



SASKATCHEWAN GOVERNMENT GROWTH FUND **VIII** LTD.



2003 Annual Report



Creating economic wealth and diversification through investment
of immigrant investor capital in Saskatchewan



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FUND PROFILE

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd. (“SGGF VIII” or the “Fund”) is a government-administered venture capital fund pursuant to the Immigration Regulations, 1978 (Canada), as amended. It was formed to enable immigrant investors to invest in businesses operating in Saskatchewan and facilitate the investors’ qualification as Canadian permanent residents under the Immigrant Investor Program.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Fund incurred a loss of \$834,000 in 2003 and has an accumulated deficit at December 31, 2003 of \$1.1 million.
- Since SGGF VIII’s inception in 1999, investments made by the Fund total \$13.8 million, of which \$9.6 million has been invested in infrastructure loans and \$4.2 million has been invested in small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Income from investments for the year was \$783,000, compared with \$634,000 in 2002.

MESSAGE TO INVESTORS

The priorities of Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd. in 2003 were the completion of investment of investors' subscriptions in eligible businesses and the support of investees in the development of their businesses. These objectives were achieved during the year, and the subscriptions of all investors have been invested in eligible businesses in accordance with the regulations of the federal immigrant investor program.

In view of the availability of investments to satisfy these regulations, the Fund advised subscribers in October 2003 that final payments on subscriptions were payable in full. As a result, the Fund has now been closed to deposits. This decision provides greater assurance that investors' subscriptions will be invested in eligible businesses for the five year period required by the regulations.

The Fund incurred a loss of \$834,000 in 2003, primarily as a result of provisions made for possible future losses on investments in small and medium-sized enterprises. Also, the low interest rate environment has had a negative effect on returns available from portfolio investments and infrastructure loans. In this environment, it is difficult to earn sufficient investment income to cover the costs of interest on Note obligations to investors and the costs of managing the Fund. The accumulated deficit of the Fund is \$1.1 million at December 31, 2003.

During 2004, the priority of SGGF VIII will be to support investees in the development of their businesses. The Fund will explore opportunities to improve returns over the period leading up to the maturity of investor Notes, while at the same time taking a cautious approach to credit risk.



Joanne Forer
Chair



Alan M. Rowe
President

February 25, 2004

INVESTMENT PROFILES

The following are profiles of investments held by SGGF VIII during 2003, including the principal amount invested at December 31, 2003 and a description of the companies' operations. The date of the initial investment in each company is noted in parentheses.

CrownAg International Inc. (November 2001)

\$988,162 loan; \$420,378 convertible preferred shares

CrownAg International has developed proprietary colour sorting technology for pulse crops. The company operates a processing plant in Regina.

EMCS – Electronic Media Carrier Services Inc. (February 2002)

\$132,474 loan

EMCS was a Saskatoon-based high-speed internet service provider to small and medium sized businesses in central Saskatchewan utilizing cable and wireless technologies. The Company ceased operations in 2003 and no further recovery is expected on the investment.

Harman Poultry Farm Ltd. (September 2002)

\$40,206 loan

Harman Poultry is the largest producer of eggs in Saskatchewan. The company has operations near Regina and Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Mid-Sask Terminal Ltd. (May 2003)

\$225,000 loan

Mid-Sask Terminal Ltd. operates a high-throughput inland grain terminal in Watrous, Saskatchewan.

Nu-Fab Burton Limited Partnership (June 2001)

\$312,437 loan; \$50,000 partnership units

Nu-Fab Burton Limited Partnership was formed in 2002 through the merger of Burton Cabinets, in which SGGF VIII previously had an investment, and Nu-Fab Building Products. Burton Cabinets is a Saskatoon-based custom cabinet and millwork manufacturer. Nu-Fab Building Products is a supplier of building products and pre-fabricated residential housing with operations in Regina and Saskatoon.

Prairie Plant Systems Inc. (May 2001)

\$286,103 loans

Prairie Plant is a Saskatoon-based company involved in the innovation and delivery of new plant biotechnologies for environmental and commercial applications.

INVESTMENT PROFILES (continued)

Quartus Energy Limited (May 2001)

\$894,309 common shares

Quartus Energy is involved in the exploration, development and production of natural gas in and around Burstall, Saskatchewan.

