

Office of the State Auditor

Division of State Audit

North Dakota Lottery Bismarck, North Dakota

Audit Report for the
Years Ended June 30, 2010 and 2009
Client Code 125.1

Robert R. Peterson
State Auditor



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Honorable John Hoeven, Governor
Members of the Legislative Assembly
Honorable Wayne Stenehjem, Attorney General
Randy Miller, Director North Dakota Lottery

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the North Dakota Lottery, a division of the Office of the Attorney General of the state of North Dakota, as of and for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of North Dakota Lottery's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about 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 the significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of the North Dakota Lottery are intended to present the financial position and changes in the financial position and cash flows of only that portion of the business-type activities of the state of North Dakota that is attributable to the transactions of the North Dakota Lottery. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the state of North Dakota as of June 30, 2010 and 2009, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows, for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to previously present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the North Dakota Lottery, as of June 30, 2010 and 2009, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows, for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 17, 2010, on our consideration of the North Dakota Lottery's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The management's discussion and analysis on pages 3-7 is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.



Robert R. Peterson
State Auditor

November 17, 2010

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010

This Management's Discussion and Analysis is for readers of the Lottery's financial statements and is an overview of the Lottery's financial activity for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. This analysis is to be considered in conjunction with the financial statements to provide an objective analysis of the Lottery's financial activity based on facts, decisions, and conditions that presently face the director.

Understanding the Lottery's Financial Statements

The Lottery, a division of the Office of Attorney General, is accounted for as an enterprise fund that reports all income, expense, assets, and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, like a private business entity. In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, this report consists of three financial statements and explanatory notes. The financial statements are: 1) Statement of Net Assets; 2) Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets; and 3) Statement of Cash Flows. The financial statements are designed to highlight the Lottery's operating activity and provide a snapshot of its financial condition.

A vital factor of the Lottery's financial statements is a statutory requirement that the Lottery transfer all net proceeds, less the amount allocated to the compulsive gambling prevention and treatment fund, amount allocated to the multi-jurisdictional drug task force grant fund, Lottery's share of a game's prize reserve pool and holdback of any reserve funds the director may need for continuing operations, to the State Treasurer on at least an annual basis for deposit in the state general fund. It is also important to note that most financial statement balances have a direct or indirect relationship to revenue. As lottery sales increase, the amount to be transferred to the state general fund would also increase. Similarly, as lottery sales increase, there is a direct increase in prizes, retailer commissions, game group dues, and vendor fees.

Most of the assets included on the Statements of Net Assets represent current amounts such as cash and accounts receivable from lottery retailers. Most liabilities represent current prizes, including prizes payable to players in North Dakota and prizes payable to the Multi-State Lottery Association (MUSL) to fund grand/jackpot prizes, and an amount due to the state general fund.

Financial Highlights

Since the Lottery began in March 2004 it continues to receive broad public support in the play of its games and has achieved exceptional success in sales and net proceeds during its first six and one-third years of operation. Fiscal year 2010 was another successful year with record-setting ticket sales.

The Lottery's ticket sales for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 were \$24,422,716 as compared to \$21,724,891 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009. This reflects a \$2,697,825 or 12.42% increase in ticket sales. The increase is due to more large Powerball jackpot runs, the addition of the Mega Million game on January 31, 2010, and successful promotions throughout the year.

Total prizes on winning tickets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, were \$12,643,632, including prizes paid in North Dakota of \$10,547,330 and prizes paid to the MUSL to fund

grand/jackpot prizes of \$2,439,589. In addition, North Dakota had expired prizes in the amount of \$343,287.

The Lottery's operating expenses are minimized because the Lottery blueprinted its organizational structure, functions, and gaming system features to optimize efficiency. Expenses such as salaries and fringe benefits, travel, telephone, and MUSL board dues are generally fixed. Other expenses have a direct incremental relationship to sales increases or decreases such as prizes, retailer commissions, game group dues, and vendor fees.

Total operating expenses for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 were \$18,177,724 as compared to \$16,122,996 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009. This reflects a \$2,054,728 or 12.74% increase in operating expenses. The increase is mainly due to one-time expenses related to the Lottery office relocation and the increase in MUSL game group dues, along with an increase in prize expense, retailer commissions/bonuses, and online gaming system vendor fees.

Net proceeds earned for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 were \$6,332,198. The total transfer of funds equated to \$5,722,500. Of that amount, \$200,000 was transferred to the Compulsive Gambling Prevention and Treatment Fund and \$422,500 was transferred to the Multi-jurisdictional Drug Task Force Grant Fund, leaving a balance of \$5,100,000, which was transferred to the general fund.

- By law, effective July 1, 2005, \$50,000 must be transferred to the State Treasurer each quarter for deposit in the compulsive gambling prevention and treatment fund.
- By law, effective July 1, 2007, \$105,625 must be transferred to the State Treasurer each quarter for deposit in the multi-jurisdictional drug task force grant fund.

Total net assets for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 were \$1,304,445. This reflects a \$609,698 increase in total net assets compared to the fiscal year ended June 30, 2009.

