

# Financial Statements June 30, 2016 Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program

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#### **Independent Auditor's Report**

The Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program (the Program), an enterprise fund of the State of North Dakota, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Program's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion 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 from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Program's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 Program's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Program, as of June 30, 2016, and the respective changes in its financial position and its cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of the Program are intended to present the financial position, the changes in financial position and, where applicable, 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 Program. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the State of North Dakota as of June 30, 2016, the changes in its financial position, or, where applicable, its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

#### **Other Matters**

#### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 6 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated September 23, 2016 on our consideration of the Program's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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* in considering the Program's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Bismarck, North Dakota September 23, 2016

Esde Saelly LLP

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**JUNE 30, 2016** 

The management discussion and analysis of the Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program's (the Program) financial performance provides an overview of the Program's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. Please read it in conjunction with the financial statements of the Program.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:

The Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program was established by North Dakota Century Code Section 43-45-05.4 for the purpose of providing loans to qualified individuals participating in a paid or unpaid internship at a licensed substance abuse treatment facility in North Dakota in order to obtain licensure as an addiction counselor.

There were seven loans totaling \$52,000 made by the Program for the year ended June 30, 2016. There were two pending applications for \$15,000. As of June 30, 2016, the gross amount of outstanding loans is \$52,000 with an allowance for loan losses of \$2,600 for net loans of \$49,400.

Funds available for investment in loans as of June 30, 2016 were \$148,074.

#### REQUIRED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

The Program is an enterprise fund and uses the accrual basis of accounting. The basic financial statements include the statement of net position, statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position, and statement of cash flows. The statement of net position provides readers the assets and liabilities of the Program, with the differences between the two reported as net position. The statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net position identifies the operating performance of the Program for the fiscal year. The statement of cash flows identifies cash flows from operating activities, non-capital financing activities, and investing activities, and provides answers to such questions as where did the cash come from, what was cash used for, and what was the change in the cash balance during the reporting period.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**JUNE 30, 2016** 

# CONDENSED STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2016

ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Loans, net Interest receivable	\$ 148,074 49,400 902
Total assets	 198,376
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	-
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS	\$ 198,376
LIABILITIES	\$ -
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	-
NET POSITION - UNRESTRICTED	198,376
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS AND NET POSITION	\$ 198,376

#### Establishment of the Program

The 2015 Legislative Session established the Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program, effective July 1, 2015. In August of 2015, the Program received a \$200,000 transfer from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust.

#### Loans

There were seven loans totaling \$52,000 made during the fiscal year 2016. As of June 30, 2016, there are seven loans outstanding totaling \$52,000 with an allowance for loan losses of \$2,600 for net loans of \$49,400.

#### Net Position

Net position of the Program as of June 30, 2016 is \$198,376.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

**JUNE 30, 2016** 

# CONDENSED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

OPERATING REVENUES	\$ 902
OPERATING EXPENSES	 2,600
OPERATING LOSS	(1,698)
NONOPERATING REVENUES	 74
NONOPERATING INCOME	 74
LOSS BEFORE TRANSFERS	(1,624)
OPERATING TRANSFERS	 200,000
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	198,376
TOTAL NET POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR	 
TOTAL NET POSITION, END OF YEAR	\$ 198,376

#### Revenue

Operating revenue is from interest accrued on loans outstanding. The interest rate on outstanding loans accrues at the Bank of North Dakota's current base rate, or 3.50% as of June 30, 2016, but may not exceed six percent.

#### Expenses

The provision for loan loss was \$2,600 for the year ended June 30, 2016.

#### Nonoperating Revenue

Nonoperating revenue represents interest earned on the cash and cash equivalents.

#### Transfers

On August 19, 2015 the Program received a transfer of \$200,000 from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS JUNE 30, 2016

#### ECONOMIC FACTORS AND FUTURE OUTLOOK

As of June 30, 2016, there were two pending applications to extend credit for \$15,000. The repayment schedule of these loans may not exceed 10 years.

#### CONTACTING THE PROGRAM'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, customers, and creditors with a general overview of the Program's finances and to demonstrate the Program's accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Bank of North Dakota, P.O. Box 5509, Bismarck, North Dakota 58506-5509.

# STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

**JUNE 30, 2016** 

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 148,074
Loans, current portion	2,906
Interest receivable	 902
Total current assets	 151,882
Noncurrent Assets	
Loans, net of allowance for loan losses of \$2,600 in 2016	 46,494
Total assets	 198,376
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	 
Total assets and deferred outflows	\$ 198,376
LIABILITIES	\$ 
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
NET POSITION	
Unrestricted	 198,376
Total liabilities, deferred inflows and net position	\$ 198,376

# STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

OPERATING REVENUES Interest on loans	\$ 902
OPERATING EXPENSES Provision for loan loss	2,600
OPERATING LOSS	(1,698)
NONOPERATING REVENUES Investment income	74
NONOPERATING INCOME	74
LOSS BEFORE TRANSFERS	(1,624)
OPERATING TRANSFERS Transfer from North Dakota Student Loan Trust	200,000
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	198,376
TOTAL NET POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR	
TOTAL NET POSITION, END OF YEAR	\$ 198,376

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	 
NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES Transfer from North Dakota Student Loan Trust	200,000
NET CASH FROM NON-CAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES	200,000
INVESTING ACTIVITIES Investment income received Loans advanced	74 (52,000)
NET CASH USED FOR INVESTING ACTIVITIES	 (51,926)
NET CHANGE IN CASH	148,074
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	 
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 148,074
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES Operating loss Adjustments to reconcile operating loss	\$ (1,698)
to net cash from operating activities  Adjustment for provision for loan loss  Changes in assets and liabilities  Interest receivable	2,600 (902)
NET CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ <u>-</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**JUNE 30, 2016** 

#### NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Operations

Section 43-45-05.4 of the North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) established the Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program (the Program), effective July 1, 2015. The purpose of the Program is to provide loans to qualified individuals participating in a paid or unpaid internship at a licensed substance abuse treatment facility in North Dakota in order to obtain licensure as an addiction counselor. The Bank of North Dakota administers the Program and all loans made by the Program.

The Program was established by a two hundred thousand dollar transfer from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust. All moneys transferred into the fund, interest upon moneys in the fund, and payments to the fund of principal and interest on loans are appropriated to the Bank of North Dakota on a continuing basis.

Loans made by the Program may not exceed seven thousand five hundred dollars, must accrue at the Bank of North Dakota's current base rate, or 3.50% as of June 30, 2016, but may not exceed six percent, and must have a repayment schedule of no longer than ten years.

#### Reporting Entity

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus*, the Program should include all component units over which the Program 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 financial burdens on, the Program.

Based on that criteria, no organizations were determined to be part of the Program. The Program is included as part of the primary government in the State of North Dakota's reporting.

#### Fund Accounting

The Program is an enterprise fund and uses the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred.

#### Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All enterprise funds are accounted using the economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, all assets and liabilities associated with the operation of these funds are included on the statement of net position. Net position is segregated into net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted components. The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net position presents increases (e.g., revenues) and decreases (e.g., expenses) in total net position. The statement of cash flows presents the cash flows for operating activities, non-capital financing activities, and investing activities.

(continued on next page)

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**JUNE 30, 2016** 

#### Use of Estimates

In preparing financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the statement of net position and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Material estimates that are particularly susceptible to significant change in the near-term relate to the determination of the allowance for loan losses.

Significant Group Concentrations of Credit Risk

All of the Program's business is with customers within the State of North Dakota. Concentrations of credit risk are present in the Program.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Program considers all cash and time deposits with original maturities of three months or less to be cash and cash equivalents for the purpose of reporting cash flows.

Loans

Loans are stated at their outstanding unpaid principal balance. Interest income on loans is accrued at Bank of North Dakota's current base rate, not to exceed six percent, on the unpaid principal balance.

The accrual of interest on loans is discontinued when, in management's opinion, the borrower may be unable to meet payments as they become due. When interest accrual is discontinued, all unpaid accrued interest is reversed. Interest income is subsequently recognized only to the extent cash payments are received.

Allowance for Loan Losses

The Program uses the allowance method in providing for loan losses. Accordingly, the allowance is increased or reduced by the current year's provision for loan losses charged to operations and reduced by net charge-offs.

The adequacy of the allowance for loan losses and the provisions for loan losses charged to operations are based on management's evaluation of a number of factors, including recent loan loss experience, continuous evaluation of the loan portfolio quality, current and anticipated economic conditions, and other pertinent factors. Loans are charged to the allowance when management believes the collection of the principal is doubtful.

Credit Related Financial Instruments

In the ordinary course of business, the Program has entered into commitments to extend credit. Such financial instruments are recorded when they are funded.

Operating and Non-operating Revenues

Operating revenues consist of interest income on the loans. All other revenues are classified as non-operating.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**JUNE 30, 2016** 

#### NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

#### Deposits

The carrying value and bank balance of the Program's cash deposits at June 30, 2016 was \$148,074. Of the bank amounts, none were covered by depository insurance and all are uncollateralized. These monies are deposited in the Bank of North Dakota and are guaranteed by the State of North Dakota (NDCC Section 6-09-10).

