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Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia; and To the Minister of Finance

I have audited the consolidated statement of net assets available for benefits and accrued pension benefits net of deficiency of the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Fund as at December 31, 2005 and the consolidated statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In my opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits and accrued pension benefits net of deficiency of the Fund as at December 31, 2005 and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Jacques Lapointe, CA•CIA

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Auditor General

Halifax, Nova Scotia April 13, 2006

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	2005	2004
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	(000's)	(000's)
Assets		
Investments (Note 4)	\$ 4,410,160	\$ 3,882,820
Receivable from the Province of Nova Scotia (Note 1) Contributions receivable	21,391	36,461
Employees'	810	1,276
Employers'	4,429	4,196
Accrued income	-	11,583
Net investment transactions outstanding	12,932	1,072
Prepayment and sundry receivables	2,332	546
Cash	3,041	1,963
Total assets	4,455,095	3,939,917
Liabilities		
Real estate mortgages (Note 5)	42,071	14,728
Accounts payable	28,581	24,793
Total liabilities	70,652	39,521
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$4,384,443</u>	\$ 3,900,396
ACCRUED PENSION BENEFITS NET OF DEFICIENCY		
Accrued pension benefits (Note 6)	\$ 4,684,101	\$ 4,774,410
Deficiency (Note 6)	(299,658)	(874,014)
Accrued pension benefits net of deficiency	<u>\$4,384,443</u>	\$ 3,900,396

Approved:

Trustee - Minister of Finance

Michael & Behen

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA NOVA SCOTIA TEACHERS' PENSION FUND CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

	2005	2004
	(000's)	(000's)
Increase In Assets		
Investment activities (Note 4)	\$ 489,036	\$ 323,776
Interest - Receivable from Province of Nova Scotia	2,230	3,657
	491,266	327,433
Contributions		
Employers' – matched	56,217	55,323
Employees' – matched	56,217	55,323
Employers' – unmatched – Province (Note 3)	144,378	-
Employees' – unmatched	2,677	1,898
Transfers from other pension plans	1,379	1,576
	260,868	114,120
Total increase in assets	752,134	441,553
Decrease In Assets		
Benefits paid	257,160	238,106
Operating expenses (Note 7)	9,261	9,194
Refund of contributions and interest and		
transfers to other pension plans	1,666	3,082
Total decrease in assets	268,087	250,382
Increase in Net Assets	484,047	191,171
Net Assets Available for Benefits at		
Beginning of Year	3,900,396	3,709,225
Net Assets Available for Benefits at		
End of Year	<u>\$ 4,384,443</u>	<u>\$ 3,900,396</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

1. Authority and Description of Plan

The Teachers' Pension Fund (the "Fund") was established by the Teachers' Pension Act (the "Act"). It is the funding vehicle for the Teachers' Pension Plan (the "Plan"), a pension plan which covers public school and community college teachers. The detailed provisions of the Plan, including pension eligibility criteria and benefit formulas are also contained in the Act and in the Regulations made under the Act.

The following description is a summary only. For more complete information, reference should be made to the Plan agreements.

Employee and employer contributions and investment earnings are credited to the Fund. Pensions, payments to terminating employees and administration expenses are charged to the Fund. The Minister of Finance is trustee of the Fund which is invested in federal, provincial, municipal and corporate securities which qualify as eligible investments under the Provincial Finance Act.

The Plan is funded by employee and matching employer contributions of 8.3% of salary up to the Year's Maximum Pensionable Earnings ("YMPE") per the Canada Pension Plan ("CPP") and 9.9% of salary above the YMPE. The basic pension formula is 2% for each year of pensionable service times the number of years of pensionable service. Pensions are integrated with CPP benefits at age 65. Pensions in pay are increased on January 1 of each year at a rate equal to the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Canada less 1%, to a maximum of 6%.

Plan members are eligible for a pension upon reaching any of the following criteria:

- 35 years of service;
- age 50 with 30 years of service (reduced pension);
- age 55 with an age plus pensionable service factor of 85 "Rule of 85";
- age 55 with two years of service (reduced pension);
- age 60 with 10 years of service;
- age 65 with two years of service.

