

# Georgian Bay Forever

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Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2023

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of Georgian Bay Forever

### *Qualified Opinion*

I have audited the financial statements of Georgian Bay Forever ("the Organization") which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, and the statements of operations, and changes in net assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at December 31, 2023, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNPOs).

### *Basis for Qualified Opinion*

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Organization derives revenue from donations, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly my verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Organization and I was not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to donations, excess of revenue over expenditures and cash flows from operations for the year ended December 31, 2023, current assets and net assets as at December 31, 2023.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPOs, 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 the Organization'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 the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

My 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 auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located in the attached Appendix to the Auditor's Report. This description forms part of my auditor's report.

*GTA Accounting Professional Corporation*

Authorized to practice public accounting by the  
Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario  
Toronto, Canada  
April 25, 2024

## Appendix to the Auditor's Report

As part of an audit in accordance with CASs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than 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 Organization'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 Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.


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

Georgian Bay Forever  
Statement of Financial Position  
As at December 31,

	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Cash	\$ 430,420	\$ 335,242
Short-term investments (Note 3)	304,032	250,821
Amounts receivable	2,475	-
HST rebates receivable	7,913	20,788
Prepaid expenses and other assets	20,071	19,252
Inventory	6,284	6,384
	<u>771,195</u>	<u>632,487</u>
Property and equipment (Note 4)	108,150	119,118
	<u>879,345</u>	<u>751,605</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	23,148	37,916
Source deductions payable	12,149	11,546
Deferred contributions (Note 5)	63,940	-
	<u>99,237</u>	<u>49,462</u>
<b>Fund Balance</b>		
Net assets	775,108	697,143
Endowment (Note 6)	5,000	5,000
	<u>\$ 879,345</u>	<u>\$ 751,605</u>

Contingent liability (Note 7)

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

 \_\_\_\_\_, Director

 \_\_\_\_\_, Director

**Georgian Bay Forever**  
**Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets**  
**For the year ended December 31,**

	2023	2022
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations and grants	\$ 1,008,196	\$ 1,064,495
Interest and fundraising income	4,367	1,434
	<b>1,012,563</b>	<b>1,065,929</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>		
<b>Programs (Note 8)</b>		
Communications and education	100,575	86,161
Water levels	55,584	50,707
Water quality monitoring	322,436	551,942
Wetlands	162,356	162,681
	<b>640,951</b>	<b>851,491</b>
<b>Operating</b>		
Fundraising	130,766	119,532
General and administrative	68,613	43,735
Insurance	11,609	10,717
Interest and bank charges	735	648
Meeting and conference	16,948	11,339
Professional fees	57,394	66,708
Telephone and telecommunications	7,582	7,486
	<b>293,647</b>	<b>260,165</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>934,598</b>	<b>1,111,656</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>77,965</b>	<b>(45,727)</b>
Net assets, beginning of year	697,143	742,870
<b>Net assets, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 775,108</b>	<b>\$ 697,143</b>

**Georgian Bay Forever**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended December 31,**

	2023	2022
<b>Cash provided by (used in)</b>		
<b>Operations</b>		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	\$ 77,965	\$ (45,727)
Items not affecting cash		
Amortization	13,751	6,398
	<u>91,716</u>	<u>(39,329)</u>
Net changes in non-cash working capital		
Accounts receivable, trade and other	(2,475)	-
HST rebates receivable	12,875	(7,700)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(819)	(15,568)
Inventory	100	(1,929)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(14,768)	10,753
Source deductions payable	603	1,558
Deferred contributions	63,940	(95,400)
	<u>151,172</u>	<u>(147,615)</u>
<b>Investing</b>		
Acquisition of short-term investments	(53,211)	(13,403)
Disposition (acquisition) of property and equipment	(2,783)	90,925
	<u>(55,994)</u>	<u>77,522</u>
<b>Net change in cash</b>	<b>95,178</b>	<b>(70,093)</b>
Cash, beginning of year	335,242	405,335
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 430,420</b>	<b>\$ 335,242</b>

**Georgian Bay Forever**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended December 31, 2023**

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**1. NATURE OF THE ORGANIZATION**

Georgian Bay Forever ("the Organization") was incorporated under the Canadian Corporations Act by Letters Patent on July 13, 1995 as The GBA Foundation and the name was changed to Georgian Bay Forever by supplementary Letters Patent dated May 5, 2009.

The objective of the Organization is to educate residents of the Georgian Bay Area and the public on issues of environmental protection, conservation, safety and preservation of the water and natural features in the Georgian Bay Area of Ontario by conducting conferences, workshops and seminars on these issues. Furthermore, the Organization conducts research, in conjunction with qualified educational institutes and others, in water and land quality matters to add to the public knowledge and appreciation of these matters. Georgian Bay Forever is a charitable organization registered under the Income Tax Act and, as such, is exempt from income taxes and is able to issue donation receipts for income tax purposes.

**2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of Accounting**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Outlined below are those policies considered particularly significant for the Organization.

