

COMMONWEALTH BANK



# A LEGACY OF TRUST

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



## CELEBRATING 65 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE: A LEGACY OF TRUST

With immense pride in our history and an unwavering commitment to “Bahamians Helping Bahamians”, Commonwealth Bank proudly celebrates 65 years of unparalleled growth, financial accomplishments and a tradition of service excellence. Beginning with our first modest steps in April 1960, Commonwealth Bank has been more than just a financial institution; it has been a pillar of trust and stability. Founded with the mission of empowering individuals, businesses, and communities, we have remained steadfast in our vision – “To be the First Choice of Bahamians for all Personal Banking Services”. Through periods of economic fluctuation, we have weathered the challenges with resilience, driven by a steadfast commitment to integrity, innovation, and, most importantly, our customers.

This milestone is not just a celebration of longevity; it is a testament to the dedicated men and women who have devoted their lives to the service of this institution. Among them are individuals who have spent decades ensuring that every client who walks through our doors experiences the very essence of Commonwealth Bank — unmatched expertise, unwavering support, and a relationship built on trust. Their dedication has transformed Commonwealth Bank from a mere financial entity into a household name, a legacy passed down through generations.

Commonwealth Bank has not only grown in scale but also in influence, evolving into a financial powerhouse that fuels dreams and sustains ambitions. Our financial strength is not measured solely in balance sheets or market share but in the opportunities we create - the businesses we finance, the homes we help families secure, and the futures we help build. From pioneering digital banking solutions to corporate funding initiatives, our impact resonates far beyond numbers.

At the heart of our success lies an unshakable foundation of trust. It is a trust that has been carefully nurtured over six and a half decades - trust in our ability to safeguard wealth, to provide sound financial

guidance, and to adapt to an ever-changing financial landscape. Our customers remain at the center of everything we do, and as we reflect on our journey, we remain deeply grateful for their loyalty and confidence in us.

As we look ahead, our commitment to innovation remains stronger than ever. The financial world is evolving at an unprecedented pace, and Commonwealth Bank is poised to lead the charge. Through cutting-edge technology, strategic investments, and a continued focus on sustainability and responsible banking, we are shaping a future where financial security and prosperity are within reach for all.

Yet, even as we embrace the future, we honour the past - the pioneers, the visionaries, the tireless employees whose dedication laid the foundation for this legacy. We celebrate those who have given decades of service, shaping this institution into what it is today: a beacon of financial strength and trust. Their unwavering commitment has ensured that Commonwealth Bank is not just a bank but an enduring institution woven into the fabric of society. Looking ahead, Commonwealth Bank is more committed than ever to upholding the legacy of service excellence that has been central to our success. While our industry continues to evolve, we remain focused on innovation and providing services to meet the needs of an increasingly digital world. However, we will never lose sight of the personal connections we have formed with our customers over the years. Our ability to adapt and innovate, while staying true to our values, will continue to be the key to our future success.

As we reflect on our remarkable journey and the impact we have had on The Bahamas, we reaffirm our legacy – “A Legacy You Can Trust”. The next sixty-five years will present new challenges, but also immense opportunities for growth and transformation. With our strong foundation, commitment to excellence, and the trust of our customers, we are poised to continue shaping the future of banking in The Bahamas. Together, with the guidance of our Board of Directors, the dedication of our Leadership team and staff and the support of our valued customers, we will continue to build a legacy that future generations can depend on, a legacy they can trust.



## OUR VISION

To be the First Choice of Bahamians for ALL Personal Banking Services.



## OUR MISSION

To be the leading Bank in The Bahamas providing personal banking services by delivering superior quality service to our customers; retaining and developing employees with outstanding capabilities; creating value for our shareholders and promoting economic growth and stability in our community.



## OUR VALUES

To ensure that Commonwealth Bank is a great place to work; provide meaningful opportunities for Directors and other Stakeholders to have input in setting the direction of the Bank as part of an effective governance regime; provide customers with outstanding services and help them achieve their financial goals; be responsible and effective financial managers so Commonwealth Bank remains strong and prosperous; lead by example and use our resources and expertise to effect positive change in The Bahamas.

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# Celebrating 65 Years



1960

Commonwealth Industrial Bank is founded

1984

Commonwealth Industrial Bank purchased by Bahamian investors

1986

Sun Card, the first Bahamian credit card is established

1988

Commonwealth Industrial Bank renamed to Commonwealth Bank

1990

Commonwealth Bank becomes the first Bahamian owned Clearing Bank

2000

Commonwealth Bank's first public share offering

2005

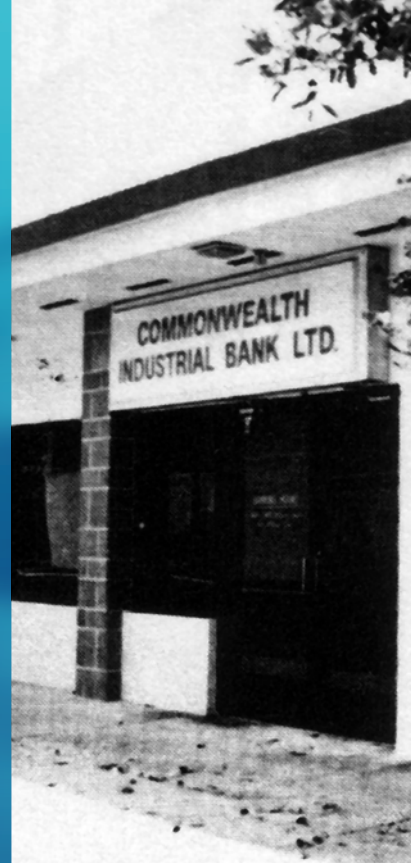
Commonwealth Bank Internet Banking is introduced

2018

Launch of Commonwealth Bank Online & Mobile Banking

2025

Sixty-five years of growth and progress



# Financial Highlights

(B\$ 000's)	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
<b>Income Statement Data</b>					
Interest income	\$ 143,185	\$ 137,961	\$ 120,224	\$ 132,591	\$ 142,020
Interest expense	(16,516)	(17,195)	(17,254)	(17,105)	(13,638)
Net interest income	126,669	120,766	102,970	115,486	128,382
Other income	34,419	31,753	30,078	24,643	26,880
Insurance recoveries	-	-	-	-	2,091
Impairment losses	25,578	2,339	25,094	(93,001)	(65,758)
Non-interest expense (including impairment losses)	(75,186)	(89,013)	(57,557)	(170,136)	(138,617)
Total (loss) profit	85,902	63,506	75,491	(30,007)	16,645
Other comprehensive income	(300)	2,832	766	9	(1,125)
Total comprehensive (loss) income	85,602	66,338	76,257	(29,998)	15,520
<b>Per Share Data :</b>					
Book value per share	\$ 1.19	\$ 1.07	\$ 0.99	\$ 0.82	\$ 0.94
Cash Dividend	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.06
Year end share price	\$ 5.04	\$ 5.45	\$ 3.58	\$ 3.04	\$ 3.59
Average common shares outstanding (000's)	\$ 291,106	\$ 289,119	\$ 292,613	\$ 289,269	\$ 287,744
Dividend growth (total)	14.29%	40.00%	150.00%	-33.33%	-40.00%
<b>Balance Sheet Data :</b>					
Total assets	\$ 1,916,516	\$ 1,875,643	\$ 1,833,229	\$ 1,716,905	\$ 1,705,376
Investments	748,260	772,052	729,036	698,857	462,501
Gross loans and advances to customers	913,691	872,402	862,226	899,413	1,015,433
Net write-offs	434	9,151	28,071	78,655	31,671
Total deposits from customers	1,543,866	1,544,014	1,513,397	1,462,218	1,415,910
Total shareholders' equity	345,685	309,498	288,375	238,491	269,419
<b>Performance Ratios :</b>					
Price/earnings	\$ 16.80	\$ 25.11	\$ 13.80	\$ N/A	\$ 62.06
Price/book value	\$ 4.24	\$ 5.14	\$ 3.64	\$ 3.69	\$ 3.83
Dividend yield (annual dividend/year end price)	3.17%	2.57%	2.79%	1.32%	1.67%
Earning per share	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.26	\$ (0.10)	\$ 0.06
Return on average assets	4.53%	3.42%	4.25%	-1.75%	0.97%
Return on average shareholders' equity	26.22%	21.24%	28.66%	-11.82%	6.14%
Dividend payout ratio	53.33%	64.51%	38.55%	-38.58%	103.78%
Efficiency ratio	62.55%	59.90%	62.12%	55.05%	47.65%
Net interest margin	7.91%	7.80%	6.91%	6.04%	7.35%
<b>Asset Quality Ratios :</b>					
Impaired loans to total loans	5.12%	6.46%	7.65%	15.76%	8.17%
Impaired loans to total assets	2.44%	3.01%	3.60%	8.25%	4.86%
90 day past due loans to total loans	4.28%	5.51%	8.51%	16.33%	7.64%
90 day past due loans to total assets	2.04%	2.56%	4.00%	8.56%	4.55%
New write-offs to average loans	0.05%	1.06%	3.19%	8.22%	3.11%
Loan impairment allowances to total loans	4.21%	7.38%	8.80%	14.66%	11.48%
Loan impairment allowances to non-accrual loans	98.34%	132.71%	121.04%	99.90%	183.00%
Loan impairment allowances to impaired loans	82.18%	114.29%	115.20%	93.05%	140.57%
<b>Liquidity Ratios :</b>					
Liquidity ratio	64.73%	66.23%	66.16%	61.62%	53.74%
Average cash and securities to average total assets	52.60%	54.03%	53.08%	47.61%	43.28%
<b>Capital Ratios :</b>					
Average shareholders' equity to average total assets	17.28%	16.12%	14.84%	14.84%	15.88%
Tier 1 Capital	\$ 345,685	\$ 309,498	\$ 288,375	\$ 238,491	\$ 269,419
Total risk adjusted assets	\$ 849,628	\$ 842,298	\$ 914,473	\$ 890,318	\$ 983,103
Tier 1 ratio	40.69%	36.74%	31.53%	26.79%	27.40%
Average number of employees for the year	590	563	557	560	571





**William B. Sands Jr., DM.**

*Executive Chairman*

# Executive Chairman's Report

## Sustaining Success Through Continuous Improvement

As we embark on the 65th year of our journey in serving Bahamians by providing a wide range of financial products and services tailored to individual consumers and small businesses, we do so with immense pride in our legacy, our resilience, and our commitment to progress. For 52 years, we have operated in an independent Bahamas, and for 41 years, we have flourished as a fully owned Bahamian bank. Our history is rich with milestones of success, yet we understand that true greatness is never stagnant—it is forged through continuous improvement, unwavering dedication, and a vision for the future.

The year 2024 began with momentum, following our second most successful year in 2023. The economic landscape has been shaped by our nation's recovery from historic adversities in recent memory, yet we stand strong. Our Board of Directors, Executive Team, management, and staff remain steadfast in our pursuit of excellence—seeking not only to sustain success but to elevate it. Our mission is clear: to transform the resilience of 2022 and 2023 into a self-sustaining engine of growth, a "Bahamian Kaizen"—a philosophy of continuous enhancement that will propel us into 2025 and beyond.

Our greatest investment remains in our people—the heart and soul of our institution. We are incredibly proud that our Leadership Development Program, highlighted in last year's report, has now received national accreditation in January 2025. This milestone makes us the only financial institution in The Bahamas with such a prestigious distinction. The results speak for themselves: enhanced leadership, strengthened integrity, and a culture of accountability that reverberates throughout our organization.

Yet, progress demands more than just investment in people; it requires innovation in the way we serve our customers. Our commitment to superior banking experiences has driven advancements across all service channels—whether in-branch, at our ATMs, or through our online and mobile banking platforms. We understand the challenges of meeting the evolving demands of modern banking, but we embrace them as opportunities to reinforce our position as the premier Bahamian bank, serving Bahamians. As I stated last year, "Passion does not accept complacency." We remain relentless in our pursuit of excellence, investing in our employees' development and our customers' experiences with the same zeal that has defined us for decades.

Beyond banking, we recognise our duty to our community. Our role extends beyond financial services—it is about nation-building, about being there in times of crisis, and about uplifting those in need. Whether through hurricane relief efforts, contributions to the University of The Bahamas, or support for local charities, we remain deeply committed to fostering a brighter future for all Bahamians. True progress is not measured solely by balance sheets but by the positive impact we have on society as a whole.

## Performance & Achievements

The year 2024 stands as another record-breaking chapter in our history. We achieved a total profit of \$85.9 million. These results reinforce the strength of our strategies, the effectiveness of our leadership, and the trust our stakeholders place in us.

Thanks to this robust performance, we maintained our quarterly dividend at three cents per share, with a total annual payout of 16 cents per share. While our share price closed at \$5.04 in December 2024—down from \$5.45 at the end of 2023—it remains significantly higher than the \$3.58 recorded at the close of 2022, reflecting our sustained value creation for shareholders. Further insights into our financial standing will be detailed in the President's Report and Management Discussion & Analysis.

## Looking Ahead

I affirmed last year, "We cannot rest on our laurels, for the competition is too fierce." We are the leader in personal banking services, and we do not take our position at the forefront for granted. We aim to maintain this leadership by embedding continuous innovation into our DNA.

Our purpose remains steadfast: **To be the leading bank in The Bahamas, providing exceptional personal banking services, fostering a culture of excellence among our employees, creating lasting value for our shareholders, and driving economic growth within our community.**

As Chairman, I extend my deepest gratitude to my fellow Directors for their unwavering dedication and wisdom, to our President and Executive Team for their exceptional leadership, and, most importantly, to our more than 590 dedicated staff members. Your hard work, passion, and commitment are the driving forces behind our achievements. Together, we will continue to shape the future of banking in The Bahamas.

With confidence and determination, we move forward—building on our legacy and reaching for even greater heights.



# Committed to **Community**

## **Commonwealth Bank Supports the Bahamas Red Cross**

Commonwealth Bank is proud to reaffirm its ongoing commitment to the Bahamas Red Cross through meaningful corporate giving and community partnership. As a longstanding supporter of the organization, the Bank recognizes the vital role the Red Cross plays in providing relief, care, and support to individuals and families in times of need.

From lending a hand at the Red Cross Fair and supporting annual raffle ticket sales at our branches, to contributing to the Red Cross Ball and offering aid as first responders during times of tragedy, Commonwealth Bank continues to stand alongside the Bahamas Red Cross. These efforts reflect the Bank's broader mission to uplift communities and extend a helping hand where it's needed most.

*Pictured L to R: Alicia Pinder, Director General of the Bahamas Red Cross Society and Denise D. Turnquest, President, Commonwealth Bank Limited*



## **Commonwealth Bank Powers Junkanoo Magic with Donation to Saxons Superstars!**

Commonwealth Bank is proud to make a donation to the legendary Saxons Superstars Junkanoo Group. This contribution underscores the Bank's commitment to supporting Bahamian culture and preserving the cherished tradition of Junkanoo, which unites communities through music, art, and celebration.

*Pictured L to R: Sean Brathwaite, Sr. Vice President and COO, Commonwealth Bank Limited and Toby Austin, Chairman, Saxons Superstars*



## **Commonwealth Bank Fuels Back-to-School Success with Donation to the Salvation Army**

Commonwealth Bank presented a generous donation to the Salvation Army, dedicated to providing essential supplies and school necessities for students in need. This contribution reflects our unwavering commitment to fostering educational opportunities for children, empowering them to thrive and succeed in their academic journeys.

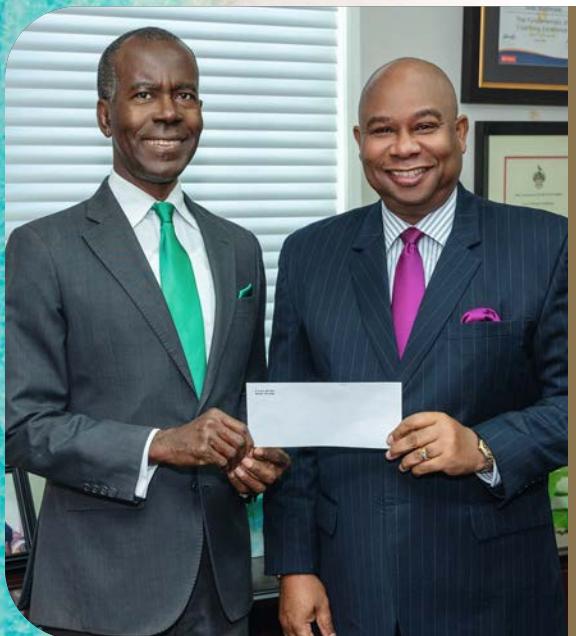
At Commonwealth Bank, we believe that education is a powerful tool that can transform lives. By alleviating the financial burden on families as they prepare their children for the new school year, we are investing in a brighter future for our community.

We are honoured to collaborate with the Salvation Army to ensure that every child has the resources they need to excel in their studies.

*Pictured L to R: Tangela Albury, Sr. Vice President and CFO, Commonwealth Bank Limited and Delisa Armbrister, Administrative Assistant, The Salvation Army*







## Commonwealth Bank Cultivates Growth: Supporting Agricultural Development

Commonwealth Bank is proud to partner with the Bahamas Agricultural Development Organization (ADO), a pivotal organization dedicated to advancing agriculture in The Bahamas. By providing essential resources, training, and guidance to farmers, ADO promotes and facilitates the growth of the agricultural sector, empowering farmers to enhance their practices and increase productivity. The Bank's donation was aimed at supporting various initiatives, including distribution and management of backyard farming kits, the creation and management of community farms, and assistance with school Agri-program assistance. This contribution underscores Commonwealth Bank's commitment to fostering sustainable agriculture and supporting local farmers.

*Pictured L to R: Philip Smith, Executive Chairman, Agricultural Development Organisation; and Sean Brathwaite, Sr. Vice President and COO, Commonwealth Bank Limited*



## Commonwealth Bank Donates to Lyford Cay Foundation, Inc. in Support of FOCUS and LEAP Programmes

The donation to the Lyford Cay Foundation made by Commonwealth Bank reflects the institution's ongoing dedication to education and empowering students. This contribution is aimed at providing financial assistance to students in need.

The donation specifically supports the FOCUS and LEAP programmes, which are designed to guide students toward their educational goals. Tangela Albury, Sr. VP & CFO of Commonwealth Bank, emphasized the importance of education in transforming lives and creating opportunities for future generations. She highlighted that this donation is a way for the Bank to give back to the community and invest in the future of youth.

By supporting the Lyford Cay Foundation, Commonwealth Bank is making a tangible impact on the academic success of students and reinforcing its commitment to community engagement.

*Pictured L to R: Dr. Nicola Virgill-Rolle, Executive Director, Lyford Cay Foundation; and Tangela Albury, Sr. Vice President and CFO, Commonwealth Bank Limited*

# 2024 Donations

ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY  
BAARK  
BAHAMAS AIDS FOUNDATION  
BAHAMAS DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION  
BAHAMAS FEEDING NETWORK  
BAHAMAS HOPE CHALLENGE  
BAHAMAS LAW ENFORCEMENT  
BAHAMAS NATIONAL TRUST

BAHAMAS RED CROSS  
CANCER SOCIETY OF THE BAHAMAS  
CARIFTA  
GREAT COMMISSION MINISTRIES BAHAMAS  
JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT LEAD INSTITUTE  
LYFORD CAY FOUNDATION  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

MUSIC MAKERS  
NATIONAL FAMILY ISLAND REGATTA  
SAXONS SUPERSTARS  
SIR VICTOR SASSOON HEART FOUNDATION  
SPECIAL OLYMPICS BAHAMAS  
UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS  
VALLEY BOYS





**Denise D. Turnquest**  
*President*



## Sustaining Success

Building on the historic achievements of 2022 and 2023, our guiding principle in 2024 was *"Sustaining Success Through Continuous Improvement"*. With no hurricane landfalls in The Bahamas and a steady increase in tourist arrivals, the Bahamian economy continued its resilient recovery from the challenging years of 2019–2021.

We are proud to report that 2024 was the most profitable year in our Bank's history, with total profits reaching \$85.9 million. This success was driven by a combination of strategic growth, laser focus on our credit quality and delinquency management operations, and an updated loan loss model reflecting our real-world experience and economic improvements. The release of additional impairment allowances contributed \$25.6 million to our record-breaking profitability.

All key financial ratios showed remarkable improvements from 2023. Return on assets ("ROA") was 4.53% compared to 3.42% in 2023. Return on equity ("ROE") was 26.22% compared to 21.27% in 2023. Earnings per share ("EPS") is \$0.30 compared to \$0.22 in 2023.

Total assets reached \$1.92 billion as of December 31, 2024, compared to \$1.88 billion in 2023. Notably, the Bank experienced a \$40 million increase in gross loans and advances to \$914 million, the first time there have been consecutive year increases in gross loans and advances since 2016.

Key regulatory ratios for liquidity at 20% and capital adequacy at 17% were well surpassed at 65% and 31.7%, respectively. Your Bank continues to have a solid, robust balance sheet. The financial ratios can be found in the Financial Highlights on page 5, which reveals the depth of the Bank's safety and soundness.

Based on these results, the Bank paid 16 cents per share dividends to shareholders in 2024.

The Annual Report "Management's Discussion and Analysis" section describes the results in more detail.

## Through Continuous Improvement

Success encompasses more than just the financial results. The Bank is committed to enhancing its employee Leadership Development Program (LDP). This dedication is evidenced by the successful conclusion of its second graduation ceremony held in 2025 for the 2024 cohorts, and the program's recent accreditation by the National Accreditation and Equivalency Council of The Bahamas (NAECOB). As the only financial institution with an accredited training program, the Bank takes pride in achieving a significant milestone in human resource development. We also take pride in the fact that our staff fully facilitate the LDP.

In 2024, your Bank continued its investment in the technology spine of the Bank, unseen but critical in providing fast, reliable and secure service to our staff and customers. This investment will maintain our performance and reputation in quickly restoring service to our customers after service disruptions, most notably hurricanes, particularly on the family islands where the Bank maintains a physical presence.

In 2024, we moved further to advance our technology infrastructure in a way that paves the way for the evolving fintech industry. These investments will give us a better ability to continue these quick business resumptions into the future. They also enable the Bank to lay the foundation for expanding and improving our card services and products, improving our call centre service, introducing merchant-acquiring services in 2024 and positioning ourselves to introduce Mastercard "Black" and "Platinum" cards in early 2025.

These initiatives continue our "Banking Your Way" campaign – not forcing customers to use one particular channel but offering customers multiple channels they can select at their convenience.

## The Economy

The Central Bank of the Bahamas reported that it estimated that the economy grew in the 2.0% range in 2024, down from 2.6% in 2023, having levelled off from the significant post-pandemic recovery of around 14.0 percent in 2022.

Turning to credit, commercial banks' lending to the private sector recovered further in 2024 by \$348 million, with net consumer credit expanding by \$116.8 million from \$19.1 million in 2023. Credit delinquency rates, also continued to fall. In particular, the proportion of total private sector loans 3 months or longer past due with payments (NPLs) decreased to 5.5% by December 2023 from 6.67% at the end of 2023.

The Central Bank has indicated it will continue its accommodative stance for private sector credit growth into 2025.

Returning to the outlook, the Central Bank expects that growth in 2025 and beyond will settle further to resemble The Bahamas' longer-term potential more closely.

## Future Performance

As of December 31, 2024, our team comprised 590 full-time Bahamians. I extend my thanks to them for their dedication to our shared objective of continuous improvement.

While we continue to invest in our people and can achieve continuous improvement, we will deliver exceptional performance.

# Management Discussion & Analysis

This Management Discussion and Analysis ("MDA") of our financial condition and results of operations is presented to enable a reader to assess our financial condition, material changes in our financial condition and our results of operations, including our liquidity and capital resources, for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024, compared to the preceding year. For a complete understanding of trends, events, uncertainties, and the effect of critical accounting estimates on our operations and financial condition results, this MDA should be read carefully together with our Consolidated Financial Statements and related Notes. All amounts reported are based on financial statements prepared under International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS Accounting Standards").

## Caution Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

From time to time, we make written or oral forward-looking statements. By their very nature, forward-looking statements involve numerous factors and assumptions, giving rise to the possibility that these forward-looking statements may not be achieved. We caution readers not to place undue reliance on these statements as several crucial factors, including domestic and external influences, and unknown and unplanned economic and operational factors, could cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed in these forward-looking statements.

## Executive Summary

In 2024, the Bank achieved record-breaking profitability, reporting a total profit of \$85.9 million—an increase from \$63.5 million in the previous year. When factoring in other comprehensive income, total comprehensive income for the year reached \$85.6 million. This marks 2024 as the most profitable year in the Bank's history.

The Bank's exceptional financial performance is grounded in the economy of The Bahamas, which continued its positive trajectory, albeit with moderated growth compared to previous years; however, we strategised on this experience to drive robust organic growth, highlighted by record-breaking credit production. The strategic growth of the loan portfolio was achieved while maintaining stringent credit quality standards and significantly controlling delinquency levels. This disciplined approach strengthened the Bank's core earning assets compared to the prior year and enabled the release of additional impairment allowances, contributing \$25.6 million to total profits.

Mirroring trends from the prior year, in 2024, the Bank sustained growth in both gross interest and net interest income. Gross interest income rose by 4%, reaching \$143 million, up from \$138 million in 2023. This increase, coupled with controlled interest expenses, enabled net interest income to expand by 5%, climbing to \$127 million from \$121 million in the previous year.

The Bank achieved an 8% organic increase in non-interest income, primarily driven by growth in transaction-based fee income. This expansion was largely fueled by a rising number of customer accounts throughout 2024 and increased usage of the Bank's debit and credit card products. Additionally, introducing merchant-acquiring services as a new revenue stream further contributed to this upward trend. These results underscore the Bank's strategic focus on enhancing customer value through innovative, fee-generating services that strengthen overall financial performance.