R. Young Seeds Inc. (February 2003)

\$51,152 loan

R. Young Seeds operates a high throughput pulse/grain crop processing and colour sorting operation. The company is located near Mortlach, Saskatchewan.

Saskcan Pulse Trading Inc. (May 2002)

\$35,000 loans; \$47,100 common shares

Saskcan is a Regina-based joint venture between SGGF VIII and other investors. Saskcan operates North America's largest lentil splitting facility.

Tri-North Farms Limited Partnership (October 2001)

\$202,124 loan

Tri-North Farms is a limited partnership established to build and operate a 1,300 sow, two-site hog multiplier facility. The company is located near Medstead, Saskatchewan.

CAJON Leasing (December 2001)

\$3,352,639 loans

CAJON, located in Regina, leases vehicles and other assets to Saskatchewan Crown corporations and government-related entities.

R & R Leasing (July 2002)

\$4,138,365 loans

R&R is based in Saskatoon and leases buildings, equipment and vehicles to Saskatchewan Crown corporations, other government-related entities and private enterprises.

Background

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd. ("SGGF VIII" or the "Fund") is an immigrant investor fund which operates in accordance with the regulations of the federal Immigrant Investor Program (the "IIP"). The Fund began commercial operations in 1999 when it accepted its first subscription deposits. The Fund is financed by subscriptions received from immigrant investors. The objective of SGGF VIII is to invest at least 70% of the proceeds of subscriptions in eligible businesses in Saskatchewan for a five year period as required by the IIP. This allows the immigrant investor to satisfy the investment requirements of the IIP for a Canadian-resident visa.

Obligations to investors

SGGF VIII's activities are financed by immigrant investors who have subscribed for unsecured, subordinated promissory notes ("Notes") offered through an Offering Memorandum. The interest rate for a Note is determined at the time the full subscription is received, and remains constant over the term of the Note. Obligations under the Notes are subordinate to all other liabilities of SGGF VIII and repayment is dependent on the proceeds on liquidation of investments and all other available liquidity in excess of other liabilities.

The Notes mature five years from the date of issue. The IIP requires that the maturity date of a Note be extended if, and for so long as, less than 70% of the amount of the Note is invested in the active business operations of eligible businesses in Saskatchewan.

SGGF VIII was closed to new subscription applications on March 31, 1999. During 2003, the Fund required subscribers to fully pay any outstanding subscription amounts, and subscribers who did not do so forfeited their right to participate in the Fund.

At December 31, 2003, obligations to investors totalled \$16.75 million, comprised of 67 Notes (2002 - \$12.5 million; 50 Notes). During 2003, 18 Notes were issued following receipt of full subscription amounts and completion of investments in eligible businesses, and one Note was redeemed as a result of the exercise of rescission rights by an investor who was refused a Canadian-resident visa by the federal immigration authorities. Based on information available to the Fund, it is estimated that holders of seven Notes have not yet received their visas and therefore retain their right of rescission. Obligations to investors mature over the period from 2006 to 2008.

The IIP requires that 70% of each subscription be invested in eligible businesses within nine months of the receipt of the full subscription amount. As a result of delays in finding suitable investments in prior years, the federal regulator which oversees the IIP had extended this deadline for SGGF VIII. During 2003, the Fund completed the investment of amounts received from subscribers in eligible businesses.

Interest expense includes an additional payment to investors to compensate them for the period from nine months after receipt of the full subscription amount until such amount was invested in eligible businesses.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (continued)

Total interest expense on obligations to investors and subscription deposits in 2003 was \$344,000 (2002 - \$380,000).

Investments

The investment policy of SGGF VIII reflects the requirements imposed by both the IIP and the Offering Memorandum. To meet these requirements, SGGF VIII has established a target initial investment allocation consisting of:

- a maximum of 30% invested in small and medium-sized enterprises (“SMEs”) in Saskatchewan;
- 50% invested in loans to support infrastructure projects of the Province of Saskatchewan, and its agencies, municipalities and similar institutions; and,
- the balance invested in cash or liquid debt securities.

As investments are divested over time, the actual portfolio mix changes. Investments in SMEs and loans to support infrastructure qualify as “eligible businesses” for purposes of the IIP.