Overview of the Financial Statements

Statement of Net Assets Summary:

	6/30/2010	6/30/2009	6/30/2008
Total Current Assets	\$6,374,744	\$6,762,102	\$6,775,876
Total Noncurrent Assets	1,081,044	1,014,005	963,860
Total Assets	<u>\$7,455,788</u>	<u>\$7,776,107</u>	<u>\$7,739,736</u>
Total Current Liabilities	\$6,114,763	\$7,040,319	\$6,364,579
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	36,580	41,041	33,534
Total Liabilities	<u>\$6,151,343</u>	<u>\$7,081,360</u>	<u>\$6,398,113</u>
Net Assets			
Invested in Capital Assets	\$ 34,461	\$ 16,551	\$ 26,874
Restricted	1,046,583	997,454	936,986
Unrestricted	223,401	(319,258)	377,763
Total Net Assets	<u>\$1,304,445</u>	<u>\$ 694,747</u>	<u>\$1,341,623</u>

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets Summary:

	6/30/2010	6/30/2009	6/30/2008
Total Operating Revenue	\$24,498,988	\$21,815,381	\$22,219,058
Total Operating Expenses	18,177,724	16,122,996	16,205,287
Operating Income	\$6,321,264	\$5,692,385	\$6,013,771
Total Non-Operating Income	10,934	38,239	64,072
Net Proceeds before Operating Transfers	\$6,332,198	\$5,730,624	\$6,077,843
Total Transfers to Other Funds	5,722,500	6,377,500	5,922,500
Change in Net Assets	\$ 609,698	\$ (646,876)	\$ 155,343
Total Net Assets, Beginning of Year	694,747	1,341,623	1,186,280
Total Net Assets, End of Year	\$1,304,445	\$ 694,747	\$1,341,623

Revenue:

	6/30/2010	6/30/2009	6/30/2008
Powerball Ticket Sales	\$12,663,142	\$11,798,102	\$13,063,139
Mega Millions Ticket Sales	1,731,251		
Hot Lotto Ticket Sales	4,026,221	4,262,697	3,394,604
Wild Card 2 Ticket Sales	2,417,603	2,076,692	2,265,970
2by2 Ticket Sales	3,584,499	3,587,400	3,399,472
Total Ticket Sales	\$24,422,716	\$21,724,891	\$22,123,185
Other Operating Revenue	76,272	90,490	95,873
Total Revenue	\$24,498,988	\$21,815,381	\$22,219,058

Expenses:

	6/30/2010	6/30/2009	6/30/2008
Prize Expense	\$12,643,632	\$11,314,963	\$11,364,206
Retailer Commissions	1,194,589	1,063,243	1,089,323
Retailer Bonuses	57,750	40,250	55,500
Operating Expenses	4,281,753	3,704,540	3,696,258
Total Expenses	\$18,177,724	\$16,122,996	\$16,205,287

Net Proceeds:

	6/30/2010	6/30/2009	6/30/2008
Net Proceeds before Operating Transfers	\$6,332,198	\$5,730,624	\$6,077,843
Percent of Net Proceeds to Total Operating Revenue	25.8%	26.3%	27.4%

Potential Factors Affecting Future Sales

The challenge facing the Lottery is to sustain sales and net proceeds by actively promoting sales of tickets for present and new games in a very competitive retail environment.

The Lottery is unique compared to all other state lotteries because it may only conduct multi-state online games. The constitution restricts the Lottery to multi-state games. The law restricts the Lottery to online games. Therefore, the Lottery must partner with one or more other government-authorized lotteries to conduct a game. This restriction generally limits the Lottery to games administered by the MUSL. The MUSL may not have a broad range of games available to fulfill the Lottery's desired product mix or the MUSL's games may become stale. Should the MUSL dissolve, although it is not anticipated, the Lottery would not have a source of games to conduct.

Looking Ahead

The Lottery's goal is to provide a service to the citizens of North Dakota and, while considering the sensitive nature of the Lottery, promote games, and ensure the integrity, security, and fairness of its operation. To accomplish this, the Lottery must offer attractive games that add value to the Lottery's product mix, license retailers that are in convenient locations, create effective annual marketing plans, provide quality customer service to retailers and players, and control operating expenses.

To attract players, games must be interesting to play and have a broad range of player odds and starting jackpot prizes. The MUSL game groups periodically refresh their games by replacing them, or re-launching the games with new features or options. Total sales of a game are dramatically affected by the size of the game's jackpot and, to a lesser degree, on the odds of winning a prize. Larger jackpots generate higher sales. However, larger jackpots cannot be predicted or relied upon. Therefore, a variety of games with varying jackpots and odds of winning a prize is necessary to attract players.

For the fiscal year 2011, the Lottery plans to:

1. Closely monitor and restructure our product mix, by replacing games, or enhancing our current games with new features or options that focus on adding strong value propositions to make them more exciting and attractive to players;
2. Continue to develop and conduct innovative marketing promotions and public awareness campaigns;
3. Continue discussions on the most effective and efficient way the Lottery might enhance its customer service and communication efforts with retailers, players, and the general public;
4. Launch Mega Millions subscription sales;
5. Begin the Request for Proposal process for a marketing vendor (the contract period ends June 30, 2012);
6. Work closely with the Lottery Advisory Commission; and
7. Encourage players to be responsible in their amount of play.

