Annual Financial Report 2015
What a difference a year can make!

The year 2015 was extraordinary in the way it changed the political and fiscal landscape that the Pembina Institute operates in. We have been working on climate and energy issues in Canada for 30 years and we’ve managed to mark some notable successes in that time, but over the past decade there’s been much frustration. Last year was a watershed moment for climate and energy policy on the provincial, federal and international levels — and political momentum is now on our side.

The year also marked a turning point for the Pembina Institute in terms of improved institutional infrastructure and finance, creating an ideal operating environment to move key projects forward. While our much-needed organizational restructuring in 2014 came with growing pains, the efforts finally began to pay off in 2015. Our re-imagined regional teams were finally able to truly take shape and begin honing their strategic focus.

On May 6, 2015, the people of Alberta remarkably voted in an NDP government with a mandate to show leadership on climate change. In November this new provincial government released a Climate Leadership Plan aimed at introducing economy-wide carbon pricing, capping oilsands emissions, phasing out coal, reducing methane emissions, promoting renewable energy and introducing energy efficiency programs. The Pembina Institute is proud to have worked closely with industry and government to help shape the Plan.

In B.C., our Vancouver-based team played a significant role in the province’s Climate Leadership Plan. Thanks to their efforts, Pembina Institute analysis and recommendations on buildings, transportation, industry and carbon pricing feature prominently in the recommendations presented to the government by its advisory team. Meanwhile, our Ontario team provided much-needed analysis and recommendations on transit and growth planning to help curb transportation emissions—the biggest source of GHG emissions in the province.

The federal landscape also changed dramatically in 2015, when the Liberals formed a majority government and pledged to take on a vastly different approach to climate change than the previous government. As a result, our federal work, which was somewhat dormant, was reinvigorated by engagement and a true sense of need for help in charting the country’s climate and energy future. Within the next two years, we aim to have an integrated federal–provincial economic approach to climate and energy that includes mitigation, carbon pricing and clean investment to spur jobs in low-carbon industries.

As if to underscore the monumental change afoot in Canada over the year, 2015 culminated with 195 countries committing to the Paris Agreement, which acknowledges the gravity and urgency of climate change, and commits signatory countries to take action. We were there alongside Canada’s federal and provincial delegation for the announcement and we will be there every step of the way as our country shapes new policies and takes action.

The mission of the Pembina Institute is to advance clean energy solutions through innovative research, education, consulting and advocacy.

Ed Whittingham
Executive Director, Pembina Institute
Financial Data

Revenue 2015  
(from audited financial statements)

Fee for service $1,430,632  
Revenue received under contractual agreements for completing research and advisory services.

Grants $1,881,253  
Revenue received from granting agencies for completing specific projects. The Pembina Institute currently does not receive core funding from any granting agency.

Event sponsorship, speaking and board honoraria $426,268  
Revenue and non-receipted gifts from sponsoring agencies to support the work of the Pembina Institute, and participant event fees.

Donations from individuals $87,343  
Individual responses to direct mail appeal and other gifts from individuals.

Other (rental, interest) $59,091  
Revenues from rental sub-lease arrangements and investment interest.

Total revenue $3,884,587

Expenses 2015  
(from audited financial statements)

Staff costs $2,749,531  
Hard costs including wages, wage costs, staff benefits, and professional development.

Contractors services $387,121  
Costs including contractor services, project materials and communications incurred to design, develop, deliver and manage our project work.

Meeting expenses $159,534  
Costs including travel, event hosting and board-related expenses.

IT/Communications $144,745  
Overhead costs, including telecommunications, IT support, website, and internet, incurred in the day-to-day operations of the organization.

Administrative $205,866  
Overhead costs including rent, equipment rental, library, and office and admin incurred in the daily operations of the organization.

Business expense $156,016  
Costs including property tax, amortization, bad debt and professional fees.

Financing costs $47,555  
Interest and bank fees.

Total expenses $3,850,368

Net income $34,219

Statement of Financial Position Year ending December 31, 2015

ASSETS
Current
Cash $40,543
Restricted cash $561,724
Accounts receivable $537,988
Due from Pembina Foundation $43,571
GST receivable $8,434
Prepaid expenses $103,345

$1,295,605

Capital assets $1,876,094

$3,171,699

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Callable debt $1,157,719

$2,474,846

Net assets
Investment in capital assets $773,528
Restricted $561,724
Unrestricted ($638,399)

$696,853

$3,171,699

These statements are excerpts from the audited financial statements prepared for the organization and exclude the audit report, other pertinent statements and notes to the financial statements. Users are cautioned that these statements alone may be inappropriate for their purposes.