Employment and Social Development Canada

Emploi et Développement social Canada

Employment and Social Development Canada

Consolidated Financial Statements (*Unaudited*) for the year ended March 31, 2022

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PDF

Cat. No.: Em1-23E-PDF

ISSN: 2816-5357

Employment and Social Development Canada Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Responsibility for the integrity and objectivity of the accompanying consolidated financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2022, and all information contained in these statements rests with the management of Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC). These consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management using the Government of Canada's accounting policies, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Management is responsible for the integrity and objectivity of the information in these consolidated financial statements. Some of the information in the consolidated financial statements is based on management's best estimates and judgment, and gives due consideration to materiality. To fulfill its accounting and reporting responsibilities, management maintains a set of accounts that provides a centralized record of ESDC's financial transactions. Financial information submitted in the preparation of the Public Accounts of Canada, and included in ESDC's *Departmental Results Report (DRR)*, is consistent with these consolidated financial statements.

Management is also responsible for maintaining an effective system of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR) designed to provide reasonable assurance that financial information is reliable, that assets are safeguarded and that transactions are properly authorized and recorded in accordance with the *Financial Administration Act* and other applicable legislation, regulations, authorities and policies.

Management seeks to ensure the objectivity and integrity of data in its consolidated financial statements through careful selection, training and development of qualified staff; through organizational arrangements that provide appropriate divisions of responsibility; through communication programs aimed at ensuring that regulations, policies, standards, and managerial authorities are understood throughout ESDC and through conducting an annual risk-based assessment of the effectiveness of the system of ICFR.

The system of ICFR is designed to mitigate risks to a reasonable level based on an ongoing process to identify key risks, to assess effectiveness of associated key controls, and to make any necessary adjustments.

A risk-based assessment of the system of ICFR for the year ended March 31, 2022 was completed in accordance with the Treasury Board *Policy on Financial Management* and the results and action plans are summarized in the annex.

The effectiveness and adequacy of ESDC's system of internal control is reviewed by the work of internal audit staff, who conduct periodic audits of different areas of ESDC's operations, and by the Departmental Audit Committee, which oversees management's responsibilities for maintaining adequate control systems and the quality of financial reporting, and which recommends the financial statements to the Deputy Minister.

The consolidated financial statements of ESDC have not been audited.

Original signed by

Karen Robertson, CPA, CMA Chief Financial Officer Employment and Social Development Canada

Gatineau, Canada August 31, 2022 Original signed by

Jean-François Tremblay Deputy Minister Employment and Social Development Canada

Employment and Social Development Canada Consolidated Statement of Financial Position (*Unaudited***) As at March 31**

2022	2021
(in thousands	s of dollars)
266,851	3,164,822
12,025,347	9,671,526
19,149,205	19,077,384
31,441,403	31,913,732
(96,026)	(141,917)
31,345,377	31,771,815
101,266	139,334
4,596,937	7,494,146
166,578	150,578
1,916	1,957
81,557	97,799
76,473	79,359
5,024,727	7,963,173
26,320,650	23,808,642
20,383	32,160
473,848	369,798
494,231	401,958
26,814,881	24,210,600
	(in thousands 266,851 12,025,347 19,149,205 31,441,403 (96,026) 31,345,377 101,266 4,596,937 166,578 1,916 81,557 76,473 5,024,727 26,320,650 20,383 473,848 494,231

Contractual obligations and contractual rights (note 13)

Contingent liabilities (note 14)

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

Original signed by

Karen Robertson, CPA, CMA Chief Financial Officer

Employment and Social Development Canada

Gatineau, Canada August 31, 2022 Original signed by

Jean-François Tremblay Deputy Minister

Employment and Social Development Canada

Employment and Social Development Canada Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position (*Unaudited*) For the year ended March 31

	2022 Planned Results	2022	2021
	(in thousands of dollars)		
Expenses	(
Learning, Skills Development and Employment	50,017,528	66,413,935	129,837,053
Pensions and Benefits	63,754,733	63,911,781	62,237,470
Social Development	357,952	4,160,192	1,985,368
Internal Services	1,080,497	1,277,371	1,311,903
Information Delivery and Services for Other Departments	250,200	275,840	251,070
Working Conditions and Workplace Relations	193,989	167,975	122,495
Expenses incurred on behalf of the Government	(43,086)	(16,600)	(20,478)
Total expenses	115,611,813	136,190,494	195,724,881
Revenues			
Employment Insurance (note 12)	23,888,700	24,333,715	22,896,548
Recovery of CPP administration costs	501,521	539,703	523,461
Recovery of Other Government Department service delivery	188,747	261,769	208,536
costs			
User fees	-	80,629	47,174
Interest on loans receivable	-	10,769	170,618
Other	61,382	25,355	10,936
Revenues earned on behalf of Government	(101,057)	(421,144)	(484,583)
Total revenues	24,539,293	24,830,796	23,372,690
Net cost from continuing operations	91,072,520	111,359,698	172,352,191
Transferred operations (note 16)			
Expenses	228,621	306,309	598,071
Net cost of transferred operations	228,621	306,309	598,071
Net cost of operations before government funding and	91,301,141	111,666,007	172,950,262
transfers			
Government funding and transfers			
Net cash provided by Government of Canada		116,913,365	180,454,063
Change in due from the Consolidated Revenue Fund		(2,897,971)	(954,249)
Services provided without charge		78,149	77,228
by other government departments (note 15)			
Transfer of the transition payments for		(3)	(7)
implementing salary payments in arrears			
Other transfers of assets (to) from other government departments		176,693	(1,527)
Transfer of liabilities to other government departments (note 16)		55	-
Net (cost) revenue of operations after government funding		2,604,281	6,625,246
and transfers		,,	-,,
Departmental net financial position - beginning of year		24,210,600	17,585,354
Departmental net financial position - end of year	+	26,814,881	24,210,600

Segmented information (note 17)

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

Employment and Social Development Canada Consolidated Statement of Change in Departmental Net Financial Assets (*Unaudited*)

For the year ended March 31

	2022	2021
	(in thousands	of dollars)
Net revenue (cost) of operations after government funding and transfers	2,604,281	6,625,246
Change due to tangible capital assets		
Acquisition of tangible capital assets (note 11)	(170,785)	(118,933)
Amortization of tangible capital assets (note 11)	66,528	37,282
Proceeds from disposal of tangible capital assets	173	86
Net loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	78	2,424
Adjustments to tangible capital assets (note 11)	-	(74)
Transfer from other government departments	(44)	(17)
Total change due to tangible capital assets	(104,050)	(79,232)
Change due to prepaid expenses	11,777	(21,670)
Net increase (decrease) in departmental net financial assets	2,512,008	6,524,344
Departmental net financial assets - beginning of year	23,808,642	17,284,298
Departmental net financial assets - end of year	26,320,650	23,808,642

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

Employment and Social Development Canada Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows (*Unaudited*) For the year ended March 31

