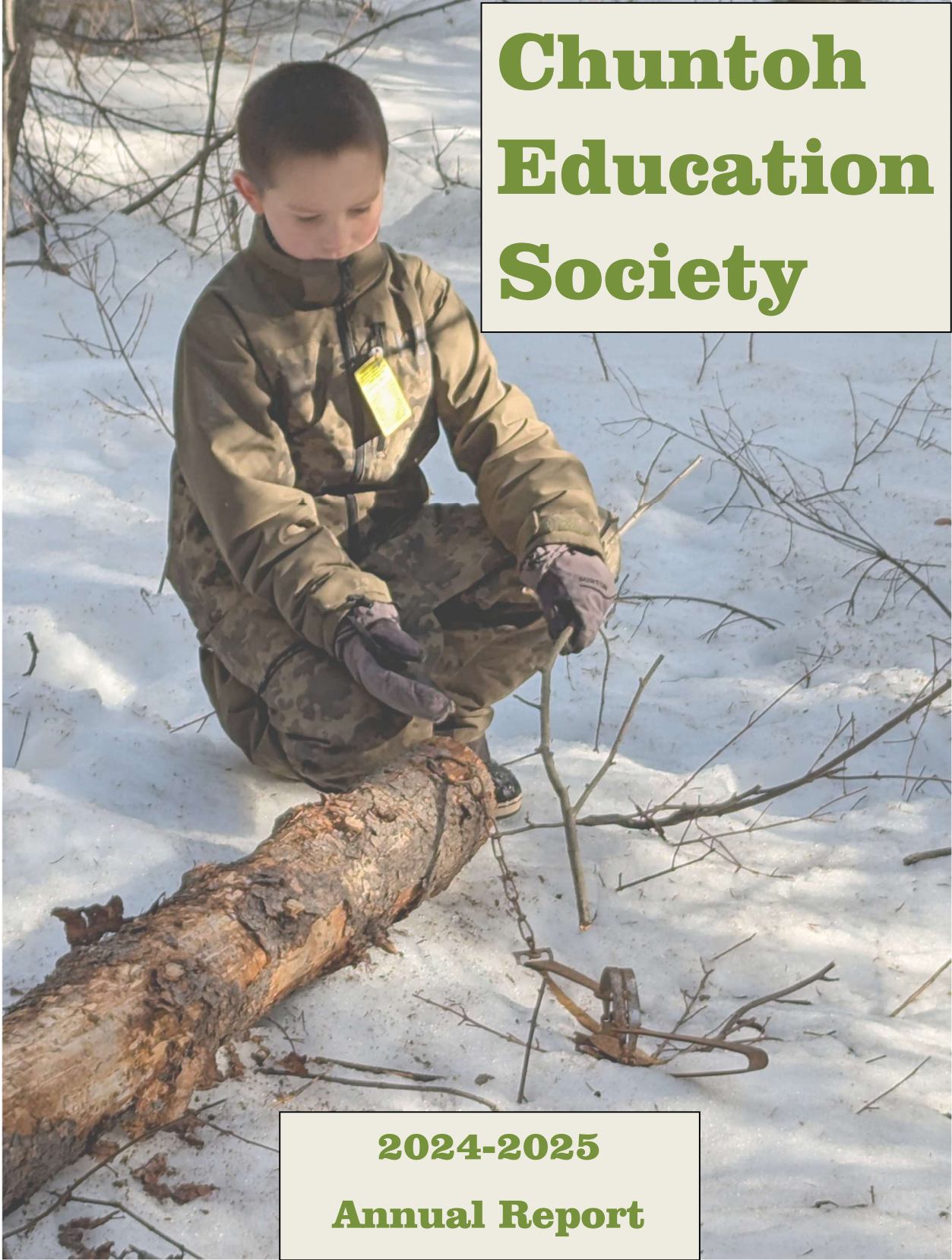




Chuntoh Education Society

**2024-2025
Annual Report**



CES MISSION STATEMENT

CES supports PK-12 science programming that is experiential, culturally relevant, and place-based (incorporating local ecosystems and economies).



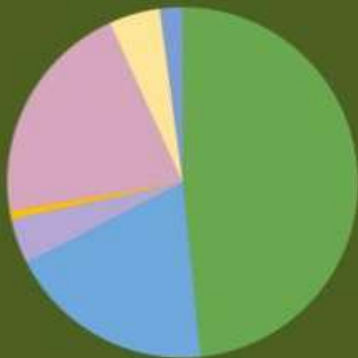
FINANCIAL REPORT 2024-2025

REVENUES \$297,343



- Federal
- Foundations
- Provincial
- Industry
- Grants
- Other
- Gifts
- Interest

EXPENSES \$272,998



- Elder and Knowledge Holder Honoraria
- STEM Supplies
- Mentoring
- Scholarship and Bursary
- Salaries
- Administration
- Travel

Respect for The Land

We value maintaining and strengthening our connection to and stewardship of the land that sustains us.