On July 22, 1994 the Governor in Council authorized an early retirement program (ERP) for Plan members. Each employing school board and participating employer was required to pay into the Fund an amount in respect of each eligible teacher in the employ of the school board or participating employer who retired in accordance with these regulations. At December 31, 2005 the balance outstanding was \$21.4 million (December 31, 2004 - \$36.1 million). Order-in Council 2002-181 dated April 26, 2002 transferred responsibility for making these payments from the school boards to the Province. A new consolidated schedule of payments was set up retroactive to January 31, 2002. The last payment under this schedule will be made on July 31, 2008.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Presentation

These consolidated financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis and present the aggregate financial position of the Fund as a separate financial reporting entity. In the event there are insufficient funds within the Fund to make all payments required by the Act, the Province of Nova Scotia guarantees cash flow assistance with respect to the pension benefits in pay. These consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

(b) Consolidation

The Fund holds certain real estate investments through wholly-owned subsidiaries. The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the Plan, and its subsidiaries.

(c) Foreign Currency Translation

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars at the rates of exchange prevailing on the dates of the transactions. The market value of foreign investments and cash balances held at year-end are translated at the rates in effect at the year-end date. The resulting gain or loss from changes in these rates is included in current period change in market value of investments.

(d) Investments:

(i) Investments are reported as of trade date and are stated at market value as at year end. Market value is the amount of the consideration that would be agreed upon in an arm's length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act.

Money market securities, fixed income securities and equities are valued at quoted market prices.

Private equity values are estimated with appropriate valuation techniques and best estimates of managers or appraisers.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

- (ii) The derivative contracts held by the Fund at year-end are valued using quoted market indices. The gains or losses from derivative contracts are included in the realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments.
- (iii) Real estate is composed of income producing properties and real estate pooled funds. Unless recently acquired, properties are valued annually, by independent appraisers in accordance with generally accepted appraisal practices and procedures. This process utilizes discounted future cash flows. In estimating future cash flows certain assumptions are made with respect to future economic conditions and rates of return.

The fair value of any real estate which has been recently acquired is based on the purchase price.

(e) Investment income/loss

Investment income/loss includes interest, dividends and operating income/loss from real estate, which is recorded on the accrual basis. Also included are gains and losses that have been realized on disposal of investments and the unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the fair value of investments.

(f) Non-Investment Assets and Liabilities

The fair value of contributions receivable, accrued income, net investment transactions outstanding, sundry receivables, cash and accounts payable approximate their carrying amounts due to their short-term nature.

(g) Contributions

Basic contributions from employers and members due to the Plan as at the end of the year are recorded on an accrual basis. Service purchases that include but are not limited to leaves of absence and transfers from other pension plans are recorded when received.

(h) Benefits

Benefit payments to retired members, commuted value payments and transfers to other pension plans are recorded in the period in which they are paid. Accrued benefits are recorded as part of accrued actuarial liabilities.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(i) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of changes in net assets available for benefits during the year. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(i) Financial Instruments

The Fund's financial instruments include cash, contributions receivable, receivable from the Province of Nova Scotia, investments, net investment transactions outstanding, accounts payable and real estate mortgages. It is management's opinion, unless otherwise noted, that the Fund is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks from its financial instruments.

The Fund's short-term financial instruments, consisting of cash, contributions receivable, receivable from the Province of Nova Scotia, net investment transactions outstanding, and accounts payable are carried at cost which, due to their short-term nature, approximates their fair value. Investments and real estate mortgages are carried at fair value as described in notes 2 and 5 and are subject to interest, currency and credit risks as described in note 4.

3. Agreement to Address Unfunded Liability

The Teachers' Pension Partners Board established a committee (2003 Review Committee) to undertake a review of the Plan's financial status. As a result of this review the Province and the Nova Scotia Teachers' Union signed an agreement on June 22, 2005 which tied future indexing provisions to the funded position of the Plan as determined by its actuarial funding valuation. The Province also agreed to contribute \$142 million (plus interest from April 1, 2005) to the Fund. The funds were transferred on June 24, 2005 in the amount of \$144,377,581.

4. Investments and Derivatives

The investment objectives of the Plan are to provide long-term security of pension benefits to members and to minimize any increases in contributions required by members and the employer. A strategy of investing in assets of Canadian and foreign equities, bonds, debentures, mortgages and money market securities is aimed at achieving these objectives.

(a) Market value of investments and related income before allocating the effects of derivative contracts.

