

Notary Foundation of British Columbia
Financial Statements
For the year ended June 30, 2025

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For the year ended June 30, 2025

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Governors of the
Notary Foundation of British Columbia

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Notary Foundation of British Columbia (the "Foundation") which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at June 30, 2025 and the Statements of Operations and Changes in Net Assets and Cash Flows for the year ended June 30, 2025 and notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Notary Foundation of British Columbia as at June 30, 2025 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

The Foundation derives revenue from interest earned on Notaries' trust accounts, which do not form part of the Foundation's assets and whose completeness is therefore not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of this revenue was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Foundation. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to interest earned on Notaries' trust account, excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the years ended June 30, 2025 and 2024, current assets as at June 30, 2025 and 2024, and net assets as at July 1 and June 30 for both the 2025 and 2024 years.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation 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 qualified audit 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 Foundation'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 Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Foundation's financial reporting process.



Auditor's Responsibility

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation'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 Foundation'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 Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Vancouver, British Columbia
October 14, 2025

Notary Foundation of British Columbia
Statement of Financial Position

June 30	General Fund	Education and Administrative Fund	Grants Fund	2025	2024
Current Assets					
Cash (Note 3)	\$ 19,720,917	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,720,917	\$ 18,719,416
Interest and other receivable	786,525	-	-	786,525	1,526,443
Prepaid expenses	2,825	-	-	2,825	11,239
Investments (Note 4)	563,514	-	-	563,514	516,557
	21,073,781	-	-	21,073,781	20,773,655
Interfund balances	(14,207,746)	11,551,911	2,655,835	-	-
	\$ 6,866,035	\$ 11,551,911	\$ 2,655,835	\$ 21,073,781	\$ 20,773,655
Current Liabilities					
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)	\$ 6,866,035	\$ -	\$ 172,019	\$ 7,038,054	\$ 9,797,886
	6,866,035	-	172,019	7,038,054	9,797,886
Net assets	-	11,551,911	2,483,816	14,035,727	10,975,769
	\$ 6,866,035	\$ 11,551,911	\$ 2,655,835	\$ 21,073,781	\$ 20,773,655

Approved by The Board of Governors:

 Governor

 Governor

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notary Foundation of British Columbia
Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended June 30	General Fund	Education and Administrative Fund	Grants Fund	2025	2024
Revenue					
Interest earned on Notaries' trust accounts	\$ 6,841,622	\$ 4,353,760	\$ 1,243,931	\$ 12,439,313	\$ 17,219,444
Investment income (loss)	24,413	15,535	4,439	44,387	(43,915)
	<u>6,866,035</u>	<u>4,369,295</u>	<u>1,248,370</u>	<u>12,483,700</u>	<u>17,175,529</u>
Expenses					
Education and administrative fund grant	-	541,338	-	541,338	3,529,747
Grants Distribution	-	-	1,726,410	1,726,410	828,860
Governor and committee meetings	-	48,036	-	48,036	60,140
Information technology	-	12,448	-	12,448	11,882
Legal Services Society of British Columbia (Note 5)	6,866,035	-	-	6,866,035	9,446,541
Office and miscellaneous	-	14,860	-	14,860	48,844
Payroll	-	176,410	-	176,410	169,267
Professional fees	-	35,428	-	35,428	27,580
Rent and utilities	-	2,777	-	2,777	2,171
	<u>6,866,035</u>	<u>831,297</u>	<u>1,726,410</u>	<u>9,423,742</u>	<u>14,125,032</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	-	3,537,998	(478,040)	3,059,958	3,050,497
Net assets, beginning of the year	-	8,013,913	2,961,856	10,975,769	7,925,272
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 11,551,911</u>	<u>\$ 2,483,816</u>	<u>\$ 14,035,727</u>	<u>\$ 10,975,769</u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Notary Foundation of British Columbia
Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended June 30 **2025** **2024**

Cash provided by (used in)