All the relevant financial ratios have been positively affected. Return on assets ("ROA") was 4.53% compared to 3.42% in 2023. Return on equity ("ROE") was 26.22% compared to 21.24% in 2023. Earnings per share ("EPS") is \$0.30 compared to \$0.22 in 2023.

The Bank's financial condition remains strong with total assets of \$1.92 billion, compared to \$1.88 billion in 2023, built on a solid liquidity buffer (available cash and unencumbered high-quality liquid assets at market

value). The Bank must hold a minimum level of liquid assets against possible liquidity risk, currently set by the Central Bank at a liquidity ratio of 20%. As of December 31, 2024, the Bank's liquidity ratio is 65%, well above this regulatory limit. Additionally, under our capital management plan, the Bank operates with a level of capital above regulatory-established limits. The Bank's capital adequacy ratio is 40.69% (2023: 36.74%) and well above the Central Bank's requirements of 17%.

As of December 31, 2024, the Bank employed 590 full-time Bahamians, an increase from 563 at the end of 2023 to improve the Bank's operational support and expertise. This dedicated team of professionals remains instrumental in driving the Bank's outstanding financial performance for the year.

Aligned with our philosophy of sharing our success, the Bank paid extraordinary dividends in 2024, totalling \$0.04 per share or \$11.7 million. In addition, the Board of Directors approved regular quarterly dividends of \$0.03 per share. The total extraordinary and regular dividends paid to shareholders in 2024 totalled \$46.6 million (2023: \$40.9 million).

## Net Interest Income

Net interest income is \$126.7 million compared to \$120.8 million for 2023. This represents an increase of 5%, which is attributed to improved yield on the Bank's investments, growth in the loan book, lower interest reversal on loans charged-off, and lower interest reversal on the segment of the loan book which is contractually delinquent with no interest accruing past ninety days. The changes are mainly driven by the consumer loan category. Referring to the components of net interest income.

The Bank's interest-earning assets, namely its investments, deposits with banks and loans receivable, generated a decrease in interest income from investments of 2%, and an increase in interest income from deposits with banks, and loans and advances to customers of 6%, year over year.

Interest expense decreased by 4%. In 2024, the Bank continued to benefit from a business environment characterised by historically low funding costs. We experienced growth in non-interest-bearing and low-interest-bearing customer deposit products. This growth, combined with a modest reduction in customer term deposit balances and our strategic management of interest rates on rollovers, has decreased interest costs for the Bank.

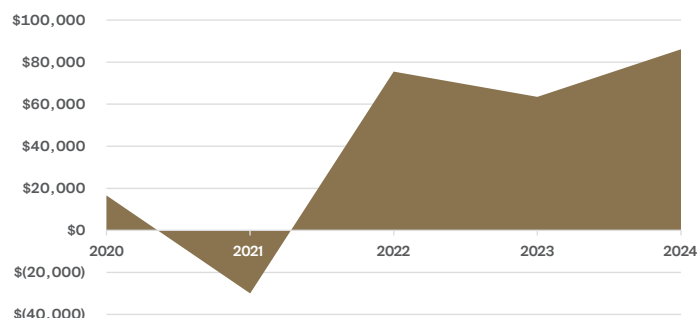
## Impairment Expense

A financial instrument is impaired when, based on current information and events, it is probable that we cannot collect all amounts due according to agreed contractual terms. We are also required under IFRS Accounting Standards to recognise an allowance for impairment or credit losses even on our investments and loans receivable that are performing. In 2024, as in the prior year, we recognised allowances for impairment on our investments and loans receivable financial assets. As of December 31, 2024, the consolidated reversal of impairment expense is \$25.6 million (2023: \$2.3 million).

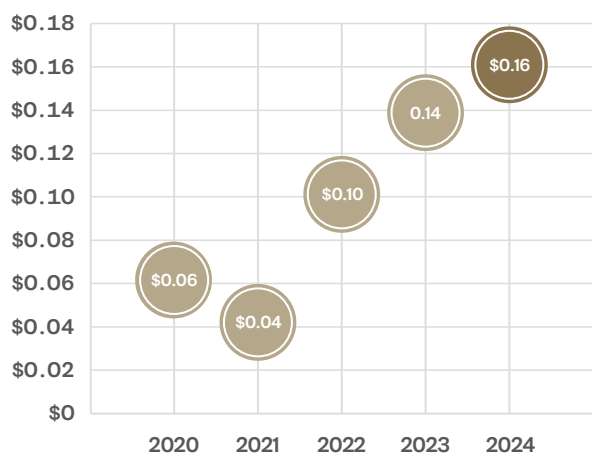
The key driver for the release of impairment losses in 2024 was the periodic reassessment of the actual losses to the Bank when borrowers defaulted. The Bank has experienced significantly fewer losses through more efficient debt collection, improved recovery processes, and improved credit risk management, supported by favourable market conditions. Improvement in the economy of The Bahamas has meant that borrowers' debt servicing capacity continued to improve. On December 31, 2024, the overall delinquency rate on loans and advances to customers was 7%, which decreased significantly from 9% as of December 31, 2023. Loan charge-offs are a normal part of business activities, and the loan charge-off of \$27.0 million was well within the budget of \$29.1 million, below the 2023 loan charge-off of \$34.0 million. The economic rebound, together with effective debt collection



**Total Profit \$85.9 (Million)**



### Total Dividends Paid per Share



management, contributed to loan loss recoveries in 2024 of \$26.6 million, which exceeded those of 2023, totalling \$24.8 million. Combined, these factors have driven a significant reduction in allowances for credit losses to \$38 million in 2024 compared to \$68 million in 2023.

The allowance for credit losses on the Bank's investments changed mildly in 2024 based on a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the credit risk associated with holding these investments as of December 31, 2024.

### Non-interest Income

Non-interest income comprises net premium income from issuing credit life insurance policies, bank fees or other income from ancillary services to loan and deposit customers, and investment gains and losses. Non-interest income increased by 8% over 2024.

The Bank saw growth in fees and other income by 13%. Fee income growth is attributed to increased transaction-based fees on the Bank's deposit accounts and transaction-based fees with increased usage of the Bank's debit and credit card products. In addition, the Bank has expanded to offer merchant-acquiring services for its commercial customers. This expansion into services for commercial customers represents a new revenue-generating fee income source for the Bank, which, in 2024, represented an additional \$2.2 million in revenue.

Other income includes gross credit life premium income of \$5.8 million, which increased by 11% in 2024 compared to 2023. This positive movement is correlated to the growth of the Bank's loan book, where the Bank experienced exceptional growth in credit production during the year, particularly during the fourth quarter of 2024.

### Non-interest Expense

Non-interest expense, exclusive of impairment expense reversals on financial assets, primarily comprises general and administrative expenses, management estimates for asset depreciation and amortisation, and directors' costs. As of December 31, 2024, non-interest expenses, excluding impairment expense reversals on financial assets, totalled \$101.2 million, compared to \$91.4 million in 2023, reflecting an increase of 10% from the prior year and a mild increase of 3% against a budget of \$97.8 million. The Bank experienced increased general insurance costs because of reinsurers repricing of the climate-based risks associated with operating in this (and neighbouring) jurisdictions; and increased core non-controllable operating costs, such as increased national insurance premiums, deposit insurance premiums, which doubled, and utility costs, significantly impacted the Bank's cost structure. The Bank's cost expansion outside of the non-controllable expenditure is based on a strategic posture to continue to invest in its technology infrastructure to support overall business resilience and its technology optimisation strategy. Our social investment program increased in 2024, and significant donations are listed in the Annual Report "Committed to Community" section.

### Management of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2024, the Bank's financial position reflects \$1.92 billion in consolidated total assets, which increased from the prior period's \$1.88 billion.

The gross loans and advances to individual customers (before accrued interest and allowances for credit losses) is \$890.8 million as of December 31, 2024, and has increased by just over 6% (2023: 2%), resulting from the Bank having benefited from strong credit sales, and a continued laser focus on delinquency management.

The Bank took a strategic position concerning its investment and exposure to Bahamas Sovereign Debt, while operating within its prudential limits for managing its financial risks, concentration risk, longer-term financial resilience posture, and profitability. As of December 31, 2024, investment in Bahamas Sovereign Debt, denominated in Bahamian and United States

dollars, and Bahamas Government-related debt (before accrued interest and allowances for credit losses) stands at \$693.7 million, compared to \$715.2 million as of December 31, 2023. This reflects a decrease of \$21.4 million or 3%. These investments represent approximately 36% of total assets, compared to 38% as of December 31, 2023. Our share of The Bahamas' Sovereign Debt is substantially weighted in instruments with a time-to-maturity of five years or less. The Bank is invested in United States Treasury Bills totalling \$3.4 million as of December 31, 2024, compared to \$8.1 million as of December 31, 2023. The Bank continues to hold investment-grade United States corporate debt instruments totalling \$40 million (2023: \$41 million ) as it seeks to diversify its investment holdings for longer-term financial resilience and profitability. Additionally, the Bank expanded its holdings of United States dollar-denominated time deposits to \$38 million as of December 31, 2024, from \$10 million as of December 31, 2023.

The Bank maintained the stability of its core funding base with total deposits as of December 31, 2024, holding at \$1.5 billion, compared to the prior year's end. Market conditions continue to attract new depositors looking for a better service experience for the Bank's savings and demand deposit products. The Bank's customer service philosophy of "banking your way" and the convenience of its Saturday banking services have supported this positive customer experience. However, the low interest rates in the market for time deposits have facilitated a preference movement into non-bank investment products.

The Components of Capital

A strong capital base is a foundation for building and expanding our operations and services safely and soundly. Our total capital increased in 2024 to \$346 million (2023: \$310 million), which is related primarily to the 2024 consolidated net profit.

During the year, the Board of Directors approved regular quarterly dividends of \$0.03 per share and extraordinary dividends totalling \$0.04 per share. The total dividends paid through to the end of 2024 are 16 cents per share or \$46.6 million (2023: \$40.9 million).

On December 31, 2024, the share value was \$5.04 per share, compared to \$5.45 per share as of December 31, 2023. This decline reflects market opportunities for higher interest rate fixed-income investments, potentially leading investors willing to accept more risk to shift away from dividend-paying stocks.

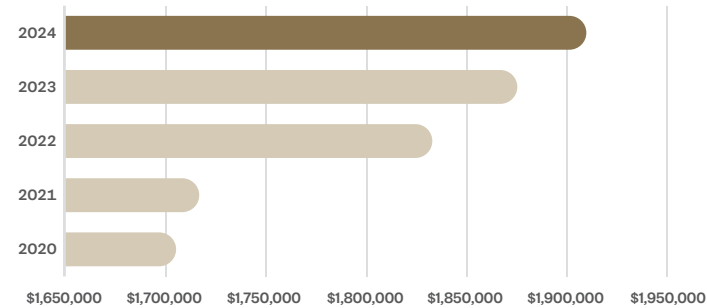
We maintain a posture as a trusted financial institution through effective risk management. Our liquidity and capital adequacy ratios remained well above regulatory requirements, as noted in the Executive Summary above.

Bank-wide Risk Management

Our risk management structure promotes making sound business decisions by balancing risks and rewards. The Board of Directors confirms our risk profile and risk appetite at least annually and updates them as required in the corporate policies approved by the Board of Directors. Clearly defined policies, procedures, and processes address the approved risk appetite and any anticipated risk potential. Risk management policies address all known risks and are measured and monitored through our corporate governance regime and overall control process. When appropriate, the risk management policies and procedures are refreshed and enhanced to address safety and soundness as well as market, regulatory, and operational issues.

We reviewed the Bank's insurance risk exposure at the consolidated level of financial operations. We assessed that collecting premiums from borrowers who opt to enrol in the Bank's credit life insurance program does not require setting aside a consolidated insurance liability, as the

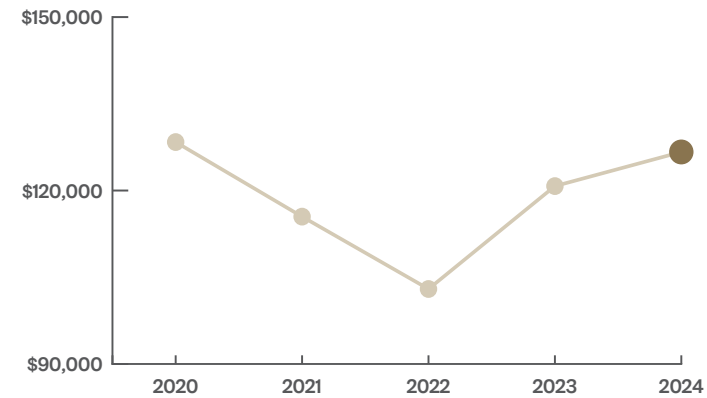
Total Assets  
(in thousands)



Regulatory Capital



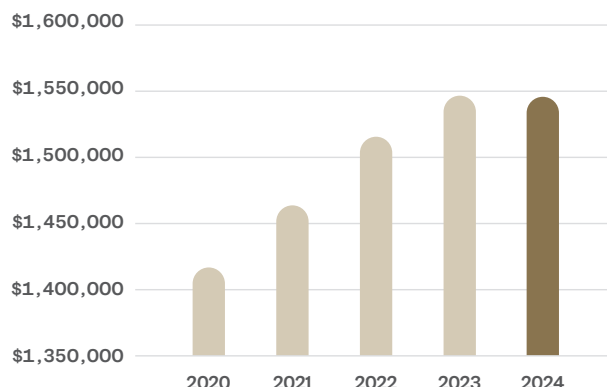
Net Interest Income  
(in thousands)





# Management Discussion & Analysis

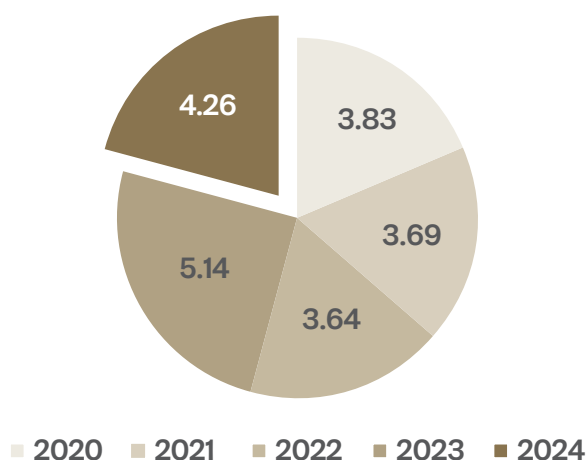
**Total Deposits**  
(in thousands)



**Liquidity Ratio**



**Price to Book Ratio**



Bank takes on the responsibility of charging off loans associated with death claims. The mortality risk associated with charged-off loans resulting from the borrower's death is captured in the Bank's allowance for credit losses.

The management and control processes designed to mitigate risks are summarised in the notes to the consolidated financial statements and in other sections of this report.

## Credit Risk Management

The Board of Directors and the Executive Management work together to ensure our credit risk management process and supporting policies, procedures, and reporting guidelines remain appropriate to effectively manage our approved credit risk profile through various market conditions. Clearly defined credit risk limits are established, reassessed annually, and are supported by the mandatory use of the instituted credit risk rating and scoring systems to ensure a consistent approach is applied throughout our operations. A robust, initiative-taking credit risk provisioning methodology supports aggressive monitoring and reporting processes. Note 22 in the consolidated financial statements shows the portfolio's overall quality from different perspectives.

## Liquidity and Funding Risk Management

Liquidity and funding risk (liquidity risk) is the risk that we may be unable to generate or obtain sufficient cash or an equivalent in a cost-effective manner should a distress situation occur. Our liquidity position is closely monitored to ensure that, coupled with our strong capital position, sufficient resources are available to address unforeseen distress situations and unplanned business opportunities.

The Central Bank imposes a secondary reserve requirement, called the Liquid Asset Requirement (LAR), which mandates commercial banks to maintain a certain percentage of their customer deposits and other liabilities in the form of liquid assets. The LAR ratio at 310% (2023: 342%) shows the Bank has significant liquidity reserves. The Bank's liquidity ratio is 64.73% (2023: 66.23%), which significantly exceeds the regulatory requirement of 20%.

## Outlook for 2025

Macroeconomic projections for 2025 suggest that the Bahamian economy will return to historical growth patterns. In alignment with this outlook, the Bank remains committed to the organic expansion of its loan portfolio and yields, proactive delinquency management, and enhancing customer service—all key to sustaining our established level of profitability.

We maintain a cautious optimism stance shaped by global economic trends, inflationary pressures, and evolving geopolitical dynamics. Ongoing geopolitical conflicts in 2025 and shifts in trade policies among major economic powers can potentially disrupt global supply chains, impact capital flows, and create economic volatility that could indirectly affect the Bahamian economy. The United States remains the primary source market for the tourism product of The Bahamas, a critical driver of economic activity. Additionally, the increasing frequency and severity of storms, driven by climate change, present significant, uncontrollable economic risks.

Despite these challenges, we are confident in maintaining a strong balance sheet, ensuring resilience in navigating industry dynamics. By balancing aggressive yet responsible loan growth with effective credit risk management, the Bank continues to build a resilient and highly profitable financial foundation for the future. Agility remains central to our business model, allowing us to adapt to shifting market conditions and seize opportunities for product expansion and growth as we move to improved operational efficiency. Our vision, culture, and legacy remain rooted in the principle of "Bahamians helping Bahamians."

# Board of **Directors**

**William B. Sands Jr., DM**  
Executive Chairman



**R. Craig Symonette**



**Earla J. Bethel**



**Vaughn W.T. Higgs**



**Larry R. Gibson**



**Tracy E. Knowles**



**Robert D. L. Sands**



**Denise D. Turnquest**  
President

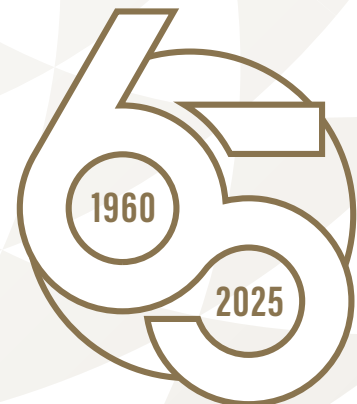


**Russell M. Miller**



**Debra M. Symonette**

CELEBRATING



YEARS

## Senior **Executive Leadership**



**Sean M. Brathwaite**  
Sr. VP & COO

**Denise D. Turnquest**  
President

**Tangela N. Albury**  
Sr. VP & CFO



## Vice Presidents

**Kendra Culmer**  
VP Internal Audit

**Marcus Cleare**  
VP Credit Risk

**Maxwell Jones**  
VP Marketing  
& Business  
Development

**Frienderick Dean**  
VP Accounts Control  
& Recovery



**Jevon McIntosh**  
VP Information  
Technology  
& Innovation

**Branson Gibson**  
VP Retail Banking

**Claudia Rolle**  
VP Human Resources

**Davine Dawkins-Rolle**  
VP Enterprise Risk  
Management & CRO



# Assistant Vice Presidents

**Aaron Adderley**  
AVP Financial &  
Business Planning

**Randolph Minnis**  
AVP Enterprise  
Risk Management

**Kendrick Knowles**  
AVP IT &  
Infrastructure

**Juliette Fraser**  
AVP Operations

**Tameka Cooke**  
AVP Human  
Resources

**Monique Mason**  
AVP Client Services

**Demetri Bowe**  
AVP Marketing &  
Business Development

**Lavado Butler**  
AVP Credit  
Inspection

**Syche McDonald**  
AVP Training &  
Org. Development

**Edward Virgil**  
AVP Accounts  
Control &  
Recovery

# **Consolidated Financial Statements For The Year Ended December 31, 2024**

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**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

# Management's Responsibility for **Financial Reporting**

Commonwealth Bank's management is responsible for the presentation and preparation of the annual Consolidated Financial Statements, Management Discussion and Analysis ("MDA") and all other information in the Annual Report.

The Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

The Consolidated Financial Statements and information in the MDA necessarily include amounts based on informed judgments and estimates of the expected effects of current events and transactions with appropriate consideration to materiality. In addition, in preparing the financial information we must interpret the requirements described above, make determinations as to the relevancy of information to be included, and make estimates and assumptions that affect reported information. The MDA also includes information regarding the estimated impact of current transactions and events, sources of liquidity and capital resources, operating trends, risks and uncertainties. Actual results in the future may differ materially from our present assessment of this information because future events and circumstances may not occur as expected. The financial information presented elsewhere in the Annual Report is consistent with that in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

In meeting our responsibility for the reliability of financial information, we maintain and rely on a comprehensive system of internal control and internal audit, including organizational, procedural and internal controls over financial reporting. Our process of controls include written communication of our policies and procedures governing corporate conduct and risk management; comprehensive business planning; effective segregation of duties; delegation of authority and personal accountability; careful selection and training of personnel; and sound and conservative accounting policies which we regularly update. This structure ensures appropriate internal control over transactions, assets and records. We also regularly audit internal controls. These controls and audits are designed to provide us with reasonable assurance that the financial records are reliable for preparing financial statements and other financial information, assets are safeguarded against unauthorized use or disposition, liabilities are recognised, and we are in compliance with all regulatory requirements.

In order to provide their opinion on our Consolidated Financial Statements, the Shareholders' Auditors review our system of internal control and conduct their work to the extent that they consider appropriate.

The Board of Directors, based on recommendations from its Audit & Risk and Executive Committees, reviews and approves the financial information contained in the Annual Report, including the MDA, and oversees management's responsibilities for the preparation and presentation of financial information, maintenance of appropriate internal controls, management and control of major risk areas and assessment of significant and related party transactions.

The Bank's Auditors and its VP Internal Audit have full and free access to the Audit & Risk Committee of the Board of Directors to discuss audit, financial reporting and related matters.

## **Denise D. Turnquest**

President

## **Tangela Albury**

Sr. VP & CFO



# Independent Auditor's Report



KPMG  
P.O. Box N-123  
Montague Sterling Centre  
East Bay Street  
Nassau, Bahamas

Telephone +1 242 393 2007  
Fax: +1 242 393 1772  
kpmg.com.bs

## To the Shareholders of Commonwealth Bank Limited

### Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Commonwealth Bank Limited and its subsidiaries ("the Group"), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024, the consolidated statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising material accounting policies and other explanatory information shown on pages 28 to 68.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Group as at December 31, 2024, and of its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IFRS Accounting Standards).

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing ("ISAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (the "IESBA Code") and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

## Impairment assessment of loans and advances to customers (“Loans”) (see notes 2(f), 9 & 22)

Key audit matter	How the matter was addressed in our audit
<p>As at December 31, 2024, Loans comprise 47.67% of the Group's total assets, amounting to \$913.69 million in gross loans with an expected credit loss (“ECL”) impairment allowance of \$38.48 million. The loan portfolio includes: consumer loans (including retail loans, credit cards, and overdrawn balances), commercial loans and mortgage loans.</p> <p>The Group's ECL model measures both a twelve-month ECL and lifetime ECL (“LECL”), based on accounting standards and specific circumstances. The model uses one of three calculation methodologies, depending on the loans ECL stage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stage 1 ECL: Calculated using a twelve-month Probability of Default (PD), Loss Given Default (LGD), Exposure at Default (EAD), and a discount factor.</li> <li>• Stage 2 ECL: Calculated as the sum-product of annual PDs, LGDs, and EAD over the loan's life, discounted to present value.</li> <li>• Stage 3 ECL: Applied to impaired accounts, calculated as the outstanding balance multiplied by the LGD.</li> </ul> <p>Key judgments and elements driving higher degrees of estimation uncertainty in the Loans ECL are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>PD model</u>: The Group's PD model uses migration probabilities between risk ratings over one year, organized in a transition matrix. This forward-looking assessment requires significant judgement.</li> <li>- <u>Significant increases in credit risk (“SICR”)</u>: To assess if a loan has experienced a SICR since initial recognition, the Group uses a subjective risk rating system based on internal and external data. Judgement in selecting criteria for SICR is crucial and can significantly impact loan staging.</li> <li>- <u>Forward Looking Indicator (“FLI”) adjustments</u>: The Group uses a scorecard to assess macroeconomic factors' impact on Loans ECL, reflecting their judgement on the macroeconomic environment's effect on portfolio performance.</li> <li>- <u>Internal risk rating (“IRR”) model and assumptions</u>: Internal ratings are assigned to each loan facility according to the Group's risk management framework and dependent upon management's selected risk characteristics. Each loan facility is assigned a risk rating from 1 through 8 based.</li> </ul>	<p>As part of our procedures, we performed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Updated our understanding of the methodology, model and assumptions used in the Loans ECL calculation through inquiries with Group Chief Financial Officer and inspection of policy documents.</li> <li>- Performed testing of the design and implementation of the controls over the review and approval of key assumptions and judgements related to the ECL calculation by those charged with governance.</li> <li>- We performed a reconciliation of the loan balances used in the ECL calculation to the gross loan balances recorded in the general ledger.</li> <li>- On a sample basis, we validated the accuracy of the ECL data inputs. To validate the data inputs, we inspected internal documents related to loans and revolving credit facilities, evaluating third-party appraisals for collateral, and evaluating financial data recorded in the Group's core IT system. Key data inputs include loan balances, interest rates, contractual maturities, collateral values, days past due, credit scores and loan status.</li> <li>- We sampled collateralized loans, obtained third-party appraisal reports, prepared by third-party appraisers engaged by the Group, and evaluated the fair value of collateral by using industry information. We compared the market values of the comparable properties and assessed whether the price per square foot was reasonable. We assessed the objectivity and competencies, and qualifications of the third-party appraisers.</li> <li>- For a sample of foreclosed mortgaged properties, we compared actual sales to estimated forced sale values and analyzed the average time to sell to evaluate recovery time and rate assumptions.</li> <li>- Assessed the appropriateness of the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements to evaluate the clarity of those disclosures in disclosing key judgements and assumptions applied by the Group.</li> </ul>



## Impairment assessment of loans and advances to customers (“Loans”) (see notes 2(f), 9 & 22)

Key audit matter	How the matter was addressed in our audit
<p>- <u>LGD model</u>: The LGD model applied by the Group is based on subjective factors. There is significant judgement considered in determining the recoverable value of the collateral, particularly for stage 3 credit impaired loans that are collateralized.</p> <p>The ECL calculation involves complex models based on judgments and assumptions, leading to high estimation uncertainty. The algorithm's soundness affects ECL precision. Given its material impact on financial statements, ECL on Loans is a key audit matter.</p>	<p>Used our own Financial Risk Management (“FRM”) specialist to assist us in performing the procedures below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assessed the theoretical soundness and appropriateness of the Loans ECL models, focusing on PD, SICR, LGD, IRR, and FLI.</li> <li>- Observed a walkthrough of Loans ECL model inputs, outputs, and processes, and executed a supervised replication to evaluate model outputs and results.</li> <li>- Evaluated the Group's ECL calculation methodology and final parameters, including PD, LGD, EAD, expected lifetime, SICR, effective interest rate, and FLI.</li> <li>- Assessed the IRR model's risk rating scores, ranges, and loan characteristics.</li> <li>- Performed a retrospective evaluation of the 12-month PD for the period 2018 to 2024 to evaluate the ECL model's predictive accuracy.</li> </ul>

## Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our auditors' report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

## Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.



- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditors' report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditors' report is Demarra Williams-Lockhart.

KPMG (Bahamas) Ltd.

Nassau, Bahamas  
April 25, 2025

**Commonwealth Bank Limited**  
**Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**

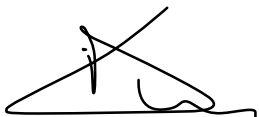
As at December 31, 2024, with corresponding figures as at December 31, 2023  
*(Expressed in Bahamian \$000s)*

	Notes	2024	2023
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and deposits with banks	5,7	\$ 235,566	\$ 238,615
Investments, net	5,8	748,260	772,052
Loans and advances to customers, net	5,9,19,22	875,211	807,984
Other assets	10	15,511	11,915
Right of use assets	11	130	645
Premises and equipment	12	41,838	44,432
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$ 1,916,516</b>	<b>\$ 1,875,643</b>
<b>Liabilities and Equity</b>			
Liabilities			
Deposits from customers	5,13,22	\$ 1,543,866	\$ 1,544,014
Lease liabilities	5,11	165	700
Other liabilities	5,14,22	26,800	21,431
Total liabilities	6	1,570,831	1,566,145
Equity			
Share capital	15	1,940	1,944
Share premium	15	6,420	9,223
Retained earnings		337,325	298,331
Total equity		345,685	309,498
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>		<b>\$ 1,916,516</b>	<b>\$ 1,875,643</b>

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

These consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on April 25, 2025, and are signed on its behalf by:

  
Executive Chairman

  
President

**Commonwealth Bank Limited**  
**Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**  
Year ended December 31, 2024, with corresponding figures for 2023  
*(Expressed in Bahamian \$000s)*

	Notes	2024	2023
<b>Income</b>			
Interest income, effective interest method	5,6,19	\$ 143,185	\$ 137,961
Interest expense	5,6,19	(16,516)	(17,195)
Net interest income		126,669	120,766
Fees and other income	5,17	34,401	30,515
Realised gain on equity investment at FVTPL	5	-	9,728
Net change in unrealised gain/(loss) on equity investment at FVTPL	5	18	(8,490)
Total income	6	161,088	152,519
<b>Non-interest expense</b>			
General and administrative	18,19,20	96,453	86,357
Reversal of impairment losses on financial assets	8,9	(25,578)	(2,339)
Depreciation on right of use assets	11	515	537
Other depreciation	12	3,434	3,764
Finance cost on lease liabilities	11	25	42
(Gain)/loss on disposal of premises and equipment	12	(15)	(14)
Directors' costs	19	352	666
Total non-interest expense		75,186	89,013
<b>Total profit</b>	6,16	\$ 85,902	\$ 63,506
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
Remeasurement of defined benefit obligation	20	(300)	2,832
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>		\$ 85,602	\$ 66,338
<b>Basic earnings per common share</b>			
<i>(expressed in dollars)</i>	16	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.22

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.



**Commonwealth Bank Limited**  
**Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity**  
As at December 31, 2024, with corresponding figures for 2023  
*(Expressed in Bahamian \$000s)*

2024					
	Notes	Share Capital (Common)	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Total
<b>As at December 31, 2023</b>		<b>\$ 1,944</b>	<b>\$ 9,223</b>	<b>\$ 298,331</b>	<b>\$ 309,498</b>
<b>Comprehensive income</b>					
Total profit		-	-	85,902	85,902
Remeasurement loss of defined benefit obligation	20	-	-	(300)	(300)
		-	-	85,602	85,602
<b>Transaction with owners</b>					
Repurchase of common shares	19	(4)	(2,803)	-	(2,807)
Dividends - common shares	15	-	-	(46,608)	(46,608)
		(4)	(2,803)	(46,608)	(49,415)
<b>As at December 31, 2024</b>		<b>\$ 1,940</b>	<b>\$ 6,420</b>	<b>\$ 337,325</b>	<b>\$ 345,685</b>
<b>Dividends per share</b> <i>(expressed in dollars)</i>		<b>\$ 0.16</b>			
2023					
	Notes	Share Capital (Common)	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Total
<b>As at December 31, 2022</b>		<b>\$ 1,951</b>	<b>\$ 13,544</b>	<b>\$ 272,880</b>	<b>\$ 288,375</b>
<b>Comprehensive income</b>					
Total profit		-	-	63,506	63,506
Remeasurement gain of defined benefit obligation	20	-	-	2,832	2,832
		-	-	66,338	66,338
<b>Transaction with owners</b>					
Repurchase of common shares	19	(7)	(4,321)	-	(4,328)
Dividends - common shares	15	-	-	(40,887)	(40,887)
		(7)	(4,321)	(40,887)	(45,215)
<b>As at December 31, 2023</b>		<b>\$ 1,944</b>	<b>\$ 9,223</b>	<b>\$ 298,331</b>	<b>\$ 309,498</b>
<b>Dividends per share</b> <i>(expressed in dollars)</i>		<b>\$ 0.14</b>			

The accompanying notes form an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**Commonwealth Bank Limited**  
**Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**  
Year ended December 31, 2024, with corresponding figures for 2023  
*(Expressed in Bahamian \$000s)*

Notes	2024	2023
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Total profit	\$ 85,902	\$ 63,506
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation on right of use assets	515	537
Other depreciation	3,434	3,764
Finance cost on lease liabilities	25	42
Reversal of impairment losses on financial assets	(25,578)	(2,339)
Interest income	(143,185)	(137,961)
Interest expense	16,516	17,195
(Gain)/loss on disposal of premises and equipment	(15)	(14)
Realised gain on equity investment at FVTPL	-	(9,728)
Net change in unrealised (gain)/loss on equity investment at FVTPL	(18)	8,490
	(62,404)	(56,508)
Change in loans and advances to customers	(41,342)	(20,134)
Change in minimum reserve requirement	410	(645)
Change in other assets	(3,896)	(1,100)
Change in other liabilities	5,369	(8,826)
Change in deposits from customers	(4,847)	21,105
Interest received	144,662	135,190
Interest paid	(11,818)	(7,683)
Net cash from operating activities	26,134	61,399
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Change in time deposits with original maturities greater than three months	(38,245)	-
Purchase of investments	(990,755)	(676,641)
Redemption of investments	1,012,782	628,684
Proceeds from sale of equity investment at FVTPL	-	9,728
Purchases of premises and equipment	(875)	(3,704)
Proceeds from sale of premises and equipment	50	80
Net cash used in investing activities	(17,043)	(41,853)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Dividends paid	(46,608)	(40,887)
Repurchase of common shares	(2,807)	(4,328)
Payment of lease liabilities	(560)	(584)
Net cash used in financing activities	(49,975)	(45,799)
<b>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>	(40,884)	(26,253)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year</b>	178,970	205,223
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	138,086	178,970

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The accompanying notes form an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

**Commonwealth Bank Limited**  
**Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Year ended December 31, 2024, with corresponding figures as at and for the year ended December 31, 2023

*(All amounts stated as actual amounts, except tabular amounts which are expressed in Bahamian \$000s)*

**1. Incorporation and Activities**

Commonwealth Bank Limited (the "Bank") was incorporated in The Commonwealth of The Bahamas ("The Bahamas") on April 20, 1960, and is licensed by the Central Bank of The Bahamas (the "Central Bank") to carry out banking business in The Bahamas under the provisions of the Banks and Trust Companies Regulations Act 2020.

The Bank's shares are publicly traded and listed on The Bahamas International Securities Exchange ("BISX").

The principal activities of the Bank and its subsidiaries (the "Group") are described in Notes 4 and 6. The registered office of the Bank is situated at Sassoon House, Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas.

**2. Summary of Material Accounting Policies and Basis of Preparation**

**(a) Basis of preparation**

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS Accounting Standards") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented and are compliant with IFRS Accounting Standards.

**(b) Use of estimates and judgments**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS Accounting Standards requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgment in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies. Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Revisions to estimates are recognised prospectively. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The areas involving a higher degree of judgment or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the consolidated financial statements, are disclosed in Note 3.

**(c) Principles of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the assets, liabilities, financial performance and cash flows of the Bank and all of its subsidiaries, after the elimination of intercompany transactions and balances. Subsidiaries are defined as entities controlled by the Bank and exclude associates and joint arrangements. The Bank controls an entity when the Bank is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the entity and can affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Bank. They are deconsolidated from the date that control ceases.

Intra-Group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions are eliminated. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the transferred asset. The accounting policies of subsidiaries are consistent with the policies adopted by the Bank.

*Voting-interest subsidiaries*

Control is presumed when the Group has an ownership interest in an entity that gives it the ability to direct the activities of that entity that significantly impact that entity's returns and where the Group is exposed to the variability of the returns of that entity.

**(d) Changes in material accounting policies**

*New standards, amendments and interpretations adopted by the Group*

Standards and amendments and interpretations to published standards that became effective for the Group's financial year, beginning on January 1, 2024 were either not relevant or not significant to the Group's consolidated operations and accordingly did not have a material impact on the consolidated accounting policies or consolidated financial statements.

*Accounting standards issued but not yet effective*

IFRS Accounting Standard 18 will replace IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements and applies for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2027. The new standard introduces the following key new requirements:

- Entities are required to classify all income and expenses into five categories in the statement of profit or loss, namely the operating, investing, financing, discontinued operations and income tax categories. Entities are also required to present a newly-defined operating profit subtotal. Entities' net profit will not change.
- Management-defined performance measures ("MPM") are disclosed in a single note in the financial statements.
- Enhanced guidance is provided on how to group information in the financial statements.

In addition, all entities are required to use the operating profit subtotal as the starting point for the statement of cash flows under the indirect method.

The Group is still in the process of assessing the impact of the new standard, particularly with respect to the structure of the Group's statement of profit or loss, the statement of cash flows and the additional disclosures required for MPM.

No other new standards and amendments and interpretations to existing standards that have been published but are not yet effective are expected to have a material impact on the Group's accounting policies or consolidated financial statements in the financial period of initial application.



## (e) Financial assets and liabilities

### Financial assets

#### Recognition

A financial asset is any asset that is cash, a contractual right to receive cash or another financial asset, or to exchange financial instruments with another enterprise under conditions that are potentially favourable or an equity instrument of another enterprise.

The Group's financial assets are cash and deposits with banks, investments, loans and advances to customers, and accounts receivable (included in other assets and is not material) on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.

#### Classification and measurement

The Group classifies its financial assets in the following measurement categories:

##### 1. Amortised cost

On initial recognition, a financial asset is measured at amortised cost if both of the following conditions are met: (a) the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and (b) the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest ("SPPI") on the principal amount outstanding.

Financial assets classified at amortised cost are carried at the amount at which the asset was measured upon initial recognition, minus principal repayments, plus or minus the cumulative amortisation of any premium or discount, and minus any write-down for expected credit losses ("ECL").

##### 2. Fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL")

A financial asset is measured at FVTPL if it does not meet the criteria to be measured at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVOCI").

The classification of financial assets is generally based on the business model under which the asset is held and its contractual cash flow characteristics as described below.

The classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets are determined by the Group's business model for managing the financial asset, and the cash flow characteristics of the financial asset.

#### Business model assessment

A business model assessment is performed to determine how a portfolio of financial assets is managed to achieve the Group's business objectives. Judgment is used in determining the appropriate business model for a portfolio of financial assets. The three categories of business models are "hold to collect", "hold to collect and sell", and "other".

For the assessment of a business model, the Group takes into consideration the following factors:

- How the performance of assets in a portfolio is evaluated and reported to the Group's management;
- How compensation is determined for the Group's business lines' management that manages the assets;
- Whether the assets are held for trading purposes i.e., assets held within a business model and how those risks are managed; and
- The frequency and volume of sales in prior periods and expectations about future sales activity. Information about sales activity is not considered in isolation, but as part of an overall assessment of how the Group's stated objective for managing the financial assets is achieved and how cash flows are realised.

Financial assets that are not held to collect, or both held to collect, and sell are assessed at a portfolio level reflective of how the asset or group of assets are managed together to achieve a particular business model.

#### Contractual cash flow assessment

The contractual cash flow characteristics assessment involves assessing the contractual features of an instrument to determine if they give rise to cash flows that are consistent with basic credit arrangements. Contractual cash flows are consistent with basic credit arrangements if they represent cash flows that are solely payment of principal and interest ("SPPI") on the principal amount outstanding.

In assessing whether the contractual cash flows are SPPI, the Group considers the contractual terms of the instrument. This includes assessing whether the financial asset contains a contractual term that could change the timing or amount of contractual cash flows such that it would not meet this condition. In making the assessment, the Group considers:

- contingent events that would change the amount and timing of cash flows;
- leverage features;
- prepayment and extension terms;
- terms that limit the Group's claim to the cash flows from specified assets; and
- features that modify consideration of the time value of money.

Principal is defined as the fair value of the instrument at initial recognition. Principal may change over the life of the instrument due to repayments or amortisation of premiums/discounts. Interest is defined as the consideration for the time value of money and the credit risk associated with the principal amount outstanding and for other basic lending risks and costs (liquidity risk and administrative costs), and a profit margin.

If the Group identifies any contractual features that could significantly modify the cash flows of the instrument such that they are no longer consistent with a basic lending arrangement, the related financial asset is classified and measured at FVTPL.

With the exception of investments in equity securities, all financial instruments are classified at amortised cost at the reporting date. Investments in equity securities are classified at FVTPL.

#### *Initial Recognition*

The Group initially recognises loans and advances to customers and deposits from customers on the date on which they are originated. All other financial instruments, (including regular-way purchases and sales of financial assets) are recognised on the trade date, which is the date on which the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

When a new financial asset is recognised, it will generally be recorded in Stage 1, unless it is credit-impaired on recognition.

#### *Initial Measurement*

At initial recognition, the Group measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at FVTPL, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at FVTPL are expensed in profit or loss.

#### *Subsequent Measurement*

Subsequent measurement of financial assets depends on the Group's business model for managing the asset and the cash flow characteristic of the asset. The two measurement categories are as noted above.

#### *Reclassification*

Financial assets are not reclassified after their initial recognition, except in the period after the Group changes its business model for managing financial assets.

#### *Modification*

The terms of a financial asset may be modified such that the contractual cash flows are changed. The treatment of a modification depends on the nature of the expected changes.

If the cash flows are substantially different, the contractual rights to cash flows from the original asset are deemed to have expired. In this case, the original financial asset is derecognised and a new financial asset is recognised at fair value plus any eligible transaction costs. Any fees received as part of the modification are accounted for as follows:

- fees that are considered in determining the fair value of the new asset and fees that represent reimbursement of the eligible transaction costs are included in the initial measurement of the asset; and
- other fees are included in profit or loss as part of the gain or loss on derecognition.

If cash flows are modified when the borrower is in financial difficulty, then the objective of the modification is usually to maximize recovery of the original contractual terms rather than to originate a new asset with substantially different terms. If the Group plans to modify a financial asset in a way that would result in forgiveness of cash flows, then it first considers whether a portion of the asset should be written off before the modification takes place. The financial asset continues to be monitored for increases in credit risk and impairment.

If the modification of a financial asset measured at amortised cost does not result in derecognition of the financial asset, the gross carrying amount of the financial asset is recalculated using the original effective interest rate of the asset and the adjustment is recognised as a modification gain or loss in profit or loss.

#### *Derecognition*

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. For loans and advances to customers, this generally occurs when borrowers repay their obligations, or the loans are sold or written off. Similarly, for investments this occurs when the investments mature and the contractual payments underlying the investments have been repaid to the Group, or when the investment is sold or written off. If the Group has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership, an assessment is made whether the Group has retained control of the financial assets.

### **Financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are any liabilities that are:

- Contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset to another entity or to exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another entity under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the Group;
- Contracts that will or may be settled in the Group's own equity instruments and are either a nonderivative for which the Group is or may be obliged to deliver a variable number of its own equity instruments, or a derivative that will or may be settled either by exchange of a fixed amount of cash or another financial asset for a fixed number of the Group's own equity instruments.

Financial liabilities are classified as either a) FVTPL or b) amortised cost.

Financial liabilities are classified as FVTPL where the financial liability is either held for trading or is designated as FVTPL. Financial liabilities at FVTPL are stated at fair value with any resulting gain or loss recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

#### *Initial Measurement*

Financial liabilities classified at amortised cost are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs.

#### *Subsequent Measurement*

Subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method with interest expense recognised on an effective yield basis.

#### *Derecognition*

The Group's financial liabilities comprise deposits from customers, lease liabilities, and certain other liabilities, including accounts payable. Financial liabilities (or parts thereof) are derecognised when the liability has been extinguished and the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled, or expires.

All of the Group's financial liabilities are classified at amortised cost.

#### **(f) Impairment of financial assets measured at amortised cost**

The Group recognises Expected Credit Loss ("ECL") on financial assets measured at amortised cost. ECL for financial assets measured at amortised cost are deducted from the gross carrying amount of the assets.

Impairment losses are measured at an amount equal to the 12-month ECL or lifetime ECL depending on the stage in which the asset is classified. 12-month ECL are the portion of ECL that result from default events that are possible within the 12 months after the reporting date (or a shorter period if the expected life of the instrument is less than 12 months). Lifetime ECL are the ECL that results from all possible default events over the maximum contractual period of exposure.

The maximum period considered when estimating ECL is the maximum contractual period over which the Group is exposed to credit risk.

ECL of financial assets is recognised in three stages:

**Stage 1** – Performing financial assets are categorized as Stage 1 and an allowance is recognised based on default events expected to occur within the next 12 months. On subsequent reporting dates, 12-month ECL continues to apply where there is no significant increase in credit risk ("SICR") since initial recognition.

**Stage 2** – Performing financial assets are categorized as Stage 2 when there is a SICR since initial recognition but the financial asset is not credit-impaired. The Group recognises the full lifetime ECL on Stage 2 financial assets.

In determining whether a SICR has occurred since initial recognition, and when estimating ECL, the Group considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the Group's historical experience and informed credit assessment and forward-looking information. Critical accounting judgments and key sources of estimates are discussed in Note 3.

The assessment of whether an asset is in stage 1 or 2 considers the relative change in the probability of default occurring over the expected life of the instrument, and is not assessed based on the change in the amount of the ECL. This involves setting quantitative tests combined with additional indicators such as credit risk classification and other observable inputs. Assets that are more than 30 days past due, but not credit-impaired, are classed as stage 2.

Changes in the expected credit loss, including the impact of movements between the first stage (12 month ECL) and the second stage (lifetime ECL), are recorded in profit or loss.

**Stage 3** – If one or more default events occur which are expected to have an adverse effect on the estimated future cash flows from the financial asset, the Group continues to recognise the full lifetime ECL. At this stage, the financial asset is credit-impaired and categorized as Stage 3.

The Group considers all financial assets, except for sovereign and government-related debt to be in credit-impaired when:

- The credit facility is 90 days or more past due;
- The borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Group in full, without recourse by the Group through actions such as realising security (if any held); and/or
- The borrower is on principal-only repayment terms.

IFRS Accounting Standard 9 does not alter the Group's definition of default currently used and noted above to determine whether or not there is objective evidence of impairment of a financial asset. The definition of default largely aligns with that applied by the Group for regulatory capital purposes.

The Group shall consider its investment in sovereign and government-related debt to have defaulted when payments or an obligation are not made on the agreed date due or when other relevant qualitative and quantitative information becomes available to the Bank, indicating that the sovereign and government-related debt will go into default on or before the reporting date, or within twelve months after the reporting date.

In the event the payment or an obligation due date falls on a non-business day, the instrument is deemed to have effectively defaulted where the payment or obligation is not met within three (3) business days of the due date.

Where payments or an obligation on sovereign and government-related debt is resumed, the default status is deemed cured where payments or obligations are met in full for at least one (1) year from the breach of the sovereign credit arrangement.



#### *Measurement of ECL*

Measurement of ECL is disclosed in Note 22.

#### *Write-off of loans and advances to customer*

Loans and advances to customers (and the related ECL) are normally written off, either partially or in full, when there is no realistic prospect of recovery of the principal amount and, for a collateralised loan, when the proceeds from realising the security have been received. Consumer loans are written-off in the month after principal and/or interest payments become 360 days contractually in arrears. Credit card loans are written-off in the month after principal and/or interest payments become 180 days contractually in arrears.

Financial assets that are written off could still be subject to enforcement activities in order to comply with the Group's procedures for recovery of amounts due.

#### *Recovery of previously written-off loans*

Recoveries of principal and/or interest on previously written off loans are recognised in impairment losses on financial assets net in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income on a cash basis or when the loan is rewritten on normal terms prevailing at the time of the rewrite.

#### *Renegotiated loans*

Loans subject to impairment assessment, whose terms have been renegotiated, are subject to ongoing review to determine whether they remain impaired. The carrying amount of loans that have been classified as renegotiated retain this classification until maturity or derecognition. There was no impact from modified loans during the years 2024 and 2023.

### **(g) Impairment of non-financial assets**

At each reporting date, management reviews the carrying amount of non-financial assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated to determine the extent of the impairment loss. The recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease to the extent that there is a revaluation surplus.

### **(h) Cash and cash equivalents**

For the purposes of the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and unrestricted deposits with banks that have original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition that are subject to an insignificant change in their fair value, including cash with the Central Bank, and amounts due from banks. Cash and cash equivalents are carried at amortised costs on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.

### **(i) Investments**

Investments in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position include:

- debt investment securities measured at amortised cost less ECL. These are initially measured at fair value plus incremental direct transaction costs, and subsequently at their amortised cost using the effective interest method; and
- equity investment securities measured at FVTPL. These are measured at fair value with changes recognised immediately in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

### **(j) Loans and advances to customers**

Loans and advances to customers in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position include loans and advances measured at amortised cost which are initially measured at fair value, and subsequently at their amortised cost using the effective interest method.

### **(k) Leases**

#### *Classification and measurement*

The Group applies a single recognition and measurement approach for all leases, except for short-term leases (leases with terms of twelve months or less) and leases of low-value assets. Lease contracts are typically made for a fixed period with an extension option which is exercisable by the Group. A lease of low-value assets, on the other hand, is a lease for which an underlying asset is of low value (per the standard, with a value of \$5,000 or the equivalent for new similar assets).

Contracts may contain both lease and non-lease components. The Group allocates the consideration in the contract to the lease and non-lease components based on their relative stand-alone prices. Lease terms are negotiated on an individual basis and contain a wide range of different terms and conditions.

The lease agreements do not impose any covenants other than the security interests in the leased assets that are held by the lessor. Leased assets may not be used as security for borrowing purposes. Leases are recognised as a right-of-use asset and a corresponding liability at the date at which the leased asset is available for use by the Groups.

#### *Short-term leases and leases of low value assets*

The Group has elected not to recognise right of use assets and lease liabilities of assets that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-valued assets. The Group recognises the lease payment associated with leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

#### *Initial measurement*

##### **1. Lease liabilities**

Lease liabilities are initially measured as the present value (PV) of the lease payments not paid. The PV is determined by using the interest rate implicit in the lease. If that rate cannot be readily determined, the Group's incremental borrowing rate is used. This rate is defined as the rate of interest that the Group would have to pay to borrow over a similar term and with similar security to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-to-use asset in a similar economic environment.

##### **2. Right of use assets**

Right of use assets are measured at cost comprising the following:

- The amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability;
- Any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any incentives received;
- Any initial direct costs; and
- Restoration costs.

#### *Subsequent Measurement*

##### **1. Lease liabilities**

Lease payments are allocated between principal and finance costs. The finance cost is charged to the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income over the lease period to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. Accordingly, the lease liability is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability (using the effective interest method) and by reducing the carrying amount by the lease payments made.

##### **2. Right of use assets**

Right of use assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the shorter period of the lease term and the useful life of the underlying asset. The Group defines the lease term as the period of time in which a contractual lease is in place. The Group assesses whether there is an indication of impairment for the right-of-use asset in accordance with IAS 36, *Impairment of Assets*. In the event of impairment, a test is performed. Judgments applied by the Group in determining the measurement of its lease liabilities and right-of-use assets are disclosed in Note 11.

#### **(l) Premises and equipment**

Premises and equipment are carried at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of an item. Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or are recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All repairs and maintenance costs are charged to the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income as a part of total profit during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Land is not depreciated.

Depreciation on other premises and equipment assets are computed on a straight-line basis, net of residual values, and are charged to profit or loss over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Site improvements	5 – 10 years
Buildings	The shorter of estimated useful life or a maximum of 40 years
Leasehold improvements	The shorter of the estimated useful life or the lease term
Furniture, fittings and equipment	3 – 10 years

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Gains or losses arising from the disposal or retirement of an item of premises and equipment are determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset. Such gains or losses are recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

#### **(m) Deposits from customers**

Deposits from customers are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Deposits from customers are derecognised when the financial liability has been extinguished.