Respect for the People

We value Indigenous Ecological Knowledge, which represents the knowledge and experiences of people on the land in an ever-changing ecosystem.

Respect for Learners

We value diversity in learning preferences and honor the many ways individuals grow through discovery, exploration and sharing.



INVITE

Invite children aged birth-6 years to participate in nature play, increasing exposure to plants and animals in our local ecosystems, while improving physical and social-emotional health through nature-based play. We provided outdoor opportunities through our 'Az Nuhooleyeh activities.

ENGAGE

Engage elementary learners in hands-on, culturally-relevant outdoor science by promoting connections with Elders and Knowledge Holders and outdoor learning days. We increased environmental inquiry and stewardship by providing outdoor STEAM and IEK education experiences year-round through school field trips, forest school, and day camp opportunities.

MENTOR

Mentor G8-12 learners in project-based science and post-secondary transition, developing STEAM skills and create connections with Elders and Knowledge Holders. We provided field trips, access to Elders, Knowledge Holders, and professionals. We provided mentoring opportunities for youth, and a scholarship and a bursary for post-secondary education.

SUPPORT

Support Elders and educators with co-teaching models and strategies, creating healthy, respectful relationships and increasing Elders and Knowledge Holder participation in local school as partners in Education for Reconciliation, while increasing outdoor education planning, management and reporting skills. We provided over \$130,000 in Elder and Knowledge Holder honoraria.

SUSTAIN

Sustain support to our communities through capacity development by prioritizing cultural recovery and preservation, increasing our outdoor education capacity and securing our funding. We provided culturally relevant programming through our 'Az Nuhooleyeh activities.

CES STRATEGIC GOALS

CES VALUES

Chuntoh Education Society

Board of Directors and Staff 2024/25

BOARD

Chair:	Dexter Hodder
Secretary-Treasurer:	Beverly John
Directors:	Susan Grainger
	Clara Jack
	Margaret Mattess
	Deb Koehn

Liason, District FSJ:	Vacant
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Liason, RDBN:	Vacant
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<u>STAFF</u>	Lindsay Jennings
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Chair's Annual Letter

Chuntoh Education Society continues to grow in strength and impact. Building on the foundation of stable multi-year funding, we have been able to focus our energy on delivering high-quality, land-based programming that connects youth with both Dakelh cultural knowledge and western science. Our flagship Yunk'ut Whuts'odul'eh • We Learn From Our Land program remains at the heart of this work, engaging students from Eugene Joseph Elementary, Nak'albun Elementary, David Hoy Elementary, and Fort St. James Secondary, as well as homeschooled students. From snow tracking in winter, to aquatic ecology in spring, to ethnobotany in summer, and forest ecology in the fall, we are proud to offer opportunities that immerse young people in our local ecosystems throughout the year. We hope that these programs inspire curiosity, excitement and academic success that enhance the opportunities for our local children and youth.

The guidance of Elders and Knowledge Holders remains essential to our success. Their teachings enrich every program, creating space for youth to experience Dakelh ways of knowing alongside scientific inquiry. We are honoured to be able to provide meaningful honoraria that recognize the immense contributions Elders make to both our students and our community. Looking ahead, we are committed to expanding our collaborations with schools, Elders, and community partners to ensure that every child in Fort St. James has the chance to learn from the land and the knowledge it holds.

Musi / Thank you to everyone who helps us carry out this important mission: to our Elders and Knowledge Holders for sharing their teachings; to our funders and partners for their unwavering support; to our Board of Directors for their leadership and dedication; and to our staff team for their creativity and passion in delivering programs. Congratulations as well to this year's scholarship and bursary recipients, Jaidyn Erickson and Nikayla Leatherdale who carry forward the spirit of learning and leadership in our community. And finally, thank you to our members—your support sustains this vision and ensures that Chuntoh Education Society remains a strong and vibrant part of our regional communities.

Sincerely,



Dexter Hodder

Chairperson, Chuntoh Education Society

Executive Director's Report

We have had an exciting year at Chuntoh Education Society, expanding the ways we can build connections between the young people of the Nak'albun watershed and their natural environments. The biggest addition to our programming has been our forest school class for homeschooled youth ages 6-12. We started in the fall with one class per month and the youth quickly advocated for more. In the winter we increased to classes every other week. We have been meeting at the Nyan Wheti trail on the Leon family Keyoh with Jo Anne Leon, Nak'azdli member and certified teacher. Kenny Leon has been hosting educational groups on his family's keyoh for years. This year, Kenny and Jo Anne built an outhouse and a shelter over the firepit ring to increase the comfort of all the learners.