	2022	2021
	(in thousands of dollars)	
Operating activities		
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	111,666,007	172,950,262
Non-cash items:		
Amortization of tangible capital assets (note 11)	(66,528)	(37,282)
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	(78)	(2,424)
Adjustments to tangible capital assets (note 11)	-	74
Services provided without charge by other government departments		
(note 15)	(78,149)	(77,228)
Transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears	3	7
Transfer of net financial assets and liabilities to or from other		
government departments	(176,649)	1,544
Variations in Consolidated Statement of Financial Position		
Increase in accounts receivable and advances	2,353,821	4,994,486
Increase in loans receivable	117,712	1,113,310
Increase (decrease) in prepaid expenses	(11,777)	21,670
Decrease in due to Canada Pension Plan	38,068	139,292
Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,897,209	1,252,852
Increase in vacation pay and compensatory leave	(16,000)	(51,326)
Decrease in the Designated Amount Fund - Trust Account	41	13,411
Decrease in Government Annuities Account	16,242	16,962
Decrease (increase) in employee future benefits	2,886	(394)
Transfer of liabilities to other government departments (note 16)	(55)	-
Cash used in operating activities	116,742,753	180,335,216
Capital investing activities		
Acquisitions of tangible capital assets (note 11)	170,785	118,933
Proceeds from disposal of tangible capital assets	(173)	(86)
Cash used in capital investing activities	170,612	118,847
Net cash provided by Government of Canada	116,913,365	180,454,063

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

1. Authority and objectives

Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) is a Department in the core public administration. ESDC is a department named in Schedule I of the Financial Administration Act and reports to Parliament through the Ministers responsible for Employment and Social Development (ESD).

The legislative mandate of ESDC is to improve the standard of living and quality of life of all Canadians by promoting a highly skilled and mobile workforce and an efficient and inclusive labour market, as well as to promote social well-being and income security.

Acts and Regulations for which ESDC Ministers are responsible include the: Department of Employment and Social Development Act, Old Age Security Act, Employment Insurance Act, Canada Pension Plan, Canada Student Financial Assistance Act, Canada Student Loans Act, Universal Child Care Benefit Act, Canada Disability Savings Act, Canada Education Savings Act, Labour Adjustment Benefits Act, Accessible Canada Act, Poverty Reduction Act, Government Annuities Act, Government Annuities Improvement Act, Civil Service Insurance Act, Public Pensions Reporting Act, Apprentice Loans Act, Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act, Canada Labour Code, Government Employees Compensation Act, Canada Emergency Response Benefit Act, Canada Emergency Student Benefit Act, Canada Recovery Benefits Act, Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit Act and the Regulations made under these Acts.

Employment and Social Development Canada achieves its objectives through the following departmental core responsibilities:

Social Development

To increase inclusion and opportunities for Canadians to participate in their communities.

Pensions and Benefits

Assist Canadians in maintaining income for retirement, and provide financial benefits to survivors, people with disabilities and their families.

Learning, Skills Development and Employment

Help Canadians access post-secondary education and get the skills and training they need to participate in a changing labour market, as well as provide support to those who are temporarily unemployed.

Working Conditions and Workplace Relations

Promotes safe, healthy, fair and inclusive work conditions and cooperative workplace relations.

Information Delivery and Services for Other Departments

Provides information to the public on the programs of the Government of Canada, and provides services on behalf of government departments and other partners.

Internal Services

Internal Services are those groups of related activities and resources that the federal government considers to be services in support of programs and/or required to meet corporate obligations of an organization. These services are Management and Oversight Services; Communications Services; Legal Services; Human Resources Management Services; Financial Management Services; Information Management Services; Real Property Management Services; Materiel Management Services; and Acquisition Management Services.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared using ESDC's accounting policies stated below, which are based on Canadian public sector accounting standards. The presentation and results using the stated accounting policies do not result in any significant differences from Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Significant accounting policies are as follows:

(a) Parliamentary authorities

ESDC is financed by the Government of Canada through Parliamentary authorities. Financial reporting of authorities provided to ESDC do not parallel financial reporting according to generally accepted accounting principles since authorities are primarily based on cash flow requirements. Consequently, items recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position are not necessarily the same as those provided through authorities from Parliament. Note 3 provides a reconciliation between the bases of reporting. The planned results amounts in the "Expenses" and "Revenues" sections of the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position are the amounts reported in the Consolidated Future-oriented Statement of Operations included in the 2021-2022 Departmental Plan. Planned results are not presented in the "Government funding and transfers" section of the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and in the Consolidated Statement of Change in Departmental Net Financial Asset because these amounts were not included in the 2021-2022 Departmental Plan.

(b) Consolidation

These consolidated financial statements include the transactions of the Employment Insurance Operating (EIO) Account, a consolidated specified purpose account which includes revenues credited and expenses charged under the *Employment Insurance Act* and for which the Deputy Minister as Chairperson of the Canada Employment Insurance Commission is accountable. The accounts of the EIO Account have been consolidated with those of ESDC, and all inter-organizational balances and transactions have been eliminated.

The Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is excluded from ESDC's reporting entity because changes to the CPP require the agreement of two thirds of the provinces and therefore, the CPP is not controlled by ESDC.

(c) Net cash provided by Government

ESDC operates within the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF), which is administered by the Receiver General for Canada. All cash received by ESDC is deposited to the CRF, and all cash disbursements made by ESDC are paid from the CRF. The net cash provided by Government is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements, including transactions between departments of the Government.

(d) Amounts due to or from CRF

These amounts are the result of timing differences at year-end between when a transaction affects authorities and when it is processed through the CRF. Amounts due from the CRF represent the net amount of cash that ESDC is entitled to draw from the CRF without further authorities to discharge its liabilities.

(e) Revenues

Revenues are recorded on an accrual basis of accounting:

- Employment Insurance (EI) premiums are recognized as revenue in the period in which they are earned, when workers, through their employment, generate these premiums and the related employer's contribution. Premiums earned in the period are measured from amounts assessed by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and from estimates of amounts not assessed. Premium revenue also includes adjustments between actual and estimated premiums of previous years.
- Interest revenues on loans receivable are recognized in the year they are earned. Interest revenues
 are not recorded on impaired loans.
- Recoveries of CPP administration costs are recognized based on the services provided during the year.
- Other revenues are accounted for in the period in which the underlying transaction or event that gave rise to the revenue takes place.
- Revenues that are non-respendable are not available to discharge ESDC's liabilities. While the
 Deputy Minister is expected to maintain accounting control, he has no authority regarding the
 disposition of non-respendable revenues. As a result, non-respendable revenues are considered to be
 earned on behalf of the Government of Canada and are therefore presented in reduction of the
 entity's gross revenues.

