



# 2007 Annual Report



THE MANITOBA  
SECURITIES  
COMMISSION

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WINNIPEG MB R3C 4K5

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## **THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**

### **MISSION**

The mission of The Manitoba Securities Commission is to protect and promote the public interest by facilitating dynamic and competitive capital and real estate markets that contribute to the economic development of Manitoba while fostering public confidence in those markets.

### **MANDATE**

The mandate of the Commission is to act in the public interest to protect Manitoba investors and to facilitate the raising of capital while maintaining fairness and integrity in the securities marketplace. Similarly, its real estate industry mandate is to regulate brokers, salespeople and mortgage dealers to ensure adequate standards are maintained for the protection of the public.



**MINISTER OF  
FINANCE**

Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA  
R3C 0V8

**LETTERS OF TRANSMITTAL**

His Honour the Honourable John Harvard, P.C., O.M.  
Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba  
Room 235, Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 0V8

May it Please Your Honour:

I have the privilege of presenting for the information of Your Honour the Seventh Annual Report of The Manitoba Securities Commission for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Selinger".

Honourable Gregory Selinger  
Minister



Honourable Gregory Selinger  
Minister of Finance  
Room 103 Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 0V8

Dear Mr. Minister:

I have the honour to submit for your consideration the Seventh Annual Report of The Manitoba Securities Commission for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald G. Murray  
Chair  
The Manitoba Securities Commission



## **REPORT FROM THE CHAIR**

### **National Initiatives**

During the year ending March 31, 2007, the MSC, along with the other CSA jurisdictions and in cooperation with government officials from most Canadian jurisdictions furthered their work on developing the passport and streamlining and harmonizing securities legislation and rules. All of the provinces and territories are in the process of enacting significant legislative amendments that are modernizing and bringing greater uniformity to securities laws.

In Manitoba the first set of amendments were enacted in the spring 2006 legislative session. The second set of amendments, which will bring Manitoba even with the remaining jurisdictions was introduced in the legislature in December 2006. At the same time the rules harmonizing prospectus, registrations and setting out the operation of the passport were published for comment. It is anticipated that all of the provincial legislation and the rules will be in final form and the passport in full operation by mid 2008.

The passport is an improvement to the current regulatory system. This is acknowledged even by proponents of a single national regulator. If implemented across the country the passport will provide market participants with ease of access, true one stop shopping and cost savings that will benefit issuers, registrants and investors alike, while enhancing cooperative enforcement on a national basis. Hopefully, Ontario, which continues to refuse to implement passport, preventing its full benefit from being realized across the country, will yet be persuaded to join in improving our regulatory system.

### **Local Initiatives**

While much of the Commission's activity in the year was dedicated to furthering national initiatives there were also numerous initiatives of a local nature undertaken. These include:

- Expanding the conduct of compliance examinations of registrants;
- The launch of MSC's new web site;
- Continuing and improving MSC's continuous disclosure review program;
- Continuing with the development of the financial compensation regime to deal with increasing numbers of applications;
- Increasing staffing in the areas of compliance and education to meet growing needs;
- Development of new education materials and public presentations aimed at investor protection.

These and numerous other local initiatives and achievements are set out in more detail in the body of this report.

The Commission, as at March 31, 2007, completed the fourth cycle of operation of its performance measurement system and was successful in meeting the majority of its stated goals. A further report is set out in Part IV.

## **Real Estate**

The real estate division performs a similar role to the securities division in the regulation of the real estate industry, performing the functions of registration, compliance review, investigation and enforcement and policy development. The Registrar and his staff also continue to partner with the industry in the development of industry association rules, policies, educational courses and new initiatives.

Real estate division staff continue to cooperate in the development and presentation of the Mandatory Continuing Education program for industry practitioners. The program has been a major success in that it not only assists industry practitioners in maintaining and improving their skills and knowledge but serves to enhance the public's view of the professionalism of the industry.

A great deal of work has been put in by our real estate division staff on the development of the electronic registration system. This work was nearing completion as at March 31, 2007 and it is anticipated the system will be in full operation during the upcoming fiscal year.

## **Sustainable Development**

*The Sustainable Development Act* was enacted for the purpose of promoting and implementing sustainable development in the provincial public sector, private industry and society in general. Principles and guidelines have been developed to assist departments and agencies in instituting objectives, integrating them into operations and reporting on their development. The Commission remains committed to sustainable development.

Operating in an office environment, the Commission procures a variety of recycled items including paper products and various other office materials. The Commission will set goals and objectives towards sustainable development procurement and financial management. Through training and education, the Commission intends to continue to develop a sustainable development process that is continuous and balanced.

## **Acknowledgements**

As in past years the Commission would like to express its appreciation of the work of its three advisory groups being the Securities Advisory Committee, the Real Estate Advisory Council and Real Estate Advisory Committee. The members of these committees volunteer their time to both divisions of the operation and their work provides a benefit to the Commission staff as well as to the industry and public served by the Commission.

Recognition is also due to the part time members of the Manitoba Securities Commission who continue to provide their knowledge, time and good judgment in furthering the policy aims of the Commission and generally in assisting the Commission in achieving its stated goals. During 2006/07 there were two retirements from the Commission. In addition two new Commissioners were appointed as set out on pages 9 and 10. As of March 31, 2007 the Commission remained one Commissioner short of a full compliment. It is anticipated that the Commission will be brought back to full membership during the calendar year 2007.

As always the fine work of Commission staff must be recognized. During 2006/07 increasing registrations and filings placed additional strains on our staff. Continuing high levels of complaints and investigations and increased access by the investing public to the financial compensation provisions of the Act made extra work for our investigators and legal staff. Nonetheless, our dedicated staff continues to get the job done in a professional and timely manner.

Donald G. Murray  
Chair  
The Manitoba Securities Commission



## **PART 1 - COMMISSION OVERVIEW**

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The Manitoba Securities Commission ("the Commission") is responsible for administering and enforcing *The Securities Act, The Commodity Futures Act, The Real Estate Brokers Act and The Mortgage Dealers Act*. The Commission was structured in its present form in 1968. The Commission became a Special Operating Agency on April 1, 1999.

A reference to "the Commission" can mean either of two distinct yet connected bodies. These are:

1. The administrative or functional arm which is made up of full-time employees who conduct the day-to-day operations; and
2. The policy making group made up of a maximum of seven order-in-council appointees who meet regularly (the "Commission members").

### **Administrative Arm**

The administrative arm of the Commission is comprised of two operating divisions, the securities division and the real estate division consisting of 37 approved full-time staff positions of which 36 were filled as of March 31, 2007.

### **Securities Division**

The securities division is organized into the following seven operational sections:

#### Investigations

There are four staff in this section being the Manager of Investigation, two investigators and one administrative support staff. The investigation section receives inquiries and complaints, conducts investigations and assists legal staff in the preparation of matters for hearings. The members of the investigation section report to the Director of Legal, Enforcement and Registrations.

#### Legal

The legal section is comprised of the Deputy Director -Legal, two legal counsel and one and one-half administrative support staff. The legal section provides legal advice to the Commission members and all other functional sections of the Commission, takes part in policy development and the creation of educational materials, presents applications to Commission meetings and prepares and argues enforcement cases at Commission hearings and in court. The members of the legal section report to the Director of Legal, Enforcement and Registrations.

#### Registration

The registration section is made up of the Deputy Director - Registrations and four full-time registration clerks. This section is responsible for the registration of firms and individuals operating in the investment markets in Manitoba. The members of the registration section report to the Director of Legal, Enforcement and Registrations.

### Compliance

The Compliance Officer is an auditor who supports the registration function by conducting compliance audits of the industry. This position also assists in the investigation and legal functions of the Commission by analyzing financial and trading information arising from investigations or from claims made by investors for compensation for financial loss. An additional staff member, assigned to compliance, who will be a professional Accountant, has been approved for hiring in the upcoming fiscal year. There is one administrative support staff in this section. These staff members report to the Director of Legal and Enforcement and Registrations.