The following table sets out the investments of the Fund by type at December 31 in each year:

	2003			2002		
	<u>No.</u>	<u>\$ millions</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>\$ millions</u>	<u>%</u>
Small and medium-sized enterprises						
Debt investments	9	2.3	14.4	7	1.5	10.2
Equity investments	4	1.4	8.9	3	1.0	6.6
Total*	10	3.7	23.3	8	2.5	16.8
Infrastructure loans	3	7.5	47.4		5.4	37.2
Cash and portfolio investments		4.6	29.3		6.7	46.0
		15.8	100.0		14.6	100.0
Provision for credit losses		(0.8)			(0.1)	
Net book value		15.0			14.5	
Fair value		15.0				

*Note: The total number of SME investments represents the total number of companies. In some cases, an investment in both debt and equity instruments of the same company may have been made.

Since its inception in 1999, SGGF VIII has invested \$4.2 million in 10 SME investments and \$9.6 million in three loans to support infrastructure.

Investment and other income in 2003 totalled \$783,000, compared with \$634,000 in 2002. The increase reflects a higher average balance of investments outstanding during the year.

Provisions for losses on investments totalled \$742,000 (2002 – \$66,000), primarily with respect to one SME investment for which the recovery is uncertain.

Management

SGGF VIII is managed by the Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund Management Corporation (SGGF MC) under a contract which provides for a management fee not to exceed 3 percent of the net assets of the Fund. SGGF MC has contracted administration and investment advisory services from Crown Capital Partners Inc. ("CCPI"), a private, national investment advisor based in Regina, Saskatchewan. CCPI is paid a monthly fee for its services and will receive a performance fee based on the retained earnings, if any, of SGGF VIII after all investor obligations are repaid in full and all investments have been liquidated.

Administration expense for the Fund totalled \$319,000 in 2003, compared with \$303,000 in 2002. The total administration costs, excluding adjustments to accruals for future performance-based fees, represented 2.0% (2002 – 2.0%) of weighted average total assets.

Results of operations

During 2003, the Fund incurred a loss of \$834,000, compared with a loss of \$272,000 in 2002. The loss was caused by a provision for loss on a SME investment, and returns on portfolio investments and infrastructure loans which are less than the costs of administration and financing. During 2003, investment returns on weighted average total assets, before provisions for losses, were 5.0%. Provisions for losses were 4.8%, interest expense was 2.2%, and all other expenses were 3.4%.

At December 31, 2003, the Fund had an accumulated deficit of \$1.1 million compared with a deficit of \$266,000 at December 31, 2002.

Outlook and risks and uncertainties

SGGF VIII has completed its fundraising and investing phase. The priority of the Fund is the management of its investment portfolio to maximize returns and to provide for liquidation of investments to satisfy obligations to investors at maturity of their Notes. Additional investments in SMEs and loans to support infrastructure will be made only to replace investments in eligible businesses which are required to satisfy the five-year investment requirements of the IIP, to support the operations and maximize the value of existing SME investments, or to enhance the returns of the Fund.

The investment allocation of the Fund which is prescribed by the IIP and Offering Memorandum significantly influences the returns available to the Fund. Investments in SMEs, which can represent up to 30% of the Fund's investments, provide an opportunity for higher returns, but also carry a higher risk of losses than other investment types, and a greater challenge to achieving liquidity at the time that Notes mature. On the other hand, the balance of investments which consist of liquid securities and loans to finance infrastructure are relatively low risk, but also provide low returns that reflect the lower risk exposure. Since the Fund was launched in 1999, interest rates in the general economy have decreased significantly, which has created a challenge to the Fund to earn sufficient returns to pay interest on Notes and administration costs.

Outlook and risks and uncertainties (continued)

The significant risks and uncertainties which affect the Fund relate to market risk, credit risk, interest rate risk, and liquidity risk. These risk factors are described in note 10 to the financial statements. The Fund manages these risks to the extent possible; however the factors may affect the ability of the Fund to repay its Notes at maturity. SGGF VIII has no sources of funds to finance the repayment of its Notes other than the proceeds received on liquidation of its investments.

Future accounting changes

Changes in generally accepted accounting principles which are to be implemented no later than fiscal years beginning July 1, 2004 will result in SGGF VIII carrying investments in the Statement of Financial Position at fair value. The change in fair value during the year will be recognized through the Statement of Operations. The fair value of investments as at December 31, 2003 has been reported in the notes to the financial statements, and SGGF VIII expects to adopt the new accounting policy in its fiscal year ending December 31, 2004.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

The President and fund manager of the Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd. are responsible for management of the Fund. The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and necessarily include amounts which are based on informed judgement and management estimates. Financial data presented elsewhere in this annual report is consistent with that in the financial statements.

