



**The Corporation of the City of Barrie**  
Report to the Finance and Responsible  
Governance Committee on the 2023 audit

For presentation on May 29, 2024

May 15, 2024

To the Members of the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee  
The Corporation of the City of Barrie  
70 Collier Street, Box 400  
Barrie ON L4M 4T5

## **Report on the audit of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023**

Dear Finance and Responsible Governance Committee Members:

We are pleased to submit this report on the status of our audit of the consolidated financial statements of The Corporation of the City of Barrie (the "City") for the year ended December 31, 2023. This report summarizes the scope of our audit, our findings, and reviews certain other matters that we believe to be of interest to you.

As agreed in our Master Services Agreement for Professional Services ("MSA") for the City and its related entities dated October 1, 2022, we have performed an audit of the consolidated financial statements of the City as at, and for the year ended December 31, 2023, in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards ("Canadian GAAS").

We expect to issue our Independent Auditor's Report on the consolidated financial statements of the City upon approval of the consolidated financial statements.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with the audit plan that was presented to the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee (the "Committee") at the meeting on December 6, 2023.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Committee, management and others within the City and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We look forward to discussing this report summarizing the outcome of our audit with you and answering any questions you may have.

Yours truly,



Chartered Professional Accountants  
Licensed Public Accountants

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# Executive summary



## Audit scope and terms of engagement

We have been engaged to perform audits of the City's and its related entities' financial statements (the "financial statements") prepared in accordance with Canadian Public Sector Accounting Standards ("PSAS") as at, and for the year ended December 31, 2023. Our audits were conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards ("Canadian GAAS").

The terms and conditions of our engagements are described in the Master Services Agreement for Professional Services dated October 1, 2022.

In addition, we reported separately to Those Charged with Governance of the City's related entities where we provide external audit services.

We have developed appropriate safeguards and procedures to eliminate threats to our independence or to reduce them to an acceptable level.

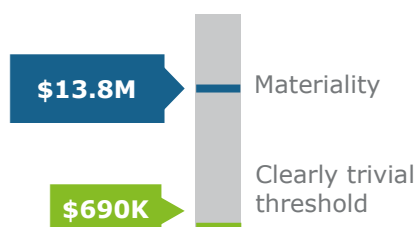


## Significant audit risks and area of special audit consideration

- 1 Revenue recognition
- 2 Management override of controls
- 3 Implementation of PS 3280 Asset Retirement Obligations and PS 3450 Financial Instruments accounting standards



## Materiality



Materiality levels for the City's consolidated financial statements are determined on the basis of consolidated expenses.

Our materiality for the audit of the consolidated financial statements group, for the year ended December 31, 2023, was assessed at \$13,800,000 (2022, \$12,000,000).

Uncorrected misstatements are \$nil.



### Outstanding Matters & Next Steps

**Receipt** of legal inquiry letters

**Receipt** of signed Management’s representation letter

**Completion** of our engagement quality control and subsequent events review

**Completion** of minor audit documentation matters



### Going Concern

Management has completed its assessment of the ability of the City to continue as a going concern and in making its assessment did not identify any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the City's ability to continue as a going concern.

We agree with management’s assessment.



### Results

No restrictions have been placed on the scope of our audit.

We intend to issue an unmodified Independent Auditor’s Report on the consolidated financial statements of the City for the year ended December 31, 2023, once the outstanding items referred to above are completed satisfactorily and the financial statements are approved.

# Audit risks

The audit risks identified as part of our risk assessment, together with our responses and conclusions, are described below.

