Financial Statements as of March 31, 2016 and 2015 Together with Independent Auditor's Reports



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# Bonadio & Co., LLP Certified Public Accountants

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

June 20, 2016

To the Board of Directors of the New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority:

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

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority (Authority), a New York Public Benefit Corporation, which is a discretely presented component unit of the State of New York, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2016 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority'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 entity'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 entity'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.

(Continued)

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

(Continued)

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business type activities of the Authority, as of March 31, 2016, and the respective changes in net position and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Report on Summarized Comparative Information

We have previously audited the Authority's 2015 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated June 18, 2015. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended March 31, 2015 is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

#### Report on Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that management's discussion and analysis, schedule of funding progress – other post-employment benefits, schedule of proportionate share of pension liability, and schedule of contributions – pension plans 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 our report dated June 20, 2016 on our consideration of the Authority'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 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 Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Unaudited) AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016

New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority's (ORDA's) annual financial report, the Authority's management provides narrative discussion and analysis of the financial activities of ORDA for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016. The Authority's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosure following this section.

#### Financial Highlights

- ORDA's assets and deferred outflows exceeded its liabilities by \$22,599,273 as of March 31, 2016. This compares to the previous year, when assets exceeded liabilities by \$27,562,298.
- Total Net Position is comprised of the following:
  - (1) Investment in capital assets of \$69,244,574 which includes property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation.
  - (2) Unrestricted Net Position of (\$46,645,301) representing the excess of non-capital expenses over revenue since the inception of ORDA.

#### Overview of Financial Statements

The basic financial statements include the statement of net position, statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements. ORDA also includes in this report additional information to supplement the basic financial statements.

The first of these statements is the *Statement of Net Position*. This is the statement of financial position presenting information that includes all of ORDA's assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Authority as a whole is improving or deteriorating. Evaluation of the overall economic health of the Authority must include other non-financial factors such as the condition of ORDA's property and equipment, and the economic picture of the State and the Nation, in addition to the financial information provided in this report.

The second statement is the *Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position*, which reports how the Authority's net position changed during the current and previous fiscal year. Revenues and expenses are included when earned or incurred, regardless of when cash is received or paid. An important purpose of the design of this statement is to show the Authority's financial reliance on the distinct activities related to each of the venues, and revenues provided by our sponsors, the State of New York, and the Town of North Elba.

The third statement is the *Statement of Cash Flows*, which shows the sources and uses of cash. For the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016, Cash provided by operating activities was \$14,120,472, state and local appropriations provided cash of \$10,364,427, net cash provided by capital and related financing activities was \$2,942,307 and investing activities provided cash of \$25, resulting in a net decrease in cash and cash equivalents of \$813,713 for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016. Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year were \$1,994,635, while at the end of the year, cash and cash equivalents were \$1,180,922.

This statement also presents the reconciliation of net loss from operations of \$25,441,452 (including depreciation of \$7,724,415) to net cash used by operating activities of \$14,120,472.

#### Overview of Financial Statements (Continued)

The accompanying *Notes to the Financial Statements* provide information essential to a full understanding of the financial statements.

#### Financial Analysis of the Authority

As year-to-year financial information is accumulated on a consistent basis, changes in Net Position may be observed and used to discuss the changing financial position of the Authority as a whole.

ORDA's Net Position at fiscal year-end is \$22,599,273. This is a \$4,963,025 decrease over last year's Net Position of \$27,562,298. The following table provides a summary of the Authority's assets, liabilities and Net Position:

#### **Summary of Net Assets**

							%
		Tot	tals			Change	Change
		<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>			
Current assets	\$	3,505,487	\$	5,700,805	\$	(2,195,318)	-38.51%
Capital assets		76,971,947		78,556,288		(1,584,341)	- <u>2.02</u> %
Total assets	\$	80,477,434	\$	84,257,093	\$	(3,779,659)	- <u>4.49</u> %
Current liabilities	\$	14,327,139	\$	14,342,248	\$	(15,109)	-0.11%
Other liabilities	·	46,122,761	•	42,352,547	·	3,770,214	8.90%
Total Liabilities	\$	60,449,900	\$	56,694,795	\$	3,755,105	<u>6.62</u> %
Net assets: Invested in capital assets,							
net of related debt	\$	69,244,574	\$	66,055,715	\$	3,188,859	4.83%
Unrestricted net assets		(46,645,301)		(38,493,417)		(8,151,884)	<u>21.18%</u>
Total net assets	\$	22,599,273	\$	27,562,298	\$	(4,963,025)	- <u>18.01</u> %

Current assets decreased approximately \$2.2 million predominately though a decrease of cash \$814,000 and a decrease in accounts receivable of \$1.4 million.

Capital assets decreased \$1.6 million due primarily to capital asset disposal and depreciation.

Other liabilities increased \$3.8 million primarily because of a \$5 million dollar increase in other post retirement benefits, a reduction in capital lease obligations and purchase agreements and for the change in accounting principle as it relates to the net position liability of \$1.7 million.

#### Major Events That Impact Financial Results

The major sporting and entertainment events held by the Olympic Authority that impacted financial results were:

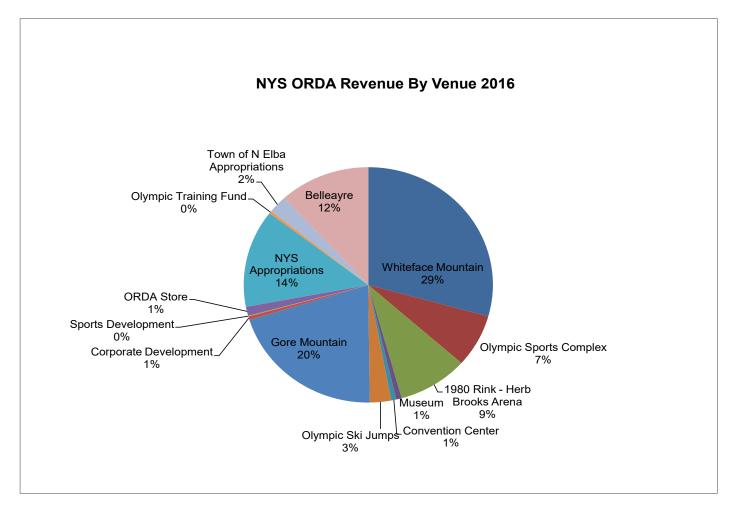
- Lake Placid Freestyle Skating Championships
- Lake Placid Ice Dancing Championships
- ➤ North America's Bobsled and Skeleton
- North Atlantic Figure Skating
- Harlem Globetrotters
- > IMG Skating Show Ekaterina Gordeeva From the Heart
- World Cup Luge
- World Cup Bob/Skeleton
- > USCSA Ski & Snowboard Championships
- USSA Cross County Super Tour & NENSA Eastern Cup
- NCAA DIII Men's Hockey Championships
- Miracle on Ice Fantasy Camp
- Empire State Games
- ECAC Men's Hockey Championships
- Conferences, meetings, festivals and weddings

#### Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

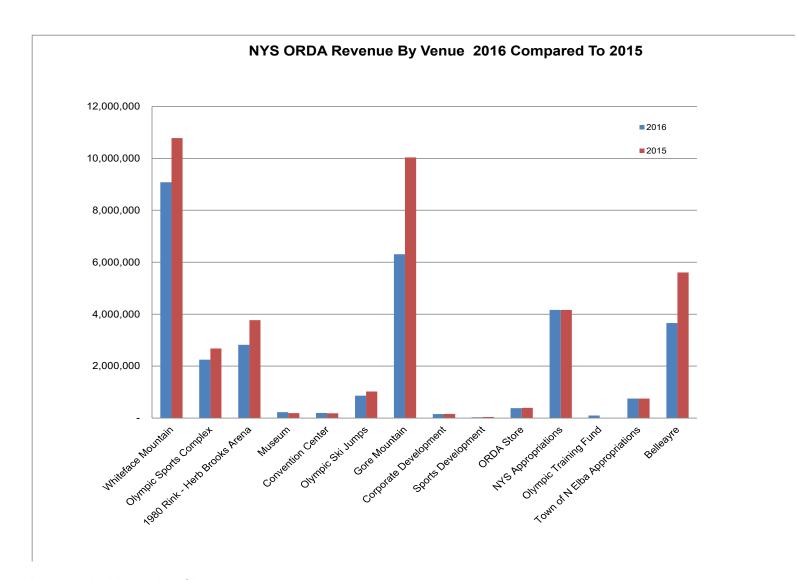
ORDA's operating revenue decreased by \$8.9 million which is directly attributable to the difficult winter the Northeast region faced. Across the Northeast, the ski and ride industry and seeing visitation decreases year over year in the 30% range. The three ski centers, Whiteface, Gore, and Belleayre Mountains, are the source of about 73% of ORDA's earned revenue for the year. Revenue at the three ski areas was down \$7.4million compared to prior year. This was a direct result of poor weather, low skier confidence, and decreased skier visits. This in turn affected all other ancillary venue revenue as overall regional tourism experienced similar decreases in business.

Management has taken extraordinary steps to decrease personal service expense in the past several years, so much so that more cuts in that area would be unproductive, even if detrimental to ORDA's bottom line. The poor winter weather provided opportunity for further savings as management was able to realize direct payroll savings of nearly \$750,000 vs. prior year. This also resulted in savings on the payroll added cost expense side in the amount of \$280,000 resulting in nearly \$1 million in payroll savings. Further, it was a management objective to control non-personal service expense as a result of decreased operations which was a successful movement in realizing a savings in NPS of \$2.3 million year over year.

Graphic presentation of revenue and expense by venue and type follow to assist the analysis of the Authority's activities for the fiscal year 2016.



The Revenue by Venue pie chart for 2016 shows that Whiteface Mountain continues to be the venue that produces the most revenue at 29%, followed by Gore Mountain at 20%, Belleayre Mountain at 12%, support from the State of New York was approximately 14%, the Town of North Elba contributed 2%, and the remaining 23% comes from the other venues, the ORDA Store, Corporate Marketing and Sports Development.



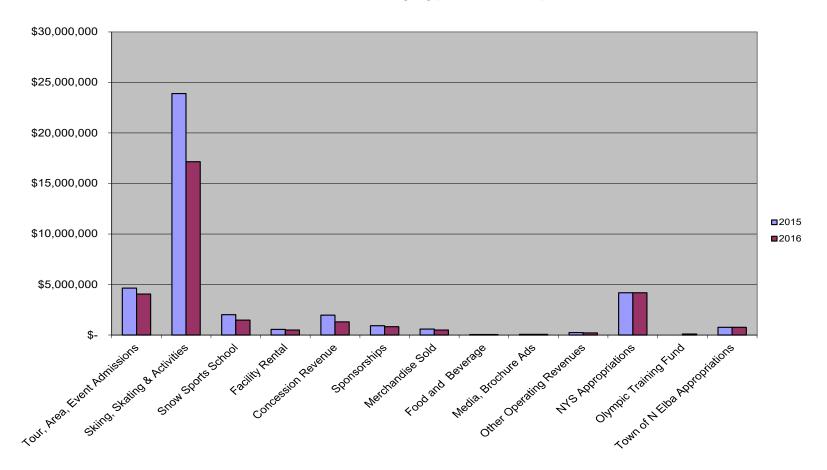
#### **Revenue by Venue Bar Chart**

Looking at the bar graph labeled Revenue by Venue shows that the majority pf ORDA venues were faced with a difficult winter resulting in decreased revenues year over year. Gore and Belleayre were affected the most dramatically with large revenue decreases against a very successful 2015. While venues struggled on the revenue side due to decreased visitation and uncooperative weather, the State appropriations for the organization remained flat year over year.

#### **Revenue by Type Graph**

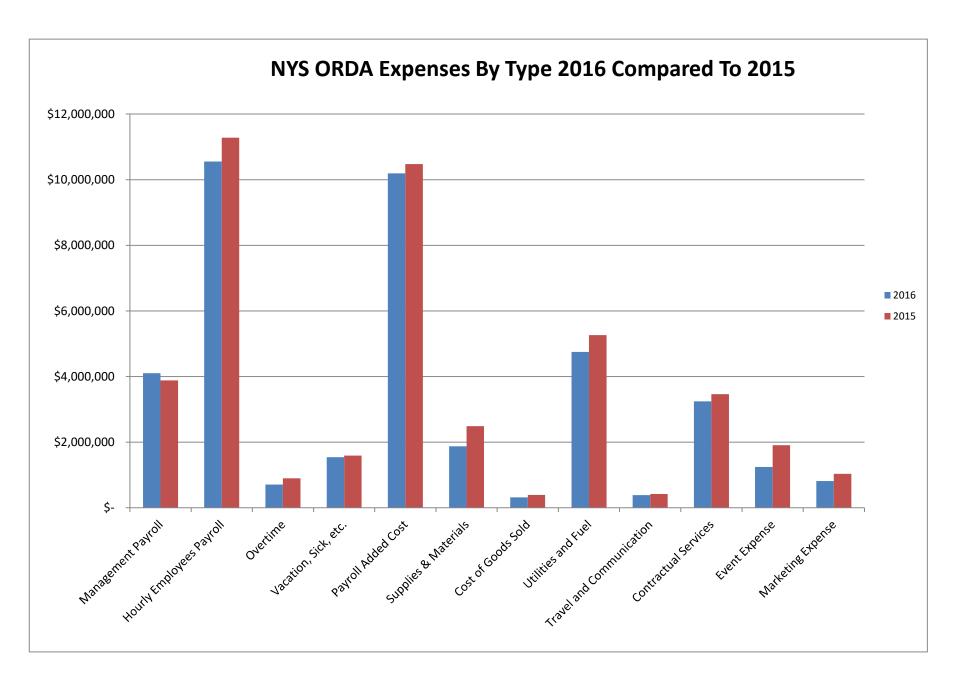
The following Graph, Revenue by Activity 2016 Compared to 2015 again shows that skiing is ORDA's largest revenue producer.

#### NYS ORDA Revenue By Type 2016 Compared To 2015



#### **Expense by Type Graph**

The Expense by Type graph shows that hourly employees' personal service continues to be one of the Authority's greatest expenses, followed by payroll added cost. Management made concerted efforts to facilitate decreases in the majority of expense accounts listed below including nearly \$1 million in total payroll and \$2.3 million in non-personal services expense.



