

Financial Statements of

**BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY
HEALTH SERVICES**

Year ended March 31, 2024

Statement of Management Responsibility

The financial statements of the British Columbia Emergency Health Services (the “Corporation”) were prepared by management in accordance with the financial reporting framework disclosed in note 1(a) to these financial statements, and include amounts based upon management’s best estimates and judgments. The accounting principles of the financial reporting framework were consistently applied. In management’s opinion, the financial statements have been properly prepared within the framework of the accounting policies summarized in the financial statements and incorporate, within reasonable limits of materiality, all information available at June 11, 2024.

Management is responsible for the integrity of the financial statements and has established systems of internal control to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded and that reliable financial information is available on a timely basis. These systems include formal written policies and procedures, careful selection and training of qualified personnel, and appropriate delegation of authority and segregation of responsibilities within the organization.

The Board of Directors provides oversight in the fulfillment by management of these responsibilities. The Board of Directors, comprising directors who are not employees, meets with management, internal assurance staff and external auditors with regard to the proper discharge of management’s responsibilities with respect to financial statement presentation, disclosure and recommendations on internal control.

The internal assurance function independently evaluates the effectiveness of these internal controls on an ongoing basis and reports its findings to management and the Board of Directors.

The financial statements have been examined by the Auditor General of British Columbia, the Corporation’s independent external auditors. The external auditors conduct an independent examination, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, and express their opinion on the financial statements. Their Auditor’s Report, which follows, outlines the scope of their examination and their opinion.



Dr. Leanne Heppell
Executive Vice President and Chief
Ambulance Officer



Dr. David Byres
President and Chief Executive Officer
Provincial Health Services Authority



Michael Lord
Vice President, Finance and
Chief Financial Officer
Provincial Health Services Authority



Independent Auditor's Report

*To the Board of Directors of the British Columbia Emergency Health Services, and
To the Minister of Health, Province of British Columbia*

Qualified Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the British Columbia Emergency Health Services (“the entity”), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2024, and the statements of operations and accumulated deficit, changes in net debt, and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of my report, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the entity as at March 31, 2024, and the results of its operations, change in its net debt, and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

As described in Note 1(a) to the financial statements, the entity’s accounting treatment for contributions received from governments and for externally restricted contributions received from non-government sources is to initially record them as deferred revenue (a liability) and then recognize revenue in the statement of operations either on the same basis as the related expenditures occur or, in the case of funds for the purchase or construction of capital assets, to recognize revenue on the same basis as the related assets are amortized. The entity was required to adopt this accounting policy as prescribed by Province of British Columbia Treasury Board Regulation 198/2011.

Under Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards, the entity’s method of accounting for contributions is only appropriate in circumstances where the funding meets the definition of a liability. Otherwise, the appropriate accounting treatment is to record contributions as revenue when they are received or receivable. In my opinion, certain contributions of the entity do not meet the definition of a liability, and as such the entity’s method of accounting for those contributions represents a departure from Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards.

This departure has existed since the inception of the standard, which applies to periods beginning on or after April 1, 2012. Had the entity made an adjustment for this departure in the current year, the liability for deferred capital contributions as at March 31, 2024, would have been lower by \$81 million, revenue, annual deficit and accumulated deficit would have been higher by \$81 million and net debt would have been lower by \$81 million.

Independent Auditor's Report

British Columbia Emergency Health Services

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the entity's financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements.

Those charged with governance are responsible for the oversight of the financial reporting process. Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 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 the 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 entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting when the entity will continue its operations for the foreseeable future.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the entity's 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 my 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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decision of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I 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 my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than 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 entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

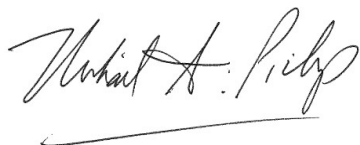
Independent Auditor's Report

British Columbia Emergency Health Services

- 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 entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity 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.

I 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 I identify during my audit.

I also provide those charged with governance with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and communicated with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



Michael A. Pickup, FCPA, FCA
Auditor General of British Columbia

Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
June 17, 2024

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Statement of Financial Position
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)


As at March 31, 2024

	2024	2023
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,914	\$ 25,474
Accounts receivable (note 2)	113,482	84,951
	<u>115,396</u>	<u>110,425</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 3)	115,136	113,915
Retirement allowance (note 4(a))	3,743	3,434
Deferred capital contributions (note 5)	82,321	83,900
Asset retirement obligation (note 6)	1,465	1,592
	<u>202,665</u>	<u>202,841</u>
Net debt	\$ (87,269)	\$ (92,416)
Non-financial assets		
Tangible capital assets (note 7)	\$ 83,419	\$ 86,006
Prepaid expenses	2,814	5,374
	<u>86,233</u>	<u>91,380</u>
Accumulated deficit	\$ (1,036)	\$ (1,036)