(f) Expenses

Expenses are recorded on an accrual basis of accounting:

- Transfer payments are recorded as expenses when authorization for the payment exists and the recipient has met the eligibility criteria or the entitlements established for the transfer payment program. In situations where payments do not form part of an existing program, transfer payments are recorded as expenses when the Government announces a decision to make a non-recurring transfer, provided the enabling legislation or authorization for payment receives parliamentary approval prior to the completion of the financial statements. Transfer payments that become repayable as a result of conditions specified in the contribution agreement that have come into being are recorded as a reduction to transfer payment expense and as a receivable.
- Vacation pay and compensatory leave are accrued as the benefits are earned by employees under their respective terms of employment.
- Services provided without charge by other government departments for employer contributions to the health and dental insurance plans and legal services are recorded as operating expenses at their estimated cost.
- The expenses incurred on behalf of Government are linked to the assets held on behalf of Government. As a result, these expenses are considered to be incurred on behalf of the Government of Canada and are therefore presented in reduction of the entity's gross expenses.

(g) Employee future benefits

- Pension benefits: Eligible employees participate in the Public Service Pension Plan, a multiemployer pension plan administered by the Government. ESDC's contributions to the Plan are charged to expenses in the year incurred and represent the total departmental obligation to the Plan. ESDC's responsibility with regard to the Plan is limited to its contributions. Actuarial surpluses or deficiencies are recognized in the financial statements of the Government of Canada, as the Plan's sponsor.
- Severance benefits: The accumulation of severance benefits for voluntary departures ceased for applicable employee groups. The remaining obligation for employees who did not withdraw benefits is calculated using information derived from the results of the actuarially determined liability for employee severance benefits for the Government as a whole.

(h) Accounts receivable and advances

Accounts receivable and advances are stated at the lower of cost and net recoverable value. A valuation allowance is recorded for accounts receivable where recovery is considered uncertain.

(i) Loans receivable

Canada Student Loans (CSL) and Canada Apprentice Loans (CAL) are recorded at original cost less reimbursements, forgiveness, write-offs and valuation allowances. The allowances for bad debts and Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) for direct loans of CSL and for CAL are calculated based on rates determined according to an actuarial estimate and as per historical collection rates for guaranteed and risk-shared loans of CSL.

(j) Contingent liabilities

Contingent liabilities are potential liabilities that may become actual liabilities when one or more future events occur or fail to occur. To the extent that the future event is likely to occur or fail to occur, and a reasonable estimate of the loss can be made, an estimated liability is accrued and an expense recorded. If the likelihood is not determinable or if an amount cannot be reasonably estimated, the contingency is disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements.

(k) Contingent assets

Contingent assets are possible assets which may become actual assets when one or more future events occur or fail to occur. If the future event is likely to occur or fail to occur, the contingent asset is disclosed in the notes of the financial statements.

(I) Tangible capital assets

All tangible capital assets having an initial cost of \$10,000 or more are recorded at their acquisition cost. ESDC does not capitalize intangibles, works of art and historical treasures that have cultural, aesthetic or historical value, museum collections, and immovable assets located on reserves as defined in the *Indian Act*.

Amortization of tangible capital assets is done on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life of the asset as follows:

Asset Class	Amortization period
Machinery and equipment	5 years
Computer hardware	5 years
Computer software	3 years - Purchased
	5 years - Developed in-house
Other equipment and furniture	5 years
Vehicles	5 years
Leasehold improvements	Lesser of the remaining term of lease or useful life of the improvement
	10 years - Service delivery space
	15 years - Office space

Assets under construction are recorded in the applicable capital asset class in the year that they become available for use and are not amortized until they become available for use.

(m) Related party transactions

Related party transactions, other than inter-entity transactions, are recorded at the exchange amount. Inter-entity transactions are transactions between commonly controlled entities. Inter-entity transactions, other than restructuring transactions, are recorded on a gross basis and are measured at the carrying amount, except for the following:

- Services provided on a recovery basis are recognized as revenues and expenses on a gross basis and measured at the exchange amount.
- Certain services received on a without charge basis are recorded for departmental financial statement purposes at the carrying amount.

(n) Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of these consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. The estimates are based on facts and circumstances, historical experience, general economic conditions and reflect management's best estimate of the related amount at the end of the reporting period. The most significant items where estimates are used are the determination of part of the EI premiums, the allowances for doubtful accounts, the OAS and EI benefit repayments, the liability for employee future benefits, the recovery of CPP administration costs, the accrued liabilities, the useful life of tangible capital assets, the liability of the Government Annuities Account, and the contingent liabilities. Actual results could significantly differ from those estimated. Management's estimates are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary, they are recorded in the consolidated financial statements in the year they become known.

3. Parliamentary authorities

ESDC receives most of its funding through annual parliamentary authorities. Items recognized in the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position and the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position in one year may be funded through parliamentary authorities in prior, current or future years. Furthermore, as a consolidated specified purpose account, the EI Operating Account expenses and revenues recognized in ESDC's Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position do not affect parliamentary authorities. Accordingly, ESDC has different net results of operations for the year on a government funding basis than on an accrual accounting basis. The differences are reconciled in the following tables:

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(a) Reconciliation of net cost of operations to current year authorities used

	2022	2021
	(in thousands of dollars)	
Net cost of operations before government funding and transfers	111,666,007	172,950,262
Adjustments for items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting authorities:		
Bad debt expense (excluding EI)	(484,864)	(350,498)
Amortization of tangible capital assets (note 11)	(66,528)	(37,282)
Services provided without charge by other government departments (note 15)	(78,149)	(77,228)
Decrease (increase) in employee future benefits	2,886	(394)
Increase in vacation and compensatory leave	(16,000)	(51,326)
Refund of programs and prior years' expenditures	1,983,268	1,983,810
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	(78)	(2,424)
Allowance expense for the Repayment Assistance Plan of Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans	(148,342)	(278,463)
Net EIO Account transactions (note 12)	(17,265,883)	(11,610,348)
Increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities not charged to authorities	(140,200)	(147,957)
Other adjustments	(1,950)	4,352
Total items affecting net cost of operations but not affecting authorities	(16,215,840)	(10,567,758)
Adjustments for items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting authorities:		
Net Canada Student Loans disbursed	232,762	1,392,981
Net Canada Apprentice Loans disbursed	3,575	9,455
Acquisition of tangible capital assets (note 11)	170,785	118,933
Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans forgiveness	160,837	93,401
Transition payments for implementing salary payments in arrears	3	7
Increase (decrease) in prepaid expenses	(11,777)	21,670
Other adjustments	15,060	20,292
Total items not affecting net cost of operations but affecting authorities	571,245	1,656,739
Current year authorities used	96,021,412	164,039,243

(b) Authorities provided and used		
	2022	2021
	(in thousands of dollars)	
Authorities provided:		
Vote 1 - Operating expenditures	1,357,634	972,688
Vote 5 - Grants and contributions	6,273,678	3,277,783
Debt write-offs	170,358	188,124
Statutory amounts	89,827,598	159,898,209
Less:		
Authorities available for future years	(1,075)	(995)
Lapsed authorities:		
Operating expenditures	(125,025)	(53,600)
Grants and contributions	(1,480,082)	(240,115)
Debt write-offs	(1,585)	(2,563)
Statutory amounts	(89)	(288)
Current year authorities used	96,021,412	164,039,243

