

### **Financial Statements**

Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation

March 31, 2025

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

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards and the integrity and objectivity of these financial statements are management's responsibility. Management is also responsible for all the notes to the financial statements, and for ensuring that this information is consistent, where appropriate, with the information contained in the financial statements.

Management is also responsible for implementing and maintaining a system of internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that reliable financial information is produced.

Those charged with governance (the "Board") are responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal control and exercises these responsibilities through the Board. The Board reviews internal financial statements on a quarterly basis and external audited financial statements yearly.

The external auditors, Doane Grant Thornton LLP, conduct an independent examination, in accordance with Canadian auditing standards, and express their opinion on the financial statements. The external auditors have full and free access to financial management of Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation and meet when required.

On behalf of Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation

Signed by:

Hon. **Creed Molfow**Minister of Agriculture

Signed by:

Chief Executive Officer

unne Godlien

June 24, 2025

Date



### Independent Auditor's Report

Doane Grant Thornton LLP 15 Webster Street Kentville, NS B4N 1H4

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To the Directors of Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation (the "Company"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2025, the statements of operations, changes in net financial assets, remeasurement gains and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation as at March 31, 2025, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.



#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud
  or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that
  is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material
  misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve
  collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Kentville, Canada June 24, 2025

**Chartered Professional Accountants** 

Doane Short Thornton It

# Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation Statement of Operations

Year ended March 31		Budaet		2025	2024			
Revenue								
Government operating grants	\$	2,631,801	\$	3,039,801		\$ 2,835,801		
Federal projects	*	5,417,452	•	5,157,328		6,402,533		
Provincial consulting fees and project		-, , -		-, - ,		-, - ,		
management		5,266,788		5,085,661		4,346,405		
General consulting fees		2,379,998		1,364,908		1,378,975		
Investment income		253,000		506,097		241,638		
Other revenue		35,000		73,007		245,915		
Lease and rental income		30,303		29,621		31,153		
Loss on disposal of investments		-		(5,345)		(6,461)		
	-	16,014,342		15,251,078		15,475,959		
				10,201,010		,,		
Expenses								
Advertising and promotional		83,000		22,611		26,050		
Amortization		321,603		336,702		391,288		
Bad debt		-		8,035		-		
Donations		-		-		2,080		
Dues and memberships		17,616		26,221		21,782		
Insurance		15,000		15,926		15,522		
Interest, bank and investment		75,000		64,222		62,365		
IT		65,213		92,638		71,827		
Lab and field supplies		247,500		201,105		214,995		
Maintenance		184,000		138,969		170,606		
Meeting		41,950		24,045		16,696		
Office supplies		60,300		38,725		32,327		
Other project related		6,524,494		6,388,650		7,009,916		
Professional development		149,835		68,786		82,461		
Professional services		211,000		133,072		156,278		
Rent/lease		107,501		130,185		112,137		
Salaries and wages		7,717,955		7,026,773		6,845,851		
Telecommunications		142,720		96,430		100,372		
Travel		230,650		171,69 <u>9</u>		189,274		
		16,195,337		14,984,794		15,521,827		
Annual surplus (deficit) before								
government capital grants		(180,995)		266,284		(45,868)		
Government capital grants (Note 12)		20,000		208,529		56,977		
Government capital grants (Note 12)		20,000	_	200,529		50,977		
Annual surplus (deficit)		(160,995)	_	474,813		11,109		
Accumulated annual surplus,								
beginning of year (Note 8)		2,140,148	_	2,140,148		2,129,039		
Accumulated annual surplus,								
end of year (Note 8)	\$	1,979,153	\$	2,614,961	\$	2,140,148		

# Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation Statement of Financial Position

March 31		2025		2024
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	17,665,863	\$	8,719,262
Receivables (Note 3)	,	856,862	·	3,784,751
Portfolio investments (Note 4)		13,763,332		9,148,559
Restricted investments (Note 4)		600,000		600,000
		32,886,057	_	22,252,572
Financial liabilities				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		1,017,392		1,108,207
Deferred revenue		28,972,460		18,969,914
Deposits held in trust		714		677
		29,990,566	_	20,078,798
Net financial assets		2,895,491	_	2,173,774
Non-financial assets				
Tangible capital assets (Note 5)		1,311,583		1,363,848
Prepaid expenses		145,082		124,909
		1,456,665	_	1,488,757
Accumulated surplus (Note 8)	\$	4,352,156	\$_	3,662,531

Commitments and contingency (Notes 6 and 10)

On behalf of the Department of Agricu	lture
Greg Morrow	Minister of Agriculture
99C2CDEDA3FD419 Signed by:	
lynne Godlien	Chief Executive Officer
B235140945EF454	

# Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets

Year ended March 31	2025	2024
Annual deficit	<b>\$ 474,813 \$</b> _	11,109
Net remeasurement gains Additions to tangible capital assets Amortization	214,812 (284,437) <u>336,702</u> 267,077	202,508 (118,351) 391,288 475,445
Acquisition of prepaid expense Consumption of prepaid expense	(258,531) 238,358 246,904	(246,736) 189,689 418,398
Increase in net financial assets Net financial assets, beginning of year Net financial assets, end of year	721,717 2,173,774 \$ 2,895,491 \$	429,507 1,744,267 2,173,774

# Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation Statement of Remeasurement Gains

Year ended March 31	2025		2024
Accumulated remeasurement gains, beginning of year	\$ 922,383	\$	719,875
Unrealized gains attributable to portfolio investments	214,812		202,508
Accumulated remeasurement gains, end of year (Note 8)	\$ 1,137,195	\$_	922,383

# Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31		2025	2024
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents			
Operating			
Annual deficit	\$	474,813 \$	11,109
Non-cash item			
Amortization	-	336,702	391,288
		811,515	402,397
Change in non-cash working capital		0.007.000	0.504.454
Receivables		2,927,889	2,584,151
Account payable and accrued liabilities Prepaid expenses		(90,815) (20,173)	(563,320) (57,047)
Deferred revenue		10,002,546	3,341,781
Deposits held in trust		37	(87)
Doposio noid in tract	-	13,630,999	5,707,875
	-		
Investing  Net change in portfolio investments and restricted investments		(4,399,961)	(2,862,726)
Net change in portiono investments and restricted investments	-	(4,000,001)	(2,002,720)
Capital			
Acquisition of tangible capital assets		(284,437)	(118,351)
	-		,
Net change in cash and cash equivalents during the year		8,946,601	2,726,798
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	-	8,719,262	5,992,464
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$.	17,665,863 \$	8,719,262

March 31, 2025

#### 1. Nature of operations

Perennia Food & Agriculture Corporation (the "Company") is a provincial Crown corporation.

The Company's objective is to support growth, transformation and economic development in Nova Scotia's agriculture, seafood, and food and beverage sectors.

#### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

#### Basis of presentation

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards for provincial reporting entities established by the Canadian Public Sector Accounting Board.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value. These short-term investments are held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments rather than for investment.

#### Portfolio investments

The Company invests in fixed income bonds, equities and guaranteed investment certificates. The Company measures their investments at fair value. The change in the fair value of the portfolio investments is recognized in the statement of remeasurement gains. At the time when the portfolio investment is derecognized, the accumulated measurement gain or loss associated with the derecognized item is reversed and reclassified to the statement of operations.

#### Tangible capital assets

Tangible capital assets are stated at cost. Amortization is provided by the diminishing balance method at the following annual rates:

Buildings	10%
Computer hardware	55%
Computer software	100%
Equipment and office equipment	20%
Freight trucks and trailers	30%

Leaseholds are being amortized by the straight-line method over the lease term.

Amortization of tangible capital assets commences when they are put in use.

Tangible capital assets are written down when conditions indicate that they no longer contribute to the Company's ability to provide services, or when the value of future economic benefits associated with the tangible capital assets is less than the net book value.

#### Non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are not available to discharge existing liabilities and are held for use in the provision of services. They have useful lives extending beyond the current year and are not intended for sale in the ordinary course of operations.

March 31, 2025

#### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### **Budget figures**

As recommended by the Public Sector Accounting Board of CPA Canada, the financial statements show a comparison of actual results with the budget.

#### Revenue recognition

The Company uses the deferral method of accounting for revenue. Revenue related to the Province of Nova Scotia's annual contribution is recognized equally over the year in which it is received.

Investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Consulting and fee income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Contribution and project revenue is recognized as revenue when the related expenses are incurred.

Capital revenue is recognized when all the eligibility criteria and/or stipulations have been met and the amounts are authorized.

Interest revenue on loans receivable is recognized when earned. Interest revenue ceases to be accrued on a loan when the collectability of either the principal or interest is not reasonably assured.

Lease and rental income is recognized when earned and when collection is reasonably assured.

#### **Government transfers**

Government transfers received are recognized in the financial statements as revenue when the transfers are authorized and all eligibility criteria have been met except when there is a stipulation that gives rise to an obligation that meets the definition of a liability. In that case, the transfer is recorded as a liability and recognized as revenue as the stipulations are met.

Government transfers to individuals and other entities are recognized as an expense when the transfers are authorized and all eligibility criteria have been met.

#### Income taxes

The Company and its property are exempt from taxation under Section 149(1)(d) of the Income Tax Act.

#### **Employee future benefits**

The Company participates in a defined contribution group RRSP matching plan for its full-time, permanent employees who have been employed with the Company for at least three months. The plan is not mandatory for the employees. Contributions are expensed in the period incurred.

