cafe
Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions
Association canadienne des foires et expositions

ANNUAL REPORT



2025-26



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2025–2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee

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Director, Stampede Programming | Calgary Stampede
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Reg Ash, *2nd Vice President*
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Dan Kemppainen, *Vice President, Finance*
CEO | Saskatoon Prairieland Park Corporation
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Phil Shuchat, *Past President*
Spot on Entertainment Inc.
Ajax, ON
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Representing: Service Members

Directors

Christie Kerr
Director, Fair & Festival Operations | Pacific National Exhibition
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Jason Au
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Jane Matthews
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Rachel Farr
Manager | Vegreville Agricultural Society
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Bennett Kavals
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T: 519-756-2111
Representing: Service Members

Kalyn Van Horne
Manager, Entertainment & Attractions | Explore Edmonton
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Representing: Paid Management Personnel of Fairs

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Dairy Farmer / Fair Volunteer | Stanstead County Agricultural Society
Ayer's Cliff, QC
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Representing: Volunteers of Member Fairs

Provincial Associations Directors

Bianca Harden
Co-Representative | Saskatchewan Association of Agricultural Societies and Exhibitions (SAASE)
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Co-Representing: Provincial Associations

Dale Buhler
Co-Representative | Manitoba Association of Agricultural Societies (MAAS)
Emerson, MB
T: 204-209-2333
Co-Representing: Provincial Associations

Executive Director

Linda Sicoli
Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions
Toronto, ON
T: 800-663-1714 Ext. 0

About CAFE

The Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (CAFE) is the national voice of Canada's fairs, exhibitions and agricultural societies. We connect, support and advocate for members across the country, helping strengthen a sector that contributes to community vitality, agricultural awareness, tourism, economic activity and Canadian culture.

National Office

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Allison Wright, President

Leading the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions has been both the most rewarding and the most challenging of experiences. I have been incredibly fortunate to work with a dedicated and committed Board and to contribute to such a meaningful industry. We have encountered roadblocks and setbacks along the way, yet we continue to move forward, much like our members do, day in and day out. Each event, each fair season, is a journey from ideation to execution, filled with moments of celebration, learning and joy. In 2025–2026, CAFE continued its own journey, reconfirming our purpose in the updated Strategic Plan. This led us to address several important initiatives that cement the foundational building blocks of association value: a governance review of the Board structure, government relations to stay top of mind in a complex political environment, and program development to expand industry knowledge, growth and connection.

Governance review was a primary activity over the last year and a half. We took a step back to understand the composition of the Board and consider what changes would best take us forward. This perspective gave us the opportunity to consider not only the Board structure, but also the operational processes that support an effective Board. We reviewed barriers to participation, developed a skills matrix to evaluate Board competencies and targeted Board development opportunities. These are important steps on the journey of the Board and its members.

Financially, we tied up loose ends that presented barriers to federal funding. We expanded our funding viewpoint and found success with a private grant to advance program development. We are well positioned to launch 2027 with a fresh start and a program framework on which to execute, another step forward for CAFE.

The Strategic Plan was updated and shared with the membership earlier this year. This plan is the culmination of the efforts and learnings of the Association over the past two years and a reaffirmation of our priorities: Voice and Awareness, Services and Member Value, Collaboration, and Financial Sustainability. We will focus on growing the capacity required to make an impact, solidifying our value and relevance to our members, and elevating the visibility of our industry as a vital contributor to our communities.

My heartfelt thanks to our members for their continued support and, with deepest sincerity, thank you to Linda Sicoli, Executive Director, and the Board for your commitment and leadership. I have been graced with the opportunity to lead a very talented and capable Board. We are pointed in the right direction, and we have the right people in the right places to take the next step on our journey as an Association. It is time.

"Live your life by a compass, not a clock."

Stephen Covey

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Linda Sicoli, Executive Director

The 2025–2026 year was one of rebuilding capacity, turning strategy into action and building a stronger platform for what comes next.

Building on the governance work begun the previous year, we moved from consultation to implementation. The Board continued to examine the skills, representation and processes needed for effective national leadership, while our updated 2026–2030 Strategic Plan, Meet You There: The Next Chapter, gave us a clear framework for the work ahead: strengthening our voice, increasing member value, fostering collaboration and building long-term financial sustainability.