4. Accounts receivable and advances

The following table presents details of ESDC's accounts receivable and advances balances:

	2022	2021
	(in thousands of dollars)	
Receivables - Other government departments and agencies		
El premiums receivable from CRA	1,975,369	2,125,550
El and OAS benefit repayments receivable from CRA	3,312,026	2,428,996
COVID-19 support measures receivable from CRA	1,790,755	1,263,398
Other	76,011	69,347
	7,154,161	5,887,291
Receivables and advances - External parties		
El and OAS overpayments and penalties to be recovered	1,473,267	1,440,264
COVID-19 support measures overpayments and penalties to be recovered	4,990,859	3,734,383
Other	667,442	562,155
	7,131,568	5,736,802
Subtotal accounts receivable and advances	14,285,729	11,624,093
Allowance for doubtful accounts on receivables from external parties	(2,260,382)	(1,952,567)
Net accounts receivable and advances	12,025,347	9,671,526

5. Loans receivable

	Student Loans	Apprentice Loans (in thousands	2022 Total s of dollars)	2021 Total
Loans receivable				
Gross loans - beginning of year	23,472,848	280,231	23,753,079	22,351,603
New loans and repurchases	3,172,187	33,778	3,205,965	3,852,121
Reimbursements	(2,604,052)	(29,848)	(2,633,900)	(2,165,962)
Loan write-offs and forgiveness	(344,783)	(354)	(345,137)	(284,683)
Gross loans - end of year	23,696,200	283,807	23,980,007	23,753,079
Unamortized discount	(28,237)	-	(28,237)	(30,384)
Allowance for bad debts	(4,854,082)	(37,012)	(4,891,094)	(4,776,898)
Net loans	18,813,881	246,795	19,060,676	18,945,797
Accrued interest				
Gross accrued interest - beginning of year	422,180	1,482	423,662	482,902
New interest	7,681	(13)	7,668	170,061
Reimbursements	(32,786)	(281)	(33,067)	(132,689)
Interest write-offs and forgiveness	(43,113)	(13)	(43,126)	(96,612)
Gross accrued interest - end of year	353,962	1,175	355,137	423,662
Unamortized discount	(10,363)	-	(10,363)	(11,170)
Allowance for bad debts	(255,819)	(426)	(256,245)	(280,905)
Net accrued interest	87,780	749	88,529	131,587
Total net loans and net accrued interest	18,901,661	247,544	19,149,205	19,077,384
Loans and accrued interest held on behalf of Government	(95,277)	(749)	(96,026)	(141,917)
Total Loans receivable	18,806,384	246,795	19,053,179	18,935,467

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Canada Student Loans

The Canada Student loans consist of three different types of loans, Direct Loans, Guaranteed Loans and Risk-Shared Loans. Since August 1, 2000, Canada Student Loans are issued under the Direct Loan Regime. Before this date, the loans were issued under the Guaranteed Loan Regime (1964-1995) or under the Risk-Shared Loan Regime (1995-2000). Direct loans issued on or after August 1, 2000 are administered under the authority of section 6.1 of the *Canada Student Financial Assistance Act*, which authorizes the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion to enter into loan agreements directly with any qualifying students. Guaranteed loans provided by financial institutions between 1964 and August 1995, under the *Canada Student Loans Act*, are fully guaranteed by ESDC to the lenders. Risk-shared loans issued prior to August 1, 2000 and on or after August 1, 1995 are amounts related to student loans subrogated to the Crown under the authority of the *Canada Student Financial Assistance Act*.

An allowance is recorded to provide for bad debts and Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP) for Canada Student Loans. The allowance for direct loans is determined according to an actuarial estimate provided by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (Chief Actuary). Based on projected defaulted loans and recovery rates, the Chief Actuary establishes the allowance rates to be applied to the outstanding balances of the portfolio according to the status of the loans. For the year ended March 31, 2022, the bad debt and RAP allowance rates on direct loans were established as follows:

Status of the loans	Allowance rate Allowance rate		
	as at March 31, 2022	as at March 31, 2021	
Bad debt allowance			
Loans in-study	6.8%	7.0%	
Loans in-repayment	4.9%	5.1%	
Loans in-default	76.9%	77.4%	
RAP allowance			
Loans in-study	5.2%	5.5%	
Loans in-repayment	1.2%	1.4%	
Loans in RAP	36.0%	28.8%	

Source: Actuarial Report on the Canada Student Financial Assistance Program, as at July 31, 2021.

The total amount of direct loans issued under the authority of the *Canada Student Financial Assistance Act* and outstanding risk-shared loans bought-back by ESDC may not exceed \$34 billion. The total amount of direct loans and outstanding risk-shared loans as at March 31, 2022 amounted to \$23.6 billion (\$23.4 billion in 2021).

Canada Apprentice Loans

Canada Apprentice Loans (CAL) are administrated under the authority of section 4 of the *Apprentice Loans Act* which came into effect on January 2, 2015. The Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion is authorized to enter into a loan agreement directly with any eligible apprentice.

An allowance is recorded to provide for CAL bad debts and Repayment Assistance Plan (RAP). The allowance is determined according to an actuarial estimate provided by the Chief Actuary. Based on projected defaulted loans and recovery rates, the Chief Actuary establishes the allowance rates to be applied to the outstanding balances of the portfolio according to the status of the loans. For the year ended March 31, 2022, the bad debt and RAP allowance rates on CAL were established as follows:

Status of the loans	Allowance rate	Allowance rate	
	as at March 31, 2022	as at March 31, 2021	
Bad debt allowance			
Loans in-training	5.4%	5.6%	
Loans in-repayment	3.9%	4.1%	
Loans in-default	76.9%	77.4%	
RAP allowance			
Loans in-training	3.4%	3.6%	
Loans in-repayment	0.8%	0.9%	
Loans in RAP	36.0%	28.8%	

Source: Actuarial Report on the Canada Apprentice Loan, as at March 31, 2022.

The total amount of CAL issued under the authority of *Apprentice Loans Act* may not exceed \$1.5 billion. The total amount of outstanding apprentice loans as at March 31, 2022 amounted to \$283.8 million (\$280.2 million in 2021).

Interest and repayment terms

Under these two programs, no security is received from the borrowers and the loans bear interest at either a variable rate (prime rate) or a fixed rate (prime rate + 2.0%). Borrowers are not required to pay interest on their loans while they are still studying, enrolled in their apprentice program or during the 6-month grace period after completing their studies or apprentice program.

Borrowers having difficulty repaying their loans may be eligible for assistance under the Repayment Assistance Plan. The typical repayment period is 10 years, with a maximum period of 15 years for borrowers that are eligible if their affordable payment, which is based on family income and family size, is less than their required monthly payment. Depending on their regime, borrowers may also benefit from another type of loan forgiveness program in the event of severe permanent disability or death.