Contacting the Lottery

If a person has a question on any information in this report or desires additional information, please write to:

North Dakota Lottery
Office of Attorney General
1050 E. Interstate Ave, Suite 200
Bismarck, ND 58503-5574

Statement of Net Assets
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2010 and 2009

	June 30, 2010	June 30, 2009
Assets:		
Current Assets:		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 6,021,710	\$ 6,625,742
Accounts Receivable	192,449	128,611
Due From Other State Funds	155,625	
Prepaid Expenses	4,960	7,749
Total Current Assets	\$ 6,374,744	\$ 6,762,102
Noncurrent Assets:		
Reserves on Deposit	\$ 1,046,583	\$ 997,454
Equipment and Software, Net	34,461	16,551
Total Noncurrent Assets	\$ 1,081,044	\$ 1,014,005
Total Assets	\$ 7,455,788	\$ 7,776,107
Liabilities:		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 71,071	\$ 462,936
Due to Other State Funds	5,163,704	5,786,282
Accrued Payroll	52,950	52,653
Prizes Payable	548,193	390,346
Deferred Revenue	272,606	348,102
Compensated Absences Payable	6,239	
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 6,114,763	\$ 7,040,319
Noncurrent Liabilities:		
Compensated Absences Payable	\$ 36,580	\$ 41,041
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	\$ 36,580	\$ 41,041
Total Liabilities	\$ 6,151,343	\$ 7,081,360
Net Assets:		
Invested in Capital Assets	\$ 34,461	\$ 16,551
Restricted	1,046,583	997,454
Unrestricted	223,401	(319,258)
Total Net Assets	\$ 1,304,445	\$ 694,747

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2010 and 2009

	<u>June 30, 2010</u>	<u>June 30, 2009</u>
Operating Revenues:		
Ticket Sales	\$ 24,422,716	\$ 21,724,891
Other Operating Revenue	76,272	90,490
Total Operating Revenues	<u>\$ 24,498,988</u>	<u>\$ 21,815,381</u>
Operating Expenses:		
Prize Expense	\$ 12,643,632	\$ 11,314,963
Retailer Commissions	1,252,339	1,103,493
Contractual Services Expense	2,578,845	2,285,574
Marketing	575,696	645,552
Salaries and Benefits	657,920	601,851
Operating	469,292	171,563
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$ 18,177,724</u>	<u>\$ 16,122,996</u>
Operating Income	<u>\$ 6,321,264</u>	<u>\$ 5,692,385</u>
Nonoperating Revenues:		
Interest Income	\$ 10,934	\$ 38,239
Total Nonoperating Revenues	<u>\$ 10,934</u>	<u>\$ 38,239</u>
Income Before Transfers	<u>\$ 6,332,198</u>	<u>\$ 5,730,624</u>
Transfers to Other Funds:		
Compulsive Gambling Fund	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
Multi Jurisdictional Drug Task Force	422,500	422,500
State General Fund	5,100,000	5,755,000
Total Transfers to Other Funds	<u>\$ 5,722,500</u>	<u>\$ 6,377,500</u>
Change in Net Assets	\$ 609,698	\$ (646,876)
Total Net Assets – Beginning of Year	694,747	1,341,623
Total Net Assets – End of Year	<u>\$ 1,304,445</u>	<u>\$ 694,747</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 2010 and 2009

	June 30, 2010	June 30, 2009
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:		
Ticket Sales	\$ 17,512,666	\$ 15,693,090
Other Revenues	76,731	96,202
Paid to Prize Winners	(4,567,403)	(1,761,305)
Paid to Vendors	(6,367,788)	(6,624,084)
Paid to Employees	(655,845)	(586,070)
Reserves on Deposit - Increase	(52,833)	(64,045)
Reserves on Deposit - Decrease	925	4,167
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$ 5,946,453	\$ 6,757,955
Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities:		
Transferred to Compulsive Gambling Treatment Fund	\$ (250,000)	\$ (200,000)
Transferred to Multi Jurisdictional Drug Task Force Fund	(528,125)	(422,500)
Transferred to State General Fund	(5,755,000)	(5,300,000)
Net Cash Used in Noncapital Financing Activities	\$ (6,533,125)	\$ (5,922,500)
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:		
Purchase of Property and Equipment	\$ (28,200)	\$ 0
Net Cash Used for Capital and Related Financing Activities	\$ (28,200)	\$ 0
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:		
Interest Income	\$ 10,840	\$ 42,493
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	\$ 10,840	\$ 42,493
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	\$ 6,625,742	\$ 5,747,794
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$ 6,021,710	\$ 6,625,742
Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:		
Operating Income	\$ 6,321,264	\$ 5,692,385
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:		
Depreciation	10,290	10,323
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
(Increase) Decrease in Accounts Receivable	(64,364)	889,163
(Increase) Decrease in Prepaid Expenses	2,789	(2,285)
(Increase) Decrease in Reserves on Deposit	(48,509)	(59,878)
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable	(391,865)	122,135
Increase (Decrease) in Accrued Payroll	297	8,274
Increase (Decrease) in Compensated Absences Payable	1,778	7,507
Increase (Decrease) in Prizes Payable	157,847	110,749
Increase (Decrease) in Due to Other State Funds	32,422	(44,617)
Increase (Decrease) in Other Current Liabilities	(75,496)	24,199
Total Adjustments	\$ (374,811)	\$ 1,065,570
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$ 5,946,453	\$ 6,757,955
Noncash Transactions:		
Interest Revenue on Prize Reserves	\$ 620	\$ 591
Total Noncash Transactions	\$ 620	\$ 591

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2010

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Organization

On November 5, 2002, North Dakota citizens approved a constitutional amendment that enables the state to participate in multi-state lottery games. The 2003 Legislative Assembly passed House Bill No. 1243 that became law on April 4, 2003. This law, chapter 53-12.1 (Lottery) of the North Dakota Century Code, created the North Dakota Lottery as a division within the Office of Attorney General. The law restricts the Lottery to multi-state online games. In-state lotto games, instant ticket games, and pick 3 or 4 numbers games are prohibited.