#### **(n) Offsetting**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The legally enforceable right must not be contingent on future events and must be enforceable in the normal course of business and in the event of default, insolvency or bankruptcy of the Group or the counterparty.

Income and expenses are presented on a net basis only when permitted under IFRS Accounting Standards, or for gains and losses arising from a group of similar transactions.

#### **(o) Recognition of income and expense**

##### *Interest income and interest expense*

The Group recognises interest income and interest expense in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for all financial instruments measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method described below, except for financial assets that have subsequently become credit-impaired ('Stage 3' financial assets). For these Stage 3 financial assets, interest income is calculated using the method for non-performing loans as described below.

Loan origination fees for loans are deferred (together with related direct costs) and recognised as an adjustment to the effective interest rate on the loans as they are an integral part of the loan. The adjustment to the effective interest rate has been determined by using the estimated terms of loans to maturity or repayment, if earlier.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or a financial liability and of allocating the interest income and interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument or, where appropriate, a shorter period to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or liability. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Group estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instrument (for example, prepayment options) but does not consider future credit losses. The calculation includes all fees paid or received between parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

In accordance with local regulatory guidelines, a loan is classified as non-performing when payment is contractually 90 days in arrears, or the total amount outstanding outside of contractual arrangements is equal to at least 90 days' worth of payments. When a loan is classified as non-performing, recognition of interest ceases, and interest 90 days in arrears is reversed from income. Loans are generally returned to performing status when the timely collection of both principal and interest is reasonably assured and all delinquent principal and interest payments are brought current.

When a loan is granted forbearance, the contractual repayments of principal and interest are deferred until the end of the forbearance period. However, irrespective of the suspension of payment the recognition of interest continues during the forbearance period.

The Bank continues to accrue interest to income on loans specifically assessed as non-performing and where the estimated net realizable value of the security held, where applicable, is sufficient to recover the payment of outstanding principal and accrued interest.

#### *Fee income, other income, and expenses*

Fee income comprises amounts earned from the ancillary services the Group provides primarily in connection with its offering of loans and advances to customers, and bank deposit services. Fees generated for services performed for the customer over a period of time are recognised over the service period on a straight-line basis. Other fees are recognised at a point in time when the Group satisfies its performance obligation, usually upon execution of the underlying transaction, which is generally at the time the customer's account is charged.

Credit life insurance premium income is recognised at the time a policy comes into effect. Premiums are shown net of refunds. The maximum term of any contract is 146 months. Premiums are assessed monthly and are calculated on the current balance of the associated loan. Such premiums are recognised when assessed.

Other income relates mainly to other service charges, rental income and foreign exchange. Service charges are recognised as the services are rendered. Rental income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Insurance claims are recognised when incurred. Other expenses are recognised as the services are received.

### **(p) Foreign currency translation**

#### *Functional and presentation currency*

Items included in the consolidated financial statements of the Group are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Group operates (the functional currency). The consolidated financial statements are presented in Bahamian dollars, which is the Group's functional and presentation currency.

#### *Transactions and balances*

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the rates of exchange prevailing at the dates of the transactions.

Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income as a part of total profit. Translation differences on monetary financial assets measured at FVTPL are included as part of the fair value gains and losses.

### **(q) Dividends on common shares**

Dividends on common shares are deemed declared and recognised as a deduction from equity in the period in which the dividends are approved by the Board and receive the applicable regulatory approvals.

### **(r) Basic earnings per common share**

Earnings per share are computed by dividing the total profit by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the year and not held by Group companies.

### **(s) Retirement benefit costs**

The Bank maintains defined benefit ("DB Provisions") and defined contribution ("DC Provisions") pension plans (together referred to as "the plans") covering all of its employees. Assets of the plans are administered by, and under the control of, independent trustees.

The Pension Committee is responsible for advising the Board of Directors in fulfilling its fiduciary and oversight duties for the Bank's pension arrangements. As a part of this responsibility, members of the committee review the performance of the trustees, administrator and investment manager in accordance with the trust deed, plan rules and investment policy statement, as well as providing support and making recommendations, as appropriate. The Pension Committee comprises members of the Bank's Board of Directors, one management employee and one non-management employee elected by the employees triennially.



The Bank's contributions under the defined contribution pension plan are recognised as staff costs in general and administrative expenses.

The cost of providing benefits under the defined benefit plan is determined using the projected unit credit method, with actuarial valuations being carried out at each reporting date. The defined benefit obligation is calculated annually by independent actuaries. The asset or liability amount recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position represents the present value of the defined benefit obligation and the current service cost at the end of the reporting period less the fair value of plan assets.

Pension costs under the DB Provisions include the present value of the current year service cost based on estimated final salaries, interest on obligations less interest on assets, and estimated administrative costs. Current service cost and net interest on the net defined benefit asset or liability are charged to general and administrative expenses.

Changes in the net defined benefit asset or liability recorded in other comprehensive income include actuarial gains and losses on obligations, and assets arising from experience different than assumed and changes in assumptions.

**(t) Short-Term benefits**

Short-Term Benefits are employee benefits to be settled wholly before twelve months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employee renders the related services and is recorded as the services are rendered.

**(u) Share-Based payments**

*Equity-settled share-based payments*

The Bank issues equity-settled share-based payments to certain management staff. The Bank determines the fair value of stock options on their grant date using the Black Scholes Model and records this amount as compensation expense. The expected life used in the model has been adjusted, based on management's best estimate, for the effects of non-transferability, exercise restrictions and behavioural considerations. The fair value determined at the grant date of the equity-settled share-based payments is expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period. When the stock options are exercised the proceeds are recorded in share capital and share premium.

*Other Stock-Based Compensation Plan*

The Bank offers non-management staff the option of purchasing common shares at a 10% discount from the prevailing market rate at the time of the offer.

The amount of discount is recorded as compensation expense with a corresponding increase to share premium. Payments by staff for the shares are credited to share capital and share premium.

**(v) Equity instruments**

An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Group after deducting all of its liabilities. Equity instruments are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs. Ordinary shares, and preference shares whose terms do not create contractual obligations, are classified as equity.

*Treasury shares*

Treasury shares represents the Bank's issued shares that have been repurchased by the Bank. Treasury shares are deducted from equity and no gain or loss is recognised on the purchase, sale, issue or cancellation of treasury shares. Any premium or discount to par value is shown as an adjustment to share premium.

**(w) Other items**

**1. Financial guarantees and loan commitments**

Financial guarantee contracts require the Group to make payments to reimburse the holder for a loss it incurs if a debtor does not make a payment in accordance with the terms of the debt agreement. Financial guarantees are recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position at the higher of the fair value of the fees originally received less cumulative amortization recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss, and the expected credit loss, as documented below.

Loan commitments are undrawn firm commitments to provide credit under pre-specified terms and conditions. The nominal value of the financial guarantees and loan commitments are not recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position. Both financial guarantees and loan commitments are subject to an allowance for expected credit losses and subject to the same impairment considerations as documented in Note 2(f). Where a financial instrument includes both a loan and a loan commitment component, the loss allowance on the loan commitment is recognised together with the loss allowance for the loan. Where a financial instrument does not include both a loan and a loan commitment component, the loss allowance is recognised as a provision.

**2. Related parties**

A related party is a person or entity that is related to the reporting entity:

- i. A person or close member of that person's family is related to a reporting entity if the person:
  - a. has control or joint control of the Group
  - b. has significant influence over the Group;
  - c. is a close family member of an individual or those family members who may be expected to influence, or be influenced by, that individual in their dealings with the Group; or
  - d. is a member of the Group's key management personnel, including directors.

- ii. An entity is related to the Group if any of the following conditions exist:
  - a. An entity is a member of the Group;
  - b. An entity is associated with, or is a joint venture partner with the Group;
  - c. An entity is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of the Group;
  - d. An entity can control or exercise significant influence over the Group in making financial or operational decisions; and
  - e. An entity is jointly controlled or significantly influenced by parties described in i) above.

A related party transaction is a transfer of resources, services or obligations between the Group and a related party.

Relationships, transactions and balances with related parties are disclosed in Note 19.

### 3. *Liability Provisions*

Provisions for restructuring costs and legal claims are recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is more likely than not that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount has been reliably estimated.

### 4. *Taxation*

Life insurance premium tax is incurred by Laurentide at the rate of 3% of premiums written by the company, and recognised as an expense at the time that premiums are written and included in general and administrative expenses.

The Group is required to pay value-added tax at a rate of 10% on goods and services as prescribed by the Value Added Tax Act. The Group also pays business licence fees in accordance with the Business Licence Act, real property tax in accordance with the Real Property Tax Act and stamp duty.

There is no other income, capital gains or corporate taxes imposed. The Group's operations do not subject it to taxation in any other jurisdiction.

### 5. *Business Segments*

Operating segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the Executive Committee which is responsible for allocating resources to the reportable segments and assessing their performance. Income and expenses directly associated with each segment are included in determining operating segment performance. The Group has five operating segments which are organised based on the nature of the products and services provided by each segment.

- i. Retail banking – the provision of full-service personal banking including the acceptance of savings, fixed and demand deposits, providing consumer financing through loans, overdrafts and credit cards and mortgage financing on real estate and the sale of foreign exchange.
- ii. Credit life insurance – the provision of credit life insurance in respect of the Bank's borrowers through Laurentide.
- iii. Real estate holdings – ownership and management of real property which is rented to branches and departments of the Bank through C.B. Holding Co. Ltd.
- iv. Investment holdings – holdings of investments in the Bank's common shares through C.B. Securities Ltd.
- v. Insurance agency operations – provision of insurance agency services to the Group's insurance company, its sole client through Laurentide Insurance Agency Limited.

The entities within the Group operate within the same geographical area. Non-Bahamian dollar assets and liabilities are not material and are therefore not allocated to business segments.

Inter-segment revenues are charged at competitive market prices. Inter-segment expenses are transferred at cost. All transactions between segments are eliminated on consolidation.

There are no other operations that constitute separate reportable segments. The segment operations are all financial, and principal revenues are derived from interest and fee income. No single customer contributed 10% or more of the Group's total income for the periods covered in the consolidated financial statements.

### (x) **Corresponding figures**

Where necessary, corresponding figures are adjusted to conform with changes in the presentation in the current year.

## 3. **Critical Accounting Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty**

The following are critical estimates and key judgments that management has made in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the consolidated financial statements.

### 1. *Impairment of financial assets*

The impairment losses on financial assets represent management's estimate of ECL.

The measurement of the ECL allowance on financial assets is an area that requires the use of complex models and significant assumptions about the future economic conditions and credit behaviour (e.g. the likelihood of customers defaulting and the resulting losses).

ECL is defined as the weighted expected probable value of the discounted credit loss (on principal and interest) determined by evaluating a range of possible outcomes and future economic conditions. It represents the present value of the difference between the contractual cash flows and the expected cash flows.

The process for determining the allowance involves significant quantitative and qualitative assessments. Particularly, a number of significant judgments are also required in applying the accounting requirements for measuring ECL, such as:

- Determining criteria for a significant increase in credit risk;
- Choosing appropriate models and assumptions for the measurement of ECL;
- Establishing the number and relative weightings of forward-looking scenarios for each type of product/market and the associated ECL;
- Assessing the risk rating and impaired status of loans;
- Determining the additional risk, if any, related to loans granted forbearance;
- Estimating cash flows and realisable collateral values;
- Developing default and loss rates based on historical data;
- Estimating the impact on historical data by changes in policies, processes and credit strategies;
- Assessing the current credit quality based on credit quality trends; and
- Determining the current position in the economic cycle.

The Group has developed an internal risk grade rating system, that indicates the credit risk on an individual basis for loans and advances to customers and investments carried at amortized cost. The internal risk grades consider a number of qualitative and quantitative factors, considering internal information and external circumstances impacting the borrower, or in the case of investments, of the issuer. The internal risk grades are a primary input into the determination of the probability of default for exposures.

IFRS Accounting Standard 9 requires the use of forward-looking information including reasonable and supportable forecasts of future economic conditions. The requirement to consider a range of economic scenarios and their possible impacts on impairment allowances is a subjective feature of the IFRS Accounting Standard 9 ECL model. The Group continues to develop its capability to model a number of economic scenarios and capture the impact on credit losses to ensure the overall ECL represents a reasonable distribution of economic outcomes.

In its ECL model, the Bank relies on a broad range of forward-looking information such as economic inputs, including:

- GDP growth of The Bahamas
- Unemployment rates of The Bahamas
- Inflation rates of The Bahamas

Limitations in the Bank's IFRS Accounting Standard 9 ECL model have previously been identified through the ongoing assessment and validation of the output of the model. In these circumstances, management makes appropriate adjustments to the Bank's allowance for impairment losses to ensure the overall provision adequately reflects all material risks. Refer to Note 22 for additional disclosures related such risks.

## 2. *Post-retirement benefit obligation*

The Bank maintains a defined benefit plan as outlined in Note 2(s). Due to the long-term nature of pension plans, the calculation of benefit expenses and obligations depends on various assumptions such as discount rates, expected rates of return on assets, projected salary increases, retirement age, mortality and termination rates. Any difference between the actual experiences and actuarial assumptions will affect the benefit obligation and expense.

The inputs, assumptions and estimation techniques used in measuring the defined benefit obligation are detailed in Note 20.

## 3. *Classification of financial assets*

Management assesses the business models within which the financial assets are held. The assessment is made as to whether the contractual terms of a financial asset are solely payment of principal and interest ("SPPI") on the principal amount outstanding.

The assessment considerations are detailed in Note 2(e).

## 4. *Fair value of financial instruments*

IFRS Accounting Standard 13 requires that the classification of financial instruments at fair value be determined by reference to the source of inputs used to derive the fair value. This classification uses the following three-level hierarchy:

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

Level 2 - Valuation techniques based on observable inputs, either directly (i.e., as prices) or indirectly (i.e., derived from prices). This category includes instruments valued using quoted market prices in active markets for similar instruments; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are considered less than active; or other valuation techniques where all significant inputs are directly or indirectly observable from market data.

Level 3 - Valuation techniques using significant unobservable inputs. This category includes all instruments where the valuation technique includes inputs not based on observable data and unobservable inputs have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation. This category includes instruments that are valued based on quoted prices for similar instruments where significant unobservable adjustments or assumptions are required to reflect differences between the instruments.

The Group recognises transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy as of the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred.

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. The best evidence of fair value is quoted price in an active market. In most cases, the Group's financial instruments are not typically traded on an open market, and therefore management applies judgment to determine their fair value.

Refer to Note 8 for more information about the classification of fair values.



The following methods and assumptions have been used in determining fair value:

- Cash and deposit with banks – The fair values of these financial instruments are assumed to approximate their carrying values due to their generally short-term nature or the repricing of interest rates on variable rate products.
- Investments – The estimated fair value of the Group's investments was determined based on their market bid price values.
- Loans and advances to customers – The estimated fair value of loans and advances to customers was determined by valuing the receivables based on current market interest rates relative to the Group's interest rates. The carrying values of these financial instruments approximates their fair values.
- Deposits from customers – The estimated fair value of deposits from customers was determined by valuing the deposits based on current market interest rates relative to the Group's interest rates. The fair values of deposits from customers approximate their carrying values.
- Other financial instruments – Due to their short-term maturity, the carrying values of these financial instruments approximate their fair values.

Since the calculation of fair value is based on management's estimates, which involve uncertainties, the actual fair value realised in a sale or immediate settlement of the instruments may differ from the estimated amount.

#### 4. Subsidiaries

The Group has interests in the following entities:

Name	Country of Incorporation	Shareholding
Laurentide Insurance and Mortgage Company Limited ("Laurentide")	Bahamas	100%
Laurentide Insurance Agency Limited	Bahamas	100%
C.B. Holding Co. Ltd.	Bahamas	100%
C.B. Securities Ltd.	Bahamas	100%

#### 5. Financial Instruments

The following tables disclose the categories of financial instruments which are included in the line items in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position:

	2024		
	Amortized Cost	Designated as Fair Value Through Profit (Loss)	Total
<b>Financial assets</b>			
Cash and deposits with banks	\$ 235,566	\$ -	\$ 235,566
Investments, net	\$ 748,058	\$ 202	\$ 748,260
Loans and advances to customers, net	\$ 875,211	\$ -	\$ 875,211
<b>Financial liabilities</b>			
Deposits from customers	\$ 1,543,866	\$ -	\$ 1,543,866
Lease liabilities	\$ 165	\$ -	\$ 165
Other liabilities	\$ 26,800	\$ -	\$ 26,800

	2023		
	Amortized Cost	Designated as Fair Value Through Profit (Loss)	Total
<b>Financial assets</b>			
Cash and deposits with banks	\$ 238,615	\$ -	\$ 238,615
Investments, net	\$ 771,869	\$ 183	\$ 772,052
Loans and advances to customers, net	\$ 807,984	\$ -	\$ 807,984
<b>Financial liabilities</b>			
Deposits from customers	\$ 1,544,014	\$ -	\$ 1,544,014
Lease liabilities	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ 700
Other liabilities	\$ 15,128	\$ -	\$ 15,128

The following table shows Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income information on financial instruments:

	2024	2023
<b>Interest income, effective interest method</b>		
Deposits with banks, loans and advances to customers, net	\$ 107,504	\$ 101,424
Investments, net	35,681	36,537
	<u>\$ 143,185</u>	<u>\$ 137,961</u>
<b>Interest expense</b>		
Deposits from customers	\$ 16,516	\$ 17,195
<b>Fees and other income</b>		
Deposits from customers	17,567	17,477
Loans and advances to customers, net	6,264	5,299
	<u>\$ 23,831</u>	<u>\$ 22,776</u>
<b>Realised gain on equity investment at FVTPL</b>	\$ -	\$ (9,728)
<b>Net change in unrealised gain on equity investment at FVTPL</b>	\$ 18	\$ 8,490

## 6. Business Segments

The following tables show financial information by business segment:

	2024						
	Retail Bank	Credit Life Company	Real Estate Holding	Investment Holdings	Insurance Agency Operations	Eliminations	Consolidated
<b>Interest income</b>							
External and internal	\$ 142,857	\$ 1,786	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ (1,459)	\$ 143,185
Total interest income	\$ 142,857	\$ 1,786	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ (1,459)	\$ 143,185
<b>Interest expense</b>							
External and internal	\$ 16,559	\$ 5	\$ 48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (96)	\$ 16,516
Total interest expense	\$ 16,559	\$ 5	\$ 48	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (96)	\$ 16,516
<b>Total income</b>							
External	\$ 153,051	\$ 8,037	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 161,088
Internal	292	(584)	3,586	823	586	(4,703)	-
Total income	\$ 153,343	\$ 7,453	\$ 3,586	\$ 823	\$ 586	\$ (4,703)	\$ 161,088
<b>Total profit (loss)</b>							
Internal & external	\$ 82,569	\$ 3,237	\$ 1,211	\$ (843)	\$ 273	\$ (545)	\$ 85,902
<b>Assets</b>	\$ 1,900,582	\$ 51,396	\$ 33,605	\$ 22,262	\$ 4,765	\$ (96,094)	\$ 1,916,516
<b>Liabilities</b>	\$ 1,569,634	\$ 819	\$ 1,566	\$ 33	\$ 6	\$ (1,227)	\$ 1,570,831
<b>Other Information</b>							
Capital additions	\$ 875	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 875
Depreciation on right of use assets	515	-	-	-	-	-	515
Other depreciation	\$ 2,696	\$ -	\$ 738	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,434
	2023						
	Retail Bank	Credit Life Company	Real Estate Holding	Investment Holdings	Insurance Agency Operations	Eliminations	Consolidated
<b>Interest income</b>							
External and internal	\$ 136,153	\$ 1,808	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4	\$ (4)	\$ 137,961
Total interest income	\$ 136,153	\$ 1,808	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4	\$ (4)	\$ 137,961
<b>Interest expense</b>							
External and internal	\$ 17,172	\$ 99	\$ 73	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (149)	\$ 17,195
Total interest expense	\$ 17,172	\$ 99	\$ 73	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (149)	\$ 17,195
<b>Total income</b>							
External	\$ 145,065	\$ 7,454	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 152,519
Internal	(141)	(528)	3,604	7,097	531	(10,563)	-
Total income	\$ 144,924	\$ 6,926	\$ 3,604	\$ 7,097	\$ 531	\$ (10,563)	\$ 152,519
<b>Total profit (loss)</b>							
Internal & external	\$ 52,828	\$ 2,872	\$ 1,379	\$ 7,080	\$ 248	\$ (901)	\$ 63,506
<b>Assets</b>	\$ 1,881,694	\$ 48,916	\$ 34,099	\$ 23,093	\$ 4,493	\$ (116,652)	\$ 1,875,643
<b>Liabilities</b>	\$ 1,583,590	\$ 1,553	\$ 140	\$ 21	\$ 3	\$ (19,162)	\$ 1,566,145
<b>Other Information</b>							
Capital additions	\$ 3,704	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,704
Depreciation on right of use assets	537	-	-	-	-	-	537
Other depreciation	\$ 3,033	\$ -	\$ 731	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,764

The entities within the Group operate within the same geographical area. Non-Bahamian dollar assets and liabilities which are not in the retail bank segment are not material and are therefore not allocated to business segments.

## 7. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2024	2023
Cash on hand	\$ 23,194	\$ 21,772
Demand deposits	11,308	12,611
Time deposits	38,245	9,727
Balances with The Central Bank of The Bahamas	162,819	194,505
	<b>235,566</b>	<b>238,615</b>
Minimum reserve requirement	(59,235)	(59,645)
Time deposits with original maturities greater than 3 months	(38,245)	-
Cash and cash equivalents	<b>\$ 138,086</b>	<b>\$ 178,970</b>

The minimum reserve requirement comprises deposits placed with the Central Bank to meet statutory requirements of the Bank's licenses and are not available for use in the Bank's day-to-day operations. As such, these amounts are excluded from balances held with the Central Bank to arrive at cash and cash equivalents. All balances with the Central Bank are non-interest bearing.

Time deposits with original maturities greater than 3 months are not deemed short-term liquid assets and are excluded to arrive at cash and cash equivalents. The time deposits are interest-bearing with a range of 4.28% - 4.45%.

The financial assets included in cash and cash equivalents are carried at amortized cost, which approximates the fair market value.

## 8. Investments

Investments are as follows:

	2024		
	Gross Amount	Maturity Years	Interest Rates
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$ 587,087	2025-2037	2.95% - 4.88%
Bahamas Government related-debt	15,278	2025-2036	4.50% - 7.00%
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt	91,357	2028-2033	9.78% - 12.62%
Bahamas corporate debt	7,000	2044	7.00%
United States treasury bills	3,411	2025	4.22% - 4.36%
United States corporate debt	39,350	2025-2032	4.34% - 5.63%
Accrued interest receivable	7,814		
Total investments measured at amortised cost	751,297		
Less: Allowance for ECL	(3,239)		
Total investments measured at amortised cost, net	748,058		
Equity investment	202		
Total investments, net	\$ 748,260		

	2023		
	Gross Amount	Maturity Years	Interest Rates
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$ 600,090	2024-2037	2.93% - 4.88%
Bahamas Government related-debt	16,839	2024-2035	4.25% - 7.00%
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt	98,223	2024-2033	8.59% - 12.62%
United States Government debt	602	2024	7.50%
United States treasury bills	8,091	2024	5.30%
United States corporate debt	41,445	2024-2032	4.34% - 5.63%
Accrued interest receivable	9,891		
Total investments measured at amortised cost	775,181		
Less: Allowance for ECL	(3,312)		
Total investments measured at amortised cost, net	771,869		
Equity investment	183		
Total investments, net	\$ 772,052		

Investments, measured at amortized cost (net), categorized by maturity are as follows:

	2024	2023
Current (due in one year)	\$ 374,919	\$ 354,736
Non-current (due after one year)	\$ 373,139	\$ 417,133
	\$ 748,058	\$ 771,869

The table below shows the net carrying amount and fair value of investments.

	2024	
	Net Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$ 584,620	\$ 588,105
Bahamas Government related-debt	15,106	15,278
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt	91,272	91,484
Bahamas corporate debt	6,618	7,000
United States treasury bills	3,411	3,390
United States corporate debt	39,217	38,665
Equity investment	202	202
Accrued interest receivable	7,814	7,814
Total investments, net	\$ 748,260	\$ 751,938

	2023	
	Net Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$ 597,591	\$ 599,627
Bahamas Government related-debt	16,660	16,796
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt	97,744	90,359
United States Government debt	602	614
United States treasury bills	8,091	8,033
United States corporate debt	41,290	40,794
Equity investment	183	183
Accrued interest receivable	9,891	9,891
Total investments, net	\$ 772,052	\$ 766,297



The Bank holds an equity investment in the Bahamas Automated Clearing House ("BACH"), an entity owned by seven (7) members of the Clearing Banks Association ("CBA") of The Bahamas. BACH operates a secure interbank settlement system to facilitate electronic money transfers made between its members. Each member of the CBA has an equal holding of the outstanding ordinary shares of BACH.

The table below shows the fair value hierarchy of investments.

	2024			2023	
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 1	Level 2
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$ -	\$ 588,105	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 599,627
Bahamas Government related-debt	-	15,278	-	-	16,796
United States Government debt	-	-	-	614	-
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt	-	91,484	-	-	90,359
Bahamas corporate debt	-	-	7,000	-	-
United States treasury bills	3,390	-	-	8,033	-
United States corporate debt	38,665	-	-	-	-
Equity investments	-	202	-	40,794	-

As of December 31, 2024, the majority of the Bank's investments in Bahamas Government debt comprised of Bahamas Government Registered Stock and Bahamas Government Treasury Bills.

Other investments include Bahamas Government-related debt such as securities issued by the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation, The University of The Bahamas, The Bridge Authority and The Clifton Heritage. There is not a very active market for these investments. Primary brokers of these Government-related debt trade similar instruments at par value.