## Significant audit risks\*

### Revenue recognition\*

Analysis of risk	Audit Response and Results
<p>Canadian GAAS include the presumption of a fraud risk involving improper revenue recognition.</p> <p>We have pinpointed this fraud risk to the following revenue streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taxation revenue (occurrence and accuracy specific to supplementary and omitted taxes)</li> <li>• User charges (occurrence and accuracy specific to manual entries only)</li> <li>• Provincial offences act (occurrence and accuracy specific to manual entries only)</li> <li>• Grant revenue (occurrence and accuracy)</li> <li>• Developer contributions and development charges (occurrence, accuracy and cut-off)</li> <li>• Contributed tangible capital assets (occurrence, accuracy and cut-off)</li> <li>• Licenses and permits revenue (occurrence and accuracy specific to manual entries only)</li> <li>• Other income (occurrence and accuracy specific to manual entries only)</li> </ul> <p>We have also identified areas related to these revenue streams that require accounting estimates and professional judgement, including deferred revenue, grant receivable and the year end water/wastewater accrual.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We tested the design and implementation of key internal controls related to these revenue streams.</li> <li>• We performed audit procedures to determine if restricted contributions (i.e., development charges), and government transfers/grants have been recognized appropriately (revenue vs. deferred revenue) in the proper period.</li> <li>• We reviewed management’s assessments and underlying assumptions for accounting estimates.</li> </ul> <p><i>Results:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We obtained sufficient audit evidence to conclude that there were no material misstatements.</li> </ul>

### Management override of controls\*

Analysis of risk	Audit Response and Results
<p>Under Canadian GAAS, it is the responsibility of the management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to place a strong emphasis on fraud prevention and detection.</p> <p>Oversight by those charged with governance includes considering the potential for override of controls or other inappropriate influence over the financial reporting process.</p> <p>The risk of management override of controls is present in all entities. It is a risk of material misstatement resulting from fraud and therefore is considered as a significant audit risk.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaged in periodic fraud discussions with those involved in the financial reporting process and others, including internal audit.</li> <li>• Considered the potential for bias in judgments and accounting estimates, including performing retrospective analysis of significant accounting estimates.</li> <li>• Evaluated the business rationale for any significant unusual transactions.</li> <li>• Evaluated the City’s fraud risk assessment and consider entity-level internal controls and internal controls over the closing and reporting process.</li> </ul>

**Management override of controls\***

Analysis of risk	Audit Response and Results
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tested journal entries that exhibit characteristics of possible management override of controls, identified using manual techniques.</li> </ul> <p><i>Results:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our audit procedures did not indicate any evidence of management override of controls.</li> </ul>

\*Significant audit risks – presumed areas of audit risk.

**Area of Special Audit Consideration**

During our risk assessment, we identified an additional area of audit risk that will require special audit consideration. This area of risk, together with our planned response, are described below:

**Implementation of PS 3280 Asset Retirement Obligations and PS 3450 Financial Instruments accounting standards**

Analysis of risk	Audit Response and Results
<p>The City must adopt two new significant accounting standards, PS 3280 Asset retirement obligations, and PS 3450 Financial instruments, in fiscal 2023. Both standards require preparation by the City, including development of accounting policies, information gathering with various City departments, engagement of external consultants to assist with valuation, and development of go-forward processes for policy maintenance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We discussed with management their implementation plan for the new standards.</li> <li>• Obtained an understanding from management of the approach to ARO identification, including procedures undertaken to ensure completeness of identification of such obligations.</li> <li>• Obtained management’s calculation of ARO and opening balance adjustment, and assumptions and estimates used. Performed detailed testing on the inputs to the calculation, including assessing the reasonableness of assumptions and recalculation of the ARO liability, amortization and accretion expense.</li> <li>• Reviewed management’s assessment of the applicability of PS 3450. Obtained management’s calculation of the adjustments due to the adoption of PS 3450. Performed detailed testing on the inputs to the calculation.</li> <li>• Reviewed financial statements presentation and disclosures with respect to the first time adoption and new accounting policies.</li> </ul> <p><i>Results:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We obtained sufficient audit evidence to conclude that there were no material misstatements.</li> </ul>

# Significant accounting policies, judgments, and estimates

## Significant accounting policies

Significant accounting policies are those that are most important and representative of the City’s consolidated financial condition and financial performance.

In the course of our audit of the consolidated financial statements, we considered the qualitative aspects of the financial reporting process, including items that have a significant impact on the relevance, reliability, comparability and understandability of the information included in the consolidated financial statements.

The significant accounting policies of the City are disclosed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements.

In our judgment, the significant accounting practices, selected and applied by management are, in all material respects, acceptable and appropriate to the particular circumstances of the City. There were no significant changes in previously adopted accounting policies or their application at the City, other than the adoption of new accounting standards in the current year, as previously described.

## Management judgments and accounting estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management’s current judgments. These judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events, assumptions about future events and interpretations of the financial reporting standards.

