



# 2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT

## ALL SYSTEMS GO!



# ANALYZING THE DATA



## • MISSION

Empowering individuals to live with a sense of freedom and confidence through accessible learning opportunities, transportation and food security

## • VISION

The community of East Hants is supported to learn, grow and thrive

## • VALUES

Collaboration - Community - Integrity - Inclusion - Connection

### EHCLA

Learners Across All Programs: 654

Learning Programs: 22

Digital Literacy Sessions: 131



### EHCR

KMs: 466,663

Rides: 12,972

Vehicles: 8

### ECG

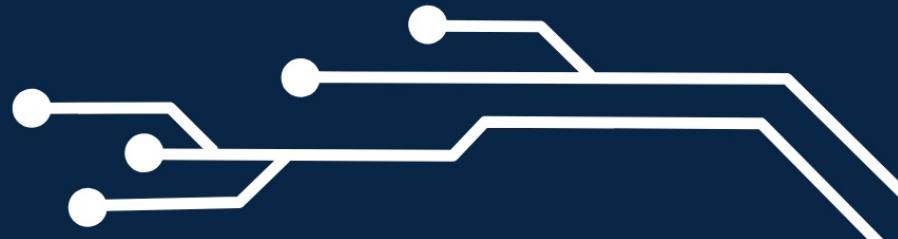
Plates of Food: 3,926

Community Lunches: 5

Pop Up Markets: 8



**TANYA BURKE**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## A LOOK AT OUR YEAR



The 2024-2025 year at EHCLA has been active with change, growth, challenge and success! Over the past year we have gained a new instructor and driver, created new learning programs, added to our vehicle fleet, and connected with over 17,000 individuals through access to learning programs, transportation or food.

They say change is a good thing. We know change can be hard. Fortunately, here at EHCLA, we are pretty skilled at adapting to our current surroundings. The historic GED program has been retired and we now offer the new Canadian version called Canadian Academic Education Credential. We also experienced a change in instructors which resulted in a delay in getting our programs started. Ed MacDonnell joined the team in November and we ended the year with some real successes in our programs, some new programs under our belt, and a vision for the year ahead.

The East Hants Community Rider program continues to meet the transportation needs of many in our community. We have increased our fleet with a beautiful new Kia EV9. I wish I could report that moving toward electrification has solved all our woes, but not quite. Implementing new EV's into our service

is teaching us lots about managing the vehicle's kilometers for the day. We are learning lots about how charging infrastructure is maintained – or not. We are learning not all chargers are the same. We are also learning that when we can plan the day well, the EV's are proving to benefit the bottom line, plus they are super cool and comfy to drive.

Our Elmsdale Community Garden program is going strong. We are seeing lots of need in our community for access to basic things, food among them. I think my sentiment would be echoed among our other service provider partners that there are lots of people struggling right now and life is expensive. We have seen an increase in accessing our freezer meals like no other year. Our community lunch program continues to be popular and we have tried to offer some different types of food this year including our Syrian and Mexican themed meals.

I am grateful every day that I get to spend my days working with the best people. As a group we are kind, empathetic, strong, talented, and hard-working. I sincerely thank each person who helps us get there!

The theme of this year's annual report is "All Systems Go" and we feel that it reflects our past year. As we look toward 2025 – 2026 I feel confident that we have the team, talent, ideas and aspirations that will work hard to ensure we continue to empower individuals to meet the learning, transportation, and food needs to the best of our resources.

# EAST HANTS COMMUNITY LEARNING



**PHIL LAVEN**  
COMMUNICATIONS  
& PROGRAMS  
MANAGER



**TOM RICHARD**  
INSTRUCTOR

## OUR LEARNING TEAM:



**ED MACDONELL**  
INSTRUCTOR

East Hants Community Learning went through a lot of change this year. Our longtime instructor Jean Wright decided the time was right to retire. Thank you Jean for your many years of dedication to helping people of all ages in our community. After a few months of searching, we recruited Ed MacDonell to our team. Ed has already taught us much with his background in Gaelic Studies and has been a great fit for our Adult Learning Programs.