During 2023 the Bank's Mastercard share holdings were converted from class B shares to class A shares and were sold with a realized gain of \$9.7 million that is recorded in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and other Comprehensive Income.

## 9. Loans and Advances to Customers, net

Loans and advances to customers are as follows:

	2024	2023
Residential mortgage	\$ 166,897	\$ 163,584
Business	20,980	21,038
Personal	669,758	628,793
Credit card	42,929	38,028
Government	13,127	20,959
	<u>913,691</u>	<u>872,402</u>
Less: Allowance for ECL	(38,480)	(64,418)
Loans and advances to customers, net	<u>\$ 875,211</u>	<u>\$ 807,984</u>

Loans and advances to customers categorized by maturity are as follows:

	2024	2023
Current (due within one year)	\$ 63,419	\$ 67,962
Non-current (due after one year)	811,792	740,022
	<u>\$ 875,211</u>	<u>\$ 807,984</u>

Included within the carrying amount of gross loans and advances to customers are accrued interest amounting to \$10.2 million (2023: \$10.9 million), and effective interest rate adjustments of \$8.6 million (2023: \$6.3 million), the latter principally comprising deferred fees and other direct costs incurred to originate loans.

The effective interest rate yield earned for the year ended December 31, 2024, is 12.16% (2023: 11.50%). Interest rates on loans outstanding at December 31, 2024 and 2023 range from 2% - 18% per annum (2023: 2% - 18% per annum).

Loans and advances are classified as Level 3 financial instruments as their fair values have been estimated to be their net present value, inclusive of an unobservable risk-adjusted discount rate.

*Movement in Allowance for ECL:*

	2024				
	Balance at the Beginning of Year	Loans Written off	Recoveries	Impairment (Reversals)/Losses	Balance at the End of Year
Residential mortgage	\$ 7,044	\$ (843)	\$ -	\$ (380)	5,821
Business	1,564	1	-	(135)	1,430
Personal	54,431	(25,184)	25,363	(24,603)	30,007
Credit card	1,351	(965)	1,194	(414)	1,166
Government	28	-	-	28	56
Total	\$ 64,418	\$ (26,991)	\$ 26,557	\$ (25,504)	\$ 38,480

	2023				
	Balance at the Beginning of Year	Loans Written off	Recoveries	Impairment (Reversals)/Losses	Balance at the End of Year
Residential mortgage	\$ 10,309	\$ (2,214)	\$ -	\$ (1,051)	7,044
Business	1,403	(2)	-	163	1,564
Personal	62,016	(30,556)	23,576	(605)	54,431
Credit card	2,150	(1,181)	1,226	(844)	1,351
Government	103	-	-	(75)	28
Total	\$ 75,981	\$ (33,953)	\$ 24,802	\$ (2,412)	\$ 64,418

**10. Other Assets**

The composition of other assets is as follows:

	2024	2023
Pension asset	\$ 7,248	\$ 7,465
Prepaid expenses	5,130	2,156
Accounts receivable	648	24
Other	2,485	2,270
	<u>\$ 15,511</u>	<u>\$ 11,915</u>

The pension asset comprises the net asset position of the defined benefit plan as disclosed in Note 20. The net pension asset is non-current. All other assets are mainly related to work-in-progress and are expected to be recovered within one year.

**11. Right of Use Assets and Lease Liabilities**

The right of use assets are as follows:

	2024	2023
Opening net book value	\$ 645	\$ 1,182
Additions	-	-
Depreciation	(515)	(537)
Closing net book value	<u>\$ 130</u>	<u>\$ 645</u>

	2024	2023
Cost	\$ 2,346	\$ 2,346
Accumulated depreciation	(2,216)	(1,701)
Closing net book value	<u>\$ 130</u>	<u>\$ 645</u>

For the years ended December 31, 2024, and 2023, there were no direct costs incurred by the Bank upon entering a lease.

The lease liabilities are as follows:

	2024	2023
Opening book value	\$ 700	\$ 1,242
Additions	-	-
Finance cost on lease liabilities	25	42
Repayment of lease liabilities	(560)	(584)
Closing book value	<u>\$ 165</u>	<u>\$ 700</u>

Of which is:		
Current lease liabilities	\$ 165	291
Non-current lease liabilities	-	409
	<u>\$ 165</u>	<u>\$ 700</u>

The incremental borrowing rate is 4.25% (2023: 4.25%) per annum.

## 12. Premises and Equipment

The movement of premises and equipment are as follows:

	Land/Site Improvements	Buildings	Leasehold Improvements	Furniture Fittings & Equipment	Total
<b>Cost</b>					
December 31, 2023	\$ 14,982	\$ 39,158	\$ 1,095	\$ 43,648	\$ 98,883
Additions	-	-	-	875	875
Disposals	-	-	-	(193)	(193)
December 31, 2024	\$ 14,982	\$ 39,158	\$ 1,095	\$ 44,330	\$ 99,565
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>					
December 31, 2023	889	15,798	993	36,771	54,451
Depreciation	36	981	23	2,394	3,434
Disposal	-	-	-	(158)	(158)
December 31, 2024	\$ 925	\$ 16,779	\$ 1,016	\$ 39,007	\$ 57,727
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
December 31, 2024	\$ 14,057	\$ 22,379	\$ 79	\$ 5,323	\$ 41,838

	Land/Site Improvements	Buildings	Leasehold Improvements	Furniture Fittings & Equipment	Total
<b>Cost</b>					
December 31, 2022	\$ 14,975	\$ 39,029	\$ 1,095	\$ 40,731	\$ 95,830
Additions	7	129	-	3,568	3,704
Disposals	-	-	-	(651)	(651)
December 31, 2023	\$ 14,982	\$ 39,158	\$ 1,095	\$ 43,648	\$ 98,883
<b>Accumulated Depreciation</b>					
December 31, 2022	844	14,813	968	34,647	51,272
Depreciation	45	985	25	2,709	3,764
Disposal	-	-	-	(585)	(585)
December 31, 2023	\$ 889	\$ 15,798	\$ 993	\$ 36,771	\$ 54,451
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
December 31, 2023	\$ 14,093	\$ 23,360	\$ 102	\$ 6,877	\$ 44,432

The Net Book Value of the land for 2024 and 2023 is \$14,033,702.

## 13. Deposits from Customers

The composition of deposits from customers is as follows:

	2024	2023
Demand deposits	\$ 285,817	\$ 265,433
Savings accounts	579,196	551,138
Certificates of deposit	678,853	727,443
	<u>\$ 1,543,866</u>	<u>\$ 1,544,014</u>

Deposits from customers categorized by maturity are as follows:

Current (due within one year)	\$ 1,086,051	\$ 1,026,912
Non-current (due after one year)	457,815	517,102
	<u>\$ 1,543,866</u>	<u>\$ 1,544,014</u>

Management has determined that the fair value of deposits from customers approximates their carrying values.

Included in deposits from customers is accrued interest payable to customers totaling \$49.6 million (2023: \$45.03 million).

Deposits carry fixed interest rates ranging from 0.00% to 6.25% (2023: 0.00% to 6.50%) per annum, but the fixed interest rates are determined based on market rates and can be adjusted at the respective maturities of the deposits based on changes in market rates. The weighted average interest rate incurred on deposits from customers as at December 31, 2024, was 1.07% (2023: 1.14%).

## 14. Other Liabilities

The composition of other liabilities is as follows:

	2024	2023
Accruals and accounts payable	\$ 10,483	\$ 6,019
Cashier's cheques outstanding	3,778	4,937
Employee related	5,430	4,592
Other	7,109	5,883
	<u>\$ 26,800</u>	<u>\$ 21,431</u>

Accruals and accounts payable and Cashier's cheques outstanding are expected to be settled within the next 12 months. The "other" category in the table above is comprised of insurance and taxes payable and other miscellaneous liabilities.



## 15. Share Capital

The table below presents information about the common shares which were authorized, issued, and fully paid during 2024 and 2023:

Authorised:	2024	2023
675,000,000 (2023: 675,000,000) shares of \$0.00667 per share	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
Issued and fully paid:		
295,268,556 (2023: 295,268,556 ) shares of \$0.00667 per share	\$ 1,968	\$ 1,968
Share premium	18,786	20,758
Less: 4,283,166 (2023: 3,736,987) shares held in treasury	(12,394)	(11,559)
Total	\$ 8,360	\$ 11,167
Share capital	\$ 1,940	\$ 1,944
Share premium	6,420	9,223
	\$ 8,360	\$ 11,167

The holders of common shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at shareholders' meetings of the Bank. All common shares rank equally with regard to the Bank's residual assets.

The holdings of treasury shares are to fund the Group's stock-based compensation plans and inject liquidity into the local market. During the year, the Bank repurchased its common shares through its subsidiary, C.B. Securities. Details of the purchases are disclosed in Note 19.

During 2024 and 2023, the Group paid four regular quarterly common share dividends. In each quarter in 2024, the Group paid \$0.03 per share in regular quarterly dividends. In addition, in 2024 the Group paid \$0.04 per share in extraordinary dividends. In each of the first and second quarters of 2023, the Group paid \$0.02 per share in regular quarterly dividends. In each of the third and fourth quarters of 2023, the Group paid \$0.03 per share in regular quarterly dividends. In addition, in 2023 the Group paid extraordinary dividends of \$0.04 per share.

These payments totaled \$46.60 million (2023: \$40.89 million) in common share dividend payments.

## 16. Basic earnings Per Share

	2024	2023
Total profit available to common shareholders	\$ 85,902	\$ 63,506
Weighted average number of common shares (in thousands)	291,106	289,119
Basic earnings per share (expressed in dollars)	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.22

## 17. Fees and Other Income

Fees and other income derived from contracts with customers are as follows:

	2024	2023
Loan and credit card fees, excluding commitment and origination fees	\$ 6,264	\$ 5,299
Credit life insurance premiums	5,843	5,276
Deposit account fees	8,023	7,396
Debit card fees	5,520	6,432
Foreign exchange	4,023	3,649
Merchant-acquiring service fees	2,219	-
Other	2,509	2,463
	\$ 34,401	\$ 30,515

## 18. General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses are as follows:

	2024	2023
Staff costs	\$ 48,715	\$ 43,058
Licenses and taxes	15,391	15,616
Professional and service fees	11,599	10,899
Occupancy	5,870	5,878
Advertising	1,646	1,941
Other	13,232	8,965
	\$ 96,453	\$ 86,357

Staff costs include pension costs of \$1.72 million (2023: \$1.74 million) which includes an \$82,000 credit (2023: \$37,000 charge) relating to the DB Provisions (see Note 20). Occupancy includes rental costs for leased properties (see Note 11). Other general and administrative expenses comprise primarily of bank licensing fees, technology licensing fees and profession services fees.

During 2024, \$596,280 in audit fees were assessed on the Group by its external auditor, KPMG. During 2023, \$707,508 in audit fees were assessed on the Group by its external auditor, KPMG.

## 19. Related Parties Balances and Transactions

The following table shows balances and transactions with related parties not disclosed elsewhere in these consolidated financial statements:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	Key Management Personnel	Key Management Personnel
	\$	\$
<b>Balances as at December 31</b>		
Loans and advances to customers	5,465	5,895
Deposits from customers	257,384	299,518
Other liabilities	-	17
<b>Transactions for the year-ended December 31</b>		
Interest income	171	224
Interest expense	7,809	8,666

Amounts included in loans and advances to customers that relate to residential mortgages and business loans are secured. Amounts related to personal loans and credit cards are unsecured. Loans and advances to customers are granted at preferential interest rates which fall within the range disclosed in Note 9. Allowances for ECL in respect of these balances are not material. Deposits from customers are granted at preferential interest rates which fall within the range disclosed in Note 13.

### Compensation of Key Management Personnel

The remuneration of key management personnel, those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Bank is as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Non-Executive Directors</b>		
Director's fees	\$ 328	\$ 300
Other long term benefits	\$ 24	\$ 366
	<u>\$ 352</u>	<u>\$ 666</u>

### Other Key Management Personnel

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Short term benefits	\$ 10,818	\$ 9,352
Post employment benefits	\$ 361	\$ 459
Other long term benefits	\$ 210	\$ 950
	<u>\$ 11,389</u>	<u>\$ 10,761</u>

Non-executive Directors were paid \$328,000 (2023: \$300,300) in aggregate for fees and directorship services.

In line with the policy approved by shareholders at the 2016 Annual General Meeting, each non-executive Director, on retirement, shall receive a payment in cash or common shares of the Bank at a prevailing market value equivalent to one-twelfth of the Director's annual fees for every year of continuous service as a non-executive Director, the Bank fully accrued for Directors' cumulative retirement benefits totaling \$366,000 through to December 31, 2023, recognizing these amounts are due as non-discretionary charge of the Bank. The other long-term benefit to Directors is \$24,000 for 2024.

### Purchases and Sale of Shares from and to Subsidiary

During the year, the Bank's wholly owned subsidiary C.B. Securities Ltd. purchased 541,838 of the Bank's common shares for \$2.8 million (2023: 1,113,731 shares for \$4.3 million). C.B. Securities Ltd. holds 4,283,166 (2023: 3,736,987) of the Bank's shares, which have a market value of approximately \$21.7 million (2023: \$20.4 million) as of December 31, 2024.

## 20. Bank Pension Scheme

The pension plan consists of DB Provisions and DC Provisions.

### DB Provisions

The DB Provisions, which is closed to new members, provides pensions based on years of service, contributions and weighted average earnings at retirement. The Bank's funding policy is to make monthly contributions to the DB Provisions based on triennial valuations to assess the continued appropriateness of certain assumptions which drive the valuation of the Plan and to ensure that funding levels are consistent with internally developed targets. The Bank pays on demand to the DB Provisions such periodic contributions as may be required to meet the obligations of the DB Provisions.

All employees in active employment of the Bank who had at least 3 years of service or had reached the age of 25, and who met the eligibility requirements were eligible for the DB Provisions. After October 1, 2013, entry to the DB Provisions was closed to all new employees.

### Assumptions applied to DB Provisions

#### Discount rate:

In accordance with IAS 19, the discount rate used is determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high-quality local corporate bonds, or where there is no deep market in such bonds, by reference to market yields on long-term Bahamas Government bonds. Currencies and terms of bond yields used must be consistent with the currency and estimated term of the post-employment benefit obligations being discounted.

As at the reporting date, the discount rate assumption for the DB Provisions plan is 5.85% (2023: 5.80%).

*Increases in pensionable earnings:*

The DB Provisions sets the pension increase rate assumption in line with the expected general wage growth which is influenced by the inflation by which benefits are expected to increase in future years. Although influenced by the inflation rate, the DB Provision does not contractually state that increases will be in line with market inflation. The assumption for 2024 has remained unchanged at 1% (2023: 1%).

*Mortality:*

The DB Provisions use the 1994 Uninsured Pensioners Mortality Table (UP-94) to determine the mortality rate of the plan members. The UP-94 mortality table was considered appropriate for expected mortality during 1994, however, the actual experience in the DB Provisions has proven too scarce to produce any credible experience. In instances where the actual experience is not credible, the use of UP-94 is generally accepted.

The Bank has considered the impact of COVID-19 on the mortality assumption and has deemed it unnecessary to alter its long-term assumptions.

*Rate of increase of future compensation:*

The 'rate of increase in future compensation' assumption of 3.50% remains unchanged from the prior year.

*Expenses:*

The expense assumption used in the calculation of the DB Provisions is \$100,000 (2023: \$94,320). The assumption is based on the average amount of the investment and administrative expenses in the DB Provisions over the past several years.

The DB Provisions typically expose the Bank to the following actuarial risks:

- i. Investment risk: The DB Provisions comprises investments in Bahamian Government (and Government-related) securities and private securities. The present value of the DB Provisions liability is calculated using a discount rate of 5.85% (2023: 5.80%). If the return on assets is below the discount rate, it will create a deficit.
- ii. Interest risk: A decrease in the discount rate will increase the DB Provisions liability.
- iii. Longevity risk: The present value of the DB Provisions liability is calculated by reference to the best estimate of the mortality of participants both during and after their employment. An increase in the life expectancy of the DB Provisions participants will increase the DB Provisions' liability.
- iv. Salary risk: The present value of the DB Provisions liability is calculated by reference to the future salaries of participants. As such, an increase in the salary of the participants will increase the DB Provisions' liability.

These risks are managed whereby the investment and operating decisions are overseen by a Pension Committee, which meets quarterly. Members of the Pension Committee include certain members of the Board of Directors of the Group and employees of the Bank. The Pension Committee meets to review changes in the actuarial assumptions that may affect the interest rate risk, longevity risk and salary risk associated with the DB Provisions. The Pension Committee also meets to discuss the investment activities of DB Provisions. The investment portfolio of the DB Provisions primarily comprises equity and fixed-income securities. Fixed-income investments primarily comprise Bahamas Government bonds. The DP Provisions' asset-liability matching strategy, based on consideration of recommendations from the investment advisor, manages the tenor of fixed-income investments, cash flow from investments, and the allocation between fixed-income and equity instruments.

All equity securities have quoted prices in an active market. The investment advisor prepares a portfolio review quarterly, and the management by the Pension Committee includes a consideration of the investment portfolio's investment balances in relation to the expected future distribution of pension funds. The review also includes a retrospective review of the historical performance of each investment type within the portfolio

An actuarial valuation of the DB Provisions was undertaken by Mercer (Canada) Limited, Toronto, Canada as at December 31, 2024.

The following tables present information related to the Bank's DB Provisions, including amounts recorded in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position and the components of defined benefit cost:

	2024	2023
Change in fair value of plan assets:		
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year	\$ 32,544	\$ 29,145
Interest income	1,848	1,638
Actual return on plan assets	53	2,735
Administrative costs	(155)	(67)
Employer contributions	-	-
Participant contributions	78	69
Benefits paid	(1,245)	(976)
Withdrawals from plan	-	-
Fair value of plan assets at end of year	<u>\$ 33,123</u>	<u>\$ 32,544</u>
Change in defined benefit obligation:		
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$ 25,078	\$ 24,473
Current employer service costs	250	204
Participant contributions	77	69
Interest cost	1,416	1,372
Withdrawals from plan	-	-
Benefits paid	(1,245)	(976)
Experience adjustment	443	76
Settlement payments	-	-
Changes in financial assumptions	(144)	(140)
Benefit obligation at end of year	<u>\$ 25,875</u>	<u>\$ 25,078</u>

	2024	2023
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$ 25,875	\$ 25,078
Fair value of plan assets at end of year	(33,123)	(32,544)
Net defined benefit (asset) liability	<u>\$ (7,248)</u>	<u>\$ (7,466)</u>
Net defined benefit (asset) liability:		
Balance at beginning of year	\$ (7,466)	\$ (4,672)
Defined benefit included in profit or loss	(82)	38
Remeasurement included in other comprehensive income	300	(2,832)
Employer contributions	-	-
Balance at end of year	<u>\$ (7,248)</u>	<u>\$ (7,466)</u>
Components of defined benefit cost:		
Current employer service costs	\$ 250	\$ 204
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	1,416	1,372
Interest income on plan assets	(1,848)	(1,638)
Administrative costs	100	100
Pension benefit expense included in staff costs	<u>\$ (82)</u>	<u>\$ 38</u>
Components of remeasurements:		
Changes in actuarial assumptions	\$ 144	\$ 140
Experience adjustments	(443)	(73)
Return on plan assets excluding interest income	(1)	2,765
Remeasurements included in other comprehensive income	<u>\$ (300)</u>	<u>\$ 2,832</u>
Weighted-average assumptions to determine defined benefit obligations:	2024	2023
Discount rate	5.85%	5.80%
Rate of pension increases	1.00%	1.00%
Rate of increase in future compensation	3.50%	3.50%
	UP 1994	UP 1994
	Fully	Fully
Mortality Table	generational	generational
Weighted-average assumptions to determine defined benefit cost:	2024	2023
Discount rate	5.85%	5.80%
Rate of pension increases	1.00%	1.00%
Rate of increase in future compensation	3.50%	3.50%
	UP 1994	UP 1994
	Fully	Fully
Mortality Table	generational	generational

Actuarial assumption sensitivities:

The discount rate is sensitive to changes in market conditions arising during the reporting period.

The results of a 25 basis points increase or decrease over the actuarial assumptions related to the discount rate, compensation and pension; and one-year increase in life expectancy used in the measurement of the defined benefit obligation and defined benefit expense are summarised in the table below:

	2024			
	Discount Rate	Compensation	Pension	Mortality
Pension obligation	\$ 735	\$ 108	\$ 622	\$ 565
Pension expense	\$ 68	\$ 7	\$ 44	\$ 41

The effect of assuming an increase of one-year in life expectancy would increase the benefit obligation by \$0.6 million (2023: \$0.5 million) and pension benefits expense by \$39,000 (2023: \$36,000).

	2023			
	Discount Rate	Compensation	Pension	Mortality
Pension obligation	\$ 724	\$ 161	\$ 674	\$ 575
Pension expense	\$ 69	\$ 14	\$ 47	\$ 39

The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation is 11.7 years (2023: 12.0 years).

The above sensitivity analyses are based on a change in an assumption while holding all other assumptions constant. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be correlated. When calculating the sensitivity of the defined benefit obligation to significant actuarial assumptions the same method (present value of the defined benefit obligation calculated with the



projected unit credit method at the end of the year) has been applied when calculating the defined benefit liability recognised in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.

The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis did not change compared to the prior period.

The DB Plan owns shares of the Bank valued at \$7.06 million and \$7.69 million as of December 31, 2024, and 2023 respectively.

The major categories of DB Provisions assets at December 31, 2024, are as follows:

	<b>Fair Value of Plan Assets</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Balance at banks	\$ 3,258	\$ 743
Equity instruments (by industry segments):		
Energy	3,452	2,562
Industrials	227	219
Consumer staples	196	198
Finance	10,345	10,669
Government bonds	10,345	12,348
Other debt instruments	3,534	4,212
Preferred equity	1,573	1,573
Mutual Fund	104	97
Other Assets	220	10
Liabilities	(131)	(87)
Fair value of plan assets	<u>\$ 33,123</u>	<u>\$ 32,544</u>

All equity securities are level 1 investments. All bonds are Level 2 investments.

Given that the DB Provisions is currently overfunded, the Bank did not make any contributions in 2024 and 2023 in respect of the DB Provisions.

DB Provisions funds held at the Bank and related interest expense are as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Deposits from customers</b>	<b>\$ 351</b>	<b>\$ 280</b>
<b>Interest expense</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

The remeasurement gain of defined benefit obligation included in other comprehensive income is as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Remeasurement of defined benefit obligation</b>	<b>\$ (300)</b>	<b>\$ 2,832</b>

#### DC Provisions

The DC Provisions requires a defined contribution be made by the Bank for plan members. Eligibility in the DC Provisions includes all employees in active employment of the Bank who have at least 1 year of service or have reached the age of 25, and who met the eligibility requirements of the DC Provisions on or after October 1, 2013, or were hired after September 1, 2013. Contributions to the DC Provisions started on November 1, 2013, for eligible employees. Contributions to the DC Provisions are deposited into the plan account of each employee and administered by the pension plan's investment manager. Employees may choose from three investment options, two of which are investment funds offered by the investment manager and the other being the CB Managed Fund.

The amounts recognised as an expense under the DC Provisions are as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Pension expense included in staff costs</b>	<b>\$ 1,788</b>	<b>\$ 1,703</b>

The DC Provisions owns 171,889 (2023: 171,889) common shares of the Bank. These shares have a market value of \$0.8 million (2023: \$0.9 million) which represents 2% (2023: 2%) of the DC Provisions assets.

## 21. Commitments and Contingencies

To meet the financial needs of customers, the Bank enters into various irrevocable commitments. These consist of mortgage commitments, letters of credit and other undrawn commitments to lend. Letters of credit commit the Bank to make payments on behalf of customers in the event of a specific act. In addition, contingent liabilities arise because of litigation or similar unforeseen matters.

#### Loan commitments

In the ordinary course of business, the Bank had commitments as at the reporting date, as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Mortgage commitments	\$ 10,753	\$ 8,520
Commercial commitments	2,321	1,444
Revolving credit lines	30,796	30,155
	<u>\$ 43,870</u>	<u>\$ 40,119</u>

Revolving credit lines are undrawn lending facilities that have been approved by the Bank to meet the requirements of customers. They are revocable at the Bank's discretion. The amount shown represent the maximum amount of additional credit that the Bank could be obligated to extend.

These financial instruments are subject to the Bank's standard credit policies and procedures.

#### *Capital commitments*

As at December 31, 2024, the Bank had capital commitments of \$0.1 million (2023: \$0.11 million). The capital commitments in both years were substantively related to certain long-term assets. These are non-financial assets intended for long-term use.

#### *Letters of credit*

The Bank has a standby letter of credit with PNC Bank for US\$ 6.4 million (2023: \$6.4 million).

#### *Liability provisions*

The Group is involved in various legal proceedings covering a range of matters that arise in the ordinary course of business activities. As at December 31, 2024, and 2023, the Bank maintained related provisions totaling \$0.2 million while the ruling is pending. These provisions are included in other liabilities in the employee-related line item (Note 14) and are estimates of the loss exposure.

## **22. Risk Management**

The Group's risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Group, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits. The risk management policies and systems are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions and the Group's activities. The Group, through its training and management standards and procedures, aims to develop a disciplined and constructive control environment in which all employees understand their roles and obligations.

The Group's Audit and Risk Committee oversees how management monitors compliance with the Group's risk management policies and procedures and reviews the adequacy of the risk management framework in relation to the risks faced by the Group. The Group's Audit and Risk Committee is assisted in its oversight role by the Group's Enterprise Risk Management function, which represents the second line of internal control defence; and the Internal Audit function, which represents the third line of internal control defence. Internal Audit undertakes both regular and ad hoc reviews of risk management controls and procedures, the results of which are reported to the Group's Audit and Risk Committee.