Commitments and contingencies (note 8)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Board:



Director and Chair of the Board
Jim Chu



Director
Doug LePard

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Statement of Operations and Accumulated Deficit
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

	2024 Budget (note 1(k))	2024	2023
Revenues:			
Provincial Health Services Authority contributions	\$ 704,006	\$ 901,030	\$ 713,403
Recoveries from other health authorities and BC government reporting entities	22,386	24,999	23,473
Amortization of deferred capital contributions (note 5)	20,064	20,096	20,720
Other (note 9(a))	3,484	8,864	8,579
Medical Services Plan	-	251	-
	749,940	955,240	766,175
Expenses (note 9(b)):			
Acute	694,128	896,651	715,697
Corporate	33,674	35,566	29,990
Community care	22,138	23,023	20,488
	749,940	955,240	766,175
Annual deficit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Accumulated deficit, beginning of year	(1,036)	(1,036)	(1,036)
Accumulated deficit, end of year	\$ (1,036)	\$ (1,036)	\$ (1,036)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Statement of Changes in Net Debt
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

	2024 Budget (note 1(k))	2024	2023
Annual deficit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(24,093)	(18,080)	(19,037)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	20,485	20,266	21,239
Revaluation of asset retirement obligation	-	(50)	-
Net book value of disposed tangible capital assets	-	451	133
	(3,608)	2,587	2,335
Acquisition of prepaid expenses	-	(73,362)	(68,098)
Use of prepaid expenses	-	75,922	67,594
	-	2,560	(504)
(Increase) decrease in net debt	(3,608)	5,147	1,831
Net debt, beginning of year	(92,416)	(92,416)	(94,247)
Net debt, end of year	\$ (96,024)	\$ (87,269)	\$ (92,416)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Statement of Cash Flows
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

	2024	2023
Cash flows from (used in) operating activities:		
Annual deficit	\$ -	\$ -
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	(20,096)	(20,720)
Amortization of tangible capital assets	20,266	21,239
Accretion of asset retirement obligation	37	43
Adjustment to asset retirement obligation	(214)	-
Net book value of disposed tangible capital assets	451	133
Retirement allowance expense	435	394
	879	1,089
Net change in non-cash operating items (note 10)	(24,750)	18,234
Retirement allowance benefits paid	(126)	(286)
Net change in cash (used in) from operating activities	(23,997)	19,037
Capital activities:		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets	(18,080)	(19,037)
Net change in cash used in capital activities	(18,080)	(19,037)
Financing activities:		
Capital contributions	18,517	19,235
Net change in cash from financing activities	18,517	19,235
(Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(23,560)	19,235
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	25,474	6,239
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 1,914	\$ 25,474

Supplementary cash flow information (note 10)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

The British Columbia Emergency Health Services (the “Corporation”), formerly the Emergency and Health Services Commission (“EHSC”), was established as a corporation on April 1, 2013 by Bill 7 – 2013, *Emergency and Health Services Amendment Act, 2013*.

The Corporation is a member of the Provincial Health Services Authority (“PHSA” or the “Authority”), which was created under the *Society Act of British Columbia* on December 12, 2001 with a Board of Directors appointed by the Ministry of Health (the “Ministry”). PHSA is one of six health authorities in British Columbia (“BC”). Effective April 1, 2011, the financial operations of the EHSC were transferred to the Authority to align BC's pre-hospital services with the healthcare system.

The Corporation is dependent on the Ministry to provide sufficient funds to continue operations, replace essential equipment and complete its capital projects. The Corporation is a not-for-profit organization under the *Income Tax Act* and, as such, is exempt from income and capital taxes.

The Corporation has a mandate of providing provincial ambulance and emergency health services. The Corporation oversees BC Ambulance Service, BC Patient Transfer Network and Community Paramedicine.

1. Significant accounting policies:

(a) Basis of accounting:

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Section 23.1 of the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act* of the Province of BC supplemented by Regulations 257/2010 and 198/2011 issued by the Province of BC Treasury Board, referred to as the financial reporting framework (the “framework”).

The *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act* requires that the financial statements be prepared in accordance with the set of standards and guidelines that comprise generally accepted accounting principles for senior governments in Canada, or if the Treasury Board makes a regulation, the set of standards and guidelines that comprise generally accepted accounting principles for senior governments in Canada as modified by the alternate standard or guideline or part thereof adopted in the regulation.