#### **Funds and reserves**

Certain amounts, as approved by the Board of Directors, have been set aside in accumulated surplus for general contingencies. Transfers to/from funds and reserves are an adjustment to the respective fund when approved.

#### **Measurement uncertainty**

The preparation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and 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. Significant estimates include the useful life of capital assets, rates for amortization and allowance for doubtful accounts.

March 31, 2025

#### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

Estimates are based on the best information available at the time of preparation of the financial statements and are reviewed annually to reflect new information as it becomes available. Actual results could differ from the estimates.

#### **Financial instruments**

All financial instruments are recorded at their cost or amortized cost except for portfolio investments in equity instruments quoted in an active market and derivatives which are recorded at their fair value with unrealized remeasurement gains and losses recorded in the statement of remeasurement gains and losses. Once realized, remeasurement gains and losses are transferred to the statement of operations. Changes in the fair value on restricted assets are recognized as a liability until the criterion attached to the restrictions has been met, upon which the gain or loss is recognized in the statement of operations.

Transaction costs related to financial instruments measured at cost or amortized cost are added to the carrying value of the financial instrument. Transaction costs related to financial instruments recorded at their fair values are expensed as incurred.

Financial liabilities (or part of a financial liability) are removed from the statement of financial position when, and only when, they are discharged or cancelled or expire.

#### Financial instruments classification

The following table provides the carrying amount information of the Company's financial instruments by category. The maximum exposure to credit risk for the financial assets would be the carrying values shown below.

	2	2025	2024					
Financial Instrument Amortized Fair v		Fair value	Amortized cost / cost	Fair value				
Cash	\$ 17,665,863	\$ -	\$ 8,719,262	\$ -				
Receivables	856,862	-	3,784,751	-				
Investments	12,033,360	2,329,972	7,593,866	2,154,693				
Accounts payable	1,017,392	-	1,108,207	-				

The following table provides an analysis of financial instruments that are subsequently measured at fair value, grouped into Levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which the fair value is observable:

- Level 1 fair value measurements are those derived from quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities using the last bid price;
- Level 2 fair value measurements are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices included
  within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e., as prices) or indirectly
  (i.e., derived from prices); and
- Level 3 fair value measurements are those derived from valuation techniques that include inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

	2025											
Financial Instrument	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total								
Investments												
Pooled funds	\$ 2,329,972	\$ -	\$ -	\$2,329,972								

March 31, 2025

3. Receivables		<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Province of Nova Scotia Province of New Brunswick Province of Prince Edward Island Government of Canada Other HST receivable	\$	255,225 43,650 3,230 271,993 279,343 13,989	\$ 3,101,371 55,834 18,472 347,859 216,789 45,754
Allowance for doubtful accounts	_	867,430 (10,568)	 3,786,079 (1,328)
	\$	856,862	\$ 3,784,751
4. Portfolio investments		<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Investments in bond pooled funds, Canadian equities pooled funds, US equities pooled funds and international equities pooled funds. The cost of these investments is \$2,691,366			
(2024 - \$2,524,575). Investment in GIC's maturing May 2025 and carrying a	\$	2,329,972	\$ 2,154,693
4.55% interest rate.  Investment in GIC's maturing April 2025 and carrying a		5,772,327	1,238,663
4.55% interest rate.		6,261,033 14,363,332	 6,355,203 9,748,559
Less: restricted investments		600,000	 600,000
	•	13,763,332	\$ 9,148,559

The Board of Directors approved that \$600,000 of the long-term investments be internally restricted for the purposes of covering emergency cash flow requirements and general contingencies.

March 31, 2025

5. Tangible capital assets	Computer <u>hardware</u>	Computer software		Office equipment	ŀ	Equipment / freight trucks/ trailers	Buildings	<u>im</u> ;	Leasehold provements		Total <u>2025</u>		Total <u>2024</u>
Cost as of April 1 Additions Disposals Total cost as of March 31	\$ 362,413 34,935 - 397,348	\$ 8,856 7,100 - 15,956	\$	156,458 5,028 	\$	3,678,385 237,374 - 3,915,759	\$ 12,989 - - 12,989	\$	498,210 - - 498,210	<b>\$</b>	4,717,310 284,437 - 5,001,747	\$	4,598,959 118,351 - - 4,717,310
Accumulated amortization as of April 1 Amortization Disposals	305,740 35,809	 8,856 3,550	_	121,656 7,002	_	2,433,786 269,073	 7,678 531		475,746 20,737		3,353,462 336,702		2,962,174 391,288
Total accumulated amortization as of March 31	 341,54 <u>9</u>	 12,406	_	128,658		2,702,859	 8,209		496,483	_	3,690,164		3,353,462
Total net book value as of March 31	\$ 55,799	\$ 3,550	\$	32,828	\$	1,212,900	\$ 4,780	\$	1,727	\$	1,311,583	\$_	1,363,848

