

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD
Financial Information
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD
Financial Statements
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

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Independent Auditors' Report

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Shortgrass Library Board** which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024 and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of **Shortgrass Library Board** as at December 31, 2024 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Shortgrass Library Board's accounting policy, see Note 2, in respect to capital assets and leasing arrangements states that they have not adopted the policy of capitalization and amortization as recommended under Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Management feels that expensing the items more closely meets the users' of the financial statements needs. The amount of adjustment necessary under Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations is not determinable at this time.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of **Shortgrass Library Board** in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing **Shortgrass Library Board's** ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate **Shortgrass Library Board** or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing **Shortgrass Library Board's** financial reporting process.

Independent Auditors' Report (Continued)

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause **Shortgrass Library Board** to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Johnston Morrison Hunter & Co. Professional Corporation

Johnston Morrison Hunter & Co. Professional Corporation
Chartered Professional Accountants

Medicine Hat, Alberta
March 26, 2025

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	551,298	213,930
Accounts receivable	53,158	9,527
Goods and services tax receivable	51,701	51,371
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	<u>38,095</u>	<u>54,865</u>
	694,252	329,693
Investments	-	125,988
Restricted Cash and Investments (Note 3)	936,630	1,020,471
Funds Held in Trust	<u>9,590</u>	<u>9,590</u>
	<u><u>1,640,472</u></u>	<u><u>1,485,742</u></u>
Liabilities		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	42,837	53,524
Unearned revenue (Note 4)	56,226	68,751
Funds held in trust	<u>9,590</u>	<u>9,590</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u><u>108,653</u></u>	<u><u>131,865</u></u>
Commitments (Note 5)		
Fund Transfers (Note 6)		
Net Assets		
Internally Restricted Capital	675,469	697,546
Internally Restricted Contingency	204,935	254,174
Unrestricted	<u>651,415</u>	<u>402,157</u>
	<u><u>1,531,819</u></u>	<u><u>1,353,877</u></u>
	<u><u>1,640,472</u></u>	<u><u>1,485,742</u></u>
Approved by the Board		

Director:



SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Statement of Changes in Net Assets
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

	Internally Restricted Capital	Internally Restricted Contingency	Unrestricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance, beginning of year	697,546	254,174	402,157	1,353,877	1,304,578
Excess of revenue over expenses	-	-	177,942	177,942	49,299
Transfers of investment income (Note 6)	20,426	9,258	(29,684)	-	-
Transfer of net funds (Note 6)	<u>(42,503)</u>	<u>(58,497)</u>	<u>101,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance, end of year	<u><u>675,469</u></u>	<u><u>204,935</u></u>	<u><u>651,415</u></u>	<u><u>1,531,819</u></u>	<u><u>1,353,877</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Statement of Operations
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Contracts	8,755	6,342
Provincial grants	541,807	541,863
Other grants	42,753	2,100
Investment income	66,738	57,687
Materials operational levy (Note 4)	107,349	107,349
Member municipalities operational levy	533,528	533,525
Reimbursements	20,164	29,044
Donations	-	350
	<u>1,321,094</u>	<u>1,278,260</u>
Expenses		
Administrative Expenses, Schedule "B"	225,764	256,150
Tech Services Expenses, Schedule "C"	506,695	567,340
Public Services Expenses, Schedule "D"	347,776	331,628
Reserve fund expenses (Note 8)	7,283	15,716
Building and capital (Note 9)	108,885	85,327
Grants and donations	59,769	24,197
	<u>1,256,172</u>	<u>1,280,358</u>
Income From Operations	<u>64,922</u>	<u>(2,098)</u>
Other Revenue		
Library Materials, Schedule "A"	25,013	51,397
Pronghorn Project, Schedule "E"	73,007	-
Miscellaneous income	15,000	-
	<u>113,020</u>	<u>51,397</u>
Excess of Revenue Over Expenses For The Year	<u>177,942</u>	<u>49,299</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Statement of Cash Flows
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cash Provided By (Used For) The Following Activities		
Cash Flows From Operating Activities		
Cash received from customers and funders	1,838,657	1,743,714
Cash paid to suppliers	(1,077,389)	(1,010,201)
Cash paid to employees	<u>(633,729)</u>	<u>(635,302)</u>
	<u>127,539</u>	<u>98,211</u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities		
Proceeds from disposal of investments	125,988	123,517
Cash transferred (to) from restricted cash	14,855	35,997
Acquisition of investments	(122,350)	(272,132)
Proceeds from disposal of investments	<u>191,336</u>	<u>91,151</u>
	<u>209,829</u>	<u>(21,467)</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents Increase	337,368	76,744
Cash and Cash Equivalents, beginning of year	<u>213,930</u>	<u>137,186</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents, end of year	<u>551,298</u>	<u>213,930</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents Consist Of:		
Bank	549,249	212,661
Petty cash	<u>2,049</u>	<u>1,269</u>
	<u>551,298</u>	<u>213,930</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Schedule of Library Materials Revenues and Expenses
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Schedule "A"