Regulation 257/2010 requires all tax-payer supported organizations in the Schools, Universities, Colleges and Hospitals sectors to adopt Canadian public sector accounting standards (“PSAS”) issued by the Public Sector Accounting Board (“PSAB”) without any PS 4200 series.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(a) Basis of accounting (continued):

Regulation 198/2011 requires that restricted contributions received or receivable are to be reported as revenue depending on the nature of the restrictions on the use of the funds by the contributors as follows:

- (i) Contributions for the purpose of acquiring or developing a depreciable tangible capital asset or contributions in the form of a depreciable tangible capital asset, in each case for use in providing services, are recorded and referred to as deferred capital contributions, and recognized in revenue at the same rate that amortization of the related tangible capital asset is recorded. The reduction of the deferred capital contributions and the recognition of the revenue are accounted for in the fiscal periods during which the tangible capital asset is used to provide services. If the depreciable tangible capital asset funded by a deferred contribution is written down, a proportionate share of the deferred capital contribution is recognized as revenue during the same period.
- (ii) Contributions externally restricted for specific purposes other than those for the acquisition or development of a depreciable tangible capital asset are recorded as deferred operating contributions or deferred research and designated contributions, and recognized in revenue in the year in which the stipulation or restriction on the contributions has been met by the Corporation.

For BC tax-payer supported organizations, these contributions include government transfers and externally restricted contributions.

The accounting policy requirements under Regulation 198/2011 are significantly different from the requirements of PSAS which require that:

- government transfers, which do not contain a stipulation that creates a liability, be recognized as revenue by the recipient when approved by the transferor and the eligibility criteria have been met in accordance with PS 3410, *Government Transfers*;
- externally restricted contributions be recognized as revenue in the period in which the resources are used for the purpose or purposes specified, in accordance with PS 3100, *Restricted Assets and Revenues*; and
- deferred contributions meet liability criteria in accordance with PS 3200, *Liabilities*.

As a result, revenue recognized in the statement of operations and accumulated deficit and certain deferred capital contributions would be recorded differently under PSAS.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(b) Cash and cash equivalents:

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand.

(c) Accounts receivable:

Accounts receivable are recorded at amortized cost less an amount for valuation allowance. Valuation allowances are made to reflect accounts receivable at the lower of amortized cost and the net recoverable value when risk of loss exists. Changes in valuation allowance are recognized in the statement of operations and accumulated deficit.

(d) Employee benefits:

(i) Defined benefit obligations, including multiple employer benefit plans:

Liabilities, net of plan assets, are recorded for employee retirement allowance benefits and multiple employer defined long-term disability and health and welfare benefits plans as employees render services to earn the benefits.

The actuarial determination of the accrued benefit obligations uses the projected benefit method prorated on service which incorporates management's best estimate of future salary levels, other cost escalation, retirement ages of employees and other actuarial factors. Plan assets are measured at fair value.

The cumulative unrecognized actuarial gains and losses on retirement allowance benefits are amortized over the expected average remaining service period of active employees covered under the plan. The expected average remaining service period of the active covered employees entitled to retirement allowance benefits is 12 years (2023 – 12 years). Actuarial gains and losses on event-driven benefits such as long-term disability and health and welfare benefits that do not vest or accumulate are recognized immediately.

The discount rate used to measure the obligations is based on the Province of BC's cost of borrowing, if there are no plan assets. Where there are plan assets, the discount rate is the rate of return on plan assets. The cost of a plan amendment or the crediting of past service is accounted for entirely in the year that the plan change is implemented.

(ii) Defined contribution plans and multi-employer benefit plans:

Defined contribution plan accounting is applied to multi-employer defined benefit plans and, accordingly, contributions are expensed when they become payable.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(d) Employee benefits (continued):

(iii) Accumulating, non-vesting benefit plans:

Benefits that accrue to employees, which do not vest, such as sick leave banks for certain employee groups, are accrued as the employees render services to earn the benefits, based on estimates of the expected future settlements.

(iv) Non-accumulating, non-vesting benefit plans:

For benefits that do not vest or accumulate, a liability is recognized when an event that obligates the Corporation to pay benefits occurs.

(e) Asset retirement obligation:

An asset retirement obligation is recognized when, as at the financial reporting date, all of the following criteria are met:

- There is legal obligation to incur retirement costs in relation to a tangible capital asset;
- The past transaction or event giving rise to the liability has occurred;
- It is expected that future economic benefits will be given up; and
- A reasonable estimate of the amount can be made.

The obligation is measured at the best estimate of future cash flows required to settle the liability. The liability is discounted using a present value calculation and adjusted annually for accretion expense. At each reporting date, the Corporation reviews its asset retirement obligations to reflect current best estimates. Asset retirement obligations are adjusted for changes in factors such as the amount or timing of the expected underlying cash flows, or discount rates.