**Revenue Recognition**

The Organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Restricted contributions are deferred and recognized as revenue when the related expenses are recognized.

Grants are recognized as revenue when received or receivable, if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in the endowments balance.



## 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

### Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Management believes that the estimates used in preparing its financial statements are reasonable and prudent. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Significant areas requiring the use of management estimates relate to amortization of property and equipment.

### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment are recorded at cost less accumulated amortization. Contributed property is recorded at the fair value at the date of the gift. When property and equipment no longer contributes to the Organization's ability to provide services, its carrying amount is written down to its residual value.

The Organization amortizes its property and equipment at the following rates per annum:

Boat	15 years straight line
Computer	4 years straight line
Office equipment	4 years straight line
AUV Equipment	7% declining balance

### Inventory

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value. The inventory is used in the production of the services for volunteers contributing their time to the Organization.

### Expense Reallocation

The Organization classifies expenses on the statement of operations by function. General support expenses are allocated using an estimate of staff time related to each area of activity and applying these bases consistently.

### Financial Instruments

The Organization initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value.

**2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)**

**Financial Instruments (Cont'd)**

The Organization subsequently measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost using the straight-line method.

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

Financial assets measured at cost or amortized cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The amount of the write-down, if any, is recognized in excess of expenses over revenue. Reversals of impairment are recorded to the extent that the value has increased, up to 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 excess of revenues over expenditures.

**Contributed Services**

Volunteers have contributed time and services to assist the Organization in the delivery of its activities. Because of the difficulty of determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

**3. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS**

Short term investments consist of Guaranteed Investment Certificates and accrued interest in the amount of \$304,032 (2022 - \$250,821), that mature and are redeemable in one year. The investments earn interest between 3.00% and 3.18% (2022 - between 0.25% to 3.00%).

Georgian Bay Forever  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended December 31, 2023

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4. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2023 Net Book Value	2022 Net Book Value
Boat	\$ 69,730	\$ 33,810	\$ 35,920	\$ 40,570
Computer	13,878	10,428	3,450	181
Office Equipment	2,241	2,095	146	218
AUV Equipment	97,286	28,652	68,634	78,149
	<b>\$ 183,135</b>	<b>\$ 74,985</b>	<b>\$108,150</b>	<b>\$ 119,118</b>

Georgian Bay Forever  
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5. DEFERRED CONTRIBUTIONS

	2023	2022
Balance, beginning of year	\$ -	\$ 95,400
Amounts received in the year	120,500	-
Amounts recognized as revenue	(56,560)	(95,400)
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 63,940</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

Deferred contributions represent unspent grant and donations subject to externally imposed restrictions that funds be used for various water levels projects and ecosystem restoration projects. These contributions will be recorded as revenue when the related expenses are recognized.

6. ENDOWMENT FUND

The endowment has been permanently restricted by the donor for use. The fund was established in the early years of becoming a charity with the intent to fund working capital in a going concern situation. The fund does not accumulate investment income.

7. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The Organization is contingently liable to return all or a portion of grants received for expenditures should it not use the grant funds as set out in the terms of the respective agreements. The amount of any such losses or repayments are not currently anticipated or determinable. In the event of repayment of a grant, the losses will be recorded if and when it becomes anticipated and determinable. Included in contingent liabilities is an estimate made by management for the repayment of any potential portion of grants, however the amount is currently unknown.

Georgian Bay Forever  
Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the year ended December 31, 2023

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8. EXPENSE REALLOCATION

Certain expenses have been allocated to the programs, as follows:

Wages and benefits	\$ 646,782
Supplies	37,613
Conferences	37,547
Subcontracts	25,472
Printing and copying	18,621
Boat operating costs	14,164
Outside computer services	10,214
Term help	7,500
	<hr/>
	\$ 797,913
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Allocated to:

	Opening	Reallocation	Total
Wetlands		\$ 162,356	162,356
Communications and education	23,194	77,381	100,575
Water levels		55,584	55,584
Water quality monitoring		322,436	322,436
		<hr/>	
Total programs	23,194	617,757	640,951
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Professional Fees	19,443	37,951	57,394
Fundraising	26,327	104,439	130,766
General and administrative	30,847	37,766	68,613
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	99,811	\$ 797,913	\$ 897,724
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## 9. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENT RISKS

### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Organization will encounter difficulty in meeting its obligations associated with financial liabilities. Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of operational liquidity requirements, the Organization will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction on the due date; will be forced to sell financial assets at a value which is less than what they are worth; or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset. The Organization is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

The Organization's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient cash flows to fund its operations and to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions. The Organization maintains a portion of its invested assets in liquid securities.

### Market Risk

Market risk arises from the possibility that changes in market prices will affect the level of investments held by the Organization. The Organization is subject to market risk on its short-term investments. The values of these short-term investments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices or other factors effecting the values of the investments.

### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Organization is exposed to interest rate risk arising from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect the value of fixed income denominated investments.

## 10. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation. Excess of revenue over expenses reported previously has not been affected by this reclassification.