When ESDC no longer has reasonable assurance of recovering the full amount of a loan at the expected date, the loan becomes impaired. Interest revenue is not recorded on impaired loans. Loans that are considered impaired are eventually subject to the write-off process. Subsequent recoveries on these loans are recorded as a reduction of the expense in the consolidated statement of operations and departmental net financial position. For the year ended March 31, 2022, the total bad debt expense on loans receivable amounted to \$272.2 million (\$265.0 million in 2021).

To support borrowers during the COVID-19 pandemic the Government of Canada suspended repayments of Canada Student Loans and Canada Apprentice Loans for the period of March 30, 2020 to September 30, 2020. During this time, no interest was accrued on these loans. In addition, no interest was accrued and no interest payments were required during fiscal year 2022.

6. Due to Canada Pension Plan

The Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is a federal/provincial plan established by an Act of Parliament in 1965. The CPP is administered by the Government of Canada and the provinces; therefore, it is excluded from ESDC's reporting entity.

In accordance with the *Canada Pension Plan*, the financial activities of the CPP are recorded in the CPP Account and the Additional CPP Account, collectively referred to as the CPP Accounts. CPP's revenues and expenses, such as contributions, interests, investment income or loss from the CPP Investment Board, pension benefits and operating expenses, are reported as increases and decreases to the liability and are reported separately in the CPP consolidated financial statements. The CPP Accounts also record the amounts transferred to or received from the CPP Investment Board.

	2022	2021
	(in thousands of dollars)	
Due to Canada Pension Plan - Beginning of year	139,334	278,626
Receipts and other credits	97,461,296	90,246,355
Payments and other charges	(97,499,364)	(90,385,647)
Due to Canada Pension Plan - End of year	101,266	139,334

7. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

The following table presents details of ESDC's accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

	2022	2021
	(in thousar	nds of dollars)
Accounts payable - Other government departments and agencies		
Income taxes payable to CRA	4,394	10,112
Universal Child Care Benefits payable to CRA	81,617	80,802
Other	481,779	513,778
	567,790	604,692
Accounts payable - External parties		
El benefits payable to individuals	852,820	1,426,079
OAS and Guaranteed Income Supplement benefits payable to individuals	34,693	34,109
COVID-19 support measures payable to individuals	512,230	4,291,412
Other	1,738,725	410,203
	3,138,468	6,161,803
Accrued liabilities	221,240	204,535
Allowance for alternative payments for non-participating provinces to Canada Student and Apprentice Loans	669,439	523,116
Total accounts payable and accrued liabilities	4,596,937	7,494,146

8. Designated Amount Fund - Trust Account

This account was established pursuant to section 21 of the *Financial Administration Act*, to record amounts received and paid under Article 5 of the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. It was established on September 19, 2007, and provides for the payments referred to as Common Experience Payments (CEP) to eligible former students of recognized Indian Residential Schools and personal credits for educational programs and services to CEP recipients or to certain family members. The account is credited with interest, pursuant to section 21(2) of the *Financial Administration Act*. The Designated Amount Fund is co-administered by the Trustee, the Government of Canada, represented jointly by the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion and the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations.

	2022	2021	
	(in thousands of dolla		
Designated Amount Fund - beginning of year	1,957	15,368	
Interest credited to the Trust account	4	16	
Payments and other charges	(45)	(13,427)	
Designated Amount Fund - end of year	1,916	1,957	

9. Government Annuities Account

ESDC administers the Government Annuities Account. This account was established by the *Government Annuities Act*, and modified by the *Government Annuities Improvement Act*, which discontinued sales of annuities in 1975.

The purpose of the *Government Annuities Act* was to assist Canadians to provide for their later years through the purchase of Government annuities.

Receipts and other credits consist of premiums received, funds reclaimed from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for previously untraceable annuitants, earned interest and any transfer needed to cover the actuarial deficit. Payments and other charges represent matured annuities, the commuted value of death benefits, premium refunds and withdrawals, as well as actuarial surpluses and unclaimed annuities. The amounts of unclaimed annuities related to untraceable annuitants are transferred to non-tax revenues.

The Government Annuities Account is valued on an actuarial basis each year, using prescribed mortality and interest rates, with the deficit or surplus charged or credited to the Consolidated Revenue Fund. Any adjustments required under the Government's accounting policies are recorded through an allowance adjustment account. The allowance account reflects the adjustment to the liability due to the differential between prescribed rates and best estimates of experience-adjusted mortality tables and discount rates. The discount rates used to measure the present value of accrued benefits is based on the Government's cost of borrowing derived from the yields on the actual zero-coupon yield curve for Government of Canada bonds which reflect the timing of the expected future cash flows.

Government Annuities Account - beginning of year Receipts and other credits Payments and other charges Government Annuities Account - Subtotal Government Annuities Account - Subtotal Allowance for pension adjustment - beginning of year Allowance for pension adjustment - for the year Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year Government Annuities Account - end of year Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year Government Annuities Account - end of year 81,557 97,799		2022	2021	
Receipts and other credits4,8285,471Payments and other charges(13,688)(15,123)Government Annuities Account - Subtotal66,89575,755Allowance for pension adjustment - beginning of year22,04429,354Allowance for pension adjustment - for the year(7,382)(7,310)Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year14,66222,044		•		
Payments and other charges(13,688)(15,123)Government Annuities Account - Subtotal66,89575,755Allowance for pension adjustment - beginning of year22,04429,354Allowance for pension adjustment - for the year(7,382)(7,310)Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year14,66222,044	Government Annuities Account - beginning of year	75,755	85,407	
Government Annuities Account - Subtotal66,89575,755Allowance for pension adjustment - beginning of year22,04429,354Allowance for pension adjustment - for the year(7,382)(7,310)Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year14,66222,044	Receipts and other credits	4,828	5,471	
Allowance for pension adjustment - beginning of year Allowance for pension adjustment - for the year (7,382) Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year 14,662 22,044	Payments and other charges	(13,688)	(15,123)	
Allowance for pension adjustment - for the year (7,382) (7,310) Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year 14,662 22,044	Government Annuities Account - Subtotal	66,895	75,755	
Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year 14,662 22,044	Allowance for pension adjustment - beginning of year	22,044	29,354	
	Allowance for pension adjustment - for the year	(7,382)	(7,310)	
Government Annuities Account - end of year 81,557 97,799	Allowance for pension adjustment - end of year	14,662	22,044	
	Government Annuities Account - end of year	81,557	97,799	

10. Employee future benefits

(a) Pension benefits

ESDC's employees participate in the Public Service Pension Plan (the "Plan"), which is sponsored and administered by the Government of Canada. Pension benefits accrue up to a maximum period of 35 years at a rate of 2 percent per year of pensionable service, times the average of the best five consecutive years of earnings. The benefits are integrated with Canada/Québec Pension Plans benefits and they are indexed to inflation.

Both the employees and ESDC contribute to the cost of the Plan. Due to the amendment of the *Public Service Superannuation Act* following the implementation of provisions related to *the Economic Action Plan 2012*, employee contributors have been divided into two groups - Group 1 relates to existing plan members as of December 31, 2012 and Group 2 relates to members joining the Plan as of January 1, 2013. Each group has a distinct contribution rate.