Advocacy remained a core responsibility. CAFE participated in consultations with federal departments to ensure fairs and exhibitions are considered in the design of national programs and funding streams, and that the sector's realities are understood by those shaping policy. As trade tariffs created uncertainty for agriculture and rural economies, we kept members informed about developments and the federal supports available to them. Throughout this work, our message was consistent: fairs are not simply events, but vital contributors to rural development, tourism, agriculture, employment and community infrastructure.

At the same time, we expanded our focus on practical member value. With support from the RBC Foundation, CAFE added dedicated program capacity to relaunch the Designation Program, advance the Youth Work Exchange and grow our calendar of professional development. Webinars throughout the year addressed issues members identified as immediate priorities, from volunteer management and youth recruitment to partnerships, social media and grant writing.

We also began laying the groundwork for a new national economic impact study. This work is intended to give CAFE and its members stronger evidence to demonstrate the economic and social value of fairs and exhibitions, and to support future advocacy, funding and partnership discussions.

This work is strengthened by members who share their experience, provincial associations and industry partners who collaborate with us, a Board that gives of its time and expertise, and staff who continue to move a growing agenda forward.

As we enter the next year, the priority is execution: delivering the programs we have built, strengthening the evidence behind our advocacy, expanding opportunities for members to connect and learn, and ensuring CAFE has the capacity to serve the sector well into the future.

Thank you to our members, sponsors and partners for your trust and support. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to the CAFE Board for their leadership, which continues to shape and strengthen our path forward.

"The future depends on what we do in the present."

YEAR IN REVIEW



Strategic Direction

This year, CAFE adopted its updated 2026–2030 Strategic Plan, Meet You There: The Next Chapter, reaffirming the Association's role as a national connector, advocate and resource for the fair and exhibition sector. The plan sets out four areas of focus: Voice and Awareness; Services and Member Value; Collaboration; and Financial Sustainability.

The plan provides a practical framework for decisions about advocacy, programming, partnerships and organizational capacity, with an emphasis on measurable value for members and stronger national visibility for the sector.

Governance and Leadership

The governance review initiated in 2025 moved into implementation during 2025–2026. The Board examined barriers to participation, representation across regions and member classes, and the skills needed to support CAFE's strategic priorities.

- Completed a competency-based skills matrix to guide recruitment, succession and Board development.
- Continued work to reduce barriers to participation and improve the effectiveness of Board processes.
- Strengthened governance planning, orientation and leadership development.
- Welcomed new and appointed Directors following the 2025 AGM, bringing additional perspectives and expertise to the Board.
- Welcomed two Provincial Associations Directors in 2026 in a shared capacity and adopted updated bylaws in October 2026 to formally implement the expanded provincial representation approved by members at the 2025 AGM.

Advocacy and Government Relations

CAFE continued to strengthen its national advocacy role, working with provincial associations, major fairs, suppliers and allied national organizations to ensure governments understand the operational realities and economic importance of fairs and exhibitions.

Highlights included:

- Participated in federal consultations on national programs and funding and engaged MPs, Senators and senior officials on rural development, agriculture, tourism and employment;
- Kept members informed on tariffs and available federal supports and continued advocacy on seasonal labour and TFW Program;
- Pre-budget advocacy: Advanced priorities related to rural and community infrastructure, economic impact research, workforce development and the recognition of fairs as tourism and community assets.
- Initiated a national economic impact study.

Programs and Member Value

A major focus of the year was building programs that respond directly to member needs and can be sustained over time.

- Designation Program: Advanced the refresh of CAFE's professional designation curriculum, with courses designed for flexible, asynchronous learning supported by facilitators.
- Professional Development: Expanded the annual webinar calendar with sessions on removing barriers, community partnerships, volunteer management, youth recruitment, event planning and more.
- Member Resources: Continued to develop practical tools and learning opportunities suited to both volunteer-led and professionally staffed organizations.
- Program Capacity: Added dedicated program coordination support through funding from the RBC Foundation, allowing CAFE to move several member initiatives from concept toward delivery.