The estimated asset retirement cost is capitalized as part of the carrying value of the related tangible capital asset and is amortized over the life of the asset in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in note 1(f). Changes resulting from the revisions to estimates at each reporting period are accounted for as part of the carrying amount of the related tangible capital asset. The estimated asset retirement costs for fully depreciated assets are expensed.

(f) Non-financial assets:

(i) Tangible capital assets:

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost, which includes amounts that are directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset and overhead directly attributable to construction and development. Interest is capitalized over the development period whenever external debt is issued to finance the construction and development of tangible capital assets.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(f) Non-financial assets (continued):

(i) Tangible capital assets (continued):

The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets, excluding land, is amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Asset	Basis
Buildings	15 – 50 years
Equipment	3 – 20 years
Information systems	3 – 5 years
Leasehold improvements	Lease term to a maximum of 20 years
Vehicles	4 – 7 years

Assets under construction or development are not amortized until the asset is available for productive use.

Tangible capital assets are written down when conditions indicate that they no longer contribute to the Corporation's ability to provide services, or when the value of future economic benefits associated with the tangible capital assets is less than their net book value. The write-downs of tangible capital assets are recorded in the statement of operations and accumulated deficit. Write-downs are not subsequently reversed.

Contributed tangible capital assets are recorded at their fair value on the date of contribution. Such fair value becomes the cost of the contributed asset. When fair value of a contributed asset cannot be reliably determined, the asset is recorded at nominal value.

(ii) Prepaid expenses:

Prepaid expenses are recorded at cost and amortized over the period during which the service benefits are received.

(g) Revenue recognition:

Under the *Hospital Insurance Act* and *Regulation* thereto, the Corporation is funded primarily by the Province of BC in accordance with budget management plans and performance agreements established and approved by the Ministry.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(g) Revenue recognition (continued):

Revenue from transactions with performance obligations is recognized at a point in time or over a period of time when the Corporation satisfies the individual performance obligations, which occurs when control of the benefits associated with the promised goods or services has passed to the payor. This includes recoveries from other Health Authorities and BC government reporting entities for sales of good and services. Revenue with performance obligations is measured at the transaction price.

Revenue related to fees or services received in advance of the performance obligations being satisfied are deferred and recognized when the fees are earned or services are performed.

Revenue from transactions without performance obligations is recognized at realizable value when the Corporation has the right to claim or retain an inflow of economic resources received or receivable and there is a past transaction or event that gives rise to the economic resources.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when receivable if the amounts can be estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Externally restricted contributions are recognized as revenue depending on the nature of the restrictions on the use of the funds by the contributors as described in note 1(a).

Volunteers contribute a significant amount of their time each year to assist the Corporation in carrying out its programs and services. Contributed services are not recognized in these financial statements.

Contributions of assets that would otherwise have been purchased are recorded at fair value at the date of contribution, provided fair value can be reasonably determined.

Contributions for the acquisition of land, or contributions of land, are recorded as revenue in the period of acquisition or transfer of title.

(h) Measurement uncertainty:

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period.

Significant areas requiring the use of estimates include the valuation of accounts receivable, the estimated useful lives of tangible capital assets, contingent liabilities and the future costs to settle employee benefit obligations.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(h) Measurement uncertainty (continued):

Asset retirement obligation requires estimates regarding the useful lives of affected tangible capital assets and the expected retirement costs, as well as the timing and duration of these retirement costs due to the long-term nature of the liabilities.

Estimates are based on the best information available at the time of preparation of the financial statements and are reviewed annually to reflect new information as it becomes available. Actual results could differ from the estimates.

(i) Foreign currency translation:

The Corporation's functional currency is the Canadian dollar. The Corporation does not have significant transactions denominated in foreign currencies.

(j) Financial instruments:

Financial instrument classification is determined upon inception and financial instruments are not reclassified into another measurement category for the duration of the period they are held.

Financial assets and financial liabilities, other than derivatives, equity instruments quoted in an active market and financial instruments designated at fair value, are measured at cost or amortized cost upon their inception and subsequent to initial recognition. Cash and cash equivalents are measured at cost. Accounts receivable are recorded at cost less any amount for valuation allowance. All other financial liabilities are recorded using cost or amortized cost.

Interest and dividends attributable to financial instruments are reported in the statement of operations and accumulated deficit.

All financial assets recorded at amortized cost are tested annually for impairment. When financial assets are impaired, impairment losses are recorded in the statement of operations and accumulated deficit.

For financial instruments measured using amortized cost, the effective interest rate method is used to determine interest revenue or expense.

