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consolidated financial statements

for the year ended Dec. 31, 2000

2000 Financial Review

OVERVIEW

Canadian Venture Exchange Inc. (CDNX) was launched in Nov. 1999 as Canada's national junior equities market, a successor to the former Vancouver Stock Exchange (VSE), The Alberta Stock Exchange (ASE), the Winnipeg Stock Exchange (WSE) and the Canadian Dealing Network (CDN). Comparisons to 1999 figures in this commentary are based on the combined results of CDNX and its predecessors (ASE and VSE) for that calendar year.

At Dec. 31, 2000, CDNX had 2,696 listed securities representing 2,598 listed companies.

Revenues for the year were \$46.0 million, an increase of \$11.4 million or 33% from 1999. Expenses, excluding merger and restructuring costs, totalled \$38.9 million, which was \$5.7 million or 17% higher than 1999. As revenues grew much faster than expenses, operating earnings grew to \$7.0 million for 2000, compared to \$1.4 million for 1999.

REVENUES

Trading and related fees for 2000 were \$16.3 million, which was 76% better than \$9.3 million for 1999. The increase is primarily due to sharply higher trading volumes and corporate finance activity in the first half of the year as well as growth in the subscriber base for market information products. Trading fee rates were reduced approximately 15% in 2000 compared to 1999. The average daily trades figure of 17,471 for 2000 was 203% better than 1999 (8,594). The TradeCDNX™ electronic trading system handled a record 66,571 transactions on Mar. 6, 2000.

Listed company fees of \$12.8 million for 2000 were 23% above the 1999 level of \$10.4 million. Listed companies completed approximately \$2.4 billion in financings during the year, 71% higher than the \$1.4 billion in 1999.

Market information product revenues of \$13.9 million for the year were up 22% from 1999. Data feed royalty rates charged in Canada were reduced 20% in the first part of the year. Revenues are largely generated by market information vendor feeds for the distribution of trading data to customers throughout North America. Other revenues, at \$1.1 million, were down \$1.2 million from 1999. Included in this category are: member fees, registrations, cooperative business development activities and regulatory enforcement fines. Member regulation was transferred to the Investment Dealers Association at the end of 1999.

CDNX AR2000 P3 2000 financial review

EXPENSES

The increase in operating expenses from 1999 is reflective of staff additions required to service higher business volumes in Calgary and Vancouver offices and the opening of offices in Toronto and Winnipeg during the year. Additionally, information and trading systems expenses, as well as amortization, were increased as large projects were undertaken to expand trading system and Web site applications capacity early in the year. Non-capital project expenditures totalled \$2.3 million for the year, compared to \$1.1 million for 1999 (excluding merger and restructuring projects), and covered a variety of technology improvement initiatives and upgrades including development of strategies for new Web site-based services and replacement of the current trading system.

Merger and restructuring expense includes an advance to the Montreal Exchange (described in Note 3 to the financial statements). Expenses associated with the establishment of additional CDNX offices in Toronto and Winnipeg were charged to operations.

FINANCIAL POSITION

Cash reserves remained strong at \$25.0 million at year-end, representing an increase of \$1.0 million from Dec. 31, 1999. Cash was generated by earnings before merger and restructuring costs and amortization, and a reduction in segregated cash required. Cash was principally used for merger and restructuring expenses and the purchase of capital assets.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management is responsible for the preparation, integrity and fair presentation of the financial statements and other information in the consolidated financial statements. The financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada and in the opinion of management, fairly reflect, in all material respects, the financial position, results of operations and cash flows of the Exchange.

Acting through the Finance and Audit Committee, the Board of Directors oversees the management's responsibility for financial reporting and internal control systems. The Finance and Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing the financial statements and recommending them to the Board of Directors for approval. To discharge its duties, the committee meets with management and external auditors to discuss audit plans, internal controls over accounting and financial reporting processes, auditing matters and financial reporting issues.

As the external auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are responsible for reporting to shareholders on the fairness of the Exchange's presentation of the annual financial statements. The external auditors have full and free access to, and meet periodically with, Exchange management and the Finance and Audit Committee to discuss the audit. The Auditors' Report outlines the scope of their examination and their opinion.

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Shareholders of Canadian Venture Exchange Inc.