### Corporate Finance and Continuous Disclosure

There are five staff members in this section being senior analyst, analyst, administrative assistant, corporate finance clerk and continuous disclosure clerk. The analysts are professional Accountants. This section reviews and monitors offering documents and applications, as well as continuous disclosure filings of reporting issuers. It also takes part in policy development and makes presentations at Commission meetings. Staff in this section report to the Director of Corporate Finance and Chief Administrative Officer, who is also a professional Accountant.

### Finance and Administration

There are five staff members assigned to this section including the controller (a professional Accountant), an accounting clerk, a web developer/analyst, a receptionist and an administrative clerk. This section, in consultation with management, prepares the Commission's budgets and financial reports and develops and implements office and personnel policies for both the securities and real estate divisions. Staff in this section report to the Director of Corporate Finance and Chief Administrative Officer.

### Education/Information

The Education/Information Officer and one-half administrative support staff are assigned to this section. The Education/Information Officer, who has a degree in education, is responsible for the development and implementation of educational programs for the general public and industry. The Education/Information Officer reports to the Chair.

### Additional Staff

There is an additional full time staff position, being an Administrative Assistant reporting directly to the Chair.

### **Real Estate Division**

The real estate division is made up of the Registrar, Deputy Registrar-Registrations, Deputy Registrar-Compliance and two administrative support positions. The real estate division is responsible for the administration of *The Real Estate Brokers Act* and *The Mortgage Dealers Act* and, in general, the regulation of the real estate industry in the Province of Manitoba. Employees in this section report to the Registrar.

## Management

Both Directors of the securities division and the Registrar of real estate report directly to the Chair, who is the Chief Executive Officer of the Commission. This group comprises the senior management team. In addition there is an extended management committee which has membership from all operational areas.

## Commission Members

In addition to the Chair there are a maximum of six part-time Commission members. The Commission meets regularly (usually weekly) to deal with policy and regulatory formulation, applications seeking exemptions from the requirements of regulation, and to consider whether it is in the public interest to grant various types of orders authorized by legislation. Commission members also perform a quasi-judicial function by sitting as adjudicators in Commission hearings. The Chair presides at meetings of the Commission.

The Chair of the Commission reports to the legislature through the office of the Minister of Finance.

During 2006/07 the Commission Members were as follows:

**Donald G. Murray** (Chair) - Appointed to the Commission in 1993, Mr. Murray spent 20 years in the private practice of law. In 1994, he was appointed Vice Chairman and became Chairman in 1997. As Chair and CEO, Mr. Murray Chairs the meetings of the Commission, sits on hearing panels and represents the Commission as the Manitoba representative at the meetings of the Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) and North American Securities Administrators Association (NASAA). He is the Vice-Chair of the CSA and is a former member of Board of Directors of NASAA.

**Lynne M. McCarthy** - Appointed to the Commission in 1994, Ms. McCarthy has a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Western Ontario and the Chartered Financial Analyst designation. Ms. McCarthy has over 20 years of experience in institutional investing.

**Robert G. McEwen** - Appointed to the Commission in 1992, Mr. McEwen is a retired chartered accountant and was a Deputy Director of the Commission. Mr. McEwen retired from the Commission in November, 2006.

### **Rocky L. Pollack, Q.C.**

Rocky Pollack is a partner in the Winnipeg law firm of *Myers Weinberg LLP* whose practice includes litigation and appeals in criminal, civil and administrative law. A frequent lecturer at Robson Hall and in the Bar Admission Course, he often speaks to groups of educators and other professionals including the annual *Mel Myers Labour Conference* and *Crown Defence Conference*. Rocky Pollack is a past president of the *Manitoba Bar Association*, a *Law Society of Manitoba* life bencher and a Fellow of the *International Society of Barristers*. He has chaired the *Canadian Bar Association's* national Criminal Justice Section as well as its first Criminal Code Task Force. Recently he served as president of *Congregation Shaarey Zedek* and as a board member of *The Jewish Foundation of Manitoba*. Mr. Pollack retired from the Commission in December 2006 on his appointment to the Provincial Court.

**Kathleen E. Hughes**

Kathleen Hughes worked for the Department of Justice, Court Services for 20 years. She was formerly the Legal Information Services Coordinator for Manitoba Law Libraries Inc. Ms. Hughes was previously a member of The Manitoba Securities Commission 1975-81. She has been involved in various volunteer boards and committees.

**Donald H. Smith**

Appointed to the Commission in 2003, Mr. Smith is a Chartered Accountant with over 20 years experience in entrepreneurial and financial advisory services. Previously a chief executive officer of corporations providing a variety of financial services, he is currently president of a vehicle leasing company.

**James W. Hedley**

Jim Hedley was appointed to the Commission on July 15, 2006. He has practiced law, in a variety of fields for over 30 years. He has been active in recent years with arbitration and adjudications for The Law Society of Manitoba and the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. His public service activities have included roles as president of Special Olympics Manitoba, of which he was also a co-founder, and the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum.

**Glenn J. Lillies**

Glenn Lillies was appointed to the Commission on November 15, 2006. Mr. Lillies is a Chartered Accountant who retired as a partner with KPMG after 30 years in public practice. He was also employed with The Manitoba Securities Commission for four years as a Compliance Auditor. He donates his time as the treasurer of several service organizations.

**Advisory Groups****Securities Advisory Committee**

The Committee was established by the Chair of the Commission to meet when required to provide advice on regulatory matters. The Committee has provided advice on new policy initiatives developed by the Commission. The Committee has also been called upon to advise on changes within the industry and how the Commission can best deal with those changes.

- Dave Cheop, Investors Group Inc.
- Ken Cooper, formerly Winnipeg Stock Exchange
- Linda Vincent, Winnipeg Commodity Exchange
- Alan Dunnett, RBC Investments/ Investment Dealers Association
- Mike Guttormson, James Richardson & Sons, Limited
- Bruce Jack, Deloitte & Touche
- Tom Kormylo, Pitblado
- Tony Catanese, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Colin Ryan, BMO Nesbitt Burns/ Investment Dealers Association
- Ron Coke, Taylor McCaffrey
- Patrick Cooney, Jory Capital Inc.
- Bruce Thompson, Thompson Dorfman Sweatman (Alternate)

### Real Estate Advisory Council

The Real Estate Advisory Council is a non-statutory advisory body established by the Commission and The Manitoba Real Estate Association. The Mandate of the Council is to advise and make recommendations to the Commission and MREA on real estate issues; to review mutually beneficial ideas, policies or legislative reform; and give early warning or advance notice to the Commission of trends or developments arising in the real estate industry.

- Brad Walker, Chairman, Broker, Gill & Schmall Agencies, Neepawa
- Claude Davis, Broker, Royal LePage Dynamic Real Estate
- Cliff King, Broker, Re/Max Executives Realty
- Deborah Goodfellow, Broker, Goodfellow & Goodfellow Real Estate Ltd.
- Reg Black, Broker, Century 21 Sun Country Realty
- Robert Giesbrecht, President, Canadian Condominium Institute (Manitoba Chapter)
- Robert F. Shaer, Broker, Professional Property Managers' Association
- Robert L. Tyler, Solicitor, The Manitoba Bar Association
- Brian Collie, Executive Director, Manitoba Real Estate Association
- Bill Baluk, Registrar, The Real Estate Brokers Act

### Real Estate Advisory Committee

The Real Estate Advisory Committee was established by the Real Estate Advisory Committee Regulation (Manitoba Regulation 593/88) under *The Real Estate Brokers Act*.

The Committee reviews and recommends projects to the Commission for funding from the interest which the Commission receives from real estate brokers' trust accounts.

- John Froese, Chairperson, Royal LePage Prime Real Estate
- Ernie Friesen, broker, Re/Max Executives Realty
- Ray Brownlee, Century 21 West-Man Realty Ltd., Brandon
- Ute Vann, salesperson, Royal LePage Dynamic Real Estate
- Robert Giesbrecht, solicitor, Pitblado, member of the public
- Ken Trinkl, retired, member of the public

## **PART II - SECURITIES**

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### **OVERVIEW**

The operational sections of the Commission work in seven functional areas. They are:

1. Registration;
2. Corporate Finance and Continuous Disclosure;
3. Private Placement and Exempt Offerings;
4. Exemption Orders;
5. Legislation and Policy Development;
6. Investigation and Enforcement;
7. Education and Information.