Transaction costs for financial instruments measured using cost or amortized cost are added to the carrying value of the financial instrument. Transaction costs for financial instruments measured at fair value are expensed when incurred.

A financial liability or its part is derecognized when it is extinguished.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(j) Financial instruments (continued):

Management evaluates contractual obligations for the existence of embedded derivatives and elects to either designate the entire contract for fair value measurement or separately measure the value of the derivative component when characteristics of the derivative are not closely related to the economic characteristics and risks of the contract itself. Contracts to buy or sell non-financial items for the Corporation's normal purchase, sale or usage requirements are not recognized as financial assets or financial liabilities.

(k) Budget figures:

Budget figures have been provided for comparative purposes and have been derived from the Corporation's Fiscal 2023/2024 Budget approved by the Board of Directors. The budget is reflected in the statement of operations and accumulated deficit and the statement of changes in net debt.

(l) Changes in Accounting Policy:

Effective April 1, 2023, the Corporation adopted PS 3400, *Revenue*. PS 3400 provides guidance on how to account for and report revenue, and specifically, it differentiates between revenue arising from transactions that include performance obligations (exchange transactions) and transactions that do not have performance obligations (non-exchange transactions). There are two approaches to recognizing revenue with performance obligations: at a point in time or over a period of time. This determination is made based on when a performance obligation is satisfied. Management has assessed the impact of adopting PS 3400 and has found current recognition, measurement, presentation, and disclosure comply with the new standard resulting in no impact to the financial statements of the Corporation.

2. Accounts receivable:

	2024	2023
Provincial Health Services Authority	\$ 94,177	\$ 77,277
Other health authorities and BC government reporting entities	18,526	16,165
Federal government	1,840	1,787
Ministry of Health	48	39
Foundations and auxiliaries	47	40
Other	14,667	2,167
	129,305	97,475
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(15,823)	(12,524)
	\$ 113,482	\$ 84,951

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

3. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

	2024	2023
Salaries and benefits payable	\$ 79,863	\$ 82,941
Trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities	21,554	21,360
Accrued vacation pay	13,719	9,614
	\$ 115,136	\$ 113,915

4. Employee benefits:

(a) Retirement allowance:

Certain employees with ten or more years of service and having reached a certain age are entitled to receive special payments upon retirement or as specified by collective or employee agreements. These payments are based upon accumulated sick leave credits and entitlements for each year of service.

The Corporation's liabilities are based on an actuarial valuation as at the early measurement date of December 31, 2021 and extrapolated to March 31, 2024 from which the service cost and interest cost components of expense for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024 are derived. The next expected valuation will be as of December 31, 2024.

Information about retirement allowance benefits is as follows:

	2024	2023
Accrued benefit obligation:		
Severance benefits	\$ 3,525	\$ 3,251
Sick leave benefits	865	839
	4,390	4,090
Unamortized actuarial loss	(647)	(656)
Accrued benefit liability	\$ 3,743	\$ 3,434

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

4. Employee benefits (continued):

(a) Retirement allowance (continued):

The accrued benefit liability for retirement allowance reported on the statement of financial position is as follows:

	2024	2023
Accrued benefit liability, beginning of year	\$ 3,434	\$ 3,326
Net benefit expense:		
Current service cost	257	257
Interest expense	148	123
Amortization of actuarial loss	30	14
Net benefit expense	435	394
Benefits paid	(126)	(286)
Accrued benefit liability, end of year	\$ 3,743	\$ 3,434

The significant actuarial assumptions adopted in measuring the Corporation's accrued retirement benefit obligation are as follows:

	2024	2023
Accrued benefit obligation as at March 31:		
Discount rate	3.49%	3.55%
Rate of compensation increase		
2022	4.17%	4.17%
2023	7.00%	7.00%
2024	3.00%	3.00%
2025+	2.50%	2.50%
Benefit costs for years ended March 31:		
Discount rate	3.55%	3.16%
Rate of compensation increase		
2022	4.17%	2.50%
2023	7.00%	
2024	3.00%	
2025+	2.50%	

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

4. Employee benefits (continued):

(b) Healthcare Benefit Trust benefits:

The Healthcare Benefit Trust (the "Trust") administers long-term disability benefits and group life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment, extended health and dental claims ("health and welfare benefits") for certain employee groups of the Corporation and other provincially funded organizations.

The Trust is a multiple employer plan with respect to long-term disability benefits initiated after September 30, 1997 and health and welfare benefits after December 31, 2014. The assets and liabilities for these long-term disability and health and welfare benefits have been segregated for PHSA, but not for individual programs and services of PHSA. Accordingly, the Corporation participates in a multi-employer defined benefit plan for long-term disability and health and welfare benefits that is now restricted to members of PHSA.

