

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN



10-11

ANNUAL REPORT

JUDGES OF THE  
PROVINCIAL COURT  
SUPERANNUATION PLAN

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## Letters of Transmittal



His Honour, The Honourable Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart  
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan

May It Please Your Honour:

I have the honour to transmit herewith the thirty-third Annual Report of the Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan for the year ending March 31, 2011.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Ken Krawetz".

Ken Krawetz  
Minister of Finance

# Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan

## Introduction

The Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan (Plan) was established under *The Provincial Court Act* (continued as *The Provincial Court Act, 1998*) to provide pension benefits to judges in the event of retirement and secondarily in the event of termination of employment. Previously pensions had been provided to qualifying judges through *The Magistrates' Courts Act*. Judges appointed at the time the Plan was established had the option of retaining the benefits provided under *The Magistrates' Courts Act*, or opting to contribute to the Plan and earn a pension under *The Provincial Court Act*. For those judges who transferred, service under *The Magistrates' Courts Act* is included as service in the calculation of pensions under *The Provincial Court Act, 1998*. The Plan also provides benefits to the dependents of deceased judges and superannuates in the event of death either prior, or subsequent to retirement.

## Operation of the Plan

The Plan is a defined benefit pension plan, which provides a benefit based on a judge's highest earnings during specified periods taking into consideration their total years of service to a maximum of 23 1/3 years. Judges contribute 5% of their salary to the Plan.

Any deficiencies in the Plan are paid out of the General Revenue Fund and are the responsibility of the Government of Saskatchewan.

The following table below shows the number of active and retired judges in the Plan as of the current and prior year-ends

	<b>March 31, 2011</b>	<b>March 31, 2010</b>
Active Judges	51	50
Inactive Members	3	3
Retired Judges *	52	51
<b>Totals</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>104</b>
*Includes Superannuates, plus their dependents that are now in receipt of a survivor pension.		

## Benefit Payments

During the Plan year, benefit payments are made in accordance with the Plan rules due to retirement of judges, termination of employment and death benefits – either due to death of a judge or a superannuate.

## Contributions to the Plan

In accordance with the contribution schedules outlined above, judges' contributions to the Plan during the year totaled \$519,691. This compares to \$509,217 as of the previous fiscal year end. As at March 31, 2011, 45 judges (2010 – 43 judges) were contributing to the Plan.

## Investment Performance

The Minister of Finance is responsible for holding in trust and investing the monies in the Plan. The Minister has retained the services of Greystone Managed Investments Inc. to be the investment manager.

The investment manager makes the day-to-day decision of whether to buy or sell specific investments in order to achieve the long-term investment performances, as set out in the Investment Policy Statement for the Plan. It is against these long-term investment performances that the performance of the investment manager is assessed.

The Plan's long-term investment performance objective is to outperform a benchmark portfolio constructed as follows:

Asset Class	Market Index	Weight
Canadian	S&P/TSX Capped Composite Index	22%
US	S&P 500 Index (Can. \$)	14%
Non-North American	MSCI EAFE Index (Can \$)	14%
Fixed Income Bonds	DEX Universe Bond Index	45%
Short-Term Investments	91 Day Canadian Treasury Bill	5%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>

The objective of the Plan is to achieve a return that is equal to or greater than the return achieved from this benchmark portfolio over a rolling four-year period. The performance history of the Plan as of March 31, 2011 has been:

	1-Year Return	Rolling 4 Year Average
Fund's Return	10.0%	2.4%
Benchmark Return	9.3%	2.3%

## Cash Flow Forecast

The total cash inflow is the amount of contributions expected to be received by the pension plan. The total cash outflows are the amounts that are required to pay all pension obligations. The net cash outflows do not consider future investment income and the redemption of investments. Forecast of cash flows have been determined using the following long-term assumptions:

Factor	Current Year Assumptions	Prior Year Assumptions
Salary Escalation	3.50%	3.50%
Inflation Rate	2.50%	2.50%
Discount Rate	5.00%	5.10%
Return on Assets	6.15%	6.15%
Mortality Table	UP94 (projected to 2024)	UP94 (projected to 2022)
Indexing Post April 1, 2003	75% CPI	75% CPI
Indexing Pre April 1, 2003	70% CPI	70% CPI

The actuarial valuations prepared by Aon Hewitt, also take into consideration mortality under the Plan, which is reflected in the Net Cash Flow Forecasts.

