are raised in the current or following periods.

Donations

Donations are recorded in income in the period they are received, unless designated for a specific purchase that is to occur in a later period at which time the related revenue will be recognized. Donated property, plant, equipment, materials and services are recorded at fair market value when fair value can be reasonably estimated.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and balances held in the bank.

Pension plans

The Authority maintains a defined contribution plan for employees with more than one year service and who were hired subsequent to January 1, 2006.

Under the plan, the Authority matches employee contributions to a maximum of 6% of gross income.

December 31, 2014

2. Summary of significant accounting policies – continued

Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are comprised of property, plant, equipment, and inventories of materials and supplies and are recognized as assets in the period they are acquired. Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost which includes all amounts directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis, declining balance for vehicles, over the estimated useful life for all assets except land which is not amortized. Work in progress assets are not amortized until the asset is available for productive use.

Service life of tangible capital assets is estimated as follows:

Land improvements	10 - 20 years
Infrastructure	20 - 75 years
Building & building improvements	40 years
Machinery, equipment & software	3 - 10 years
Vehicles (light and heavy duty)	15% - 35%

The Authority has a collection of art and historical buildings not included as part of the tangible capital assets.

Government transfers

Government transfers are recognized in the financial statements as revenues in the period in which the events giving rise to the transfer occur, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria have been met and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made.

Inventory

Inventories for resale are valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Public Sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Comparative figures

Certain comparative figures of the preceding year have been modified to conform to the classification presentations adopted in the current year.

December 31, 2014

3. Prior period adjustments

Management has determined there to be two prior period adjustments. Firstly, items previously capitalized in work-in-progress for land improvement were deemed under the new standard *PS3260 Liability for contaminated sites* to not raise the value of the land but solely to bring the land back to a minimum environmental standard. As a result, \$574,341 has been expensed to contractors in 2013 and opening accumulated surplus has been adjusted by \$402,501 relating to costs incurred in fiscals 2011 and 2012. Secondly, a property donated in 2012 had been recorded at \$nil and has now been added to the tangible capital assets at the assessed value of \$384,000, raising the 2013 opening accumulated surplus by a similar amount.

4. Confederation Park and Westfield Heritage Village

These statements do not include the operating revenues and expenditures relating to Confederation Park and Westfield Heritage Village which are separate and distinct entities owned by the City of Hamilton and managed by the Authority at the request of the municipality. Under the terms of separate management agreements, the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority has exclusive authority to manage Confederation Park and Westfield Heritage Village for the City of Hamilton. In payment for the management function, the Authority receives a management fee of 15% of operating expenditures. This management fee accrues to the Authority for its own purposes.

All existing real and personal Confederation Park property as at January 1, 1980, all subsequently acquired properties, and any surpluses or deficits generated during a fiscal year will remain the exclusive property of the City of Hamilton. The most recent management agreement for Confederation Park was for three years and executed effective May 1, 2012. The option to renew for one year was offered and accepted by both parties for 2015.

The Westfield Heritage Village agreement expired on November 30, 2000 and by mutual agreement, operations were continued under the same terms as in the expired agreement on a month to month basis. An agreement in principal has been reached whereby the Hamilton Region Conservation Authority will acquire all real and personal property of Westfield Heritage Village for a nominal fee and operate the facility in a similar fashion to its other conservation areas. This transaction is to be effective January 1st, 2015.

5. Related party transactions

	2014	2013
Municipal funding from the City of Hamilton and Township		
of Puslinch	\$ 5,415,259	\$ 5,003,310
Municipal funding recognized as revenue in the current year	5,503,760	5,569,476
Receivable from the City of Hamilton	407,876	181,938
Funding from the Hamilton Conservation Foundation	910,060	704,093
Management fees from Confederation Park and Westfield		
Heritage Village	488,971	484,771
Municipal taxes paid to the City of Hamilton and Township		
of Puslinch	(140,323)	(130,896)

December 31, 2014

6. Employee future benefit costs

	***********	2014	 2013
Accumulated Sick Leave Liability	\$	171,244	\$ 191,937
Supplemental early retirement package		122,087	111,112
Post-retirement benefits		71,190	 86,054
	\$	364,521	\$ 389,103

Under the Authority's sick leave plan, certain employees hired prior to January 1, 1993 become entitled to a cash payment when they leave the Authority's employment. The liability for these accumulated days, to the extent they are vested and could be taken in cash by employees on termination, is funded by operations.