	As at <u>December 31, 2005</u>					For the <u>Year</u>	
	Assets (000's)	%	Income * (000's)	Assets (000's)	%	Income * (000's)	
Money market	\$ 639,968	14.5	\$ 13,097	\$ 594,905	15.4	\$ 9,062	
Fixed income Canadian	1,288,873	29.2	90,086	1,142,958	29.4	92,288	
Fixed income US fund	39,643	0.9	(13)	39,878	1.0	(1,436)	
Equities							
Canadian	1,336,100	30.3	296,357	1,170,589	30.2	183,111	
US	616,475	14.0	8,150	584,266	15.0	8,606	
Other foreign	261,086	5.9	31,392	233,986	6.0	2,069	
Real estate – Canadian	153,629	3.5	7,104	53,498	1.4	2,497	
Real estate - Pooled fund	62,237	1.4	7,782	54,947	1.4	4,104	
Derivatives	12,149	0.3	35,042	7,793	0.2	23,379	
Other	<u>-</u>		39			96	
	<u>\$4,410,160</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>\$ 489,036</u>	<u>\$ 3,882,820</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>\$ 323,776</u>	

^{*} Includes realized gains of \$179.9 million (\$120.7 million - 2004) and unrealized gains of \$161.4 million (\$76.0 million - 2004).

4. Investments and Derivatives (continued)

(b) Derivative contracts

Derivatives are financial contracts, the value of which is 'derived' from the value of underlying assets or interest or exchange rates. Derivatives provide flexibility in implementing investment strategy.

Money market-to-equity swaps have been used during the year to adjust the asset mix.

Bond futures are contractual agreements to buy or sell the financial instrument at the contracted date and price. Bond futures have been used to adjust duration and risk profile during the year.

The Fund is exposed to credit-related losses in the event of non-performance by counterparties to derivative financial instruments. In order to mitigate this risk, the Fund:

- deals only with highly rated counterparties, with whom International Swap and
 Derivative Association agreements have been executed, normally major financial
 institutions with minimum credit standard of "A" rating, as supported by a
 recognized credit rating agency; and
- enters into derivatives only for the purpose of managing risk.

Credit risk represents the maximum amount that would be at risk as at the reporting date if the counterparties failed completely to perform under the contracts, and if the right of offset proved to be non-enforceable. Credit risk exposure on derivative financial instruments is represented by the receivable replacement cost of contracts with counterparties, less any prepayment collateral or margin received, as at the reporting date.

4. Investments and Derivatives (continued)

The following table provides details of the derivative money market-to-equity swap contracts outstanding as at December 31, 2005.

Notional <u>Principal</u>	Original <u>Term</u>	Credit Rating of Counterparty	Equity Index	BA Index	Market <u>Value</u>
(000's)					(000's)
\$ 25,894 53,546 115,387	1.0 yrs 1.0 yrs 1.0 yrs	AA(low) AA(low) AA(low)	S&P/TSE60 S&P/TSE60 S&P/TSE60	CAD-BA-CDOR CAD-BA-CDOR CAD-BA-CDOR	\$ 1,312 1,345 9,492
\$ 194,827					\$ 12,149

Notional amounts of these derivative contracts represent the volume of outstanding transactions and serve as the basis upon which the return from and the market value of the contracts are determined.

Money market-to-equity swap contracts are denominated in Canadian dollars and are reset quarterly.

4. Investments and Derivatives (continued)

(c) Market value of investments and related income after allocating the effect of derivative contracts.

	As at <u>December 31, 2005</u>		For the <u>Year</u>	As at December 31, 2	2004	For the <u>Year</u>
	Assets (000's)	%	Income * (000's)	Assets (000's)	%	Income * (000's)
Money market	\$ 444,324	10.1	\$ 8,996	\$ 375,437	9.7	\$ 5,269
Fixed income Canadian	1,288,873	29.2	90,086	1,142,958	29.4	92,427
Fixed income US fund	39,643	0.9	(13)	39,878	1.0	(1,436)
Equities						
Canadian	1,543,893	35.0	335,500	1,397,850	36.1	210,144
US	616,475	14.0	8,150	584,266	15.0	8,606
Other foreign	261,086	5.9	31,392	233,986	6.0	2,069
Real estate - Canadian	153,629	3.5	7,104	53,498	1.4	2,497
Real estate – Pooled fund	62,237	1.4	7,782	54,947	1.4	4,104
Other	_		39			96
	<u>\$4,410,160</u>	<u>100.0</u>	<u>\$ 489,036</u>	\$ 3,882,820	100.0	<u>\$ 323,776</u>

Includes realized gains of \$179.9 million (\$120.7 million -2004) and unrealized gains of \$161.4 million (\$76.0 million -2004).

(d) Investment Risk Management

Risk management relates to the understanding and active management of risks associated with all areas of the business and the associated operating environment. Investments are primarily exposed to foreign currency, interest rate volatility, market and credit risk. The Fund has set formal policies and procedures that establish an asset mix among equity, fixed income and real estate investments, require diversification of investments within categories, and set limits on the size of exposure to individual investments and counterparties. In addition, derivative financial instruments are used, where appropriate, to assist in the management of these risks.