We have audited the consolidated balance sheet of **Canadian Venture Exchange Inc**. (CDNX) as at Dec. 31, 2000 and the consolidated statements of earnings and accumulated surplus and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of CDNX's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

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

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of CDNX as at Dec. 31, 2000 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Vancouver, Canada Feb. 23, 2001 Price waterhouse Coopers LLP

Chartered Accountants

CDNX AR2000 P5

consolidated balance sheet

for the year ended Dec. 31, 2000

		2000	1999
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and short-term investments	\$	24,995	\$ 23,966
Accounts and other receivables		8,071	8,181
Prepaid expenses	_	961	1,015
		34,027	33,162
Segregated cash (note 4)		_	2,000
Other assets (notes 5 and 7)		648	487
Capital assets (note 6)		7,917	3,681
	\$_	42,592	\$ 39,330
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' Current liabilities	CAPITAL		
Accounts payable	\$	7,244	\$ 7,668
Deferred revenue		5,294	4,842
		12,538	12,510
Other liabilities (note 7)	-	150	141
Oh analisahkan di Osarika l		12,688	12,651
Shareholders' Capital			
Capital stock (note 8)		5,156	5,080
Accumulated surplus		24,748	21,599
	_	29,904	26,679
	\$	42,592	\$ 39,330

Approved by the Board of Directors.

G. Scott Paterson Kenneth G. Hanna

Chair Chair, Finance and Audit Committee

consolidated statement of earnings and accumulated surplus For the year ended Dec. 31, 2000 (\$0000s)

	2000	1999
Revenue		
Trading and related fees	\$ 16,314	\$ 9,281
Listed company fees	12,827	10,395
Information products	13,859	11,388
Investment income	1,825	1,221
Other revenue	1,131	2,326
	45,956	34,611
Expenses		
Compensation and benefits	20,675	18,175
Information and trading systems	5,749	4,257
Administration	5,662	5,311
Amortization	2,368	2,005
Premises	2,530	2,372
Communication and promotion	1,940	1,116
	38,924	33,236
Earnings before the following	7,032	1,375
Merger and restructuring expenses (note 3)	(3,500)	(12,628)
Earnings (loss) for the year	3,532	(11,253)
Accumulated surplus – Beginning of year	21,599	32,852
Change in accounting policy for		
employee future benefits (note 10)	(383)	_
Accumulated surplus – End of year	\$ 24,748	\$ 21,599

CDNX AR2000 P7 financials

consolidated statement of cash flows

	2000	1999
Cash flows from operating activities		
Earnings (loss) for the year	\$ 3,532	\$(11,253)
Item not affecting cash – amortization	2,368	2,005
	5,900	(9,248)
Net changes in non-cash working capital items (note 11)	(191)	2,288
	5,709	(6,960)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Capital lease repayments	_	(17)
Issue (repurchase) of capital stock	76	(120)
	76	(137)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of capital assets	(6,604)	(655)
(Payment) receipt of refundable tax	(152)	20
Reduction in segregated cash	2,000	2,000
	(4,756)	1,365
Increase (decrease) in cash and short-term investments	1,029	(5,732)
Cash and short-term investments – Beginning of year	23,966	29,698
Cash and short-term investments – End of year	\$ 24,995	\$ 23,966

notes to consolidated financial statements

1: NATURE OF OPERATIONS

Canadian Venture Exchange Inc. (CDNX) was incorporated under the Alberta Business Corporations Act, Province of Alberta, Canada on Oct. 29, 1999 for the purpose of providing a market for the buying and selling of securities. It commenced operations on Nov. 26, 1999 in connection with a restructuring of stock exchanges in Canada. CDNX is a not-for-profit organization under Section 149 of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and is not subject to income taxes. Non-operating wholly-owned subsidiaries, West Canada Clearing Corporation and West Canada Depository Trust

Company, are taxable entities which have some continuing cost to administer but no significant revenues.

2: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Consolidation

These financial statements include the accounts of CDNX and its wholly-owned subsidiaries.

Short-term investments

Short-term investments are substantially short-term treasury bills and units of pooled money-market funds managed by an investment fund manager. The pooled money-market fund units have no contractual maturity date and are

carried at market value.