Significant accounting estimates recorded in the financial statements include:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Post-employment benefits liabilities	\$134,160,651	\$104,984,644
Asset retirement obligations	\$21,474,346	\$20,098,204

- We used the work of the City’s actuary in their determination of the City’s liability with respect to post-employment benefits liabilities. We reviewed and tested the assumptions used in the actuarial extrapolation performed as at December 31, 2023.
- We also used the work of the City’s engineers and their external consultants in their determination of the City’s asset retirement obligations. We reviewed assumptions used in measuring the liabilities.

During the year ended December 31, 2023, management advised us that there were no significant changes in accounting estimates or in judgments relating to the application of the accounting policies, except for the adoption of accounting standards for asset retirement obligations (PS 3280) and financial instruments (PS 3450).

In our judgment, the significant accounting estimates made by management are, in all material respects, free of possible management bias and of material misstatement. The disclosure in the consolidated financial statements around estimation uncertainty is in accordance with PSAS and is appropriate to the particular circumstances of the City.



# Appendix 1 – Communication requirements and other reportable matters

Required communication	Reference	Refer to this report or document described below
<b>Audit Service Plan</b>		
1. Our responsibilities under Canadian GAAS, including forming and expressing an opinion on the financial statements	CAS <sup>1</sup> 260.14	Master Services Agreement for Professional Services dated October 1, 2022.
2. An overview of the overall audit strategy, addressing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Timing of the audit</li> <li>b. Significant risks, including fraud risks</li> </ul>	CAS 260.15	Audit service plan presented to the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee on December 6, 2023.
3. Significant transactions outside of the normal course of business, including related party transactions	CAS 260 App. 2, CAS 550.27	None Noted.
<b>Enquiries of those charged with governance</b>		
4. How those charged with governance exercise oversight over management’s process for identifying and responding to the risk of fraud and the internal control that management has established to mitigate these risks	CAS 240.21	Audit service plan presented to the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee on December 6, 2023.
5. Any known suspected or alleged fraud affecting the City	CAS 240.22	None noted.
6. Whether the City is in compliance with laws and regulations	CAS 250.15	Management is responsible for ensuring that the City’s operations are conducted in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable to the City. The responsibility for preventing and detecting non-compliance rests with management. The auditor is not and cannot be held responsible for preventing non-compliance with laws and regulations. Our limited procedures did not identify any areas of material non-compliance with laws and regulations by the City.

<sup>1</sup> CAS: Canadian Auditing Standards – CAS are issued by the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board of CPA Canada

<b>Year End Communication</b>		
7. Fraud or possible fraud identified through the audit process	CAS 240.40-.42	None identified through the audit process.
8. Significant accounting policies, practices, unusual transactions, and our related conclusions	CAS 260.16 a.	See page 4 of this report. No unusual transactions noted.
9. Alternative treatments for accounting policies and practices that have been discussed with management during the current audit period	CAS 260.16 a.	None noted.
10. Matters related to going concern	CAS 570.25	We concluded that there was no substantial doubt about the City’s ability to continue as a going concern.
11. Use of the work of specialists	CAS 260.15, A13	<p>As planned, Deloitte and external specialists and experts assisted in the audit to the extent we considered necessary:</p> <hr/> <p><b>Deloitte IT specialists:</b> Participated in evaluating the design and implementation of the City’s general computer internal controls.</p> <hr/> <p><b>City’s Lawyers:</b> Confirm the status of legal claims and assess their impact on the City’s consolidated financial statements.</p> <hr/> <p><b>City’s independent actuary:</b> Determination of the City’s post-employment benefits liability and related expenses. We reviewed and tested data and key assumptions used in the actuarial valuation and related extrapolations, ensured the disclosure in the consolidated financial statements complies with PSAS requirements and that the actuary is in good standing with the Canadian Institute of Actuaries.</p> <hr/> <p><b>City’s engineers and their independent consultants:</b> Determination of the City’s asset retirement obligation and landfill closure and post-closure liabilities. We reviewed and tested data and assumptions used and ensure the disclosure in the consolidated financial statements complies with PSAS requirements.</p>
12. Consultation with other accountants	CAS 260.16(c),(i), A22	None.
13. Management judgments and accounting estimates	CAS 260.16 a.	See page 4 of this report.
14. Significant difficulties, if any, encountered during the audit	CAS 260.16 b.	None.
15. Material written communications between management and us, including management representation letters	CAS 260.16 c.	Management representations letter will be signed by management as at the date of financial statements approval. See Appendix 3 – Draft management representations letter.