#### **Capital Assets**

The Authority's investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation as of March 31, 2016 and 2015 was \$76,971,947 and \$78,556,288, respectively. The total increase in this net investment at March 31, 2016 was \$1,584,341. Major capital asset additions during the fiscal year included a new high speed quad chair lift at Gore Mountain, new snow-grooming, trail maintenance, snowmaking equipment for Whiteface, Gore and Belleayre Mountains, snowmobiles and pick-up trucks for all venues, and upgrades and maintenance at all venues. Another major investment was a new building structure at Belleayre to increase lodge space and usable guest area.

#### **Long Term Debt**

At the end of the fiscal year, the Authority had capital lease obligations of \$6.2 million. Included in the long term debt were leases of about \$3.2 million for improvements at both Gore and Whiteface, and a New York Power Authority lease of about \$3 million for the purchase of new energy efficient compressors and new energy efficient snowmaking equipment at the ski centers. At the end of the fiscal year, the Authority had post-employment benefits obligations of \$32 million and compensated absences of \$3.2 million.

#### **Short Term Debt**

The Authority currently has a line of credit of \$7 million, of which \$3.9 million was outstanding as of March 31, 2016. This line of credit is used only in emergency situations in which the organization is waiting on State budgeted appropriations.

#### **Economic Environment and Next Year's Forecast**

#### **Economic Environment**

ORDA's operating results and cash flow are dependent on daily sales, state and local appropriations and corporate sponsorships. The first 3 fiscal quarters relied heavily on appropriations from New York State and the Town of North Elba, while being supplemented by daily sales from venue visitation. An increased focus on summer operation and revenue streams was a focus this year and will continue into the future as ORDA continually looks for areas of revenue growth to supplement the first 3 fiscal quarters. The last quarter provides receipts from operations that sustain ORDA for the remainder of the fiscal year. ORDA will look at ways to make the venues more efficient and profitable.

Given that ORDA relies heavily on fourth quarter income to sustain the annual budget, its results are highly dependent on winter weather conditions and tourism trends. The 2015-2016 winter was a very poor one weather wise for the entire ski industry resulting in revenue losses across all three ski mountains and other outdoor venues. Although revenue was down nearly 1.7 million at Whiteface, a focused approach to expense management enabled that venue to still recognize a profit of almost \$1.3 million. Steps were taken across the organization in anticipation of the poor weather so as to cut expenses as much as possible during this time. Management was able to save nearly \$1 million in payroll expense and over \$2.3 million in NPS expenses over the same time period vs. prior year. NYS budgeted appropriations remained flat vs. prior year although additional support was provided late in the year as management anticipated a year-end deficit. This collaborative effort with the State resulted in additional financial assistance to aid in long-outstanding payables as a result of the poor cash flow. All venues continued to be challenged with profitability and cash management.

Operations provided numerous opportunities for the public to enjoy the beauty and uniqueness of our facilities. Thousands of youngsters were able to experience the thrill of the Olympic facilities through the programs provided by the Sports Development department.

ORDA remained competitive with other resorts by providing a menu of activities to entice tourists to visit our venues.

#### **Next Year's Forecast**

The 2015-2016 year will again be filled with many activities, events and opportunities to experience our facilities. Once again, world events will be staged and hosted across our venues. Season pass programs continue to improve to provide a 3 mountain opportunity for our customers with the Ski3 Pass. Lift ticket schedules are designed to provide value and opportunity for our guests while providing flexibility in pricing. Modifications to our ticket schedules and resort passes will provide additional revenues for the organization as long as weather and operating conditions permit. Additions to our online offerings for ticket and season pass sales continue to be on the forefront of planning initiatives to provide more outlets for our customers to reach our venues. New marketing initiatives will be undertaken to increase visitation and develop strategies to align all mountains and venues to maximize revenue potential. The organization will continue to promote the new Parallel from the Start beginner ski program which was a huge success in since it's rebranding in 2014. ORDA will have to continue to be vigilant in regards to operational spending as it is anticipated that insurance and retirement costs will continue to increase and support from the state may decrease. Managers and department heads will work together to minimize expenses while at the same time striving to fulfill our mission and provide absolute quality experiences for our guests.

ORDA has already begun to take measures to positively affect next year's sales. Along with the ongoing Ski3 Season Pass and Parallel from the Start initiatives, there are various customer service efforts being put in place to reach our consumers across all of our venues. Heavy investment in some key customer service areas were made in 2015-2016 and these widely leveraged in the sales and marketing of the ORDA venues in upcoming years. Among these technological investments is fully integrated guest survey software and fully functioning Customer Relationship Management (CRM) database software with direct email capability. Both of these will be used heavily to understand and listen to the ORDA visitors and open up constant lines of communication with our guests to better understand where improvements can be made and where revenue enhancements may be possible. Further focus on integrated sales efforts and a strong online e-commerce presence are also on the forefront of planning and execution for the upcoming year.

Further, with the help of NYS, the organization received a strong capital funding budget to be used in 2016-2017. Plans are already in place to spend this money in areas which will provide additional revenue streams or growth, or provide savings through energy efficient investment. A large emphasis is being put on further improving the ORDA guest experience while also improving the core business streams of the organization. The goal is to utilize these funds in the most financially beneficial way while improving our visitation and overall tourism of NYS. Included in these funds is also a large maintenance focus on the aging venues to ensure they are kept up with the industry and international standards.

Together with the board and staff we anticipate that the upcoming year will provide many opportunities for our guests to experience all that we are mandated to provide.

#### **Contacting ORDA's Management**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Authority's finances, comply with finance-related laws and regulations, and demonstrate the Authority's commitment to public accountability. If you have questions about this report or would like to request additional information, contact Padraig Power, Director of Finance, at 518-302-5317.

#### STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

March 31, 2016

(with comparative totals for 2015)

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,180,922	\$ 1,994,635
Restricted cash	-	8,300
Inventory	65,000	80,311
Accounts receivable, net Prepaid expenses	1,796,440 463,125	3,163,231 454,328
Frepaid expenses	403,123	454,520
Total current assets	3,505,487	5,700,805
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT, net	76,971,947	78,556,288
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES - PENSIONS	2,571,739	
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	\$ 83,049,173	\$ 84,257,093
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:	<b>A</b> 4 122 = 5 =	<b>.</b>
Accounts and purchase agreements payable	\$ 4,432,769	\$ 5,193,598
Line of credit	4,297,714	3,897,714
Accrued liabilities	2,814,536	2,832,373
Current portion - Capital leases Current portion - N.Y.S. Employees Retirement System	1,253,321 240,774	1,222,062 218,340
Advanced collections	1,288,025	978,161
Advanced collections	1,200,025	970,101
Total current liabilities	14,327,139	14,342,248
OTHER LIABILITIES:		
Purchase agreement payable, net of current portion	-	1,570,000
Due to Office of General Services	2,467,254	2,113,546
Capital lease obligations, net of current portion	4,904,052	6,410,653
Due to N.Y.S. Employees Retirement System	1,988,837	2,055,149
Accrued compensated absences	3,191,329	3,249,471
Net pension liability Other past employment benefits	1,707,916	- 26 052 720
Other post employment benefits	31,863,373	26,953,728
Total other liabilities	46,122,761	42,352,547
Total liabilities	60,449,900	56,694,795
NET POSITION:		
Net investment in capital assets	69,244,574	66,055,715
Unrestricted	(46,645,301)	(38,493,417)
Total Net Position	\$ 22,599,273	\$ 27,562,298