Capital assets

Capital assets are valued at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided for annually on the

following basis:

Information systems: 25% - 40% straight-line

Furniture and equipment: 10% - 20% straight-line

Leasehold improvements: term of lease

On an on-going basis, CDNX undertakes projects relating to the provision of new or enhanced services, or the upgrading of services, facilities or technology systems. The non-capital portions of these projects, including consulting fees,

application software and development tools, are expensed as incurred.

Employee future benefits

CDNX maintains a registered pension plan that consists of a defined-contribution program for all full-time employees and a defined-benefit supplemental program for its senior officers. There are also non-registered supplemental defined-benefit plans for some senior executives.

The cost of defined-contribution pensions is expensed as earned by employees. CDNX makes monthly contributions in accordance with the plan agreement to the credit of individual employee's accounts which are administered by a

plan trustee.

CDNX AR2000 P9 financials

For the defined-benefit plans, pension expense and plan funding requirements are determined annually by independent consulting actuaries. The cost of pension benefits earned is determined using the projected unit credit method prorated on service and is charged to expense as services are rendered. Adjustments arising from plan amendments, changes in assumptions, experience gains and losses and the net pension asset are amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated average remaining service lives of the employee groups.

In addition, CDNX provides non-pension benefits to qualifying retirees consisting of supplementary health insurance benefits. The cost of post-retirement benefits other than pensions is recognized on an accrual basis over the working lives of employees. The expense reported in the current year, based on annual independent actuarial assessment, is an allocation of estimated future benefits under these plans related to the service of employees in the current year. Future obligations for these benefits are funded when they occur.

Prior to Jan. 1, 2000, the cost of non-registered pension benefits and non-pension post-retirement benefits was charged to earnings when paid.

Listed company revenue

Sustaining fees are billed in December for the following calendar year; the unearned balance is recorded as deferred revenue. Listing and filing fees are recognized as revenue when the listing or filing applications are substantially complete; otherwise, fees received are recorded as deferred revenue.

Fair value of financial instruments

Financial instruments include short-term investments, accounts receivable and accounts payable. The fair value of these balance sheet items, which are highly liquid or short-term in nature, approximate their carrying value.

Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses during the year. Significant areas requiring the use of estimates relate to the determination of useful lives of capital assets for amortization, deferred revenues, pensions valuations and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Financial results, as determined by actual events, may differ from those estimates.

3: STOCK EXCHANGE MERGER

Pursuant to an agreement (the Agreement) dated Nov. 1, 1999, The Alberta Stock Exchange (ASE) and Vancouver Stock Exchange (VSE) merged to create a combined national junior equities market effective after the close of trading on Nov. 26, 1999, to be carried on by CDNX.

This combination has been accounted for using the pooling of interests method. Under this method, the operations of the ASE and VSE are treated as if they had always been combined. Consequently, the results of operations for the prior year is reflected on a combined historical accounting basis.

Expenses directly related to the merger and the coincident restructuring of the Canadian capital markets have been separately identified as merger and restructuring expenses in the consolidated statement of earnings and accumulated surplus. In 2000 this included a payment of \$3,500,000 to the Montreal Exchange which is recoverable under the Agreement, as amended, depending on certain future circumstances. The likelihood of recovery is not determinable at this time.

4: SEGREGATED CASH

Any remaining responsibility for potential claims under the Canadian Investor Protection Fund was assumed by the Investment Dealers Association at July 1, 2000.

5: OTHER ASSETS

(\$000s)	2000	1999
Refundable tax	\$ 498	\$ 346
Settlement assets (note 7)	150	141
	\$ 648	\$ 487

6: CAPITAL ASSETS

(\$000s)			2000	1999
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net	Net
Furniture and equipment	\$ 2,603	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,053	\$ 605
Information systems	12,135	7,173	4,962	2,020
Leasehold improvements	5,444	3,542	1,902	1,056
	\$ 20,182	\$ 12,265	\$ 7,917	\$ 3,681

7: SETTLEMENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Settlement assets (note 5) and liabilities represent amounts that are due from or owed to participants of West Canada Depository Trust Company for open securities settlement or entitlement transactions in respect of securities registered in the name of West Canada Depository Trust Company or its nominee and beneficially owned by the participants. The amounts reported in these financial statements reflect security and entitlement positions which are outstanding.