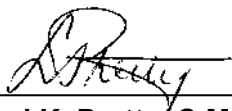
Management's responsibility includes ensuring the integrity and objectivity of financial information. Management maintains an appropriate system of internal accounting and administrative controls, policies and procedures to provide reasonable assurance that all transactions are authorized, financial records are complete and accurate, and assets are safeguarded against loss.

The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting. The Board has established an Audit Committee to review the Fund's accounting policies and financial statements prior to their presentation to the Board for approval. The Audit Committee also reviews the internal controls of the Fund, and meets regularly with the auditors. The Board has reviewed and approved these financial statements.

Deloitte & Touche LLP, the Fund's independent auditors, have examined the financial statements of the Fund. Their responsibility is to conduct an independent and objective audit and to report on the fairness of presentation of the Fund's financial position, results of operations and cash flows as shown in the financial statements. The Auditors' Report outlines the scope of their examination and their opinion.



Alan M. Rowe, C.A.
President



Lori K. Pretty, C.M.A.
Crown Capital Partners Inc.

February 25, 2004

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Shareholder of Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.:

We have audited the consolidated statement of financial position of Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd. as at December 31, 2003, and the consolidated statements of operations and deficit and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. 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 plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2003 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Chartered Accountants

Regina, Saskatchewan
February 10, 2004

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

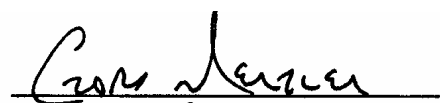
Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
(Incorporated under *The Business Corporations Act* of Saskatchewan)
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
As at December 31

	2003	2002
Assets		
Cash	\$ 2,040,242	\$ 3,641,178
Portfolio investments (Note 4)	2,585,700	3,049,016
Accounts receivable and accrued income	80,489	86,613
Investments (Note 5)	10,370,524	7,791,867
Deferred costs (Note 6)	<u>839,102</u>	<u>949,640</u>
	<u>\$15,916,057</u>	<u>\$15,518,314</u>
Liabilities and Shareholder's Deficiency		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 11,643	\$ 12,758
Commissions payable	137,500	112,500
Accrued interest payable to investors	-	83,269
Subscription deposits (Note 7)	116,542	3,075,070
Obligations to investors (Note 8)	<u>16,750,000</u>	<u>12,500,000</u>
	<u>17,015,685</u>	<u>15,783,597</u>
Share capital (Note 9)	1,000	1,000
Deficit	<u>(1,100,628)</u>	<u>(266,283)</u>
	<u>(1,099,628)</u>	<u>(265,283)</u>
	<u>\$15,916,057</u>	<u>\$15,518,314</u>

Commitments (Note 14).

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:



Gordon Mertler
Director



Lloyd Boutilier
Director

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
Consolidated Statement of Operations and Deficit
For the Year Ended December 31

	2003	2002
Revenues		
Interest from cash and portfolio investments	\$ 201,060	\$ 235,993
Income from investments	545,532	391,262
Gain on sale of portfolio investments	11,729	-
Other income	<u>24,906</u>	<u>7,058</u>
	783,227	634,313
Provision for credit losses	<u>742,113</u>	<u>65,662</u>
Net revenue	<u>41,114</u>	<u>568,651</u>
Expenses		
Administration (Note 11)	318,788	303,320
Interest on obligations to investors	321,606	295,747
Interest on subscription deposits	22,027	84,451
Amortization of deferred costs	<u>213,038</u>	<u>157,621</u>
	875,459	841,139
Net loss	(834,345)	(272,488)
(Deficit) retained earnings, beginning of year	<u>(266,283)</u>	<u>6,205</u>
Deficit, end of year	<u>\$(1,100,628)</u>	<u>\$(266,283)</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
 Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows
 For the Year Ended December 31