The Group has exposures to the following risks: concentration risk, capital management risk, interest rate risk, credit risk, liquidity risk, currency and operational risk.

- a. Concentration risk** - Risk concentrations can arise through the Group's exposure to individual counterparties, groups of individual counterparties or related entities; geographical locations; industry sectors; specific products; or service providers. The Group is exposed to the potential loss in value when a significant source of concentration risk moves in an unfavourable direction.

The concentration of risks not specifically identified in other notes to these consolidated financial statements are as follows:

*Geographical concentration* - The Group has a concentration of risk in respect of the geographical area, as its operations, deposit customers; and significant assets are domiciled within the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

*Currency concentration* - The Group has a concentration in respect of currency as its financial instruments are significantly denominated in a single currency, the Bahamian dollar. Its other significant currency exposure is to the United States dollar, which shows a history of being positively correlated to the Bahamian dollar.

*Credit concentration* - The Group has a concentration of credit risk when a significant proportion of borrowers are engaged in similar sectorial activities, and have economic features that would cause their ability to meet contractual obligations to be similarly affected by changes in economic, political, or other conditions. A significant concentration of the Group's borrowers are employees of The Government of The Bahamas or its related entities; and large hotel properties operating within the tourism and leisure sectors of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

*Product concentration* - The Group categorizes its loans and advances to customers into loan types including personal, business, residential, and government; and revolving loans of credit cards and overdrafts. The Group has a significant concentration of personal loans and advances to customers.

*Liquidity concentration* - The Group has a concentration of liquidity risk in its reliance on a particular market to realize its liquid assets; and sources of funding for its lending activities. The concentration of liquidity may also arise in the contract terms of repayment for its financial assets and liabilities. A significant concentration of the Group's investments is in financial instruments issued by the Government of The Bahamas or its related entities. Trading levels in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, whether on BISX or over-the-counter markets, are generally low, and therefore, the ability of the Group to liquidate large positions may be difficult and prices received may be severely impacted. The Central Bank has created a secondary market for certain debt securities issued by the Government of The Bahamas, and prices currently being observed in this market and over-the-counter approximate the face values of such securities.

The Bank manages its concentration of risks through its internal risk management policies and procedures, specifically stated in, but not limited to, its business continuity and recovery planning strategies; its setting of prudent concentration limits and targets for business performance; and its periodic stress testing of its liquidity and capital contingency plans.

- b. Capital management risk** - The Group manages its capital to ensure that it has a strong capital base to support the development of its business. The capital maintained exceeds regulatory capital requirements. The Group maximizes the return to shareholders through optimization of its debt and equity balance. The Group's risk management structure promotes making sound business decisions by balancing risk and reward. It promotes revenue-generating activities that are consistent with the Group's risk appetite, the Bank's policies and the maximization of shareholder return.

The capital structure of the Bank consists of equity attributable to the common equity holders of the Bank, comprising issued share capital, share premium and retained earnings as disclosed in Note 15. The Board's Executive Committee reviews the capital structure at least annually. As part of this review, the Executive Committee considers the cost of capital and the risks associated with each type of capital available to fund its business activities. Based on recommendations of the Executive Committee, the Bank manages

its capital structure through the payment of dividends, new share issues, (common or preference) and the redemption of preference shares, as applicable.

As prescribed by the Guidelines for the Management of Capital and the Calculation of Capital Adequacy issued by the Central Bank, the Bank is required to maintain a capital adequacy ratio of at least 17% (2023: 17%), which is calculated by dividing the Bank's total eligible capital by its total risk-weighted exposures. The Bank's capital adequacy ratio for 2024 was 32% (2023: 31%). The Group's capital is made up of Tier 1 capital only, which includes share capital and retained earnings.

Regulatory capital requirements for Laurentide and Laurentide Insurance Agency Limited are managed through the Bank. The Group's strategy is unchanged from 2023.

Laurentide is licensed to conduct long term insurance business under The Insurance Act 2005 (the "Act").

Under paragraph 60(1)A of The Insurance (General) Regulations, 2010 (the "Regulations") an insurance company is required to have a minimum paid-up and unencumbered share capital of not less than \$3 million. As at December 31, 2024, Laurentide has \$300,300 (2023: \$300,300) in share capital and \$2,750,000 (2023: \$2,750,000) in contributed surplus. Laurentide's Board passed a resolution on December 6, 2011, making the contributed surplus non-distributable.

Laurentide is required to establish and maintain a minimum statutory deposit of \$2 million, such deposit to be held in trust under section 43(2) of the Act and paragraph 62 of the Regulations. The LIM (Laurentide Insurance Management) Statutory Reserve Trust was established on December 20, 2011, with assets valued at \$2,289,300 as at December 31, 2024 (2023: \$2,289,300).

During the year, the Group complied with all externally imposed capital requirements.

- c. **Interest rate risk** - Interest rate risk is the potential for a negative impact on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position and/or Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income arising from adverse changes in the value of financial instruments as a result of changes in interest rates.

Interest rate risk or interest rate sensitivity results primarily from differences in the repricing dates of assets and liabilities. Interest rate risk exposures or "gaps" may produce favorable or unfavorable effects on interest margins depending on the nature of the gap and the direction of interest rate movement and/or the expected volatility of those interest rates. When assets have a shorter average maturity than liabilities, an increase in interest rates would have a positive impact on net interest margins, and conversely, if more liabilities than assets mature or are repriced in a particular time interval then a negative impact on net interest margin would result.

The consolidated gap position shows more assets than liabilities repriced in periods greater than one year. This is a typical position for a financial institution with a large personal customer base.

The Group manages its interest rate sensitivity gaps primarily by matching the maturity and repricing terms of its assets and liabilities. The Bank's interest-bearing financial liabilities, which are primarily its deposits to customers, are not linked to market interest rates and are set by management's rate schedule and can be reset following the maturity of any customer deposit. The interest rate schedule is reviewed periodically by the Bank's Asset-Liability Management Committee, and approved by the Board of Directors. The Bank's loan portfolio is generally not linked to market rates, except for mortgage loans with variable interest rates linked to the Bahamian dollar prime and can be reset following the maturity or restructure of any mortgage loan. Loan product interest rates are set by management's interest rate schedule. The interest rate schedule is reviewed periodically by the Bank's Asset-Liability Management Committee, and approved by the Board of Directors. The Group's investment portfolio is generally linked to market interest rates, and the Group does not attempt to hedge specifically against the impact of changes in market interest rates, as it manages by tactical allocation across instrument tenors and cash holdings. The Bank analyzes its interest rate exposure on a dynamic basis. Various scenarios are simulated taking into consideration changes in interest rates. Based on these scenarios, the Bank calculates the impact on profit and loss of a defined interest rate shift. The following table sets out the Group's interest rate risk exposure as at December 31, 2024, which represents the Group's risk exposure at this point only.

#### Interest Rate Sensitivity

If market interest rates increase/decrease by 50 basis points and all other variables remain constant, the Group's profit over the next 12 months is estimated to increase/decrease by \$313,000 (2023: \$444,000).

	Repricing date of interest sensitive instruments				Non interest rate sensitive	Total
As of December 31, 2024	Within 3 Months	3-12 months	Over 1-5 Years	Over 5 years		
<b>Assets</b>						
Cash and deposits with banks	\$ -	\$ 38,245	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 197,321	\$ 235,566
Investments, net	183,497	191,624	185,831	187,106	202	748,260
Loans and advances to customers, net	53,253	10,166	169,363	642,429	-	875,211
Total financial assets	\$ 236,711	\$ 242,887	\$ 352,372	\$ 829,544	\$ 197,523	\$ 1,859,037
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Deposits from customers	\$ 655,103	\$ 146,824	\$ 305,714	\$ 150,408	\$ 285,817	\$ 1,543,866
Lease liabilities	-	-	165	-	-	165
Other liabilities	22,277	-	-	-	-	22,277
Total financial liabilities	\$ 677,380	\$ 146,824	\$ 305,879	\$ 150,408	\$ 285,817	\$ 1,566,308
<b>Interest Rate Sensitivity Gap</b>	<b>\$ (440,669)</b>	<b>\$ 96,063</b>	<b>\$ 46,493</b>	<b>\$ 679,136</b>		

	Repricing date of interest sensitive instruments				Non interest rate sensitive	Total
As of December 31, 2023	Within 3 Months	3-12 months	Over 1-5 Years	Over 5 years		
<b>Assets</b>						
Cash and deposits with banks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 238,615	\$ 238,615
Investments, net	214,859	145,919	187,194	223,897	183	772,052
Loans and advances to customers, net	48,771	12,793	178,234	568,186	-	807,984
Total financial assets	\$ 263,630	\$ 158,712	\$ 365,428	\$ 792,083	\$ 238,798	\$ 1,818,651
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Deposits from customers	\$ 633,720	\$ 127,759	\$ 351,823	\$ 165,279	\$ 265,433	\$ 1,544,014
Lease liabilities	-	-	700	-	-	700
Other liabilities	-	-	-	-	\$ 15,128	\$ 15,128
Total financial liabilities	\$ 633,720	\$ 127,759	\$ 352,523	\$ 165,279	\$ 280,561	\$ 1,559,842
<b>Interest Rate Sensitivity Gap</b>	<b>\$ (370,090)</b>	<b>\$ 30,953</b>	<b>\$ 12,905</b>	<b>\$ 626,804</b>		

- d. **Credit risk** - Credit and counterparty risk is the potential for loss due to the failure of a borrower, endorser, guarantor or counterparty to repay a loan or honour a financial obligation. This is the most significant measurable risk faced by the Group.

The Bank's credit policies are designed to maximize the risk/return trade-off. The Bank's credit policies, including authorized lending limits, are based on segregation of authority and centralized management approval with a periodic independent review by the Bank's Internal Audit department. Consumer credit is assessed and authorized in branches within credit policies established by the Bank. Credit scoring systems are used to ensure that these policies are consistently applied across the Bank. A key factor in the Bank managing and constraining its credit risk exposure is the close review and follow up of its credit portfolios to quickly identify indications of potential failure to perform according to the terms of the contract and to take the appropriate steps to maintain or restore these accounts to performing according to the terms of the contracts.

The Group places its deposits with reputable financial institutions and considers factors of the financial institution such as reputation, longevity, market presence, market regulation, profitability, and capital adequacy to gauge the institution's stability and ability to meet its financial obligations when considering deposit placements. Where available, external credit ratings are considered.

#### Expected Credit Loss Measurement

Expected credit loss is the discounted product of the probability of default ("PD"), loss given default ("LGD") and exposure at default ("EAD") parameters defined as follows:

- PD – The estimate of the likelihood of default over a given period.
- LGD – The estimate of the loss arising on default. It is based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due and those that the lender would expect to receive, including discounted cash flows from any collateral. LGD is expressed as a percentage of the EAD.
- EAD – The estimate of the exposure at a future default date, taking into account expected changes in the exposure after the reporting date, including repayments of principal and interest, and expected draw downs on committed facilities.

Except where specifically indicated for a class of financial assets, the ECL method is applied consistently across loans and advances to customers, and investments.

For loans and advances to customers, excluding those exposures where the counterparty is the Government of The Bahamas, the Bank uses a Point-in-Time ("PIT") analysis while having regard to historical loss data and forward-looking macro-economic data.

The lifetime PD of these exposures is developed by applying a maturity profile to the current 12-month PD. The maturity profile looks at how defaults develop on a portfolio from the point of initial recognition throughout the lifetime of the loan. PDs are then adjusted for IFRS Accounting Standard 9 to incorporate forward looking information. This is repeated for each economic scenario defined by the Bank.

For exposures (including both loans and advances to customers, and investments) where the counter-party is the Government of The Bahamas, the Bank uses the historical 12-month PD and lifetime PD of the counter-party's credit rating published by credit rating agencies which are then adjusted for IFRS Accounting Standard 9 to incorporate forward-looking information.

The table below shows the average lifetime PD for financial instruments in which ECL amounts are recognised.

	2024	2023
Residential mortgage	44%	46%
Business	29%	34%
Personal	25%	27%
Credit card	35%	36%
Government	5%	2%
Investments	6%	9%

Included in the average lifetime PD for credit cards are overdrafts and guarantees.

The estimate of expected cash shortfalls reflects the cash flows expected from collateral and other credit enhancements that are part of the contractual terms and are not recognised separately by the Bank (e.g. properties collateralized for mortgage loans are not recognised on the Bank's consolidated balance sheet).



Such estimates reflect the amount and timing of cash flows that are expected from foreclosure on the collateral less the costs of obtaining and selling the collateral, irrespective of whether foreclosure is probable.

Any cash flows that are expected from the realisation of the collateral beyond the contractual maturity of the contract are included in ECL modelling.

Where appropriate, the Bank considers the time to sell and the cost to sell. Further, "Forced Sale" discounts are also included to account for reductions in value due to forced sales and deterioration of collateral held.

In addition, the cost directly associated with realising collateral forms part of the ECL calculation. In the short term, this is set by the Bank's executive management and is based on their understanding of the market, the economic environment and the Group's experience. This is expressed as a discount factor (nominal value). The Bank also includes recovery cash flow assumptions in LGD which are discounted back to the point of default at the original effective interest rate.

For government loans and securities, the Group used its judgment in the assessment of a significant increase in risk and migration of balances to progressive stages. The assessment takes into consideration the risk rating of external agencies (i.e. Moody's Corporation ("Moody's")) and the economic environment of the country.

### Internal Risk Ratings

Internal risk ratings are assigned according to the Group's risk management framework. Changes in internal risk ratings are primarily reflected in the PD parameters, which are estimated based on the Group's historical loss experience at the relevant risk segment or risk rating level, adjusted for forward-looking information.

Each credit facility is individually risk-rated (from 1 – being the lowest to 8 – being the highest) concerning its probable performance. Risk factors, which are based on the Group's current policy and procedures, are used to determine each loan's risk rating. These risk factors are assigned scoring based on a tiered approach with a higher score being assigned as risk factors increase. The factors and the range score assigned to them are then used to calculate a single risk rating.

### Weighting of Expected Credit Loss

A multiple probability model has been adopted by the Group. The model was developed to allow scenario analysis and management overlay where deemed necessary (this applies to the weighting assigned to the estimates grouping). Three calculations for ECL estimates are generated representing base case, best case and worse case. Once an ECL calculation has been developed for each scenario, a weight is applied to each estimate based on the likelihood of occurrence to arrive at a final weighted ECL. The level of estimation uncertainty has increased since December 31, 2020, as a result of the economic and social disruption caused by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This includes significant judgments relating to:

- The selection and weighting of macro-economic scenarios;
- The effect of government and other support measures implemented to mitigate the negative economic impact;
- The uncertainty over the duration and severity of the effect of the pandemic as well as the timing and duration of the recovery;
- The assessment of the impact of the macro-economic scenarios on the ECL given the unavailability of historical information for a similar event;
- The identification and assessment of significant increases in credit risk and impairment especially for loan facilities where borrowers have received support under various government and bank support schemes; and
- The identification and assessment of significant increases in credit risk and impairment especially for exposures where the counterparty's credit rating has deteriorated significantly since initial recognition.

No material management overlays have been incorporated into the Bank's ECL.

The weighting assigned to each scenario as at December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, was as follows:

December 31, 2024	Base	Best	Worst
Residential	80%	5%	15%
Business	80%	5%	15%
Personal	80%	5%	15%
Revolving credit	80%	5%	15%
Government	80%	5%	15%
Bahamas Investments	80%	5%	15%
United States Investments	40%	30%	30%
December 31, 2023	Base	Best	Worst
Residential	70%	5%	25%
Business	70%	5%	25%
Personal	70%	5%	25%
Revolving credit	70%	5%	25%
Government	70%	5%	25%
Bahamas Investments	70%	5%	25%
United States Investments	40%	30%	30%

### Significant Increases in Credit Risk and Incorporation of forward-looking indicators

At each reporting date, the Group assesses whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk for exposures since initial recognition by comparing the risk of a default occurring over the remaining expected life from the reporting date and the date of initial recognition. The assessment considers borrower-specific quantitative and qualitative information without consideration of collateral, and the impact of forward-looking macroeconomic factors.

As noted in Note 3, the forward-looking information assessed includes the GDP growth of The Bahamas, the unemployment rates of The Bahamas and the inflation rates of The Bahamas, as noted within the *World Economic Outlook* published by the International Monetary Fund in April and October of each year.

The common assessment for significant increases in credit risk on loan portfolios normally includes macroeconomic outlook, management judgment, and delinquency and monitoring. Forward-looking macroeconomic factors are considered as part of the macroeconomic outlook. The importance and relevance of each specific macroeconomic factor depend on the type of product, characteristics of the financial instruments and the borrower.

The ECL model may not always be able to capture all reasonable and supportable information that may indicate a significant increase in credit risk. Qualitative factors may be assessed to supplement the gap. Examples of this include changes in adjudication criteria for a particular group of borrowers, changes in portfolio composition and natural disasters impacting the portfolio. With regard to delinquency and monitoring, there is a rebuttable presumption that the credit risk of the financial instrument has increased since initial recognition when contractual payments are more than 30 days overdue.

Moody's credit rating for The Bahamas was last set at B1 with a stable outlook.

S&P Global Inc. ("S&P") credit rating for The Bahamas was last set at B+ with a stable outlook.

The credit ratings of B1 and B+ of Moody's and S&P respectively are both considered to be non-investment grade ratings. The aforementioned credit risk ratings are considered indicative of a SICR for certain exposures (including both loans and advances to customers, and investments) which originated or were acquired by the Bank before October 2022, and this has resulted in certain exposures being classified in stage 2 with a lifetime ECL being recognised.

### Maximum Exposure to Credit Risk

For financial assets recognised on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position, the exposure to credit risk generally equals their carrying amount. For standby letters of credit, the maximum exposure to credit risk is the maximum amount that the Bank would have to pay if the standby letters of credit are called upon.

For loan commitments and revolving credit lines that are irrevocable over the life of the respective facilities, the maximum exposure to credit risk is the full amount of the committed facilities. Refer to Note 21 for the amounts of the exposure as of December 31, 2024 and 2023.

The following table contains an analysis of the credit risk exposure of financial assets for which an ECL allowance is recognised.

	2024			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
<b>Gross carrying amount</b>				
<b>Loans and advances to customers</b>				
Residential mortgage	\$ 109,822	\$ 36,940	\$ 20,135	\$ 166,897
Business	12,757	4,721	3,502	20,980
Personal	550,155	96,734	22,869	669,758
Credit card	41,396	1,213	320	42,929
Government	-	13,127	-	13,127
	<u>714,130</u>	<u>152,735</u>	<u>46,826</u>	<u>913,691</u>
<b>Impairment allowance</b>				
Residential mortgage	\$ 99	\$ 947	\$ 4,775	\$ 5,821
Business	-	-	1,430	1,430
Personal	6,884	11,195	11,928	30,007
Credit card	888	137	141	1,166
Government	-	56	-	56
	<u>7,871</u>	<u>12,335</u>	<u>18,274</u>	<u>38,480</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
Residential mortgage	\$ 109,723	\$ 35,993	\$ 15,360	\$ 161,076
Business	12,757	4,721	2,072	19,550
Personal	543,271	85,539	10,941	639,751
Credit card	40,508	1,076	179	41,763
Government	-	13,071	-	13,071
	<u>\$ 706,259</u>	<u>\$ 140,400</u>	<u>\$ 28,552</u>	<u>\$ 875,211</u>

		2023			
		Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
<b>Gross carrying amount</b>					
<b>Loans and advances to customers</b>					
Residential mortgage	\$	98,356	\$ 41,186	\$ 24,042	\$ 163,584
Business		12,240	5,215	3,583	21,038
Personal		503,761	96,747	28,285	628,793
Credit card		36,202	1,372	454	38,028
Government		-	20,959	-	20,959
		650,559	165,479	56,364	872,402
<b>Impairment allowance</b>					
Residential mortgage	\$	129	\$ 1,096	\$ 5,819	\$ 7,044
Business		106	17	1,441	1,564
Personal		12,251	19,995	22,185	54,431
Credit card		963	163	225	1,351
Government		-	28	-	28
		13,449	21,299	29,670	64,418
<b>Carrying amount</b>					
Residential mortgage	\$	98,227	\$ 40,090	\$ 18,223	\$ 156,540
Business		12,134	5,198	2,142	19,474
Personal		491,510	76,752	6,100	574,362
Credit card		35,239	1,209	229	36,677
Government		-	20,931	-	20,931
	\$	637,110	\$ 144,180	\$ 26,694	\$ 807,984

		2024		
		Stage 1	Stage 2	Total
<b>Gross carrying amount - Investments</b>				
<b>Investments measured at amortised cost</b>				
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$	469,297	\$ 123,074	\$ 592,371
Bahamas Government related-debt		3,913	11,611	15,524
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt		92,668	-	92,668
Bahamas corporate debt		7,236	-	7,236
United States treasury bills		3,429	-	3,429
United States corporate debt		40,069	-	40,069
	\$	616,612	\$ 134,685	\$ 751,297
<b>Impairment allowances</b>				
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$	1,022	\$ 1,449	\$ 2,471
Bahamas Government related-debt		19	153	172
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt		83	-	83
Bahamas corporate debt		381	-	381
United States treasury bills		-	-	-
United States corporate debt		132	-	132
	\$	1,637	\$ 1,602	\$ 3,239
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$	468,275	\$ 121,625	\$ 589,900
Bahamas Government related-debt		3,894	11,458	15,352
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt		92,585	-	92,585
Bahamas corporate debt		6,855	-	6,855
United States treasury bills		3,429	-	3,429
United States corporate debt		39,937	-	39,937
	\$	614,975	\$ 133,083	\$ 748,058

	2023		
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Total
<b>Gross carrying amount - Investments</b>			
<b>Investments measured at amortised cost</b>			
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$ 469,611	\$ 137,691	\$ 607,302
Bahamas Government related-debt	4,211	12,894	17,105
United States Government debt	607	-	607
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt	39,066	60,901	99,967
United States corporate debt	42,012	-	42,012
United States Government treasury bills	8,188	-	8,188
	<u>\$ 563,695</u>	<u>\$ 211,486</u>	<u>\$ 775,181</u>
<b>Impairment allowances</b>			
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$ 728	\$ 1,772	\$ 2,500
Bahamas Government related-debt	6	173	179
United States Government debt	-	-	-
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt	44	435	479
United States corporate debt	154	-	154
United States Government treasury bills	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 932</u>	<u>\$ 2,380</u>	<u>\$ 3,312</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>			
Bahamas Government Bahamian dollar debt	\$ 468,883	\$ 135,919	\$ 604,802
Bahamas Government related-debt	4,205	12,721	16,926
United States Government Bonds	607	-	607
Bahamas Government United States dollar debt	39,022	60,466	99,488
United States corporate debt	41,858	-	41,858
United States Government treasury bills	8,188	-	8,188
	<u>\$ 562,763</u>	<u>\$ 209,106</u>	<u>\$ 771,869</u>

The maximum exposure by stage related to unfunded commitments is as follows:

	2024			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
<b>Maximum Exposure by Stage</b>				
<b>Undrawn Commitments</b>				
Mortgage loan undrawn commitments	\$ 10,603	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 10,753
Commercial loan undrawn commitments	2,321	-	-	2,321
Credit card undrawn commitments	30,495	269	32	30,796
	<u>\$ 43,419</u>	<u>\$ 269</u>	<u>\$ 182</u>	<u>\$ 43,870</u>
	2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
<b>Maximum Exposure by Stage</b>				
<b>Undrawn Commitments</b>				
Mortgage loan undrawn commitments	\$ 8,359	\$ 161	\$ -	\$ 8,520
Commercial loan undrawn commitments	1,444	-	-	1,444
Credit card undrawn commitments	29,634	441	80	30,155
	<u>\$ 39,437</u>	<u>\$ 602</u>	<u>\$ 80</u>	<u>\$ 40,119</u>

#### Credit quality

The following table is an analysis of financial instruments by credit quality:

	2024		
	Original Contract	Restructured	Total
<b>Cash and deposit with Banks</b>			
Neither past due or impaired	\$ 235,566	\$ -	\$ 235,566
	<u>\$ 235,566</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 235,566</u>
<b>Investments</b>			
Neither past due or impaired	\$ 751,499	\$ -	\$ 751,499
	<u>\$ 751,499</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 751,499</u>
<b>Loans and advances to customers</b>			
Neither past due or impaired	\$ 690,093	\$ 75,742	\$ 765,835
Past due but not impaired	72,197	28,833	101,030
Impaired	35,861	10,965	46,826
	<u>\$ 798,151</u>	<u>\$ 115,540</u>	<u>\$ 913,691</u>



		2023		
		Original Contract	Restructured	Total
<b>Cash and deposit with Banks</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 238,615	\$ -	\$ 238,615
		<u>\$ 238,615</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 238,615</u>
<b>Investments</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 775,364	\$ -	\$ 775,364
		<u>\$ 775,364</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 775,364</u>
<b>Loans and advances to customers</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 637,031	\$ 70,511	\$ 707,542
Past due but not impaired		79,290	29,206	108,496
Impaired		43,998	12,366	56,364
		<u>\$ 760,319</u>	<u>\$ 112,083</u>	<u>\$ 872,402</u>

Financial assets are past due when a counterparty has failed to make a payment when contractually due.

The average mortgage balance was \$119,555 (2023: \$113,743) while the average business account balance was \$219,197 (2023: \$204,693). The average consumer balance was \$23,697 (2023: \$22,962).

The largest exposure to a single loan customer, other than the Government of The Bahamas (Note 9), was approximately \$1.7 million (2023: \$1.6 million). Mortgage loans and business loans can extend up to 35 years and 10 years, respectively while consumer loans can extend up to 12 years.

#### Transfers between Stages

At each reporting date, the Group assesses whether the credit risk on its financial assets has increased significantly since initial recognition. The assessment of whether an asset is in stage 1 or 2 considers the relative change in the probability of default occurring over the expected life of the instrument, and is not assessed based on the change in the amount of the expected credit losses. This involves setting quantitative tests combined with additional indicators such as credit risk classification and other observable inputs.