Over 2024/25 Chuntoh has continued to provide financial and expertise support the STEAM and IEK goals of four schools in the Fort St. James area: David Hoy Elementary, Nak'albun Elementary, Eugene Joseph Elementary, and Fort St. James Secondary through our Yunk'ut Whuts'odul'eh - We Learn from our Land program. We have also been broadening our communities' scientific literacy through our new 'Az Nuhooleyeh - Play Outside programs, so they are better able to support all our learners.

Invite • Birth-6yrs

We continue to reach out to young children and their families. Our goal in this area is to invite children aged birth-6 years to participate in nature play, increasing familiarity with local plants and animals and providing them with a sound foundation for our school-age programs.

Highlights 2024/25

- 'Az Nuhooleyeh monthly outdoor, community program for young families. (through March 2025)



Engage • K-7

This is CES' original focus area, dating back to 2002. Our goal is to increase environmental inquiry and stewardship in elementary learners through outdoor and hands-on STEM activities. We do this by leading field trips and ensuring access to science and outdoor equipment and topic-specific experts, Elders, and Knowledge Holders.



Highlights 2024/25

- Forest School for homeschoolers
- Weekly Forest excursions with Eugene Joseph Elementary school students
- Kokanee Field Trips to Tsilcoh Falls and JPRF
- Pro-D day programming
- Spring Medicinal Plants field trips to JPRF
- Class presentations (lake science, hummingbirds, careers, salmon life-cycle, forest exploration, etc.)
- Science Fair
- Summer Day Camp activities
- \$100,000+ for STEM resources and Elder/KH honoraria

Mentor • G8-12

CES is working with Fort St. James Secondary School to improve interdisciplinary and applied STEM skills in G8-12 learners. Our goal is to encourage transition to post-secondary studies, while also increasing the diversity of post-secondary STEM applicant pools.

Highlights 2024/25

- EnSOE 11/12 with overnight field schools
- Scholarship and Bursary: \$1000 each
- \$50,000+ for STEM resources and Elder/KH honoraria



Support • Elders & Educators

CES has strong, positive relationships with local schools, Elders and educators. We promote the regular presence of Dakleh Elders and Knowledge Holders in schools and our programming, as Partners in Education for Reconciliation.



Highlights 2024/25

- \$130,000+ Elder and Knowledge Holder honorariums
- >200 days where youth could connect with Elders and Knowledge Holders
- >30 different Elders and Knowledge Holders shared with youth

Sustain • Communities

CES has established itself as a K-12 STEM change leader in Northern BC. We have stable, reciprocal relationships with funding and community peers. We continue to focus on CES fund and capacity development, ensuring we can sustain this level of outreach in future years.

Highlights 2024/25

- In the middle of our stable funding cycle
- Pro-D day training for CUPE members
- Cultural Awareness workshops for CNC



Musi - Thank you to all the educators and learners who participate in our programs, your curiosity and wonder fill me with joy. Thank you to our Elders and Knowledge Holders, you inspire our youth to find their bond with nature. Thank you to our funding partners whose money makes the programs happen, and whose encouragement fuels our persistence. Thank you to our volunteer Board of Directors whose direction and vision keep Chuntoh Education Society connecting land and people.

Yours in Nature,



Lindsay Jennings, Executive Director

vancouver
foundation

 **NSERC
CRSNG**
PromoScience



CHUNTOH EDUCATION SOCIETY

Financial Statements

March 31, 2025

July 29, 2025

Independent Practitioner's Review Engagement Report**To the Board of Directors of Chuntoh Education Society****Report on the financial statements**

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Chuntoh Education Society that comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2025 and the statements of operations and changes in fund balances, net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes, which comprise a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian 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.

Practitioner's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Chuntoh Education Society as at March 31, 2025 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

As required by the Societies Act of British Columbia, we report that, in our opinion, Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

*Beswick Hildebrandt Lund***Chartered Professional Accountants**

Prince George, British Columbia

Partners

- Allison Beswick CPA, CA
- Norm Hildebrandt CPA, CA
- Robin Lund CPA, CGA
- Dane Soares CPA
- Taylor Turkington CPA

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Prince George BC, Canada V2K 1A1
T: +1 250 564 2515, F: +1 250 562 8722

CHUNTOH EDUCATION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

For the year ended March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
REVENUE		
Federal government	\$ 109,925	\$ 115,658
Foundations	72,000	72,000
Provincial government	50,000	50,000
Industry donations	30,000	30,000
Grants	17,386	14,131
Gifts of cash	11,100	3,900
Other income	5,510	7,000
Interest & Investment	1,422	1,359
	297,343	294,048
EXPENSES		
Consultants and contractors	132,038	89,108
Salaries and benefits	68,246	75,549
Camp expenses	52,126	65,080
Travel	5,759	2,815
Accounting	4,300	2,650
Insurance	2,137	2,042
Research grants and scholarships	2,000	2,000
Advertising	1,719	271
Donated and purchased supplies	1,343	10,571
Training	1,289	1,377
Other	896	1,706
Telephone	708	645
Office	220	-
Bank charges and interest	177	194
Licences, memberships, and dues	40	40
Courier and postage	-	9
	272,998	254,057
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR	24,345	39,991
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	63,112	23,121
NET ASSETS AT END OF THE YEAR	\$ 87,457	\$ 63,112

