



# A N N U A L R E P O R T

# RECENT TRANSACTIONS



## FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENTS \$8.9 MILLION | NEW INVESTMENT

SaskWorks, alongside their partner Mitchell Developments Ltd., purchased a portfolio of office buildings located in Regina. The portfolio includes five buildings consisting of 175,442 square feet, with all but one of them located downtown. The buildings have a low vacancy rate and are secured with longterm leases by high quality tenants. The investment provides SaskWorks exposure to high yielding assets and potential capital appreciation.



## SPUR RESOURCES

Spur Resources Ltd. was an oil & gas company focused on the exploration, development, and acquisition of oil & gas properties in western Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta. SaskWorks initially gained exposure to Spur in 2011 through an equity raise and increased our exposure in subsequent financings. SaskWorks was attracted to the Company given the management team's track record and efficient use of capital. The Company's assets were sold in January, 2017 to Tamarack Valley (TSX: TVE) for a total purchase price of \$407.5 million. The investment allowed SaskWorks to realize an impressive return in a depressed commodity market by backing a highlyregarded management team. Assets that were not subject to the sale were spun-out into a new Company, Spur Petroleum Ltd., which the fund continues to support.



## STORAGEVAULT PARTIAL EXIT

On July 19<sup>th</sup> Storage Vault Canada Inc. (TSXV: SVI) sold 50,944,000 common shares in a bought deal financing which was co-lead by National Bank Financial and GMP Securities. SaskWorks sold, on a secondary basis, \$27.7 million in common shares at a price of \$2.65 per share. The fund made its first investment in StorageVault in 2008 in its infancy and has supported the company through subsequent raises, helping the company grow from 1 storage facility in Saskatchewan to 80 facilities across Canada. The investment provided SaskWorks exposure to the rapidly growing fixed-storage industry and limited downside risk given the assetbacked characteristics of the investment.

# DEAR SHAREHOLDER

#### Thank you for investing in SaskWorks Venture Fund.

In the year ended August 31, 2017, SaskWorks' assets under management increased to more than \$424 million. SaskWorks' relative size and well-established position in Saskatchewan's finance industry has allowed the fund to expand its investment mandate to include a broader range of investment types. Now accessible to SaskWorks as a result of significant NAV growth, larger scale transactions offer significant economies of scale and influence the retention of investee companies in the province as opposed to being relocated elsewhere.

SaskWorks' ongoing analysis of Saskatchewan's economy and external market trends allow the fund to maintain an adaptive investment focus while upholding its original conservative values. Saskatchewan's economic position in 2001 was markedly different than our current scenario: major resource projects are driving the development of equally important infrastructure and service initiatives, the baby boomer generation is over a decade older and actively seeking succession planning opportunities, and net in-migration patterns have contributed to growing consumer demands. With over 16 years of experience, SaskWorks has strengthened its ability to identify profitable opportunities and add value to investee companies. We've witnessed a growing need for management buyout (MBO) financing, a type of investment where SaskWorks funds an employee group or management team to purchase their company from its existing owners. MBOs capitalize on employees' understanding of and commitment to their company: with SaskWorks' input, investments of this type reinvigorate businesses' growth potential and drive operational efficiencies, allowing a company's original owners to benefit from an effective succession plan and retain the operations of the company in the province in which it was founded.

SaskWorks' primary risk mitigation measure was the establishment of a rigorous due diligence process for identifying, qualifying and monitoring investments – a model the fund continues to employ today. The fund's board and management team made efforts to be both conservative and competitive, investing primarily in the oil and gas, value-added ag, and manufacturing sectors for their widely-understood position as major drivers of the provincial economy. With over 16 years of experience, SaskWorks has strengthened its ability to identify profitable opportunities and add value to investee companies.



Traditionally, the fund has focused its participation in established, mid-market companies that hold a dominant market niche position, demonstrate a track record of profitability, and offer clear prospects for growth.

Complementing a successful fundraising season and on-pace investment activity, SaskWorks' 2016 exits produced excellent results. Since inception, the fund exited or partially exited investments in 70 unique companies for gross proceeds of more than \$328 million and a realized gain of more than \$137 million. The proven ability of SaskWorks' board and management team to achieve excellent exit outcomes ensures a constant stream of capital back to the fund to support shareholder returns and be committed to further investments.

SaskWorks has proven its ability to maximize portfolio potential by enhancing productivity and innovation, investing in capital improvements, making accretive acquisitions and completing other growth initiatives within the fund's investee companies. Our handson investment origination processes, solid partnerships with accomplished investee management teams and active involvement in Saskatchewan's key sectors have established SaskWorks' long term track record of strong performance.

The strong operational results of SaskWorks' investees have established the fund as a valued member of Saskatchewan's business community. We are commonly sought out by small- and medium-sized business owners and maintain directorships with our portfolio companies in an effort to support the organization's growth plans. We partner with our investees to develop and sustain their long-term growth potential, simultaneously driving returns for the fund's shareholders and positively contributing to Saskatchewan's economy. The success of SaskWorks has made a meaningful contribution to Saskatchewan's burgeoning finance industry and given rise to a number of Saskatchewan-focused private equity offerings.

Since SaskWorks' inception, the fund's management team, PFM Capital Inc., has grown from three to sixteen employees. PFM's highlyspecialized investment team drives SaskWorks' value creation efforts, maintaining exacting governance standards and fulfilling key due diligence and monitoring roles.

While the Federal Government has reaffirmed its commitment to the Labour-Sponsored Venture Capital (LSVCC) program, the Provincial Government has confirmed that it will reduce the Provincial tax credit from 20% to 17.5% for the 2018/19 tax year. The sales cap will also be reduced from \$40 million to \$35 million in 2018/19. Purchases made up to and during the 2017/18 tax year will be eligible to receive a 35% tax credit.

SaskWorks' Annual General Meeting will be held at 3:00 pm on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at the office of the fund, 1925 Victoria Ave. (2nd Floor), Assiniboia Club Building, Regina. All shareholders are welcome to attend.

We're proud of our consistent investment performance and remain committed to preserving the aligned interests of our shareholders and investee companies. Thank you again for your investment, and we look forward to seeing you at this year's Annual General Meeting.

Doug Frondall Chair, Board of Directors

Randy Beattie President and CEO

Since inception, the fund exited or partially exited investments in 70 unique companies for gross proceeds of more than \$328 million and a realized gain of more than \$137 million.



## INVESTEE HIGHLIGHT HI-TEC PROFILES INC.

## \$2.45 MILLION | FOLLOW-ON INVESTMENT

Hi-Tec Profiles Inc. is a Regina based steel-processing company that services major agricultural and industrial equipment manufacturers. SaskWorks gained exposure to the Company in 2011 by acquiring the equity position of the founding shareholders. Since the investment, Hi-Tec has performed above expectations as their customer-centric business model and high-quality service has allowed them to outperform their competitors.

In the summer of 2017, the Fund reinvested in the Company as part of their ongoing succession plan. SaskWorks continues to support the Company, as their strong performance makes them an ideal investment.

# MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE

his management report of fund performance contains financial highlights but does not contain the complete annual financial statements of the Fund. The complete annual financial statements of the Fund are included later in this annual report or can be obtained, at no cost to you, by calling 1-306-791-4833, by writing to us at 1925 Victoria Avenue, 2nd Floor, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P OR3, or by visiting our website at www.saskworks.ca or SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

Shareholders may also contact us using one of these methods to request a copy of the Fund's proxy voting policies and procedures, proxy voting disclosure record, or annual report.

The purpose of this section is to summarize the performance of SaskWorks Venture Fund Inc. ("SaskWorks" or "the Fund") for the year ended August 31, 2017.

Unless otherwise indicated, references to amounts at August 31, 2017 or to the year ended August 31, 2017 are specific to the Fund's Class A shares and Class R shares in aggregate.

SaskWorks is a publicly accountable enterprise and investment fund to which the Canadian Securities Administrators' National Instrument 81-106, "Investment Fund Continuous Disclosure" is applicable. The Fund adopted International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") for the first time for beginning September 1, 2014.

Beginning January 1, 2016 the Fund began offering its Class A and Class R shares in series. Class A Series A and Class R Series A shares have a sales and trailer commission associated with them while Class A Series F and Class R Series F do not.

Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares per share for each series is calculated at the end of each week by dividing the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares for each series by its outstanding shares. The net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares of each series of a class is computed by calculating the value of the series-specific assets and series' proportionate share of the class' common assets less the series-specific liabilities and the series' proportionate share of the class' common liabilities. Income and expenses directly attributable to a series are charged to that series while common class income and expenses and realized and unrealized gains and losses are allocated to each series. A proportionate share of or allocation to each series of a class is based on that series' pro rata share of the total share capital of that class as at the latest available weekly net asset valuation.

## INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND STRATEGIES

The Fund invests in small and medium-sized Saskatchewan eligible businesses, with the objective of achieving long term capital appreciation. In addition, the Fund may participate in investment groups and consortia in situations where the investment opportunity involves a larger investment than the Fund is allowed or believes prudent to make by itself.

Under The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Act (Saskatchewan) ("the Saskatchewan Act"):

- > eligible investments for the Fund ("eligible investments") are investments in eligible businesses, defined as taxable corporations or limited partnerships that carry on business in Saskatchewan, that together with related corporations or limited partnerships, do not have more than 500 employees, and that in the taxation year preceding the investment paid at least 25% of all their wages and salaries to employees of their permanent establishment in Saskatchewan;
- > direct investments in public companies with a market capitalization of \$500,000 or more are prohibited. If an investment is acquired through acquisitions or mergers and the resulting investment has over \$500,000 in capitalization, such investment must be disposed of within two years from the end of the fiscal year of the Fund of such acquisition or merger;
- new investment in agricultural land acquired primarily for rental or leasing purposes is prohibited; and
- > the Fund is required to gradually increase its level of innovation sector investment exposure from 15% (beginning April 1, 2014) to 25% (by March 31, 2017) of annual net capitalization defined as annual capital raised within the Fund less annual capital redeemed, multiplied by the Fund's 75% pacing requirement.

The Fund may not invest more than 10% of the net assets attributable to the holders of redeemable Class A and Class R shares of the Fund in any one eligible business, and may not invest in an eligible business if the Fund and the eligible business are not at arm's length, within the meaning of the Saskatchewan Act. In respect of any investment, the Fund will take into consideration any anticipated follow-on or subsequent investment, either by way of debt or equity. Such a subsequent investment will typically be made only if the investee meets certain tests, such as timing and performance targets that were fixed at the date of the original investment in the eligible business.

The Fund will seek out eligible investments in both rural and urban centres throughout Saskatchewan.

Desirable investment opportunities for the Fund are businesses that provide an opportunity for a return on investment commensurate with the perceived risk. It is anticipated that investments will be in businesses which are at one of the following stages of development:

- > Expansion Financing. Investments in businesses that require financing to expand sales, or to launch a new product or service.
- > Management/Employee Buyouts. Investments where the proceeds of the financing are used to acquire control of a business that has significant expansion potential that can be realized by adding new management and capital.
- Restructurings or Turnarounds. Investment in businesses which have the potential to succeed if additional investment is received and/or changes in management, staffing, operations or marketing strategies are made.

> Early-Stage Investments. Investments will be in businesses which have been in operation for a period of time, but have not yet fully developed their product or service. Typically, funding will be required to address limitations or opportunities that have been identified subsequent to the initial business plan.

Prospective eligible investments will be expected to demonstrate some or all of the following characteristics:

- a strong and experienced management team which is financially committed to and rewarded by the company's success;
- > a strong competitive position as a result of superior technology, innovative products, comparative cost advantage, established market position, significant barriers to entry and/or dominant distribution in its market;
- with respect to expansion funding, a reasonable expectation of earnings growth based on past financial performance or a strong likelihood of new market success;
- > with respect to start up or early stage funding, a sound business concept or plan which presents a convincing opportunity to establish a comparative business advantage in a growth market;
- > with respect to term debt, a reasonable level of unencumbered and disposable net asset security coverage and good interest/ principal coverage being generated from current cash flows;
- with respect to subordinated debt funding, a satisfactory level of current cash flow interest coverage with the likelihood for near term coverage improvement; and,
- > with respect to management buyout opportunities, a strong current cash flow position coupled with the opportunity for near term earnings improvement resulting from a competitively enhanced new business or operating environment.

The Fund's Class A shares will attempt to reduce overall risk by diversification of investments in various sectors within Saskatchewan as follows:

- > Value-added agricultural;
- > Manufacturing;
- Oil and gas development and related services;
- > Industrial minerals;
- > Forestry;
- > Destination tourism; and,
- > Information technology.

The Fund's Class R shares focus on investments in the Province's resources sector – specifically oil and gas development, related services, and mining.

The particular form of the Fund's investments are selected and negotiated after taking into account the investment criteria and guidelines of the Fund, the long-term requirements of the investee business, the stage of development of the investee business, the investee business' requirements, the ability to negotiate downside protection, and tax considerations. The Fund diversifies its investment portfolio through the use of such instruments, among others, as common shares, convertible debentures, convertible preferred shares, debt with equity participation, secured debt, funded loan guarantees and bridge loans.

Where the Fund makes an investment by way of a loan, such investment is expected to be secured by a charge over the investee business' assets but may be subordinated to other lenders' security.

The Fund may guarantee loans of eligible businesses and in such circumstances the making of such loan would permit the growth and development of the business without the Fund being the primary investor. The aggregate of loan guarantees may not exceed 10% of the Fund's total assets at the time each loan guarantee is provided. The Fund intends to maintain a liquid reserve of 25% of the guaranteed amount on any loan guarantees. The Fund will maintain liquid reserves in high-quality government and corporate debt obligations and term deposits.