Each functional area carries unique duties and responsibilities the performance of which requires a high degree of co-operation and co-ordination among the operational sections.

### **REGISTRATION**

The Registration section reviews and determines whether it is in the public interest to register a person or company to trade or advise in the trading of securities or commodity exchange contracts. In general terms there are three situations where the registration section considers whether a registration is in the public interest:

- When an applicant initially applies for registration. The applicant for registration must meet educational requirements, individuals must be supervised and companies must meet capital requirements.
- When a registration is renewed. Registrations are renewed annually. If the registration section becomes aware of information that the continued registration is not in the public interest, a decision can be made not to renew the registration.
- When a registrant requests a transfer of his or her registration. In most cases a transfer of an individual's registration from one company to another can be completed quickly. However, in cases where there is information to suggest the transfer was initiated because of a problem with the conduct of an individual registrant, the registration section can either refuse the transfer, or impose a requirement that the individual be more closely supervised until it can be determined whether there should be a hearing to determine if the individual's registration should continue.

New and renewed registrations, registration changes from mergers and acquisitions, and improvements to registration systems have each contributed to a continued increase in the number of new firms applying for registration in Manitoba, as well as an overall increase in the number of registrations:

Number of registrations:

	2006-2007	2005-2006	2004-2005
The Securities Act	15,719	13,949	13,291
The Commodity Futures Act	*1,455	3,505	3,300

\* Variance reflects conversion issue with National Registration Database.

The registration section also continues to be involved in initiatives locally and through the Canadian Securities Administrators to improve the registration process. The registration section works with industry and other Canadian regulators to harmonize and improve the efficiency of the registration process.

### Compliance Examination

The Compliance officer performs ongoing reviews of the operations of persons and companies registered with the Commission to ensure they are conducting business in a manner that does not pose a risk to the public. This is done through the review of financial reports submitted by registrants and by performing compliance examinations. Compliance reviews are an effective way of identifying risks before there is a loss to investors. Compliance reviews may be conducted locally, or in cooperation with other securities regulators. The Compliance Officer also maintains contact with self regulatory organizations to coordinate compliance examinations. There were 6 compliance examinations in 2006/07 conducted by the Compliance Officer and one in co-operation with the MFDA. In addition the Compliance Officer conducted the local operation of a CSA multi-jurisdictional compliance examination.

### National Registration Database

The National Registration Database (NRD) permits an individual or company to submit registration information and requests to the Commission and other Canadian securities regulators electronically using a secure Internet connection.

NRD has created efficiencies in the registration process through the single point of entry into the registration process and through an increased coordination of registration forms and procedures. These efficiencies have been achieved without compromising the Commission's ability to monitor and respond to activities in Manitoba markets.

### National Registration System

The National Registration System (NRS) is a voluntary system that was put into place by way of a Commission rule and policy. NRS allows a registrant to obtain registration in more than one Canadian jurisdiction by complying only with the registration requirements of the registrant's principal or home regulator. This results in a more efficient registration system for a registrant that conducts business in more than one province or territory. It also results in less duplication and a more efficient application of resources within each regulator.

## **CORPORATE FINANCE AND CONTINUOUS DISCLOSURE**

The Corporate Finance section reviews prospectus filings and rights offerings to ensure that they contain full, true and plain disclosure of all material facts necessary to make an informed investment decision. Multi-jurisdictional offering documents are reviewed in accordance with the Mutual Reliance Review System and/or the Passport System. Both of these systems improve the efficiency of the capital markets in that the issuer deals only with the principal regulator and receives one receipt with respect to its offering.

Reporting issuers are required to file continuous disclosure materials such as financial statements, management discussion and analysis, material change reports, proxy materials and annual information forms with the Commission. Securities legislation sets out the content requirements of these documents as well as the time periods in which they have to be filed.

Insiders of reporting issuers are required to file insider trading reports with the Commission, utilizing the System for Electronic Disclosure by Insiders (SEDI).

### *Continuous Disclosure Review Program*

The Commission has implemented its own Continuous Disclosure Review Program and is participating with other members of the CSA in the development of a national program to ensure that all reporting issuers are subject to ongoing review, and that the reviews are performed efficiently and consistently. The CSA continues to work towards implementing a national continuous disclosure review program. Manitoba is one of eight jurisdictions participating in this program.

The focus on continuous disclosure filings reflects the fact that over 90% of all trades take place in the secondary market and the quality and timeliness of information disclosed to capital market participants by reporting issuers is of the utmost importance to the market. Commission staff continues to review prospectus offerings, but its primary focus is now on the review of continuous disclosure filings.

### *Insider Trading*

SEDI provides easy public access to insider reporting information and also allows for effective and efficient monitoring of insider trading reporting activity to ensure that filings are in the proper form and content and are made in a timely fashion. Staff continues to refine and enhance its review processes with respect to insider trading.

### *National Electronic Filing Systems*

Corporate Finance staff continues to be involved with the maintenance and ongoing development of three electronic filing systems:

- SEDAR – a System for Electronic Document Analysis and Retrieval (SEDAR) has been in use since January 1, 1997 and provides for the electronic filing of securities-related documents with the Commission and other CSA jurisdictions. SEDAR allows for the efficient filing of documents with all regulators simultaneously and provides for secure electronic communication between issuers and regulators. SEDAR has greatly enhanced the efficiency of the Canadian



capital markets and, when combined with the MRRS process, has resulted in the Canadian capital markets being one of the most efficient in the world. In addition, through its website at www. SEDAR.com, it allows for the timely dissemination of information to the public.

- SEDI – Manitoba continues to participate in the ongoing development of the System for Electronic Disclosure by Insiders (SEDI). SEDI is a national insider reporting database that was relaunched early in 2003/2004. The system provides ease of reporting to insiders and public access to insider trading information.
- National CTO database – Corporate Finance staff continue to participate with other CSA jurisdictions in the ongoing development and maintenance of a national cease trade order (CTO) database. This database has proven to be highly effective and allows members of the public and industry participants easy access to information relating to CTOs issued by securities regulatory authorities in Canada.

### *Policy Development*

Corporate Finance staff was involved in the development and implementation of a number of significant national rules and policies dealing with such matters as:

- mutual fund governance
- CEO and CFO certification requirements
- national prospectus system
- amendments to continuous disclosure rules and policies
- defaulting issuer and cease trade order policies
- the passport initiative and related Securities Act amendments

### *Filings Processed*

	Prospectus **	Prospectus Amendments	Annual Information Forms	Rights Offerings	Take-Over Bid Circulars
2003/2004	812	169	527	11	33
2004/2005	792	299	834	17	54
2005/2006	983	350	926	9	46
2006/2007	992	329	1487	13	82

\*\* Prospectus documents filed – A single prospectus filing may contain multiple issues (i.e.: a single mutual fund prospectus could contain as many as 100 funds).

As evidenced by the above table, the level of prospectus and continuous disclosure filings continues to increase and it is anticipated that this will continue, at least for the near future.

## **PRIVATE PLACEMENT & EXEMPT OFFERINGS**

The Commission recognizes the benefit to the Manitoba economy and the public in providing an environment that encourages the development of business and the need of those businesses to raise capital. Where the size of the business or the amount of capital

to be raised does not warrant the use of a prospectus, securities regulation provides ways to assist businesses and make new offerings of securities available to Manitobans.

The Act, regulations and rules provide exemptions from the requirement to use a prospectus and the requirement to trade in securities through someone registered under *The Securities Act*. They are based on the nature of the security sold, the dollar amount of the purchase, as well as the knowledge of the purchaser. Limited offering exemptions are based on an offering of securities being made to a limited, identifiable group of purchasers, and are used by new businesses that need capital to establish operations. Purchasers of securities in limited offering exemptions either have knowledge of the business they are investing in or are required to seek independent advice with respect to the investment prior to purchase.