	2003	2002
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net loss	\$ (834,345)	\$ (272,488)
Adjustments:		
Amortization of deferred costs	213,038	157,621
Provision for credit losses	742,113	65,662
Amortization of premium and discount on bonds	1,454	(164)
Gain on sale of portfolio investments	(11,729)	-
Net change in non-cash balances related to operations (Note 12)	<u>(155,760)</u>	<u>(81,089)</u>
Cash flows from operating activities	<u>(45,229)</u>	<u>(130,458)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of portfolio investments	(993,021)	(3,542,597)
Sale of portfolio investments	1,466,612	7,880,824
Disbursements on investments	(4,583,794)	(3,682,267)
Repayments of investments	<u>1,263,024</u>	<u>1,084,037</u>
Cash flows from investing activities	<u>(2,847,179)</u>	<u>1,739,997</u>
Cash flows from financing activities		
Proceeds from note subscriptions	<u>1,291,472</u>	<u>466,857</u>
Cash flows from financing activities	<u>1,291,472</u>	<u>466,857</u>
Net (decrease) increase in cash	(1,600,936)	2,076,396
Cash, beginning of year	<u>3,641,178</u>	<u>1,564,782</u>
Cash, end of year	<u>\$ 2,040,242</u>	<u>\$ 3,641,178</u>
Interest paid during the year	<u>\$ 431,054</u>	<u>\$ 400,928</u>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

1. Status of the Corporation

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd. ("SGGF VIII") was incorporated in March 1999 under *The Business Corporations Act* (Saskatchewan) and has been accepted as a government administered venture capital fund under the federal government's Immigrant Investor Program ("IIP"). Under this program, SGGF VIII was established to raise \$35,000,000 through a note offering. Each note is a variable rate (1.50% to 3.50%), unsecured, subordinated debt instrument with a principal amount of \$250,000, repayable in five years provided that 70% of the proceeds are invested in eligible businesses ("Notes") throughout the five year period. The marketing period for SGGF VIII ended on March 31, 1999. In 2003, SGGF VIII established December 15, 2003 as the date by which all subscribers must have fully paid any unpaid subscription amounts.

The Confidential Offering Memorandum ("Memorandum") and the IIP prescribe various conditions which qualify an investment as an eligible business, including a requirement that the business be Saskatchewan based and have assets, including assets of associated companies, of less than \$35 million.

The Government of Canada and the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan offer no guarantees or assurances on the financial performance of SGGF VIII or of a return of an investor's original investment and neither government will be liable for any loss or damages suffered by an investor as a result of an investment in the Notes.

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of SGGF VIII and those of 101027596 Saskatchewan Ltd. on a proportionate basis. The only asset in 101027596 Saskatchewan Ltd. is an equity investment for which the proportionate share of SGGF VII is included in investments.

2. Significant accounting policies

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. The following are considered significant:

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make certain estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results may vary from the current estimates. These estimates are reviewed quarterly and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in the Consolidated Statement of Operations and Deficit in the period in which they become known.

Portfolio investments

Government of Canada Treasury Bills ("T-Bills") are valued at cost. Government of Canada Bonds ("Bonds") are valued at amortized cost.

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Investments

Investments include debt and equity investments in private companies. Income from debt investments is recognized as earned and income from equity investments is recognized when received.

Debt investments are carried at cost, net of provisions for credit losses.

Provisions for credit losses are established on impaired debt instruments ("loans"). A loan is considered to be impaired if, as a result of a deterioration in credit quality, there is no longer reasonable assurance of the timely collection of the full amount of principal and interest. Any loan on which contractual payments are in arrears for 90 days or more is usually assumed to be impaired. Other factors that are considered in determining whether a loan is impaired are the overall credit quality of the borrower and the fair value of the underlying security. When a loan becomes impaired, recognition of interest income ceases. A provision for specific credit losses is established for impaired loans to reduce their value to the estimated fair value of the security underlying the loan. If the credit quality of the loan subsequently improves a provision is reduced or reversed.

Investments in equities are carried at the lower of cost and, where a loss in value that is other than temporary has occurred, net realizable value. Investments that are evaluated as possibly being subject to a loss in value are assessed periodically based on appropriate criteria, including past operating results of the investee, financial outlook of the investee, recent capital transactions, and their associated value, between the investee and arm's length parties, and liquidity or going concern problems of the investee.

When a decline in the value of an equity investment is no longer considered to be temporary, the investment is written down through a provision and is carried at the written down value until disposal of the equity investment.