To the extent possible, investments are diversified by the expected holding period of the investment. Generally, the average holding period is expected to be five to eight years. The Fund may choose to refinance its investment through an arm's length third party where the expected return can be achieved in a shorter time frame. All investment recommendations will include a strategy for realization on investments made. Possible exit strategies include the following:

- refinancing with conventional lenders or leasing companies;
- sale of the business or investment to a third party;
- > a public offering; and,
- > sale of the investment back to the business or its principals through exercise of a put or call contractual provision included within the equity securities arrangement.

SaskWorks' consistent investment philosophy and underwriting standards have created a strong portfolio that includes some of Saskatchewan's best companies.

Rob Duguid, *CFO* SaskWorks Venture Fund

## MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

## **RISK**

## (in thousands of dollars)

The primary risk related to an investment in the Fund pertains to the fact that the Fund must continually identify and evaluate investment opportunities that meet its eligibility criteria. A further risk is that many of these investments are made in small and medium sized private companies and are therefore illiquid. In addition, the process of valuing private investments is more complex and subjective than that of valuing publicly traded securities.

Over the course of the year ended August 31, 2017, the Fund continued to demonstrate its ability to identify and close on eligible venture investment opportunities. The Fund's Class A shares purchased \$16,878 (2016 – \$37,021) and the Class R shares purchased \$1,140 (2016 - \$6,169) of venture

investments over the period. In addition, \$5,079 has been committed by the Fund's Class A shares and \$2,087 by Class R shares to future, but not yet disbursed, transactions.

With respect to liquidity risk, the Fund continues to demonstrate its ability to exit its investments, with \$5,780 (2016 - \$14,893) at cost in dispositions of venture investments from Class A and \$2,273 (2016 - \$1,142) at cost from Class R shares over the year period ended August 31, 2017. These exits resulted in a \$27,854 (2016 - \$10,779) net gain for the Class A shares and a \$3,168 net gain (2016 – net loss \$610) for the Class R shares over the life of those investments.

With regard to valuation risk, since inception, the Fund has not exited an investment, whether at a loss or for a gain, at an amount materially less than the carrying value of that investment.

### **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

(in thousands of dollars, except for per share amounts)

The Fund increased its Class A venture investment portfolio at fair value by \$51,363 (2016 - \$20,104) and decreased its Class R portfolio by \$703 (2016 - \$3,125) over the year ended August 31, 2017.

Venture investments, at cost, made up 52.3% of Class A's and 70.0% of Class R's net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares at August 31, 2017, as compared to 56.9% of Class A's and 63.7% of Class R's net assets at August 31, 2016. Venture investments at fair value (cost plus/ minus unrealized appreciation/depreciation) comprised 74.6% of Class A's and 67.7% of Class R's net assets at August 31, 2017, as compared to 69.8% of Class A's and 64.6% of Class R's net assets at August 31, 2016.



The Fund's cash, long-term, and shortterm investments totaled \$114,166 (2016 - \$101,801) in Class A and \$25,623 in Class R (2016 - \$26,940). When the Fund's objective of maintaining a proportion of share capital in investment grade securities and approved but undisbursed transactions are taken into account, \$67,313 (2016 -\$59,988) for Class A and \$10,130 (2016 -\$12,508) for Class R of these cash, longterm, and short-term investment balances are available for investment in venture transactions. A relatively large cash balance must be maintained in order to support follow on investments with the Fund's portfolio of investee companies. In addition, the Fund believes it prudent to maintain a reserve in order to satisfy potential redemption requests related to shares that have matured, but which still remain outstanding.

The loan receivable attributable to Class A shares decreased to \$10,243 (2016 -\$10,269) at August 31, 2017 and the loan receivable attributable to Class R shares decreased to \$2,663 (2016 - \$3,115). These decreases are as a result of a repayment from Conexus Credit Union. The loan receivable is due from Conexus which is the party responsible for administering and paying the base and additional commissions to the Fund's agent and subagents.

The accrued provision for incentive participation amount increased from \$20.601 in Class A and \$2.920 in Class R at August 31, 2016 to \$33,961 in Class A and \$3,887 in Class R at August 31, 2017. These changes are due to the performance of the portfolio over the year ended August 31, 2017 and the payment to the fund manager in September 2016 of a portion of the accrued bonus pertaining to realized gains that had occurred in the 2016 fiscal year. Of the total incentive participation amount at August 31, 2017, \$3,728 (Class A) and \$741 (Class R) relates to profitably exited investments which meet the incentive participation amount criteria, whereas the

balance is an accrual amount dependent on the future carrying values and performance of the venture investment portfolio.

Proceeds on the issue of Class A Series A shares were \$32,076 during the year ending August 31, 2017, a 4.8% increase over the same period in 2016. Proceeds on the issue of Class R Series A shares were \$4,778 during the year ending August 31, 2017, an 18.2% decrease over the same period in 2016. Proceeds on the issue of Class A Series F shares were \$1,690 (2016 - \$878) and proceeds on issue of Class R Series F were \$40 (2016 - \$13) for the same period.

Redemptions of Class A Series A shares were \$30,882 during the year ending August 31, 2017 compared to \$20,279 during the same period in 2016. Redemptions of Class R Series A shares were \$6,688 during the year ending August 31, 2017, as compared to \$6,294 for the same period in 2016. Redemptions of Class A Series F shares were \$10 (2016 - \$nil) during the period. As in past years, a significant portion of the shareholders who redeemed shares during the period re-invested in the Fund.

The Fund's revenues related to Class A shares increased from \$10,537 for the year ended August 31, 2016 to \$11,062 for the same period in 2017 and the revenues related to Class R shares decreased from \$1,196 in 2016 to \$1,112 in 2017. As a component of revenues, income from the Fund's venture investments increased from \$8.574 to \$9.308 for Class A shares and decreased from \$698 to \$650 for Class R shares over the reporting period. The increase in income from venture investments in Class A was a result of a change in the number of incomeproducing investments in the portfolio and a change in the number of equity investments that characteristically produce more irregular income streams. The decrease in Class R is a result of fewer income producing investments in the portfolio.

The expenses of the Fund related to Class A shares increased from \$13,975 for the year ended August 31, 2016 to \$14,817 in 2017 and the expenses related to Class R shares decreased from \$3,949 in 2016 to \$3,643 in 2017. Most of the recurring expenses of the Fund are a function of net assets or share activity. As the Fund's net assets and/or share activity increase or decrease so to do expenses increase or decrease.

The net investment loss of the Fund attributable to Class A shares for the year, before gains and losses on dispositions of venture investments, net changes in unrealized appreciation on venture investments and provision for incentive participation amount, was \$3,755 (2016 - \$3,438). Once gains and losses on dispositions of venture investments, the net change in unrealized appreciation on venture investments, and the provision for incentive participation amount is taken into account, the Class A shares had an increase in net assets from operations for the year of \$46,796 (2016 – \$3,389). The comparative period in 2016 featured less realized gains and significantly less unrealized appreciation than the same period in 2017.

The net investment loss of the Fund attributable to Class R shares for the year, before gains and losses on dispositions of venture investments, net changes in unrealized appreciation on venture investments and provision for incentive participation amount, was \$2,531 (2016 - \$2,753). Once gains and losses on dispositions of venture investments, the net change in unrealized appreciation on venture investments, and the provision for incentive participation amount is taken into account. the Class R shares had a decrease in net assets attributable to the R shares from operations for the year of \$2,732 (2016 -\$11,105). The change is a result of realized gains and decreased unrealized depreciation due to the recent more favourable outlook for the energy sector.

## MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

### **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

(in thousands of dollars)

At the Fund's Annual General Meeting of Shareholders held on December 16, 2016, the Fund's sponsor, as the holder of the Class B shares, resolved to re-elect Terry Schneider as a director for a three year term. The holders of Class A and R shares resolved to re-elect Kevin Stangeland and Michael Fix as directors for three year terms.

National Instrument 81-107 ("NI 81-107") requires an Independent Review Committee to be established which is mandated to review conflict of interest situations which may arise for a fund manager, particularly in cases where management involves different segments within a fund and/or management of related funds.

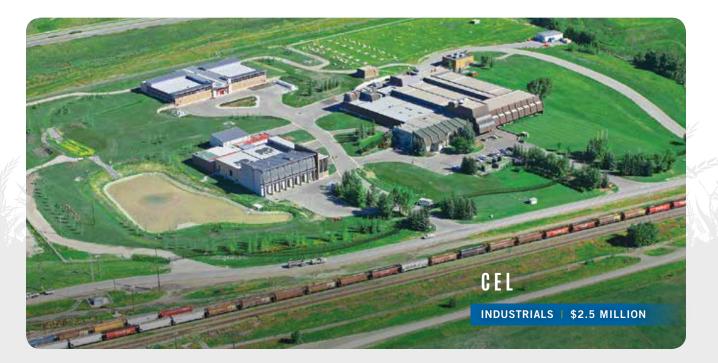
In accordance with NI 81-107, the initial members of the Independent Review Committee were appointed by SaskWorks by May 1, 2007 and full compliance with NI 81-107 was achieved by November 1, 2007. Effective May 1, 2007 the Manager established an Independent Review Committee comprised of three independent and unrelated persons, appointed on a rotating term basis. The three members of the Independent Review Committee are Berny Gross, of Regina, Saskatchewan, an entrepreneur and owner of a mechanical contracting company, (term expires December 2019); William Johnson, Q.C., B.A., LL.B., B.C.L. (OXON), lawyer and partner of the law firm of Gerrand Rath Johnson of Regina, Saskatchewan (term expires November 2017); and Douglas Johnson, CPA, CA, of Regina, Saskatchewan (term expires November 2017).

The Independent Review Committee is responsible to report annually to shareholders and an annual committee report is required to be filed on SEDAR. This annual committee report was made available to shareholders following the August 31, 2016 fiscal year end. The Provincial Government recently announced, beginning April 1, 2018, a decrease in the provincial tax credit to 17.5% and a decrease in the maximum annual sales to \$35 million. The federal tax credit remains at 15%.

## RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

(in thousands of dollars)

PFM Venture Capital Operations Inc., the manager of the Fund, was paid \$8,404 (2016 - \$7,711) in management fees related to Class A shares and \$1,982 (2016 -\$2,215) in management fees related to Class R during the year ended August 31, 2017. In addition, the provision for the incentive participation amount payable to the manager, subject to the fulfillment of specific payment criteria, increased \$13,360 related to Class A shares and \$967 related to Class R shares for the 2017 fiscal year, to a total provision of \$33,961 in Class A and \$3,887 in Class R.



## **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

(in thousands of dollars except number of shares and per share amounts)

The following tables show selected key financial information about the Fund's share class series and are intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the past five years. This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual financial statements.

### The Fund's Net Assets per Class A Shares

Series A		2017		2016		2015		2014		2013
Net Assets, beginning of period (1)	\$	15.82	\$	15.64	\$	15.12	\$	14.71	\$	14.14
Increase from operations: <sup>(2)</sup>										
Total revenue	\$	0.57	\$	0.57	\$	0.55	\$	0.61	\$	0.70
Total expenses	\$	(1.61)	\$	(1.09)	\$	(0.89)	\$	(0.91)	\$	(1.05)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$	1.45	\$	0.58	\$	(0.04)	\$	0.42	\$	0.71
Unrealized gains for the period	\$	2.02	\$	0.13	\$	0.93	\$	0.30	\$	0.22
Total increase from operations	\$	2.43	\$	0.19	\$	0.55	\$	0.42	\$	0.58
Net Assets, end of period (1)	\$	18.24	\$	15.82	\$	15.64	\$	15.12	\$	14.71
Series F		2017		2016		2015		2014		2013
Series F Net Assets, beginning of period (1)	\$	<b>2017</b> 16.01	\$	2016	\$	2015	\$	2014	\$	2013
		-		- 2016	\$		\$	2014 -		2013 -
Net Assets, beginning of period (1)		-		2016 - 0.54	\$ \$		\$ \$	2014 - -		2013 - -
Net Assets, beginning of period <sup>(1)</sup> Increase from operations: <sup>(2)</sup>	\$	16.01	\$	-				2014 -	\$	2013 - - -
Net Assets, beginning of period <sup>(1)</sup> Increase from operations: <sup>(2)</sup> Total revenue	\$ \$	16.01	\$ \$	- 0.54	\$		\$	2014 -	\$ \$	2013 - - - - -
Net Assets, beginning of period <sup>(1)</sup> Increase from operations: <sup>(2)</sup> Total revenue Total expenses	\$ \$ \$	16.01 1.02 (2.84)	\$ \$ \$	0.54 (0.73)	\$ \$		\$ \$	2014 - - - - -	\$ \$ \$	2013 - - - - -
Net Assets, beginning of period <sup>(1)</sup> Increase from operations: <sup>(2)</sup> Total revenue Total expenses Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$ \$ \$ \$	16.01 1.02 (2.84) 2.56	\$ \$ \$ \$	0.54 (0.73) (0.19)	\$ \$ \$		\$ \$ \$	2014 - - - - - - -	\$ \$ \$ \$	2013 - - - - - - -

(1) This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual and unaudited interim (if applicable) financial statements.

<sup>(2)</sup> Net assets is based on the actual number of shares outstanding at the relevant time. The increase from operations is based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding over the financial period.

Note: The accounting principles applicable to 2015 and later are International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Those applicable to 2014 and earlier are pre-changeover Canadian GAAP.

## MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

### Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class A Shares

Series A	 2017	2016	 2015	 2014	 2013
Total net asset value (000's) (1)	\$ 348,978	\$ 301,374	\$ 287,668	\$ 262,492	\$ 235,755
Number of shares outstanding (1)	19,128,069	19,049,874	18,388,551	17,366,306	16,030,805
Management expense ratio (2)	9.64%	6.89%	5.78%	6.02%	7.03%
Management expense ratio excluding IPA (3)	4.32%	4.33%	4.38%	4.36%	4.48%
Trading expense ratio (4)	0.40%	0.00%	0.00%	0.05%	0.01%
Net asset value per share	\$ 18.24	\$ 15.82	\$ 15.64	\$ 15.12	\$ 14.71

Series F	 2017	2016	2015		2014	2013
Total net asset value (000's) (1)	\$ 2,966	\$ 900	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -
Number of shares outstanding (1)	156,362	56,221		-	-	-
Management expense ratio (2)	7.81%	5.79%		-	-	-
Management expense ratio excluding IPA <sup>(3)</sup>	3.43%	3.13%		-	-	-
Trading expense ratio (4)	0.40%	0.00%		-	-	-
Net asset value per share	\$ 18.96	\$ 16.01	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -

<sup>(1)</sup> This information is provided as at end of fiscal period shown. Series F was first offered for sale January 1, 2016.

<sup>(2)</sup> Management expense ratio is based on total expenses for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of average weekly net asset value during the period.

<sup>(3)</sup> Management expense ratio excluding Incentive Participation Amount (IPA) is based on total expenses, less incentive participation amount, for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of average weekly net asset value during the period.

(a) The trading expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of weekly average net asset value during the period.

Note: The accounting principles applicable to 2015 and later are International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Those applicable to 2014 and earlier are pre-changeover Canadian GAAP.

### The Fund's Net Assets per Class R Shares

Series A	:	2017	:	2016	:	2015	:	2014	:	2013
Net Assets, beginning of period (1)	\$	11.85	\$	13.53	\$	14.35	\$	14.06	\$	14.37
(Decrease) increase from operations: (2)										
Total revenue	\$	0.17	\$	0.18	\$	0.18	\$	0.19	\$	0.25
Total expenses	\$	(0.70)	\$	(0.62)	\$	(0.74)	\$	(0.91)	\$	(0.71)
Realized gains (losses) for the period	\$	0.48	\$	(0.09)	\$	(0.46)	\$	0.55	\$	(0.50)
Unrealized (losses) gains for the period	\$	(0.37)	\$	(1.14)	\$	0.19	\$	0.46	\$	0.66
Total (decrease) increase from operations	\$	(0.42)	\$	(1.67)	\$	(0.83)	\$	0.29	\$	(0.30)
Net Assets, end of period ()	\$	11.43	\$	11.85	\$	13.53	\$	14.35	\$	14.06

Series F	 2017	 2016	2015	2014	2013
Net Assets, beginning of period (1)	\$ 12.03	\$ -	\$ -	\$ - 9	; -
Decrease from operations: (2)					
Total revenue	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.15	\$ -	\$ - 9	-
Total expenses	\$ (0.94)	\$ (0.33)	\$ -	\$ - 9	-
Realized gains for the period	\$ 0.65	\$ -	\$ -	\$ - 9	-
Unrealized losses for the period	\$ (0.49)	\$ (0.69)	\$ -	\$ - 9	-
Total decrease from operations	\$ (0.55)	\$ (0.87)	\$ -	\$ - 5	; -
Net Assets, end of period (1)	\$ 11.73	\$ 12.03	\$ -	\$ - 9	; -

<sup>(1)</sup> This information is derived from the Fund's audited annual and unaudited interim (if applicable) financial statements.

<sup>(2)</sup> Net assets is based on the actual number of shares outstanding at the relevant time. The increase from operations is based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding over the financial period.

Note: The accounting principles applicable to 2015 and later are International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Those applicable to 2014 and earlier are pre-changeover Canadian GAAP.

#### Ratios and Supplemental Data - Class R Shares

Series A	2017	2016	2015	2014	 2013
Total net asset value (000's) (1)	\$ 73,411	\$ 78,051	\$ 89,610	\$ 92,199	\$ 85,211
Number of shares outstanding (1)	6,425,411	6,587,598	6,624,193	6,423,262	6,059,529
Management expense ratio (2)	6.07%	4.85%	5.27%	6.31%	4.90%
Management expense ratio excluding IPA (3)	4.79%	4.62%	4.53%	4.50%	4.58%
Trading expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.03%	0.01%
Net asset value per share	\$ 11.43	\$ 11.85	\$ 13.53	\$ 14.35	\$ 14.06

Series F	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Total net asset value (000's) (1)	\$ 50	\$ 12	\$ - \$	-	\$ -
Number of shares outstanding (1)	4,321	1,000	-	-	-
Management expense ratio (2)	4.49%	3.42%	-	-	-
Management expense ratio excluding IPA (3)	3.53%	3.20%		-	-
Trading expense ratio (4)	0.00%	0.00%	-	-	16 -
Net asset value per share	\$ 11.73	\$ 12.03	\$ - \$	_	\$

<sup>(1)</sup> This information is provided as at end of fiscal period shown. Series F was first offered for sale January 1, 2016.

<sup>(2)</sup> Management expense ratio is based on total expenses for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of average weekly net asset value during the period.
 <sup>(3)</sup> Management expense ratio excluding Incentive Participation Amount (IPA) is based on total expenses, less incentive participation amount, for the stated period and is expressed as an annualized percentage of average weekly net asset value during the period.

International expense ratio represents total commissions and other portfolio transaction costs expressed as an annualized percentage of weekly average net asset value during the period.

Note: The accounting principles applicable to 2015 and later are International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Those applicable to 2014 and earlier are pre-changeover Canadian GAAP.

## MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

## **MANAGEMENT FEES**

The manager (PFM Venture Capital Operations Inc.), as compensation to manage and administer the business affairs of SaskWorks, including management of its' venture investment portfolio, receives an annual management fee equal to 2.5% of the aggregate net asset value of the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares, as at each weekly valuation date. The fee is calculated and payable monthly in arrears.

The manager is also entitled to an incentive participation amount, subject to satisfying certain conditions, equal to 20% of the return, before expenses, based on realized gains and cumulative performance of individual venture investments. An incentive participation amount is due only upon realization of an individual venture investment and payable on an annual basis.

#### **Class A Series A Shares**



**Class R Series A Shares** 30% Year-by-Year Returns 25% 20% 15% Total Return 10% -5% -10% -15% 2011 2012 2013 2015 2016 2017 2008 2009 2010 2014 Yea

## PAST PERFORMANCE

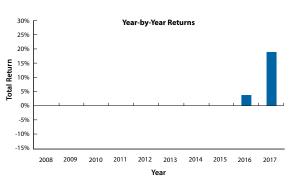
#### General

The past performance of the Fund does not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future.

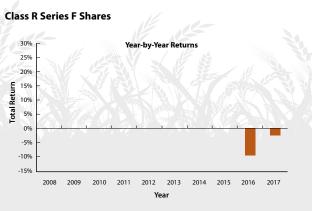
The following charts illustrate:

- > the annualized performance of each series of class of shares for the periods shown, and how the series' performance has changed from period to period (September 1 to August 31 or September 1 to February 28/29 for interim); and
- in percentage terms, how much an investment made in each series of shares on the first day of each fiscal period (September 1) would have increased or decreased by the last day of the fiscal period (August 31 or February 28/29 for interim).

#### **Class A Series F Shares**



Class A Series F shares were first available for sale beginning January 1, 2016.



Class R Series F shares were first available for sale beginning January 1, 2016.

### **ANNUAL COMPOUND RETURNS**

Where applicable, the table below shows the annual compound returns of the Fund for varying time periods for each of the years since the inception of the Fund. The Group Average or Globe Labour-Sponsored Peer Index is used as a reference.

Class A Series A	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
One year	15.32%	1.13%	3.50%	2.78%	4.02%
Three year	6.47%	2.46%	3.43%	2.26%	3.43%
Five year	5.23%	2.28%	3.31%	3.48%	2.92%
Ten year	5.55%	4.29%	4.53%	4.22%	3.78%
Since inception	3.60%	2.91%	3.03%	2.99%	3.01%
Class A Series F <sup>(1)</sup>					
One year	18.45%	3.34%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Class R Series A					
One year	(3.59%)	(12.40%)	(5.75%)	2.07%	(2.11%)
Three year	(7.32%)	(5.55%)	(1.98%)	(2.35%)	0.41%
Five year	(4.48%)	(5.12%)	(0.53%)	2.21%	2.44%
Ten year	1.58%	1.78%	3.07%	N/A	N/A
Since inception	1.12%	1.56%	3.07%	N/A	N/A
Class R Series F <sup>(1)</sup>					
One year	(2.57%)	(9.58%)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Group Average/Globe Labour-Sponsored Peer Index (2)					
One year	(0.28%)	(6.54%)	(3.24%)	(4.72%)	(15.15%)
Three year	(2.91%)	(4.29%)	(1.21%)	(6.40%)	(10.11%)
Five year	(0.84%)	(2.38%)	(0.50%)	(1.75%)	(8.73%)
Ten year	(0.06%)	(0.18%)	(0.04%)	(1.57%)	(1.25%)

 <sup>0)</sup> Class A Series F and Class R Series F were first offered for sale beginning January 1, 2016.
 <sup>2)</sup> Through 2013, the Globe Labour-Sponsored Peer Index is an equally weighted average of mutual Funds within the stated asset class and provides a sector average return. After 2013, the group average is used.

## MANAGEMENT REPORT OF FUND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

## SUMMARY OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

(in thousands of dollars)

The table below summarizes the 25 largest investment holdings of the Fund's Class A Shares.

	Investee	Coupon	Description of Security/Maturity	Inv	estment at cost	% of net asset value
1	Steel Reef Infrastructure Fund		Class A common, voting shares	\$	19,690	5.59%
2	Auctus Property Fund LP		Partnership units		14,000	3.98%
3	Agco Ag Ventures LP		Partnership units		12,605	3.58%
4	Cornerstone Credit Union Term Deposit	2.03%	10-Aug-18		10,388	2.95%
5	StorageVault Canada Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		10,161	2.89%
6	Hospitality Network Canada (2011) Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		10,053	2.86%
7	Moody's Equipment Partnership	11.50%	Subordinated loan		9,395	2.67%
8	Caltex Resources Ltd.		Class A common, voting shares		8,313	2.36%
9	Hi-Tec Profiles Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		7,772	2.21%
10	Firesky Energy Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		7,480	2.13%
11	Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.03%	28-Nov-17		6,698	1.90%
12	Cannimed Therapeutics Ltd.		Class A common, voting shares		6,693	1.90%
13	Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.03%	27-Oct-17		6,682	1.90%
14	Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.01%	2-Sep-17		6,500	1.85%
15	Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	1.85%	15-May-18		5,210	1.48%
16	James Hill Road Villa LP		Partnership units		4,827	1.37%
17	Prairie Soil Services Inc.		Partnership units		4,359	1.24%
18	Foundation Developments Inc.	12.00%	Subordinated loan		4,205	1.19%
19	Conexus Credit Union Term Deposit	1.95%	7-Oct-18		4,105	1.17%
20	Conexus Credit Union Term Deposit	2.00%	7-Jul-18		4,088	1.16%
21	Conexus Credit Union Term Deposit	2.00%	9-Apr-18		4,066	1.16%
22	256 2nd Ave. North Properties Ltd.	8.75%	Subordinated loan		4,050	1.15%
23	Conexus Credit Union Term Deposit	1.90%	7-Jan-18		4,043	1.15%
24	Conexus Credit Union Term Deposit	2.00%	7-Oct-17		4,021	1.14%
25	Villanova 4 Oil Corp.		Class A common, voting shares		3,848	1.09%
				\$	183,252	52.07%

The following table provides a breakdown of the Fund's Class A Shares venture investment portfolio by industry sector.

Sector	Cost	% of Venture Portfolio
Energy	\$ 62,855	34.12%
Financials	48,632	26.40%
Consumer discretionary	40,621	22.05%
Industrials	31,901	17.32%
Telecommunications	194	0.11%
	\$ 184,203	100.00%

The table below summarizes the investment holdings of the Fund's Class R Shares.

	Investee	Coupon	Description of Security/Maturity	Inv	estment at cost	% of net asset value
1	Steel Reef Infrastructure Fund		Class A common, voting shares	\$	9,201	12.53%
2	Firesky Energy Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		9,166	12.48%
3	Caltex Resources Ltd.		Class A common, voting shares		6,951	9.46%
4	Tamarack Valley Energy Ltd.		Class A common, voting shares		6,310	8.59%
5	Avalon Oil & Gas Ltd.		Class A common, voting shares		5,670	7.72%
6	Karve Energy Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		3,000	4.08%
7	Stampede Drilling Ltd.		Class A common, voting shares		2,739	3.73%
8	Spur Petroleum Ltd.		Class A common, voting shares		1,801	2.45%
9	Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.01%	2-Sep-17		1,500	2.04%
10	Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.03%	28-Nov-17		1,488	2.03%
11	Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.03%	27-Oct-17		1,485	2.02%
12	Chronos Resources Ltd.		Class A common, voting shares		1,474	2.01%
13	Crusader Drilling Corp.		Class A common, voting shares		1,033	1.41%
14	Sun Country Well Servicing Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		1,000	1.36%
15	Villanova 4 Oil Corp.		Class A common, voting shares		959	1.31%
16	Plains Environmental Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		714	0.97%
17	Burgess Creek Exploration Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		514	0.70%
18	Plains Environmental Inc.	10.50%	Subordinated loan		296	0.40%
19	Terra Grain Fuels Inc.	12.00%	Subordinated loan		266	0.36%
20	Plains Environmental Inc.	13.00%	Subordinated loan		237	0.32%
21	Turnstone Energy Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		101	0.14%
22	Terra Grain Fuels Inc.		Class A common, voting shares		1	0.00%
				\$	55,906	76.11%

The following table provides a breakdown of the Fund's Class R Shares venture investment portfolio by industry sector.