The mission of the Lottery is to maximize net proceeds for the benefit of the state by promoting entertaining games, providing quality customer service to retailers and players, achieving the highest standards of integrity, security, and accountability, and maintaining public trust.

The Lottery is a state government-sponsored business enterprise. The Lottery manages, regulates, and promotes this business. As a business, the Lottery must be profitable in the eyes of the Legislature. To be profitable, the Lottery must prosper, have a positive public image, and players must be confident that games are fair and honest. The success of the Lottery will depend on how well the Lottery is managed, the variety of games that are available to players, and how effectively games are promoted.

The Lottery is a member of the Multi-State Lottery Association (MUSL). The Lottery has been authorized to conduct the games of Powerball, Hot Lotto, Wild Card 2, 2by2 and Mega Millions. The Powerball game was launched on March 25, 2004. The Powerball matrix is 5 of 59 and 1 of 39. The Hot Lotto game was launched on June 24, 2004. The Hot Lotto matrix is 5 of 39 and 1 of 19. The Wild Card 2 game was launched on September 23, 2004. The Wild Card 2 matrix is 5 of 31 and 1 of 16. The 2by2 game was launched on February 2, 2006. The 2by2 matrix is 2 of 26 and 2 of 26. The Mega Millions game was launched on January 31, 2010. The Mega Millions matrix is 5 of 56 and 1 of 46. Drawings for Powerball, Hot Lotto, and Wild Card 2 are held each Wednesday and Saturday evening. Drawings for Mega Millions are held each Tuesday and Friday evening. Drawings for 2by2 are held each evening, seven days a week.

To play the Power Play option on a Powerball ticket, a player pays an additional one dollar per play for an opportunity to multiply the player's set prize (excluding the jackpot prize) by 2, 3, 4, or 5. The Power Play prize multiplier number is selected at random before each draw. However, if a player wins a Match Five prize (five white balls) with Power Play, the prize will always be multiplied by 5 times, for a \$1 million prize, regardless of the Power Play number drawn.

To play the Megaplier option on a Mega Millions ticket, a player pays an additional one dollar per play for an opportunity to multiply the player's set prize (excluding the jackpot prize) by 2, 3, or 4. The Megaplier prize multiplier number is selected at random before each draw.

To play the Triple Sizzler option on a Hot Lotto ticket, a player pays an additional one dollar per play for an opportunity to multiply the player's set prize (excluding the jackpot prize) by 3.

To play the Tuesday Double Prize option for 2by2, a player must purchase a 7-day multi-draw play for an opportunity to double all prizes won on Tuesday.

Reporting Entity

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, the Lottery should include all component units over which the Lottery exercises such aspects as (1) appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (2) has the ability to impose its will on that organization or (3) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific burdens on the Lottery.

Based on the criteria of GASB Statement No. 14, no organization was determined to be part of the Lottery as a reporting entity. The Lottery is a division of the Office of Attorney General, which is part of the primary government of the state of North Dakota.

Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

The Lottery's activity is accounted for as a proprietary type enterprise fund for the state of North Dakota. A proprietary fund is accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

An enterprise fund is used to account for an activity that is financed and operated in a manner similar to a private business enterprise where the costs of providing goods or services to the public on a continuing basis are financed through the sale of those goods or services. The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. An enterprise fund is accounted for by using the economic resources measurement focus in which all assets and liabilities associated with the operation of the funds are included on the statement of net assets. Net assets are segregated into investments in capital assets and restricted and unrestricted components. The statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net assets present increases, like revenues, and decreases, like expenses, in total net assets. The statement of cash flows presents the cash flows for operating, investing, capital, and non-capital financing activities.

The lottery law prescribes that general fund monies of the state may not be used or obligated to pay expenses or prizes of the Lottery. The Lottery must be self-sustaining.

Accounting Standards

The Lottery follows the pronouncements of the GASB, which is the nationally accepted standard-setting body for establishing generally accepted accounting principles for governmental entities. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 20, the Lottery follows all applicable GASB Pronouncements and Financial Accounting Standards Board pronouncements issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless those pronouncements conflict with GASB pronouncements.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the director to make estimates and presumptions that affect reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income, and expenses. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Operating and Nonoperating Revenues

An enterprise fund distinguishes operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the proprietary fund's principal ongoing operation. The principal operating revenue of the Lottery is sales of tickets. The principal operating expenses of the Lottery are prizes, retailer commissions, contractual services, marketing, MUSL game group dues, and salaries and fringe benefits. All revenue and expenses not meeting the criteria are reported as nonoperating income and expenses.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are defined as deposits with the Bank of North Dakota and the State Treasurer. The Lottery does not invest in marketable securities.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable primarily represents prizes due from MUSL and lottery funds due from retailers for ticket sales, less commissions and prizes on winning tickets paid by retailers. Lottery funds are collected weekly through electronic funds transfer by the Lottery from retailers' bank accounts. The Lottery has not incurred and does not project any bad debts.