Year	Net Cash Outflows (000's)
2011-2012	\$3,866
2012-2013	\$4,457
2013-2014	\$5,038
2014-2015	\$5,619
2015-2016	\$6,009
<b>Total next 5 Years</b>	<b>\$24,989</b>
<b>Total 5-10 Years</b>	<b>\$38,931</b>
<b>Total 11-30 Years</b>	<b>\$211,870</b>

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## **Administration**

The Public Employees Benefits Agency (PEBA) has responsibility for the operation, administration and management of several superannuation Plans and other employee benefits programs. Administration of the Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan is carried out by PEBA.

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# Management's Report

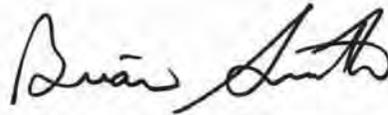
To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Administration of the Plan is presently assigned to the Public Employees Benefits Agency of the Ministry of Finance. Management is responsible for financial administration, administration of the funds and managing of assets.

The financial statements, which follow have been prepared by management in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Management uses internal controls and exercises its best judgement in order that the financial statements reflect fairly the financial position of the Plan.

The present value of accrued pension benefits is determined by an actuarial valuation. Actuarial valuation reports require best estimate assumptions about future events which require approval by management.

The financial statements have been audited by the Provincial Auditor whose report follows.



Brian Smith  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Public Employees Benefits Agency



Ann Mackrill  
Director, Pension Programs  
Public Employees Benefits Agency



Kathy Deck, CGA  
Director, Financial Services  
Public Employees Benefits Agency

Regina, Saskatchewan  
May 26, 2011

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## Actuaries' Opinion

Aon Hewitt was retained by the Public Employees Benefits Agency (PEBA) to perform actuarial valuations of the accrued pension benefits of the Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan (Plan) on an accounting basis as at March 31, 2011.

The valuation of the Plan's actuarial accrued pension benefits was based on:

- Membership data as of March 31, 2011 and asset data as of March 31, 2011 as provided by the Public Employees Benefits Agency;
- Methods prescribed by The Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants for pension plan financial statements; and
- Assumptions about future events (economic and demographic) which were developed by management and Aon Hewitt and are considered as management's best estimate of these events.

The actuarial assumptions used to estimate accrued pension benefits for the Plan's financial statements contained in the Annual Report represent management's best estimate of future events, and in our opinion these assumptions are not unreasonable, when considering the circumstances of the Plan and the purpose of the valuation and extrapolation. Nonetheless, emerging experience differing from the assumptions will result in gains or losses that will be revealed in future valuations, and will affect the financial position of the Plan.

We have tested the data for reasonableness and consistency with prior valuations and in our opinion the data is sufficient and reliable for the purposes of the valuation. We also believe that the methods employed in the valuation are appropriate.

Our opinions have been given and our valuation has been performed in accordance with accepted actuarial practice.



David R. Larsen, FSA, FCIA  
Aon Hewitt

May 26, 2011



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# **Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan**

## **Financial Statements**

**Year Ended March 31, 2011**

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# Independent Auditor's Report

To: The Members of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan (Plan), which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits, accrued pension benefits and unfunded liability as at March 31, 2011, the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits and changes in accrued pension benefits for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for Treasury Board's approval and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## *Auditor's Responsibility*

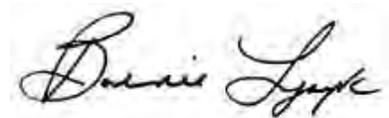
My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

## *Opinion*

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Plan as at March 31, 2011, and the changes in net assets available for benefits and changes in accrued pension benefits for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.