#### Custodial and Concentration of Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the Program will not be able to recover deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Program does not have a formal policy that limits custodial credit risk for deposits. None of the Program's deposits are covered by depository insurance. The Program's deposits are uncollateralized and all of the deposits are held at the Bank of North Dakota and are guaranteed by the State of North Dakota (NDCC Section 6-09-10).

#### **NOTE 3 - LOANS**

A description of Program loans is included under "Nature of Operations" in Note 1. A summary of the balances of the loans are as follows:

Loans, current portion	\$	2,906
Loans, noncurrent portion		49,094
Total loans		52,000
Allowance for loan losses		2,600
Total loans, net	<u>\$</u>	49,400
Changes in the balances of loans are as follows:		
Balance, June 30, 2015	\$	-
Loan advances		52,000
Principal collections		-
Balance, June 30, 2016	\$	52,000
Changes in the allowance for loan losses are as follows:		
Balance, beginning of year	\$	-
Provision for loan losses		2,600
Balance, end of year	\$	2,600

There were no impaired loans as of June 30, 2016. There were no loans on nonaccrual status and no loans 90 days or more past due as of June 30, 2016.

(continued on next page)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**JUNE 30, 2016** 

#### NOTE 4 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

House Bill 1049 of the 2015 Legislative Session created the Program and authorized a transfer from the North Dakota Student Loan Trust of \$200,000. The Program is supervised and administered by the Bank of North Dakota. All cash accounts are deposited with the Bank of North Dakota.

#### **NOTE 5 - LOAN COMMITMENTS**

The Program is a party to credit related financial instruments with off-statement-of-net-position risk in the normal course of business to meet the financing needs of its customers. These financial instruments include commitments to extend credit. Such commitments involve, to varying degrees, elements of credit risk in excess of the amount recognized in the statement of net position.

The Program's exposure to credit loss is represented by the contractual amount of these commitments. The Program follows the same credit policies in making commitments as it does for on-statement-of-net-position instruments. There were two pending applications for \$15,000 to extend credit as of June 30, 2016.

Commitments to extend credit are agreements to lend to a customer as long as there is no violation of any condition established in the contract. Commitments generally have fixed expiration dates or other termination clauses.

#### NOTE 6 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Program is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts and errors and omissions. The Program is administered by the Bank of North Dakota and, therefore, is eligible to the same funds/pools established by the State for risk management issues. These include:

The 1995 Legislative Session 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 \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

The State Bonding Fund currently provides the Fund with blanket employee fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year and settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage.



# Independent Auditor's 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

The Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program (the Program), an enterprise fund of the State of North Dakota, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Program's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 23, 2016.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Program's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control.

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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not yet been identified.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Program'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*.

#### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Bismarck, North Dakota September 23, 2016

Esde Saelly LLP



# Independent Auditor's Comments Requested by the North Dakota Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee

The Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

The Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee requires that certain items be addressed by independent certified public accountants performing audits of state agencies. The items and our responses regarding the June 30, 2016 audit of the Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program (the Program) are as follows:

#### **Audit Report Communications:**

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

Unmodified

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 year audit reports?

There were no findings or recommendations in prior years.

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

No

#### **Audit Committee Communications:**

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

None

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.

Management's estimate of allowance for credit losses is based on management's evaluation of a number of factors, including recent loan loss experience, continuous evaluation of the loan portfolio quality, current and anticipated economic conditions, and other pertinent factors. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the allowance for credit losses in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

3. Identify any significant audit adjustments.

None

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

None

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

None

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

None

- 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 addressed above are directly related to the operations of an information technology system.

Based on the audit procedures performed, the Program's critical information technology system is the Fiserv system. There were no exceptions identified in the six report questions to be addressed by auditors that were directly related to this application.

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

Bismarck, North Dakota

Esde Saelly LLP

September 23, 2016



To the Industrial Commission State of North Dakota Bismarck, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of the Addiction Counselor Internship Loan Program (the Program), an enterprise fund of the State of North Dakota, for the year ended June 30, 2016. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated June 15, 2016. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

#### **Significant Audit Findings**

#### **Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices**

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Program are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The Program started its operations during 2016 so all accounting policies were adopted by the Program during 2016. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the Program's financial statements was:

Management's estimate of allowance for loan losses is based on management's evaluation of a number of factors, including recent loan loss experience, continuous evaluation of the loan portfolio quality, current and anticipated economic conditions, and other pertinent factors. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the allowance for loan losses in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

#### **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. There were no corrected or uncorrected misstatements.

#### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is 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 September 23, 2016.

#### **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.

#### **Other Matters**

We applied certain limited procedures to Management's Discussion and Analysis, which is required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

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

Bismarck, North Dakota

Esde Saelly LLP

September 23, 2016