The 2022 expense amounts to \$248.6 million (\$240.4 million in 2021). For Group 1 members, the expense represents approximately 1.01 times (1.01 times in 2021) the employee contributions and, for Group 2 members, approximately 1.00 times (1.00 times in 2021) the employee contributions.

ESDC's responsibility with regard to the Plan is limited to its contributions. Actuarial surpluses or deficiencies are recognized in the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Government of Canada, as the Plan's sponsor.

(b) Severance benefits

Severance benefits provided to ESDC's employees were previously based on an employee's eligibility, years of service and salary at termination of employment. However, since 2011 the accumulation of severance benefits for voluntary departures progressively ceased for substantially all employees. Employees subject to these changes were given the option to be paid the full or partial value of benefits earned to date or collect the full or remaining value of benefits upon departure from the public service. By March 31, 2021, substantially all settlements for immediate cash out were completed. Severance benefits are unfunded and, consequently, the outstanding obligation will be paid from future authorities.

The changes in the obligations during the year were as follows:

	2022	2021
	(in thousands	of dollars)
Accrued benefit obligation - beginning of year	79,359	78,965
Expense for the year	6,231	6,653
Benefits paid during the year	(9,117)	(6,259)
Accrued benefit obligation - end of year	76,473	79,359

11. Tangible capital assets

The following table presents a summary of the transactions and balances for the main categories of tangible capital assets: (in thousands of dollars)

	Cost					Accumulated amortization				Net book value		
Class	Opening balance	Acquisi- tions	Adjust- ments (1)	Disposals and write-offs	Closing balance	Opening balance	Amorti- zation	Adjust- ments (1)	Disposals and write-offs	Closing balance	2022	2021
Machinery and equipment	932	_	1	(641)	291	833	29	_	(641)	221	70	99
Computer hardware	424	390	1	-	814	161	93	_	-	254	560	263
Computer software	470,658	_	220,581	_	691,239	445,060	53,891	_	_	498,951	192,288	25,598
Other equipment and furniture	2,307	_	-	(32)	2,275	1,941	82	-	(30)	1,993	282	366
Vehicles	2,778	67	53	(463)	2,435	1,837	308	9	(464)	1,690	745	941
Assets under construction	293,042	170,328	(279,756)	(250)	183,364	<u>-</u>	-	-	_	-	183,364	293,042
Leasehold improvements	351,054	-	59,175	-	410,229	301,565	12,125	-	-	313,690	96,539	49,489
Total	1,121,195	170,785	53	(1,386)	1,290,647	751,397	66,528	9	(1,135)	816,799	473,848	369,798

⁽¹⁾ Adjustments include: assets under construction of \$279.8 million that were transferred to the other categories upon completion of the assets; transfers of tangible capital assets from other government departments with a net book value of \$69,188 (\$117,943 of cost less \$48,755 of accumulated amortization); and transfers of tangible capital assets to other government departments with a net book value of \$24,700 (\$64,463 of cost less \$39,763 of accumulated amortization).

12. Departmental net financial position

A portion of ESDC's net financial position is used for a specific purpose. Related revenues and expenses are included in the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position.

The Employment Insurance Operating (EIO) Account was established in the accounts of Canada by the *Employment Insurance Act* (the Act). All amounts received under the Act are deposited in the Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) and credited to the EIO Account. The benefits and the costs of administration of the Act are paid out of the CRF and charged to the EIO Account.

	2022	2021
	(in thousands	of dollars)
EIO Account - restricted		
Balance - beginning of year - restricted	(7,705,821)	3,904,527
Revenues		
El premiums	24,304,685	22,880,905
Penalties and interest on El receivables	29,030	15,643
	24,333,715	22,896,548
Expenses		
Benefits and support measures		
Unemployment and self-employed benefits	(36,964,549)	(31,538,505)
Transfers to provinces and territories related to Labour Market Development Agreements	(2,375,000)	(2,300,000)
Support measures	(137,309)	(143,419)
El Emergency Response Benefit	40,542	(24,644,279)
Benefit repayments from higher income claimants	513,289	269,848
Administration costs	(2,640,234)	(2,547,673)
Bad debts	58,387	(934,300)
	(41,504,874)	(61,838,328)
Net EIO Account transactions before government funding	(17,171,159)	(38,941,780)
Funding from the Government of Canada - El Emergency		
Response Benefit	(94,724)	27,331,432
Net EIO Account transactions	(17,265,883)	(11,610,348)
Balance - end of year - restricted	(24,971,704)	(7,705,821)
Unrestricted	51,786,585	31,916,421
Departmental net financial position - end of year	26,814,881	24,210,600

13. Contractual obligations and contractual rights

(a) Contractual obligations

The nature of ESDC's activities can result in some large multi-year contracts and obligations whereby ESDC will be obligated to make future payments in order to carry out its transfer payment programs or when the services/goods are received. Significant contractual obligations that can be reasonably estimated are summarized as follows:

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027 and thereafter	Total
Labour Market Development Agreements including El			(in thousand	s of dollars)		
Agreements including El administration costs related						
to LMDA	2,566,756	-	-	-	-	2,566,756
Other transfer payments	7,126,766	6,840,003	7,391,965	9,132,264	33,439	30,524,437
Operating and Maintenance	122,055	61,261	61,260	61,260	61,260	367,096
Total	9,815,577	6,901,264	7,453,225	9,193,524	94,699	33,458,289

Labour Market Development Agreements with seven of the provinces and one territory require a two year notice for cancellation of the agreements, other provinces and territories require a one year notice. The obligations for 2024 cannot be reasonably estimated.

(b) Contractual rights

The activities of ESDC sometimes involve the negotiation of contracts or agreements with outside parties that result in the department having rights to both assets and revenues in the future. They principally involve the administration of services on behalf of other government departments and other organizations. Major contractual rights that will generate revenues in future years and that can reasonably be estimated are summarized as follows:

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027 and thereafter	Total
			(in thousar	nds of dolla	rs)	
Recovery of CPP administration costs	464,075	-				464,075
Other revenues	274,306	-	• <u>•</u>			274,306
Total	738,381	-				738,381

14. Contingent liabilities

Claims, litigations and grievances have been made against ESDC in the normal course of operations. These claims include items with pleading amounts and other for which no amount is specified. While the total amount claimed in these actions is significant, their outcomes are not determinable. ESDC records an allowance for claims and litigations where it is likely that there will be a future payment and a reasonable estimate of the loss can be made. Claims and litigations for which the outcome is not determinable and a reasonable estimate can be made by management amount to approximately \$3.6 million (\$3.6 million in 2021) at March 31, 2022.

15. Related party transactions

ESDC is related as a result of common ownership to all government departments, agencies, and Crown corporations. Related parties also include individuals who are members of key management personnel or close family members of those individuals, and entities controlled by, or under shared control of, a member of key management personnel or a close family member of that individual.