Sector		Cost	% of Venture Portfolio
Energy	\$	51,433	100.00%
	5	51,433	100.00%

## MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

To the Shareholders of SaskWorks Venture Fund Inc.:

The accompanying financial statements of **SaskWorks Venture Fund Inc.** (the "Fund") and other financial information contained in the annual report are the responsibility of management. The financial statements have been prepared by management based on the information available to October 12, 2017, are in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and reflect management's best estimates and judgments.

Management has established systems of internal controls which are designed to provide reasonable assurance those assets are safeguarded from loss or unauthorized use and to produce reliable accounting records for the preparation of financial information.

The Board of Directors discharges its responsibility for the financial statements primarily through the activities of the Audit and Valuation Committee (the "Committee"), which is comprised of members of the Board of Directors.

The Fund determines the value of its Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A, and Class R Series F shares on an annual basis by means of a valuation that is reviewed by the Fund's external auditors.

The Committee meets with management and the external auditors to discuss the results of the valuation and the audit examination with respect to the adequacy of internal controls and to review the financial statements of the Fund. The Committee also considers, for review by the Board of Directors and approval by the shareholders, the engagement or re-appointment of the external auditors.

The accompanying financial statements have been approved by the Board of Directors and have been audited by MNP LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants. The auditors' report outlines the scope of their audit and their opinion on the financial statements.

October 12, 2017

Randy Beattie President and Chief Executive Officer

Rob Duguid Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Corporate Secretary

## AUDITORS' REPORT

#### Independent Auditors' Report

#### To the Shareholders of SaskWorks Venture Fund Inc.:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of SaskWorks Venture Fund Inc. which comprise the statements of financial position as at August 31, 2017 and August 31, 2016, the statements of comprehensive income, changes in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares, and cash flows for the years ended August 31, 2017 and August 31, 2016, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### Fund Manager's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Fund Manager is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as the Fund Manager determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we 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 auditors' 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.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of SaskWorks Venture Fund Inc. as at August 31, 2017 and August 31, 2016, and its financial performance, changes in net assets and cash flows for the years ended August 31, 2017 and August 31, 2016 in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Regina, Saskatchewan October 12, 2017

MNPLLP

**Chartered Professional Accountants** 

## STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

### As at August 31

(in thousands of dollars except number of shares and per share amounts)

				2017						2016		
	-	Class A		Class R		Total		Class A	_	Class R		Total
Assets	-								_			
Venture investments (Note 5)	\$	262,386	\$	49,746	\$	312,132	\$	211,023	\$	50,449	\$	261,472
Loan receivable (Note 6)		10,243		2,663		12,906		10,269		3,115		13,384
Long-term investments		4,525		-		4,525		4,433		-		4,433
Short-term investments		53,358		4,473		57,831		63,118		12,368		75,486
Other assets		80		17		97		97		-		97
Accounts receivable and accrued income		2,235		81		2,316		2,533		1,282		3,815
Cash		56,283		21,150		77,433		34,250		14,572		48,822
	-	389,110		78,130		467,240		325,723	_	81,786		407,509
Liabilities												
Accrued provision for incentive participation amount (Note 8)		33,961		3,887		37,848		20,601		2,920		23,521
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	_	3,205		782		3,987		2,848	_	803		3,651
	-	37,166		4,669		41,835		23,449	_	3,723		27,172
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares	\$_	351,944	- \$	73,461	= <sup>\$</sup> =	425,405	= <sup>\$</sup> =	302,274	= \$	78,063	\$_	380,337
Shares outstanding (Note 7)												
Series A	\$	19,128,069	\$	6,425,411			\$	19,049,874	\$	6,587,598		
Series F		156,362		4,321				56,221		1,000		
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares												
Series A	\$	348,978	\$	73,411			\$	301,374	\$	78,051		
Series F		2,966		50				900		12		
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares per share												
Series A	\$	18.24	\$	11.43			\$	15.82	\$	11.85		
Series F		18.96		11.73				16.01		12.03		

Commitments (Note 15)

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Alfund C

On behalf of the Board:

\_\_\_\_ Director

Director

## STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

## For the Years Ended August 31

(in thousands of dollars except per share amounts)

				2017					2016		
	_	Class A		Class R		Total		Class A	Class R		Total
Revenues	_				_						
Investment income - Dividends, royalties and distributions	\$	5,246	\$	625	\$	5,871	\$	4,123	\$ 536	\$	4,659
Investment income - Interest		4,062		25		4,087		4,451	162		4,613
Interest income - Cash and term investments		1,715		422		2,137		1,876	478		2,354
Other income		39		40	_	79	_	87	20		107
		11,062		1,112		12,174		10,537	 1,196		11,733
Expenses											
Management fees (Note 8)		8,404		1,982		10,386		7,711	2,215		9,926
Service fees		2,369		780		3,149		2,150	769		2,919
Trailer commissions		1,621		385		2,006		1,456	421		1,877
Provision for incentive participation amount (Note 8)		954		11		965		1,173	24		1,197
Shareholder recordkeeping and marketing		829		273		1,102		804	284		1,088
Shareholder reporting		269		87		356		304	107		411
Professional fees		141		52		193		116	42		158
Directors fees and expenses		64		20		84		72	25		97
Audit fees		56		18		74		57	20		77
Other		53		17		70		41	14		55
Legal fees		51		16		67		89	27		116
Independent review committee fees		2		1		3		2	 1		3
	_	14,817		3,643		18,460		13,975	 3,949		17,924
Net investment loss		(3,755)		(2,531)		(6,286)		(3,438)	(2,753)		(6,191)
Realized gain on disposition of venture investments		27,854		3,865		31,719		14,640	-		14,640
Realized loss on disposition of venture investments		-		(697)		(697)		(3,861)	(610)		(4,471)
Net change in unrealized appreciation of venture investments		38,819		(2,412)		36,407		2,457	(7,572)		(5,115)
Provision for incentive participation amount (Note 8)		(16,122)		(957)		(17,079)		(6,409)	(170)		(6,579)
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations	\$	46,796	\$	(2,732)	\$	44,064	\$	3,389	\$ (11,105)	\$	(7,716)
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations	_		= :		_					_	
Series A	\$	46,410	\$	(2,730)			\$	3,367	\$ (11,104)		
Series F		386		(2)				22	(1)		
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations per average share outstanding											
Series A	\$	2.43	\$	(0.42)			\$	0.18	\$ (1.68)		
Series F		3.63		(0.75)				0.78	(1.43)		
		2.50		(					(		

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

## STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTABLE TO HOLDERS OF REDEEMABLE SHARES

## For the Years Ended August 31

(in thousands of dollars)

				2017					2016		
		Class A		Class R		Total		Class A	Class R		Total
Series A											
Operating activities											
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations	\$	46,410	\$	(2,730)	\$	43,680	\$	3,367	\$ (11,104)	\$	(7,737)
Capital transactions											
Proceeds on issue of shares		32,076		4,778		36,854		30,618	5,839		36,457
Redemption of shares	_	(30,882)	_	(6,688)		(37,570)		(20,279)	 (6,294)		(26,573)
	_	1,194		(1,910)		(716)		10,339	(455)	_	9,884
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares		47,604		(4,640)		42,964		13,706	(11,559)		2,147
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares, beginning		301,374		78,051		379,425		287,668	 89,610		377,278
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares, ending	\$_	348,978	\$	73,411	\$	422,389	\$_	301,374	\$ 78,051	\$_	379,425
Series F											
Operating activities											
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations	\$	386	\$	(2)	\$.	384	\$_	22	\$ (1)	\$_	21
Capital transactions											
Proceeds on issue of shares		1,690		40		1,730		878	13		891
Redemption of shares		(10)		-		(10)		-	-		-
	-	1,680	•	40	• •	1,720		878	 13	-	891
	_	.,	•			.,. =3		0.0	 	-	
Increase in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares		2,066		38		2,104		900	12		912
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares, beginning		900		12		912		-	 -		-
Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares, ending	\$_	2,966	\$	50	\$	3,016	\$_	900	\$ 12	\$	912

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

## STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

## For the Years Ended August 31

(in thousands of dollars)

				2017				2016		
	_	Class A		Class R		Total	 Class A	Class R		Total
Cash provided by (used in):			•						_	
Operating activities										
Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations	\$	46,796	\$	(2,732)	\$	44,064	\$ 3,389	\$ (11,105)	\$	(7,716)
Purchase of venture investments		(16,878)		(1,140)		(18,018)	(37,021)	(6,169)		(43,190)
Repayments from venture investments		456		-		456	928	-		928
Repayments on disposition of venture investments		5,780		2,273		8,053	14,893	1,142		16,035
Purchase of long-term and short-term investments		(53,450)		(4,473)		(57,923)	(54,352)	(12,368)		(66,720)
Matured long-term and short-term investments		63,118		12,368		75,486	56,488	12,076		68,564
Items not affecting cash:										
Realized gain on disposition of venture investments		(1,337)		(3,527)		(4,864)	-	-		-
Realized loss on disposition of venture investments		-		697		697	3,861	610		4,471
Amortization of discount on venture investment debt		(565)		(12)		(577)	(307)	(30)		(337)
Amortization of discount on long-term and short-term investments		-		-		-	(2)	-		(2)
Net change in unrealized appreciation of venture investments		(38,819)		2,412		(36,407)	(2,457)	7,572		5,115
Net change in balances other than cash and investments (Note 9)		14,058		2,582		16,640	7,108	(620)		6,488
	_	19,159		8,448	_	27,607	 (7,472)	 (8,892)	-	(16,364)
Financing activities	_		- ·		· —				_	
Proceeds on issue of shares - Series A		32,076		4,778		36,854	30,618	5,839		36,457
Proceeds on issue of shares - Series F		1,690		40		1,730	878	13		891
Redemption of shares - Series A		(30,892)		(6,688)		(37,580)	(20,279)	(6,294)		(26,573)
	_	2,874		(1,870)	-	1,004	 11,217	 (442)	-	10,775
				6 570	-	20 611	 2.745	 (0.22.4)	_	(5.500)
Increase (decrease) in cash		22,033		6,578		28,611	3,745	(9,334)		(5,589)
Cash, beginning		34,250		14,572		48,822	30,505	23,906		54,411
Cash, ending	\$	56,283	\$	21,150	\$	77,433	\$ 34,250	\$ 14,572	\$	48,822
See accompanying notes to the financial statements										
Interest received	\$	3,417	\$	27	\$	3,444	\$ 4,531	\$ 135	\$	4,666
Dividends received		2,324		625		2,949	1,768	536		2,304

## STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO - CLASS A SHARES

As at August 31, 2017 (in thousands of dollars)

#### Venture Investments

Investee	Instrument	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	Out	standing at Cost	 Fair Value
Energy						
Avalon Oil & Gas Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			\$	2,726	
Burgess Creek Exploration Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				514	
Caltex Resources Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				8,313	
Chronos Resources Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				3,300	
Crusader Drilling Corp.	Class A common, voting shares				1,930	
Firesky Energy Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				7,480	
Karve Energy Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				3,000	
Plains Environmental Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				1,009	
	Subordinated loan	13.00%	1-May-18		2,430	
	Subordinated Ioan	10.50%	1-May-18		806	
Spur Petroleum Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares	10.5070	T May 10		683	
Stampede Drilling Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				1,000	
Steel Reef Infrastructure Fund	Class A common, voting shares				19,690	
Tamarack Valley Energy Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				2,393	
Terra Grain Fuels Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				2,393	
		12.000/	1 Jan 20			
Turnetene Freezen la e	Subordinated loan	12.00%	1-Jan-20		3,632	
Turnstone Energy Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				101	
Villanova 4 Oil Corp.	Class A common, voting shares				3,848	
				\$	62,856	\$ 65,438
Financials				_		
2310 Millar Ave. Properties Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			\$	250	
	Subordinated loan	12.50%	18-Dec-18		1,650	
255 2nd Ave. North Properties Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				590	
·	Subordinated loan	8.75%	1-Sep-21		4,050	
Agco Ag Ventures LP	Partnership units				12,605	
Auctus Property Fund LP	Partnership units				14,000	
Elgin Development GP Inc.	Subordinated loan	14.00%	23-Nov-17		770	
5	Class A common, voting shares				25	
Elgin Development LP	Partnership units				176	
Foundation Developments Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				1,235	
	Subordinated loan	12.00%	1-Jun-22		4,205	
HL Carriage Homes LP	Partnership units	1210070	1 5011 22		800	
Innovative Residential Investment Inc.	Subordinated Ioan	12.00%	30-Apr-19		1,500	
James Hill Road Villa LP	Partnership units	12.0070	50 / (p) 15		4,827	
	Subordinated Ioan	15.00%	1-Dec-21		630	
Kensington Flats Developments LP	Term loan	15.00%	26-Nov-16		365	
Rensington hats bevelopments Er	Partnership units	15.0070	20110110		48	
Parkside Townhomes	Class B preferred, cumulative,				40	
	non-voting shares				707	
	Class A common, voting shares				2,915	
Saskatchewan Entrepreneurial Fund Inc.	Joint venture units				117	
Urban Heights Inc.	Preferred shares				1,140	
	Class A common, voting shares				1,257	
	_					
Yorkterra Development LP	Partnership units				225	

## STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO - CLASS A SHARES (CONTINUED)

As at August 31, 2017 (in thousands of dollars)

#### Venture Investments

Investee	Instrument	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	Οι	utstanding at Cost		Fair Value
Consumer Discretionary							
Cannimed Therapeutics Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			\$	6,693		
Factory Optical Holdings Inc.	Class B common, voting shares				206		
Hospitality Network Canada (2011) Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				10,053		
	Subordinated loan	15.00%	31-Jul-19		2,632		
Pines Power Sports & Marine Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				300		
	Subordinated loan	12.00%	1-Jul-18		1,869		
	Subordinated loan	6.00%	1-Jul-18		718		
StorageVault Canada Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				10,161		
Visima Holdings Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				1		
	Subordinated loan	13.00%	1-Jun-18		1,331		
Visima II Holdings Inc.	Class C preferred, convertible, non voting shares				733		
	Class A common, voting shares				294		
	Subordinated loan	13.00%	1-Apr-19		173		
Industrials, Telecommunications and Consu	Subordinated loan	10.50%	12-Jul-19	\$	2,000		
Crestline Coach Ltd.	Class B convertible, redeemable preferred shares	10.30%	12-301-19	Ş	443		
Hi-Tec Profiles Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				7,772		
Hi-Tec Profiles Limited Partnership	Partnership units				, 330		
M Wireless Communications Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				194		
Koenders Windmills Inc.	Class A common, voting shares				-		
_azar Equipment Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				892		
Moody's Equipment Partnership	Partnership units				2,855		
	Subordinated loan	11.50%	26-Jun-19		9,395		
PM Power Group Holdings Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares				. 1		
Prairie Soil Services Inc.	Subordinated loan	12.00%	24-Mar-20		2,790		
	Partnership units				4,359		
Westcon Equipment & Rentals Ltd.	Class E convertible preferred shares				1,065		
				\$	32,096	\$	32,86
		Total ve	enture investments	Ś	184,203	Ś	262,38

## STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO - CLASS A SHARES (CONTINUED)

As at August 31, 2017 (in thousands of dollars)

#### Long-term Investments

lssuer	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	 Cost	F	air Value
New Community Credit Union Term Deposit	2.25%	1-Oct-18	\$ 420		
Conexus Credit Union Term Deposit	1.95%	7-Oct-18	4,105		
	Total lon	g-term investments	\$ 4,525	\$	4,525

#### Short-term Investments

2.01%	2-Sep-17	\$ 6,500	
2.20%	1-Oct-17	412	
2.00%	7-Oct-17	4,021	
2.03%	27-Oct-17	6,682	
2.03%	28-Nov-17	6,698	
2.20%	1-Jan-18	414	
2.15%	1-Jan-18	417	
1.90%	7-Jan-18	4,043	
2.00%	9-Apr-18	4,066	
1.85%	15-May-18	5,210	
2.20%	1-Jul-18	419	
2.00%	7-Jul-18	4,088	
2.03%	10-Aug-18	10,388	
	2.20% 2.00% 2.03% 2.20% 2.15% 1.90% 2.00% 1.85% 2.20% 2.20%	2.20%1-Oct-172.00%7-Oct-172.03%27-Oct-172.03%28-Nov-172.20%1-Jan-182.15%1-Jan-181.90%7-Jan-182.00%9-Apr-181.85%15-May-182.20%1-Jul-182.00%7-Jul-18	2.20%1-Oct-174122.00%7-Oct-174,0212.03%27-Oct-176,6822.03%28-Nov-176,6982.20%1-Jan-184142.15%1-Jan-184171.90%7-Jan-184,0432.00%9-Apr-184,0661.85%15-May-185,2102.20%1-Jul-184192.00%7-Jul-184,088

Total short-term investments \$ 53,358 \$ 53,358

## SASKWORKS VENTURE FUND INC. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO - CLASS R SHARES

As at August 31, 2017 (in thousands of dollars)

venture investments	Venture	Investment
---------------------	---------	------------

Investee	Instrument	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	Outstanding at Cost	Fair Value
Energy					
Avalon Oil & Gas Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			\$ 5,670	
Burgess Creek Exploration Inc.	Class A common, voting shares			514	
Caltex Resources Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			6,951	
Chronos Resources Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			1,474	
Crusader Drilling Corp.	Class A common, voting shares			1,033	
Firesky Energy Inc.	Class A common, voting shares			9,166	
Karve Energy Inc.	Class A common, voting shares			3,000	
Plains Environmental Inc.	Class A common, voting shares			296	
	Subordinated loan	13.00%	1-May-18	714	
	Subordinated loan	10.50%	1-May-18	237	
Spur Petroleum Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			1,801	
Stampede Drilling Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			2,739	
Steel Reef Infrastructure Fund	Class A common, voting shares			9,201	
Sun Country Well Servicing Inc.	Class A common, voting shares			1,000	
Tamarack Valley Energy Ltd.	Class A common, voting shares			6,310	
Terra Grain Fuels Inc.	Class A common, voting shares			1	
	Subordinated loan	12.00%	1-Jan-20	266	
Turnstone Energy Inc.	Class A common, voting shares			101	
Villanova 4 Oil Corp.	Class A common, voting shares			959	

Total venture investments \$ 51,433 \$ 49,746

Short-term Investments

Issuer	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	Cost	Fair Value
Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.01%	2-Sep-17	\$ 1,500	
Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.03%	27-Oct-17	1,485	
Affinity Credit Union Term Deposit	2.03%	28-Nov-17	1,488	
	Total short-t	erm investments	\$ 4,473	\$ 4,473

## SASKWORKS VENTURE FUND INC. STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

As at August 31, 2017 (in thousands of dollars)

The venture investments of the Fund were comprised of the following:

#### **Class A Shares**

#### as at August 31, 2017

Industry sector	Number of Investe	es	Cost	Fair Value	% of Cost	% of Fair Value
Energy	15	\$	62,856	\$ 65,438	34.1	24.9
Financials	15		54,087	59,249	29.4	22.6
Consumer Discretionary	7		35,164	104,837	19.1	40.0
Industrials, Telecommunications and Consumer Staples	11		32,096	32,862	17.4	12.5
	48	\$	184,203	\$ 262,386	100.0	100.0

#### as at August 31, 2016

Industry sector	Number of Investees Cost		Fair Value	% of Cost	% of Fair Value	
Energy	13	\$	60,898	\$ 66,682	35.4	31.6
Financials	13		42,839	52,284	24.9	24.8
Consumer Discretionary	7		39,634	61,882	23.0	29.3
Industrials, Telecommunications and Consumer Staples	11		28,854	30,175	16.7	14.3
	44	\$	172,225	\$ 211,023	100.0	100.0

#### **Class R Shares**

### as at August 31, 2017

Industry sector	Number of Investe	es	Cost		Cost		Fair Value	% of Cost	% of Fair Value
Energy	16	\$	51,433	\$	49,746	100.0	100.0		

#### as at August 31, 2016

Industry sector	Number of Investees	Cost		Fair Value % of Cost		% of Fair Value	
Energy	15	\$ 49,737	\$	50,449	100.0	100.0	

As at August 31, 2017 (in thousands of dollars)

The venture investments of the Fund were comprised of the following:

#### **Class A Shares**

as at August 31, 2017

	Fair Value	% of Cost	% of Fair Value
40,949 \$	33,810	22.2	12.9
124,007	150,551	67.4	57.4
19,247	78,025	10.4	29.7
84,203 \$	262.386	100.0	100.0
1.	24,007 19,247	24,007 150,551 19,247 78,025	24,007      150,551      67.4        19,247      78,025      10.4

#### as at August 31, 2016

	Cost	Fair Value	% of Cost	% of Fair Value
Private debt securities Private equity securities	\$ 33,045 139,180	\$ 28,839 182,184	19.2 80.8	13.7 86.3
	\$ 172,225	\$ 211,023	100.0	100.0

#### **Class R Shares**

#### as at August 31, 2017

	Cost	Fair Value	% of Cost	% of Fair Value
Private debt securities	\$ 1,217	\$ 322	2.4	0.6
Private equity securities	43,906	45,242	85.3	91.0
Publicly traded equity securities	6,310	4,182	12.3	8.4
	\$ 51,433	\$ 49,746	100.0	100.0

#### as at August 31, 2016

	Cost	Fair Value	% of Cost	% of Fair Value
Private debt securities	\$ 1,196	\$ 1,018	2.4	2.0
Private equity securities	47,491	48,619	95.5	96.4
Publicly traded equity securities	1,050	812	2.1	1.6
	\$ 49,737	\$ 50,449	100.0	100.0

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## For the years ended August 31, 2017 and 2016

(in thousands of dollars except number of shares and per share amounts)

#### 1. Status of the corporation

SaskWorks Venture Fund Inc. ("SaskWorks" or the "Fund") was incorporated under the laws of the Province of Saskatchewan by articles of incorporation dated September 1, 1999 under the name Prairie Ventures Fund Inc. Effective December 18, 2000 the articles of the Fund were amended to change its corporate designation to Crown Ventures Fund Inc. and effective March 16, 2005 the articles of the Fund were amended to change its corporate designation to SaskWorks Venture Fund Inc. The Fund has received approval for registration as a labour-sponsored venture capital corporation under *The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Act* (Saskatchewan) (the "Act"). The Fund commenced active operations on January 29, 2001.

In February 2006 the Fund began offering a second class of shares, Class R, in addition to its Class A shares, for sale to the public.

Beginning January 1, 2016 the Fund began offering its Class A and Class R shares in series. The existing Class A and Class R shares were renamed Class A Series A and Class R Series A shares respectively. New shares, Class A Series F and Class R Series F, began sale to the public. Class A Series A and Class R Series A have a sales and trailer commission associated with them while Class A Series F and Class R Series F do not.

A separate net asset value is calculated for each of the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares. The holders of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series F, Class R Series A, and Class R Series F shares have recourse only to the net assets attributable to the capital raised through the issuance of Class A Series A, Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class A Series F, Class A Series F, Class R Series F, Class R Series F, Class R Series F, Class A Series A, and Class A Series F, Class A Series F,

The Fund was formed to make debt and equity investments in Saskatchewan small and medium-sized businesses. The objective of the Fund is to realize longterm capital appreciation from its investments. Targeted investment opportunities include early stage and mature businesses with substantial growth prospects as well as restructurings and management buy-out opportunities that offer superior investment return prospects.

PFM Venture Capital Operations Inc. ("PFMV" or the "Manager") is responsible for the management of the Fund and has engaged TBW Holdings Inc. and PFM Capital (2010) Inc. to assist it to carry out its management obligations.

#### 2. Basis of presentation

#### (a) Statement of compliance:

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") and interpretations of the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee ("IFRIC"). The Fund's significant accounting policies under IFRS are presented in Note 3.

The financial statements of the Fund were approved by the Board of Directors' on October 12, 2017.

(b) Basis of measurement

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for investments at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL") which are measured at fair value.

(c) Investment entity

The Fund has determined that it meets the definition of investment entity and as a result, it measures subsidiaries at FVTPL. An investment entity is an entity that: obtains funds from one or more investors for the purpose of providing them with investment management services, commits to its investors that its business purpose is to invest funds solely for returns from capital appreciation, investment income, or both, and measures and evaluates the performance of substantially all of its investments on a fair value basis. The most significant judgement that the Fund has made in determining that its meets this definition is that fair value is used as the primary measurement attribute to measure and evaluate the performance of substantially all of its investments.

(d) Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in Canadian dollars, which is the Fund's functional currency, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars except where otherwise indicated.

(e) Use of judgements and estimates

The preparation of financial statements requires management to use judgement in applying policies and to make estimates and assumptions about the future. The following are the most significant accounting judgements and estimates that the Fund has made in preparing the financial statements:

#### Fair value of investments not quoted in an active market

The Fund holds financial instruments for which no public market exists ("private companies"). Fair values of such instruments are determined using valuation techniques. Where no market data is available, the Fund will value positions using its own models, which are usually based on valuation methods and techniques generally recognized as standard within the industry. The models used for private companies are based mainly on earnings multiples adjusted for a lack of marketability as appropriate.

#### Investment entity

In determining whether the Fund is an investment entity, the Fund may be required to make significant judgments about whether the Fund has the typical characteristics of an investment entity. The Fund primarily obtains funds from investors for the purpose of providing investment management services, commits to its investors that the business purpose is to invest the funds solely for returns from capital appreciation, investment income or both, and measures and evaluates the performance of its investments on a fair value basis.

#### 3. Significant accounting policies

The following policies are considered significant:

#### (a) Financial instruments:

#### Initial recognition and measurement

The Fund recognizes financial instruments at fair value upon initial recognition, plus transaction costs in the case of financial instruments measured at amortized cost. Financial assets are initially recognized on the trade date, which is the date on which the Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Other financial assets are recognized on the date on which they originated. The Fund's venture investments are measured at FVTPL, including investments in debt instruments which have been designated at FVTPL. All other financial assets and liabilities, including redeemable shares, are measured at amortized cost. Under this method, financial assets and liabilities reflect the amount required to be received or paid, discounted, when appropriate, at the contract's effective interest rate. The Fund's accounting policies for measuring the fair value of its venture investments are identical to those used in measuring its net asset value ("NAV") for transactions with shareholders.

#### Fair value measurement

The fair values of venture investments in eligible businesses, having quoted market values and being publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange ("publicly traded companies"), are recorded at values based on the closing bid price on the last Thursday of each month, except August, and on the last business day of August.