Operating activities

Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 3,059,958	\$ 3,050,497
Items not involving cash		
Unrealized (gain) loss on investments	(28,720)	60,981
Realized (gain) loss on investments	(1,762)	14,256
Accrued dividends on investments	(16,475)	-
	<u>3,013,001</u>	<u>3,125,734</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital balances		
Interest and other receivable	739,918	(61,323)
Prepaid expenses	8,414	(11,239)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(2,759,832)	2,624,931
	<u>1,001,501</u>	<u>5,678,103</u>

Investing activities

Purchase of investments	-	(627,945)
Sale of investments	-	2,580,626
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,952,681</u>

Increase in cash during the year	1,001,501	7,630,784
Cash, beginning of year	18,719,416	11,088,632
Cash, end of year	\$ 19,720,917	\$ 18,719,416

Notary Foundation of British Columbia

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2025

1. Purpose of the Organization and Future Operations

The Notary Foundation of British Columbia (the "Foundation") was established in 1986 under Section 50 of the Notaries Act. The Foundation is a not-for-profit organization, which receives funding from interest earned on the trust funds of members of the Society of Notaries Public of British Columbia (the "Society"). The Foundation is a tax exempt body under Section 149 of the Income Tax Act.

The Foundation is required to establish and maintain funds to be used for the purpose of:

- legal education, legal research and legal aid,
- salary, administration, education and continuing education for notaries and applicants for enrolment as notaries,
- establishing, operating and maintaining law libraries in the Province of British Columbia

In March 2022, the Province of British Columbia announced an initiative to implement a new regulatory framework for legal service providers. The Legal Professions Act (the "Act"), which received Royal Assent in May 2024, provides for the eventual dissolution of the Foundation. Transitional provisions are currently in force, with the Province indicating that planning will not conclude before fiscal 2027. A transfer date for dissolution will be established by regulation.

The Act is currently subject to a constitutional challenge. The Foundation is not a party to this proceeding and the outcome is not expected before 2026. The ultimate impact of this initiative and the related legal challenge on the Foundation is uncertain and cannot be reasonably estimated at this time.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared using Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Notary Foundation of British Columbia

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2025

2. Significant Accounting Policies - Continued

(b) Fund Accounting and Revenue Recognition

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions and restricted revenue. Revenue is recognized in the following funds in accordance with the stipulations specified in Note 2(d) using the restricted fund method:

General Fund - used for legal aid and paid to the Legal Services Society of British Columbia.

Education and Administrative Fund - used for salary, administrative, education and continuing education of notaries and notarial applicants.

Grants Fund - used for legal education, legal research, and establishing, operating and maintaining of law libraries in the Province of British Columbia.

The interest earned on Society members' trust accounts is net of bank charges and remitted to the Foundation based upon agreements made with individual financial institutions. The trust accounts are not the property of nor are they administered by the Foundation and therefore are not included or presented on the Foundation's statement of financial position. The interest earned on members' trust accounts held in financial institutions is recognized by the Foundation on an accrual basis when the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured (Note 2(d)).

Investment income includes gains and losses on sale of investments carried at amortized cost, interest and dividend income and gains or losses resulting from changes in the fair value of investments. Investment Income is recognized when earned and is allocated on a predetermined basis amongst the funds as described in Note 2(d).

(c) Financial Instruments

Financial Instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, equities and bonds quoted in an active market are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in operations. All other financial instruments are reported at cost or amortized cost less impairment, if any. Financial assets carried at cost or amortized cost are tested for impairment when changes in circumstances indicate the asset could be impaired. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed for those items subsequently measured at fair value and included in the original cost of the financial instrument for those subsequently measured at amortized cost.

