

Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science Société canadienne de science de laboratoire médical

2013 ANNUAL REPORT

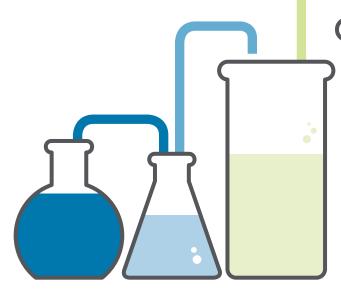


VISION EXCELLENCE IN MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

MISSION

To advance the profession through certification, education and advocacy. We will work at fulfilling this mission statement through four key areas:

- Lead and partner to advance patient safety
- Engage and empower the profession
- Enhance organization capacity
- Expand our sphere of influence



We are focusing on best practices in certification and PLA, while evaluating satisfaction from external stakeholders.

We will increase value for members by reviewing affinity programs, research and examine advocacy efforts and continue to focus on membership numbers, analyzing recruitment and retention strategies.

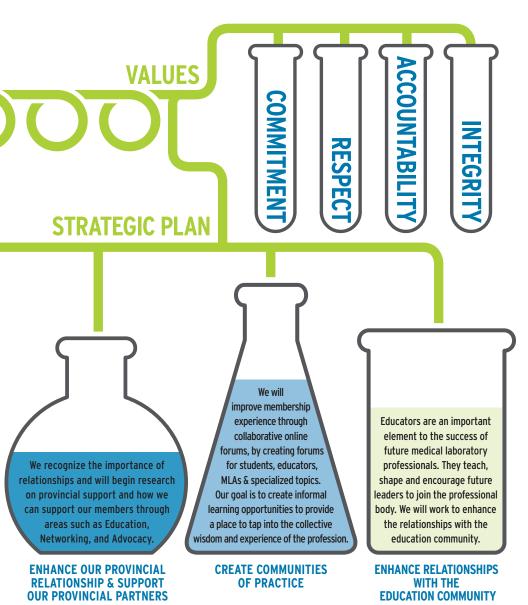
ENHANCING REGULATORY & ASSOCIATION FUNCTIONS

WHO WE ARE

The Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science (CSMLS) is the national certifying body for medical laboratory technologists (MLTs) and medical laboratory assistants (MLAs), and the national professional society for Canada's medical laboratory professionals. We are a not-for-profit organization that promotes and maintains a nationally accepted standard of medical laboratory technology and protects the professional identity and interests of the medical laboratory profession.

We conduct national certification exams for those who meet the prescribed standards. We also conduct Prior Learning Assessments (PLA) for internationally educated professionals.

Once members are certified, CSMLS offers professional development and continuing education programs to help members update their skills and knowledge and achieve their professional goals.



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

e are proud to present the 2013 annual report of the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science. This past year was one of constant forward movement for the Society with significant progress and accomplishments. These accomplishments are the direct result of the years of groundwork the Board of Directors and staff have done to lay the solid foundation that the Society rests upon today.

In 2013, we began to experience successes that were a direct result of implementing recommendations made through a Governance Review and through the introduction of a new Strategic Plan. These two initiatives positioned us for action and prepared us to make some real differences for our members, their careers and for the medical laboratory profession in Canada.

Many of our new projects and goals are guided by the new Strategic Plan, announced to the membership at the 2013 Annual General Meeting. The new Strategic Plan will guide the Society in the next several years as we continue to foster new relationships, have more conversations and, as always, strengthen the professional voice for our members.

As we evolve, our focus will never waver from our members. This annual report highlights several of our projects and accomplishments centred on providing value, quality service and a distinguished voice for our members. We are grateful to the 15,000 women and men that make up the CSMLS. As they have made a commitment to the betterment of their own careers, we have made a commitment to the betterment of their profession.