The fair value of the Fund's venture investments for which no public market exists ("private companies") is determined as at the last business day of each fiscal quarter on the basis of policies and procedures established by the Board for determining the fair value of such investments. These valuations are updated monthly to take into account any material changes in the investments of the Fund since the most recent quarterly valuation.

In determining the fair value of equity investments in private companies ("shares") material changes would include, but are not limited to: a subsequent round of financing; an independent valuation; where performance varies adversely relative to the Fund's expectations; where performance indicates the value of the investment has changed; or, a share transaction by an independent third party. Equity investments are carried at fair value and an estimate of fair value is determined on the basis of the expected realizable value of the shares if they were disposed of in an orderly manner over a reasonable period. Fluctuations in fair value are recorded as unrealized appreciation or depreciation until disposal of the equity investment.

Investments in debt instruments ("loans") are carried at fair value. For productive loans an estimate of fair value is determined using a discounted cash flow methodology with fluctuations in the fair value recorded as a premium or discount, through unrealized appreciation, that is amortized to income using the effective interest method.

A loan is considered impaired if, because of deterioration in credit quality, there is no longer reasonable assurance of the timely collection of the full amount of outstanding principal and interest. On principal impaired loans a write-down or other provision is established, through unrealized depreciation, to reduce their carrying value to the estimated fair value of the underlying security.

### SASKWORKS VENTURE FUND INC. • NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(b) Investments in associates, joint ventures and subsidiaries

An associate is defined as an investee over whom the Fund has significant influence, being the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee (but not control or joint control). Significant influence exists when the Fund owns between 20% and less than a majority of the voting rights of the investee.

Joint control involves contractually agreed sharing of control and arrangements subject to joint control are classified as a joint venture.

A subsidiary is defined as an investee over whom the Fund has the ability to control. The Fund controls an investee when it is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the investee. Control over an investee:

- · exists when the Fund owns a majority of the voting rights of the investee; or
- exists when the Fund has a majority position in any borrowings of the investee and the conditions attached to the borrowings confer on it the right to assume control of the investee in the event of default.

The Fund meets the criteria required to be considered an "investment entity" under IFRS 10 – Consolidated Financial Statements and, as such, it accounts for subsidiaries at fair value. Associates and joint ventures have been designated at FVTPL.

Information about the Fund's interest in associates or unconsolidated subsidiaries is as follows:

#### Class A

Investee	Relationship	Ownership & voting interest %	Senior debt
2310 Millar Ave. Properties Ltd.	Associate	50.00%	Yes
255 2nd Ave. Properties Ltd.	Associate	50.00%	Yes
Crusader Drilling Corp.	Associate	24.47%	Yes
Elgin Development	Associate	25.81%	Yes
Hi-Tec Profiles Inc.	Associate	37.73%	-
HL Carriage Homes LP	Associate	50.00%	-
Hospitality Network Canada Inc.	Subsidiary	69.02%	Yes
James Hill Road Villa LP	Subsidiary	56.04%	Yes
Lazar Equipment Ltd.	Subsidiary	53.94%	-
Moody's Equipment LP	Subsidiary	71.36%	Yes
Parkside Townhomes	Subsidiary	84.50%	Yes
Pines Sports & Marine Ltd.	Subsidiary	54.55%	Yes
Prairie Soil Services Inc.	Subsidiary	69.20%	Yes
Terra Grain Fuels Inc.	Associate	33.25%	-
Urban Heights Inc.	Associate	34.93%	Yes
Visima Holdings Inc.	Associate	28.72%	Yes
Visima Holdings II Inc.	Associate	28.72%	Yes
YorkTerra Development LP	Associate	32.37%	Yes

#### Class R

Investee	Relationship	Ownership & voting interest %	Senior debt
None			

All investee companies have Canada as their principal place of business and country of incorporation.

All investee companies for which the Fund is a subordinate lender may have restrictions on dividend and loan repayments if the investee is not within covenants imposed on it by its senior lender(s).

With respect to the above associates and unconsolidated subsidiaries:

- subject to senior lender covenants, if any, there are no significant restrictions on the ability of the associates or subsidiaries to transfer funds to the Fund in the form of cash dividends or to repay loans or advances made to the associates or subsidiaries by the Fund;
- there are no current commitments or intentions to provide financial or other support to the subsidiaries, including commitments or intentions to assist them in obtaining financial support;
- the Fund has not, without the contractual obligation do so, provided any financial or other support to the subsidiaries; and
- other than the original amount approved for investment, there are no contractual arrangements that would require the Fund to provide financial support to the subsidiaries.
- (c) Cash

Pending venture investments being made, subscription proceeds are invested in interest bearing accounts yielding interest at the rate of prime minus 1.60% to 1.70%.

(d) Redeemable shares

The Fund classifies financial instruments issued as financial liabilities or equity instruments in accordance with the substance of the contractual terms of the instruments.

The shares, which are classified as financial liabilities and measured at redemption amount, provide shareholders with the right to request redemption, subject to available liquidity.

See Note 7 for details of the Fund's shares.

(e) Net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares per share

The net assets attributable to shareholders per Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F share is determined by dividing the net assets attributable to shareholders of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares by the number of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series R Series R Series F, Class R Series R Series R Series F, Class R Series R Se

(f) Increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations per share

The increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares from operations per Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F share is calculated by dividing the increase (decrease) in net assets attributable to holders of redeemable Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series F, Class R Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F, Series A and Series F, Series A Series F, Series A and Series F, Series A and Series F, Series A and Series F, Series A Series A Series F, Series A and Series F, Series A Series A S

(g) Revenue recognition

Revenue related to the Fund's productive venture investments is recorded on an accrual basis. Negotiation fees are recognized upon receipt. A loan on which payments are in arrears for 90 days or more is usually classified as income impaired. Recognition of interest income ceases on income impaired loans until interest is received. Recognition of interest income ceases on principal impaired loans with all cash received applied first to principal, until fully recovered, and then as income.

(h) Short-term and long-term investments

Pending venture investments being made, subscription proceeds are invested in high-quality government and corporate debt obligations or other investments permitted under the Act. Purchases and sales of short-term and long-term investments are recorded on a trade date basis. Term deposits are valued at cost, which approximates fair value.

(i) Commissions

An annual trailer commission, based on net assets attributable to the holders of redeemable shares, is paid quarterly to the selling agent for each year that a subscription for Class A Series A and Class R Series A shares is maintained.

## SASKWORKS VENTURE FUND INC. • NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### (j) Incentive participation amount

As described in Note 8, an incentive participation amount ("IPA") will accrue on unrealized eligible venture investments and be paid annually only upon realization of the eligible venture investment.

This amount is an estimate and can vary significantly from year to year. It will be paid only on gains that arise on the realization of an eligible venture investment and the income earned from an eligible venture investment over its life.

(k) Income taxes

SaskWorks uses the liability method of tax allocation for accounting for income taxes. Under this method, future income tax assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities, and measured using the tax rates and laws that will be in effect when differences are expected to reverse.

(I) Transaction costs

Transaction costs associated with an investment (incremental costs that are directly attributable to acquisition or disposition) are, in most cases, borne by the investee. In those cases where the Fund pays these costs they are expensed in the Statements of Comprehensive Income.

(m) Application of new and revised International Financial Reporting Standards

The following new and revised standards are not considered significant to the Fund:

- Amendments to IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements re: Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations
- New IFRS 14 Regulatory Deferral Accounts
- · Amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements re: Disclosure Initiative
- Amendments to IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 38 Intangible Assets re: Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation
  and Amortization
- · Amendments to IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 41 Agriculture re: Agriculture: Bearer Plants
- Amendments to IAS 27 Separate Financial Statements re: Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements
- Annual Improvements (2012 2014 Cycle)

#### (n) New and revised International Financial Reporting Standards in issue but not yet effective

The following new and revised standards issued but not yet effective are not expected to be significant to the Fund:

#### Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018

• New IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

#### Effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019

• New IFRS 16 Leases

#### 4. Financial instruments

The Fund classifies fair value measurements within a hierarchy which gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

• Level 1: Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date;

• Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly; and

• Level 3: Inputs are unobservable for the asset or liability.

For the years ended August 31, 2017 and 2016 • (in thousands of dollars except number of shares and per share amounts)

### Class A

#### As at August 31, 2017

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
	 Level I	 Level 2	 Level 5	IULAI
Equity investments	\$ 78,025	\$ -	\$ 150,551	\$ 228,576
Debt investments	-	-	33,810	33,810
	\$ 78,025	\$ -	\$ 184,361	\$ 262,386
As at August 31, 2016				
	 Level 1	Level 2	 Level 3	Total
Equity investments	\$ -	\$ 31,722	\$ 150,462	\$ 182,184
Debt investments	-	-	28,839	28,839
	\$ -	\$ 31,722	\$ 179,301	\$ 211,023
Class R				
As at August 31, 2017				
	 Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Equity investments	\$ 4,182	\$ -	\$ 45,242	\$ 49,424
Debt investments	-	-	322	322
	\$ 4,182	\$ -	\$ 45,564	\$ 49,746
As at August 31, 2016				
	 Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Equity investments	\$ 812	\$ -	\$ 48,619	\$ 49,431
Equity investments Debt investments	\$ 812	\$ -	\$ 48,619 1,018	\$ 49,431 1,018

The table below summarizes the movement in Level 3 venture investments at fair value using unobservable inputs.

	2017			2016			
		Class A		Class R	Class A		Class R
Balance, beginning	\$	179,301	\$	49,637	\$ 183,493	\$	51,786
Transfer to Level 1		(5,885)		-	-		-
Venture investments purchased		17,715		3,246	27,024		6,169
Venture investments repaid		(4,733)		(6,809)	(15,414)		-
Realized loss on disposition of venture investments		-		-	(3,643)		-
Net change in unrealized appreciation of venture investments		(2,037)		(510)	(12,159)		(8,318)
Balance, ending	\$	184,361	\$	45,564	\$ 179,301	\$	49,637

For the purposes of the following tables, that disclose Level 3 investment details, debt investments that are current with respect to principal and interest are classified as productive and those that are not current are classified as non-productive. With respect to equity investments, those investments on which the Fund expects to recover the full amount of capital invested are classified as productive while those equity investments on which the Fund does not expect to recover the full amount of capital invested are classified as non-productive.

## SASKWORKS VENTURE FUND INC. • NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Class A

#### As at August 31, 2017

Classification	Fair value	Valuation technique	Unobservable Inputs	Weighted average input	Sensitivity +/-	Change in valuation +/-
Productive debt	\$ 31,353	Discounted cash flow	Discounted rate	10.19%	1%	\$ 333/\$ (333)
Non-productive debt	2,457	Estimated realizable value	Impairment provision	25.00%	25.00%	615/(615)
Productive equity	137,571	Asset value	% variance	96.50%	7.50%	220/(219)
		Capitalization rate	NOI cap rate	6.95%	0.38%	1,925/(1,683)
		Cost	% variance	100%	10%	2,008/(2,008)
		Equity raise	% variance	100%	10%	4,985/(4,985)
		Liquidation proceeds	% variance	100%	10%	1/(1)
		Multiple of EBITDA	EBITDA multiple	5.06x	0.70x	5,407/(4,792)
		NAV/unit	% variance	100%	10%	2,303/(2,303)
Non-productive equity	12,980	Cost	% variance	100%	10%	15/(15)
		Equity raise	Cost	100%	10%	469/(469)
		Multiple of EBITDA	EBITDA multiple	4.21x	0.50x	1,113/(1,113)
		Multiple of production	\$/boe/d multiple	\$ 50	\$ 10	236/(275)
		Multiple of reserves	\$/boe multiple	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00	387/(363)
		Multiple of TBV	TBV multiple	0.55x	0.18x	552/(4,470)

boe/d = Barrels of oil equivalent per day

EBITDA = Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization NOI cap rate = Net operating income capitalization rate

TBV = Tangible book value

#### As at August 31, 2016

Classification	Fair value	Valuation technique	Unobservable Inputs	Weighted average input	Sensitivity +/-	Change in valuation +/-
Productive debt	\$ 27,024	Discounted cash flow	Discounted rate	12.25%	1%	\$ 294/\$ (294)
Non-productive debt	1,816	Estimated realizable value	Impairment provision	25.00%	25.00%	454/(454)
Productive equity	138,026	Asset value	% variance	87%	5%	107/(107)
		Capitalization rate	NOI cap rate	8.25%	0.5%	250/(250)
		Cost	% variance	100%	10%	3,221/(3,221)
		Equity raise	% variance	100%	11%	5,399/(5,399)
		Liquidation proceeds	% variance	100%	10%	1/(1)
		Multiple of EBITDA	EBITDA multiple	5.44x	0.63x	5,994/(4,416)
		Multiple of TBV	TBV multiple	0.60x	0.10x	389/(389)
		NAV/unit	% variance	100%	10%	2,182/(2,182)
		Probability of payment	% variance	75%	5%	45/(45)
Non-productive equity	12,435	Cost	% variance	100%	10%	73/(73)
		Equity raise	Cost	100%	10%	699/(699)
		Multiple of EBITDA	EBITDA multiple	3.75x	0.50x	226/(227)
		Multiple of production	\$/boe/d multiple	\$ 50	\$ 10	158/(79)
		Multiple of reserves	\$/boe multiple	\$ 11.00	\$ 5.00	743/(825)
		Multiple of TBV	TBV multiple	0.60x	0.25x	250/(200)
		NAV/unit	% variance	100%	10%	8/(8)

boe/d = Barrels of oil equivalent per day

EBITDA = Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization

NOI cap rate = Net operating income capitalization rate

TBV = Tangible book value

For the years ended August 31, 2017 and 2016 • (in thousands of dollars except number of shares and per share amounts)