Regina, Saskatchewan  
May 26, 2011

Bonnie Lysyk, MBA, CA•CIA  
Provincial Auditor

**Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan  
Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits, Accrued  
Pension Benefits and Unfunded Liability**

**Statement 1**

**As At March 31**

	<u>2011</u> (000's)	<u>2010</u> (000's)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Due from General Revenue Fund (Note 6)	\$ 69	\$ 236
Investments		
Pooled funds (Note 3)	<u>21,559</u>	<u>19,217</u>
	21,628	19,453
Receivables		
Other	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
Total assets	<u>21,628</u>	<u>19,454</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Total liabilities	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS (Statement 2)	21,608	19,434
Accrued pension benefits (Statement 3)	<u>117,003</u>	<u>108,453</u>
Unfunded liability	<u>\$95,395</u>	<u>\$89,019</u>

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

**Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan  
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits**

**Statement 2**

**Year Ended March 31**

	<u>2011</u> (000's)	<u>2010</u> (000's)
<b>INCREASE IN ASSETS</b>		
Investment income		
Interest	\$ 1	\$ 1
Distributions-pooled funds (Note 2)	<u>749</u>	<u>615</u>
	750	616
Increase in market value (Note 2)	1,208	2,203
Contributions by judges	520	509
Deficiency recoveries from General Revenue Fund (Note 4)	<u>3,843</u>	<u>3,353</u>
Total increase in assets	<u>6,321</u>	<u>6,681</u>
<b>DECREASE IN ASSETS</b>		
Administration expenses (Note 11)	83	76
Superannuation allowances		
Magistrates' Courts Act	214	212
Provincial Court Act	<u>3,850</u>	<u>3,436</u>
Total decrease in assets	<u>4,147</u>	<u>3,724</u>
<b>INCREASE IN NET ASSETS</b>	<b>2,174</b>	<b>2,957</b>
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS,</b> beginning of year	<u>19,434</u>	<u>16,477</u>
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS,</b> end of year - to Statement 1	<u>\$21,608</u>	<u>\$19,434</u>

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

**Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan  
Statement of Changes in Accrued Pension Benefits**

**Statement 3**

**Year Ended March 31**

	<u>2011</u> (000's)	<u>2010</u> (000's)
ACCRUED PENSION BENEFITS, beginning of year	\$108,453	\$ 99,320
<b>INCREASE IN ACCRUED PENSION BENEFITS</b>		
Interest on accrued benefits	5,555	5,388
Benefits accrued	4,986	4,555
Change in actuarial assumptions (Note 5)	1,997	4,218
Service buyback	56	-
Addition of new members	121	122
	<u>12,715</u>	<u>14,283</u>
<b>DECREASE IN ACCRUED PENSION BENEFITS</b>		
Benefits paid	4,064	3,648
Change due to plan amendment	-	174
Net experience gain	101	1,328
	<u>4,165</u>	<u>5,150</u>
ACCRUED PENSION BENEFITS, end of year – to Statement 1	<u>\$117,003</u>	<u>\$108,453</u>

(See accompanying notes to the financial statements)

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# Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan

## Notes to the Financial Statements

March 31, 2011

### 1. Description of the Plan

#### a) General

The Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Plan (Plan) provides defined benefit final average pensions to the Judges of the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan under *The Provincial Court Act, 1998*.

*The Provincial Court Act, 1998* also provides authority to the Judges of the Provincial Court Superannuation Fund (Fund) to accumulate all contributions by judges, investment income and payments received from the General Revenue Fund. Pensions, annuities, supplementary allowances, refunds and interest are paid out of the Fund.

Under *The Provincial Court Act, 1998*, the judges are entitled to a retirement benefit from the pension plan (called registered pension plan) under *The Provincial Court Pension Plan Regulations* to the maximum permitted by *The Income Tax Act (Canada)* and an additional retirement benefit under *The Provincial Court Compensation Regulations*. The additional retirement benefit is not part of the registered pension plan.

Further plan details are contained in *The Provincial Court Act, 1998*, and the related regulations.

#### b) Administration

The Minister of Finance administers the Fund and is responsible for the investment of the Fund. Day-to-day administration is provided by the Public Employees Benefits Agency (PEBA).

#### c) Funding Policy

Judges contribute 5% of salary each year.