Transfers between Stages 1 and 2 are based on the assessment of significant increases in credit risk relative to initial recognition. The impact of moving from 12-month expected credit losses to lifetime expected credit losses, or vice versa, varies by portfolio and is dependent on the expected remaining life at the date of the transfer. Stage transfers may result in significant fluctuations in the Group's expected credit losses.

#### Movement in Allowance for ECL by Stage

The allowance for ECL recognised in the period is impacted by a variety of factors, including but not limited to:

- Transfers between Stage 1 and 2 or 3 due to financial assets experiencing significant increases (or decreases) in credit risk or becoming credit-impaired in the period, and the consequent "step up" (or "step down") between 12-month and lifetime ECL;
- Additional allowances for new financial assets recognised during the period, as well as releases for financial assets de-recognised in the period;
- Impact on the measurement of ECL due to changes in PDs, EADs, and LGDs in the period, arising from regular refreshing of inputs to the model;
- Impacts on the measurement of ECL due to changes made to models and assumptions;
- Financial assets de-recognised during the period and write-offs of allowances related to the assets that were written off during the period; and
- The number of days past due of a personal loan facility, as the LGD increases as the number of days past due increases.

The following tables explain the changes in the Allowance for ECL by portfolio between the beginning and the end of the annual period due to these factors.

	2024 and 2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
<b>Investments</b>				
Allowance for ECL as at January 1, 2023	\$ 961	\$ 2,277	\$ -	\$ 3,238
Transfers:				
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	157	(157)	-	-
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(4)	4	-	-
New financial assets originated*	604	370	-	974
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	(207)	(114)	-	(321)
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	(579)	-	-	(579)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2023	\$ 932	\$ 2,380	\$ -	\$ 3,312
Transfers:				
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	168	(168)	-	-
New financial assets originated*	977	-	-	977
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	130	(610)	-	(480)
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	(570)	-	-	(570)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2024	\$ 1,637	\$ 1,602	\$ -	\$ 3,239

	2024 and 2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
<b>Residential mortgage</b>				
Allowance for ECL as at January 1, 2023	\$ 189	\$ 1,492	\$ 8,628	\$ 10,309
Transfers:				
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(4)	4	-	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	13	(13)	-	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 1	28	-	(28)	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 2	-	13	(13)	-
New financial assets originated*	107	822	4,188	5,117
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	(200)	(1,132)	(3,718)	(5,050)
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	(4)	(90)	(3,238)	(3,332)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2023	\$ 129	\$ 1,096	\$ 5,819	\$ 7,044
Transfers:				
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(7)	7	-	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	46	(46)	-	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 3	-	(66)	66	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 1	34	-	(34)	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 2	-	1	(1)	-
New financial assets originated*	24	4	-	28
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	(122)	40	356	274
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	(5)	(89)	(1,431)	(1,525)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2024	\$ 99	\$ 947	\$ 4,775	\$ 5,821

Business	2024 and 2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Allowance for ECL as at January 1, 2023	\$ -	\$ 75	\$ 1,328	\$ 1,403
New financial assets originated*	-	7	1,127	1,134
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	106	(65)	(1,014)	(973)
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	-	-	-	-
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2023	\$ 106	\$ 17	\$ 1,441	\$ 1,564
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	(106)	(13)	394	275
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	-	(4)	(405)	(409)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,430	\$ 1,430

Personal	2024 and 2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Allowance for ECL as at January 1, 2023	\$ 14,643	\$ 22,151	\$ 25,222	\$ 62,016
Transfers:				
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(127)	127	-	-
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 3	(64)	-	64	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	255	(255)	-	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 3	-	(315)	315	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 1	52	-	(52)	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 2	-	799	(799)	-
New financial assets originated*	9,948	15,837	17,842	43,627
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	(10,608)	(13,736)	(17,171)	(41,515)
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	(1,848)	(4,613)	(3,236)	(9,697)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2023	\$ 12,251	\$ 19,995	\$ 22,185	\$ 54,431
Transfers:				
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(611)	611	-	-
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 3	(304)	-	304	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	1,198	(1,198)	-	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 3	-	(1,442)	1,442	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 1	441	-	(441)	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 2	-	4,451	(4,451)	-
New financial assets originated*	2,005	1,087	823	3,915
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	(6,226)	(8,443)	(6,342)	(8,327)
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	(1,870)	(3,866)	(14,276)	(20,012)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2024	\$ 6,884	\$ 11,195	\$ 11,928	\$ 30,007

Credit Cards	2024 and 2023			
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Total
Allowance for ECL as at January 1, 2023	\$ 1,276	\$ 349	\$ 525	\$ 2,150
Transfers:				
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(19)	19	-	-
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 3	(6)	-	6	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	270	(270)	-	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 1	845	-	(845)	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 2	-	39	(39)	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 3	-	(2)	2	-
New financial assets originated*	303	49	138	490
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	(1,655)	32	1,042	(581)
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	(51)	(53)	(604)	(708)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2023	<u>\$ 963</u>	<u>\$ 163</u>	<u>\$ 225</u>	<u>\$ 1,351</u>
Transfers:				
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 2	(99)	99	-	-
Transfers from Stage 1 to Stage 3	(113)	-	113	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 1	18	(18)	-	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 1	1	-	(1)	-
Transfers from Stage 3 to Stage 2	-	4	(4)	-
Transfers from Stage 2 to Stage 3	-	(9)	9	-
New financial assets originated*	94	11	39	144
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	33	(92)	(117)	(176)
Financial assets derecognised/written-off**	(9)	(21)	(123)	(153)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2024	<u>\$ 888</u>	<u>\$ 137</u>	<u>\$ 141</u>	<u>\$ 1,166</u>

Government	2024 and 2023		
	Stage 1	Stage 2	Total
Allowance for ECL as at January 1, 2023	\$ -	\$ 103	\$ 103
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	28	(103)	(75)
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2023	<u>\$ 28</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 28</u>
Changes in PDs/LGDs/EADs	28	-	28
Allowance for ECL as at December 31, 2024	<u>\$ 56</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 56</u>

\*New assets presented as Stage 2 or Stage 3 in the tables above originated as Stage 1 but moved to other stages by December 31.

\*\*Written-off assets presented at Stage 1 were categorised as Stage 1 at the beginning of the year but subsequently migrated to Stage 2 or Stage 3 before being written off by the end of the year. No written-off assets were designated as Stage 1 at the time of being written-off.

All unrecovered amounts written off during the period presented are subject to enforcement activity.



The credit quality of loans and advances to customers is shown in the following table:

		2024		
		Original Contract	Restructured	Total
<b>Loans and advances to customers</b>				
<b>Residential mortgage</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 121,010	\$ 903	\$ 121,913
Past due but not impaired		24,586	263	24,849
Impaired		19,638	497	20,135
		<u>\$ 165,234</u>	<u>\$ 1,663</u>	<u>\$ 166,897</u>
<b>Business</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 14,048	\$ 561	\$ 14,609
Past due but not impaired		2,869	-	2,869
Impaired		3,383	119	3,502
		<u>\$ 20,300</u>	<u>\$ 680</u>	<u>\$ 20,980</u>
<b>Personal</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 506,332	\$ 74,278	\$ 580,610
Past due but not impaired		37,709	28,570	66,279
Impaired		12,520	10,349	22,869
		<u>\$ 556,561</u>	<u>\$ 113,197</u>	<u>\$ 669,758</u>
<b>Credit card</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 35,576	\$ -	\$ 35,576
Past due but not impaired		7,033	-	7,033
Impaired		320	-	320
		<u>\$ 42,929</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 42,929</u>
<b>Government</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 13,127	\$ -	\$ 13,127
		<u>\$ 798,151</u>	<u>\$ 115,540</u>	<u>\$ 913,691</u>
		2023		
		Original Contract	Restructured	Total
<b>Loans and advances to customers</b>				
<b>Residential mortgage</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 109,432	\$ 1,161	\$ 110,593
Past due but not impaired		28,603	346	28,949
Impaired		23,773	269	24,042
		<u>\$ 161,808</u>	<u>\$ 1,776</u>	<u>\$ 163,584</u>
<b>Business</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 10,187	\$ 17	\$ 10,204
Past due but not impaired		3,345	3,906	7,251
Impaired		3,583	-	3,583
		<u>\$ 17,115</u>	<u>\$ 3,923</u>	<u>\$ 21,038</u>
<b>Personal</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 465,285	\$ 69,333	\$ 534,618
Past due but not impaired		40,936	24,954	65,890
Impaired		16,188	12,097	28,285
		<u>\$ 522,409</u>	<u>\$ 106,384</u>	<u>\$ 628,793</u>
<b>Credit card</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 31,168	\$ -	\$ 31,168
Past due but not impaired		6,406	-	6,406
Impaired		454	-	454
		<u>\$ 38,028</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 38,028</u>
<b>Government</b>				
Neither past due or impaired		\$ 20,959	\$ -	\$ 20,959
		<u>\$ 760,319</u>	<u>\$ 112,083</u>	<u>\$ 872,402</u>

All financial assets outside of loans and advances to customers are neither past due nor impaired.

The table below shows the distribution of loans and advances to customers that are neither past due nor impaired:

	2024	2023
Satisfactory risk	\$ 764,622	\$ 704,371
Watch list	1,213	3,171
	<u>\$ 765,835</u>	<u>\$ 707,542</u>

Watch list accounts are those that are exhibiting signs of distress or accounts that have been in distress in the past. Indications of distress include consistent arrears reflecting reduced income of the borrower, death of one of the parties to the loan, marital issues or divorce, illness, diminished business cash flows, etc.

Conversely, satisfactory accounts are accounts that are generally being serviced as agreed with no material indications that the borrower will default.

The analysis of the age of loans and advances to customers that were past due but not impaired is as follows:

	2024				
	Residential mortgage	Business	Personal	Credit card	Total
Past due up to 29 days	\$ 22,875	\$ 2,869	\$ 49,576	\$ 5,801	\$ 81,121
Past due 30 - 59 days	1,176	-	10,235	835	12,246
Past due 60 - 89 days	798	-	6,468	397	7,663
	<u>\$ 24,849</u>	<u>\$ 2,869</u>	<u>\$ 66,279</u>	<u>\$ 7,033</u>	<u>\$ 101,030</u>

	2023				
	Residential mortgage	Business	Personal	Credit card	Total
Past due up to 29 days	\$ 24,736	\$ 5,964	\$ 46,660	\$ 5,034	\$ 82,394
Past due 30 - 59 days	2,065	186	11,211	979	14,441
Past due 60 - 89 days	2,148	1,101	8,019	393	11,661
	<u>\$ 28,949</u>	<u>\$ 7,251</u>	<u>\$ 65,890</u>	<u>\$ 6,406</u>	<u>\$ 108,496</u>

### Restructured loans

Restructuring activity is designed to manage customer relationships, maximise collection opportunities and, if possible, avoid foreclosure or repossession. Such activities include extended payment arrangements, approved debt management plans, deferring foreclosure, modification, loan rewrites and/or deferral of payments pending a change in circumstances. Restructuring of consumer loans normally results in additional collateral, a cosigner or guarantor or a garnishee of salary being added to the loan. Following the restructuring, an overdue consumer account is normally reset from delinquent to current status. Restructuring policies and practices are based on indicators or criteria which, in the judgment of management, indicate that repayment will probably continue. These policies are continually reviewed and their application varies according to the nature of the market, the product, and the availability of empirical data. There was no material gain or loss recognised in 2024 or 2023 related to modified loans.

In the Group's current IFRS Accounting Standard 9 ECL weighted risk rating model, restructured accounts attract a higher risk weighting than accounts that have not been restructured.

### Collateral Relative to Loans and advances to customers

It is the Bank's policy to determine that, at the time of origination, loans are within the customer's capacity to repay, rather than to rely excessively on security. Loans classified as personal typically take into account the customer's standing and employment and credit histories and are generally unsecured. The Bank has guidelines as part of its credit policy on the acceptability of specific classes of collateral which are reviewed regularly.

The principal collateral types are as follows:

- **Personal** - garnishees over salary and chattel mortgages;
- **Residential mortgage** - mortgages over residential properties;
- **Commercial and industrial** - charges over business assets such as premises, stock, and debtors;
- **Commercial real estate** - charges over the properties being financed.

The Group closely monitors collateral held for financial assets considered credit-impaired, as it becomes more likely that the Group will take possession of the collateral to mitigate potential credit losses.

Financial assets that are credit-impaired and related collateral held to mitigate potential losses are shown below.

	2024			
	Gross Carrying amount	Allowance for ECL	Net Carrying amount	Value of collateral held
Residential mortgage	\$ 20,135	\$ 4,775	\$ 15,360	\$ 28,960
Business	3,502	1,430	2,072	2,187
Personal	22,869	11,928	10,941	42
Credit card	320	141	179	-
	<u>\$ 46,826</u>	<u>\$ 18,274</u>	<u>\$ 28,552</u>	<u>\$ 31,189</u>

	2023			
	Gross Carrying amount	Allowance for ECL	Net Carrying amount	Value of collateral held
Residential mortgage	\$ 24,042	\$ 5,819	\$ 18,223	\$ 19,707
Business	3,583	1,441	2,142	1,671
Personal	28,285	22,185	6,100	4
Credit card	454	225	229	-
	<u>\$ 56,364</u>	<u>\$ 29,670</u>	<u>\$ 26,694</u>	<u>\$ 21,382</u>

The Group's policies regarding obtaining collateral have not changed during the reporting period. There has been no significant change in the overall quality of the collateral held by the Group since the prior period.

#### ECL sensitivity analysis

If the loss given default increases/decreases by 5% and all other variables remain constant, the Group's ECL is estimated to increase/decrease as noted below.

	Increase/Decrease in ECL	
	2024	2023
Residential mortgage	\$ 174	\$ 176
Business	48	10
Personal	2,543	3,585
Credit cards	15	10
Government	68	106
Investments	68	166
	<u>\$ 2,916</u>	<u>\$ 4,053</u>

- e. **Liquidity risk** - Liquidity risk is the potential for loss if the Group is unable to meet financial commitments promptly at reasonable prices as they fall due. Financial commitments include liabilities to depositors and suppliers, and lending, pledging and investment commitments. Managing liquidity and funding risk is essential to maintaining both depositor confidence and stability in earnings.

The Group manages liquidity and funding risk by ensuring that sufficient liquid assets and funding capacity are available to meet financial commitments, even in times of stress. The Directors' Executive Committee oversees the Group's liquidity and funding risk management framework which includes operating within clearly defined Board limits, regulatory liquidity requirements and strong effective processes to monitor and manage risk, including contingency plans to facilitate managing through a distressing situation.

Included in deposits from customers are deposits totaling \$169.5 million (2023: \$196.3 million) from a single customer representing 12.72% (2023: 13.05%) of the total deposits from customers. The amounts are comprised primarily of certificates of deposits from a related party.

There have been no changes in the policies and procedures for managing liquidity risk compared to the prior year.

The following tables summarize the cash flows from financial instruments into maturity groupings, based on the remaining period to the contractual maturity dates. The cash flows presented are undiscounted.

	Within 3 Months	3-12 months	Over 1-5 Years	Over 5 years	Total
<b>As at December 31, 2024</b>					
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash and deposits with banks	\$ 235,566	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 235,566
Investments	198,549	248,752	202,975	200,857	851,133
Loans and advances to customers	84,976	21,062	262,948	1,027,436	1,396,422
Total financial assets	<u>\$ 519,091</u>	<u>\$ 269,814</u>	<u>\$ 465,923</u>	<u>\$ 1,228,293</u>	<u>\$ 2,483,121</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Deposits from customers	\$ 942,672	\$ 148,002	\$ 312,254	\$ 158,452	\$ 1,561,380
Lease liabilities	98	143	90	-	331
Other liabilities	27,251	-	-	-	27,251
Total financial liabilities	<u>\$ 970,021</u>	<u>\$ 148,145</u>	<u>\$ 312,344</u>	<u>\$ 172,130</u>	<u>\$ 1,603,399</u>
<b>Net liquidity gap</b>	<b>\$ (450,930)</b>	<b>\$ 121,669</b>	<b>\$ 153,579</b>	<b>\$ 1,069,841</b>	<b>\$ 894,159</b>

	Within 3 Months	3-12 months	Over 1-5 Years	Over 5 years	Total
<b>As at December 31, 2023</b>					
<b>Assets</b>					
Cash and deposits with banks	\$ 238,615	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 238,615
Investments	232,524	157,781	202,411	242,097	834,813
Loans and advances to customers	80,549	21,128	294,365	938,397	1,334,439
Total financial assets	<u>\$ 551,688</u>	<u>\$ 178,909</u>	<u>\$ 496,776</u>	<u>\$ 1,180,494</u>	<u>\$ 2,407,867</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Deposits from customers	\$ 901,681	\$ 128,837	\$ 359,737	\$ 189,108	\$ 1,579,363
Lease liabilities	112	318	325	-	755
Other liabilities	15,128	-	-	-	15,128
Total financial liabilities	<u>\$ 916,921</u>	<u>\$ 129,155</u>	<u>\$ 360,062</u>	<u>\$ 189,108</u>	<u>\$ 1,595,246</u>
<b>Net liquidity gap</b>	<b>\$ (365,233)</b>	<b>\$ 49,754</b>	<b>\$ 136,714</b>	<b>\$ 991,386</b>	<b>\$ 812,621</b>

### ***Management of the Bank's short-term liquidity gap***

In the normal course of business, the Group experiences a short-term liquidity gap, where the amounts it holds as deposits for customers may exceed its available liquid assets matching the same maturity. The Group manages this short-term liquidity gap by establishing a Liquidity Buffer of marketable securities with a long-term duration that can be liquidated or applied as collateral to meet unexpected payment obligations while continuing normal banking activities; and without obtaining new funding. The Group also monitors its liquid assets in relation to the demand and savings deposits from customers to ensure that the liquid assets are sufficient to fund withdrawals of demand and savings deposits. Liquidity risks related to certificates of deposits are managed with contractual limitations on the timing and amount of early withdrawals.

The Group also has access to inter-bank lending facilitated by The Central Bank of The Bahamas should additional liquidity be needed.

- f. Currency risk** - Currency risk is the risk that the fair values and/or amounts realised on settlement of financial instruments, and settlements of foreign currency transactions, will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates. Currency risk arises when future commercial transactions and recognised monetary assets and liabilities are denominated in currencies other than the Bank's functional currency. The Bank is not subject to significant currency risk as its foreign currency transactions and monetary assets and liabilities are predominately denominated in currencies with foreign exchange rates currently fixed against the Bank's functional currency.
- g. Operational risk** - Operational risk is the potential for loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes or systems, human error or external events not related to credit, market or liquidity risks. The Group manages this risk by maintaining a comprehensive system of internal control and internal audit, including organizational and procedural controls. The system of internal control includes written communication of the Group's policies and procedures governing corporate conduct and risk management; comprehensive business planning; effective segregation of duties; delegation of authority and personal accountability; careful selection and training of personnel and sound accounting policies, which are regularly updated. These controls and audits are designed to provide the Group with reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against unauthorized use or disposition, liabilities are recognised, and the Group is in compliance with all regulatory requirements.
- h. Off balance sheet risk** - In the normal course of business, and in order to meet the financing needs of its customers, the Group may enter into financial instruments with off balance sheet risk. These instruments can be classified into the commitments category. The Group mitigates the risks associated with such financial instruments by transacting only with creditworthy counterparties. As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, the Group's exposure to this risk was limited to letters of credit, guarantees, and loan commitments.
- i. Climate risk** - The Group is committed to integrating climate-related and sustainability-related risk considerations into its strategic planning and risk management processes. By proactively addressing both physical and transition risks, as well as broader sustainability factors, the Group aims to enhance resilience and ensure long-term sustainability in the evolving economic and environmental landscape.

### ***Governance and Oversight***

The Group has integrated climate-related risk considerations into its existing governance framework in order to oversee climate and sustainability-related risks and opportunities. The Board of Directors and senior management are responsible for:

- Integrating sustainability risks into the overall enterprise risk management framework.
- Monitoring regulatory compliance and best practices for sustainability reporting.
- Setting strategic priorities for ESG and climate adaptation initiatives.
- Ensuring effective disclosure of sustainability-related financial information in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, Sustainability Standard S1.

### ***Physical Risks***

The Bahamas is highly vulnerable to climate change-related physical risks, including hurricanes, sea-level rise, and extreme weather events. The Group has assessed these risks and identified the following potential impacts:

- **Branch and Infrastructure Damage:** Increased frequency and intensity of hurricanes pose a significant threat to the Group's branch network and critical infrastructure, leading to potential business disruptions and increased operational costs for repairs and resilience measures.
- **Increased Credit Risk:** Clients operating in climate-sensitive sectors, such as tourism and real estate, may experience financial distress due to extreme weather events, leading to higher loan defaults.
- **Rising Insurance Costs:** Insurance premiums for properties and assets may increase due to heightened risk exposure, affecting both the Group and its customers.

The key risk mitigation strategies are as follows:

- Implementation of enhanced disaster recovery and business continuity planning;
- Increased investment in climate-resilient infrastructure for branch operations; and
- Consideration of advanced risk modeling to assess potential credit risk exposure due to climate events.

### ***Transition Risks***

The Bahamas signed the Paris Agreement on Climate Change on April 22, 2016, at the United Nations. Accordingly, the regulatory landscape related to climate change is expected to evolve, including potential carbon pricing mechanisms and environmental policies, which may introduce compliance costs and impact investment strategies. Key risks include:

- Exposure to high-carbon sectors may lead to asset devaluation and increased credit risk
- Compliance with emerging environmental regulations and disclosure requirements could lead to increased operational costs.
- Growing consumer and investor demand for environmentally sustainable banking products may require the Group to adapt its portfolio and financing strategies. Accordingly, failure to align climate-conscious practices could negatively impact the Group's reputation and investor confidence.



For risk mitigation, the Group actively monitors regulatory evolution related to climate change and engages regulatory authorities to ensure proactive compliance with climate-related policies.

#### *Financial Implications and Scenario Analysis*

The Group is actively developing scenario analyses to assess the financial impact of climate and sustainability risks under various projections. Key elements include:

- Stress Testing and Risk Quantification: Utilizing climate risk stress testing to evaluate potential financial losses under different scenarios.
- Capital Allocation Adjustments: Reassessing portfolio diversification strategies to reduce exposure to high-risk sectors.
- Enhancement of Risk Management Framework: Strengthening climate and sustainability risk assessment methodologies to inform strategic decision-making.

#### *Sustainability-Related Risks*

In addition to climate-related risks, the Group acknowledges broader sustainability-related risks, including social and governance factors that could impact financial performance. The Group is committed to community engagement, financial inclusion, and fair lending practices. In addition, the Group's governance structure is modelled to promote ethical business conduct, anti-corruption measures, and transparent reporting practices. The Group also considers employee well-being, diversity and inclusion, and workforce resilience as critical to the success of its business footprint.

### **23. Subsequent Events**

The Group has declared a quarterly dividend for common shares, to all shareholders of record as of March 20, 2025, and paid the dividend in the amount of \$0.03 per share, totaling \$8.9 million on March 31, 2025.

The Group has declared an extraordinary dividend for common shares, to all shareholders of record as of April 16, 2025, of \$0.02 per share, to be paid on April 30, 2025, totaling \$5.9 million.

The Group has declared an extraordinary dividend for common shares, to all shareholders of record as of May 15, 2025, of \$0.04 per share, to be paid on May 30, 2025, totaling \$11.7 million.

# Summary of Board & Committee Meetings

6	<b>Board</b>
4	Executive
4	Audit & Risk
5	Compensation
4	Nominating
4	Information Technology
4	Pension
3	Investment <i>(committee became effective June 2024)</i>

## Board Meeting Attendance

6	William B. Sands, Jr., DM <i>Executive Chairman</i>
6	Denise D. Turnquest <i>President</i>
3	Vaughn W. T. Higgs
5	Tracy E. Knowles
6	Russell M. Miller
6	Robert D. L. Sands
6	Debra M. Symonette
4	R. Craig Symonette
4	Earla J. Bethel
4	Larry R. Gibson

# Committee Report | **Nominating**



**Directors (L - R):** Earla J. Bethel, Vaughn W. T. Higgs, William B. Sands, Jr., DM, R. Craig Symonette

As part of its mandate, **the Nominating Committee** identifies and recommends candidates for nomination to the Board as Directors, monitors the orientation program for new Directors and maintains a process for assessing the performance of the Board and its committees.

## **Year in Review**

During the year, the Committee in fulfilling its role:

- **Assessed** the size and composition of the Board, examining its breadth and diversity of experience and the appropriateness of the number of Directors and the required allocation of Executive and Non-Executive Directors.
- **Identified and recommended** candidates for election or appointment to the Board to be put before the Annual General Meeting or the Board in the event of a vacancy.
- **Reviewed and recommended** Directors' remuneration levels to the Board for approval at the Annual General Meeting to ensure that it is both appropriate to the responsibilities and risks assumed and competitive with other comparable organizations
- **Reviewed** the process for Director orientation and assessment.

- **Conducted** the annual formal evaluation of the effectiveness of the Board and its committees, with participation by all Directors. The conclusions are reviewed with the Board and form the foundation for changes and compliance with the required certification to The Central Bank of The Bahamas.
- **Reviewed** the roles of the Executive Chairman and President.
- **Reviewed** the process of classifying Directors as INEDs or otherwise.

The Committee is satisfied that it has appropriately fulfilled its mandate to the best of its ability for the year ended December 31, 2024.

**Vaughn W. T. Higgs**

**Chair**





**Directors (L - R):** Vaughn W. T. Higgs, Denise D. Turnquest, William B. Sands, Jr., DM, R. Craig Symonette, Earla J. Bethel

**The Executive Committee** has the power to direct and transact all business of the Bank except that which is required to be performed by the Board as a whole. The Executive Committee supports the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities in relation to the identification, documentation, measurement and management of significant risks affecting the Bank. The Committee is responsible for developing and maintaining governance practices consistent with high standards of corporate governance. The Committee has interim responsibility for the Premises Committee.