This year, we had a great blend of programs:

- **Adult Learning Programs Levels 1-3**
- **CAEC Preparation**
- **Digital Literacy Classes in Elmsdale, Fall River and Noel**
- **Everyday English Classes**
- **Mi'kmaw Language & Culture Conversations (**
- **Dungeons & Dragons Sessions (x7)**
- **Gaelic Classes (x5)**
- **Fly-Tying Sessions**
- **CPR Training Session**



We also hosted a variety of events that brought our community together to learn and have fun:

- **6th Annual Holiday Sing-a-long**
- **A Family Literacy Day Ceilidh**
- **Bowling with CALA in Truro**
- **9th Annual Family Picnic**
- **Tuesday's Topic Weekly Workshops (x10)**

Our Tuesday's Topic Program proved so popular that many of the topics became their own distinct programs. Expect more of these next year!



I really appreciate what you're doing for us. Thanks to your lessons, we have all become friends, we who are people from different countries of different ages and religions.

The school has become a very important place in our lives because of the good attitude of everyone who works there.

- Oksana Spivak





**HAYLEY MILLER**  
DISPATCH / ADMIN

**OUR  
RIDER  
TEAM:**

# EAST HANTS COMMUNITY RIDER

## FLIPPING THE PAGE TO A NEW CHAPTER

Our team started off this year with a farewell – goodbye to Brian and enjoy your retirement in Cape Breton! In his place, we have added a new driver, Phyl Thomas, who has been a great addition to the team.



Neil  
Barr



Dave  
Hue



Mark  
Lynch



Bev  
Clarke



George  
Morrison



Phyl  
Thomas



Cougar - 2024 Kia EV9

We've also had some changeover in our vehicles. Sadly, our deep red SUV Zoomster had to be retired early. To replace it, we have another fully electric SUV: a black Kia EV9 named Cougar.

Operating EVs as part of a rural transportation service comes with its challenges, especially in the winter. Some of the difficulties we've encountered include:

- Limited numbers of charging stations
- Slow charging at charging stations
- Reduced battery in cold/windy conditions
- Multiple software updates at the dealership

Despite the challenges, these vehicles have proven to be efficient and reliable, with low maintenance costs, cheap charging and lots of miles on the roads.

Outside of our regular operations, we held a few special trips with the Community Rider. We did two Christmas shopping trips to Mic Mac Mall and several weddings this summer.

The Medical Transportation Program was an important part of our service this year. When individuals booked through NS Public Health Transportation, the costs of their transportation were covered by the province. This was a huge help for many individuals and we hope it will continue to support access to medical services in our region.

It's been a busy year and our dispatch team is working hard to fit in as many drives as possible. We see new passengers every week and hope to continue growing our service in East Hants as well as our HRM service area from Enfield to Fall River.

**My son uses East Hants Community Rider and it's been a great help to my family. I very much appreciate your services, especially on short notice.**

**- Jason Martin**



**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SERVICE:**  
[COMMUNITYRIDER.RURALRIDES.CA](http://COMMUNITYRIDER.RURALRIDES.CA)



**BOOK A RIDE:**  
**902-883-4716**

# ELMSDALE COMMUNITY GARDEN

## OUR GARDEN TEAM:



TANYA ASHLEY



KRESTIN MOSA



JUNIOR ASHLEY



BECKY GRANT



This is a huge part of the reason why I love living in East Hants. I hope we never lose that loving, helpful, community feel! Thank you so much to everybody that helped put this together. Your hard work is very much appreciated.

- Angela Robichaud

The Elmsdale Community Garden was more essential than ever this year, close to 4,000 meals served in our community. We have a small but mighty team that gives their all to ensure others have access to healthy food when they need it.

Garden events were bustling, our Community Freezer needed regular refills and we worked hard to find ways to make food more accessible to everyone.



## 2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors is a group of dedicated volunteers that helps guide our organization and ensure that we stay true to our cause. From supporting us at events to policy review and everything in between, our board is there to help us connect to our community and achieve our goals.



Paula  
Wadden



Leanne  
Taylor



Cathy  
MacDonald



Gennie  
Himelman



Caitlin  
Patterson



Gina  
Winfield



Cecil  
Dixon



Alicia  
Wilmot



Stacey  
Harrison



Leah  
MacMillan



Wanda  
Hirtle



# FUNDERS

EHCLA, EHCR and ECG receive funding from a range of government and community supporters. This funding enables us to deliver free programs and offer subsidized transportation through the Community Rider.



