

Financial Statements of

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

March 31, 2008

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Board of Governors of the
Nova Scotia Community College

We have audited the statement of financial position of the Nova Scotia Community College as at March 31, 2008 and the statements of revenue and expenditures, cash flows and changes in net assets for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the College's management. 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 plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the College as at March 31, 2008 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.



Chartered Accountants
Halifax, Nova Scotia
June 6, 2008

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2008

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u> (Restated - see Note 17)
ASSETS		
Current		
Cash	\$ 33,334,468	\$ 28,674,159
Accounts receivable (Note 4)	14,111,746	19,532,933
Inventory	872,722	752,044
Prepays	509,529	254,096
	48,828,465	49,213,232
Capital assets (Note 5)	3,875,251	4,394,810
Foundation assets (Note 6)	3,643,691	2,323,720
Provincial Receivable - Future Health Benefits (Note 17)	18,357,805	16,718,000
Pensionable advance (Note 14)	-	555,557
	\$ 74,705,212	\$ 73,205,319
LIABILITIES		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 18)	\$ 22,419,482	\$ 27,359,948
Deferred revenue (Note 7)	6,750,071	5,760,777
	29,169,553	33,120,725
Deferred revenue related to capital assets (Note 8)	2,484,307	3,012,738
Employee future benefit obligation (Note 17)	29,270,438	24,964,548
	60,924,298	61,098,011
Commitments (Note 15)		
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets (Note 9)	1,390,944	1,382,072
Unrestricted	4,023,356	3,678,593
Restricted for Foundation purposes (Note 6)	3,643,691	2,323,720
Restricted for College development (Note 13)	4,722,923	4,722,923
	13,780,914	12,107,308
	\$ 74,705,212	\$ 73,205,319

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

..... Director

..... Director

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Year ended March 31, 2008

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u> (Restated - see Note 17)
Revenue		
Province of Nova Scotia (Note 10)	\$ 108,336,123	\$ 97,113,000
Government of Canada	9,053,747	9,050,000
Tuition and fees	19,536,418	18,393,940
Customized training	13,196,375	13,047,343
Amortization of deferred revenue related to capital assets	1,760,407	1,920,604
Other (Note 11)	19,625,517	20,349,790
	\$ 171,508,587	\$ 159,874,677
Expenditures		
Salaries and benefits	116,023,582	107,520,009
Operating supplies and services	28,871,808	28,079,706
Equipment, rentals and other administration	13,515,970	12,148,922
Utilities and maintenance	10,502,634	9,040,948
Amortization	2,240,958	2,722,225
	171,154,952	159,511,810
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 353,635	\$ 362,867

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2008

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u> (Restated - see Note 17)
NET INFLOW (OUTFLOW) OF CASH RELATED TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES		
Operating		
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 353,635	\$ 362,867
Items not affect cash:		
Amortization of deferred revenue related to capital assets	(1,760,407)	(1,920,604)
Amortization	2,240,958	2,722,225
Employee future benefit obligation	4,305,890	21,287,548
Long-term receivable - Province of Nova Scotia	(1,639,805)	(16,718,000)
Changes in non-cash working capital items (Note 12)	1,093,904	5,883,826
	<u>4,594,175</u>	<u>11,617,862</u>
Investing		
Purchase of capital assets	(1,721,399)	(2,020,142)
Financing		
Pensionable advance	555,557	39,563
Contributions related to capital assets	1,231,976	1,244,904
	<u>1,787,533</u>	<u>1,284,467</u>
NET CASH INFLOW	4,660,309	10,882,187
CASH POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR	28,674,159	17,791,972
CASH POSITION, END OF YEAR	\$ 33,334,468	\$ 28,674,159

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended March 31, 2008

	Invested in Capital Assets	Unrestricted	Restricted for Foundation Purposes (Note 6)	Restricted for College Development (Note 13)	2008 Total	2007 Total
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 1,382,072	\$ 3,678,593	\$ 2,323,720	\$ 4,722,923	\$ 12,107,308	\$ 10,977,395
Adoption of financial instruments accounting policy (Note 2)	-	-	(9,370)	-	(9,370)	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	(480,551)	834,186	-	-	353,635	362,867
Investment in capital assets	489,423	(489,423)	-	-	-	-
Endowment contributions and interest	-	-	2,171,282	-	2,171,282	1,490,964
Endowment disbursements	-	-	(841,941)	-	(841,941)	(723,918)
Balance, end of year	\$ 1,390,944	\$ 4,023,356	\$ 3,643,691	\$ 4,722,923	\$ 13,780,914	\$ 12,107,308

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

1. OVERVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The Nova Scotia Community College (the “College”) was established as a post-secondary public education corporation under the authority of the Community College Act of Nova Scotia effective April 1, 1996.