Reserves on Deposit

As of June 30, 2010 the Lottery has \$1,046,583 on deposit with the MUSL related to the Prize Reserve Pools and Unreserved Account as compared to \$997,454 at June 30, 2009. See Note 7.

Prepaid Expenses

The prepaid expenses of \$4,960 at June 30, 2010 are primarily retailer commissions on future sales as compared to \$7,749 at June 30, 2009.

Equipment and Software

Equipment and software are stated at cost, net of accumulated depreciation. Equipment and software with a cost of \$5,000 or more per unit are capitalized and reported in the accompanying financial statements. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets which range from three to seven years.

Prizes

Prize expense is recorded based on actual drawing results.

Prizes payable represents the difference between the amount of prize expense recognized and actual prizes paid.

Players may redeem winning tickets for up to 180 days after the draw for the game. As of June 30, 2010, unclaimed prizes were \$547,693 compared to \$341,802 on June 30, 2009.

Prizes that expired in fiscal years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 were \$343,287 and \$324,408, respectively.

Deferred Revenue

A liability has been recorded for lottery tickets sold on or before June 30, 2010 on multi-draw tickets and for subscriptions sold on or before June 30, 2010 that contain plays for future draws that will occur after June 30, 2010. The amount related to future ticket sales on multi-draw tickets of \$73,151 and future sales on subscriptions of \$194,520 are classified as deferred revenue. Sales of uncashed gift certificates in the amount of \$4,935 are also classified as deferred revenue.

Interfund Balances and Transfers

At June 30, 2010, the Lottery had nominal accounts payable and receivable involving normal business expenses with several state agencies and had net proceeds due to be transferred to one state fund.

By law, the net proceeds of the Lottery, less the amount allocated to the Compulsive Gambling Prevention and Treatment Fund, amount allocated to the Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force Grant Fund, Lottery's share of a game's prize reserve pool, and holdback of any reserve funds the director may need for continuing operations, must be transferred to the State Treasurer on at least an annual basis for deposit in the state general fund. By law, \$50,000 must be transferred to the State Treasurer each quarter for deposit in the Compulsive Gambling Prevention and Treatment Fund and \$105,625 must be transferred to the State Treasurer each quarter for deposit in the Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force Grant Fund. The reserve funds held by the director are funds that are required to be transferred to the MUSL for prize reserve pools. The balance of the net proceeds is transferred to the state general fund.

Retailer Commissions

Lottery retailers receive a 5% commission on each ticket sold or otherwise provided to players, and for subscriptions that retailers initiated. Effective January 1, 2006, the Lottery provides retailers a bonus commission, as a sales incentive, for selling jackpot/grand prize and certain high tier prize winning tickets. The Lottery does not provide retailers a commission for redeeming winning tickets. Total retailer commissions were \$1,252,339, including bonus commissions of \$57,750.

Marketing and Advertising

Costs incurred for developing creative, including point-of-sale items, research, and media advertising are expensed when incurred which generally is when point-of-sale items are first distributed to retailers or advertising first takes place.

Accumulated Unpaid Vacation, Sick Pay, and Compensatory Pay

Annual leave and sick leave are a part of permanent employees' compensation as set forth in Section 54-06-14 of the North Dakota Century Code. Annual leave is earned based on tenure of employment, within a range of a minimum of one working day per month of employment, to a maximum of two working days per month of employment, to be fixed by rules and regulations adopted by the employing unit. In general, accrued annual leave cannot exceed 30 days at

April 30 each year, as set by the Office of Attorney General. Employees are paid for unused annual leave upon termination or retirement.

Sick leave is earned at the rate of one working day per month of employment. There are no limitations on the amount of sick leave that an employee can accumulate. Employees who have ten continuous years of service are paid one-tenth of their accumulated sick leave upon termination or retirement under chapter 54-52 of the North Dakota Century Code. A liability is recognized for that portion of accumulated sick leave benefits that is estimated will be taken as required by the GASB Statement No. 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*.

Compensatory leave is earned by employees who work overtime each week in accordance with the Office of Attorney General's policy. Generally, upon termination or retirement, employees are not eligible to receive compensation for their compensatory leave balances.

Note 2. Deposits

Custodial Credit Risk

State law generally requires all state funds be deposited in the state owned Bank of North Dakota. North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) Section 21-04-01 provides that public funds belonging to or in the custody of the state shall be deposited in the Bank of North Dakota. Also, NDCC Section 6-09-07 states, "[a]ll state funds ... must be deposited in the Bank of North Dakota" or must be deposited in accordance with constitutional and statutory provisions.

Lottery deposits at the Bank of North Dakota at June 30, 2010 and 2009 include \$6,021,710 and \$6,625,742 respectively.

These deposits are exposed to custodial credit risk as uninsured and uncollateralized. However, these deposits at the Bank of North Dakota are guaranteed by the state of North Dakota through NDCC Section 6-09-10.