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenue	<u>470,549</u>	<u>453,569</u>
Expenses		
E-books	59,042	53,675
E-resources	21,600	15,964
Materials	321,972	306,462
Non-materials reimbursements	15,860	24,001
Shipping and handling	865	1,199
Materials reimbursements	<u>26,197</u>	<u>871</u>
	<u>445,536</u>	<u>402,172</u>
Net Income For The Year	<u><u>25,013</u></u>	<u><u>51,397</u></u>

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Administrative Expenses
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Schedule "B"

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Equipment purchase and repair	1,826	1,628
Training	12,186	3,063
Meetings	10,389	10,712
Dues and memberships	8,570	8,894
Professional fees	24,858	48,873
Insurance - liability	3,782	3,977
Salaries and benefits	162,159	158,507
Stationary, supplies and photocopying	6,030	14,773
Interest, bank charges and foreign exchange	<u>(4,036)</u>	<u>5,723</u>
	<u><u>225,764</u></u>	<u><u>256,150</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Tech Services Expenses
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Schedule "C"

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cataloguing tools and software	18,025	18,079
Processing supplies	8,494	9,189
Computer hardware	7,356	7,722
Library management system	58,591	58,638
Salaries and benefits	295,932	335,335
Software/licensing	108,086	130,300
Internet	<u>10,211</u>	<u>8,077</u>
	<u><u>506,695</u></u>	<u><u>567,340</u></u>

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Public Services Expenses
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Schedule "D"

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Advertising and promotion	1,026	550
Summer reading programs	12,294	13,467
Programming support	6,809	5,299
Meetings, consultations and training	5,744	7,265
E-resources	114,295	136,929
Deliveries and inter-library loans	31,969	26,658
Salaries and benefits	<u>175,639</u>	<u>141,460</u>
	<u><u>347,776</u></u>	<u><u>331,628</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Pronghorn Project
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Schedule "E"

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenue	<u>88,500</u>	<u>-</u>
Expenses		
Licensing & software	<u>15,493</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>15,493</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Income For The Year	<u><u>73,007</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

Notes to the Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

1. Nature of Operations

The Organization was formed on March 1, 1988. The Organization provides centralized purchasing, cataloguing and distribution services of various library materials to its members. The Organization also provides contract services to third parties.

The Organization is a registered charitable organization under the Income Tax Act and as such is exempt from income taxes and is able to issue donation receipts.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

The Organization prepares its financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. The significant accounting policies used are as follows:

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The organization's policy is to disclose bank balances under cash and cash equivalents, including bank overdrafts with balances that fluctuate frequently from being positive to overdrawn and term deposits with a maturity period of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Term deposits that the entity cannot use for current transactions because they are pledged as security are also excluded from cash and cash equivalents and included with restricted cash.

Capital Assets and Leasing Arrangements

Capital assets are expensed on acquisition and proceeds of disposal are reported as revenue in the year of disposal. Capital assets held include land, building, furniture, equipment, artwork, computers and software, library automation system and vehicles. During the year, computer equipment was purchased for a total cost of \$7,357 (2023 - \$4,425) and a vehicle was disposed of for \$15,000 (2023 - nil). These amounts are included in the statement of operations and related schedules under various capital or hardware purchases accounts and miscellaneous revenue.