March 31, 2025

#### 6. Commitments

The Company has entered into lease agreements for office and lab space with the following commitments:

- Office space in Dartmouth, NS for one year beginning March 2025 with annual rent of \$31,616;
- Office space in Kentville, NS for five years beginning May 2021 with annual rent of \$60,495 amended July 2024 to annual rent of \$64,245;
- Lab space in Wolfville, NS for one year beginning September 2024 with annual rent of \$15,400;
- Building and land lease in Kentville, NS for five years beginning April 2021 with annual rent of \$8,000.
- Tractor lease for five years beginning July 2023 with annual lease payments of \$4,763; and
- Truck lease for five years beginning May 2024 with annual lease payments of \$9,208.

#### 7. Employee future benefits

The Company participates in a defined contribution group RRSP matching plan for its full-time, permanent employees who have been employed with the Company for at least three months. The plan is not mandatory for the employees. Contributions are expensed in the period incurred. The Company contributed \$264,621 (2024 - \$258,343) to the plan during the year.

8. Accumulated surplus	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Annual surplus Remeasurement gains	\$ 474,813 214,812	\$ 11,109 202,508
	\$ 689,625	\$ 213,617
Accumulated annual surplus Accumulated remeasurement gains Fund for general contingencies	\$  2,614,961 1,137,195 600,000 4,352,156	\$ 2,140,148 922,383 600,000 3,662,531

#### Compensation disclosure required pursuant to the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act

Section 3 of the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act of the Province of Nova Scotia requires public sector bodies to publicly disclose the amount of compensation it pays or provides, directly or indirectly, to any person in the fiscal year if the compensation to that person is one hundred thousand dollars or more including compensation paid to, or for the benefit of, each of its board members, officers, employees, contractors and consultants.

March 31, 2025

#### Compensation disclosure required pursuant to the Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Act (continued)

Section 4 of the Act requires that the information reported be disclosed in the body of the audited financial statements of the Company or in a statement prepared for the purposes of the Act and certified by its auditors. The Company has chosen to disclose this required information as part of its audited financial statements.

For the year ended March 31, 2025, the following employees received compensation of \$100,000 or more:

Lynne Godlien	\$ 144,152
Gregor Reid	111,658
Jody Wipp	106,581
Stephen Emberly	101,525
Leah Lewis-Mccrea	101,163
Margo Coughlin	100,235

Compensation as reported above include salaries and the employer portion of benefits.

#### 10. Contingency

There is a legal claim against the Company related to a customer's losses resulting from the handling of strawberry virus for 2012-14. The likelihood of loss or estimate of loss is undeterminable at time of issue of these financial statements.

#### 11. Related party transactions

The Company leases facilities from the Province of Nova Scotia, a related party, in Bible Hill, Nova Scotia where its Food and Beverage Innovation Centre is located, at an annual cost of \$1.00. The previous lease agreement expired on August 30, 2023, and the lease has continued on a month to month basis. The lease expense has been measured in these financial statements at the exchange amount, which is the amount agreed upon by the related parties.

#### 12. Government capital grants

During the year, the Company received contributions from the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada to fund the acquisition of tangible capital assets related to:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Centre for Marine Applied Research Equipment	\$ 97,023	\$ 52,844
Weather stations	76,564	-
Lab equipment	25,031	1,293
Computer software	5,800	-
Computer equipment	 4,111	 2,840
	\$ 208,529	\$ 56,977

March 31, 2025

13.	Deferred	revenue

	<u>Оре</u>	ning balance	Funding received	Funding recognized as revenue		2024 <u>Total</u>
Province of Nova Scotia Government of Canada Other	\$	16,701,499 2,250,000 18,415 18,969,914	\$ 15,672,510 5,152,799 131,800 20,957,109	\$ 6,449,233 4,420,886 84,444 10,954,563	\$ <u>\$</u>	25,924,776 2,981,913 65,771 28,972,460

#### 14. Financial instruments

The Company is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Company's risk exposure and concentrations at the statement of financial position date.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The Company's main credit risks relate to its accounts receivable. The Company provides credit to its clients in the normal course of its operations. During the year, the Company has recorded an allowance for bad debts of \$10,568 (2024 - \$1,328) and recovered bad debts of \$Nil (2024 - \$Nil).

#### Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The Company is mainly exposed to interest rate risk.

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Company is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed and floating interest rate financial instruments. The fixed-rate instruments subject the Company to a fair value risk while the floating-rate instruments subject it to a cash flow risk.

#### **Currency risk**

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Company is exposed to current risk through their portfolio investments in US equity pooled funds and international equity pooled funds.