BOARD OF DIRECTORS



















LEADERSHIP TEAM Christine Nielsen
Chief Executive Officer

Bessie Carydis
Director of Certification
& Prior Learning Assessment

& Prior Learning Assessment

Joe Davies
Financial Controller

Michelle Hoad
Director of Marketing,
Communications & Membership
(until September 2013)

Michael Grant
Interim Director of Marketing & Communications
(from September 2013)

MEMBER DISTRIBUTION

MLT: Medical Laboratory Technologists, Cytotechnologists, Clinical Genetics Technologists MLA: Medical Laboratory Assistants **Other:** MLT/MLA Not practising, Affiliate, MLT/MLA Retired, Associate Non-Certified, Student, Transitional Graduate, MLT Complimentary Retired, Honorary Will Market States of the Stat BC 2556 MLT: 2207 MLA: 63 OTHER: 286



OUR MEMBERS

Medical Laboratory Professionals play a vital role in Canada's health care system. With technical expertise, they provide the analysis of accurate life-saving laboratory results that guide the diagnosis and treatment of disease. Our members are proud and passionate about their valuable contributions to patient care.

THE PROFESSIONS

Through education and experience medical laboratory professionals can specialize in several components of the profession. The professions under this umbrella include:



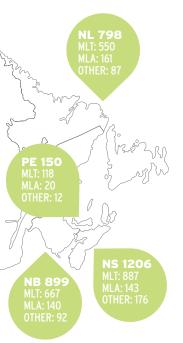
MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGISTS

Using a variety of instruments, they analyze tissue samples, blood and other body fluids to provide results to primary health care practitioners. MLTs can practice in a number of specialty areas including: Clinical Chemistry, Clinical Microbiology, Hematology, Transfusion Science and Histology, Cytotechnology and Clinical Genetics Technology.



CYTOTECHNOLOGISTS

Analyzing cellular changes, they can determine the presence of specific diseases. Mostly through the use of slides under a microscope, they are able to detect cellular based infection and diseases such as cancer.





CLINICAL GENETICS TECHNOLOGISTS

Using a variety of instruments, they analyze and diagnose changes or abnormalities in chromosomes and DNA which are often determinants of genetic disease.



MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSISTANTS

Working under the supervision of a medical laboratory technologist, they often perform pre-analytical tasks and collect patient samples.

Over the year, the Certification and Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) department continued to maintain a stable certification and PLA process through several routine reviews and policy changes. We inherently understand the need for continuous review of best practices in both the certification and PLA industry and ensure that we are not just meeting, but exceeding those expectations. During the year, our Certification and PLA staff were guest presenters at schools across the country. This outreach to future professionals helped them prepare for the exam and gave them a better understanding of the CSMLS's role in certification.

B. Candis

Bessie Carydis Director, Certification and Prior Learning Assessment

CERTIFICATION AND PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT



COMPETENCY PROFILE REVIEW

We regularly assess the competency profiles for each of the four medical laboratory professions we certify. The competency profiles are regarded as the level of competency required for entry into the profession and must correspond with workplace expectations. This year we began to review the competency profile for Diagnostic Cytology. The process begins with an appointment of a Task Force by the Professional Standards Council (PSC). This Task Force surveys stakeholders for input on the current profile, which is then used to draft a new profile. The draft is validated with multiple stakeholder groups, including members, educators and regulators. It is then presented to the PSC and Board of Directors for approval. By the fourth quarter, we sent the revised Diagnostic Cytology competency profile to the Canadian Medical Association (CMA) for final approval and acceptance for program accreditation.



EXPANSION OF PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENTS

Changes to policies regarding eligibility to write the CSMLS Medical Laboratory Assistant (MLA) exam came into effect with the June 2013 session. To be eligible to write the exam, candidates must be a graduate of a CMA accredited MLA program (or applied for accreditation) or complete the prior learning assessment process. This change brought eligibility requirements for MLA certification into harmony with the medical laboratory technologist (MLT) program, as we now offer prior learning assessment (PLA) for MLAs. The CSMLS continues to share information with other professions and regulators on our unique harmonized national approach to PLA.