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016

(with comparative totals for 2015)

Operating Poyonuse	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Operating Revenues Earned revenue	\$ 25,384,465	\$ 34,148,131
Sponsorships and in-kind contributions	1,053,090	1,195,228
Oponsorships and in-kind contributions	1,000,000	1,100,220
Total Operating Revenues	\$ 26,437,555	\$ 35,343,359
Operating Expenses		
Personal services	\$ 26,212,751	\$ 27,598,282
Depreciation	7,724,415	7,116,921
Post employment benefits	4,909,570	4,890,827
Utilities and fuel	4,749,488	5,265,076
Contractual services	2,661,831	2,970,083
Supplies and materials	1,810,395	2,499,403
Event related costs	1,246,137	1,829,877
Marketing	820,008	988,407
Fees, dues	541,068	488,549
Bad debts	495,650	4,262
Cost of goods sold	320,021	392,528
Communications	237,533	228,733
Travel and lodging	150,140	190,044
Total Operating Expenses	51,879,007	54,462,992
Operating Loss	(25,441,452)	(19,119,633)
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)		
Appropriations - New York State	9,114,427	4,168,000
Appropriations - Town of North Elba	750,000	750,000
NYS EPF grant	500,000	500,000
Interest income	25	26
Loss on disposal of assets	(235,385)	(43,547)
Interest expense	(377,609)	(402,275)
Total Non-Operating Revenue	9,751,458	4,972,204
Loss Before Capital Contributions	(15,689,994)	(14,147,429)
Capital Contributions		
NYS capital appropriations	10,000,000	9,400,000
Other	249,024	1,019,840
Total Capital Contributions	10,249,024	10,419,840
(Decrease) in Net Position	(5,440,970)	(3,727,589)
Net Position, Beginning of Year	27,562,298	31,289,887
Prior Period Adjustment	477,945	
NET POSITION - beginning of year, as restated	28,040,243	31,289,887
Net Position, End of Year	\$ 22,599,273	\$ 27,562,298
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#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016

(with comparative totals for 2015)

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Cash Flows From Operating Activities		
Receipts from customers	\$ 27,583,112	\$ 36,744,914
Payments to employees	(27,196,356)	(27,598,787)
Payments to suppliers	(14,507,228)	(8,768,438)
Net Cash Provided (Used) Operating Activities	(14,120,472)	377,689
Cash Flows From Noncapital Financing Activities		
Appropriations received from State and Town of North Elba	10,364,427	5,418,000
Net Cash Provided (Used) By Noncapital Financing Activities	10,364,427	5,418,000
Cash Flows From Capital and Related Financing Activities		
Other capital contributions	10,249,024	10,419,840
Change in capital related accounts receivable	-	56,280
Change in capital related accounts payable	43,748	138,518
Additions, net of disposals, to property, plant and equipment	(5,897,514)	(13,870,683)
Net proceeds (repayments) of the line of credit	400,000	(470,000)
Principal paid on capital lease obligations	(1,475,342)	(1,437,528)
Interest paid on debt	(377,609)	(402,275)
Net Cash Provided (Used) By Capital and Related Financing Activities	2,942,307	(5,565,848)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities		
Interest income	25	26
Net Cash Provided by Investing Activities	25	26
Not Oddin Tovided by investing Addition		
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(813,713)	229,867
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year	1,994,635	1,764,768
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year	\$ 1,180,922	\$ 1,994,635
Reconciliation of Net Loss From Operations to Net Cash		
Used By Operating Activities		
Operating loss	\$ (25,441,452)	\$ (19,119,633)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash used by operating activities:		
Depreciation	7,724,415	7,116,921
Bad debts (Recoveries)	495,650	4,262
Pension items - ERS	(863,823)	· =
(Increase) decrease in assets:	, ,	
Inventory	15,311	(17,089)
Accounts receivable	827,393	1,369,986
Prepaid expenses	(8,797)	11,438
Restricted cash	8,300	-
Increase (decrease) in liabilities:		
Accounts payable	(2,330,829)	2,876,209
Accrued liabilities, purchase agreements, N.Y.S. ERS, and compensated absences	(119,857)	2,807,671
Due to Office of General Services	353,708	405,528
Other post employment benefits	4,909,645	4,890,827
Advanced collections	309,864	31,569
Net Cash Provided (Used) By Operating Activities	<u>\$ (14,120,472)</u>	\$ 377,689

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2016 (WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2015)

#### 1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority (the Authority) was created under Title 28 of the Public Authorities Law as a public benefit corporation on June 10, 1981 to operate, manage and maintain the Olympic facilities in and around Lake Placid, New York. The Authority assumed operation of the facilities at Whiteface Mountain Ski Center and Memorial Highway and the Mount Van Hoevenberg Recreation Area on October 4, 1982 under an agreement with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (the Department). The Authority assumed operation of the arena complex, the speed skating oval and the Interval ski jump complex on October 13, 1982 under agreement with the Town Board of the Town of North Elba, as Trustee for the Town of North Elba Public Parks and Playground District (the Park District). On April 1, 1984, the Authority entered into an agreement with the Department to operate, manage and maintain the Gore Mountain Ski Center (Gore).

On April 1, 2012, the Authority assumed management responsibility of Belleayre Ski Area in Highmont, New York. Belleayre was previously managed by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (See note 15).

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of the Authority have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. In accordance with those principles prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), the Authority's financial statements have been presented as a proprietary fund in this report. All revenues and expenses are recorded on the accrual basis. For New York State accounting purposes, the Authority is a discretely presented component unit of New York State and is included in its comprehensive annual financial report.

#### **Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Significant estimates used in preparing these financial statements include the calculation of compensated absences, the estimated useful lives of property and equipment and the estimated value of the other post-employment benefits obligation.

#### **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Authority's cash and cash equivalents consists of cash on hand and demand deposits with original maturities of three months or less from date of acquisition.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Cash and Cash Equivalents (Continued)**

The Authority's investment policies are governed by State statutes and Authority's own written investment policy. Authority monies must be deposited in FDIC-insured commercial banks or trust companies located within New York State. The Director of Finance or designee is authorized to use demand accounts and certificates of deposit. Permissible investments include federal obligations, overnight repurchase agreements, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit issued by approved financial institutions.

Collateral is required for demand and time deposits not covered by FDIC Insurance. Obligations that may be pledged as collateral are obligations of the United States and its agencies.

At March 31, 2016 and 2015 deposits were fully insured and/or collateralized by the Authority's agent in the Authority's name.

#### Inventory

Inventory consists of donated or purchased supplies and materials. Purchased inventory is recorded at the lower of cost or market using the FIFO basis; donated inventory is recorded at the estimated fair value at the time of donation.

#### **Accounts Receivable**

Accounts receivable are stated at the unpaid balance, less an allowance for doubtful accounts. The Authority provides for losses on accounts receivable using the allowance method. The allowance is based on experience and other circumstances which may affect the ability of the payers to meet their obligations. The allowance for doubtful accounts was \$538,563 and \$50,443 as of March 31, 2016 and 2015.