The College, with thirteen campuses across the Province of Nova Scotia (the “Province”), is responsible for enhancing the economic and social well being of Nova Scotia by meeting the occupational training requirements of the population and the labour market.

The College has entered into a consent agreement with the Province that allows the College to construct facilities on land owned by the Province pursuant to the \$123 million multi-year infrastructure investment announced by the Province on March 28, 2003. The investment will provide newer facilities, more space and revamped learning and student life areas across the Province. Ownership of the buildings, including the new Metro Campus, will remain with the Province. Costs associated with the project will be managed by the College and flow through a liability account, which is subsequently reimbursed by the Province. The expenditures are netted against the funds receivable from the Province and have no effect on the statement of revenue and expenditures.

2. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Financial instruments

The College adopted the following recommendations of the CICA Handbook:

- a) Section 3855, *Financial Instruments – Recognition and Measurement*. This Section describes the standards for recognizing and measuring financial instruments in the balance sheet and the standards for reporting gains and losses in the financial statements. Under the new standard, financial assets and liabilities are initially recorded at fair value. Subsequently, financial instruments classified as financial assets or liabilities held for trading, financial assets available-for-sale and derivative financial instruments, part of a hedging relationship or not, have to be measured at fair value on the balance sheet at each reporting date, whereas other financial instruments are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method.
- b) Section 3861, *Financial instruments – Disclosure and Presentation*. This Section establishes standards for presentation of financial instruments and non-financial derivatives, and identifies the information that should be disclosed about them.

The College has made the following classification:

- Cash is classified as financial assets held for trading and are measured at fair value.
 - Accounts receivable is classified as loans and receivables and is recorded at amortized cost using the effective interest method.
 - Accounts payable and accrued liabilities is classified as other liabilities and measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method.
- c) Amendments to Section 4400, *Financial Statement Presentation for Not-for-profit Organizations*. The amendments to this Section establishes standards for the presentation of changes in net assets during the reporting period as a result of adopting the new financial instrument accounting standards.

The College did not identify any derivatives or embedded derivatives that were required to be recorded on the balance sheet at fair value.

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

2. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Transaction costs

Transaction costs will be expensed as incurred. There is no adjustment required to retained earnings as a result of this new policy.

Future accounting changes

Financial instruments

In December 2006, the CICA issued Section 3862, Financial Instruments - Disclosures; Section 3863, Financial Instruments - Presentation; and Section 1535, Capital Disclosures. All three Sections will be applicable to financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after October 1, 2007. Accordingly, the College will adopt the new standards for its fiscal year beginning April 1, 2008. Section 3862 on financial instruments disclosures, requires the disclosure of information about: a) the significance of financial instruments for the entity's financial position and performance and b) the nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments to which the entity is exposed during the period and at the balance sheet date, and how the entity manages those risks. Section 3863 on the presentation of financial instruments is unchanged from the presentation requirements included in Section 3861. Section 1535 on capital disclosures requires the disclosure of information about an entity's objectives, policies and processes for managing capital.

Inventories

In June 2007, the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants ("CICA") issued Section 3031, Inventories, replacing Section 3030, Inventories. The new Section will be applicable to financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2008. Accordingly, the College will adopt the new standards for its fiscal year beginning January 1, 2008. It provides more guidance on the measurement and disclosure requirements for inventories.

The College is currently evaluating the impact of the adoption of these new Sections on its financial statements.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and include the following significant accounting policies:

Cash

Cash consists of cash on hand and amounts held by financial institutions, upon which interest is paid at commercial rates.

Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially recognized at fair value and their subsequent measurement is dependent on their classification as described below. Their classification depends on the purpose, for which the financial instruments were acquired or issued, their characteristics and the College's designation of such instruments. Settlement date accounting is used.

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Classification

Cash	Held for trading
Accounts receivable	Loans and receivables
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	Other liabilities
Deferred revenue	Other liabilities
Deferred revenue related to capital assets	Other liabilities

Held for trading

Held for trading financial assets are financial assets typically acquired for resale prior to maturity or that are designated as held for trading. They are measured at fair value at the balance sheet date. Fair value fluctuations including interest earned, interest accrued, gains and losses realized on disposal and unrealized gains and losses are included in other income.