EXAM POLICY REVIEW AND REVISIONS

Several exam policies were reviewed throughout the year which resulted in changes. The changes reflect the requirements of regulatory bodies, efficient use of resources and industry best practices. The Exam Attempt policy changed to reduce the number of exam attempts from six to three, to protect the certification exam integrity. Other policies reviewed and revised this year include the Exam Accommodation policy and the Alternate Documents policy for Prior Learning Assessments. Policy review is necessary in order to provide fair and transparent processes and to protect the integrity of the examination.

When reflecting back on 2013, the Finance and Administration department has developed immensely in such a short time. Our team's daily goal is to provide excellent service to our members and we now have all the pieces in place in order to do so. We have a solid IT infrastructure in place, coupled with efficient, dedicated staff that allow us to achieve our goal. With the Finance and Administration function on solid ground, we continued to look at new ways to improve the member experience while maintaining the long term financial viability of the Society.



FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION



LEARNING SERVICES

In 2013, our Learning Services team evaluated the services and educational offerings to members. We reviewed course content, enrollment and member feedback to gain insight into the needs of the members. To enhance our association function, we used this information to lay the groundwork for improvements. We began reaching out to potential partners in education to help expand our offerings to avoid duplication. We researched and committed to a new learning platform. This new platform will integrate with the current IT infrastructure making for easier registration, instant course access and improved delivery of course material.

Back Row: Hope Brown • Michele Perry • Nolan Grupe Diana Dwerryhouse • Katherine Coles

Front Row: Joe Davies • Lucy Agro • Josie McMuller



CUSTOMER SERVICE

Providing exceptional customer service to our members remained a focus in 2013. In order to gauge the level of service we provide, we developed a mechanism to solicit feedback from our members. In the fourth quarter we initiated an online Customer Service Survey. The survey was sent to members within a three day period of their interaction with office staff. The data collected helped us monitor and evaluate customer service, ensuring that quality service remained a priority. The survey will continue to be used as part of ongoing quality assurance.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

To ensure meaningful information about CSMLS's organizational performance is reported to the Board of Directors, we redeveloped our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The new KPIs align the organization's activities with our mission and strategic plan, ensuring we make continuous progress in the direction set forth by the Board. It also serves as an early warning system if there is a need to course correct or make adjustments.

The Marketing and Communications team creates, manages and distributes content across our various communications channels, including: the Canadian Journal of Medical Laboratory Science, CSMLS website, eNEWS, tradeshows and conventions, media releases and our social media properties. Our role is to increase the profile of CSMLS amongst the lab community, the public and other stakeholder groups.

The team looks for creative approaches to engage our multiple audiences and enhance the overall member experience. In 2013, we were honoured to be recognized by The International Association of Business Communicators (IABC), receiving an IABC Gold Quill Award of Excellence for our work with National Medical Laboratory Week.

Whether through professional development events like LABCON or advocacy events like Day on the Hill, this diverse team works to enhance the professional association function of the organization.

Michael Grant

Interim Director, Marketing and Communications



ADVOCACY

We continued to advance our advocacy agenda, both nationally and provincially. During our annual Day on the Hill event, CSMLS representatives met with over 40 Members of Parliament. Following up on the success of the event, we invited several MPs to take a handson tour of medical laboratories in their ridings. These tours provided them with a deeper understanding of our members' work and the role they play in health care.

Throughout the year, we continued to work with our provincial partners to monitor and address the needs of the profession. In April, CSMLS joined the College of Medical Laboratory Technologists of Manitoba (CMLTM) in calling for the regulation of medical laboratory assistants (MLAs) in the province. The regulation of all laboratory professionals across the country remains a priority for CSMLS.



AFFINITY PROGRAMS

To increase the value of a CSMLS membership, we work with other organizations to offer discounts to members on products and services. In 2013, we enhanced this program by initiating new partnerships with Goodlife Fitness, Honeywell 3 Home Security and FedEx. We will continue to investigate more opportunities to add to this program.

COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

The strategic plan called for the development of communities of practice and in the third quarter we launched Communities. Communities is a members-only, online discussion forum. It is a place for members to share ideas, stories, and advice in a safe environment. The forum is moderated by CSMLS staff and volunteers.

