

**WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

**Financial Statements**

**Year Ended April 30, 2024**

**WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

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**Year Ended April 30, 2024**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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To the Students of Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications

### *Qualified Opinion*

We have audited the financial statements of Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications (the "organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at April 30, 2024, and the statements of changes in net assets, operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible 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 April 30, 2024, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO).

### *Basis for Qualified Opinion*

The organization receives goods in exchanged for providing advertising services, provides advertising services at a nominal cost, and receives fundraising revenues, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the organization. Therefore, we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to advertising, or fundraising revenue, excess of revenues over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the year ended April 30, 2024, current assets and net assets as at April 30, 2024. Our audit opinion on the financial statements for the year ended April 30, 2023 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation of scope.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with 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 qualified audit 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 ASNPO, 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.

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*Auditor's 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 auditor's 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 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 we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organization 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.



Waterloo, Ontario  
February 3, 2025

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS  
LICENSED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

**WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

**Statement of Financial Position**

**April 30, 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 449,483	\$ 510,885
Accounts receivable	91,476	109,302
Harmonized sales tax recoverable	23,557	14,785
Prepaid expenses	<u>10,347</u>	<u>5,747</u>
	<b>574,863</b>	640,719
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS <i>(Note 3)</i>	<b>81,002</b>	76,998
CAPITAL ASSETS <i>(Note 4)</i>	<u><b>29,065</b></u>	<u>30,359</u>
	<b>\$ 684,930</b>	<b>\$ 748,076</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 89,439	\$ 56,493
Employee deductions payable	<u>9,033</u>	<u>6,309</u>
	<b>98,472</b>	62,802
NET ASSETS	<u><b>586,458</b></u>	685,274
	<b>\$ 684,930</b>	<b>\$ 748,076</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

**WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

**Statement of Changes in Net Assets**

**Year Ended April 30, 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 685,274</b>	<b>\$ 650,248</b>
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	<u><b>(98,816)</b></u>	<u>35,026</u>
<b>NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR</b>	<u><b>\$ 586,458</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 685,274</b></u>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

**WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

**Statement of Operations**  
**Year Ended April 30, 2024**

	2024	2023
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Student activity fees ( <i>Note 7</i> )	\$ 544,272	\$ 506,568
Keystone sales and advertising	52,497	52,865
Cord sales and advertising	26,482	26,085
Interest income	25,632	14,664
Government grants	9,742	14,700
Fundraising	1,515	2,811
Other revenue	564	5,200
	<u>660,704</u>	<u>622,893</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Wages, benefits and commissions ( <i>Note 7</i> )	497,386	397,625
Publishing and production	63,128	41,491
Administration, legal and audit	48,016	33,167
Rental ( <i>Note 7</i> )	42,306	39,393
Conferences and meetings	40,180	25,536
Office	23,326	18,213
Amortization of capital assets	11,797	8,438
Events	8,110	1,233
Miscellaneous	6,516	6,533
Insurance	5,675	6,689
Supplies	5,147	3,795
Membership dues and fees	2,546	1,216
Interest and bank fees	2,543	2,066
Advertising	1,972	2,859
Bad debts	695	472
Repairs and maintenance	177	91
	<u>759,520</u>	<u>588,817</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS</b>	<b>(98,816)</b>	<b>34,076</b>
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>		
Gain on disposal of assets	-	950
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ (98,816)</b>	<b>\$ 35,026</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

**WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**Year Ended April 30, 2024**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ (98,816)	\$ 35,026
Items not affecting cash:		
Amortization of capital assets	11,797	8,438
Gain on disposal of assets	-	(950)
	<u>(87,019)</u>	<u>42,514</u>
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	17,826	(52,528)
Harmonized sales tax recoverable	(8,772)	(11,216)
Prepaid expenses	(4,600)	917
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	32,946	(13,544)
Employee deductions payable	2,724	2,205
Deferred revenue	-	(2,250)
	<u>40,124</u>	<u>(76,416)</u>
Cash flow used by operating activities	<u>(46,895)</u>	<u>(33,902)</u>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Purchase of capital assets	(10,503)	(24,173)
Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	-	950
Purchase of investment	<u>(4,004)</u>	<u>(2,693)</u>
Cash flow used by investing activities	<u>(14,507)</u>	<u>(25,916)</u>
<b>DECREASE IN CASH FLOW</b>	<b>(61,402)</b>	<b>(59,818)</b>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>510,885</u>	<u>570,703</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS - END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 449,483</b>	<b>\$ 510,885</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements



# WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended April 30, 2024

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### 1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Wilfrid Laurier University Student Publications (the "organization") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated provincially under the Not-for-profit Corporations Act of Ontario. The organization is a not-for-profit whose principal business activity is to provide newspaper and other services to the students of Wilfrid Laurier University. As a non-profit organization, it is not subject to income taxes.