The Authority committed in October 2002 to pay a former general manager a supplemental early retirement package. At the end of the current year, the cost of an annuity to satisfy this obligation was \$122,087 (2013- \$111,112) based on competitive quotes received from several insurance companies.

The Authority is committed to provide full health, life and vision coverage for all employees who have retired prior to the age of 65 for the period until they reach 65 years of age. A liability has been set up based on the current benefit rates for those retirees eligible for this coverage. The estimated value of these benefits in the current year is \$71,190 (2013 - \$86,054).

7. Defined contribution pension plan

Employer contributions to the Authority's defined contribution pension plan for the year was \$294,111 (2013 - \$274,285). The Plan is designed whereby employee contributions, ranging from 2% to 6% of gross salary, are matched by the employer.

8. Deferred revenues

	2014	2013
Revenue received but not earned at year-end is as follows:		
Storage fees and deposits	\$ 469,731	\$ 403,930

December 31, 2014

8. Long Term Debt		
	2014 20	13
City of Hamilton 5% loan - Marina wall reconstruction \$118,520 payable annually, matures April 2016	\$ 220,375 \$ 322,75	57
City of Hamilton 0% loan - Veldhuis property reclaimate \$44,000 payable annually, matures March 2020	264,000 308,00	00
City of Hamilton 4.25% Ioan - Wind-up DB pension pla \$187,245 payable annually, matures June, 2021	an	31
Principal repayments in future years are due as follows	\$ 1,597,921 \$ 1,878,5°	18
2015 2016	291,421 302,740	
2017	196,065	
2018	202,528	
2019 and therea	after605,167_	
	\$ 4,597,921	

Interest on long term debt of \$62,903 (2013 - \$73,191) was paid during the year.

The Authority has a demand loan available in the amount of \$500,000 at 3.0% of which \$ nil was borrowed as at December 31, 2014.

9. Accumulated surplus

	2014	2013
Reserve Funds		
Acquisitions of provincially significant		
lands or eligible water related projects	\$ 583,610	\$ 493,874
Future projects	4,816,335	4,260,497
Tangible Capital Assets	32,755,530	32,833,271
Unfunded long term debt	(1,597,921)	(1,878,518)
Operating surplus (deficit)	119,498	37,905
Accumulated surplus	\$ 36,677,052	\$ 35,747,029

December 31, 2014

11. Donations in kind

During the year, in addition to cash donations, the Authority was the beneficiary through donations in kind of land and other tangible capital assets with a total appraised value of \$191,000 (2013 - \$101,551).

12. Contingent liabilities

The Authority is involved from time to time in litigation, which arises in the normal course of business. In respect of any outstanding claims, the Authority believes that insurance coverage is adequate and that no material exposure exists on the eventual settlement of such litigation, therefore no provision has been made in the accompanying financial statements.

13. Contractual obligations and commitments

As at December 31, 2014, the Authority is committed to \$58,682 (2013 - \$79,138) with respect to ongoing contracts for equipment in the following years:

	\$ 58,682
2019 and beyond	
2018	11,119
2017	12,751
2016	14,356
2015	\$ 20,456

14. Budget figures

The budgeted figures are presented for comparison purposes and were adopted by the Authority on January 23rd, 2014. The adopted budget conforms with the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards except for the effect of the acquisition and amortization of tangible capital assets and principle repayment on debt. A reconciliation of the adopted and reported budgets is as presented below.

Adopted budget: Budgeted annual surplus for the year	\$	280,600
Adjustments to adopted budget: Amortization of tangible capital assets Transfer from reserves		(900,000) (338,000)
Restated budgeted surplus	. \$	(957,400)