GOVERNANCE

The Board continues to govern in an efficient and effective manner. We have been preparing the CSMLS for the new Not for Profit Corporations Act. We also eliminated one face to face meeting, resulting in savings over \$15,000. The Professional Standards Council, comprised of provincial regulators or associations, continued to ensure high quality certification exam policy and PLA policy. The Council was newly formed in 2013, replacing the former National Regulatory Council and Council on National Certification. This combination has led to more efficient governance. with the provincial registrars and CEOs advising on policy matters. This governance model allows CSMLS to stay in touch with the regulators on issues that matter

RESEARCH

to them.

CSMLS continues to contribute to the body of knowledge in the field of foreign qualification recognition. and uses this research to enhance processes. In 2013, we continued work on Self-Directed Bridging, Self-Assessment Readiness Tool, Exam Preparation videos and started work on Alternate Careers. These initiatives speak to our commitment to best practices in Prior Learning Assessment. In 2013, we also revitalized the new graduate survey, allowing the field to gain better insight into the employment patterns of new medical laboratory technologist and medical laboratory assistant graduates.

C. Nielsen

Christine Nielsen
Chief Executive Officer

OFFICE OF THE CEO



SELF-DIRECTED BRIDGING PROGRAM

CSMLS was proud to announce a new self-directed bridging program funded by Employment and Social Development Canada. The program provides internationally educated medical laboratory technologists (IEMLTs) with tools and resources to help guide their learning plan requirements. A learning plan addresses gaps in education or experience in order to successfully write the certification exam. The self-directed bridging program is intended to provide the best resources and options for our IEMLT clients to quality for the national certification exam.

SELF-ASSESSMENT READINESS TOOL

The CSMLS provided support and content for the development of a new online resource, the Self-Assessment Readiness Tools (SARTs). The tools are free and include an online self-assessment for internationally trained medical laboratory professionals, explaining the knowledge, skills and abilities that are expected of Canadian medical laboratory technologists and medical laboratory assistants. The user gets a realistic picture of the 'day in the life' of an MLT or MLA in Canada. SARTs was produced by PMA Health Workforce Development Solutions and the Nova Scotia Community College with funding from Atlantic Connection via Health Canada's Internationally Educated Health Professionals Initiative.



EXAM PREPARATION VIDEOS

Recognizing that many people retain information through visual connections, CSMLS sought out a unique way to answer common questions about the CSMLS certification exams. With funding from the Ontario government, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, CSMLS developed a series of five web videos, providing exam candidates with information related to preparing and taking the certification exam. The videos cover topics such as exam structure, administration, competency profiles and exam myths. Domestic and international clients appreciate the information especially as they prepare for the national certification exam.

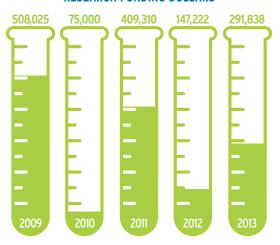
ALTERNATE CAREERS

Funded by Health Canada, the CSMLS started work on Alternate Careers. Using a scientific approach, the project aims to identify potential careers for internationally educated medical laboratory technologists (MLTs), who may be looking to leverage their unique skillset, either in place of or until they become certified.

Bessie Carydis, Director of Certification & Prior Learning Assessment Joe Davies, Financial Controller • Lisa Low, Executive Assistant Michael Grant, Interim Director, Marketing & Communications Christine Nielsen, Chief Executive Officer

Absent: Michelle Hoad, Director, Marketing, Communications & Membership Rosina Mete. Research Assistant

RESEARCH FUNDING DOLLARS



CSMLS 2013 AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Every year, CSMLS offers several awards and scholarships to qualifying members. We are proud to congratulate the 2013 recipients. For more information on each award or scholarship and for application forms, please visit the Members Area of the CSMLS website, www.csmls.org.