The raising of capital in Manitoba can be done in various ways. Under Manitoba law options are available to market securities using requirements that have been in place for many years and that are unique to Manitoba. The Commission has been told by its stakeholders that these Manitoba options continue to provide methods to raise capital that balance the interests of businesses and investors.

Commission rules also provide capital raising options that are available throughout most of Canada. Using one of these rules permits a business to raise capital in a consistent manner in most provinces or territories. These rules represent a positive step in the harmonization of securities regulation in Canada.

	<b>2006/07</b>	<b>2005/06</b>
<b>45-106F1 Capital Raising Forms</b>	977	865
<b>Offering Memorandum</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Private Placement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>98</b>

## **EXEMPTIONS AND ORDERS**

### Exemption Applications

Applications are made to the Commission for exemptions from regulatory requirements in situations where the granting of an order is not contrary to the public interest. The Commission deals with national applications and local applications.

### National and Regional Applications

The Commission processes national and regional applications through the Mutual Reliance Review Systems for Exemptive Relief Applications, which allows for an application to be processed in several or all Canadian jurisdictions with a single Decision Document. The efficiency of the system benefits both issuers and the investing public and results in a wider range of products being offered in Manitoba.

## Manitoba Applications

The Commission continues to be supportive of local community based projects that focus on businesses that will provide benefits to a community. While the Commission does not create business plans or proposals for local projects, staff works with applicants to satisfy themselves that each group has the tools required to raise capital in a manner that does not compromise the investor protection objectives of securities regulation.

The total number of orders issued under *The Securities Act* for fiscal 2004/05 are as follows:

<b>ORDERS ISSUED</b>	<b>2006/2007</b>	<b>2005/2006</b>	<b>2004/2005</b>
Exemption Orders	67	97	109
Take-Over Bid Orders	33	32	33
Inside Reporting Orders	5	11	36
Financial Reporting Orders	82	79	52
Cease Trade Orders*	53	46	51
Miscellaneous Orders	73	54	53

(\* Cease Trade Orders include both permanent and temporary orders.)

## **LEGISLATION AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

The dual mandate of the Commission of investor protection and facilitating fair and efficient capital markets requires continuous monitoring and review of securities regulations. It is important to ensure that any new or revised requirements do not inadvertently create barriers to market activity in Manitoba, are unnecessarily inconsistent with other jurisdictions or create unacceptable levels of risk for investors.

Some of the projects the Commission has been involved in during 2006-2007:

### Amendments to The Securities Act

Amendments to The Securities Act were put into effect in November 2006. These amendments gave the Commission authority to appoint or remove a director where there is a risk to the public. The amendments also provide remedies for investors trading on secondary markets such as Stock Exchanges. The amendments also provide the statutory rights of action to investors who purchase securities under an Offering Memorandum. The legislation also increased the maximum fine for breach of The Securities Act to \$5 million.

### Passport and Highly Harmonized Securities Legislation

Working with the Ministers responsible for securities regulation and their respective staff, the Commission and other members of the CSA have been active in the development of a passport rule to allow for "one-stop shopping" for issuers and registrants in Canada. In addition the Commission and all other members of the CSA have undertaken to implement a number of harmonized targeted Act amendments intended to harmonize and streamline securities requirements that will bring the various Securities Acts across the country to the greatest level of uniformity ever. The Commission will be undertaking these amendments in several steps, the first set of amendments were presented in legislative form late in 2005 and were enacted in the spring 2006 legislative session. Additional

amendments were introduced in the legislature in December 2006 for consideration in the spring 2007 legislative session.

### Uniform Securities Transfer Act

The members of the CSA, including The Manitoba Securities Commission, have been involved in the coordinated effort to enact the USTA, intended to modernize the passing of property in securities transactions, across the country. Canadian provinces and territories are being urged to pass USTA legislation as soon as practicable.

### Policy

On a local basis, the Commission continues to strive for policy development to benefit investors and maintain fairness in the marketplace. On a national basis, the Commission continues to work with other CSA jurisdictions on the development of a governance regime for mutual funds, a new point of sale document for mutual funds, harmonized continuous disclosure rules and as noted above, legislative amendments to streamline and harmonize the various Securities Acts in Canada.

The bulk of national policy development takes place through CSA staff committees. The Commission was represented in 2006/07 on numerous CSA Committees and continues its commitment in this regard.

### Rules

The Commission has the legislative authority to enact rules that have the same force and effect as regulations under the legislation. In fiscal year 2006/07, most rules enacted by the Commission were national instruments representing rules implemented on a Canada wide basis. The Commission enacted 16 rules during the period.

Legislative and policy matters and rules that were published for comment or adopted by the Commission during the past year are posted on the Commission's web site.

### Winnipeg Commodity Exchange Inc.

The Winnipeg Commodity Exchange Inc. is registered as a commodity futures exchange under The Commodity Futures Act. It is also recognized as a self-regulatory organization under the Act.

The Commission oversees the operations of the exchange to ensure its business is being conducted in a manner that meets or exceeds international standards. The oversight program of the Commission includes ongoing review of the operations of the exchange and its clearinghouse, review of rules and policies of the exchange and the review and monitoring of products offered by the exchange.

## **INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

### **Complaints & Inquiries**

Staff investigates complaints and inquiries from the public. A complaint may relate to the conduct of a person or company registered to trade in securities or to trading activities of people not registered to trade securities in Manitoba. Complaints may also involve securities products that may or may not have been approved for trading in Manitoba.

As with any investigative agency, Commission staff must review all complaints received both on the basis of potential harm to the markets generally, and on the basis there may have been harm caused to an individual member of the public.

Commission staff will in many cases facilitate resolution of a complaint by speaking with both the securities firm and the client. In some cases, matters that relate to the conduct of a registrant are referred to a self-regulatory organization such as the Investment Dealers Association of Canada or the Mutual Fund Dealers Association for investigation and resolution.

During the fiscal year 2006/07 the number of complaints received relating to fraudulent schemes such as prime bank instruments and pension plan loans remained a concern. These illegal activities represent millions of dollars of illegal activity and continue to target all segments of the population. These fraudulent schemes continue to be a focal point in the Commission's public education initiative.

	2006-2007	2005-2006
Investigation and Enforcement Inquiries	213	268
Investigation files opened	160	138

### **Investigations**

Once an investigation is commenced Commission staff attempt to gather evidence through witness interviews and through the obtaining of documents. In situations where this evidence cannot be gathered voluntarily, an investigation order can be issued to compel the production of evidence during an investigation.

### **The Hearing Process**

After a complaint has been investigated a determination is made whether there is sufficient evidence to justify holding a hearing before the Commission or to conduct a prosecution in Court.

The Commission conducts hearings:

- to review whether a person or company should continue to be registered
- to review a decision made by the director
- to determine whether to deny someone the right to trade securities
- to decide whether trading of security should be halted
- to determine whether a financial loss compensation order should be issued and/or whether an administrative penalty should be assessed
- to determine whether someone should be prohibited from being a director or officer of an issuer.

This year also saw amendments to The Securities Act which give jurisdiction to the Commission to issue Management Cease Trade Orders. A Management Cease Trade Order stops the trading of a security by officers, directors and insiders, without impacting the ability of the public to trade in the security.

The Commission has also been working with other Canadian securities regulators to address the problems that arise when a person or company convicted of a securities offence in one province moves to another. The Commission has been working with other Canadian securities regulators to identify cases where someone convicted of a securities violation in one jurisdiction may move to another province. In these cases staff are moving to have orders issued in Manitoba based upon the decision reached in another Canadian jurisdiction.

The Commission also conducts prosecutions in court where there is an allegation of a violation of a law administered by the commission. A conviction for these offences can result in a fine or imprisonment.

Details of pending and completed Commission hearings and prosecutions are provided on the Commission's web site under the heading *Investigation & Enforcement*.