4. Investments and Derivatives (Continued)

(i) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the fact that the Plan's financial position will change as market interest rates change. Interest rate risk is inherent in the nature of the pension plan business due to prolonged timing differences between cash flows related to the Plan's assets and cash flows related to the Plan's liabilities.

The value of the Plan's assets is affected by short-term changes in nominal interest rates and equity markets. Pension liabilities are exposed to the long-term expectation of rate of return on the investments as well as expectations of inflation and salary escalation. To meet these liabilities the Plan has established an asset mix policy of approximately 60% equities, 33% fixed income securities and 7% real estate. Long-term equity returns have historically shown high correlation with changes in inflation and salary escalation, while fixed income securities are sensitive to changes in nominal interest rates.

The following summarizes the maturities of fixed income securities as at December 31, 2005:

		2005				200	4	
	Within 1 year	1 to 5 years	5 to 10 years	Over 10 years	<u>Total</u>	Average effective yield	<u>Total</u>	Average effective yield
	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	%	(000's)	%
Money market Bonds and	\$ 639,968	-	-	-	\$ 639,968	3.5	\$ 594,905	2.5
debentures Real return	21,126	\$ 407,639	\$ 340,421	\$ 375,911	1,145,097	5.1	1,010,779	5.5
bonds Fixed income	-	-	-	143,776	143,776	3.1	132,179	3.3
US Fund	951	10,466	24,698	3,528	39,643	6.5	39,878	5.9
Total	\$ 662,045	<u>\$ 418,105</u>	\$ 365,119	\$ 523,215	<u>\$ 1,968,484</u>		\$ 1,777,741	

The average effective yield reflects the estimated annual income of a security as a percentage of its year-end market value.

4. Investments and Derivatives (continued)

(ii) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of an investment will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual investment, or factors affecting all securities traded in the market. The Fund's policy is to invest in a diversified portfolio of investments, based on criteria established in the Statement of Investment Policies and Guidelines, and to utilize derivative financial instruments, which are designed to mitigate the impact of market risk.

(iii) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of loss in the event the counterparty to a transaction fails to discharge an obligation and causes the other party to incur a loss.

The Plan limits credit risk by purchasing fixed income securities with a credit rating of "BBB" and higher. In addition, the Plan limits derivative contract risk by dealing with counterparties that have a minimum "A" credit rating.

(iv) Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency exposure arises from the Plan's holding of equities denominated in foreign currency. From time to time some of this exposure will be hedged based on interest rate spreads or other economic fundamentals.

The Plan's currency exposure from net investment assets as at December 31, 2005 is summarized in the following table:

Currency	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
	(000's)	(000's)
Canada	\$ 3,462,167	\$ 3,014,069
United States	689,787	658,464
Euro zone	50,445	49,882
Japan	90,068	69,134
United Kingdom	31,989	31,816
Other	59,555	59,051
Total	<u>\$ 4,384,011</u>	<u>\$ 3,882,416</u>

5. Real estate mortgages

Real estate mortgages have various terms to maturity to 2018 with each mortgage secured by a specific real property. Nominal rates range from 5.2% to 7.0%.

Scheduled principal repayments in each of the next five years, beginning January 1, 2006 are as follows:

2006	\$	939
2007		1,974
2008		1,021
2009		6,739
2010		687
Thereafter		<u> 28,748</u>
Total	<u>\$</u>	40,108

The real estate mortgage payables are valued at fair value based on prevailing interest rates.

6. Accrued Pension Benefits

Actuarial valuations of the Fund are required every year by the Act, and provide an estimate of the accrued pension benefits (Fund liabilities) calculated using various economic and demographic assumptions, based on membership data as at the valuation date. The Plan's consulting actuaries, Mercer Human Resources Consulting, performed a valuation as at December 31, 2005 and issued their report in May 2006. The report indicated that the Plan had an unfunded liability of \$299.7 million (December 31, 2004 - \$874.0 million).

The following table reflects the unfunded liability as at December 31, 2005 and as at December 31, 2004.