As capital assets are not subject to capitalization, lease arrangements are not evaluated to determine if they are capital in nature. All lease arrangements are expensed as payments become due.

Investments

Investments in market securities are carried at fair value with any changes in fair value recognized in income in the year incurred.

Restricted Cash and Investments

Restricted cash consists of balances held with banks and guaranteed investment certificates and are recorded at fair value. Amounts are restricted for future capital asset expenditures and contingencies.

Revenue Recognition

The Organization follows the deferral method of revenue recognition. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses have incurred.

Unrestricted contributions and investment income are recognized as revenue when collection has occurred or the collection of the resulting receivable is reasonably assured.

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD**Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**Contributed Materials and Services**

Contributed materials and services are recognized in the financial statements when their fair value can be reasonably determined and they are used in the normal course of the Organization's operations and would otherwise have been purchased.

Pension Expense

The Organization participates in the Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP), which is one of the plans covered by the Alberta Public Sector Pension Plans Act. The LAPP serves about 250,000 people and over 420 employers. The LAPP is financed by employer and employee contributions and by investment earnings of the LAPP Fund.

Contributions for current service are recorded as expenditures in the year in which they become due.

The Organization is required to make current service contributions to the LAPP of 8.45% (2023 - 8.45%) of pensionable earnings up to the year's maximum pensionable earnings under the Canadian Pension Plan and 11.65% (2023 - 12.23%) on pensionable earnings above this amount. Employees of the Organization are required to make current services contributions of 7.45% (2023 - 7.45%) of pensionable salary up to the year's maximum pensionable salary and 10.65% (2023 - 11.23%) on pensionable salary above this amount.

Total current service contributions by the Organization to the LAPP in 2024 were \$36,572 (2023 - \$34,680). The current service contributions by the employees of the Organization to the LAPP in 2024 were \$32,550 (2023 - \$30,849).

Internally Restricted Funds

The Organization has internally restricted capital and contingency funds as approved by the Board of Trustees. The Capital Fund is for the purchase of capital items in excess of \$1,000 if necessary. The Contingency Fund is for unexpected expenses that result in over-expenditures in the operating fund.

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Measurement of Financial Instruments

The entity initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value, except for certain non-arm's length transactions.

The entity subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost, except for investments in equity instruments that are quoted in an active market, which are measured at fair value. Changes in fair value are recognized in net income.

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

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

Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of the write-down is recognized in net income. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is no greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of the reversal is recognized in net income.

Transaction costs

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

3. Restricted Cash and Investments

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	410,187	419,737
Guaranteed investment certificates	<u>526,443</u>	<u>600,734</u>
	<u><u>936,630</u></u>	<u><u>1,020,471</u></u>

The Organization holds guaranteed investment securities with values from \$11,981 to \$126,845 (2023 - \$5,500 to \$120,460) and interest rates of 3.42% to 5.40% (2023 - 3.17% to 5.40%) that have been restricted to fund the internally restricted assets.

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

4. Member Library Board Materials

Member library boards pay a materials levy of \$5.08 (2023 - \$5.08) per capita. The Organization retains \$1.00 as part of their operational funds. The remaining \$4.08 (2023 - \$4.08) is utilized by the member libraries in the purchasing of library materials.