#### Financial Loss Claims

A member of the public who chooses to invest in securities accepts the risk that the market value of the investment may increase or decrease. The public does not invest with an expectation that there will be a decrease in the value of an investment caused by illegal or improper activity.

The Commission has the ability to order repayment to an investor for losses arising from illegal or improper conduct relating to the trading of securities, up to \$100,000 per claim. This authority, the first of its kind in Canada, provides investors with an alternative to the civil court system and is a powerful tool for investor protection. By providing this option to investors, the investor and the subject of the Commission hearing can have all regulatory and financial loss matters dealt with in a single proceeding.

The ability of the Commission to order compensation to an investor also creates a strong incentive to resolve client complaints involving financial losses at an early stage, avoiding the need for the client to make a complaint to the Commission or spend money to have a matter determined by the courts.

From the institution of this authority in February 2003 to the end of 2006/07 (a period of four years) the Commission has received 145 claims, 99 of which have been concluded.

#### Investor Alert

The Commission believes that informing investors is often the best way to avoid losses through illegal or improper trading of securities. The Commission will issue an Investor Alert in situations where it is necessary to warn the public about activities that may be illegal or that pose a risk to the public. An Investor Alert may be issued even though there has not been sufficient time to assemble the evidence required to commence a Commission hearing or court prosecution.

Investor Alerts are issued through media outlets and posted on the Commission web site. They are issued throughout Manitoba, but in some cases have been targeted to specific areas in the Province where the deemed improper activities are occurring.

## **EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**

In November 2006 the Manitoba Securities Commission launched a new corporate web site. It is well organized and easy to navigate. Additional features have been added to the site, such as, an advanced search option, a news and events section, sections for protecting and educating the public and a sign up option for the public to receive investor alerts electronically. This was a long term project that spanned a couple of years. The Education department is grateful to Commission staff for all the hard work that went into developing this site.

The Commission developed a new brochure entitled "Complaints". The brochure is a guide for the public that identifies types of complaints, complaint resolution, how to file a complaint, the role of the commission and options available. The brochure was distributed to libraries, family resource, women's and senior centres around the province. The brochure is also distributed to the general public when calling the commission with questions relating to filing a complaint.

The Grow me the Money web based educational tool is being used for the second year in a row. Participation rates continue to be high. There have been 29160 visitors (5248 unique visitors) to the site and 2592 registrations (841 unique registrations). The program will run until November 2007.

The commission continues to attend trade shows (Wedding, Baby and Kids and Vision Quest shows), participate in the development of the "Protect Yourself" calendar and deliver public presentations (18 delivered reaching approximately 1000 individuals).

The Education department remains active at the CSA level. The department participated in the development of the national "Test Your Financial IQ" contest. In addition, a National Investor Competence index was delivered to Canadians measuring their participation in investing, awareness of investment fraud and the provincial regulators.

Some of the survey findings are:

1. On Investing
  - a. Three quarters of all Canadians have some form of savings but just one in five are active investors
  - b. Generally Canadians have the right attitude when it comes to investing, however, many Canadian investors lack key investing tools.
2. On Regulators
  - a. Regulatory issues are not top of mind issues for Canadian investors, although they are interested in investor education and greater transparency.
  - b. Banning rule-breakers and educating investors are what Canadian investors think should be the highest priorities for regulators.

3. On Fraud

- a. More than one-in-three Canadians have been approached with a fraudulent investment.
- b. An estimated 900,000 Canadians have been victims of financial fraud.
- c. 70% of the time, no money is recovered.
- d. Only 14% of fraud attempts are reported to authorities.

To view the report in its entirety log on to:

[http://www.csa-acvm.ca/pdfs/CSA\\_Investor\\_Index\\_October\\_18.pdf](http://www.csa-acvm.ca/pdfs/CSA_Investor_Index_October_18.pdf)



## **PART III - REAL ESTATE**

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### **Overview**

The Real Estate Division administers The Real Estate Brokers Act and The Mortgage Dealers Act. The Real Estate Division is responsible for the registration of real estate brokers, mortgage dealers, and real estate and mortgage salespersons, investigation of complaints involving the alleged violation of the statutes, and to provide public protection by raising and maintaining industry standards.

### **Education**

The pre-licensing courses and exams for application are prescribed by the Commission and administered by The Manitoba Real Estate Association (MREA) under the direction of the Real Estate Division. Education standards are monitored by the Registrar who serves as a member of the MREA's Education and Examination Review Committee.

During 2006/07 there were 741 enrolments in the pre-licensing courses.

The Real Estate Division administered 21 examinations during the year relating to 3 Private Sales Agent broker exams and 18 restricted salespersons exams.

There were 1722 registrants that completed six hours of Mandatory Continuing Education (MCE 6) which was titled Legal Update, Condominium Sales and Ethics in Real Estate. This was the sixth year for the industry's continuing education course. The course material is reviewed and approved by the Education Committee of which the Registrar is a member.

During the year the MREA and Commission staff continued to work together to up-grade pre-licensing courses. On-line courses for persons wishing to become salespersons are in place and have been proven to be popular amongst individuals interested in pursuing a career in real estate. Informational material for persons interested in a career in real estate are circulated at various career symposiums and available on the Commission's and the Manitoba Real Estate Association's web sites. Up grading to course material also continues on an on-going basis.

### **Registrations**

2343 registrations were issued for salespersons, authorized officials and real estate brokers, and mortgage dealers.

During the year numerous amendments involving name, address or corporate changes were processed under The Real Estate Brokers Act together with businesses re-organizing their affairs. In addition, 12 re-instatements and 105 salespersons transfers were processed.

## **Financial Filings and Compliance Audits**

Commission staff review brokers' Annual Trust Account Reports and mortgage dealers' financial statements and Trust Compliance Reports filed with the Registrar and advise broker and mortgage dealers on compliance with the trust accounting provisions of the statutes. The compliance program consists of field audits and follow-up field audit visits and providing information to professional accountants who prepare the statutory reports.

During the year staff reviewed approximately 408 reports filed by brokers and dealers and 24 final reports for brokers who ceased their operation. The Commission suspended 4 brokers for failing to file their Annual Trust Account Report on time.

## **Investigation and Enforcement**

The enforcement program addresses the following areas of investigation.

- Investigation of complaints alleging infractions of the statutes and improper conduct
- The background of applicants and conduct of registrants
- Investigation of alleged unregistered trading

In addition to a number of miscellaneous complaints and inquiries handled on a daily basis, there were 72 formal written complaints under investigation during 2006/07. The investigation of 44 of these complaints were still ongoing as at March 31, 2007 with the following outcome of the finalized complaints:

- 16 complaints were unsubstantiated or were resolved with the assistance of Commission staff
- 4 resulted in a warning and/or a reprimand
- 8 complaints resulted in other action being taken

## **LEGISLATION AND POLICY**

### **Policy Development**

Staff in the Real Estate section administer real estate registration, education and general policies.

The Registrar serves on The Real Estate Advisory Council, a non-statutory body that advises and makes recommendations to the Commission and the Manitoba Real Estate Association on real estate issues. The Council consists of ten members representing various stakeholders with the Registrar being the Commission's representative.

During 2006/07 some of the issues that the Council dealt with were:

- Proposed amendments to the Real Estate Brokers Act.
- Policies and guidelines for the Real Estate Industry

- Categories of registration
- Educational issues

## Trust Accounts

### Interest earned on Brokers' Trust Accounts

The Commission receives interest earned on real estate brokers trust accounts. The Real Estate Advisory Committee established by the Regulations under the Real Estate Brokers Act recommends real estate related projects for funding from the interest that the Commission receives. Funds that are not designated for projects are paid to the Minister of Finance on March 31<sup>st</sup> of every year.

The results of the program for 2006/07 are:

#### RECEIPT'S (in 000's)

Received		<u>\$492</u>
<u>Paid out:</u>		
MREA - Mandatory Continuing Education	\$146	
Minister of Finance	<u>346</u>	
		<u>\$492</u>

#### Unclaimed Trust Money

Section 26 of the Real Estate Brokers Act allows brokers to pay unclaimed trust money in their trust accounts to the Commission to clear the funds from their trust accounts. Trust money paid to the Commission is held in trust pending receipt of a claim by the rightful claimant. A reserve is held in the account at the end of the fiscal year with the balance paid to the Minister of Finance.