16. Circumstances that affect the form and the content of the auditor's report	CAS 260.16.d.	None.
17. Other matters that are significant to the oversight of the financial reporting process	CAS 260.16e.	No other matters to report.
18. Modifications to our opinion(s)	CAS 260.A21	None.
19. Other significant matters discussed with management	CAS 260.A.22	None.
20. Under our professional standards we are required to communicate, unless we are prohibited by a law or regulation, matters involving non-compliance by the City with applicable laws and regulations, including illegal or possibly illegal acts that come to our attention	CAS 250.23	Our limited procedures did not identify any areas of material non-compliance with laws and regulations by the City, that are not otherwise prohibited to disclosed by law or regulation.
21. Litigation	CAS 260.16(a), A19-20, App. 2	No litigation matters to report.
22. Significant deficiencies in internal control, if any, identified by us in the conduct of the audit of the financial statements	CAS 265	No significant deficiencies to report.
23. Uncorrected misstatements and disclosure items	CAS 450.12-13	In accordance with Canadian GAAS, we request that all misstatements be corrected. There were no uncorrected misstatements identified.
<b>Other reportable matters</b>		
24. Changes to the audit plan	CAS 260.A26	The audit was conducted in accordance with our audit plan, which was communicated to The Finance and Responsible Governance Committee. We confirm that there have been no changes to the audit scope and approach communicated in the audit plan.
25. Concerns regarding management competence and integrity	CAS 260.11, A38	We have not determined any concerns regarding management competence and integrity.
26. Disagreements with management	CAS 260.16(c)(i), A22	In the course of our audit, we did not encounter any disagreements with management about matters that individually or in the aggregate could be significant to the financial statements.
27. Subsequent events	CAS 260.10(a), 260.13(b), 260.14(a), 260.17	None noted.
28. Limitations when sending confirmations	CAS 505.9	None.
29. Other significant matters arising from the audit	CAS 260.16(e), A26-A28	None.

# Appendix 2 – Independence Letter

May 10, 2024

Members of the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee  
The Corporation of the City of Barrie  
70 Collier Street, Box 400  
Barrie ON L4M 4T5

Dear Committee Members:

We have been engaged to audit the consolidated financial statements of the Corporation of the City of Barrie (the “City”) for the year ended December 31, 2023.

You have requested that we communicate in writing with you regarding our compliance with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence as well as all relationships and other matters between the City, our Firm and network firms that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence. You have also requested us to communicate the related safeguards that have been applied to eliminate identified threats to independence or reduce them to an acceptable level.

In determining which relationships to report, we have considered relevant rules and related interpretations prescribed by the appropriate provincial institute/order and applicable legislation, covering such matters as:

- a) Holding a financial interest, either directly or indirectly, in a client.
- b) Holding a position, either directly or indirectly, that gives the right or responsibility to exert significant influence over the financial or accounting policies of a client.
- c) Personal or business relationships of immediate family, close relatives, partners or retired partners, either directly or indirectly, with a client.
- d) Economic dependence on a client.
- e) Provision of services in addition to the audit engagement.

We confirm to you that the engagement team and others in the firm as appropriate, the firm and, when applicable, network firms have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence matters arising since May 5, 2023, the date of our last letter.

We are not aware of any relationships between the Deloitte Entities and the City and its affiliates, or persons in financial reporting oversight roles at the City and its affiliates, that, in our professional judgment, may reasonably be thought to bear on independence, that have occurred from May 5, 2023 to May 10, 2024.

We hereby confirm that we are independent with respect to the City in accordance with the Rules of Professional Conduct of the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario as of May 10, 2024.

This report is intended solely for the use of the Finance and Responsible Governance Committee, Council, management, and others within the City and should not be used for any other purposes.