## Class R

As at August 31, 2017

Classification	Fair value	Valuation technique	Unobservable Inputs	Weighted average input	Sensitivity +/-	Change in valuation +/-
Non-productive debt	\$ 322	Estimated realizable value	Impairment provision	25%	25%	\$ 81/\$ (81)
Productive equity	33,882	Equity raise	Cost	100%	10%	3,142/(3,142)
		Multiple of EBITDA	EBITDA multiple	6.50x	0.50x	117/(139)
Non-productive equity	11,360	Equity raise	Cost	100%	10%	730/(730)
		Multiple of production	\$/boe/d multiple	\$ 50	\$ 10	59/(69)
		Multiple of reserves	EV/boe multiple	\$15.00	\$5.00	173/(162)
		Multiple of TBV	TBV multiple	0.55x	0.18x	1,102/(997)

boe/d = Barrels of oil equivalent per day

EBITDA = Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization

TBV = Tangible book value

#### As at August 31, 2016

Classification	Fair value	Valuation technique	Unobservable Inputs	Weighted average input	Sensitivity +/-	Change in valuation +/-
Productive debt	\$ 885	Discounted cash flow	Discounted rate	12.37%	1%	\$ 9/\$ (9)
Non-productive debt	133	Estimated realizable value	Impairment provision	25%	25%	67/(67)
Productive equity	34,756	Equity raise	Cost	100%	10%	2,640/(2,640)
		Multiple of EBITDA	EBITDA multiple	8.00x	0.50x	784/(311)
		Multiple of TBV	TBV multiple	0.50x	0.20x	216/(200)
Non-productive equity	13,863	Equity raise	Cost	100%	10%	939/(939)
		Multiple of production	\$/boe/d multiple	\$ 50	\$ 10	39/(20)
		Multiple of reserves	EV/boe multiple	\$ 11.00	\$ 5.00	276/(306)
		Multiple of TBV	TBV multiple	0.60x	0.18x	882/(745)

boe/d = Barrels of oil equivalent per day

 ${\it EBITDA} = {\it Earnings} \ {\it before interest, taxes, depreciation} \ {\it and amortization}$ 

TBV = Tangible book value

#### 5. Venture investments

#### Venture investments are comprised of the following:

	2017			2016				
	Class A Class R		A Class R Class A		s R Class A			Class R
Equity instruments at cost	\$	143,254	\$	50,217	\$	139,179	\$	48,542
Debt instruments at cost		40,949		1,217		33,045		1,196
Venture investments at cost		184,203		51,434		172,224		49,738
Unrealized appreciation (depreciation)		78,183		(1,688)		38,799		711
Venture investments at fair value	\$	262,386	\$	49,746	\$	211,023	\$	50,449

During the year, venture investments changed as follows:

	2017			2016				
	Class A Class R		Class R	Class A		Class A Cl		
Venture investments at fair value, begin	\$	211,023	\$	50,449	\$	190,919	\$	53,574
Venture investments purchased		22,555		9,557		37,021		6,169
Venture investments repaid		(10,576)		(7,163)		(15,820)		(1,142)
Realized loss on disposition of venture investments		-		(697)		(3,861)		(610)
Net change in unrealized appreciation of venture investments		38,819		(2,412)		2,457		(7,572)
Amortization of discount on venture investment debt		565		12		307		30
Venture investments at fair value, end	\$	262,386	\$	49,746	\$	211,023	\$	50,449

#### 6. Loan receivable

Beginning February 1, 2004, the Fund engaged Conexus Credit Union to pay the base commission and additional commission on the sale of shares. The Fund has invested sufficient money in Conexus in the form of non-interest bearing promissory notes to enable it to pay these commissions.

The loan receivable balance is subject to a maximum total limit of \$25,600 (2016 - \$25,600) and consists of eight non-interest bearing promissory notes each repayable in eight equal annual instalments, based on the balance of the note at December 31 of the year issued, beginning January 10 of the year following issuance.

Loan receivable at August 31 is comprised of the following:

		2017			2016			
Note issued	Instalment		Class A		Class R	Class A		Class R
January 1, 2009	\$ 323	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 244	\$	79
January 1, 2010	326		240		86	481		172
January 1, 2011	456		564		348	846		521
January 1, 2012	493		931		547	1,241		729
January 1, 2013	485		1,530		411	1,913		514
January 1, 2014	352		1,449		309	1,739		370
January 1, 2015	318		1,589		318	1,854		371
January 1, 2016	319		1,881		354	1,951		359
January 1, 2017	TBD		2,059		290	-		-
		\$	10,243	\$	2,663	\$ 10,269	\$	3,115

As remuneration to Conexus for managing the payment of commissions, the Fund has agreed to pay a service fee equal to an annual percentage based payment of 0.875% of the gross proceeds raised in any calendar year on the sale of Class A Series A and Class R Series A shares and 0.125% of the gross proceeds raised in any calendar year on the sale of Class A Series F and Class R Series F shares over eight consecutive years.

#### 7. Share capital and net assets

Subscription proceeds from the issuance of Class A and Class R shares will be used to make eligible venture investments of that respective class of shares. Venture investments made by each class of shares are held only within that class of shares. Income or losses attributable to a particular venture investment are allocated only to the specific class of shares within which the venture investment is held.

Net asset value per share for each series is calculated at the end of each week by dividing the net asset value of each series by its outstanding shares. The net asset value of each series of a class is computed by calculating the value of the series-specific assets and series' proportionate share of the class' common assets less the series-specific liabilities and the series' proportionate share of the class' common liabilities. Income and expenses directly attributable to a series are credited to that series while common class income and expenses and realized and unrealized gains and losses are allocated to each series. A proportionate share of or allocation to each series of a class is based on that series' pro rata share of the total share capital of that class as at the latest available weekly net asset valuation.

Venture investments (Class A and Class R) and share subscription activity (Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A, and Class R Series F) have a separate accounting such that the net assets attributable to each of the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A, and Class R Series F shares are reflected individually in these financial statements.

Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares have, in all material respects, the same rights, redemption features, tax credit eligibility, and attributes except for the following:

- The net proceeds from the issuance of Class A shares will be invested in Saskatchewan eligible businesses in a broad section of the economy whereas the net proceeds from the issuance of Class R shares will be invested in Saskatchewan eligible businesses in the energy and mining sectors;
- Class A Series A and Class R Series A shares have sales and trailer commissions associated with them while Class A Series F and Class R Series F do not;
- A separate net asset value is calculated for each of the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares. The holders of Class A Series A, Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class A Series F, Class R Series A, and Class R Series F shares have recourse only to the net assets attributable to the capital raised through the issuance of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series F, Shares have recourse only to the net assets attributable to the capital raised through the issuance of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series F, Shares A, and Class R Series F, Shares respectively.

The authorized share capital of the Fund is:

<u>Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A</u> and <u>Class R Series F</u> – Unlimited number of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares. The shares are voting, entitled to receive non-cumulative dividends at the discretion of the directors, entitled to elect all of those directors who are not elected by the holder of the Class B shares and have restrictions on redemption. Such restrictions include a provision that the Fund is not required to redeem Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A or Class R Series F shares if total redemptions in the fiscal year exceed 50% of the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A, Class A Series A or Class R Series A or Class R Series F shares if total redemptions fiscal year. In the event of a redemption before the eighth anniversary of issue, holders of Class A Series A or Class R Series A shares are charged a redemption fee of 1% of the net asset value per Class A Series A or Class R Series A shares or the directory of the date of issue, and the Fund is required to withhold and remit to the applicable authorities an amount equal to the Federal tax credit and Saskatchewan tax credit, if any, on the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series F, Shares F, Shares F, Shares F, Shares F, Shares F, Shares T, Series F, Shares T, Series F, Shares F, Shares T, Series F, Shares T, Series F, Shares T, Series A, Series A, Class A Series F, Shares T, Series A, Series B, Seri

<u>Class B</u> – 10 Class B shares. Issuable only to the sponsor of the Fund. The shares are voting, redeemable at the purchase price and entitled to elect a simple majority of the directors of the Fund, including replacing or removing any directors elected by the sponsor.

<u>Class C</u> – Unlimited number of Class C shares. The shares are issuable in series with rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions subject to directors' resolution. No Class C shares have been issued.

Issued share capital at the end of the period is:

	2017	2017		
	Shares	\$	Shares	\$
Class A Series A				
Balance, beginning	19,049,874	266,794	18,388,551	251,273
Issued	1,941,797	32,076	1,958,635	30,618
Redeemed (at cost)	(1,863,602)	(22,935)	(1,297,312)	(15,097)
Balance, ending	19,128,069	275,935	19,049,874	266,794
Class A Series F				
Balance, beginning	56,221	879	-	-
Issued	100,781	1,689	56,221	879
Redeemed (at cost)	(640)	(10)	-	-
Balance, ending	156,362	2,558	56,221	879
Class R Series A				
Balance, beginning	6,587,598	91,536	6,624,193	91,463
Issued	406,972	4,778	455,559	5,839
Redeemed (at cost)	(569,159)	(6,991)	(492,154)	(5,766)
Balance, ending	6,425,411	89,323	6,587,598	91,536
Class R Series F				
Balance, beginning	1,000	13	-	-
Issued	3,321	40	1,000	13
Redeemed (at cost)		-	-	-
Balance, ending	4,321	53	1,000	13
Class B				
Balance	10	1	10	1
Dulutice	10	1	10	

At the end of the period the net assets attributable to the holders of the Fund's Class A Series A redeemable shares consist of issued share capital of \$275,935 (2016 - \$266,794) and retained earnings of \$72,955 (2016 - \$34,580). The net assets attributable to the holders of the Fund's Class A Series F redeemable shares consist of issued share capital of \$2,558 (2016 - \$879) and retained earnings of \$406 (2016 - \$21). The net assets attributable to the holders of the Fund's Class R Series A redeemable shares consist of issued share capital of \$89,323 (2016 - \$91,536) and deficit of \$15,903 (2016 - \$13,485). The net assets attributable to the holders of the Fund's Class R Series F redeemable shares consist of issued share capital of \$89,323 (2016 - \$91,536) and deficit of \$15,903 (2016 - \$13,485). The net assets attributable to the holders of the Fund's Class R Series F redeemable shares consist of issued share capital of \$89,323 (2016 - \$91,536) and deficit of \$15,903 (2016 - \$13,485). The net assets attributable to the holders of the Fund's Class R Series F redeemable shares consist of issued share capital of \$80,323 (2016 - \$91,536) and deficit of \$15,903 (2016 - \$13,485). The net assets attributable to the holders of the Fund's Class R Series F redeemable shares consist of issued share capital of \$53 (2016 - \$13) and deficit of \$3 (2016 - \$1).

The value of redeemed shares is treated as a reduction of share capital and adjustment to retained earnings or deficit. The original cost of the shares is a reduction of share capital. The difference between redemption value and original cost of the shares is treated as either a decrease to retained earnings or increase to deficit, if redemption value exceeds original cost, or an increase to retained earnings or decrease to deficit, if redemption value is less than original cost.

#### 8. Related party transactions

The Fund has retained the Manager as the fund manager to manage and administer the business affairs of the Fund, including, among other duties, the management of the Fund's eligible venture investments and short-term and long-term investments and determining the fair value of the Fund's venture investment portfolio. The officers of the Fund are the principals of the Manager and shareholders in the Fund.

The Manager receives an annual management fee, calculated and payable monthly in arrears, equal to 2.5% of the aggregate net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares of the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares, as at each weekly valuation date.

With respect to Class A Series A and Series F shares \$8,004 (2016 - \$7,344) in management fees, plus applicable taxes, was earned, pursuant to the management agreement, by the Fund Manager.

With respect to Class R Series A and Series F shares \$1,888 (2016 - \$2,110) in management fees, plus applicable taxes, was earned, pursuant to the management agreement, by the Fund Manager.

IPA is a provision for fees payable to the Manager and is based on the realized/unrealized gains and income earned from eligible venture investments and is payable annually only upon disposition of an eligible venture investment. Before any IPA is paid on the realization of an eligible venture investment, the Fund must have:

- (a) earned sufficient income, on all eligible venture investments, to generate a rate of return, before expenses, greater than the five-year average GIC rate plus 1% on an annualized basis. The income on eligible venture investments includes investment gains and losses (realized and unrealized) earned and incurred since the inception of the Fund, and negotiation fees, interest, dividends, royalties, distributions and earnings of any other kind from eligible venture investments;
- (b) earned sufficient income from the particular eligible venture investment to provide a cumulative investment return, before expenses, at an average annual rate in excess of 10% since investment; and
- (c) fully recouped an amount from the eligible venture investment, through income earned, liquidation of the investment, or otherwise, equal to or greater than the entire principal invested in the particular eligible investee.

Subject to satisfying all of the above conditions, the IPA is equal to 20% of the return derived from the eligible venture investment.

For Class A shares \$3,538 (2016 - \$479), plus applicable taxes, of IPA was paid to the Fund Manager and for Class R shares \$nil (2016 - \$nil), plus applicable taxes, of IPA was paid to the Fund Manager.

For Class A shares the accrued provision for incentive participation amount is \$33,961 (2016 - \$20,601), a net increase, after payments, of \$13,360 (2016 - \$7,080). In respect of realized and unrealized gains, the provision for IPA increased by \$16,122 (2016 - \$6,409) and in respect of income earned, the provision for IPA increased by \$954 (2016 - \$1,173) during the year.