Financial liabilities designated as held for trading are those non-derivative financial liabilities that the College elects to designate on initial recognition as instruments that it will measure at fair value through other interest expense. These are accounted for in the same manner as held for trading assets. The College has not designated any non-derivative financial liabilities as held for trading.

Available-for-sale

Available-for-sale financial assets are those non-derivative financial assets that are designated as available-for-sale, or that are not classified as loans and receivables, held-to-maturity or held-for-trading investments. Except as mentioned below, available-for-sale financial assets are carried at fair value with unrealized gains and losses included in accumulated other comprehensive income until realized when the cumulative gain or loss is transferred to other income. Available-for-sale financial assets that do not have quoted market prices in an active market are recorded at cost. Interest on interest-bearing available-for-sale financial assets is calculated using the effective interest method. The College has not designated any financial instruments as available-for-sale.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are accounted for at amortized cost using the effective interest method.

Other liabilities

Other liabilities are recorded at amortized cost using the effective interest method and include all financial liabilities, other than derivative instruments.

Transaction Costs

Transaction costs related to held for trading financial assets are expensed as incurred.

Effective interest method

The College uses the effective interest method to recognize interest income or expense which includes transaction costs or fees, premiums or discounts earned or incurred for financial instruments, except those classified as held for trading.

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Capital assets

Purchased capital assets are recorded at cost. Capital assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the following estimated useful life:

Computer equipment	3 years
Furniture and equipment	5 years
Leasehold improvements	2 to 5 years

Land and buildings that are owned by the Province are not reflected in the assets of the College. Improvements made to these buildings are therefore expensed in the year. Improvements made to buildings with leases in place are capitalized and amortized over their useful life or the term of the lease, whichever is less.

Inventory

Inventory consists of merchandise and supplies held for resale and are valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Administrative and program supplies and library periodicals are not inventoried.

Revenue recognition

The College follows the deferral method of accounting for revenue. Tuition fees, residence fees and sales are recognized when the services are provided or the goods are sold. Funding for expenditures of future periods are deferred and recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenditure is incurred. Funding received for capital assets are deferred and recognized as revenue on the same basis as the acquired capital assets are amortized.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial information requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements as well as revenue and expenditures during the year. The accounts most subject to estimation and judgment include the allowance for doubtful accounts, amortization periods for capital assets, and certain accrued liabilities. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Contributed services

The Province provides the College with buildings at thirteen campuses (in excess of two million square feet) and is responsible for the maintenance of the physical plant and building infrastructure, the benefit of which is not reflected in these financial statements because of the difficulty in determining the value.

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

4. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Organizations	\$ 3,596,688	\$ 2,770,954
Student fees	1,019,538	1,922,699
Government funding	5,789,315	3,576,250
Development Project	2,509,333	10,042,323
Other	780,724	1,014,512
Harmonized Sales Tax	1,057,797	870,406
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(641,649)	(664,211)
	<u>\$ 14,111,746</u>	<u>\$ 19,532,933</u>

Included in other accounts receivable is \$70,453 (2007 - \$98,027) due from the Nova Scotia Community College Foundation.

5. CAPITAL ASSETS

	<u>2008</u>			<u>2007</u>
	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Amortization</u>	<u>Net Book Value</u>	<u>Net Book Value</u>
Computer equipment	\$ 8,554,251	\$ 8,021,340	\$ 532,911	\$ 421,461
Furniture and equipment	15,135,317	12,164,754	2,970,563	3,415,684
Leasehold improvements	2,100,822	1,729,045	371,777	557,665
Management Information System	6,197,789	6,197,789	-	-
	<u>\$ 31,988,179</u>	<u>\$ 28,112,928</u>	<u>\$ 3,875,251</u>	<u>\$ 4,394,810</u>

6. FOUNDATION ASSETS

The Nova Scotia Community College Foundation (the "Foundation") is a non-profit organization controlled by the College. The assets represent donations and related interest restricted for scholarships, awards and other specified purposes. The Foundation works collaboratively with the College and the community to enhance the student experience by developing and implementing a framework to nurture support for current and future needs of the College.