#### d) Retirement

The normal retirement age is 65. Judges appointed under *The Magistrates' Courts Act* retire at age 70. There is only one active member remaining who will receive benefits under *The Magistrates' Courts Act*. There are nine members appointed under *The Magistrates' Courts Act* who have elected to receive benefits under *The Provincial Court Act, 1998* and four members receiving benefits under *The Magistrates' Courts Act*.

#### e) Registered Pension Plan

Pursuant to *The Provincial Court Pension Plan Regulations*, the annual pension payable to a superannuated judge is 2% of the average of the judge's highest three years of salary to the maximum permitted by *The Income Tax Act (Canada)*, multiplied by the total number of years of service for which the judge has contributed. The maximum number of years of service is 23 1/3 years.

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f) **Additional Retirement Benefits**

Judges are entitled to receive a retirement benefit, including the benefit from the registered pension plan, of 3% of the average of the judge's highest three years of salary, multiplied by the total number of years of service for which the judge has contributed. The maximum number of years of service is 23 1/3 years. Under *The Provincial Court Compensation Regulations*, judges, who have served for at least 18 years, have attained the age of 58 years or more and the total of the judge's age in years and years of contributory service equals 80 or more, are entitled to a retirement benefit including the benefit from the registered pension plan of 70% of the average of the judge's highest three years of salary.

*The Provincial Court Compensation Regulations* provide for benefits for judges appointed after September 30, 1978 and before December 13, 1985. A judge appointed between these dates, who was 50 years or less on the day of appointment, was engaged in the practice of law for 10 years prior to appointment, was a member in good standing of the bar in a province of Canada for at least 10 years prior to appointment, retires at age 65 and at retirement has served continuously for at least 15 years as a judge, is entitled to a retirement benefit including the benefit from the registered pension plan of 70% of the average of the judge's highest three years of salary.

Effective April 1, 2009, a judge who receives a pension pursuant to *The Provincial Court Pension Plan Regulations* and has made contributions to the superannuation fund with respect to allowances paid to the judge, is entitled to receive an additional retirement benefit for life with respect to those allowances. Allowances are paid to the Chief Judge, Associate Chief Judges, administrative judges and northern judges.

g) **Refunds of Contributions**

A judge who retires, resigns or is removed from office, and who is not entitled to receive a pension, is entitled to receive a refund of contributions together with interest.

h) **Income Tax**

The Plan is a registered pension plan, as defined by the *Income Tax Act (Canada)* and accordingly, is not subject to income taxes. Allowances and refunds are subject to withholding taxes that are remitted to Canada Revenue Agency.

**2. Significant Accounting Policies**

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The following policies are considered significant.

a) **Investments**

Pooled fund investments are valued at the unit value supplied by the pooled fund administrator, which represent the underlying net assets of the pooled fund at fair values determined using closing bid prices.

The change in the market value of investments during the year is reflected on the financial statements as a market value adjustment.

## b) Investment Income and Transaction Costs

Investment transactions are recorded on the trade date. Transactions conducted in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars using the exchange rate in effect at the transaction date. Distributions are recognized on the record date. Monetary items denominated in foreign currency are translated at the exchange rate in effect at year-end.

## c) Future Accounting Policy Changes

In April 2010, the Accounting Standards Board (ACSB) of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants approved Section 4600, Pension Plans, as Part IV of the Handbook. The new section is based on the existing Section 4100, Pension Plans, in Part V of the Handbook, with the same substantive modifications including increased disclosures. The standards apply for annual financial statements relating to fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2011. The Plan is evaluating the impact that these new standards will have on its financial statements.