#### Property, Plant and Equipment, and Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. Expenditures for renewals and betterments are capitalized; expenditures for maintenance and repairs are charged to expense as incurred. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	<u>Years</u>
Property and plant	20-40
Equipment, furniture and vehicles	3-10

#### Sinking Fund - Capital Repairs and Improvements

Section 2619 of the Public Authorities Law requires the Authority to establish a sinking fund to provide for capital improvements and major repairs to the Olympic facilities. The law requires, among other things, that not less than twenty-five (25) percent of the net profit from operations in the Authority's fiscal year shall be deposited into the sinking fund. The Authority did not have net profits from operations for the years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, and had no balance in the reserve.

In the event of termination of the Authority, New York State and the Park District each would receive fifty percent of all monies in the sinking fund.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Revenue Recognition**

Appropriations from New York State and from the Park District are required by statute; appropriations are recognized in the fiscal year of appropriation.

Event revenues, including sponsorships, are recognized when the related event takes place. General sponsorship agreements are recognized over the period of the contracts.

#### **Vacation Liability**

Employees of the Authority are entitled to paid vacation and paid holidays depending on job classification, length of service and other factors. The accumulation of vacation hours is subject to a 200 hour limit for union employees and a 300 hour limit for non-union management/ confidential employees. The limits are determined on a calendar year basis. Unused holiday time accrues without limit. The accrued value of vacation and holiday time and salary related payments at March 31, 2016 and 2015 is \$1,049,553 and \$1,069,140, respectively, and is included within accrued liabilities on the Statement of Net Position.

#### **Compensated Absences**

Sick days are forfeited upon termination, but may be used at retirement to pay health insurance premiums. The Authority recognizes a liability for vested sick leave for employees who, at the balance sheet date, currently are eligible to convert vested sick leave to the retiree's portion of health insurance premiums as well as other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to convert such leave.

The liability for sick leave is calculated at rates in effect as of the balance sheet date. The liability at March 31, 2016 and 2015 is \$3,191,329 and \$3,249,471, respectively.

#### **Retirement Benefits**

Authority employees participate in the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System.

#### **Other Post Employment Benefits**

In addition to providing retirement benefits described, the Authority provides post-employment health insurance coverage to its retired employees and their survivors in accordance with the provisions of the employment contracts. Substantially all of these employees may become eligible for these benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the Authority. The Authority pays a variable percentage of the cost of premiums to an insurance company that provides health care insurance.

The Authority recognized the current cost of providing benefits for March 31, 2016 and 2015 by contributing \$1,182,845 and \$1,191,772 which is its share of insurance premiums for 97 and 88 currently enrolled retirees, as expenditure for the current year, respectively.

The Authority has recorded other post-employment benefits totaling \$31,863,373 and \$26,953,728 as of March 31, 2016 and 2015. See Note 13 for additional information regarding post-employment benefits.

#### **NYS Capital Appropriations and Grants**

The Authority received capital appropriations and grants from New York State, State Agencies and others to fund various capital and other projects related to health and safety, and preservation and improvement of facilities.

#### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### **Donated Use of Facilities**

Generally accepted accounting principles require that the donated use of facilities be recorded as a contribution at its estimated fair value at the time received if the Authority has a clearly measurable and objective basis for determining the value. The agreement with New York State and the Park District permit the Authority to use, operate, and maintain the facilities in existence at the Authority's inception, including the personal property and equipment used solely in connection therewith. The amounts reported as property, plant and equipment in the accompanying balance sheets include only those assets purchased by the Authority.

Title to facilities and equipment originally owned by New York State and Park District does not pass to the Authority. The facilities, equipment and additions and improvements thereto revert back to New York State and the Park District, respectively, at the end of the terms of the agreements. There was no clearly measurable basis for determining the value of the facilities and equipment used by the Authority and, therefore, the assets and the related depreciation expense or a contribution and related rental expense are not reflected in these financial statements.

#### **Donated Services**

During the years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, the recorded value of donated ski patrol services was approximately \$350,000.

#### **Newly Adopted Accounting Standards**

During the year ended March 31, 2016, the Authority adopted the following accounting standards:

GASB has issued Statements *No. 68 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27.* Statement No. 68 establishes accounting and financial reporting requirements related to pensions for governments whose employees are provided with pensions through pension plans that are covered by the scope of Statement No. 68, as well as for non-employer governments that have a legal obligation to contribute to those plans. The Authority adopted the provisions of this Statement for the year ending March 31, 2016.

GASB issued Statement No. 71, Pension Transitions for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Transition Date – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68 that addresses an issue regarding application of the transition provisions of Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions. The issue relates to amounts associated with contributions, if any, made by a state or local government employer or nonemployer contributing entity to a defined benefit pension plan after the measurement date of the government's beginning net pension liability. The Authority adopted the provisions of this Statement in conjunction with GASB Statement No. 68, for the year ending March 31, 2016.

#### 3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to it.

Governmental Accounting Standards direct that deposits be disclosed as exposed to custodial credit risk if they are not covered by depository insurance, and the deposits are not covered by collateralization.

As of March 31, 2016, all of the Authority's cash or cash equivalent balances were either insured or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department in the Authority's name.

	Bank <u>Balance</u>	Carrying <u>Value</u>
Cash	\$ 2,387,783	<u>\$ 1,180,922</u>
Collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institutions trust departments or agent in the Authority's name.	\$ 1,775,816	
Covered by FDIC insurance	611,967	
Total	\$ 2,387,783	

As of March 31, 2015, all of the Authority's cash or cash equivalent balances were either insured or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department in the Authority's name.

	Bank <u>Balance</u>	Carrying <u>Value</u>
Cash	\$ 2,377,080	<u>\$ 2,002,935</u>
Collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institutions trust departments or agent in the Authority's name.	\$ 1,564,107	
Covered by FDIC insurance	812,973	
Total	\$ 2,377,080	

#### 4. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable consists of the following:

	<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>
Trade receivables Employee advances	\$ 2,335,003	\$ \$	3,212,921 753
	2,335,003		3,213,674
Less: allowance for doubtful accounts	 538,563		50,443
Accounts receivable, net	\$ 1,796,440	\$	3,163,231

#### 5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Property, Plant and Equipment consists of the following as of March 31, 2016:

	Balance	J	•	Balance
	April 1	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	March 31
Land Property and plant Equipment, furniture and vehicles Construction in progress	\$ 145,000 147,442,541 49,038,948 36,285	\$ - 2,741,323 3,044,204 589,933	\$ - 1,303,584 1,879,305	\$ 145,000 148,880,280 50,203,847 626,218
Total	196,662,774	6,375,460	3,182,889	199,855,345
Less: accumulated depreciation	118,106,486	7,724,414	2,947,502	122,883,398
Property, Plant and Equipment, net	\$ 78,556,288	\$ (1,348,954)	\$ 235,387	\$ 76,971,947

Property, Plant and Equipment consists of the following as of March 31, 2015:

	Balance <u>April 1</u>	Additions	<u>Deletions</u>	Balance <u>March 31</u>
Land Property and plant Equipment, furniture and vehicles	\$ 145,000 138,982,850 46,981,830	\$ - 10,171,433 3,845,178	\$ - (1,711,742) (1,788,060)	\$ 145,000 147,442,541 49,038,948
Construction in progress	182,217	2,340,796	(2,486,728)	36,285
Total	186,291,897	16,357,407	(5,986,530)	196,662,774
Less: accumulated depreciation	114,445,824	7,116,921	(3,456,259)	118,106,486
Property, Plant and Equipment, net	\$ 71,846,073	\$ 9,240,486	\$ (2,530,271)	\$ 78,556,288

#### 6. ADVANCED COLLECTIONS

Advanced collections consist of the following as of March 31:

		<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
General and event sponsorships Advance sales	\$	181,812 1,106,213	\$ 168,335 809,826
	<u>\$</u>	1,288,025	\$ 978,161

#### 7. LINE OF CREDIT

In July 2013, the Authority extended its \$7,000,000 tax-exempt bank line of credit. The maturity date of this new agreement is July 31, 2016, with a floating tax-exempt interest rate equal to 65% of the one month LIBOR rate plus 2.75% per annum (3.035% at March 31, 2016).