Results of the program for 2006/07 are:

#### RECEIPTS (in 000's)

##### Accounted for as follows:

Balance in account March 31/06	\$25	
Received during year	<u>5</u>	
Sub total		<u>\$30</u>

##### Paid Out

Minister of Finance	<u>\$ 5</u>	
Balance		<u>\$25</u>

## **PART IV – PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT**

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The Commission's planning process is set out in three documents. At the top, the Commission has a multi-year Strategic Plan that notes the main challenges to the organization and maps out strategies to respond.

The annual Business Plan is based on the Strategic Plan and develops a one-year road map for strategy implementation while developing a budget for the operations of the Commission.

The Planning Document, which was previously called the Balanced Scorecard, was originally developed by Commission staff with some outside consultation and was introduced in the 2002/2003 fiscal year. The balanced scorecard document was reviewed and updated by staff at the beginning of the current year and was renamed the Planning Document.

The Planning Document is a dual purpose document in that it outlines goals/objectives of the Commission and actions required to achieve them as well as the means of measuring the agency's successes. In other words, in addition to being a performance measurement document the Planning Document doubles as a work plan for the overall Commission in the various functional areas for carrying out most aspects of the Business Plan.

The Planning Document template breaks down the Commission's broad goals into four perspectives being: financial, stakeholder, internal and learning and growth. Under each of the perspectives, in addition to goals or objectives, measures are set out as a means of determining as to whether the Commission has successfully achieved its goals for the year. There are two types of measurements, being "quantitative" and "qualitative". Quantitative measures are those that lend themselves easily to determination and comparison. These are generally matters that can be physically counted such as the number of field audits completed in a year, the number of staff that are cross-trained for other jobs, the number of hours of staff training completed, and the number of educational programs delivered to the public.

Qualitative measurements are those matters less prone to physical comparison but are still considered valid indicators of the fulfillment of Commission objectives. For example, under "internal perspective" the first stated goal in the Planning Document is "developing and maintaining a superior knowledge base". An action aimed at furthering this goal includes for all functional areas the preparation of written procedure and policy manuals. The completion of these manuals is considered a qualitative measure in that their availability will serve to increase operational understanding and communication. With qualitative measures the timely completion of the action, designed to further agency goals, is taken as a measurement in itself that the Commission's goals are being achieved.

Each year the Commission's Planning Document Committee reviews the items in the overall Scorecard template for continued relevance and makes necessary changes. Each of the seven functional sections then meets to apply the template to their specific areas and the actions to be undertaken by each to achieve the goals are determined. Each action is directly related to an organizational goal or objective. Every staff member takes

part in this exercise. The individual area templates are collected, reviewed and placed in the Planning Document.

The template also includes target dates, proposed results and a column for results. The status of the Planning Document is reviewed by the entire staff on a regular basis and following the year-end a final report on the organization's performance success is distributed to all staff members. As has been the case with previous years, the organization has generally met the performance goals it had set. This is particularly so in those areas where quantitative performance targets were laid out. In those few areas where performance targets were not met during the fiscal year, valid reasons were given and the goals and targets were reevaluated and identified for completion during the subsequent cycle.

The Commission has found the Planning Document (formerly the Balanced Scorecard) to be a very useful tool in the planning/reporting process and a valuable method of identifying agency objectives and utilizing the talents of all staff in determining actions to meet those goals and setting measures for performance. This document is very much a creation of Commission staff and while there are always different ways to view and measure performance, the team performing the Commission's Effectiveness Evaluation in 2002 considered this document to be comprehensive, reasonable and appropriate. The Commission realizes the importance of remaining current in its performance measurement outlook and senior management (with the assistance of the Planning Document Committee) reviews the Planning Document on a regular basis.

## **PART V - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

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### **Overview**

### **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

#### **Overview**

As of March 31, 2007, the Commission had the following internal systems in place:

- Manitoba Securities Commission Information System 2.0 (MSCIS 2.0); and
- Real Estate Information System (REIS)

The Real Estate section's new on-line system which will replace REIS, is expected to be operational in fiscal year 2007-08. This on-line system will give registrants the ability to register on-line and use the credit card option for payments.

The Commission uses Microsoft Great Plains, an accounting and financial reporting software package for all its accounting and reporting needs.

As well, the Commission interfaces with, and uses, the following national CSA systems:

- System for Electronic Data Analysis and Retrieval
- National Cease Trade Order Database
- System for Electronic Disclosure by Insiders ; and
- National Registration Database.

These systems allow the Commission to receive; store and access pertinent information and documentation filed with respect to *The Securities Act, The Commodity Futures Act, The Real Estate Brokers Act and The Mortgage Dealers Act*. Maintenance and development of these internal and external systems insure that daily operations run effectively and efficiently.

The Commission has a standing IT Committee that meets regularly to evaluate and prioritize the Commission's information systems requirements. The Commission uses Request Tracker to track the various changes that are requested and made to MSCIS 2.0.

## PART VI – FINANCIAL DISCUSSION

### FINANCIAL DISCUSSION

#### Management's Discussion and Analysis

This discussion and analysis presents the operating results of The Manitoba Securities Commission for the year ended March 31, 2007. It should be read in conjunction with the Commission's audited financial statements.

#### Operation Results

##### Net Income

Net income for the year ended March 31, 2007 was \$8.4 million, an increase of 19% over the prior year (\$7 million). Expenses of \$3.5 million came in under budget by \$490. The net result was net income exceeded budgeted net income of \$5.9 million by \$2.5 million or 42%.

##### Revenue

The Commission exceeded its revenue targets by 21% or \$2 million due to an increase in market activity. This year's revenue totaled \$11.9 million, as compared to last year's total of \$10.5 million. See Table 1 for details.

**Table 1**

Revenue (000's)	2007	% of Total	2006	% of Total	2007 % Increase/ (Decrease) from 2006
<b>Filing Fees</b>	\$ 6,075	51%	\$ 5,306	50%	15%
<b>Registration Fees</b>	4,529	38%	4,097	39%	11%
<b>Financial Statement Fees</b>	495	4%	415	4%	19%
<b>Application Filing Fees</b>	230	2%	252	2%	(10%)
<b>Real Estate Fees</b>	388	3%	374	4%	4%
<b>Investment Income</b>	150	1%	93	1%	61%
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	46	1%	1		--
	<b>\$ 11,913</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 10,538</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13%</b>

The primary sources of revenue (filing and registration fees) for the Commission in fiscal 2007, contributed 89% of the total, the same as in fiscal year 2006.

Filing Fees are made up of fees for new and renewal prospectus filings, prospectus amendments, annual information forms and rights offerings. The increase of 15% in filing fees over the previous year was due to a higher than expected volume of filings.

Registration Fees are comprised of fees for registration of advisors, dealers and salespersons. The increase of 11% over the previous year is due to a higher than expected level of registration activities.

## Expenses

Overall, total expenses for fiscal year 2007 were \$3.47 million, a 1% increase over fiscal year 2006 (\$3.45 million). See Table 2 for details.

Table 2

<b>Expenses (000's)</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>2007 % Increase/ (Decrease) From 2006</b>
<b>Salaries and Benefits</b>	\$ 2,414	70%	\$ 2,279	66%	6%
<b>Operating Expenses*</b>	1,001	29%	1,052	31%	(5%)
<b>Amortization</b>	58	1%	119	3%	(105%)
	<b>\$ 3,473</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 3,450</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1%</b>

\*See Schedule of Operating Expenses in the Notes to the Financial Statements

Total expenses were 14% below budget. Variances in salaries and benefits and operating expenses are explained below.

### Salaries and Benefits

Overall, salaries and benefits increased by 6% (or \$135,000) over the previous year. However, salaries and benefits were 8% below budget due to staff utilization of the Voluntary Reduced Work Week program and an overstatement in budgeted benefit costs.