Note 3. Compensated Absences

A summary of compensated absences follows for 2009 and 2010:

Beginning balance, July 1, 2008	\$ 33,534
Addition	7,507
Reduction	
Ending balance, June 30, 2009	<u>\$ 41,041</u>
Amount payable within one year	\$ 0
Beginning balance, July 1, 2009	\$ 41,041
Addition	1,778
Reduction	
Ending balance, June 30, 2010	<u>\$ 42,819</u>
Amount payable within one year	\$ 6,239

Note 4. Due to / Due from Other State Funds

At June 30, 2009 and 2010, accounts payable due to several state agencies and transfers of net proceeds due to the state general fund are:

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Due to the Department of Transportation	\$ 1,781	\$ 593
Due to the Information Technology Department	3,147	2,000
Due to the Office of Management and Budget	361	1,022
Due to the Office of State Tax Commissioner	57,127	19,452
Due to the Office of Administrative Hearings		1,017
Due to the Office of Attorney General	288	7,198
Due to the ND Department of Human Services	1,000	
Due to the state General Fund	5,100,000	5,755,000
Total	<u>\$5,163,704</u>	<u>\$5,786,282</u>

Note 5. Equipment and Software

A summary of changes in equipment, software, and accumulated depreciation is as follows for 2009 and 2010:

	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Software</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>	<u>Net</u>
Balance, June 30, 2008	\$ 15,520	\$ 32,000	\$ 20,646	\$ 26,874
Additions	0	0	10,323	10,323
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Balance, June 30, 2009	<u>\$ 15,520</u>	<u>\$ 32,000</u>	<u>\$ 30,969</u>	<u>\$ 16,551</u>
	<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Software</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>	<u>Net</u>
Balance, June 30, 2009	\$ 15,520	\$ 32,000	\$ 30,969	\$ 16,551
Additions	28,200	0	10,290	17,910
Disposals	0	0	0	0
Balance, June 30, 2010	<u>\$ 43,720</u>	<u>\$ 32,000</u>	<u>\$ 41,259</u>	<u>\$ 34,461</u>

Note 6. Employee Pension Plan

The North Dakota Lottery participates in the North Dakota Public Employees' Retirement System (NDPERS) administered by the state of North Dakota. The following is a brief description of the plan.

NDPERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan covering substantially all classified employees of the North Dakota Lottery. The plan provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. If an active employee passes away with less than three years of credited service, a death benefit equal to the value of the employee's accumulated contributions, plus interest, is paid to the employee's beneficiary. If the employee has earned more than three years of credited service, the surviving spouse is entitled to a single payment refund, life-time

monthly payments in an amount equal to 50% of the employee's accrued normal retirement benefit, or 60 monthly payments equal to the employee's accrued normal retirement benefit calculated as if the employee were age 65 the day before death occurred or monthly payments in an amount equal to the employees' accrued 100% joint and survivor retirement benefit if the member had reached normal retirement age prior to date of death. If the surviving spouse passes away before the employee's accumulated pension benefits are paid, the balance is payable to the surviving spouse's designated beneficiary.

Eligible employees who become totally disabled after a minimum of 180 days of service receive monthly disability benefits that are equal to 25% of their final average salary with a minimum benefit of \$100. To qualify under this section, the employee must meet the criteria established by the Retirement Board for being considered totally disabled.

Employees are entitled to unreduced monthly pension benefits equal to 2.00% of their final average salary for each year of service beginning when the sum of age and years of credited service equal or exceed 85, or at normal retirement age (65). The plan permits early retirement at ages 55-65, with three or more years of service.

Benefit and contribution provisions are administered in accordance with chapter 54-52 of the North Dakota Century Code. This state statute requires that 4% of the participant's salary be contributed to the plan by either the employee or by the employer under a "salary reduction" agreement. The state of North Dakota has implemented a salary reduction agreement and is currently contributing the employee's share. The Office of Attorney General is required to contribute 4.12% of each participant's salary as the employer's share. The required contributions are determined using an entry age normal actuarial funding method. The North Dakota Retirement Board was created by the State Legislature and is the governing authority of NDPERS. The Lottery's required actual contribution to NDPERS for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010, 2009 and 2008 was \$38,986, \$35,038 and \$33,842, respectively.

NDPERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and the required supplementary information for NDPERS. The report may be obtained by writing to NDPERS; 400 East Broadway, Suite 505, PO Box 1214, Bismarck, ND 58502-1214.

Note 7. Multi-State Lottery Association

The Lottery is a member of the MUSL which administers games on behalf of member lotteries. MUSL administers the Powerball, Mega Millions, Hot Lotto, Wild Card 2, and 2by2 games for the Lottery. Each member lottery sells game tickets through its retailers and makes weekly wire transfers to MUSL in an amount equal to the member lottery's share of the jackpot prize liability. If this results in a negative amount, the MUSL transfers funds to the Lottery. Lesser prizes are paid directly to the winners by each member lottery. The prize pools for Powerball, powerplay, Hot Lotto and triple sizzler are 50% of each drawing period's sales, after the prize reserve accounts are funded to the amounts set by the game groups. The prize pool for Wild Card 2 is 55%. The prize pool for Mega Millions is 51% of the Mega Millions sales and 50% of the megaplier sales. The prize pool for 2by2 is 43.7% with the prize expense being 72.5% after the free tickets. Up to 2% of sales for Powerball and Wild Card 2 are deducted from the prize pool and placed in prize reserve pools. Up to 1% of sales for Mega Millions are deducted from the prize pool and placed in prize reserve pools. For Hot Lotto, up to 1% of sales is deducted from the prize pool and placed in a prize reserve pool when the jackpot prize exceeds \$2 million. An additional 2% of sales are placed in the prize reserve fund after the annuitized jackpot prize

exceeds \$5 million. When the prize reserve funds exceed the designated caps, the excess amount becomes part of the jackpot prize pool.