See notes to the financial statements

CHUNTOH EDUCATION SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

March 31, 2025

ASSETS

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 233,632	\$ 235,744
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	<u>9,296</u>	<u>1,712</u>
	<u><u>\$ 242,928</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 237,456</u></u>

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 4)	\$ 5,471	\$ 8,883
Deferred revenue (Note 5)	<u>150,000</u>	<u>165,461</u>
	<u><u>155,471</u></u>	<u><u>174,344</u></u>

NET ASSETS

OPERATING FUND	<u>87,457</u>	<u>63,112</u>
	<u><u>\$ 242,928</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 237,456</u></u>

See notes the the financial statements

CHUNTOH EDUCATION SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

March 31, 2025

	2025	2024
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess revenue for the year	\$ 24,345	\$ 39,991
Changes in non-cash working capital items:		
Accounts receivable	(7,584)	1,673
Prepaid expenses	-	-
Deferred revenue	(15,461)	15,461
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(3,412)	3,418
	(26,457)	20,552
INCREASE IN CASH DURING THE YEAR	(2,112)	60,543
CASH AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	235,744	175,201
CASH AT END OF THE YEAR	\$ 233,632	\$ 235,744

See notes the the financial statements

CHUNTOH EDUCATION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2025

1. NATURE OF ACTIVITIES

Chuntoh Education Society (the "Society") is registered under the Societies Act of British Columbia. Since 2002, the Society supports education in kindergarten to grade 12 in the Fort St. James area. The Society is a registered charity designated as a charitable organization under the Income Tax Act (Canada) and is exempt from income taxes under paragraph 149(1)(f).

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following accounting policies:

Cash

Cash includes cash on hand, cash on deposit net of cheques issued and outstanding at the reporting date, and short-term deposits with maturity dates of less than 3 months.

Revenue recognition

The Society uses the deferral method of accounting for contributions whereby restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate fund in the years in which the related expenses are incurred. Restricted contributions related to expenses of future periods are deferred and recognized as revenue in the period in which the related expenses occur.

Measurement Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations 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 revenue and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

Financial Instruments

Measurement of financial instruments

The Society initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. The entity subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and accounts receivable.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable, accrued liabilities and deferred revenue.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at amortized cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of the write-down is recognized in net income. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been

CHUNTOH EDUCATION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2025

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, continued

reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in net income.

Transaction costs

The entity recognizes its transaction costs in net income in the period incurred. However, the carrying amount of the financial instruments that will not be subsequently measured at fair value reflects the transaction costs that are directly attributable to their origination, issuance or assumption.

Contributed Material and Services

Contributions of materials and services by donors and volunteers are not recorded in these financial statements due to the difficulty of determining their fair market value.

3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	2025	2024
Accounts Receivable	\$ 8,526	\$ -
GST receivable	771	1,712
	<u>\$ 9,296</u>	<u>\$ 1,712</u>

4. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	2025	2024
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 4,300	\$ 7,071
Payroll remittances	1,171	1,812
	<u>\$ 5,471</u>	<u>\$ 8,883</u>

5. DEFERRED REVENUE

	2025	2024
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 165,461	\$ 150,000
Additional contributions received	150,000	165,461
Amounts recognized as revenue	(165,461)	(150,000)
	<u>\$ 150,000</u>	<u>\$ 165,461</u>

CHUNTOH EDUCATION SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2025

6. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Risks and Concentrations

The Society is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments, without being exposed to concentrations of risk. The following analysis provides a measure of the Society's risk exposure as at March 31, 2025:

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The Society's main credit risks relates to its accounts receivable. The Society rarely provides credit to its clients in the normal course of its operations and the majority of its receivables are from government agencies. Management considers credit risk to be minimal.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Society is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Management considers liquidity risk to be minimal.

7. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

In 2025, \$159,925 (2024 - \$165,658) of the Society's total operating funds of \$297,343 (2024 - \$294,048) was comprised of government funding. The Society's ability to continue operations is dependent upon the continuation of such funding.

8. REMUNERATION

Remuneration of directors

Remuneration paid to elected directors during the year ended March 31, 2025 was \$nil (2024 - \$nil).

Remuneration of employees

No employees received compensation, including benefits, in excess of \$75,000 for the year ended March 31, 2025 (2024 - \$nil).