## 3. Investments

The Plan limits its investments in foreign equities including foreign pooled funds to 40% of the market value of the investment portfolio and are denominated in Canadian dollars. The Plan's units in pooled funds have no fixed interest rate and the returns are based on the success of the fund manager. The Plan's pooled funds are comprised of the following:

	Units Held		% of Total Units Outstanding		Market Value		Investment Income and Change in Market Value	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010
	(000's)				(000's)		(000's)	
Greystone Fixed Income Fund	896	807	1.77	1.75	\$ 9,228	\$ 8,335	\$ 502	\$ 602
Greystone Canadian Equity Fund	186	211	0.24	0.26	4,908	4,817	802	1,352
Greystone EAFE Plus Fund	420	370	0.24	0.17	3,275	2,751	243	583
Greystone US Equity Fund	315	280	2.11	1.89	3,429	2,734	403	279
Greystone Money Market Fund	72	58	0.30	0.33	719	580	7	2
					<u>\$21,559</u>	<u>\$19,217</u>	<u>\$1,957</u>	<u>\$2,818</u>

The Greystone EAFE Plus Fund holds units in the Greystone EAFE Quantitative Fund and the Greystone EAFE Growth Fund. These funds may use derivative financial instruments such as foreign currency forward exchange contracts and future contracts for hedging foreign currency and replicating indexes.

Derivative financial instruments are financial contracts that change in value resulting from changes in underlying assets or indices. Derivatives transactions are conducted in over-the-counter markets directly between two counterparties or on regulated exchange markets. All derivative financial instruments are recorded at market value using market prices. Where market prices are not readily available, other valuation techniques are used to determine market value.

### Fair Value

The Plan has classified its required fair valued financial instrument holdings using a hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in determining their measurements.

Under the classification structure, financial instruments recorded at unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities are classified as Level 1. Instruments valued using inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly are classified as Level 2. Instruments valued using inputs that are not based on observable market data are classified as Level 3.

The Plan presently holds only financial instruments that are classified as Level 2.

#### 4. Deficiency Recoveries from the General Revenue Fund

Section 22 of *The Provincial Court Act, 1998* provides that annuities under *The Magistrates' Courts Act* shall be paid out of the Fund. A judge of the magistrates' courts may elect to receive an annuity to which he/she was entitled under *The Magistrates' Courts Act* rather than contributing to the Fund and receiving benefits as determined by *The Provincial Court Act, 1998*. Accordingly, the annuities which are now or will become payable under *The Magistrates' Courts Act* are considered to be a deficiency and the Fund is reimbursed by the General Revenue Fund (GRF) each year. Also, any amounts payable under *The Provincial Court Act, 1998* to superannuates in excess of an individual's accumulated contributions are considered as a deficiency, and are recovered from the GRF. In addition, the GRF may make lump sum contributions to reduce any unfunded liability.

During the year, the Fund determined and received the following deficiency recoveries from the GRF:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
	(000's)	(000's)
Deficiencies - <i>The Magistrates' Courts Act</i>	\$ 214	\$ 212
- <i>The Provincial Court Act, 1998</i>	3,629	3,141
	<u>\$3,843</u>	<u>\$3,353</u>

#### 5. Obligations for Pension Benefits

The present value of accrued pension benefits was determined using the projected benefit method pro rated on services and the best estimate assumptions approved by PEBA. Aon Hewitt completed an actuarial valuation of the Plan at March 31, 2011.

The pension liability is based on a number of assumptions about future events including: discount rate, rate of salary increase, mortality, retirement rates and inflation. The actual rates may vary significantly from the long-term assumptions used. There has been a change in the discount rate since the previous valuation done in 2010. This yield has decreased from 5.10% to 5.00%, resulting in an increase in the accrued pension benefits of \$1,564,000. In addition, the mortality improvements in the 1994 Uninsured Pensioner Mortality Table have been projected to 2024, as compared to 2022 for the previous valuation. This change increased the accrued pension benefits by \$433,000.

The significant long-term assumptions used in the actuarial valuation of accrued pension benefits are as follows:

	2011	2010
Salary escalation rate	3.50%	3.50%
Inflation rate	2.50%	2.50%
Discount rate	5.00%	5.10%
Mortality table	UP94 (projected to 2024)	UP94 (projected to 2022)
Indexing post April 1, 2003	75% CPI	75% CPI
Indexing pre April 1, 2003	70% CPI	70% CPI

The net experience gain was mainly due to pension increases being less than expected and retirement experience being lower than expected offset by a loss due to salary increases being higher than expected and mortality experience being lower than anticipated.