For Class R shares the accrued provision for incentive participation amount is \$3,887 (2016 - \$2,920), a net increase of \$967 (2016 - \$194). In respect of realized and unrealized gains, the provision for IPA increased by \$957 (2016 - \$170) and in respect of income earned, the provision for IPA increased by \$11 (2016 - \$24) during the year.

Other amounts and transactions due to (from) related parties are described separately in these financial statements.

These transactions are in the normal course of operations and have been valued in these financial statements at the exchange amount which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

#### 9. Net change in balances other than cash and investments

	2017			2016			
	 Class A		Class R	(	Class A		Class R
Loan receivable	\$ 26	\$	452	\$	12	\$	389
Accounts receivable and accrued income	298		1,201		4		(1,122)
Other	17		(17)		50		-
Accrued provision for incentive participation amount	13,360		967		7,080		194
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	357		(21)		(38)		(81)
	\$ 14,058	\$	2,582	\$	7,108	\$	(620)

#### 10. Risks associated with financial instruments

The Fund's financial instruments consist primarily of cash, accounts receivable and accrued income, loan receivable, short-term and long-term investments, venture investments, provision for accrued incentive participation amount, and accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Short-term and long-term investments consist of term deposits. Venture investments in public and private companies consist of equity and debt instruments. The Fund focuses on investing in eligible Saskatchewan businesses with emphasis on expansion financing, management buyouts, restructurings, turnarounds, and early-stage investments. There is no assurance that the Fund will be able to find enough suitable investment opportunities and the Fund may face competition from other funds and investors.

There is no guarantee that an investment in shares of the Fund will earn a specified rate of return or any return in the short or long term. The shares are not eligible for resale and are subject to redemption restrictions resulting in a longer commitment than for freely tradable securities.

SaskWorks' primary business is the raising of capital from Saskatchewan residents and placing these funds in new and expanding Saskatchewan businesses. This entails exposure to market risk, credit risk, interest rate risk and liquidity risk. These risk factors may impact upon SaskWorks' ability to redeem its Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares when required.

#### Market Risk

The market risk faced by SaskWorks is the risk that the fair value of its venture investments may decline due to a reduction in the anticipated earnings generated by the businesses in which SaskWorks invests or a decrease in the quoted market share price of publicly-traded venture investments held by SaskWorks. Class A shares invest in a diversified portfolio of companies in various sectors of the economy while Class R shares invest in the oil & gas sector. Some of the companies in which SaskWorks invests are dependent upon a single product or industry. SaskWorks manages these risks through careful due diligence prior to committing funds to the investment, ensuring that the overall portfolio is properly diversified across various industry sectors, and investing no more than 10% of the Class A shares' and Class R shares' total net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares in any one eligible business.

The Fund's venture investments in publicly traded companies are companies which were private when the Fund made its initial investment and which became publicly traded shares through initial public offerings, reverse takeovers or acquisitions by public companies. The fair values of these venture investments in publicly traded companies are based on movements in the stock market and to the success or failure of the companies. In some circumstances, it may prove difficult for the Fund to quickly liquidate investments in restricted or thinly traded publicly traded securities without unduly affecting the market prices of those securities. For these publicly traded companies, the Fund attempts to limit its exposure to fluctuations in market prices through managing the sales of these shares on the open market.

#### Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a venture investment will fail to perform its obligations. SaskWorks conducts a thorough due diligence process prior to committing to the venture investment and actively monitors the financial health of its investments on an on-going basis. Changes in commodity prices and foreign currency exchange rates may significantly affect the financial position of investee companies. SaskWorks manages credit risk by diversifying its investments among industries. Although all investee companies are based primarily in Saskatchewan, most of the companies have significant sales in other provinces and/or international markets thereby mitigating most of the economic risks specific to Saskatchewan.

The maturity of each debt investment is disclosed in the respective share class Statement of Investment Portfolio. Such debt investments represent the main concentration of credit risk for the respective share class and, accordingly, represent the maximum credit risk exposure of the respective share class.

#### Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk reflects the risk that SaskWorks' earnings will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. SaskWorks primary interest rate risk relates to the investment of cash in short-term investments, long-term investments, and venture investment debt instruments. Based on average cash balances and holdings of long-term and short-term investments held during the period, a 1% increase/decrease in interest rates (with all other variables held constant) would have resulted in an increase/decrease in net assets of \$969 (2016 - \$1,060) with respect to Class A shares and \$274 (2016 - \$308) with respect to Class R shares respectively. The effect of a change in interest rates on venture debt investments is detailed in Note 4.

SaskWorks manages the risk of interest rate changes by matching the duration of short-term investments, long-term investments, and venture debt investments to known liquidity requirements.

#### Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that SaskWorks will encounter difficulty in liquidating its venture investments at an amount close to fair value at the time it requires liquidity to satisfy requests by holders of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares for redemption. There is no assurance that any venture investment will be able to successfully complete its business plan or sustain operations over the short term or an extended period. The Fund manages liquidity risk by becoming, if necessary, actively involved in their venture investments and continually monitoring the value of their investments. In the event of difficulty in liquidating its venture investments, SaskWorks may be required to delay the redemption of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares tendered for redemption.

The financial liabilities of the Fund mature in less than one year with the exception of accrued provision for incentive participation amount. The maturity of accrued provision for incentive participation amount is uncertain and is dependent upon realization of venture investments.

#### 11. Restrictions

Under the Act:

- Eligible businesses for the Fund are investments in businesses, defined as taxable corporations or limited partnerships that carry on business in Saskatchewan, that together with related corporations or limited partnerships, do not have more than 500 employees, and that in the taxation year preceding the investment, paid at least 25% of all their wages and salaries to employees of their permanent establishment in Saskatchewan;
- An amount equal to the tax credits paid by the Saskatchewan government, being 20% of the capital raised by the sale and issuance of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R shares to Saskatchewan residents, must be set aside until such time as the Fund has met its pacing requirement. In 2017 and 2016 the Fund met the investment requirement;
- Direct investments in public companies with a market capitalization of \$500,000 or more are prohibited. If an investment is acquired through acquisitions or mergers and the resulting investment has over \$500,000 in capitalization, such investment must be disposed of within two years from the end of the fiscal year of the Fund of such acquisition or merger;
- New investment in agricultural land acquired primarily for rental or leasing purposes is prohibited; and
- The Fund is required to maintain a level of innovation sector investment exposure of 25% of annual net capitalization defined as annual capital raised within the Fund less annual capital redeemed, multiplied by the Fund's 75% pacing requirement.

The Fund may not invest more than 10% of the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares' total net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares in any one eligible business, and may not invest in an eligible business if the Fund and the eligible business are not at arm's length;

Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares issued by the Fund can be redeemed at the option of the holder after a specific hold period, or earlier in limited circumstances. Class A Series A and Class R Series A shares redeemed before expiration of the hold period may be subject to a redemption fee.

As part of its banking relationship with Conexus Credit Union, the Fund is required to maintain a minimum of \$25,600 (2016 - \$25,600) on deposit.

The Fund is in compliance with all the above restrictions.

#### 12. Management expense ratio

The ratios of all fees and other expenses paid or payable by the Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares expressed as a percentage of the average net assets attributable to the holders of redeemable Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares respectively during the period are:

_	20	17	20	16
	IPA included	IPA excluded	IPA included	IPA excluded
Class A Series A	9.64%	4.32%	6.89%	4.33%
Class A Series F	7.81%	3.43%	5.79%	3.13%
Class R Series A	6.07%	4.79%	4.85%	4.62%
Class R Series F	4.49%	3.53%	3.42%	3.20%

#### 13. Income taxes

Under the Income Tax Act (Canada), no income taxes are payable by the Fund on dividends received from Canadian corporations, and income taxes payable on capital gains will be fully refundable on a formula basis when Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A or Class R Series F shares of the Fund are redeemed or capital gains dividends are paid or deemed to be paid by the Fund to its Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A or Class R Series F shareholders. Income taxes payable on investment income are partially refundable upon the payment or deemed payment of taxable dividends.

The Fund's Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares record the refundable portion of their income taxes as an asset, as they intend to recover all of the refundable income taxes through the deemed payment of a dividend by capitalizing the appropriate amount of its income or realized capital gains pro-rata to the stated capital account for its Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series F, Class

The Fund's Class A and Class R shares have estimated non-capital losses that may be carried forward and used to reduce taxable income in future years. These losses, if not utilized, expire as follows:

	Class A	Class R	
2030	\$ -	\$ 539	
2031	-	1,339	
2032	-	1,434	
2033	-	3,968	
2034	-	2,677	
2035	2,733	3,315	
2036	4,138	3,591	
2037	 -	2,319	
	\$ 6,871	\$ 19,182	

The potential income tax benefit of these losses has not been recognized in the financial statements.

#### 14. Non-cash transactions

The Fund, as part of regular purchases and dispositions of venture investments, will at times receive non-cash consideration on the disposition of some venture investments. The non-cash consideration can be debt instruments, shares in a publicly traded company, shares in a private company, or, on occasion, a combination of them. During the period the following non-cash transactions occurred.

	20	17	2016		
	Class A	Class R	Class A	Class R	
Non-cash purchases of ventures investments	\$ 5,677	\$ 8,417	\$ -	\$ -	
Non-cash repayments on disposition of venture investments	4,340	4,890	-	-	

#### 15. Commitments

The Fund's Class A shares have committed to advance \$5,079 (2016 - \$1,662) of additional financing to existing investees, provided certain conditions are met. The Fund's Class R shares have committed to advance \$2,087 (2016 - \$700) of additional financing to existing investees, provided certain conditions are met.

#### 16. Investment portfolio

The Fund will provide promptly and without charge a Statement of Portfolio Transactions – Short-term, Long-term and Venture Investments (unaudited) upon request by any shareholder of the Fund at 1925 Victoria Avenue, 2nd Floor, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 0R3.

#### 17. Capital management

Share capital is considered to be the source of capital for the Fund. The Province of Saskatchewan has authorized the Fund to issue up to \$40,000 (2016 - \$40,000) of share capital during the period from April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 and \$35,000 of share capital during the period from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019.

The Fund's capital management objectives are to enhance the net assets of the Fund through managing its funds to maximize cash flows from investments and for sufficient liquidity to:

- fund venture investments in new eligible companies and follow-on investments in existing companies;
- meet the annual investment obligations required in The Labour-sponsored Venture Capital Corporations Act (Saskatchewan);
- · fund the redemption of shares requested by shareholders; and
- fund ongoing operations.

The Fund actively monitors the cash position and financial performance of the Fund to ensure there are sufficient resources to meet venture investment requirements and shareholder redemptions. However, in the event of insufficient resources, SaskWorks may be required to delay the redemption of Class A Series A, Class A Series F, Class R Series A and Class R Series F shares tendered for redemption.

There were no changes in capital management policies during the year.

#### 18. Net assets of the Fund

In 2017 and 2016, the Fund's auditors, MNP LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, as an integral part of their audit procedures, reviewed the fair value of the Fund's portfolio in the aggregate, as presented in the Statements of Investment Portfolio, to determine that such fair value is, in all material respects, reasonable. The auditors employ a Chartered Business Valuator as a member of the audit team.



PFM Capital Inc., the fund manager of SaskWorks Venture Fund, is a founding partner of the Saskatchewan Financial Literacy Network. Working directly in the financial services industry we understand the need for comprehensive education with regard to financial literacy.

The Saskatchewan Financial Literacy Network was established with the purpose of improving the financial comprehension of Saskatchewan residents. The network is a group of various organizations and stakeholders set on working together to improve this significant problem. Beyond its ultimate goal of improving financial literacy, the network will also:

- Communicate the merits of financial literacy knowledge
- Manage a website providing important information, programs and contacts
- Maintain a contact list of experts from financial institutions, agencies and businesses who can provide support in terms of consulting, workshops or training courses
- Organize an annual conference to provide information, share the results of the network and gain knowledge from stakeholders

"Developing money management skills is a necessary function in order to make financially responsible decisions – decisions that are integral to our everyday lives. Establishing the Saskatchewan Financial Literacy Network is an essential step towards the growth and greater success of our province and PFM is excited to be one of the founding partners of the network."

#### - RANDY BEATTIE

FOUNDING PARTNER, PRESIDENT, PFM CAPITAL

For more information, visit www.sfln.ca



# CORPORATE INFORMATION

## DIRECTORS

Doug Frondall <sup>1</sup> *Chair* Terry Schneider <sup>2</sup> *Vice-Chair* Brent Banda <sup>2</sup> Ron Carlson <sup>2, 3</sup> Michael Fix <sup>1, 3</sup> David Meyers Daryl Schwartz Kevin Stangeland <sup>1, 2</sup> Kathy Zwick <sup>3</sup> <sup>1</sup> Audit/Valuation Committee <sup>2</sup> Investment Committee

<sup>3</sup> Governance and Nominating Committee

## OFFICERS

Randy Beattie President and Chief Executive Officer

Chris Selness Vice President, Investments

Rob Duguid Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary

## AGENT

Industrial Alliance Securities Inc. *Saskatoon, Saskatchewan* 

## AUDITORS

MNP LLP Regina, Saskatchewan

## LEGAL COUNSEL

MLT Aikins LLP Regina, Saskatchewan

## **REGISTRAR & TRANSFER AGENT**

Prometa Fund Support Services Inc. *Winnipeg, Manitoba* 

## CUSTODIAN

Concentra Trust Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

## SPONSOR



SaskWorks Federation of Unions *Regina, Saskatchewan* 

## SASKWORKS VENTURE FUND INC.

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Assiniboia Club Building 1925 Victoria Ave., Regina, SK S4P 0R3 TEL 306.791.4833 FAX 306.791.4848 WEB www.saskworks.ca