### Operating Expenses

Operating expenses for the fiscal year were 5% lower than last year and were under budget by \$302,000 or 30%. Variances are as follows:

- Contract Services – under budget by \$134,000 due to lower costs for desktop support and information systems support.
- CSA Initiative spending was under budget by \$53,000 due to lower than expected costs for national initiatives.
- Office materials and supplies - under budget by \$31,000 due to lower than expected publishing and printing costs;
- Education initiatives – under budget by \$14,000 due to the delay of initiatives ;
- Staff development and professional dues – under budget by \$23,000 due to the timing of courses, conferences and professional dues;
- Telecommunications – under budget by \$22,000 due to a credit in long distance charges;



- Research Resources – under budget by \$10,000 due to lower costs for legal resource material and;
- Travel – under budget by \$17.
- Professional Services – over budget by \$12,000 due to higher than expected legal costs relating to outstanding law suits.

### **Capital Expenditures & Liabilities**

Capital expenditures for the year were \$19,000. These expenditures were for Office Equipment \$2,000, Furniture and Fixtures \$4,000, Computer Hardware for \$3,000, and Computer Software for \$10,000. Capital expenditures were financed by funds provided through operations.

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities were \$144,000 compared to \$28,000 in fiscal 2006. The March 31, 2007 balance represents accrued vendor obligations. Accrued vacation and severance liabilities were \$210,000 and \$205,000 as at March 31, 2007 compared to \$188,000 and \$181,000 respectively, in the previous fiscal year.

### **Disposition of Surplus Operating Funds**

The Commission made the required quarterly payments to the Province of Manitoba totaling \$7.25 million. The payment amount is calculated annually and is included in the Commission's business plan as a disposition of surplus operating funds in the Statement of Retained Earnings.

### **Liquidity**

Liquidity can be defined as an organizations ability to meet financial obligations as they come due. Liquidity management provides the certainty that funds will be available to honour all commitments and involves continuous forecasting and monitoring of expected cash flows. The Commission requires liquidity principally to finance its operations and capital expenditures. Its objective is to have sufficient funds available to maintain its operations, without impairment, should revenue decrease below expenses.

The Commission had cash and cash equivalents of \$4.59 million as of March 31, 2007 and has access to a working capital advance of \$1.0 million with the Special Operating Agencies Financing Authority.

As at March 31, 2007 the Commission has \$750,000 in its reserve fund to finance extraordinary expenses that are regulatory in nature and for unexpected changes in market activity that have a negative effect on revenues. These funds are invested with the Province of Manitoba Treasury Division and allow the Commission the flexibility to access these funds when needed.

**Outlook 2007/2008**

The Commission will look to generate \$5.8 million in net income in fiscal year 2008. This translates into budgeted revenue of \$9.9 million and budgeted expenses of \$4.1 million. Disposition of Surplus Operating Funds for fiscal year 2007-08 is set at \$7.3 million.

With the Commission having no control over market activity, budgeted revenues are subject to variability.

## RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Commission's management is responsible for preparing the financial statements and other financial information in the Annual Report. These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The financial statements include amounts that are based on management's best estimates and judgments. The Commission's financial statements have been audited by BDO Dunwoody, independent external auditors.

The Commission maintains accounting and internal control systems to provide reasonable assurance that its financial information is reliable and accurate and that its assets are adequately protected.

The Commission's management meets regularly to review the financial statements and accounting practices. The auditors have free and full access to management, if required to discuss results of their audit and their views on the adequacy of internal controls and the quality of financial reporting.

On behalf of management,



Donald G. Murray  
Chair and C.E.O.



Robert B. Bouchard  
Chief Administrative Officer



Marlene Nemes  
Controller

May 15, 2007

**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES  
COMMISSION**

**Financial Statements**  
For the year ended March 31, 2007

# THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION

## Financial Statements

For the year ended March 31, 2007

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## Auditors' Report

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### To The Special Operating Agencies Financing Authority:

We have audited the balance sheet of **THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**, An Agency of the Special Operating Agencies Financing Authority, Province of Manitoba as at March 31, 2007 and the statements of income, retained earnings, reserve fund and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Commission'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 Commission as at March 31, 2007 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

*BDO Dunwoody LLP*

Chartered Accountants

Winnipeg, Manitoba  
May 15, 2007

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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Balance Sheet**  
(in thousands)

**March 31** **2007** **2006**

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**Assets**

**Current Assets**

Cash and short-term deposits (Note 2)	\$	4,594	\$	3,244
Accounts receivable (Note 3)		44		16
Prepaid expenses		36		21

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	4,674		3,281
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Restricted short-term deposits (Note 4)		750		750
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Receivable from the Province of Manitoba (Note 5)		269		269
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Capital assets (Note 6)		163		204
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	\$	5,856	\$	4,504
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**Liabilities and Equity**

**Current Liabilities**

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	144	\$	28
Accrued vacation entitlements (Note 7)		210		188

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	354		216
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Severance pay liability (Note 8)		205		181
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	559		397
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**Commitments and contingency** (Notes 9 and 12)

Reserve Fund (Note 10) (Page 5)		750		750
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Retained earnings (Page 5)		4,547		3,357
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	5,297		4,107
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	\$	5,856	\$	4,504
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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Statement of Income**  
(in thousands)

<b>For the year ended March 31</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Fees	\$ 11,717	\$ 10,444
Interest	150	93
Miscellaneous	46	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>11,913</b>	<b>10,538</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Salaries and benefits	2,414	2,279
Operating expenses (Page 12)	1,001	1,052
Amortization - capital assets	58	119
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>3,473</b>	<b>3,450</b>
<b>Net earnings for the year (Page 5)</b>	<b>\$ 8,440</b>	<b>\$ 7,088</b>

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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Statement of Retained Earnings**  
(in thousands)

<b>For the year ended March 31</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Retained earnings, beginning of year</b>	<b>\$ 3,357</b>	<b>\$ 3,019</b>
<b>Net earnings for the year (Page 4)</b>	<b>8,440</b>	<b>7,088</b>
<b>Disposition of surplus operating funds (Note 11)</b>	<b>(7,250)</b>	<b>(7,000)</b>
<b>Allocation from Reserve Fund</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>250</b>
<b>Retained earnings, end of year (Page 3)</b>	<b>\$ 4,547</b>	<b>\$ 3,357</b>

**Statement of Reserve Fund**  
(in thousands)

<b>For the year ended March 31</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Balance, beginning of year</b>	<b>\$ 750</b>	<b>\$ 1,000</b>
<b>Allocation to Retained Earnings</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(250)</b>
<b>Balance, end of year (Page 3)</b>	<b>\$ 750</b>	<b>\$ 750</b>

**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
(in thousands)

<b>For the year ended March 31</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Net earnings for the year	\$ 8,440	\$ 7,088
Adjustment for		
Amortization - capital assets	58	119
	<u>8,498</u>	<u>7,207</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital		
Accounts receivable	(28)	(4)
Prepaid expenses	(15)	5
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	116	21
Accrued vacation entitlements	24	3
Accrued salaries and benefits	-	(73)
	<u>97</u>	<u>(48)</u>
Severance pay liability	24	9
	<u>8,619</u>	<u>7,168</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>		
Acquisition of capital assets	(19)	(37)
Transfer from restricted short-term deposits	-	250
	<u>(19)</u>	<u>213</u>
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>		
Disposition of surplus operating funds	(7,250)	(7,000)
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>1,350</b>	<b>381</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year</b>	<b>3,244</b>	<b>2,863</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 4,594</b>	<b>\$ 3,244</b>
<b>Supplementary information:</b>		
Interest received	\$ 140	\$ 88

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# THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION

## Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

March 31, 2007

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### **Basis of Reporting**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

### **Capital Assets**

Capital assets are recorded at cost and amortized over their estimated lives as follows:

Office equipment	20% straight-line
Furniture and fixtures	20% straight-line
Leasehold improvements	10% straight-line
Computer hardware	20% straight-line
Computer software	20% straight-line

The half-year rule is used in the year of acquisition.