The outstanding balance (including accrued interest) at March 31, 2016 was \$4,297,714. The bank line of credit with an outstanding balance of \$3,897,714 at March 31, 2015 provided for interest to be paid monthly on outstanding borrowings at LIBOR rate plus 2.75% per annum (2.85% at March 31, 2015). The outstanding balance is secured by assets of the Authority. Borrowings on the credit line are used primarily to pay employees and vendors when operating receipts are not sufficient.

#### 8. LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Long-term liability balances and activity for the year ended March 31, 2016 are summarized below:

	Begin <u>Balar</u>	•	Additions	<u>Deletions</u>		Ending <u>Balance</u>	Amounts Due Within One Year	I	Long-term Portion
Capital lease obligations Due to NYS and Local Employee	\$ 7,60	32,715	-	\$ 1,475,342	\$	6,157,373	\$ 1,253,321	\$	4,904,052
Retirement System (ERS)	2,27	73,489	174,462	218,340		2,229,611	240,774		1,988,837
Compensated Absences	3,24	19,471	-	58,142	(A)	3,191,329	-		3,191,329
Net pension liability	2,28	34,569	-	576,653		1,707,916	-		1,707,916
Other post retirement benefits	26,95	53,728	6,560,106	1,650,461		31,863,373	-		31,863,373
Total	\$ 42,39	93,972	6,734,568	\$ 3,978,938	\$	45,149,602	\$ 1,494,095	\$	43,655,507

Long-term liability balances and activity for the year ended March 31, 2015 are summarized below:

	Beginning Balance	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>		Ending Balance	Amounts Due Within One Year		Long-term Portion
Capital lease obligations Due to NYS and Local Employee	\$ 9,070,243	\$ -	\$ 1,437,528	\$	7,632,715	\$ 1,222,062	\$	6,410,653
Retirement System (ERS)	1,375,004	1,061,272	162,787		2,273,489	218,340		2,055,149
Compensated Absences	3,072,631	176,840 (A)	-		3,249,471	-		3,249,471
Other postretirement benefits	 22,062,901	 6,073,672	 1,182,845	_	26,953,728	 <u>-</u>	_	26,953,728
Total	\$ 35,580,779	\$ 7,311,784	\$ 2,783,160	\$	40,109,403	\$ 1,440,402	\$	38,669,001

A. Additions and deletions to compensated absences are shown net because it is impractical to determine these amounts separately.

#### 9. OBLIGATIONS UNDER CAPITAL LEASE AGREEMENTS

The Authority leases equipment under capital leases expiring during fiscal year 2023. The asset and liability under capital leases are recorded at the present value of the minimum lease payments. The effective interest rates for the leased equipment range from 3% to 5.2%. The assets under capital leases are included in the accompanying balance sheets. Depreciation of assets under capital leases is included in depreciation expense.

The Authority has two capital leases with Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company (M&T). With the first lease, the Authority financed the purchase of \$8 million of equipment. Semi-annual payments are \$417,980 through August 2017, with interest fixed at 4.48%. For the second, the Authority financed the purchase of \$1.2 million of equipment. Semi-annual payments are \$80,840 through August 2017, with interest fixed at 4.53%.

The Authority financed the purchase of equipment with leases through Alliance Leasing, Inc. Monthly payment amounts are \$953 and \$1,249 through January 2015 including interest fixed at 5.2%.

Certain equipment purchases were financed through the New York Power Authority (NYPA). Payments are made monthly at \$33,976 through August 2023 with interest at 0.88%.

The Authority financed the purchase of equipment with a lease through National City Commercial Capital Company, LLC. Monthly payment amounts are \$1,441 through July 2015 with interest at 3%.

Minimum future lease payments under the capital leases are as follows:

2017	\$ 1,410,694
2018	2,784,967
2019	407,746
2020	407,746
2021	407,717
Thereafter	 738,503
	6,157,373
Less: Amount representing interest	 284,791
Present value of net minimum lease payments	\$ 5,872,582

Assets held under capital assets are as follows:

	<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>
Equipment Less: accumulated depreciation	\$ 15,105,689 6,471,359	\$ 	15,105,689 5,662,856
Net leased property	\$ 8,634,330	<u>\$</u>	9,442,833

Total cash paid for interest expense was \$377,609 and \$402,275 for the year ended March 31, 2016 and March 31, 2015 respectively.

#### 10. PENSION PLANS

The Authority participates in the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (the System). The System is a cost sharing multiple employer public employee retirement system. The System offers a wide range of plans and benefits which are related to years of service and final average salary, vesting of retirement benefits, death and disability.

The New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System provides retirement benefits as well as death and disability benefits. Obligations of employers and employees to contribute and benefits to employees are governed by the New York State Retirement and Social Security Law (NYSRSSL).

As set forth in the NYSRSSL, the Comptroller of New York State of New York (Comptroller serves as sole trustee and administrative head of the System) shall adopt and may amend rules and regulations for the administration and transaction of the business of the System and for the custody and control of its funds. The System issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the New York State and Local Retirement System, State Office Building, Albany, New York 12244.

#### **Funding Policy**

The System is noncontributory for the employee who joined prior to July 27, 1976. For employees who joined the System after July 27, 1976, and prior to January 1, 2010, employees contribute 3% of their salary, except that employees in the System for more than 10 years are no longer required to contribute. For employees who joined after January 1, 2010 and prior to April 1, 2012, employees contribute 3% of their salary throughout their active membership. For employees who joined after April 1, 2012, employees contribute 3% of their salary until April 1, 2013 and then contribute 3% to 6% of their salary throughout their active membership. The Comptroller shall certify annually the rates expressed as proportions of payroll of members, which shall be used in computing the contributions required to be made by employers to the pension accumulation fund.

The Authority is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The required contributions for the current year and two preceding years were:

2016	\$ 1,968,469
2015	\$ 2,787,600
2014	\$ 2,104,797

The Authority's contributions made to the System were equal to 100 percent of the contributions required for each year.

Pursuant to Chapter 57 of the Laws of 2010 of the Employer Contribution Stabilization Program, payments which would have been paid by February 1, 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2015 are allowed to be made on a current basis, while amortizing existing unpaid amounts over a 10-year period, with a 5% interest factor added. The total unpaid liability was \$2,229,611 of which \$240,774 is included in current portion and \$1,988,837 in long-term debt at March 31, 2016 and the total unpaid liability was \$2,273,491 of which \$218,340 was included in the current portion and \$2,055,149 in long term debt at March 31, 2015.