The following illustrates the effect on the pension liability if the assumptions used in estimating the liabilities change:

Assumptions	Long-term Assumptions						Post-retirement Indexing **	
	Inflation*		Salary		Discount Rate			
	3.50%	1.50%	4.50%	2.50%	6.00%	4.00%	2.45%/2.625%	1.05%/1.125%
(Decrease) increase in liability	(3.6%)	3.9%	2.1%	(2.0%)	(11.8%)	14.4%	10.3%	(8.9%)

\* A change in the inflation rate of 1% has a corresponding change in the interest rate and salary scale of 1% and post-retirement indexing of 0.70% for pre April 1, 2003 and 0.75% for post April 1, 2003 retirees.

\*\* Post retirement indexing includes the impact of a 1% change in the pre 2003 indexing and in the post 2003 indexing.

If there are insufficient monies in the Fund to pay allowances or other payments, the Minister of Finance is obligated to pay any such deficiency out of the GRF. The unfunded liability for the Plan is not payable immediately. The expected cash inflows from contributions and the expected cash outflows to pay the required pension obligation are calculated using the above assumptions. The net cash outflows do not consider future investment income and the redemption of investments. The expected net cash flows are not adjusted for inflation, they are based on actual dollar forecasts. The estimated net cash outflows for the next 5 years are \$25.0 million, for the next 10 years \$63.9 million and for the next 30 years \$275.8 million.

## 6. Due from General Revenue Fund

The Fund's bank account is included in the Consolidated Offset Bank Concentration arrangement for the Government of Saskatchewan.

The earned interest on the bank account is calculated and paid from the General Revenue Fund on a quarterly basis using the Government's thirty day borrowing rate and the average daily bank account balance. The Government's average thirty day borrowing rate for the year ended March 31, 2011 was 0.80% (2010 – 0.27%).

## 7. Financial Risk Management

The nature of the Plan's operations result in a statement of net assets available for benefits, accrued pension benefits and unfunded liability that consists primarily of financial instruments. The risks that arise are credit risk, market risk (consisting of interest rate risk, foreign exchange risk and equity price risk) and liquidity risk.

Significant financial risks are related to the Plan's investments. These financial risks are managed by having an investment policy, which is approved annually by PEBA. The investment policy provides guidelines to the Plan's investment managers for the asset mix of the portfolio regarding quality and quantity of fixed income and equity investments. The asset mix helps to reduce the impact of market value fluctuations by requiring investments in different asset classes and in domestic and foreign markets. PEBA reviews regular compliance reports from its investment managers as to their compliance with the investment policy. PEBA also reviews regular compliance reports from its custodian as to the investment managers' compliance with the investment policy.

### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party does not pay funds owed to another party. The Plan's credit risk arises primarily from accounts receivable and certain investments. The maximum credit risk to which it is exposed at March 31, 2011 is limited to the carrying value of the financial assets summarized as follows:

	<u>2011</u> Carrying value ( \$000's)	<u>2010</u> Carrying value ( \$000's)
Receivables	\$ -	\$ 1
Due from the General Revenue Fund	69	236
Fixed income investments <sup>1</sup>	9,947	8,915

<sup>1</sup> Includes the fixed income and money market pooled funds.

Credit risk within investments is primarily related to the Money Market Pooled Fund and the Fixed Income Pooled Fund. It is managed through the investment policy that limits fixed term investments to those of high credit quality (minimum rating for bonds, BBB, and for short-term investments is R-1) along with limits to the maximum notional amount of exposure with respect to any one issuer.

### Market risk

Market risk represents the potential for loss from changes in the value of financial instruments. Value can be affected by changes in interest rates, foreign exchange rates and equity prices. Market risk primarily impacts the value of investments.

### Interest rate risk

The Plan is exposed to changes in interest rates in its fixed income investments. Duration is a measure used to estimate the extent market values of fixed income instruments change with changes in interest rates. Using this measure, it is estimated that a 100 basis point change in interest rates would change net assets available for benefits and unfunded liability by \$0.62 million at March 31, 2011, representing 6.7% of the \$9.2 million fair value of fixed income investments.