CDNX AR2000 P11 financials

8: CAPITAL STOCK

(\$000s)		2000	1999
Autho	rized		
	Unlimited Class A voting shares		
	Unlimited Class B non-voting shares		
Issued	I		
	104 (1999 - 101) Class A voting shares	\$ 4,076	\$ 4,040
	27 (1999 - 26) Class B non-voting shares	1,080	1,040
		\$ 5,156	\$ 5,080

Shares may be transferred with the approval of the Board of Directors. No person may hold more than two Class A shares. Every Class A holder must be a member in good standing of CDNX. There is no restriction on the number of Class B shares a person may hold.

During the current year four Class A shares were issued from treasury at a price of \$19,000 each. In certain circumstances Class A shares can be converted to Class B shares and Class B shares can be exchanged for Class A shares.

9: COMMITMENTS

CDNX leases certain premises and information technology system components under operating lease agreements.

Operating leases for premises expire in 2005 for the Calgary head office, in 2010 for the Toronto office and in 2002 for the Winnipeg office. The current Vancouver office premises lease expires in 2001 and a lease for new Vancouver premises has been completed, commencing in 2001 and expiring in 2011. The annual rent payable under premises leases is base rent plus adjustments for property taxes and operating expenses.

As well, CDNX has contractual commitments for the provision of trading network telecommunications lines and related equipment of approximately \$1.8 million per year which expire in 2001 but are anticipated to be renewed. The amount to the end of the contract term in 2001 is included in the equipment figures below.

The annual payment for these leases and commitments for the next five years and in aggregate is as follows:

(\$000s)	Premises	Equipment	Total
2001	\$ 3,563	\$ 1,884	\$ 5,447
2002	3,059	241	3,300
2003	3,011	121	3,132
2004	3,011	83	3,094
2005	2,898	47	2,945
Thereafter	12,859	18	12,877
	\$ 28,401	\$ 2,394	\$ 30,795

10: EMPLOYEE FUTURE BENEFITS

CDNX adopted the new Canadian accounting standards for employee future benefits effective Jan. 1, 2000 applied retroactively without restatement. These new standards require accrual accounting for all retirement and post-employment benefits and the use of current market rates to estimate the present value of the pension liability. Prior to Jan. 1, 2000, the cost of post-retirement benefits other than registered pension plans were charged to earnings when paid. The cumulative effect of the adoption of the new standard at Jan. 1, 2000 was \$383,000 and has been reflected as an adjustment to retained earnings as at Jan. 1, 2000.

The following tables pertain to CDNX's employee future benefit plans, described in note 2, and provide the benefit obligations, fair value of plan assets and funded status for the year ended Dec. 31, 2000:

(\$000s)	Pension	Non-pension	Total
Accrued benefit obligation	\$ (1,219)	\$ (505)	\$ (1,724)
Fair value of plan assets	1,118	_	1,118
Funded status - plan deficit	(101)	(505)	(606)
Unamortized net actuarial gain	40	26	66
Accrued benefit liability	\$ (61)	\$ (479)	\$ (540)

The net expense for CDNX's employee future benefit plans is as follows:

(\$000s)	Pe	ension	Non-p	ension	Tota
Defined-benefit plan	\$	129	\$	76	209
Defined-contribution plan		740		_	740
	\$	869	\$	76	\$ 94

CDNX AR2000 P13 financials

The actuarial determinations were based on the following assumptions during the year:

Discount rate: 7.0% - 7.5%

Expected long-term rate of return on plan assets: 7.5%

Rate of compensation increase: 5.0%

The assumed health care cost trend rate at Dec. 31, 2000 was 10%, decreasing to 5% over six years.

Other information about CDNX's defined-benefit plans is as follows:

(\$000s)	Pei	nsion	Non-pe	nsion	Total
Employer contributions	\$	_	\$	4	\$ 4
Benefits paid		47		4	51
	\$	47	\$	8	\$ 55

11: NET CHANGES IN NON-CASH WORKING CAPITAL ITEMS

(\$000s)	2000	1999
Accounts and other receivables	\$ 110	\$ (2,486)
Prepaid expenses	54	(507)
Accounts payable	(424)	3,780
Deferred revenue	452	1,501
	192	2,288
Less: Accounts payable adjustment for change in accounting		
policy for employee future benefits (note 10)	(383)	<u> </u>
	\$ (191)	\$ 2,288

12: COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain of the comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.

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