The most recent actuarial valuation for the PHSA plan at December 31, 2023 extrapolated to March 31, 2024 indicated a surplus of \$19,329 (2023 – deficit \$2,390). Contributions of \$19,427 (2023 – \$14,509) were expensed during the year. The PHSA plan covers approximately 7,900 active employees, of which approximately 500 are employees of the Corporation (2023 – 500). The next expected valuation will be as of December 31, 2024.

(c) Employee pension benefits:

The Corporation and its employees contribute to the Municipal Pension Plan and the Public Service Pension Plan, multi-employer defined benefit pension plans governed by the *BC Public Sector Pension Plans Act*, and to the Ambulance Paramedics of British Columbia – C.U.P.E. Local 873 Supplemental Pension Plan.

Employer contributions to the Municipal Pension Plan of \$3,400 (2023 – \$2,548) were expensed during the year. Every three years, an actuarial valuation is performed to assess the financial position of the plan and the adequacy of plan funding. The most recent actuarial valuation for the plan at December 31, 2021 indicated a funding surplus of approximately \$3,761 million. The actuary does not attribute portions of the surplus to individual employers. The plan covers approximately 240,000 active members, of which approximately 479 are employees of the Corporation (2023 – 458). The next expected valuation will be as of December 31, 2024, with results available in 2025.

Employer contributions to the Public Service Pension Plan of \$37,674 (2023 – \$26,406) were expensed during the year. Every three years, an actuarial valuation is performed to assess the financial position of the plan and the adequacy of plan funding. The most recent actuarial valuation for the plan at March 31, 2023 indicated a funding surplus of approximately \$4,491 million. The actuary does not attribute portions of the surplus to individual employers. The plan covers approximately 71,000 active members, of which approximately 4,612 are employees of the Corporation (2023 – 4,137). The next actuarial valuation will be as of March 31, 2026, with results available in 2027.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

4. Employee benefits (continued):

(c) Employee pension benefits (continued):

The Ambulance Paramedics of British Columbia – C.U.P.E. Local 873 Supplemental Pension Plan is a single employer defined contribution plan. Employer contributions to the Ambulance Paramedics of British Columbia – C.U.P.E. Local 873 Supplemental Pension Plan of \$7,638 were expensed during the year (2023 – \$5,151). As at March 31, 2024, the plan covered approximately 2,945 (2023 – 2,514) active members, all of which are employees of the Corporation.

5. Deferred capital contributions:

Deferred capital contributions represent externally restricted contributions and other funding received for the purchase of tangible capital assets.

	2024	2023
Deferred capital contributions, beginning of year	\$ 83,900	\$ 85,385
Capital contributions received:		
Provincial Health Services Authority	18,498	18,897
Other	19	338
	18,517	19,235
Amortization for the year	(20,096)	(20,720)
Deferred capital contributions, end of year	\$ 82,321	\$ 83,900

Deferred capital contributions comprise the following:

	2024	2023
Contributions used to purchase tangible capital assets	\$ 81,152	\$ 83,166
Unspent contributions	1,169	734
	\$ 82,321	\$ 83,900

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

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(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

6. Asset retirement obligation:

The Corporation has recognized asset retirement obligations representing the estimated cost to settle obligations related to leased and owned premises at future dates as follows:

(a) Asbestos obligation:

The Corporation owns and operates several buildings that are known to contain asbestos which represents a health hazard upon renovation or demolition of the buildings. Provincial regulations require asbestos to be removed in a prescribed manner when the building is demolished. The Corporation recognized an obligation relating to the removal and post-removal care of the asbestos in these buildings. The asset retirement obligations capitalized in respect of building asbestos are amortized over the remaining useful life of the buildings. The buildings have an estimated useful life of 15 – 50 years from the date of construction, of which the remaining useful lives vary. The settlement of these obligations will occur when the buildings undergo major renovations or demolition.

(b) Leasehold restoration obligation:

The Corporation has entered into several lease agreements for facilities in which there is a legal obligation to decommission any leasehold improvements constructed or installed by the Corporation at the end of the lease term. The Corporation has recognized asset retirement obligations representing the estimated cost to decommission any leasehold improvements and restore the leased premises to its original state at a future date. The asset retirement obligations capitalized in respect of leasehold improvements are amortized over the lease term. The lease agreements have various terms ranging from 1 – 20 years, of which various lease years remain. The settlement of these obligations will occur at the expiry of the leases.

The value of the obligations is management's best estimate determined by discounting the estimated cash outflows to the present value over the term to expected settlement, using a discount rate of 3.49% (2023 – 3.15%). Estimated future cash flows are adjusted for an inflation factor of 2.00% (2023 – 2.00%).