During the year, generally accepted accounting principles changed to limit the situations where investee companies over which an entity has significant influence are not consolidated. SGGF VIII continues to meet the requirements and therefore investments which SGGF VIII intends to dispose of in due course are not consolidated

Fair values for publicly-traded securities are determined with reference to quoted closing market prices. For investments which are not publicly-traded, fair values are determined by management on the basis of the expected realizable value of the investments if they were disposed of in an orderly manner over a reasonable period of time. There is no active secondary market for many investments which are not publicly-traded, and there is considerable uncertainty and a potentially broad range of outcomes with respect to the future cash flows from these investments. Valuations of such investments are subject to a number of assumptions and uncertainties that may cause actual values realized on disposal to differ materially from the fair value estimated at any particular time.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

Deferred costs

Deferred costs include consulting, legal, administrative, accounting, general and printing costs associated with SGGF VIII's offering. Commissions paid or payable on subscriptions received have also been deferred. Deferred costs, including commissions, are amortized over five years from date of Note issuance.

Commissions payable

According to the terms of marketing agreements entered into by SGGF VIII, a commission is payable to the independent marketing agents selling the Notes upon receipt by SGGF VIII of the subscription deposit and all required documentation. The commission is subject to a holdback pending issuance of the investor's immigrant visa.

Accrued interest payable to investors

SGGF VIII accrues interest on its subscription deposits from the date of receipt of the full subscription amount to the date of Note issuance. Investors earn interest at a rate between a minimum of 1.50% and a maximum of 3.50% per annum. The rate is determined at the time of receipt of the full subscription amount and is calculated as 3.60% less than the then current yield on a benchmark Government of Canada bond. Interest is paid upon Note issuance.

Obligations to investors

Obligations to investors represent the Notes issued to investors of SGGF VIII. Their investment helps to satisfy a portion of their visa requirements under the IIP. Interest to the maturity date of Notes is accrued at an annual rate between a minimum of 1.50% and a maximum of 3.50% from the date of Note issuance until maturity. The rate is determined at the time of subscription deposit and is calculated as 3.60% less than the then current yield on a benchmark Government of Canada bond. Interest is paid annually on December 31 and at maturity.

3. Provisions of the IIP

70% investment requirement

The terms of the IIP require that at least 70% of each subscription amount be invested in eligible businesses no later than nine months from receipt of the full subscription amount. The federal regulator responsible for the IIP, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, extended the deadline for investment of subscriptions received by SGGF VIII prior to October 1, 2002, to June 30, 2003. As at December 31, 2003, all full subscription amounts have been invested in eligible businesses in accordance with the terms of the IIP.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

3. Provisions of the IIP (continued)

Minimum holding period and maturity of the Notes

A Note is issued to evidence receipt of the full subscription amount on the date that at least 70% of the subscription amount has been invested in eligible businesses. Each Note is scheduled to mature five years from such date, provided SGGF VIII maintains at least 70% of the Note continuously invested in the active business operations of eligible businesses for five years following the issuance date. The IIP contains provisions which require that the maturity date of a Note be extended if, and for such period that, a minimum of 70% of the Note amount ceases to be invested in the active business operations of eligible businesses.

If the subscription amount has not been at least 70% invested in eligible businesses within nine months of receipt, then, for the period from nine months after receipt until a minimum of 70% of the subscription amount has been initially invested in eligible businesses, the investor receives an additional payment as compensation for the extension of the maturity date of their note.

4. Portfolio investments

Security	Rate %	Maturity Date	Par \$	2003 Carrying Value \$	2002 Carrying Value \$
Bond	5.00	1/9/04	1,017,000	1,015,638	-
Bond	5.00	1/9/04	1,500,000	-	1,495,313
Bond	5.75	1/9/06	566,667	577,041	580,813
T-Bill	2.77	2/12/04	1,020,000	993,021	-
T-Bill	2.94	4/12/03	1,000,000	-	<u>972,890</u>
				<u>2,585,700</u>	<u>3,049,016</u>
Fair value				<u>2,651,945</u>	<u>3,126,603</u>

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

5. Investments

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Debt instruments	\$ 9,763,662	\$6,883,220
Equity instruments	1,411,787	974,309
Provision for credit losses	<u>(804,925)</u>	<u>(65,662)</u>
	<u>\$10,370,524</u>	<u>\$7,791,867</u>
Fair value	<u>\$10,355,000</u>	

Included in investments is \$1,625,323 (2002 – \$815,803) of impaired investments, against which the accumulated provision for credit losses is \$804,925 (2002 - \$65,662), upon which income is not accrued.