Yours very truly,

*Deloitte LLP*

Chartered Professional Accountants  
Licensed Public Accountants

# Appendix 3 – Draft management representation letter

May 29, 2024

Deloitte LLP  
Bay Adelaide East  
8 Adelaide Street West  
Suite 200  
Toronto ON M5H 0A9

Dear Lilian Cheung:

**Subject: Consolidated financial statements of the City of Barrie for the year ended December 31, 2023**

This representation letter is provided in connection with the audit by Deloitte LLP (“Deloitte” or “you”) of the consolidated financial statements of the City of Barrie (the “City” or “we” or “us”) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, Where we are also reporting on the comparative period include the following: including the comparative financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022, the notes to the consolidated financial statements and a summary of significant accounting policies (the “Financial Statements”) for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the Financial Statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position, results of operations, and cash flows of the City in accordance with Public Sector Accounting Standards (“PSAS”).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered to be material if they, individually or in the aggregate, could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

## Financial statements

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities as set out in the terms of the engagement letter between the City and Deloitte dated October 1, 2022 for the preparation of the Financial Statements in accordance with PSAS. In particular, the Financial Statements are fairly presented, in all material respects, and present the financial position of the City as at December 31, 2023, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with PSAS.
2. Significant assumptions used in making estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.

In preparing the Financial Statements in accordance with PSAS, management makes judgments and assumptions about the future and uses estimates. The completeness and appropriateness of the disclosures related to estimates are in accordance with PSAS. The City has appropriately disclosed in the Financial Statements the nature of measurement uncertainties that are material, including all estimates where it is reasonably possible that the estimate will change in the near term and the effect of the change could be material to the Financial Statements.

The measurement methods, including the related assumptions and models, used in determining the estimates, including fair value, were appropriate, reasonable and consistently applied in accordance with PSAS and appropriately reflect management's intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the City. No events have occurred subsequent to December 31, 2023 that require adjustment to the estimates and disclosures included in the Financial Statements.

There are no changes in management's method of determining significant estimates in the current year.

3. We have determined that the Financial Statements are complete as of the date of this letter as this is the date when there are no changes to the Financial Statements (including disclosures) planned or expected. The Financial Statements have been approved in accordance with our process to finalize financial statements.
4. We have completed our review of events after December 31, 2023, and up to the date of this letter.
5. The Financial Statements are free of material errors and omissions.

### Internal Controls

6. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud and error.
7. We have disclosed to you all known deficiencies in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting identified as part of our evaluation, including separately disclosing to you all such deficiencies that we believe to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

### Information provided

8. We have provided you with:
  - a. Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the Financial Statements, such as records, documentation and other matters.
  - b. All relevant information as well as additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit;
  - c. Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence; and,
  - d. All minutes of the meetings of directors and committees of directors, or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared. All significant board and committee actions are included in the summaries.
9. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the Financial Statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
10. We have no knowledge of any information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the entity and involves:
  - a. Management;
  - b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
  - c. Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the Financial Statements.

11. We have no knowledge of any information in relation to allegations of actual, suspected or alleged fraud, or illegal or suspected illegal acts affecting the City.
12. There have been no communications with regulatory agencies concerning actual or potential noncompliance with or deficiencies in financial reporting practices. There are also no known or possible instances of non-compliance with the requirements of regulatory or governmental authorities.
13. We have disclosed to you the identities of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware, including guarantees, non-monetary transactions and transactions for no consideration.

### Independence matters

For purposes of the following paragraphs, "Deloitte" shall mean Deloitte LLP and Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, including related member firms and affiliates.

14. Prior to the City having any substantive employment conversations with a former or current Deloitte engagement team member, the City has held discussions with Deloitte and obtained approval from Finance and Responsible Governance Committee.

### Other matters

Except where otherwise stated below, immaterial matters less than \$2,760,000 collectively are not considered to be exceptions that require disclosure for the purpose of the following representations. This amount is not necessarily indicative of amounts that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the Financial Statements.

15. All transactions have been properly recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the Financial Statements.
16. The City has identified all related parties in accordance with Section PS 2200, *Related Party Disclosures* ("PS 2200"). Management has determined that such disclosure is not necessary because the transactions have not occurred at a value different from that which would have been arrived at if the parties were unrelated and do not or could not have a material effect on the financial statements. This assessment is based on all relevant factors, including those listed in paragraph 16 of PS 2200.
17. There are no instances of identified or suspected noncompliance with laws and regulations.
18. We have disclosed to you all known, actual or possible litigation and claims, whether or not they have been discussed with our lawyers, whose effects should be considered when preparing the Financial Statements. As appropriate, these items have been disclosed and accounted for in the Financial Statements in accordance with PSAS.
19. All events subsequent to the date of the Financial Statements and for which PSAS requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed. Accounting estimates and disclosures included in the Financial Statements that are impacted by subsequent events have been appropriately adjusted.
20. We have disclosed to you all liabilities, provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets, including those associated with guarantees, whether written or oral, and they are appropriately reflected in the Financial Statements.