### Foreign exchange

The Plan is exposed to changes in the U.S. dollar exchange through its U.S. equity pooled fund. Also, the Plan is exposed to EAFE (Europe, Australasia and Far East) currencies through its investment in EAFE equity pooled fund. Exposure to both U.S. equities and non-North American equities is limited to a maximum 40% of the market value of the total investment portfolio. At March 31, 2011, the Plan's exposure to U.S. equities was 15.9% (2010 – 14.2%) and its exposure to non-north American equities was 15.2% (2010 – 14.3%).

At March 31, 2011, a 10% change in the Canadian dollar versus U.S. dollar exchange rate would result in approximately a \$0.34 million change in net assets available for benefits and unfunded liability. A 10% change in the Canadian dollar versus the EAFE currencies would result in approximately a \$0.33 million change in net assets available for benefits and unfunded liability.

### Equity prices

The Plan is exposed to changes in equity prices in Canadian, U.S. and EAFE markets through its pooled funds. Equity pooled funds comprise 53.9% (2010 – 53.6%) of the market value of the Plan's total investments.

The following table indicates the approximate change that could be anticipated to both the change in net assets available for benefits and unfunded liability based on changes in the Plan's benchmark indices March 31, 2011:

	(\$000's)	
	<u>10% increase</u>	<u>10% decrease</u>
S&P/TSX Composite Index	\$ 491	\$ (491)
S&P 500 Index	343	(343)
MSCI EAFE Index	327	(327)

### **Liquidity risk**

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Plan is unable to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. Cash resources are managed on a daily basis based on anticipated cash flows. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities will be paid within the next fiscal period.

## **8. Related Party Transactions**

Included in these financial statements are transactions with various Saskatchewan Crown corporations, ministries, agencies, boards and commissions related to the Plan by virtue of common control by the Government of Saskatchewan and non-Crown corporations and enterprises subject to joint control or significant influence by the Government of Saskatchewan collectively referred to as "related parties". The operating expenses associated with administering the Plan are paid to the PEBA Revolving Fund. At year-end, the Plan has an accounts payable to the PEBA Revolving Fund of \$11,947 (2010 - \$9,889).

Other transactions with related parties and amounts due to or from them are disclosed separately in these financial statements and notes.

Related party transactions with the Plan are in the normal course of operation and are recorded at exchange amounts agreed to by the parties to the transactions.

## 9. Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities

For the following financial instruments, the fair value approximates their carrying value due to the immediate or short-term nature of these instruments.

- a) Due from General Revenue Fund
- b) Accounts payable

The calculation of fair value of investments are disclosed in Note 2.

The fair value of accrued pension benefits cannot be readily determined, however information about the accrued pension benefits is provided in Note 5.

## 10. Investment Performance

The investment manager makes day-to-day decisions on whether to buy or sell investments in order to achieve the long-term performance objectives set by the Minister. PEBA reviews the investment performance of the Plan in terms of the performance of the benchmark portfolio over four year rolling periods. The primary long-term investment performance objective for the entire portfolio is to outperform a benchmark portfolio.

The following is a summary of the Plan's investment performance:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>Rolling Four Year Average Annual Return</u>
Plan's actual rate of return (a)	10.0%	17.2%	2.4%
Plan's benchmark (b)	9.3%	17.5%	2.3%

- (a) The annual returns are before deducting investment expenses.
- (b) The Fund's benchmark for its investment portfolio has been calculated using the actual returns of the following indices: The Standard & Poors (S&P) / Toronto Stock Exchange Capped Composite Index, the S&P 500 (Canadian dollars) Index, the Morgan Stanley Capital International Europe, Australasia and Far East Index (Canadian dollars), the DEX Universe Bond Index, and the DEX 91-Day Treasury Bill Index.

## 11. Administration Expenses

	<u>2011</u>		<u>2010</u>
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>
	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
Administration	\$41	\$43	\$43
Investment management fees - Greystone Managed Investments Inc.*	37	40	33
	<u>\$78</u>	<u>\$83</u>	<u>\$76</u>

\*Investment management fees are based on the market value of the Fund's portfolio