FOUNDERS' FUND AWARD

Tamara Ashfield
Alison Dougan
Melissa Hart
Claire Hilscher
Anita Kingsbury
Moses Ogunkunle
Constance Oosterhoff
Jennifer Hart
Johanne Moreau
Linda Cormier
Michele Sykes
Rachel McAdam
Svitlana Yaremenko
Caroline Arnold

Joanne Goldstone

THE E.V. BOOTH SCHOLARSHIP

Denise Callahan Ryan Rachelle Eyolfson

THE DAVID BALL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Bernie Hartung

SIEMENS HEALTHCARE DIAGNOSTICS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Sarah Bugden Breanne Swayne

CSMLS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Jiewn Hwang (Clinical Genetics) Jennifer O'Neil (MLT General)

LEADERS OF TOMORROW LABCON2014 GRANT

Patricia Daduica (MLT) Jana Keogh (Student) Jennifer O'Neil (Student) Ana Marie Wong (MLA) Abdullah Zareh (MLT)

Below: The David Ball Community Service Award winner, Bernie Hartung with CSMLS 2013 President, Heather Autio.



2013 FACTS AND FIGURES



565 MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST (MLT)

399 MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSSISTANT (MLA)

175 ASSOCIATE (NON-CERTIFIED)

612 STUDENT

REINSTATEMENT



129 MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST (MLT)

18 MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSSISTANT (MLA)



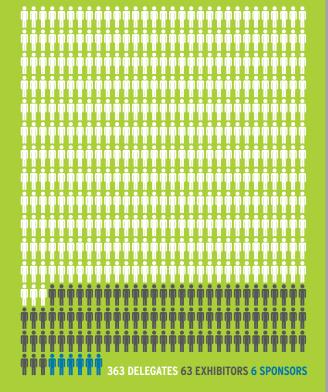
945 GENERAL MLT

38 DIAGNOSTIC CYTOLOGY

27 CLINICAL GENETICS

688 MLA

LABCON2013:



LEARNING SERVICES





VOLUNTEER COMMITTEES

The CSMLS would like to extend our gratitude toward the devoted volunteers who have contributed both their time and knowledge toward the betterment of the medical laboratory profession. We recognize the commitment and support given to us by these remarkable individuals and we are truly grateful for their hard work and dedication over the past year.

LABCON2013

Susan Atkinson Kristy Dillon Bernie Hartung Mary Kratchmer Marcela Navarro **Brad Palin** Richard Thomas

DIAGNOSTIC **CYTOLOGY** COMPETENCY **REVIEW PANEL**

Rhonda Birse Catherine Brown June Dufresne Sara Gardiner Shawn Ingersoll Lisa Kendrick David Kuni David Moore

EXAM PANEL MEMBERS GENERAL MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGISTS

Nathalie Breton Kate Thompson Patricia Ludlow Melissa Veinot Joshua MacDonald Christopher Ward Svitlana Viki Massev Jodi Thompson Yaremenko

DIAGNOSTIC CYTOLOGY

Brandy Callahan Shawn Ingersoll Dr. Kathy Kelly Marshall Chorneyko Melissa Walsh June Dufresne Tamar Webster

CLINICAL GENETICS

Carlos Pereira Dr. Kathy Chun Lucia Cueva Rachel Schoon Camille Jackson

MEDICAL LABORATORY ASSISTANTS

Deb Andrews Julie Rose Nikki Fessler Samantha Tanner Laurie Hart

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rhonda Birse Elwood Chan Goldie Fagan Shelby Giesbrecht Colleen Moran Patricia Noel Tricia VanDenakker William Younger

RESEARCH **ETHICS BOARD**

Julie Carruthers Terry Chelich Greg Denomme Kate Gagliardi Brenda Gamble John Krahn Lisa Purdy Sheila Woodcock



AUTHORS & INSTRUCTORS

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Paul Hutchinson Jennine Kafka Melissa King Luc Lafrance Sharon Leal William McTaggart Wendy Mellen Subhash Mohan Pamela Quinsev Ofelia Ribeiro Gene Shematek Helen Smith Linda Stano Maryanne Stewart Meng-Kee Tan Masave Tanaka Wavne Wood

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Maurice Goulet Maxine Adams-Small Isaac Aliche Susan Atkinson Nancy Bergeron Elsie Chan Vanessa Chan Denise Evanovitch Kate Gagliardi Darcy Gara Darlene Gilby Bassima Hammoud Scott MacDonald Heather Malcolm Kelly Marshall