Changes to the asset retirement obligation in the year are as follows:

Asset Retirement Obligation	Asbestos remediation	Leasehold restoration	Balance at March 31, 2024
Opening balance	\$ 655	\$ 937	\$ 1,592
Liabilities settled/adjusted	(62)	(152)	(214)
Accretion expense	13	24	37
Changes in estimate	67	(17)	50
Closing balance	\$ 673	\$ 792	\$ 1,465

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

6. Asset retirement obligation (continued):

Asset Retirement Obligation	Asbestos remediation	Leasehold restoration	Balance at March 31, 2023
Opening balance	\$ 640	\$ 909	\$ 1,549
Accretion expense	15	28	43
Closing balance	\$ 655	\$ 937	\$ 1,592

7. Tangible capital assets:

Cost	2023	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	2024
Land	\$ 1,837	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,837
Buildings	9,176	74	(49)	-	9,201
Equipment	52,524	236	(9)	-	52,751
Information systems	21,029	222	-	355	21,606
Leasehold improvements	17,873	(17)	(122)	-	17,734
Vehicles	113,290	14,825	(2,591)	741	126,265
Construction in progress	36	2,095	-	(741)	1,390
Equipment and information systems in progress	98	695	-	(355)	438
Total	\$ 215,863	\$ 18,130	\$ (2,771)	\$ -	\$ 231,222

Accumulated amortization	2023	Amortization	Disposals	Transfers	2024
Buildings	\$ 4,195	\$ 348	\$ (25)	\$ -	\$ 4,518
Equipment	26,285	8,680	(10)	-	34,955
Information systems	19,799	611	-	-	20,410
Leasehold improvements	15,779	260	(34)	-	16,005
Vehicles	63,799	10,367	(2,251)	-	71,915
Total	\$ 129,857	\$ 20,266	\$ (2,320)	\$ -	\$ 147,803

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

7. Tangible capital assets (continued):

Cost	2022 (Restated)	Additions	Disposals	Transfers	2023
Land	\$ 1,837	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,837
Buildings	9,417	73	-	(314)	9,176
Equipment	50,629	3,809	-	(1,914)	52,524
Information systems	20,520	509	-	-	21,029
Leasehold improvements	17,874	-	(315)	314	17,873
Vehicles	101,088	14,592	(4,304)	1,914	113,290
Construction in progress	-	36	-	-	36
Equipment and information systems in progress	80	18	-	-	98
Total	\$ 201,445	\$ 19,037	\$ (4,619)	\$ -	\$ 215,863

Accumulated amortization	2022 (Restated)	Amortization	Disposals	Transfers	2023
Buildings	\$ 3,976	\$ 219	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,195
Equipment	17,958	8,327	-	-	26,285
Information systems	18,735	1,064	-	-	19,799
Leasehold improvements	15,322	772	(315)	-	15,779
Vehicles	57,113	10,857	(4,171)	-	63,799
Total	\$ 113,104	\$ 21,239	\$ (4,486)	\$ -	\$ 129,857

Net book value	2024	2023
Land	\$ 1,837	\$ 1,837
Buildings	4,683	4,981
Equipment	17,796	26,239
Information systems	1,196	1,230
Leasehold improvements	1,729	2,094
Vehicles	54,350	49,491
Construction in progress	1,390	36
Equipment and information systems in progress	438	98
Total	\$ 83,419	\$ 86,006

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

7. Tangible capital assets (continued):

Tangible capital assets are funded as follows:

	2024	2023
Deferred capital contributions	\$ 81,152	\$ 83,166
Internally funded	2,267	2,840
Tangible capital assets	\$ 83,419	\$ 86,006

8. Commitments and contingencies:

(a) Construction, equipment and information systems in progress:

As at March 31, 2024, the Corporation had outstanding commitments for construction, equipment and information systems in progress of \$31,681 (2023 - \$30,128).

(b) Contractual obligations:

The Corporation has entered into various contracts for services within the normal course of operations. The estimated contractual obligations under these contracts are as follows:

2025	\$ 73,613
2026	42,188
2027	40,535
2028	40,488
2029	40,488
Thereafter	185,571
	\$ 422,883

(c) Operating leases:

The aggregate minimum future annual rentals under operating leases are as follows:

2025	\$ 10,344
2026	8,440
2027	5,301
2028	3,852
2029	2,667
Thereafter	18,722
	\$ 49,326

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
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Year ended March 31, 2024

8. Commitments and contingencies (continued):

(d) Litigation and claims:

Risk management and insurance services for all health authorities in BC are provided by the Risk Management and Government Security Branch of the Ministry of Finance.