#### 10. PENSION PLANS (Continued)

### Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At March 31, 2016, the Authority reported a liability of \$1,707,916 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of March 31, 2015, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by the actuarial valuation as of that date. The Authority's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Authority's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating members, actuarially determined.

At March 31, 2016, the Authority's proportion was 0.0505563%, which was an increase of 0% from its proportion measured at March 31, 2015.

For the year ended March 31, 2016, the Authority recognized pension expense of \$1,582,591. At March 31, 2016, the Authority reported deferred outflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

		Deferred
	(	Outflows
		of
	F	Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	54,672
Changes of Assumptions		-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments		296,643
Changes in proportion and differences between the District's		
contributions and proportionate share of contributions		251,955
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date		1,968,469
	\$	2,571,739

Of the total reported as deferred outflows of resources, \$1,968,469 related to the Authority's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended March 31, 2016.

#### 10. PENSION PLANS (Continued)

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability at March 31, 2016, was determined by using an actuarial valuation as of April 1, 2014, with update procedures used to roll forward the total pension liability to March 31, 2015. The total pension liability for the March 31, 2015, measurement date was determined by using an actuarial valuation as of April 1, 2014. The actuarial valuation used the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation 2.70%

Salary scale 4.9% indexed by service Projected COLAs 1.4% compounded annually

Decrements Developed from the Plan's 2010 experience study of the

period April 1, 2005 through March 31, 2010

Mortality improvement Society of Actuaries Scale MP-2014

Investment Rate of Return 7.5% compounded annually, net of investment expenses

#### **Long Term Rate of Return**

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined in accordance with Actuarial Standard of practice (ASOP) No. 27, Selection of Economic Assumptions for Measuring Pension Obligations. ASOP No. 27 provides guidance on the selection of an appropriate assumed investment rate of return. Consideration was given to expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) for equities and fixes income as well as historical investment data and plan performance.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation as of March 31, 2016 and 2015, are summarized below:

		Long Term
		Expected
	Target	Real Rate of
Asset Type	Allocations	Return
Domestic Equity	38.0%	7.30%
International Equity	13.0%	8.55%
Private Equity	10.0%	11.00%
Real Estate	8.0%	8.25%
Absolute Return	3.0%	6.75%
Opportunistic Portfolio	3.0%	8.60%
Real Asset	3.0%	8.65%
Bonds, Cash & Mortgages	18.0%	4.00%
Cash	2.0%	2.25%
Inflation Indexed Bonds	2.0%	4.00%

#### 10. PENSION PLANS (Continued)

#### **Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to calculate the total pension liability was 7.5%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially. Based upon the assumptions, the Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members.

Therefore the long term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

# Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to the Discount Rate Assumption

The following presents the Authority's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.5 percent, as well as what the Authority's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percent lower (6.5%) or 1 percent higher (8.5%) than the current rate:

#### Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) to the Discount Rate Assumption

	1 % Decrease		Curre	nt Assumption	1% Increase		
		(6.5%)	(7.5%)			(8.5%)	
Proportionate Share of Net							
Pension liability (asset)	\$	11,383,998	\$	1,707,916	\$	(6,461,097)	

#### **Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

The components of the current-year net pension liability of the employers as of March 31, 2016, were as follows:

		Authority's proportionate share Pension Plan's of Plan's Fiduciary		Authority's allocation % determined	
	Fiduciary Net Position		Net Position		by the Plan
Total pension liability	\$	164,591,504,000	\$	83,211,375	0.0505563%
Net position		161,213,259,000		81,503,459	0.0505563%
Net pension liability	\$	3,378,245,000	\$	1,707,916	0.0505563%
Fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability		97.9%		97.9%	

#### 11. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

The Authority is a component unit of the State of New York. Accrued liabilities and other liabilities include the following amounts due to other New York State agencies. As of March 31, the Authority has the following balances outstanding:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System New York State General Fund Pension Savings Recovery	\$ 2,229,611 401,253	\$ 2,273,489 401,253

#### 12. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

#### Litigation

The Authority is a defendant in several lawsuits resulting primarily from ski area operations. The damages alleged in these lawsuits total several million dollars. The lawsuits are being defended by the State of New York Office of the Attorney General at no cost to the Authority. However, to the extent that the Authority is not covered by insurance, the Authority shall be held harmless by New York State for any and all claims for damages or injuries arising out of the operation by the Authority of any participating Olympic facility owned by New York State. The Authority purchases commercial insurance coverage to protect against claims arising out of the operation of the Town owned facilities.

#### **Risk Management**

The Authority 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 Authority has purchased commercial insurance for all risk beyond minimal deductible amounts. Settled claims have not exceeded the commercial coverage by any material amounts during the years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015. There was no reduction in insurance coverage during the year ended March 31, 2016.

#### **Service America Corporation Capital Contribution**

During 2004, the Authority and Service America Corporation, d/b/a Centerplate (Centerplate) entered into a concessions contract, effective June 1, 2004 through May 31, 2009, for all venues in the Lake Placid and Wilmington regions. The Authority extended the contract through May 31, 2019. As part of the current contract, the Authority shall invest an amount not to exceed \$500,000 in the facilities which shall be used for upgrades and improvements in the food service premises as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties.

In 2012 when the Authority assumed management responsibility of the Belleayre Ski Area, the Authority also assumed the agreement between the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and Centerplate to manage the Belleayre Ski & Snowboard Sport Retail Shop and Demo Center through October 31, 2014. In October 2013, the Authority amended the agreement with Centerplate to continue through May 31, 2019 to correspond with the contract noted above to include all of the Authority's venues.

#### 13. OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

#### **Plan Description**

The Authority provides post employment, (health insurance, life insurance, etc.), coverage to retired employees in accordance with the provisions of various employment contracts. The benefit levels, employee contributions and employer contributions are governed by the Authority's contractual agreements. The Authority is required to calculate and record a net other post-employment benefit (OPEB) obligation at year-end. The net OPEB obligation is the cumulative difference between the actuarially required contribution and the actual contributions made.

#### 13. OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (Continued)

#### **Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB Obligation**

The Authority's annual OPEB cost is calculated based on the annual required contribution of the employer, (ARC), an amount actuarially determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover the normal cost each year plus the amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability over a period not to exceed 30 years.

The following table shows the components of the Authority's annual OPEB cost for the year, the amount actually contributed to the plan, and changes in the Authority's net OPEB obligation:

		<u>2016</u>		<u>2015</u>
Normal cost Amortization of unfunded actuarial liability Interest	\$	2,636,059 4,785,826 274,610	\$	2,445,247 4,280,039 248,836
ARC Interest on OPRB obligation Adjustment to ARC OPEB expense	\$	7,696,495 997,288 (2,133,677) 6,560,106	\$	6,974,122 816,325 (1,716,776) 6,073,671
Net OPEB obligation at the beginning of the year Current year OPEB expense Net OPEB contributions made during the fiscal year Net OPEB obligation at the end of the year	\$ 	26,953,728 6,560,106 (1,650,461) 31,863,373	\$ 	22,062,901 6,073,672 (1,182,845) 26,953,728
Percentage of expense contributed	<u></u>	25.2%	<del>-</del>	19.5%

#### **Funded Status and Funding Progress**

The projection of future benefits for an ongoing plan involves estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and the healthcare cost trend.