The prize reserve funds serve as a contingency reserve to protect MUSL from unforeseen prize liabilities and the money in this reserve fund is used at the discretion of the MUSL board of directors. The prize reserve fund monies are refundable to MUSL member lotteries if MUSL dissolves or if a member lottery leaves MUSL. A member lottery leaving MUSL must wait one year before receiving their remaining share, if any, of the prize reserve funds. Any amount remaining in the prize pools at the end of the games is carried forward to a replacement game or expended in a manner as directed by the game group. The MUSL prize reserve pool account balance and the Lottery's share of that balance are as follows:

	<u>6/30/2010</u>	<u>6/30/2009</u>
MUSL prize reserve pool account	\$120,362,843	\$111,652,817
Lottery's share of the MUSL's prize reserve pool account (on deposit)	\$ 1,025,125	\$ 973,216

The Lottery also has an unreserved account with MUSL. Interest earned on MUSL funds, and any unclaimed jackpot prizes may be deposited into this account and Lottery board and game group dues and other MUSL related expenses may be paid from this fund.

	<u>6/30/2010</u>	<u>6/30/2009</u>
MUSL Unreserved Account	\$15,867,084	\$19,968,618
Lottery's share of the MUSL's Unreserved Account (on deposit)	\$ 21,459	\$ 24,238

A winner of a Powerball, Mega Millions, or Hot Lotto jackpot prize may select that the prize be paid at the cash value of the prize or as an annuity. A Powerball jackpot prize is paid out in 30 installments; a Mega Millions jackpot is paid out in 26 installments; and a Hot Lotto jackpot prize in 25 installments. Powerball annuitized prizes are paid annually in thirty graduated payments (increasing each year) by a rate determined by the Powerball game group. If a jackpot winner selects annual installments for Powerball, Mega Millions, or Hot Lotto, the MUSL purchases United States government securities to fund awarded prizes. The securities are held in Winner Trust accounts with the member lottery named as the trust beneficiary. MUSL transfers cash to the member lotteries to facilitate the payment of the annual jackpot prize amount. The source of this money is a game group's grand prize pool. The assets and related liabilities are reflected in the MUSL's financial statements and, therefore, are not reflected in the Lottery's financial statements. MUSL is responsible for transferring the cash or the annuity installment amounts to the member lottery before the payment to the jackpot prize winner. The Lottery currently is not paying any prize winner any annuity prize payments. The Wild Card 2 jackpot prize and 2by2 grand prize are paid in cash. The Powerball, Mega Millions, Hot Lotto, and Wild Card 2 jackpot prizes are divided equally among multiple winning tickets among the participating state lotteries.

As a member of the MUSL board and Powerball, Mega Millions, Hot Lotto, Wild Card 2, and 2by2 game groups, the Lottery is responsible for its pro-rated share of the MUSL board dues. MUSL Board dues for fiscal years ended June 30, 2010, and 2009, were \$20,000, and \$1,564, respectively. MUSL board dues and game group dues are decreased by MUSL's non-game earnings including, interest, web advertising, and trademark license fees.

Note 8. Commitments and Contingencies

The Lottery entered into contracts with:

1. Scientific Games International, Inc. of Alpharetta, GA on February 3, 2004. The vendor provides an online lottery gaming system and related services through March 24, 2014. Payments for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 totaled \$2,578,845 and \$2,285,574, respectively. The Lottery's future obligation through March 24, 2012 is based on 10.63% of ticket sales and the future obligation from March 25, 2012 through March 24, 2014 is 8.8761% of ticket sales, there is no minimum fee or retainer fee;
2. H2M of Fargo, ND on July 1, 2007. The vendor provides marketing and related services through June 30, 2012. Payments for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 totaled \$454,157 and \$481,746, respectively. The Lottery's future obligation is for actual services requested, there is no minimum fee or retainer fee; and
3. Safety & Security Services, Inc. of Oklahoma City, OK on March 1, 2009. The vendor provides standby services and, if necessary, security of the Scientific Games International, Inc.'s computer data center on days of the drawings through March 31, 2012. The payment for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 totaled \$0 and \$160, respectively. There is no minimum future compensation per year since there is no compensation for standby services. Future compensation is based only on actual services performed at the data center.

The Lottery has a contingent gain estimated at \$171,661 at June 30, 2010 from prizes that may be forfeited due to winning players not claiming them within the required time frame. This contingent gain has not been accrued in these financial statements but will be recognized when realized.

Note 9. Line of Credit

In accordance with subsection 2 of section 53-12.1-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, the Lottery has secured a short-term line of credit with the Bank of North Dakota. The law provides that the line of credit be limited to the amount of each cash prize of \$100,000 or more that relates to prize funds known to be due and forthcoming to the Lottery from other government-authorized lotteries through the MUSL. The line of credit may not exceed \$1 million in the aggregate. To date, no credit advances have been requested.

Note 10. Risk Management

The Lottery is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Lottery, as a division of the Office of Attorney General, participates in the same funds/pools established by the state for risk management issues.