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
	(000's)	(000's)
Actuarial value of assets:	\$ 4,384,443	\$ 3,900,396
Accrued pension benefits:	4,684,101	4,774,410
Unfunded liability:	<u>(\$ 299,658)</u>	<u>(\$ 874,014)</u>

6. Accrued Pension Benefits (continued)

Reconciliation of changes in accrued pension benefits:	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
	$(0\overline{00's})$	$(0\overline{00's})$
Accrued pension benefits at beginning of year	\$ 4,774,410	\$ 4,591,045
Interest on accrued pension benefits at 7.38%	352,232	338,704
Contributions and transfers from other pension plans	116,490	114,120
Contributions in excess of current service cost	(10,752)	(10,829)
Refunds of contributions and interest and transfers to other pension plans	(1,666)	(3,082)
Benefits paid	(257,160)	(238,106)
Impact of new indexing arrangement on accrued pension benefits	(291,596)	-
Net impact of experience gains and losses relating to accrued pension benefits	2,143	(17,442)
Accrued pension benefits at end of year	<u>\$ 4,684,101</u>	<u>\$4,774,410</u>

The actuarial valuation projects liabilities for each member on the basis of service earned to date and the employee's projected five year average salary at the expected date of retirement. The projected unit credit method was adopted for the actuarial valuation to determine the current cost and actuarial liability.

The major economic and demographic assumptions used in the valuation are as follows:

	Valuation <u>December 31, 2005</u>	Valuation <u>December 31, 2004</u>
Inflation	3.0% per annum	3.0% per annum
Average Salary Increase	0.5% per annum real plus merit ranging from 0.0% to 2.75%	0.5% per annum real plus merit ranging from 0.0% to 2.75%
Real Rate of Return on Investments	4.25% per annum	4.25% per annum
Average Retirement Age	60% - Retire at earliest date first eligible for an unreduced pension 40% - Retire at the earliest of: - age 65; - 35 years of service; or - age 60 with 10 years of service	60% - Retire at earliest date first eligible for an unreduced pension 40% - Retire at the earliest of: - age 65; - 35 years of service; or - age 60 with 10 years of service
Mortality	1994 Group Annuitant Mortality Table projected to 2000 using scale AA	1994 Group Annuitant Mortality Table projected to 2000 using scale AA

6. Accrued Pension Benefits (continued)

The major actuarial assumptions and methodology used for the 2005 valuation have remained the same as those used in the 2004 valuation with one exception. As a result of the agreement between the Province of Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Teachers' Union signed on June 22, 2005, indexing for pensions put in pay on or after August 1, 2006, as well as those of existing pensioners who opt for the new indexing arrangement, will depend on the funding level of the plan. If the funding level is less than 90%, no indexing will be provided. At a funding level of between 90% and 100%, indexing will be granted at 50% of the increase in the CPI, at the discretion of the Board of Trustees. If the funding level is greater than 100%, indexing will be provided at 100% of the increase in the CPI, to the extent that it does not reduce the funding level to below 100%, in which case pensions will be increased by at least 50% of the increase in the CPI. Regardless of the funding level, indexing credited in July 2006 and July 2007 is guaranteed to be at least 50% of the increase in the CPI. For the purposes of the valuation, it was assumed that indexing would not be paid in years in which it is discretionary.

7. Operating Expenses

The Fund is charged with administrative and certain other expenses incurred on behalf of the Fund by the Department of Finance. The following is a summary of these operating expenses.

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
	(000's)	(000's)
Plan Administration		
Professional services	\$ 219	\$ 270
Salaries	819	768
Supplies and services	226	215
Travel	14	10
Other	84	<u>97</u>
	<u>\$ 1,362</u>	\$ 1,360
Investment Expenses		
Investment management fees	\$ 7,272	\$ 7,273
Professional services	53	70
Salaries	440	359
Supplies and services	105	104
Travel	13	11
Other	<u> </u>	17
	<u>\$ 7,899</u>	<u>\$ 7,834</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 9,261</u>	<u>\$ 9,194</u>

8. Related Party Transactions

Investments held in the Fund include debentures of the Province of Nova Scotia with a total market value of \$21.7 million (0.5% of total assets) as at December 31, 2005 (\$34.7 million (0.9% of total assets) as at December 31, 2004).

9. Subsequent Event

As part of the June 22, 2005 agreement between the Province and the Nova Scotia Teachers' Union (see note 3), the Province and the Union agreed to joint and equal participation in the governance of the Plan including the sharing of any actuarial surpluses or deficits between the Province and the beneficiaries of the Fund upon the transfer of the Fund to the Trustee. The Teachers' Pension Plan Trustee Inc (TPPTI) was incorporated to act as trustee of the Fund and on April 1, 2006, TPPTI became the Trustee of the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Fund. As a result, the guarantee referenced in note 2(a) is no longer applicable.