Amounts determined regarding the funded status of the OPEB Plan and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future. The OPEB Plan is currently not funded.

#### **Actuarial Methods and Assumptions**

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan as understood by the employer and plan members and include the types of benefits provided at the time of the valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

#### 14. POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS LIABILITY (Continued)

For the March 31, 2016 actuarial valuation, the following methods and assumptions were used:

Actuarial cost method Projected unit credit

Discount rate\* 3.7%

Medical care cost trend rate 7.5% initially. The rate is reduced over a 7 year

period to an ultimate rate of 4.8%

Unfunded actuarial accrued liability:

Amortization period 30 years
Amortization method Level dollar
Amortization basis Open

#### 15. BELLAYRE SKI CENTER AGREEMENT

Article VII, Part C of the NYS 2012-2013 Enacted NYS Budget authorized the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Authority to transfer the rights to operate, maintain and manage the Belleayre Mountain Ski Center located in Ulster and Delaware County including the transference of all employees.

#### 16. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

The Authority adopted GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27. Statement No. 68 establishes accounting and financial reporting requirements related to pensions for governments whose employees are provided with pensions through pension plans that are not covered by the scope of Statement No. 68, as well as for non-employer governments that have a legal obligation to contribute to those plans. Accordingly, beginning net position, deferred outflows of resources and net pension liability (asset) of governmental activities were adjusted as noted in the following table:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources		N 	et Pension Liability	Net Position	
Balance at March 31, 2015, as previously reported	\$	-	\$	-	\$	27,562,298
Restatement of beginning balance - Adoption of GASB Statement No. 68						
NYS Employee Retirement System Plan		2,762,514		2,284,569	_	477,945
Balance at March 31, 2015, as restated	\$	2,762,514	\$	2,284,569	\$	28,040,243

<sup>\*</sup> As the plan is unfunded, the assumed discount rate considers that the Authority's investment assets are low risk in nature, such as money market funds or certificates of deposit.

#### 17. IMPACT OF FUTURE GASB PRONOUNCEMENTS

In February 2015, the GASB issued Statement No. 72, Fair Value Measurement and Application. The objective of this Statement addresses accounting and financial reporting issues related to fair value measurements. The definition of fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. This Statement provides guidance for determining a fair value measurement for financial reporting purposes. This Statement also provides guidance for applying fair value to certain investments and disclosures related to all fair value measurements. The Authority is required to adopt the provisions of this Statement for the year ending March 31, 2017.

In June 2015, the GASB issued Statement *No. 75 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions.* Statement No. 75 replaces the requirements of Statements No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions,* as amended, and No. 57, *OPEB Measurements by Agent Employers and Agent Multiple-Employer Plans,* for OPEB. Statement No. 74, *Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefit Plans Other Than Pension Plans,* establishes new accounting and financial reporting requirements for OPEB plans. The Authority is required to adopt the provisions of these Statements for the year ending March 31, 2017, with early adoption encouraged.

In June 2015, the GASB issued Statement No. 76, The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments which supersedes Statement No. 55, The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments and amends Statement No. 62, Codification of Accounting and Financial Reporting Guidance Contained in Pre-November 30, 1989 FASB and AICPA Pronouncements, paragraphs 64, 74, and 82. Statement No. 76 reduces the number of categories of authoritative generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) hierarchy and the framework for selecting those principles to two categories. The primary category "Category A" will consist of officially established GASB Statements and GASB Interpretations heretofore issued and currently in effect. The second category "Category B" will consist of GASB Technical Bulletins, GASB Implementation Guides when presented in the form of a Comprehensive Implementation Guide, and literature of the AICPA cleared by the GASB. The goal of Statement No. 76 is to help governments apply financial reporting guidance with less variability, therefore improving usefulness and comparability of financial statement information among state and local governments. The Authority is required to adopt the provisions of Statement No. 76 for the year ending March 31, 2017, and should be adopted retroactively, with early adoption permitted.

In March 2016, GASB issued Statement No. 82, Pension Issues-An Amendment of GASB Statements No. 67, Financial Reporting for pension Plans, No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, and No. 73 Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions and Related Assets That Are Not Within the Scope of GAS 68, and Amendments to Certain Provisions of GASB Statements 67 and 68. The Statement addresses issues related to the presentation of payroll related measures in required supplementary information, selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations and classification of payments made by employers to meet employee contribution requirements. The Statement takes effect for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2016 except for the selection of assumptions in which an employer's pension liability is measured as of a date other than the employer's most recent fiscal year-end in which the effective date is on or after June 15, 2017. Earlier adoption is encouraged.

The Authority has not yet assessed the impact of these statements on its future financial statements.



### SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS - OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS PLAN FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016

Actuarial Valuation Date	(a) Actuarial Value of Assets	ctuarial Actuarial alue of Accrued		 (b-a) Unfunded AAL (UAAL)	(a/b) Funded Ratio		(c) Covered Payroll	((b-a)/c) UAAL as a percentage of <u>Covered Payroll</u>		
March 31, 2016	\$ -	\$	63,746,488	\$ 63,746,488	0.00%	\$	15,814,584	403.1%		
March 31, 2015	\$ -	\$	58,372,810	\$ 58,372,810	0.00%	\$	14,979,059	389.7%		
March 31, 2014	\$ -	\$	45,781,672	\$ 45,781,672	0.00%	\$	14,345,041	319.1%		

### SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF NET PENSION LIABILITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

	Last 10 Fiscal Years (Dollar amounts displayed in thousands)										
NEW YORK STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM PLAN		2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Proportion of the net pension liability Proportionate share of the net pension liability Covered-employee payroll Proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	\$	0.050556% 1,707,916.00 15,817,870.0 10.80% 97.90%		ementa	tion of ed for e	GASB 6 ach yea	8 is una	s prior t available forware	e and w		

#### SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS - PENSION PLANS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016

	Last 10 Fiscal Years (Dollar amounts displayed in thousands)									
NEW YORK STATE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM PLAN	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
Contractually required contribution Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution Contribution deficiency (excess)  Covered-employee payroll Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	\$ 1,968,469.0 \$ 1,968,469.0 \$ - \$ 15,817,870.0 12.44%	Information for the periods prior to implementation of GASB 68 is unavailable and will be completed for each year going forward as they become available.								



#### Bonadio & Co., LLP Certified Public Accountants

#### 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

June 20, 2016

To the Board of Directors of the New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority:

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards acceptable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the business-type activities of the New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority (Authority) a New York State Public Benefit Corporation, which is a discretely presented component unit of the State of New York, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2016.

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

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority'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 opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority'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 was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

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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 (Continued)

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

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from 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 *Governmental Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

### SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES MARCH 31, 2016

#### **Status of Prior Year Findings**

#### 2015-001 Account Reconciliations

#### Condition

Our audit procedures disclosed that though purchase agreements were being paid timely, the amount of the total purchase agreement for certain assets where not posted in their entirety within the Authority's general ledger which necessitated a material adjustment during audit procedures.

Status: This finding has been corrected in 2016.

#### **Current Year – Financial Statement Findings**

None