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Annual materials revenue		
Materials levy	545,333	545,333
Materials overage	21,175	1,179
Current year overspent	<u>3,100</u>	<u>4,235</u>
	<u>569,608</u>	<u>550,747</u>
Transferred to:		
Library material revenue (Schedule A)	(470,549)	(453,569)
Member boards' materials operational levy	(107,349)	(107,349)
Repayment of prior year overspent	<u>(4,235)</u>	<u>(3,522)</u>
	<u>(582,133)</u>	<u>(564,440)</u>
Increase in Deferred Revenue	(12,525)	(13,693)
Balance, beginning of year	<u>68,751</u>	82,444
Balance, end of year	<u><u>56,226</u></u>	<u><u>68,751</u></u>

5. Commitments

- a) The Organization owns the integrated library system in partnership with Chinook Arch Regional Library System. The Organization has committed to share the annual maintenance costs of the system. The upgrade and maintenance costs for the upcoming year that the Organization will be obligated to pay will be approximately \$34,000. These costs will be paid out of the organization's operating funds. To terminate participating in the contract, the Organization must deliver written notice and explanation on or before December 31 of any year to become effective December 31 of the year immediately following.
- b) The Organization has a ten month maintenance agreement with Sun Country Services Ltd. The term is from November 1, 2024 through to March 31, 2025 for \$3,517.50 and from November 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026 for \$3,517.50.
- c) The Organization has a lease with Enmax for solar panels. The lease term is for 14 years (ending December 31, 2029) with the following estimated annual payments over the next five years:

	\$
2025	6,740
2026	6,861
2027	6,983
2028	7,107
2029	7,234

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

**Notes to the Financial Statements
For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

6. Fund Transfers

- a) Funds were transferred to internally restricted net assets from unrestricted net assets to account for interest earned on marketable securities held to fund internally restricted funds. \$20,426 (2023 - \$15,265) was transferred to the internally restricted capital reserve fund and \$9,258 (2023 - \$6,302) was transferred to the internally restricted contingency fund.
- b) There was \$42,503 (2023 - \$33,130) of funds used from the internally restricted capital fund and a further \$58,497 (2023 - \$66,594) from the internally restricted contingency fund.
- c) The Board internally restricted nil funds in 2024 (2023 - \$24,845) to be used for future capital costs and nil funds in 2024 (2023 - \$86,000) for the contingency reserve fund. The Board removed no funds from the contingency reserve fund or capital fund in 2024 (2023 - nil).

7. Restricted Funds

The following represents the motions made by the Board throughout the year for the spending of restricted funds.

		2024	Budget
		\$	\$
June 19, 2024	Van purchase	<u>35,220</u>	<u>35,220</u>

8. Reserve Fund Expenses

The following represents the breakdown of additional expenditures the organization made from its individually created reserve fund accounts that are not otherwise disclosed.

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Digital content reserve fund	7,283	8,730
Restricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>6,986</u>
	<u>7,283</u>	<u>15,716</u>

9. Building and Capital

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Insurance	9,281	8,475
Repairs, maintenance and improvements	76,910	56,147
Utilities	<u>22,694</u>	<u>20,705</u>
	<u>108,885</u>	<u>85,327</u>

SHORTGRASS LIBRARY BOARD

Notes to the Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

10. Financial Instruments and Risks

The business risks associated with financial instruments are categorized as market (comprised of currency, interest rate, and other price risk), credit and liquidity risks. It is management's opinion that the Organization is not exposed to significant market (comprised of currency risk) and liquidity risks arising from these financial instruments.

However, the Organization is exposed to interest rate, price risks, and credit risks.

a) Market risk

i) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market rates of interest. The Organization is exposed to interest rate risk because of its investments being incurred at a fixed rate of interest.

ii) Price risk

Price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market.

The Organization is exposed to price risk because it relies on one supplier for the majority of its products. The Organization has negotiated pricing with the major supplier, which varies between 10% and 15% less than market prices. An increase in negotiated pricing could negatively impact future results. In addition, the inability to fulfill the association's supply requirements could force the Organization to secure alternative suppliers, which could result in pricing that is significantly different from their current negotiated pricing.

b) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The Organization is exposed to credit risk in relation to accounts receivable. The association's accounts receivable result from transactions with member libraries and provision of services. Concentrations of credit risk with respect to trade receivables are limited as the Organization performs ongoing credit evaluations of its customers. Based on management's evaluation of potential credit losses, the Organization believes there is no requirement for an allowance for doubtful accounts.

11. Comparative Figures

The comparative figures have been reclassified where necessary to conform to the presentation adopted in the current year.