21. We have disclosed to you, and the City has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that could have a material effect on the Financial Statements in the event of non-compliance, including all covenants, conditions or other requirements of all outstanding debt.
22. The City has satisfactory title to and control over all assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets. We have disclosed to you and in the Financial Statements all assets that have been pledged as collateral.

### Going concern

23. Management has completed its assessment of the ability of the City to continue as a going concern and in making its assessment did not identify any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the City's ability to continue as a going concern, which would require disclosure in the Financial Statements. In assessing whether the going concern assumption is appropriate, management took into account all available information about the future, which is at least, but is not limited to, twelve months from the statement of financial position date, their plans for future action and the feasibility of these plans.

### Management's Responsibilities

24. All transactions and events have been carried out in accordance with law, regulation or other authority.

### Communications with taxation and regulatory agencies

25. We have disclosed to you all communications from:
  - a. taxation authorities concerning assessments or reassessments that could have a material effect on the Financial Statements; and
  - b. regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with or potential deficiencies in, financial reporting requirements.

### Deficiencies in internal control

26. We have communicated to you all deficiencies in internal control of which we are aware. We have disclosed to you any change in the City's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the current year that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the City's internal control over financial reporting.

### Work of management's experts

27. We agree with the work of management's experts in evaluating the valuation of the employee future benefits obligation, WSIB benefits liability and asset retirement obligations and have adequately considered the competence and capabilities of the experts in determining amounts and disclosures used in the Financial Statements and underlying accounting records. We did not give any, nor cause any, instructions to be given to management's experts with respect to values or amounts derived in an attempt to bias their work, and we are not aware of any matters that have impacted the independence or objectivity of the experts.

## Various matters

28. The following have been properly recorded and, when appropriate, adequately disclosed and presented in the Financial Statements:

- a. losses arising from sale and purchase commitments;
- b. agreements to buy back assets previously sold;
- c. provisions for future removal and site restoration costs;
- d. financial instruments with significant individual or group concentration of credit risk, and related maximum credit risk exposure;
- e. arrangements with financial institutions involving compensating balances or other arrangements involving restriction on cash balances and line-of-credit or similar arrangements;
- f. all impaired loans receivable;
- g. loans that have been restructured to provide a reduction or deferral of interest or principal payments because of borrower financial difficulties.

## Plans or intentions affecting carrying value/classification of assets and liabilities

29. We have disclosed to you all plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the Financial Statements.

## Fair value

30. With regard to the fair value measurements and disclosures of certain assets and liabilities, we believe that:

- a. The completeness and adequacy of the disclosures related to fair values are in accordance with PSAS.
- b. No events that have occurred subsequent to December 31, 2023 that require adjustment to the fair value measurements and disclosures included in the Financial Statements.
- c. They appropriately reflect management's intent and ability to carry out specific courses of action on behalf of the City when relevant to the use of fair value measurements or disclosures.

## Loans and receivables

31. The City is responsible for determining and maintaining the adequacy of the allowance for doubtful notes, loans, and accounts receivable, as well as estimates used to determine such amounts. Management believes the allowance is adequate to absorb currently estimated bad debts in the account balance. We have also considered the need for any provisions related to any loan guarantees provided by the City.

32. We have identified to you all forgivable loans and loans with concessionary terms and have appropriately reflected these instruments in the financial statements.

### Environmental liabilities/contingencies

33. We have considered the effect of environmental matters on the City and have disclosed to you all liabilities, provisions or contingencies arising from environmental matters. All liabilities, provisions, contingencies and commitments arising from environmental matters, and the effect of environmental matters on the carrying values of the relevant assets are recognized, measured and disclosed, as appropriate, in the Financial Statements.