The department enters into transactions with these entities in the normal course of business and on normal trade terms.

(a) Common services provided without charge by other government departments

During the year, ESDC received services without charge from certain common service organizations, related to the employer's contribution to the health and dental insurance plans and legal services. These services provided without charge have been recorded in the ESDC's Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position as follows:

	2022	2021	
	(in thousands of dollars)		
Employers' contribution to the health and dental insurance plans	73,588	72,702	
Legal services	4,561	4,526	
Total	78,149	77,228	

The Government has centralized some of its administrative activities for efficiency, cost-effectiveness purposes and economic delivery of programs to the public. As a result, the Government uses central agencies and common service organizations so that one department performs services for all other departments and agencies without charge. The costs of these services, such as the payroll and cheque issuance services provided by Public Services and Procurement Canada, information technology infrastructure services provided by Shared Services Canada and audit services provided by the Office of the Auditor General are not included in the ESDC's Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Net Financial Position.

(b) Common services provided without charge to other government departments

During the year, ESDC provided services without charge to other government departments, related to the provision of workers' compensation services, amounted to \$19.0 million in 2022 (\$21.0 million in 2021).

(c) Other transactions with related parties

In the normal course of business, ESDC enters into transactions with government departments, agencies and Crown corporations. The assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to these transactions are as follows:

	2022	2021	
	(in thousands of dollars)		
Expenses - Other government departments, agencies and Crown	•	,	
corporations	1,415,185	1,178,011	
Revenues - Other government departments, agencies and Crown	, ,	, ,	
corporations	265,137	211,200	

Expenses and revenues disclosed in (c) exclude common services provided without charge, which are already disclosed in (a).

16. Transfers from/to other government departments

Effective October 26, 2021, ESDC transferred responsibility for the Homelessness Policy Directorate to the Office of Infrastructure of Canada (Infrastructure Canada) in accordance with Order-in-Council 2021-0952, including the stewardship responsibility for the assets and liabilities related to the program. Accordingly, ESDC transferred the following liabilities related to the Homelessness Policy Directorate to Infrastructure Canada on October 26, 2021:

(in thousands of dollars)	2022
Liabilities:	
Salaries and benefits payable	(55)
Adjustment to the departmental net financial position	(55)

In addition, the 2021 comparative figures have been reclassified on the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Departmental Financial Position to present the expenses of the transferred operations.

During the transition period, ESDC continued to administer the transferred activities on behalf of Infrastructure Canada. The administered expenses amounted to \$218 million for the year. These expenses are not recorded in these financial statements.

17. Segmented information

Presentation by segment is based on ESDC's core responsibilities. The presentation by segment is based on the same accounting policies as described in the Summary of significant accounting policies in note 2. The following table presents the expenses incurred and revenues generated for the core responsibilities, by major object of expenses and by major type of revenues. The segment results for the period are as follows:

(in thousands of dollars)	Pensions and Benefits	Learning, Skills Development and Employment	Internal Services	Social Development	Information Delivery and Services for Other Departments	Working Conditions and Workplace Relations	2022 Total	2021 Total
Benefits and transfer payments								
Individuals	63,121,085	20,294,037	-	29,891	-	(199)	83,444,814	125,557,120
EI benefits and support measures	-	38,923,027	-	.	-		38,923,027	58,356,355
Other	-	3,934,615	-	4,066,420	-	12,083	8,013,118	5,733,865
Total benefits and transfer payments	63,121,085	63,151,679	-	4,096,311	-	11,884	130,380,959	189,647,340
Operating expenses								
Salaries and benefits	637,421	1,458,980	612,456	53,014	193,301	113,583	3,068,755	2,867,708
Professional and special services	48,758	384,244	392,401	8,865	54,486	9,786	898,540	816,601
Administration costs charged by CRA	-	732,896	-	-	-	-	732,896	473,071
Bad debts	(280)	580,758	3,527	1,187	-	26,657	611,849	1,490,837
Accommodation and rentals	201	7,554	268,003	60	15,734	207	291,759	254,331
Transportation and communications	21,190	20,625	30,064	74	2,679	608	75,240	69,669
Machinery and equipment	928	3,364	60,638	12	1,725	64	66,731	63,023
Amortization	30,633	6,239	24,556	587	479	4,034	66,528	37,282
Other	51,845	67,596	(114,274)	82	7,436	1,152	13,837	25,497
Expenses incurred on behalf of Government	· -	(16,600)	` -	-	· -	•	(16,600)	(20,478)
Total operating expenses	790,696	3,245,656	1,277,371	63,881	275,840	156,091	5,809,535	6,077,541
Total expenses	63,911,781	66,397,335	1,277,371	4,160,192	275,840	167,975	136,190,494	195,724,881
Revenues	, ,	, ,		• •	,	•	, ,	, ,
Employment Insurance (note 12)	-	24,333,715	-	-	-	-	24,333,715	22,896,548
Recovery of CPP administration costs	377,746	-	161,957	-	-	-	539,703	523,461
Recovery of OGD service delivery costs	· -	-	28,455	-	233,314	-	261,769	208,536
User fees	-	80,629	· -	-	, <u>-</u>	-	80,629	47,174
Interest on loans receivable	-	10,769	_	-	-	-	10,769	170,618
Other	19	20,402	890	22	172	3,850	25,355	10,936
Revenues earned on behalf of Government	(40,236)	(106,510)	(37,700)	(22)	(233,486)	,	(421,144)	(484,583)
Total revenues	337,529	24,339,005	153,602	-	-	660	24,830,796	23,372,690
Net cost from continuing operations	63,574,252	42,058,330	1,123,769	4,160,192	275,840	167,315	111,359,698	172,352,191

18. Comparative information

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

Employment and Social Development Canada

Annex to the

Statement of Management Responsibility Including Internal Control Over Financial Reporting for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2022

1 Introduction

This document provides summary information on the measures taken by ESDC to maintain an effective system of internal control over financial reporting (ICFR), including information on internal control management, assessment results and related action plans.

Detailed information on ESDC's authority, mandate and program activities can be found in the <u>Departmental Plan</u> and <u>Departmental Results Report.</u>

2 Departmental system of internal control over financial reporting

2.1 Internal Control Management

ESDC recognizes the importance of setting the tone from the top to help ensure that staff at all levels understand their roles in maintaining effective systems of ICFR and is well equipped to exercise these responsibilities effectively. The Department's focus is to ensure risks are managed well through a responsive and risk-based control environment that enables continuous improvement and innovation.

The Department has a well-established governance and accountability structure to support departmental assessment efforts and oversight of its system of internal control. The ESDC Financial Internal Control Framework was revised and approved by the primary departmental assurance providers and the Deputy Minister in October 2019. The Framework was a collaborative effort between the Assistant Deputy Minister and members of the Internal Control and Financial Assurance Senior Working Group (ICFA SWG) to depict the financial control activities within the responsibility of each of its members. The Framework also includes:

- Organizational accountability structures as they relate to internal control management to support sound financial management including roles and responsibilities for senior managers in their areas of responsibility for control management; and
- Monitoring and regular updates on internal control management plus assessment results and action plans to the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Corporate Management Committee (CMC) and Departmental Audit Committee (DAC).