During the year, investments increased as follows:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 7,791,867	\$ 5,259,299
New investments	4,583,794	3,682,267
Book value of divestments	(1,263,024)	(1,084,037)
Investments and costs written off	(2,850)	-
Net change in provision for credit losses	<u>(739,263)</u>	<u>(65,662)</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$10,370,524</u>	<u>\$ 7,791,867</u>

6. Deferred costs

Deferred costs have been recorded net of accumulated amortization of \$466,665 (2002 – \$253,627).

7. Subscription deposits

Subscription deposits are reclassified to obligations to investors upon Note issuance.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

8. Obligations to investors

Notes – 1.50% to 3.50% unsecured promissory notes.

The obligation at December 31 is comprised of Notes with interest rates as follows:

	<u>2003</u>		<u>2002</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>\$</u>
1.50%	25	6,250,000	7	1,750,000
1.60%	1	250,000	1	250,000
1.70%	3	750,000	3	750,000
1.75%	3	750,000	3	750,000
1.95%	1	250,000	1	250,000
2.00%	11	2,750,000	11	2,750,000
2.05%	5	1,250,000	5	1,250,000
2.20%	4	1,000,000	4	1,000,000
2.30%	1	250,000	1	250,000
2.40%	5	1,250,000	5	1,250,000
2.45%	2	500,000	2	500,000
2.50%	1	250,000	1	250,000
2.60%	5	1,250,000	5	1,250,000
2.80%	-	-	1	250,000
	<u>67</u>	<u>16,750,000</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>12,500,000</u>

The following is the schedule of Note maturities as at December 31, 2003:

2006	\$ 6,750,000
2007	5,500,000
2008	<u>4,500,000</u>
	<u>\$ 16,750,000</u>

Obligations under the Notes are subordinate to all other liabilities of SGGF VIII and repayment is dependent on the proceeds on liquidation of investments and other available liquidity in excess of other liabilities. The Notes are irrevocable, except in the case that (i) a visa is denied, or (ii) at least 70% of the subscription amount is not invested in eligible businesses within nine months of the date of payment of the full subscription amount.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

9. Share capital

The authorized common share capital of SGGF VIII at December 31 is:

Common shares - an unlimited number of voting common shares. Holders of the common shares are entitled to receive dividends.

The issued common share capital at December 31 is:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
1,000 common shares	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$1,000</u>

10. Risk management

SGGF VIII's primary business is the raising of capital from immigrant investors and placing these funds in new and expanding Saskatchewan businesses. This investment activity entails exposure to market risk, credit risk, interest rate risk, and liquidity risk. These risk factors may impact upon SGGF VIII's ability to repay its Notes at maturity.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of an investment may be affected by the ability of an investee company to profitably distribute its products. Some of the companies in which SGGF VIII invests are dependent upon a single product or industry. SGGF VIII manages this risk through careful due diligence prior to committing funds to the investment and by diversifying its investments across various industry sectors.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that an investee will fail to perform its obligations. Concentration of credit exposure may arise given that SGGF VIII restricts its investments to businesses operating in Saskatchewan and therefore all investments are subject to a similar general economic environment. In addition, changes in commodity prices and foreign currency exchange rates may significantly affect the financial position of some investees. SGGF VIII conducts thorough due diligence prior to committing to an investment and actively monitors the financial health of its investees on an on-going basis.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that SGGF VIII's earnings will be affected by fluctuations in interest rates. SGGF VIII manages this risk through carefully monitoring and matching the duration of its portfolio investments and investments with the duration of its obligations to investors.

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

10. Risk management (continued)

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that SGGF VIII will encounter difficulty in liquidating its investments at the time it is required to repay its Notes. Due to the nature of some of SGGF VIII's investments, the timing of cash flows from its investments may not exactly match the payments owing under SGGF VIII's Notes. SGGF VIII carefully monitors the duration of its investments. However, timing differences may require SGGF VIII to reduce or delay the payments owing on Notes at maturity.