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada



EAST HANTS



We strongly value collaboration. We partner with many other organizations, institutions and businesses to help our programs reach further.



# 2024-2025 CORPORATE SUPPORTERS



Colchester East Hants  
Health Centre Foundation  
Rooted in community support.



ADD YOUR LOGO TO OUR SUPPORTERS:

[WWW.EASTHANTSLEARNING.COM/CORPORATE-SUPPORT](http://WWW.EASTHANTSLEARNING.COM/CORPORATE-SUPPORT)

**East Hants Community  
Learning Association**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**MARCH 31, 2025**

**East Hants Community Learning Association**  
**MARCH 31, 2025**

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# Peverill & Associates Incorporated

## East Hants Community Learning Association

### INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

#### To the Directors of East Hants Community Learning Association

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of East Hants Community Learning Association that comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2025 and the statements of operations, net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

#### Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that these financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of East Hants Community Learning Association as at March 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

*Peverill & Associates Inc.*

May 26, 2025  
Lower Sackville, Nova Scotia  
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS  
LICENSED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

**East Hants Community Learning Association**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

**AS AT MARCH 31, 2025**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash	\$ 370,292	\$ 264,044
Accounts receivable	86,858	139,236
HST Recoverable	14,388	10,350
Prepaid Expenses	<u>1,967</u>	<u>2,703</u>
	<u>473,505</u>	<u>416,333</u>
<b>EQUIPMENT (Note 3)</b>	<u>171,115</u>	<u>195,626</u>
	<u><u>\$ 644,620</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 611,959</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 17,016	\$ 33,604
CRA Source Deductions Payable	19,835	10,981
Deferred Revenue (Note 4)	<u>111,046</u>	<u>91,118</u>
	<u>147,897</u>	<u>135,703</u>
<b>LONG-TERM</b>		
Deferred Capital Grants (Note 4)	<u>143,358</u>	<u>180,138</u>
	<u>291,255</u>	<u>315,841</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CONTRIBUTED AND OTHER SURPLUS</b>	20	20
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u>353,345</u>	<u>296,098</u>
	<u>353,365</u>	<u>296,118</u>
	<u><u>\$ 644,620</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 611,959</u></u>

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE ASSOCIATION:

Paula Wadden CHAIRPERSON  
Angie McDonald SECRETARY

# East Hants Community Learning Association

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND NET ASSETS

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2025**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
EHCLA - Government Funding	\$ 252,459	\$ 245,787
- Donations	22,205	4,816
- Fundraising and Other	41,640	30,570
EHCR - Government Funding	426,268	350,697
- Membership	1,700	2,220
- Fundraising, donations and other	11,323	47,177
- Van and car revenue	<u>167,905</u>	<u>160,759</u>
	923,500	842,026
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
<b>EHCLA:</b>		
Salaries and Benefits	212,229	215,678
Amortization	258	365
Bookkeeping	2,943	2,936
Rent	18,500	18,000
Insurance	2,700	2,000
Office, Administrative, and Other	32,886	32,951
Community Garden	16,383	10,830
<b>EHCR:</b>		
Salaries and Benefits	133,102	119,223
Rent	12,000	12,000
Insurance	1,969	1,980
Vehicle Expenses	92,707	118,735
Vehicle wages	233,901	197,930
Office, Administrative, and Other	44,917	38,926
Vehicle Amortization	<u>67,912</u>	<u>62,116</u>
	<u>872,407</u>	<u>833,670</u>
<b>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS BEFORE THE FOLLOWING</b>		
	51,093	8,356
<b>GAIN (LOSS) ON DISPOSAL OF VEHICLE</b>	<u>6,154</u>	<u>(185)</u>
<b>EXCESS OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS</b>	57,247	8,171
<b>NET ASSETS, beginning of year</b>	<u>296,098</u>	<u>287,927</u>
<b>NET ASSETS, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 353,345</u>	<u>\$ 296,098</u>