The DAC is an advisory committee that provides objective views on the Department's risk management, control and governance processes as well as general reporting.

Other key committees with responsibilities for maintaining and overseeing the effectiveness of its system of ICFR include:

Portfolio Management Board (PMB) – As the main decision-making body of the portfolio, the PMB determines strategic directions and priorities; approves portfolio-wide plans and strategies; and makes decisions on strategic issues that affect the portfolio as a whole. The PMB also acts as the key portfolio vehicle for information sharing, consultation and collaboration at the Deputy Minister and Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) levels. The CFO is a member of this committee.

ICFA SWG – This ADM-level working group was created to promote a departmental-wide coordinated approach to audit, oversight and other monitoring activities undertaken across the department with a focus on financial internal controls. Its membership includes the primary departmental assurance providers and the group focuses on collaboration at all levels within its member branches with the objective of strengthening internal controls in support of the Deputy Minister's responsibilities as Accounting Officer. The CFO is the chair of the ICFA SWG committee.

ESDC's control environment also includes a series of measures to equip its staff to manage risks well through raising awareness, providing appropriate training to enhance skills and expertise required. Key measures are comprised of:

- An Office of Values and Ethics;
- ESDC Code of Conduct;
- Guidelines of Professional conduct for the Labour Program and Service Canada;
- A dedicated division under the CFO on internal control;
- Documentation of main business processes and related key risk and control points to support the management and oversight of its system of ICFR;
- Ongoing communications in core areas of financial management;
- Departmental policies tailored to ESDC's control environment;
- Periodically updated delegated authorities matrix;
- A Risk Assessment, Management and Mitigation methodology for Grants and Contributions;
- Integrated Business Plan;
- Multi-year risked based internal audit plan;
- ESDC Financial Internal Control Framework;
- Regularly updated Corporate Risk Profile;
- Recipient Audit Strategy; and
- Payment Accuracy Review (PAAR) and Processing Accuracy Review (PRAR) for major benefit programs.

2.2 Service arrangements relevant to financial statements

ESDC relies on other organizations for the processing of certain transactions that are recorded in its financial statements as follows:

Common Arrangements:

- Public Services and Procurement Canada centrally administers the payments of salaries, the delivery of compensation and benefits services, the procurement of goods and services in accordance with the ESDC delegation instrument and provides accommodation services;
- Treasury Board Secretariat provides the Department with information used to calculate various accruals and allowances, such as the accrued severance liability;
- The Department of Justice provides legal services to ESDC; and
- Shared Services Canada (SSC) provides information technology services to ESDC in the areas of data center and network services.

As a result, ESDC relies on the effective system of internal control over financial reporting in place at these service providers.

Specific Arrangements:

- ESDC, through the Service Canada (SC) initiative, acts as a focal point for government access to Canadians. As a result, ESDC has entered into several agreements with many federal government departments designed to provide Canadians with better access to programs and services;
- A private service provider, pursuant to a contract with the Canada Student Financial Assistance
 Program, administers the delivery of the Direct loans issued under the Canada Student Financial
 Assistance Program. As a result, reliance is placed on the control procedures of the external
 service provider and the annual audit on financial information and internal controls performed
 by an external audit firm;
- The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) provides full collection services to ESDC for the recovery of
 its Accounts Receivable. Although CRA uses ESDC's departmental accounts receivable systems
 (DARS), reliance is placed on the control procedures at CRA for the collection services and CRA's
 reporting capacity;
- The CRA administers a number of activities for the Canada Pension Plan (CPP), Old Age Security (OAS) and the Employment Insurance (EI) Operating Account; and
- In 2021-2022, the CRA also administered the Canada Emergency Recovery Benefit (CERB), Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB), Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB), Canada Recovery Caregiver Benefit (CRCB), Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB) and Canada Worker Lockdown Benefit (CWLB)

3 Departmental assessment results during fiscal year 2021-2022

In 2016-2017, the Department commenced its full implementation of its ongoing risk-based monitoring program of ICFR.

The following table summarizes the status of the ongoing monitoring activities according to the previous fiscal year's rotational plan.

Previous year's rotational ongoing monitoring plan for current year	Status
IT General Controls	Completed as planned; remedial actions started
Canada Student Financial Assistance Program ¹	Completed as planned; no remedial action required
Employment Insurance	Completed as planned; no remedial action required
Grants and Contributions	Completed as planned; remedial actions started

ESDC determined that key financial controls examined are generally working effectively to prevent or detect a material misstatement to the Financial Statements. There are however areas that have been identified requiring remediation including:

IT General Controls (ITGC)

A new risk based multi-year plan was developed to assess the ITGC, which covers SAP and fourteen (14) feeder systems over a period of five years.

¹ In 2021-22 the program changed its name from Canada Student Loans to Canada Student Financial Assistance

As a result of the year-one ongoing monitoring assessment, some key recommendations are noted in two of the four main control pillars evaluated: access to programs and data and change management.

Management responses and action plans (MRAPs) have been prepared by the process owners with a view to strengthen control and progress against these plans will be tracked during 2022-2023 as part of the year two ongoing monitoring of ITGCs.

Canada Student Financial Assistance Program,

The key controls that were tested performed as intended, and no significant deficiencies were found.

Employment Insurance

The key controls that were tested performed as intended, and no significant deficiencies were found.

Grants and Contributions

Some key recommendations included but were not limited to:

- Strengthen segregation of duties between the review and approval of an Apprenticeship Grant application;
- Reinforce document retention supporting the review on eligibility requirements for grants and contributions;
- Reinforce document retention supporting the documentation in the Common System for Grants and Contributions, for the eligibility and validity of Transfer Payments; and
- Ensure proposals and agreements are approved by the appropriately delegated authority.

MRAPs have been prepared by the process owners with a view to strengthen control and progress against these plans will be tracked during 2022-2023.

4 Departmental action plan for the next fiscal year and subsequent years

The five-year ongoing monitoring plan is shown in the table below. Note that the plan will be adjusted as required subject to an annual revalidation of the high-risk control areas, the timing of other relevant audit and monitoring activities and the impact of changes that occurred during the year or that are planned for the coming year(s).

Rotational Ongoing Risk-Based Monitoring Plan						
Key Control Areas	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	
Entity Level Controls			Х			
IT General Computer	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	
Controls ²						
Procure to Payment		Х			Х	
Canada Student Financial			Х			
Assistance Program						
Employment Insurance		X		X		
Grants & Contributions			Х			
Financial Close & Reporting	X			X		
Old Age Security	Х				Х	
Pay Administration		Х		Х		
Planning & Budgeting		Х			X	
Revenue, Receivables and	Х			Х		
Receipts						

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² A portion of IT General Controls will be monitored annually, based on risk. Over a five year cycle, all in scope IT systems will be revisited.