Fair value - obligations to investors

No secondary market for the Notes exists. Due to the unique features associated with the Notes, the calculation of a fair value with appropriate reliability is impractical. The risk factors that affect the fair value of investments, as described above, also affect the fair value of obligations to investors. Repayment of these obligations at maturity is dependent upon the value and liquidity of investments at that time.

11. Administration

Under the terms of a management agreement, expiring in 2009, between SGGF VIII and Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund Management Corporation ("SGGF Management Corporation"), SGGF Management Corporation administers the assets of SGGF VIII with the assistance of a manager that performs fund administration and investment management. SGGF Management Corporation does not guarantee the financial performance of SGGF VIII. All services provided to SGGF VIII are charged on a fee for service basis. The costs billed to the fund by SGGF Management Corporation are as follows:

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Manager's fees	\$273,073	\$268,640
General administration	22,186	5,497
Directors' fees and expenses	8,886	9,835
Legal and professional	<u>14,643</u>	<u>20,899</u>
	318,788	304,871
Provision for manager's profit share	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,551)</u>
	<u>\$318,788</u>	<u>\$303,320</u>

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
December 31, 2003

12. Net change in non-cash balances related to operations

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>
Accounts receivable and accrued income	\$ 6,124	\$ 268,915
Deferred costs	(102,500)	(75,499)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(1,115)	(167,915)
Commissions payable	25,000	(100,000)
Accrued interest payable to investors	<u>(83,269)</u>	<u>(6,590)</u>
	<u>\$(155,760)</u>	<u>\$(81,089)</u>

13. Income taxes

A provincial Crown corporation, SGGF Management Corporation, owns all of the issued shares of SGGF VIII. Therefore, SGGF VIII is income tax exempt.

14. Commitments

The total amount of investments approved but not yet disbursed is \$82,000 (2002 - \$45,000).

15. Related party transactions

Included in these consolidated financial statements are amounts resulting from transactions with SGGF Management Corporation pursuant to a management agreement referred to in Note 11. Account balances resulting from these transactions are included in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position and are settled on normal trade terms. Total fees charged to SGGF VIII by SGGF Management Corporation amounted to \$318,788 (2002 - \$304,871). Total fees payable to SGGF Management Corporation at December 31, 2003, and included in the above, are \$11,643 (2002 - \$10,313).

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund VIII Ltd.
(in thousands of dollars)

Financial Position As at December 31

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Assets					
Cash	\$ 2,040	3,641	1,565	3,633	2,919
Portfolio investments	2,586	3,049	7,387	5,461	-
Investments	10,370	7,792	5,259	-	-
Other assets	920	1,036	1,387	622	162
Total assets	\$ 15,916	15,518	15,598	9,716	3,081

Liabilities and Deficit

Obligations to investors	\$ 16,867	15,658	15,198	9,341	2,935
Other liabilities	149	125	393	284	144
(Deficit) equity	(1,100)	(265)	7	91	2
Total liabilities and deficit	\$ 15,916	15,518	15,598	9,716	3,081

Operating Results For the years ended December 31

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Revenues					
Investment income	\$ 545	391	89	-	-
Lease revenue	-	-	212	-	-
Interest from cash and portfolio investments	201	236	417	310	110
Other income	37	7	23	12	12
	783	634	741	322	122
Provision for losses on investments	742	65	-	-	-
Net revenue	41	569	741	322	122
Expenses					
Administration	319	303	217	111	44
Financing	556	538	608	122	77
Total expenses	875	841	825	233	121
Net (loss) income	\$ (834)	(272)	(84)	89	1

CORPORATE INFORMATION

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Lloyd Boutillier
Businessman
Regina, Saskatchewan

Darrel Cunningham
Farmer
Lintlaw, Saskatchewan

Harwood Davies
Businessman
Watrous, Saskatchewan

Roland ("Rollie") Hardy
Businessman
Regina, Saskatchewan

Gordon Mertler
Businessman
Regina, Saskatchewan

Fund Manager

Saskatchewan Government Growth Fund
Management Corporation, which has retained
Crown Capital Partners Inc. to provide
management services.

Crown Capital Partners Inc.
Brian A. Johnson, C.F.A., Managing Partner
Alan M. Rowe, C.A., Partner Responsible for SGGF
Christopher J. Anderson, C.F.A., Partner
B. Cameron Johnson, C.A., C.F.A., C.B.V., Partner
Christopher A. Johnson, C.F.A., C.B.V., Partner
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