**East Hants Community Learning Association**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

**MARCH 31, 2025**

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Cash Received	\$ 965,180	\$ 880,530
Cash Paid to Suppliers	(814,378)	(756,923)
Interest Paid	<u>(895)</u>	<u>(671)</u>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Increase (decrease) in long term debt	<u>-</u>	<u>(60,000)</u>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Additions to Equipment	<u>(43,659)</u>	<u>(96,580)</u>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH</b>	106,248	(33,644)
<b>CASH, beginning of year</b>	<u>264,044</u>	<u>297,688</u>
<b>CASH, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 370,292</u>	<u>\$ 264,044</u>

# East Hants Community Learning Association

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2025

### 1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

#### **Adult Learning Services**

The goal of East Hants Community Learning Association (EHCLA) is to examine, address, and promote awareness of the life-long learning needs of adults in the community and to facilitate coordination of programs designed to meet those needs. EHCLA communicates with other learning networks and literacy groups and engages in projects and partnerships that enable the adults in the community to access and to participate in life-long learning opportunities.

#### **Transportation Service**

The goal of the East Hants Community Riders (EHCR) is to offer an affordable alternative transportation service to all residents of East Hants including those who are challenged by a lack of transportation due to disability, age or social/economic disadvantages.

### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Basis of Presentation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for Not-for-Profit organizations.

#### (b) Cash

Cash represents funds and guaranteed investment certificates held on deposit at Canadian banks.

#### (c) Equipment

Equipment is recorded at cost. Depreciation is provided annually at rates calculated to write-off the assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Vehicles	- 30% diminishing balance
Computer equipment	- 55% diminishing balance
Office furniture & equipment	- 20% diminishing balance

#### (d) Financial Instruments

The Association's financial instruments consists of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and accrued liabilities. Financial instruments are initially recorded at fair value and then carried at amortized cost. The fair values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values, unless otherwise stated.

# East Hants Community Learning Association

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2025

### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont.)

#### (e) Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognized using the accrual basis of accounting

#### (f) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

### 3. EQUIPMENT

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Accumulated Depreciation</u>	<u>Net 2025</u>	<u>Net 2024</u>
Computer equipment	\$ 4,347	\$ 4,311	\$ 36	\$ 80
Vehicles	475,794	304,936	170,858	195,269
Office furniture and equipment	<u>751</u>	<u>530</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>277</u>
	<u>\$ 480,892</u>	<u>\$ 309,777</u>	<u>\$ 171,115</u>	<u>\$ 195,626</u>

### 4. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue includes the amount of specific grants received in the year that have not been spent as of the year end date. Deferred capital grants represent the amounts received to assist in the purchase of equipment, these grants are amortized to income on the same basis as the related asset.

### 5. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The organization is economically dependent upon government. Loss of these funding sources would have a major impact upon the organization.

The organization is dependent on volunteers, the loss of which would have a significant impact upon the organization.

COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CTAP) 3 Year Approved Budget						Notes & Variance Explanation:
	Budget 2024-25	Actuals 2024-25	Budget 2025-26	Budget 2026-27	Budget 2027-28	Please provide explanations for all (revenue/cost) variances above 5% and 5,000 when comparing budgets years over year.
<b>Notes:</b>	As per approved 23-24 budget	Should be identical to signed Schedule C-D	Once approved this should be identical to Schedule C-D			
<b>Revenue Sources:</b>						
<b>CTAP (Province)</b>	196,568	196,568	196,568	196,568	196,568	no increase in funding anticipated
<b>Fare Assistance Program (Province)</b>	18,700	18,761	21,300	21,300	21,300	10% increase in 2025_26
<b>Fuel Tax Rebate (Province)</b>	5,200	4,416	4,500	4,550	4,600	
<b>Fuel Tax Rebate (Federal)</b>	475	411	450	475	500	
<b>NS-TRIP (Province)</b>						
<b>Municipal or Band contributions</b>	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	no increase in funding anticipated
<b>HRM Rural Transit</b>	28,000	34,002	36,500	39,000	40,000	funding increase anticipated
<b>Federal HST Rebate</b>	10,500	10,500	11,000	11,100	11,200	
<b>Fare Income</b>	162,000	165,848	166,600	168,000	168,000	
<b>Fare Income - Deliveries</b>	2,400	2,163	2,200	2,225	2,250	
<b>Subsidy Income (as applied)</b>	915	521	550	575	600	
<b>Fundraising</b>						
<b>Donations (charitable tax receipt issued)</b>	2,000	331	350	400	450	
<b>Corporate Sponsorship - advertising</b>	6,000	1,875	2,500	2,750	3,000	
<b>One time (CTAP) Provincial Grant</b>		12,200				
<b>Other grant funding</b>	10,000	13,354	10,000	10,000	10,000	
<b>Provincial funding - tablets</b>		4,000	3,000	1,000	0	
<b>Other (Gain on sale of vehicle)</b>		6,154				
<b>TOTAL Revenue</b>	<b>492,758</b>	<b>521,104</b>	<b>505,518</b>	<b>507,943</b>	<b>508,468</b>	
<b>Administrative Expenditures:</b>						
<b>Salaries and Benefits (mgt/dispatch)</b>	127,500	145,676	148,000	150,000	150,000	
<b>Office Rent/Utilities/Maintenance</b>	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	
<b>Office Expenses/Supplies</b>	3,300	3,550	3,650	3,700	3,750	
<b>Phone/Internet/Web costs</b>	7,500	8,561	9,000	9,000	9,000	
<b>Advertising, Promotion</b>	2,500	3,228	3,500	2,500	2,500	
<b>Contractual Costs</b>	5,000	4,367	4,600	4,600	4,600	
<b>Association Dues and Fees</b>	1,000	926	950	950	950	
<b>Meeting/Conference Expenses</b>	750	1,234	1,500	1,500	1,500	
<b>Staff/Board Mileage/Travel expenses</b>	1,200	1,526	1,700	1,700	1,700	

<b>Staff/Volunteer Training</b>	2,500	1,058	1,200	1,500	1,500	
<b>Insurance (non-vehicle)</b>	2,200	1,969	2,200	2,250	2,300	
<b>NSTRIP Expenses</b>						
<b>Other - Bank fees and charges</b>	375	422	425	425	425	
<b>Other - Miscellaneous</b>						
<b>Other - uniforms</b>	750		750	800	850	
<b>Other - Bad Debt</b>	250	88	100	100	100	
<b>Other</b>						
<b>Total Admin Expenditures</b>	<b>160,825</b>	<b>178,605</b>	<b>183,575</b>	<b>185,025</b>	<b>185,175</b>	
<b>Vehicle Expenditures:</b>						
<b>Salaries &amp; Benefits (Drivers)</b>	220,000	233,030	222,500	223,000	224,000	
<b>Stipend to Volunteer Drivers</b>	500	352	500	250	250	
<b>Parking/Tolls Expense</b>	800	594	800	200	200	parking fees at hospitals is supposed to be removed
<b>Insurance (vehicles)</b>	10,000	9,913	10,000	15,000	15,000	
<b>Vehicle Repairs/Maintenance</b>	47,000	42,343	35,000	35,000	35,000	
<b>Vehicle Registration</b>	400	333	400	400	400	
<b>Fuel</b>	46,000	39,011	47,000	46,000	46,000	
<b>EV Charging</b>	500	3,668	1,000	2,000	2,000	
<b>Other - Driver Fees</b>	500	218	500	500	500	
<b>Other - Miscellaneous</b>						
<b>Total Vehicle Expenditures</b>	<b>325,700</b>	<b>329,462</b>	<b>317,700</b>	<b>322,350</b>	<b>323,350</b>	
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>486,525</b>	<b>508,067</b>	<b>501,275</b>	<b>507,375</b>	<b>508,525</b>	
<b>CASH SURPLUS (Deficit)</b>	<b>6,233</b>	<b>13,037</b>	<b>4,243</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>-57</b>	
<b>CURRENT BANK BALANCE</b>	159,179	168,393	172,636	173,204	173,147	
<b>CAPITAL (VEHICLE) RESERVE</b>	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
<b>ATAP</b>	0	49,095	37,500			
<b>RTSF</b>	0	105,764	49,920			
<b>TOTAL RIDERSHIP</b>	13,042	12,836				
<b>RIDES PER CAPITA</b>	0.421212415	0.41	-	-	-	

Name of Service :

East Hants Community Rider

Service Area Pop (Census 2021):

30,963

Date Approved by Board:

Signature of Board Treasurer (or Chair):