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of Presentation

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

#### Revenue recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. 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.

The organization recognizes revenue on advertising and other sales through publications such as, but not limited to, the Cord and the Keystone, at the time the services are rendered to customers, when the customer takes ownership and assumes risk of loss, collection of the relevant receivable is probable, and persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists and the sales price is fixed and determinable.

Student activity fees are recognized as revenue in the period the student registration fee relates to.

Fundraising and event income is recognized as revenue when received.

Investment income is recognized when it is earned.

Grant income and other income is recognized when earned.

#### Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue represents funding and grants received that relate to future programming costs.

#### Contributed services

Volunteers contribute significant hours per year to assist the organization in carrying out its services. Due to the difficulty in determining their fair value, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

#### Financial instruments policy

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. Transaction costs are expensed when incurred. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date.

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# WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended April 30, 2024

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

#### Capital assets

Capital assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Capital assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives at the following rates and methods:

Furniture and fixtures	4 years	straight-line method
Computer equipment	4 years	straight-line method
Camera equipment	4 years	straight-line method
Sound equipment	5 years	straight-line method

#### Cash and cash equivalents

The organization considers cash and cash equivalents to be amounts deposited in financial institutions.

#### Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future. Significant areas requiring the use of management estimates and assumptions relate to the allowance for doubtful accounts, useful life and salvage value of capital assets, accrued charges and deferred revenue. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

### 3. INVESTMENT

The organization has an investment in a five year, guaranteed investment certificate bearing interest at 5.2% per annum and fully maturing in December 2027.

### 4. CAPITAL ASSETS

	Cost	Accumulated amortization	2024 Net book value	2023 Net book value
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 15,514	\$ 13,662	\$ 1,852	\$ 1,050
Computer equipment	100,065	81,239	18,826	20,094
Camera equipment	40,204	32,856	7,348	8,253
Sound equipment	27,863	26,824	1,039	962
	<b>\$ 183,646</b>	<b>\$ 154,581</b>	<b>\$ 29,065</b>	<b>\$ 30,359</b>

### 5. LINE OF CREDIT

The organization has available a \$20,000 line of credit with Wilfrid Laurier University which was unutilized at year end. The line of credit is unsecured and interest to be charged annually at an amount equal to the University's borrowing rate on short-term financing.

**6. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The organization's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant currency risks arising from these financial instruments.

Financial instrument risk management

There has been no change with respect to the organization's overall risk exposure during the year ended April 30, 2024. Disclosures relating to exposure to risks, in particular credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk are provided below.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of an unexpected loss if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. The organization's financial instruments that are exposed to concentration of credit risk are primarily accounts receivable.

The organization provides credit to its customers in the normal course of operations. One customer makes up 58% (two customers in 2023 made up 81%) of the accounts receivable balance. The organization determines, on a continuing basis, the probable bad debts and sets up a provision for losses on net realizable value. At April 30, 2024, the organization has an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$5,347 (2023 - \$7,381).

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the organization will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities as they come due. The organization meets its liquidity requirements by monitoring the cash flow from operations, investment performance and the anticipated cash flows from investing and financing activity.

The organization limits its exposure to liquidity risk by conservatively investing available cash in bank term deposits with a major Canadian chartered bank. The organization's cash is not subject to any external restrictions.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. The organization is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its investments as outlined in Note 3.

# WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended April 30, 2024

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### 7. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Wilfrid Laurier University (the "University") has an economic interest in the organization. The University owns the building in which the organization operates, provides services to the organization, and collects student fees on behalf of the organization.

During the year, the organization received student fees of \$544,272 (2023 - \$506,568) from the University. The balance owing from the University at year end relating to student fees was \$26,327 (2023 - nil), which is included in accounts receivable. The organization also paid rent to the University totaling \$42,306 (2023 - \$35,558) for the year.

Related parties include the Board of Directors overseeing the organization. Time commitments provided with respect to board duties are considered a contributed service and not recognized as per the accounting policy described in Note 2. Some members of the Board are also employees of the organization and are compensated in the normal course of operations. Honorariums totaling \$ nil (2023 - \$2,150) were paid to board members in the year.

All related party transactions are in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

### 8. CAPITAL DISCLOSURE

As at April 30, 2024, the organization considers its net assets as its capital. The organization's objective is to manage its capital with strong fiscal discipline. The organization's current financing principle is to maintain cash balances sufficient to fund operating cash consumption at all times. The organization is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements and there has been no change with respect to the overall capital risk management strategy during the fiscal year.