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McPherson
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Krystle Murl
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Meng-Kee Tan
Mark Torchia
Frederick Wong
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REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE 2013 SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

TO THE MEMBERS OF CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary balance sheet as at December 31, 2013, the summary statement of operations and summary cash flow statement for the year ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science for the year ended December 31, 2013. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated March 8, 2014.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of the Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

OPINION

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science for the year ended December 31, 2013, are a fair summary of those financial statements, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Burlington, Ontario March 8, 2014 Stevenson Lehocki LLP Chartered Professional Accountants

Licensed Public Accountants



SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET

As at December 31

ASSETS	2013	2012
Current assets		
Cash and short-term investments	\$2,327,944	\$2,145,511
Accounts receivable	125,000	143,923
Inventory	8,256	12,782
Prepaid expense	123,767	143,011
	2,584,967	2,445,227
Investments - Restricted Funds	1,381,557	1,353,913
Capital assets	1,587,755	1,647,173
	\$5,554,279	\$5,446,313
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	283,488	377,396
Government remittances payable	3,426	7,688
Prepaid revenue	1,653,916	1,754,877
Current portion of obligations under capital lease	0	36,610
	1,940,830	2,176,571
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	1,587,755	1,610,563
Internally restricted	952,092	939,723
Externally restricted	429,465	414,190
Unrestricted	644,137	305,266
	3,613,449	3,269,742

CSMLS SCSLM

\$5,554,279 \$5,446,313





\$343,707 \$(401,549)

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Year ended December 31

REVENUES	2013	2012
Gross fees received	\$2,328,881	\$2,407,267
Less: Provinces' share	(171,080)	(248,771)
Less: Professional Liability Insurance premiums	(166,616)	(214,871)
National membership fees	1,991,185	1,943,625
Certification / PLA	1,075,220	946,849
Learning Services	154,954	157,533
Communications	50,869	49,263
Marketing	1,680	0
Research	19,863	7,631
LABCON income	334,489	315,223
Investment income	43,408	47,696
Miscellaneous income	66,903	88,549
	3,738,571	3,556,369
EXPENSES		
Administration and Overhead - General	645,116	846,576
Certification / PLA	737,735	721,795
Learning Services	340,575	437,321
Communications	493,007	504,640
Marketing	246,815	304,766
Research	66,794	82,031
Governance	515,406	625,970
LABCON	265,757	332,418
Amortization of capital assets	103,584	112,085
Anior tization of capital assets		3,967,602
Amortization of capital assets	3,414,789	0/201/00-
Income (loss) - before other revenue	3,414,789 323,782	(411,233)

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES





SUMMARY CASH FLOW STATEMENT

Year ended December 31

CASH FROM (TO) OPERATIONS	2013	2012
Received from services, dues, and fees	\$3,553,422	\$3,762,974
Investment income	43,408	47,696
Miscellaneous	100	25,717
Paid for supplies and services	(1,555,799)	(1,742,127)
Wages and benefits	(1,581,159)	(1,835,447)
Building facility costs	(208,129)	(130,375)
Excess (deficiency) in Internally Restricted funds	6,374	1,255
Excess (deficiency) in Externally Restricted funds	15,275	10,816
Interest paid	(8,560)	(9,907)
	264,932	130,602
CASH FROM (TO) INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
(Additions) to capital assets	(72,936)	(123,060)
Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	27,047	0
	(45,889)	(123,060)
CASH FROM (TO) FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
(Repayment) of long-term and callable debt	(36,610)	(22,028)
Changes in cash and equivalents during the year	182,433	(14,486)
Cash and equivalents, beginning	2,145,511	2,159,997
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS, ENDING	\$2,327,944	\$2,145,511
REPRESENTED BY		
Cash	\$672,944	\$890,511
Short-term investments	1,655,000	1,255,000
	\$2,327,944	\$2,145,511



Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science Société canadienne de science de laboratoire médical