## Year in Review

During the year, the Committee in fulfilling its role:

- **Developed**, reviewed, and assessed the Bank's governance principles to ensure high standards of corporate governance.
- **Ensured** that policies are in place for identifying, managing, documenting, and measuring significant risks affecting the Bank.
- **Approved** corporate policies for risk management, aligned with proactive principles, market conditions, business strategies, and regulatory requirements.
- **Reviewed** the allowance for loan impairment and core methods for controlling key risks.
- **Evaluated** significant credit and market risk exposures, industry sector analysis, and the strategies of major business units.

- **Reviewed** the Bank's Capital Management Strategies and recommended changes to the Board.
- **Monitored** Management's control of significant premises undertakings to ensure effective oversight and efficient use of funds.
- **Conducted** all business of the Bank except that required to be performed by the Board as a whole.

The Committee is satisfied that it has appropriately fulfilled its mandate to the best of its ability for the year ended December 31, 2024.

**William B. Sands, Jr., DM**  
**Executive Chairman**



# Committee Report | Investment



**Directors (L - R):** Earla J. Bethel, Robert D. L. Sands, Denise D. Turnquest, Larry R. Gibson, Russell M. Miller

**The Investment Committee's** main role is to prudently invest the Bank's excess funds to earn a reasonable return while adhering to a Board-approved risk profile. The investment portfolio must maintain sufficient liquidity to meet the Bank's liquidity needs and capital adequacy requirements. All decisions and activities of the Committee should be well-informed and aligned with the Bank's strategic objectives as approved by the Board.

## Year in Review

During the year, the Committee in fulfilling its role:

- **Reviewed** excess funding available for investment by the Board of Directors.
- **Reviewed and assessed** the Bank's capital adequacy requirements to ensure that Central Bank's capital adequacy requirements and all other regulatory ratios were met.
- **Reviewed** the cash threshold for investment and ensured that the threshold was adhered to.
- **Reviewed and approved** the accounting treatment for the investment portfolio in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards.

- **Recommended** ongoing strategy and processes to oversee investments and carry out regular reviews of the Bank's investment portfolio.
- **Reviewed and evaluated** risk and return profile of investment options, including global securities.

The Committee is satisfied that it has appropriately fulfilled its mandate for the year ended December 31, 2024.

**Larry R. Gibson**  
**Chair**



**Directors (L - R):** Branson D. Gibson (*Management Representative*), Robert D. L. Sands, William B. Sands, Jr., DM, Carla Y. Cartwright (*Employee Representative*), Larry R. Gibson, Denise D. Turnquest

**The Compensation Committee** is responsible for advising the Board of Directors on fulfilling its fiduciary and oversight duties for the Bank's various pension arrangements. As part of this responsibility, members of the committee review the performance of the Pension Plan Trustee, Administrator and Investment Manager in accordance with the Trust Deed, Plan Rules and Investment Policy Statement, as well as providing support and making recommendations, as appropriate.

### Year in Review

During the year, the Committee in fulfilling its role:

- **Reviewed** the performance of the trustee for the Pension Fund and other service providers and recommended changes (where required) to the Board Executive Committee for approval.
- **Reviewed and recommended** for approval by the Board Executive Committee Plan Design changes after reviewing proposed design changes and cost impact with the Actuary of the Plan.
- **Reviewed** the Trust Deed and made changes where necessary.
- **Reviewed and recommended** for approval by the Board Executive Committee funding policy provisions including actuarial assumptions, actuarial cost methods and actuarial valuations of the Plan.

- **Reviewed and recommended** for approval by the Board Executive Committee the statement on investment policy and any changes proposed based on the reports from the Investment Manager and Actuary.

The Committee is satisfied that it has appropriately fulfilled its mandate to the best of its ability for the year ended December 31, 2024.

**Denise D. Turnquest**  
**Chair**



# Committee Report | Information Technology



**Directors (L - R):** Russell M. Miller, Debra M. Symonette, R. Craig Symonette, Denise D. Turnquest, Robert D. L. Sands

**The Information Technology Committee** provides independent oversight of significant management and Board of Director approved technology-based platforms and the associated business applications to ensure they are developed in accordance with established system development guidelines, corporate governance standards and regulatory guidelines and are maintained and sustained in a cost effective, controlled and secure manner.

## Year in Review

During the year, the Committee in fulfilling its role:

- **Reviewed and recommended** for approval by the Board of Directors the Bank's Technology Development and Maintenance-based Plan.
- **Reviewed** significant technology-based proposals to ensure they were compatible with the strategic and business plans of the Bank and for those significant projects.
- **Ensured** cost-benefit analysis was an integral part of the project development process.
- **Reviewed** on a quarterly basis, project development plans and progress to ensure progress being achieved parallels established performance objectives and project development plans.
- **Ensured** that post-implementation reviews were part of the project implementation process.

- **Monitored** the ongoing development and sustainability of an effective contingent and back-up plan designed to be cost-effective, while providing protection to the Bank in times of distress.
- **Provided** the Board on a quarterly basis with a summary of technology-based activities/concerns and where warranted, provided recommendations for management approval and implementation.

The Committee is satisfied that it has appropriately fulfilled its mandate to the best of its ability for the year ended December 31, 2024.

**R. Craig Symonette**  
**Chair**



**Directors (L - R):** Vaughn W. T. Higgs, Earla J. Bethel, R. Craig Symonette

**The Compensation Committee** is responsible for assisting the Board of Directors in ensuring that Human Resources strategies support the Bank's objectives and sustain shareholder value. As part of this responsibility, members of the committee review the performance and approve the compensation of Executive Officers of the Bank.

## Year in Review

During the year, the Committee in fulfilling its role:

- **Reviewed and approved** the Bank's overall approach to executive compensation, including principles and objectives, incentive programs, and the policies that govern the ongoing administration of all components of compensation.
- **Assessed** the performance of the Bank's Executive Chairman and President and reviewed the assessment with the Board of Directors; determined the Executive Chairman and President compensation in relation to the Bank's performance for the fiscal year.
- **Recommended** to the Board of Directors the appointment of Officers of the Bank.
- **Reviewed** annual performance assessments submitted by the President for Bank Officers; and

- **Reviewed** the Human Resources strategic priorities and progress being made against them, which included enhancing the management of talent and succession; strengthening employee engagement while introducing cultural changes; and matching training and development with business needs and implementing more cost-efficient training delivery models.

The Committee is satisfied that it has appropriately fulfilled its mandate to the best of its ability for the year ended December 31, 2024.

**Earla J. Bethel**  
**Chair**



# Committee Report | Audit & Risk



**Directors (L - R):** Tracy E. Knowles, Debra M. Symonette, Robert D. L. Sands, Larry R. Gibson

**The Audit & Risk Committee** supports the Board in overseeing the integrity of the Bank's financial reporting, its internal control, disclosure control, enterprise risk management functions, internal audit function, and its compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. The Committee also reviews and assesses the qualifications, independence and performance of the Bank's Auditors.

## Year in Review

The mandate setting out the roles and responsibilities of the Committee was reviewed and amended to take into account applicable regulatory requirements, including the rules and regulations issued by The Central Bank of The Bahamas, Insurance Commission of The Bahamas, Securities Commission of The Bahamas and The Bahamas International Securities Exchange giving effect to the best practices in today's governance environment.

## Financial Reporting

- **Reviewed** with Management and the Bank's Auditors: the appropriateness of the Bank's accounting and financial reporting, the impact of adopting new accounting standards and emerging best practices in response to changes in regulatory guidelines, the accounting treatment of significant risks and uncertainties, the key estimates and judgments of management that were material to the Bank's financial reporting, and the disclosure of critical accounting policies.
- **Reviewed** Management's risk management measures for their appropriateness in relation to risk exposures and specifically the adequacy of the loan impairment allowance.
- **Reviewed and recommended** for approval by the Board: the annual Audited Consolidated Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis and quarterly unaudited financial releases. Also reviewed and recommended for approval by their respective Boards the Annual Financial Statements and quarterly unaudited financial reports of all subsidiaries.

## Enterprise Risk Management

- **Reviewed** and approved the annual Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Plans, amendments and any special-focused assessments.
- **Reviewed** ERM reporting of the ERM operations across the Bank, addressing risk management, including credit risk, physical security, information security, compliance and litigation.
- **Reviewed** reporting on the effectiveness and conformity with the ERM Framework, and the Bank's compliance with local and international best practices, regulations and laws.
- **Reviewed** Management's reports of mediation of all identified deficiencies and exposures whether by regulatory agencies, internal control reviews or by any auditor.

## Fraud

- **Provided** oversight of the Bank's fraud detection and investigation function within the ERM Department.
- **Reviewed** the Bank's procedures for the detection of fraud, the results of fraud investigations on underlying control gaps, impacts on the Bank, action taken against the perpetrators and to ensure the appropriate remedial action was taken to address issues raised.

## Internal Control and Disclosure Control

- **Reviewed** the processes involved in evaluating the Bank's internal control environment. Specifically, the Committee approved the annual audit plan; reviewed Internal Audit Reporting and reviewed on a regular basis the adequacy of resources and independence of the Internal Audit function.
- **Met** regularly with the Vice President, Internal Audit as necessary without Management present.
- **Reviewed** existing and proposed guidelines issued by regulators and discussed with Management to ensure compliance.
- **Reviewed** recommendations of the Bank's External Auditors and Regulators, as well as recommendations from the Internal Audit, Fraud Investigations and Credit Inspection functions and Management's responses.

## Bank's Auditors

- **Recommended** that the incumbent auditor, KPMG be reappointed to perform the 2024 external audit.
- **Confirmed** that appropriate practices are being followed to safeguard the independence of the Bank's Auditors.
- **Reviewed** the performance of the Bank's Auditors, including the scope and results of the external audit conducted by the Bank's Auditors, and communications to the Committee that are required under International Standards on Auditing.
- **Met** as necessary with the Bank's Auditors.

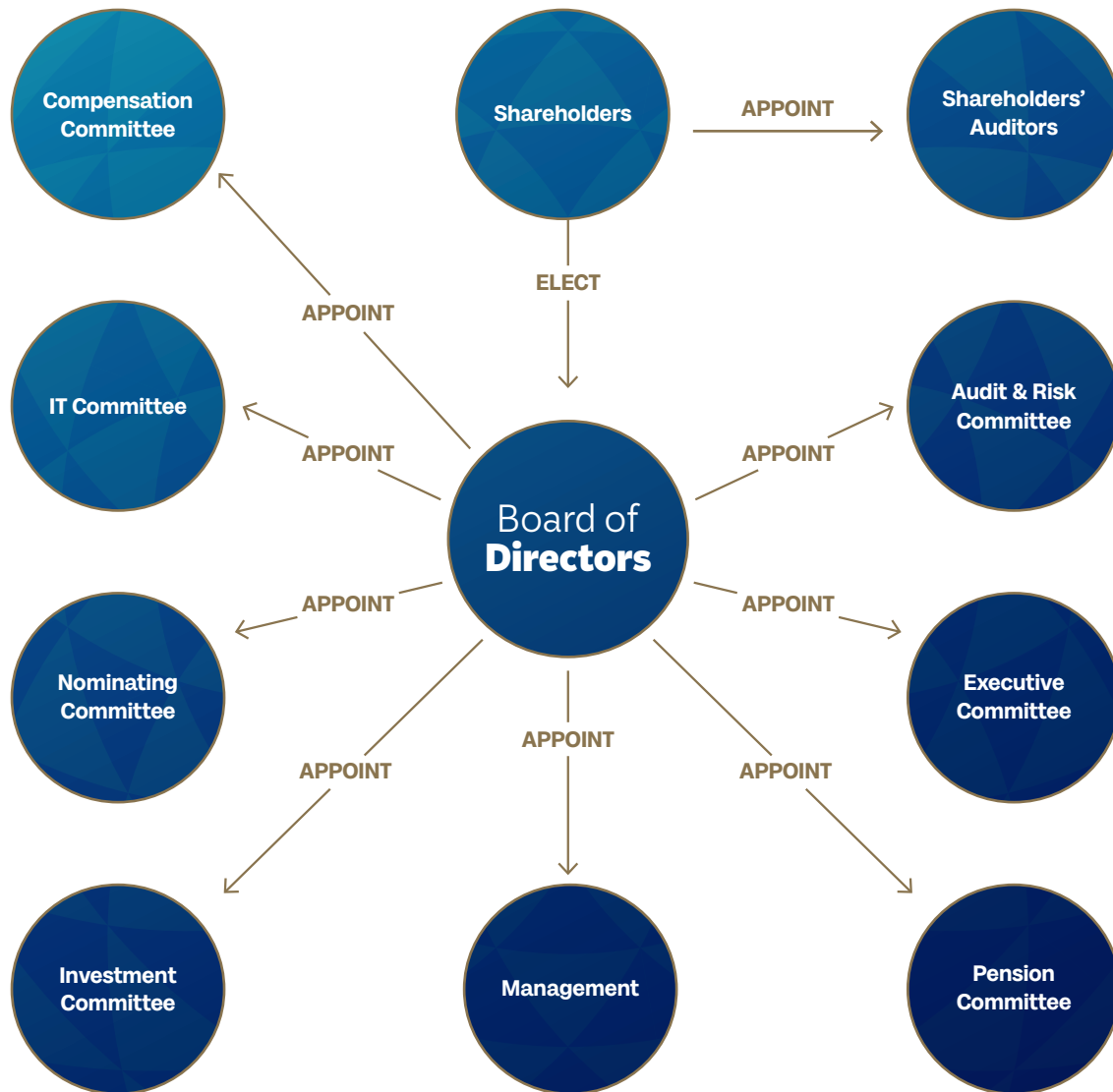
The Committee is satisfied that it has appropriately fulfilled its mandate to the best of its ability for the year ended December 31, 2024.

**Tracy E. Knowles**  
**Chair**

# Corporate Governance

Corporate governance is the set of processes, customs, policies, laws and institutions affecting the way in which the Bank is directed, administered and controlled. The corporate governance structure specifies the rules and procedures for making decisions on corporate

affairs. It also provides the structure through which the Bank's objectives are set, as well as the means of attaining and monitoring the performance of those objectives. The process of Governance is illustrated by the chart below.



## Commonwealth Bank Corporate Governance Profile

Corporate governance is used to monitor whether outcomes are in accordance with plans and to motivate the organization to be more fully informed in order to maintain or alter organizational activity. Corporate governance is the mechanism by which individuals are motivated to align their actual behaviors with the approved corporate direction.

Corporate governance also includes the relationships among the stakeholders and the goals for which the Bank is governed. The principal stakeholders are the shareholders, management and the board of directors. Other stakeholders include employees, suppliers, customers, regulators, and the community at large.

An important theme of corporate governance deals with issues of accountability and fiduciary duty, essentially advocating the implementation of policies and mechanisms to ensure good behaviour and protect shareholders. Another key focus is the economic efficiency view, through which the corporate governance system should aim to

optimize economic results, with a strong emphasis on shareholders welfare.

Of importance is how Directors and Management develop a model of governance that aligns the values of the corporate participants and then evaluate this model periodically for its effectiveness. In particular, Senior Executives should conduct themselves honestly and ethically, especially concerning actual or apparent conflicts of interest, and disclosure in financial reports.

The Directors and Executives of the Bank take their responsibilities seriously. To ensure the individual Directors and Executives comply with the form and substance prescribed in the Bank's governance regime, a Charter of Expectations is in place and compliance with the governance expectations is confirmed by all Directors on an annual basis. The direction provided in the Charter of Expectations is outlined in the following schedule.

# Charter of Expectations

## ROLE OF THE BOARD

The Board needs a range of skills and understanding to be able to deal with various business issues and have the ability to review and challenge management performance.

## MONITORING BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors, with its legal authority to hire, fire and compensate top management, safeguards invested capital. Regular board meetings allow potential problems to be identified, discussed and avoided.

### Issues Involving Corporate Governance Principles Include:

- i) oversight of the preparation of the entity's financial statements;
- ii) internal controls and the independence of the entity's auditors;
- iii) review of the compensation arrangements for the Executive Chairman, President and other Senior Executives;
- iv) the way in which individuals are nominated for positions on the Board;
- v) the resources made available to Directors in carrying out their duties;
- vi) oversight and management of risk; dividend policy; capital management; and annual certification to regulatory authorities that the Bank is in compliance with mandated and best practice standards of governance.

## BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of Directors is explicitly responsible for the stewardship of the Bank. The Board of Directors establishes formal delegations of authority, defining the limits of management's power and authority and delegating to management certain powers to manage the business of the Bank. The delegations of authority conform to statutory limitations specifying responsibilities of the Board that cannot be delegated to management. Any responsibilities not delegated to management remain with the Board. To discharge the Board's responsibility for stewardship, the Board should assume responsibility in the following areas:

### Internal Corporate Governance Controls

Internal corporate governance controls monitor activities and then take corrective action to accomplish organisational goals.

Examples include:

### Strategic Planning Process

- Provide input to management on emerging trends and issues.
- Review and approve management's strategic plans.
- Review and approve the Bank's financial objectives, plans and actions, including significant capital allocations and expenditures.

### Monitoring Tactical Process

- Monitor corporate performance against the strategic and business plans, including assessing operating results to evaluate whether the business is being properly managed.

### Risk Assessment

- Identify and review, at least annually, the principal risks of the Bank's businesses and receive reasonable assurance on an ongoing basis that appropriate policies, procedures and systems are in place to manage these risks.
- Review the processes that ensure respect for any compliance with applicable regulatory, corporate and any other legal requirements.
- Review the processes and practices to ensure that prudent and effective policies are in place to identify, measure and monitor the Bank's cumulative positions in respect of its capital and liquidity management.

### Senior Level Staffing

- Select, monitor, evaluate (including the Executive Chairman, President and other Senior Executives) and ensure that an effective management succession plan is in place and that the Bank's compensation plans are consistent with the sustainable achievement of the Bank's business objectives, the prudent management of its operations and the risks to which it is exposed, and adherence to its processes, policies procedures and controls.

## Remuneration

- Performance-based remuneration is designed to relate some proportion of salary to individual performance. It may be in the form of cash or non-cash payments such as shares and share options.

## Integrity

- Ensure the integrity of the Bank's process of control and management information systems.
- Ensure ethical behavior and compliance with laws and regulations, audit and accounting principles, and the Bank's own governing documents.

## Oversight of Communications and Public Disclosure

- Assess the effectiveness of the Bank's communications policy and processes to ensure accurate, timely and full public disclosure.

## Material Transactions

- Review and approve material transactions not in the ordinary course of business.

## Monitoring Board Effectiveness

- Assess its own effectiveness in fulfilling the above and other Board responsibilities, including monitoring the effectiveness of individual Directors.

## Other

- Perform such other functions as prescribed by law or assigned to the Board in the Bank's governing documents. The Charter also stipulates the personal and professional characteristics of Directors. This stipulation forms a recruitment model for use in screening and selecting Board nominees.

## DIRECTOR ATTRIBUTES

To execute these Board responsibilities, Directors must possess certain characteristics and traits including:

### Integrity and Accountability

- Directors must demonstrate high ethical standards and integrity in their personal and professional dealings, and be willing to act on – and remain accountable for – their boardroom decisions.

### Governance

- The ability to provide thoughtful and wise counsel on a broad range of issues ranks high among the qualities required in Directors. They must develop a depth of knowledge of banking, in order to understand and question the assumptions upon which the strategic and business plans are based, and to form and exercise independent judgement in directing and overseeing the operations of the Bank.

### Financial Literacy

- One of the most important roles of the Board is to monitor financial performance. To do this, Directors must know how to read financial statements, and they should understand the use of financial ratios and other indices for evaluating the Bank's performance.

### Communication

- Openness to others' opinions and the willingness to listen should rank as highly as the ability to communicate persuasively. Directors must approach others assertively, responsibly and supportively, and be willing to raise tough questions in a manner that encourages open discussion.

### Track Record and Experience

- In today's highly competitive world, only companies capable of performing at the highest levels are likely to prosper. Directors must bring a history of achievement that reflects high standards for themselves and others.

### Independence

- The Board of Directors of Commonwealth Bank has adopted standards for determining whether a Director is unrelated or independent. The process adopted by the Board complies with regulatory standards and international best practices. A copy of the standards developed is available to shareholders on request.



## Board of Directors

**William B. Sands, Jr., DM**  
**Executive Chairman**  
Commonwealth Bank Limited

**Denise D. Turnquest**  
**President**  
Commonwealth Bank Limited

**Earla J. Bethel**  
**President**  
DanBrad Ltd.

**Larry R. Gibson**  
**Chief Operating Officer,  
Pensions**  
Coralisle Pension Services  
(Bahamas) Ltd.

**Vaughn W. T. Higgs**  
**President**  
Nassau Paper Co. Ltd.

**Tracy E. Knowles**  
**Businessman**

**Russell M. Miller**  
**Executive Vice-President  
Hotel Operations**  
Atlantis Paradise Island

**Robert D. L. Sands**  
**Sr. VP, Government &  
Community Relations**  
Baha Mar Ltd.

**Debra M. Symonette**  
**President**  
Super Value Food Stores Ltd.

**R. Craig Symonette**  
**Chairman**  
Bahamas Ferries Ltd.



**Charlene A. Bosfield**  
Corporate Secretary

**Registered Office**  
GTC Corporate Services Limited  
P.O. Box SS-5383  
Nassau, Bahamas

**Principal Address**  
Commonwealth Bank Limited  
Head Office  
William B. Sands, Jr. Plaza  
Mackey Street  
P.O. Box SS-5541  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Tel: (242) 502-6200  
Fax: (242) 394-5807

**Auditors**  
KPMG Bahamas  
5th Floor  
Montague Sterling Centre  
13 East Bay Street  
P.O. Box N-123  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Tel: (242) 393-2007  
Fax: (242) 393-1772  
www.kpmg.com/bs

**Registrar and Transfer Agent**  
Bahamas Central Securities Depository  
310 Cotton Tree Plaza, Unit 4  
East Bay Street  
P.O. Box N-9307  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Tel: (242) 322-5522

**Stock Exchange Listing**  
(Symbol: CBL)

**Common Shareholder Listing**  
Bahamas International Securities Exchange (BISX)

**Internet Address**  
www.combankltd.com

**Shareholder's Contact**  
For change of address, change to dividend instructions and estate transfers, Shareholders are requested to write the Bank's Transfer Agent, Bahamas Central Securities Depository, at their mailing address or call the Transfer Agent at:  
Tel: (242) 322-5573

**Direct Deposit Service**  
Shareholders may have their dividends deposited directly to an account at any financial institution. To arrange this, please write to Bahamas Central Securities Depository at their mailing address.

**Institutional Investor, Broker & Security Analyst Contact**  
Institutional investors, brokers and security analysts requiring financial information should contact the Corporate Secretary, Investor Relations, by writing us at our Principal Address or by calling:  
Tel: (242) 502-6200  
Fax: (242) 394-5807

Other Shareholder inquiries may be directed to our Investor Relations Department, by writing to:

**The Corporate Secretary**  
Commonwealth Bank Limited  
Head Office  
William B. Sands, Jr. Plaza  
Mackey St.  
P.O. Box SS-5541  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Tel: (242) 502-6200  
Fax: (242) 394-5807



# Suite of Credit Cards



Commonwealth Bank offers a selection of Mastercard credit cards tailored to diverse financial needs.

## SERVICES

Saturday Banking  
 Auto Financing  
 Personal Financing  
 Mortgage Financing  
 Real Estate Financing  
 Small Business Lending  
 Commercial Lending  
 Merchant Acquiring  
 Overdraft Facilities  
 Online Banking  
 Mastercard Credit Card  
 Mastercard Prepaid Card  
 Mastercard Gift Card  
 Visa Debit Card  
 Regular Savings Accounts  
 Christmas Club Savings  
 Student Savings Accounts  
 Kidz Club Savings Accounts  
 Mobile Banking  
 Automated Banking Machines  
 Foreign Exchange Services  
 Personal Chequing Accounts  
 Business Chequing Accounts  
 Safe Deposit Boxes  
 Wire Transfers  
 Certificates Of Deposit  
 Loans By Phone

## LOCATIONS

### New Providence

Head Office 502-6200  
 William B. Sands, Jr. Plaza  
 Mackey Street  
 P.O. Box SS-5541

### Branches

William B. Sands, Jr. Plaza  
 Mackey Street 502-6100  
 Bay & Christie Street 322-1154  
 Oakes Field\*\* 322-3474  
 Town Centre Mall 322-4107  
 Cable Beach\*\* 327-8441  
 Wulff Road\*\* 394-6469  
 Golden Gates\*\* 461-1300  
 Prince Charles Drive\*\* 364-9900  
 Mortgage Centre 397-6940

### Grand Bahama

The Mall Drive\*\* 352-8307  
 Lucaya 373-9670

### Abaco

Marsh Harbour\*\* 367-2370

### Eleuthera

Spanish Wells 333-4800

\* Drive through ATM Locations

\*\* Saturday Banking Locations

### Card Services Centre

Nassau 502-6150  
 Freeport 352-4428  
 Abaco 367-2370

Call Centre 502-6206

### Off-Site ATM Locations

#### New Providence

- Super Value: Cable Beach, Winton, Golden Gates, Mackey Street, Prince Charles Shopping Centre
- Quality Market South Beach
- Kelly's, Mall at Marathon
- Rubis, Gladstone Road
- Coral Towers, Atlantis Resort
- The Cove, Atlantis Resort
- Baha Mar

#### Grand Bahama

- Cost Right
- Grand Bahama International Airport

#### Abaco

- Leonard M. Thompson International Airport
- Maxwell's Supermarket

#### Andros

- North Andros Super Center, Queen's Highway