Notary Foundation of British Columbia

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2025

2. Significant Accounting Policies - Continued

(d) Allocation and disbursements of revenue

All revenue (including investment income) earned by the Foundation must be disbursed in accordance with the Notaries Act of British Columbia as follows:

- a) 55% to be paid to the Legal Services Society of British Columbia (the "General Fund").
- b) 10% of the total revenue to be used for legal education, legal research and the establishing, operating and maintaining of law libraries in the Province of British Columbia (the "Grants Fund"). Grant Funds are recognized as payable once approved by the Board of Governors.
- c) 35% of the total revenue to be used for salaries and administration of the Foundation as well as education and continuing education of notaries and notarial applicants (the "Education and Administrative Fund").

(e) Foreign Currency Translations

The Foundation's functional and reporting currency is the Canadian dollar. Foreign currency transactions are translated at the rates of exchange prevailing at the time of the transaction. Foreign currency denominated monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the rates of exchange in effect at the reporting date. Gains and losses on translation of monetary assets and liabilities are included in the statement of operations and changes in net assets.

(f) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

3. Cash

The Foundation's cash is held in various Canadian chartered banks. The accounts earn interest at prevailing market rates.

Notary Foundation of British Columbia Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2025

4. Investments

Investments are comprised of:

	2025 Market Value	2024 Market Value
Pooled fixed income funds	\$ 399,134	\$ 365,891
Pooled equity funds	164,380	150,666
	<u>\$ 563,514</u>	<u>\$ 516,557</u>

The Foundation's investments are held through one Canadian investment management company.

Pooled funds are investments managed by the investment management company. Pooled fixed income funds include corporate and government bonds. Pooled equity funds are invested in the shares of mid and large capitalization Canadian companies as well as non-Canadian stocks listed on major US exchanges. The foreign equities are translated to Canadian from USD at the exchange rate in effect at the reporting date.

5. Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities pertain to the allocation of revenue from the General Fund as described in Note 2(d), less payments made, and are comprised of the following:

	2025	2024
General fund		
Balance, beginning of period	\$ 9,446,541	\$ 7,161,386
Revenue allocated to the Legal Services Society of British Columbia	6,866,035	9,446,541
Payments to Legal Services Society of British Columbia	<u>(9,446,541)</u>	<u>(7,161,386)</u>
General fund payables	6,866,035	9,446,541
Grant fund	<u>172,019</u>	<u>351,345</u>
Balance, end of the year	<u>\$ 7,038,054</u>	<u>\$ 9,797,886</u>

Notary Foundation of British Columbia

Notes to the Financial Statements

June 30, 2025

6. Financial Instruments Risks

The Foundation is exposed to various risks as a result of being party to financial instruments. The Foundation has in place an investment policy for the purpose of reducing these risks through prudent management of the portfolio. The following analysis provides a measurement of those risks at June 30, 2025. There have been no significant changes to these risks from the prior year.

(a) Credit and Market Risk

Credit risk is the risk that the Foundation will incur a loss due to the failure by its debtors to meet their contractual obligations. Financial instruments that potentially subject the Foundation to significant credit risk consist primarily of cash, investments and interest and other receivable. Market risk is the risk that the value of an investment will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual investment or factors affecting all securities traded in the market. The Foundation limits its exposure to credit risk by placing its cash, short-term investments and long-term investments with high credit quality investment managers, governments, financial institutions, corporations and Canadian and foreign equities in accordance with investment policies adopted by the Foundation. Risk and volatility of investment returns are mitigated through the diversification of investments in different geographic regions and different investment vehicles.

(b) Foreign Exchange Risk

Foreign exchange risk is the risk that the fair value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Foundation has limited exposure to foreign exchange risk as 99% (2024 - 99%) of the carrying value of investments are denominated in Canadian dollars. As at June 30, 2025, investments included \$48,328 in a US equity pooled fund (denominated in Canadian dollars) (2024 - \$42,421).

(c) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The foundation is exposed to interest rate risk on cash held in banks and on any interest bearing instruments within pooled fund investments.

(d) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Foundation will not be able to meet its obligations as they fall due. The Foundation maintains adequate levels of working capital to ensure all its obligations can be met when they fall due. Investments are held in securities that have an active market.