### Employee future benefits

34. Employee future benefit costs, assets, and obligations, as applicable, have been properly recorded and adequately disclosed in the Financial Statements. We believe that the actuarial assumptions and methods used to measure defined benefit plan assets, obligations and costs for financial statement purposes are appropriate in the circumstances.
35. We have disclosed to you any intentions of withdrawing from the multi-employer plan that could result in an effective termination or reportable event for any of the plans. We have disclosed to you any occurrences that could result in the termination of any of our multi-employer plans to which we contribute.
36. We have correctly accounted for the multi-employer plan in which we are a participating government or government organization, as a defined contribution plan

### Government transfers

37. We have disclosed to you all correspondence relating to government transfers that the City has had with the funding body.
38. We have assessed the eligibility criteria and determined that the City is an eligible recipient for the government transfers received.
39. We have assessed the stipulations attached with the funding and have recognized the revenue in accordance with meeting the stipulations required.

### Tax Revenues

40. We have appropriately recorded tax assets and revenues when they meet the definition of an asset in accordance with Section PS 1000, Financial Statement Concepts, when they are authorized and when the taxable event occurs. These amounts have been appropriately measured in accordance with PS 3510, Tax Revenue, and have not been grossed up for any amount of tax concessions.

### Tangible capital assets

41. Tangible capital assets have been recorded properly and consistently according to the standards in Section PS 3150, Tangible Capital Assets.

42. Contributed tangible capital assets have been appropriately recorded at fair value, unless fair value is not reasonably determinable, and in such case, have been recorded at an appropriate nominal value. All contributed tangible capital assets have been appropriately disclosed.
43. We have assessed the useful lives of tangible capital assets and have determined all tangible capital assets contribute to the City's ability to provide goods and services and therefore do not require a write down.

### Government Business Enterprises

44. The City has appropriately classified its investment in Barrie Hydro Holdings Inc. as a Government Business Enterprise.
45. With regards to the City's investment in Barrie Hydro Holdings Inc. we have disclosed to you any events that have occurred and facts that have been discovered with respect to such investment that would affect the investment's value as reported in the City's consolidated financial statements.

### Liabilities for contaminated sites

46. We have evaluated all of our tangible capital assets that we have direct responsibility for or accept responsibility for and have identified inactive sites in which contamination exceeds an environmental standard.
47. We have identified certain inactive sites where contamination exceeds environmental standards. We would be responsible for the remediation of these sites, however, we believe that the City will not be giving up any economic benefits to remediate these sites due to the location and nature of the sites and we have not recorded a liability with respect to remediation.

### Land held for resale

48. We have assessed our land held for resale in accordance with the requirements of PSAS 1200 as noted below and believe all of the criteria have been met.

An asset held for sale should be recognized as a financial asset when all of the following criteria are met:

- (a) prior to the date of the financial statements, the government body, management board or an individual with the appropriate level of authority commits the government to selling the asset;
- (b) the asset is in a condition to be sold;
- (c) the asset is publicly seen to be for sale;
- (d) there is an active market for the asset;
- (e) there is a plan in place for selling the asset; and
- (f) it is reasonably anticipated that the sale to a purchaser external to the government reporting entity will be completed within one year of the financial statement date.

### Asset retirement obligations

49. The City has made the accounting policy choice to apply CPA Canada Public Sector Accounting Handbook Section PS 3280, *Asset Retirement Obligations* using modified retroactive application in accordance with paragraphs PS 3280.69-71. We have applied Section PS 3280 to events and transactions from the date of origin of such items using current assumptions and discount rates. The cumulative adjustment has been reflected in the opening balance of the accumulated surplus/deficit as at December 31, 2023 and comparative periods have been restated.

### Financial instruments - general including derivatives

50. The City has properly classified all financial instruments in accordance with CPA Canada Public Sector Accounting Handbook Section PS 3450, *Financial Instruments* ("Section PS 3450"). Specifically, all financial instruments are classified as fair value, cost or amortized cost.
51. The City has properly identified all financial contracts that meet the definition of a derivative in Section PS 3450. The City has also properly identified all embedded derivatives included in other non-derivative contracts and determined whether these embedded derivatives need to be separately accounted for as described in Section PS 3450.

Yours truly,

**The Corporation of the City of Barrie**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

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Name

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Position

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Position

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