The 1995 Legislative Assembly established the Risk Management Fund (RMF), an internal service fund, to provide a self-insurance vehicle for funding the liability exposures of state agencies resulting from the elimination of the state's sovereign immunity. The RMF manages the tort liability of the state, its agencies' employees, and the University System. All state agencies participating in the RMF and their fund contribution was determined using a projected

cost allocation approach. The statutory liability of the state is limited to a total of \$250,000 per person and \$1 million per occurrence.

The Office of Attorney General also participates in the North Dakota Fire and Tornado Fund. The office pays an annual premium to the Fire and Tornado Fund to cover property damage to building and personal property. Replacement cost coverage is provided by estimating replacement cost in consultation with the Fire and Tornado Fund.

The Office of Attorney General also participates in the State Bonding Fund in which the office has blanket employee fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$2 million. The State Bonding Fund did not charge any premium for this coverage.

Note 11. Postretirement Benefits

Former employees receiving retirement benefits under the Retirement Plan for Employees of the Lottery are eligible to participate in the Retiree Health Benefits Fund, a cost-sharing multiple employer plan, as administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board. During each month of employment, the Lottery contributes 1% of each employee's salary into the Retiree Health Benefits Fund. Total contributions for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, 2009 and 2008 were \$4,801, \$4,315, and \$4,168, respectively.

Note 12. Lease Commitments

The North Dakota Lottery entered into an operating lease for its office space at 1050 East Interstate Ave – Suite 200, Bismarck, ND 58503-5574. Lease expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 totaled \$26,145.00. The future annual rental commitments are as follows:

<u>Years Ending</u>	
2011	\$44,820
2012	\$46,613
2013	\$46,613
2014	\$48,505
2015	\$48,505
2016–2017	<u>\$100,928</u>
Total	<u>\$335,984</u>



STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STATE CAPITOL
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**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING
AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Honorable John Hoeven, Governor
Members of the Legislative Assembly
Honorable Wayne Stenehjem, Attorney General
Randy Miller, Director North Dakota Lottery

We have audited the financial statements of the North Dakota Lottery, a division of the Office of the Attorney General of the state of North Dakota, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2010 and have issued our report thereon dated November 17, 2010. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the North Dakota Lottery's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of North Dakota Lottery's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of North Dakota Lottery's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of North Dakota Lottery's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the North Dakota Lottery's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Governor, Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee, North Dakota Lottery Advisory Commission, and management of the North Dakota Lottery and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Robert R. Peterson
State Auditor

November 17, 2010

**SPECIAL COMMENTS REQUESTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AND FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**
For The Year Ended June 30, 2010

The Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee requires that certain items be addressed by auditors performing audits of state agencies. These items and our responses are as follows:

RESPONSES TO LAFRC AUDIT QUESTIONS

1. What type of opinion was issued on the financial statements?

Unqualified Opinion.

2. Was there compliance with statutes, laws, rules, and regulations under which the agency was created and is functioning?

Yes.

3. Was internal control adequate and functioning effectively?

Yes.

4. Were there any indications of lack of efficiency in financial operations and management of the agency?

No.

5. Has action been taken on findings and recommendations included in prior audit reports?

Yes.

6. Was a management letter issued? If so, provide a summary below, including any recommendations and the management responses.

No.

LAFRC AUDIT COMMUNICATIONS

1. Identify any significant changes in accounting policies, any management conflicts of interest, any contingent liabilities, or any significant unusual transactions.

There were no significant changes in accounting policies.

No management conflicts of interest were noted.

No contingent liabilities were identified.

There were no significant or unusual transactions.

2. Identify any significant accounting estimates, the process used by management to formulate the accounting estimates, and the basis for the auditor's conclusions regarding the reasonableness of those estimates.

The North Dakota Lottery's financial statements do not include any significant accounting estimates.

3. Identify any significant audit adjustments.

Significant audit adjustments were not necessary.

4. Identify any disagreements with management, whether or not resolved to the auditor's satisfaction relating to a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements.

None.

5. Identify any serious difficulties encountered in performing the audit.

None.

6. Identify any major issues discussed with management prior to retention.

This is not applicable for audits conducted by the Office of the State Auditor.

7. Identify any management consultations with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters.

None.

8. Identify any high-risk information technology systems critical to operations based on the auditor's overall assessment of the importance of the system to the agency and its mission, or whether any exceptions identified in the six audit report questions to be addressed by the auditors are directly related to the operations of an information technology system.

ConnectND Finance, Human Resource Management System (HRMS), Games Management System (GMS), and Internal Control System (ICS) are high risk systems critical to the ND Lottery.

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GOVERNANCE COMMUNICATIONS

November 17, 2010

To: Honorable Wayne Stenehjem, Attorney General
The Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee

We have audited the financial statements of the North Dakota Lottery for the year ended June 30, 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated November 17, 2010. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the North Dakota Lottery are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2010. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. We did not identify any such misstatements during the course of our audit.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated November 17, 2010.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention. It should be noted that the retention of the State Auditor is a matter of state law and is not under control of the North Dakota Lottery.

This information is intended solely for the use of the Honorable Wayne Stenehjem, Attorney General, the Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee, and management of the North Dakota Lottery and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,



Ron Tolstad Jr., CPA
Audit Manager

You may obtain audit reports on the internet at:

www.nd.gov/auditor/

or by contacting the
Division of State Audit

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