The nature of the Corporation's activities is such that there is litigation pending or in progress at any time. With respect to unsettled claims at March 31, 2024, management is of the opinion that the Corporation has valid defenses and appropriate insurance coverage in place, or if there is unfunded risk, such claims are not expected to have a material effect on the Corporation's financial position. Outstanding contingencies are reviewed on an ongoing basis and are provided for based on management's best estimate of the ultimate settlement.

9. Statement of operations:

(a) Other revenues:

	2024	2023
Recoveries from sales of goods and services	\$ 7,383	\$ 6,959
Other	1,481	1,620
	<u>\$ 8,864</u>	<u>\$ 8,579</u>

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
(Amounts expressed in thousands of dollars)

Year ended March 31, 2024

9. Statement of operations (continued):

(b) The following is a summary of expenses by object:

	2024	2023
Compensation:		
Compensation	\$ 487,251	\$ 379,051
Employee benefits	208,297	146,750
	695,548	525,801
Equipment and building services:		
Equipment	128,772	114,216
Rent	16,669	15,052
Building and grounds service contracts	5,441	6,550
Plant operations (utilities)	1,491	1,871
	152,373	137,689
Supplies:		
Fuel	12,376	12,434
Medical and surgical	8,659	9,513
Housekeeping and laundry	4,282	3,943
Drugs and medical gases	3,498	2,627
Printing, stationery and office	513	393
Other	8,118	5,611
	37,446	34,521
Sundry:		
Travel	10,250	7,819
Professional fees	5,100	5,113
Communication and data processing	3,319	3,131
Other	9,278	11,811
	27,947	27,874
Referred-out and contracted services:		
Other health authorities and BC government reporting entities	14,194	13,253
Health and support services providers	6,978	5,622
	21,172	18,875
Amortization of tangible capital assets	20,266	21,239
Accretion of asset retirement obligation	37	43
Net book value of disposed tangible capital assets	451	133
	\$ 955,240	\$ 766,175

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Notes to Financial Statements
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10. Supplementary cash flow information:

Net change in non-cash operating items:

	2024	2023
Accounts receivable	\$ (28,531)	\$ (24,006)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,221	42,744
Prepaid expenses	2,560	(504)
	\$ (24,750)	\$ 18,234

11. Related parties:

(a) BC government reporting entities:

The Corporation is related through common control to all Province of BC ministries, agencies, Crown corporations, school districts, health authorities, hospital societies, universities and colleges that are included in the provincial government reporting entity. Transactions with these entities, unless disclosed otherwise, are considered to be in the normal course of operations and are recorded at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

Referred out and contracted services expenses, as outlined in note 9(b) are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount established and agreed to by the related parties, and differs from fair market value.

The health authorities provide various services to each other relating to the provision of healthcare and other support services. The related revenues and expenses are reflected in the statement of operations and accumulated deficit and are recorded on a cost recovery basis, as the entities would have otherwise delivered the services themselves. As a result, the values recorded in the financial statements approximate fair value.

(b) Related party transactions with PHSA:

Certain administrative, finance and accounting, and human resource services are provided to the Corporation by PHSA without charge. The costs of these services have not been recorded in the financial statements of the Corporation.

BRITISH COLUMBIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES

Notes to Financial Statements
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12. Risk management:

The Corporation is exposed to credit risk and liquidity risk from its financial instruments. Qualitative and quantitative analysis of the significant risks from the Corporation's financial instruments is provided below by type of risk.

(a) Credit risk:

Credit risk primarily arises from the Corporation's cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. The risk exposure is limited to their carrying amounts at the date of the statement of financial position.

Accounts receivable primarily consist of amounts receivable from the Ministry, PHSA, other health authorities and BC government reporting entities, patients, clients and agencies, hospital foundations and auxiliaries, grantors, etc. To reduce the risk, the Corporation periodically reviews the collectability of its accounts receivable and establishes an allowance based on its best estimate of potentially uncollectible amounts. As at March 31, 2024, the amount of allowance for doubtful accounts was \$15,823 (2023 – \$12,524).

The Corporation is not exposed to significant credit risk with respect to the amounts receivable from the Ministry, PHSA, other health authorities and BC government reporting entities.

(b) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Corporation will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they become due. It is the Corporation's intention to meet its financial obligations through the collection of current accounts receivable, cash on hand and future funding from the Ministry.

The Corporation's principal source of funding is from the Ministry through PHSA. The Corporation is not subject to debt covenants or any other capital requirements with respect to operating funding. Funding received for designated purposes must be used for the purpose outlined in the funding letter or grant documentation. The Corporation has complied with the external restrictions on the funding provided.

All financial assets and liabilities of the Corporation have maturities within one year.

13. Comparative Figures

Certain prior year figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's financial statement presentation.