### **Revenue Recognition**

Fees and cost recoveries are recognized when received. Investment income is recorded in accordance with terms of the related investment.

### **Financial Instruments**

The Commission's financial instruments consist of cash and short-term deposits, accounts receivable, restricted short-term deposits, amounts due from related parties, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities. It is management's opinion that the Commission is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values.

### **Use of Estimates**

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

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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
(in thousands)

**March 31, 2007**

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**1. Nature of Organization**

Effective April 1, 1999 the Lieutenant Governor in Council designated the The Manitoba Securities Commission as a special operating agency under The Special Operating Agencies Financing Authority Act (C.C.S.M. c.S185) by Order in Council No. 144/1999. The Order also gave approval to the Special Operating Agencies Financing Authority and the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, being the Minister responsible for the Commission, at that time, to enter into a management agreement with respect to the Commission.

The Management Agreement between the Financing Authority and the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs assigns responsibility to manage the assets transferred to The Manitoba Securities Commission in delivering regulated services to clients.

**2. Cash and Short-term Deposits**

The Commission invests all surplus cash in short-term deposits with the Province of Manitoba, which are made up of thirty, sixty and ninety day callable term deposits.

**3. Accounts Receivable**

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Accrued interest	\$ 26	\$ 16
Trade	18	-
	<u>\$ 44</u>	<u>\$ 16</u>

**4. Restricted Short-term Deposits**

The Commission maintains separate short-term deposits with the Province of Manitoba to fund expenses which may arise with respect to the Reserve Fund (Note 10).

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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
(in thousands)

**March 31, 2007**

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**5. Receivable from the Province of Manitoba**

The receivable from the Province of Manitoba is made up of vacation and severance pay entitlement earned by employees of the Commission prior to creation of the SOA as at April 1, 1999. This receivable, or portion thereof for the Commission, will be collected in the event there is a cash shortfall. However, this is only likely to happen on the dissolution of the Commission. The balance consists of:

	<b>2007</b>	<b>2006</b>
Vacation entitlements	\$ 117	\$ 117
Severance pay benefits	152	152
	<b>\$ 269</b>	<b>\$ 269</b>

**6. Capital Assets**

	<b>2007</b>		<b>2006</b>	
	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Accumulated Amortization</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Accumulated Amortization</b>
Office equipment	\$ 29	\$ 26	\$ 27	\$ 24
Furniture and fixtures	139	128	135	123
Leasehold improvements	5	1	5	-
Computer hardware	125	120	122	118
Computer software	855	715	845	665
	<b>\$ 1,153</b>	<b>\$ 990</b>	<b>\$ 1,134</b>	<b>\$ 930</b>
Cost less accumulated amortization		<b>\$ 163</b>		<b>\$ 204</b>

**7. Accrued Vacation Entitlements**

The Commission follows the policy of the Department of Finance to recognize the vacation entitlement liability accumulated to March 31, 1999. The liability at this date is offset by a receivable from the Province and was \$117 as at March 31, 1999. Any subsequent changes to the entitlement are reflected as a current year expense to the Commission. As at March 31, 2007 there was an increase to the entitlement in the amount of \$22. The accrued vacation entitlement was \$210 as of March 31, 2007 (2006 - \$188).

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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
(in thousands)

**March 31, 2007**

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**8. Severance Pay Liability**

Effective April 1, 1999, the Commission began recording accumulated severance pay benefits for its employees. The amount of severance pay obligations is based on actuarial calculations. The periodic actuarial valuations of these liabilities may determine that adjustments are needed to the actuarial calculations when the actual experience is different from that expected and/or because of changes in actuarial assumptions used. The resulting actuarial gains or losses are amortized over the expected average remaining service life of the related employee group.

An actuarial report was completed for the severance pay liability as of March 31, 2005. The report provides a formula to update the liability on an annual basis. The Commission's actuarially determined net liability for accounting purposes as at March 31, 2007 was \$205 (2006 - \$181). Commencing in the 2006 fiscal year, the actuarial loss of \$7 is being amortized over the 15 year expected average remaining service life of the employee group.

**9. Lease Commitment**

The Commission has entered into a lease agreement commencing October 1, 2005 for rental of facilities at 400 St. Mary Avenue, which expires September 30, 2020. Occupancy charges for the year ended March 31, 2007 were \$243. Minimum annual lease payments total \$236 per year for each of the next five years.

**10. Reserve Fund**

The Commission has established a Reserve Fund to finance extraordinary expenses for isolated and unanticipated purposes that are regulatory in nature and for changes in market activity that has a negative effect on revenues. The amount of the Reserve Fund has remained unchanged in the current year.

**11. Disposition of Surplus Operating Funds**

The disposition of surplus operating funds consists of payments made to the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Province of Manitoba according to Treasury Board Directives.

**12. Contingency**

The Commission has been named as defendant in four statements of claim. At the time of preparation of these financial statements, the outcome of these claims were undeterminable. The cost of a future settlement, if any, will be reflected as an expense in the year paid.

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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
(in thousands)

**March 31, 2007**

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**13. Pension Benefits**

Employees of The Manitoba Securities Commission are eligible for pension benefits in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Service Superannuation Act (CSSA), administered by the Civil Service Superannuation Board (CSSB). The CSSA established a defined benefit plan to provide benefits to employees of the Manitoba Civil Service and to participating agencies of the Government, including the Manitoba Securities Commission, through the Civil Service Superannuation Fund (CSSF).

Effective March 31, 2001, pursuant to an agreement with the Province of Manitoba, The Manitoba Securities Commission transferred to the Province the pension liability for its employees.

Commencing April 1, 2001, The Manitoba Securities Commission was required to pay to the Province an amount equal to its employees' current pension contributions. The amount paid for 2007 was \$86 (2006 - \$86). Under this Agreement, the Manitoba Securities Commission has no further pension liability.

**14. Working Capital Advances**

These advances are provided to the Commission through the Special Operating Agencies Financing Authority pursuant to the Management Agreement. The Commission has an authorized line of working capital advances of \$1.0 million of which \$Nil was used at March 31, 2007 (2006 - \$Nil).

During the year, the Commission incurred interest charges of \$Nil (2006 - \$Nil).

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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Schedule of Operating Expenses**  
(in thousands)

**For the year ended March 31**

	<b>2007</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>%</b>
Contract services	\$ 223	22	\$ 300	29
Premises	243	24	226	21
Office materials and supplies	94	9	111	11
Professional services	120	12	85	8
Travel	69	7	81	8
Telecommunications	47	5	63	6
CSA initiatives*	76	8	66	6
Research resources	26	3	29	3
Education/Information initiatives	56	6	47	4
Staff development	21	2	23	2
Miscellaneous	24	2	13	1
Professional membership and dues	2	-	8	1
	<b>\$ 1,001</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>\$ 1,052</b>	<b>100</b>

\* Canadian Securities Administrators



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**THE MANITOBA SECURITIES COMMISSION**  
**Schedule of Public Sector Compensation Disclosure**  
(in thousands)

**For the year ended March 31, 2007**

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<b>Employee</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Compensation</b>
Don Murray	Chairman & CEO	\$ 125
Doug Brown	Director & Secretary to the Commission	116
Bob Bouchard	Director & CAO	95
Chris Besko	Assistant Legal Counsel	99
Kim Laycock	Assistant Legal Counsel	99
Steven Gingera	Assistant Legal Counsel	95
William Baluk	Registrar	76
Wayne Bridgeman	Senior Analyst	72
Jan Banasiak	Senior Investigator	71
Marlene Nemes	Controller	80
Ainsley Cunningham	Information Officer	65
Paula White	Compliance Officer	63
Jason Roy	Investigator	61
Chris Kowalski	Deputy Registrar - Real Estate	58
Isilda Tavares	Registration Officer	58
Terry Kirkham	Investigator	51

The Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act requires all publicly funded bodies to disclose compensation to any employee or board member when such compensation exceeds \$50 per annum.