The Foundation has not been consolidated in the College's financial statements. Financial statements of the Foundation are available upon request. Financial summaries as at March 31 and for the years then ended are as follows:

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

6. FOUNDATION ASSETS (continued)

Nova Scotia Community College Foundation

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Results of operations		
Total revenue	\$ 2,171,282	\$ 1,490,964
Total expenditures	841,941	723,918
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Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 1,329,341	\$ 767,046
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Financial position		
Total assets	\$ 3,729,127	\$ 2,440,737
Less: Total liabilities	85,436	117,017
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Total net assets	\$ 3,643,691	\$ 2,323,720
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The Foundation uses fund accounting and follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

7. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue represents the unearned portion of amounts received for specific purposes and is summarized as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Apprenticeship	\$ 661,041	\$ 893,981
Offshore operation	40,549	124,425
Skills development	214,698	452,953
Applied research	585,200	731,665
Customized training	2,415,774	1,998,152
Disability recourses and special needs	861,513	-
Links programs	530,000	-
Other	1,441,296	1,559,601
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	\$ 6,750,071	\$ 5,760,777
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NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

8. DEFERRED REVENUE RELATED TO CAPITAL ASSETS

Deferred revenue related to capital assets represents the unamortized portion of funding received from the Province of Nova Scotia and other sources for capital asset additions. The deferred revenue is amortized into revenue at a rate corresponding with the amortization rate for the related capital asset. The changes in the deferred balance are as follows:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Beginning balance	\$ 3,012,738	\$ 3,688,438
Contributions received	1,231,976	1,244,904
Amortization of deferred revenue related to capital assets	(1,760,407)	(1,920,604)
Ending balance	<u>\$ 2,484,307</u>	<u>\$ 3,012,738</u>

9. NET ASSETS INVESTED IN CAPITAL ASSETS

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Capital assets, net of amortization	\$ 3,875,251	\$ 4,394,810
Deferred revenue related to capital assets	(2,484,307)	(3,012,738)
	<u>\$ 1,390,944</u>	<u>\$ 1,382,072</u>

10. REVENUE – PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Funding received	\$ 109,336,123	\$ 98,113,000
Portion related to capital assets	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)
	<u>\$ 108,336,123</u>	<u>\$ 97,113,000</u>

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

11. OTHER REVENUE

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Other revenue is summarized as follows:		
Bookstore revenue	\$ 4,192,738	\$ 4,060,775
Food sales	1,796,318	1,831,520
Apprenticeship/Shop	3,445,199	2,663,920
Interest	1,489,195	1,084,369
Recoveries	2,868,559	4,638,408
Applied research	1,217,899	1,136,910
Lodging, rent and miscellaneous	4,615,609	4,933,888
	<u>\$ 19,625,517</u>	<u>\$ 20,349,790</u>

12. CHANGES IN NON-CASH WORKING CAPITAL

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Accounts receivable	\$ 5,421,187	\$ (3,924,533)
Inventory	(120,678)	2,946
Prepays	(255,433)	548,404
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(4,940,466)	9,507,122
Deferred revenue	989,294	(250,113)
	<u>\$ 1,093,904</u>	<u>\$ 5,883,826</u>

13. RESTRICTED FOR COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT

These funds have been internally restricted by the Board to ensure that the funds are used solely for College development projects.

14. PENSIONABLE ADVANCE

When the College took over the payroll function from the Province, it had to book a receivable, which represented a pay advance to staff. This was to account for the move from "paid to date" to "paid in arrears". This receivable was formerly held by the Province. In 2008, the College moved back to the "paid to date" method.

15. COMMITMENTS

The College is committed to the following lease and maintenance agreement payments over the next five years.

2009	\$ 1,189,306
2010	904,990
2011	859,911
2012	621,603
2013	384,501
	<u>\$ 3,960,311</u>

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

16. PENSION PLAN

The Nova Scotia Community College contributes to two defined benefit pension plans administered by the Province of Nova Scotia. The Province of Nova Scotia assumes the actuarial and investment risk associated with these plans. Accordingly, the College accounts for these pensions as defined contribution plans.

The College matches employees' contributions calculated as follows for the Nova Scotia Public Service Superannuation Plan: 7.4% (2007 - 6.4%) on the part of their salary that is equal to or less than the "year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings" (YMPE) under the Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and 9.6% (2007 - 8%) on the part of their salary that is excess of YMPE. Under this plan, the College has recognized contributions of \$5,728,381 (2007 - \$4,591,898) for the year.

The College matches employees' contributions calculated as follows for the Nova Scotia Teachers' Union Pension Plan: 8.3% (2007 - 8.3%) on the part of their salary that is equal to or less than the YMPE under the CPP and 9.9% (2007 - 9.9%) on the part of their salary that is excess of YMPE. Under this plan, the College has recognized contributions of \$8,829,612 (2007 - \$8,361,276) for the year.

17. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFIT OBLIGATION

College Service Award

An employee hired on or after August 1, 1998 who retires because of age or mental or physical incapacity shall be granted a College Service Award (CSA) equal to 1% of the employee's annual salary for each year of continuous service to a maximum of 25 years. There are no employee contributions in respect of the plan. There is no distinct fund held in respect of the CSA benefits but sufficient cash is maintained to cover the obligation. The benefits are paid from unrestricted cash.

An actuarial valuation was completed as of March 31, 2008 and the College's obligation relating to these benefits was approximately \$5,344,000 (2007 - \$4,535,000). The benefit expense was \$1,146,254 (2007 - \$1,044,236). The benefits paid were \$8,425 (2007 - \$29,229). The next actuarial valuation is scheduled for March 31, 2009.

The significant actuarial assumptions adopted in estimating the College's obligation are as follows:

Future salary increase	6% per annum
Expected rate of return	0% per annum
Discount rate	0% per annum
Retirement age	20% upon attainment of age 55 and 80 points (age plus service); the remainder at 35 years of service or age 60, whichever is earlier

Non-pension Retirement Benefits - NSGEU

In fiscal 2007/2008, the Province required the College to assume the future liability for non-pension retirement benefits for the College's non-teaching staff.

In 2008/2009, the College decided to create a separate fund that would be held in respect of the non-pension retirement benefits. This fund has sufficient cash to cover the obligations associated with this liability.

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

17. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFIT OBLIGATION (continued)

Non-pension Retirement Benefits - NSGEU (continued)

An actuarial valuation was completed as of March 31, 2008 and the College's obligation relating to these benefits was \$5,568,633 (2007 - \$3,711,548). The benefit expense was \$547,828 (2007 - \$474,009). The benefits paid were \$97,022 (2007 - \$90,480). The next actuarial evaluation is scheduled for March 31, 2009.

The significant actuarial assumptions adopted in estimating the College's obligation are as follows:

Expected rate of return	3.55% per annum
Discount rate	3.55% per annum
Retirement age	20% upon attainment of age 55 and 80 points (age plus service); the remainder at 35 years of service or age 60, whichever is earlier

Non-pension Retirement Benefits - NSTU

During the year, the Province decided to transfer to the College the future liability for the non-pension retirement benefits for the College's teaching and professional support staff. The Province also transferred a corresponding receivable that directly offsets the liability.

Given the significance of the dollar value of the obligation associated with these benefits, the Province felt it would be meaningful to account for them on a retroactive basis commencing with these statements. The following table illustrates the impact of the adjustment to amounts previously reported, as at March 31, 2007.

	<u>Before Adjustment</u>	<u>After Adjustment</u>	<u>Change</u>
Provincial Receivable - Future Health Benefits	\$ -	\$ 16,718,000	\$ 16,718,000
Employee future benefit obligation	\$ 8,246,548	\$ 24,964,548	\$ 16,718,000
Revenue - Provincial Nova Scotia	\$ 94,822,000	\$ 97,113,000	\$ 2,291,000
Expenditures - Salaries and Benefits	\$ 105,229,009	\$ 107,520,009	\$ 2,291,000

There is no impact on the excess of revenue over expenditures or net financial position of the College as a result of the transfers.

An actuarial valuation was completed as of March 31, 2008 and the College's obligation relating to these benefits was \$18,357,805 (2007 - \$16,718,000). The benefit expense was \$1,136,000 (2007 - \$984,000). The benefits paid were \$262,000 (2007 - \$193,000). The next actuarial valuation is scheduled for March 31, 2009.

NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2008

17. EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFIT OBLIGATION (continued)

The significant actuarial assumptions provided by the Province are as follows:

Expected rate of return	4.95% per annum
Discount rate	4.95% per annum
Retirement age	60% at earliest age eligible for unreduced pension, the remainder at earlier of age 60 with 10 years of service, 35 years of service and age 65

18. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities is \$13,312 (2007 – Nil) due to the Nova Scotia Community College Foundation.

19. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Fair value

The College evaluated the fair values of its financial instruments based on the current interest rate environment, related market values and current pricing of financial instruments with comparable terms. The carrying values of cash, accounts receivable, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities are considered to approximate fair values due to their short-term maturity.

Credit risk

The College performs a continuous evaluation of its accounts receivable and records an allowance for doubtful accounts as required. Management considers there is no significant credit risk as at March 31, 2008.