Communications and Sector Visibility

CAFE continued to improve the consistency and relevance of member communications while raising the visibility of the sector's contribution to Canadian communities.

- Published Canadian Fair News, three times annually, featuring member stories, sector issues, program updates and profiles from across the country.
- Used monthly newsletters and digital communications to share timely advocacy updates, funding opportunities, professional development and industry news.
- Began work on a national economic impact study that will give members and partners current national data on the sector's contribution.



Youth and Workforce Development

Youth engagement remained central to CAFE's work on succession, leadership development and sector renewal.

- Developed program materials for the Youth Work Exchange, which will pair emerging leaders aged 18 to 29 with host fairs for short-term placements, mentorship and hands-on learning, in preparation for delivery in 2027.
- Integrated youth leadership and succession into professional development webinars, convention programming and strategic planning.
- Continued to explore partnerships and funding that can create more pathways for young people to build careers and leadership experience in the fair sector.

Annual Convention and Member Connection

The 2025 Annual Convention at the Fairmont Palliser in Calgary brought members together for professional development, networking and industry discussion, along with a closer look at one of Canada's most recognized event destinations.

Feedback from Calgary shaped planning for this year's convention, with a focus on strengthening tradeshow value, showcase opportunities and meaningful peer-to-peer connection.

We are delighted to welcome you to Halifax, Nova Scotia, for the 2026 Annual Convention, Honouring Roots and Inspiring Futures. This year's program explores governance, partnerships, technology, tourism, visitor experience, youth, emergency readiness and the changing needs of fairs and exhibitions.

NATIONAL AWARDS

CAFE's National Awards recognize individuals and organizations whose leadership, service and commitment have made a lasting contribution to fairs and exhibitions in Canada. The 2025 recipients reflect the people who strengthen organizations, mentor others, advance innovation and help ensure the sector continues to thrive.



Roll of Honour:

VIRGINIA LUDY

Former CEO of the Canadian National Exhibition and currently Vice President of James Needler Event Consulting Ltd., Virginia was recognized for a national legacy of leadership, strategic vision and longstanding support of the fair industry.



Service Member of the Year:

ROB HAUSER

West Coast Amusements

Rob was recognized for leadership in safety, equipment standards and operational excellence, including innovations such as the Magic Money cashless payment system and customized employee training focused on safety, inspections, transportation and customer service.



Canadian Fair Champion:

BASIL LYCHOWYD

Canadian Lakehead Exhibition

Basil, Chair of the CLE Fair and Vice President of Agriculture, was honoured for exceptional commitment, reliability and the many hours he has devoted to supporting the fair and its community.



Canadian Fair Champion:

JUDY McALOON

Stanley Agricultural Society

Judy was recognized for decades of leadership, dedication and volunteer service, and for her commitment to preserving agricultural heritage and community spirit.



Innovation Award:

NEW BRUNSWICK FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS ASSOCIATION

The Association was recognized for forward-thinking programs that modernize member support while strengthening community roots, including work addressing mental health, volunteer burnout and event-management practices.



Central Canada Exhibition Youth Education Scholarship:

DEVIN DOBREV-ONYSKIW

Explore Edmonton

Devin was selected for strong community and agricultural involvement, professionalism and leadership potential, including contributions to Farmfair International and the development of engaging programs.



2025 Top 10 Under 40

1. **Angela Hogeveen,** Norfolk County Fair
2. **Dalton Barteaux,** Annapolis Valley Exhibition
3. **Eric Connell,** Spencerville Agricultural Society
4. **Kalyn Van Horne,** Explore Edmonton / KDays
5. **Leigha Beckwith,** New Brunswick Provincial Exhibition
6. **Melissa Player,** New Brunswick Fairs and Exhibitions Association
7. **Phillip Davis,** Davis Concessions
8. **Shayla Flanagan,** Westerner Park Exposition
9. **Shaylene Kirton,** AuthentiGATE
10. **Sydney Adams,** Paris Agricultural Fair

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended July 31, 2026

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members:

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions which comprise the balance sheet as at July 31, 2026, and the statements of (deficiency in) net assets, income and cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions as at July 31, 2026, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Accounting Standards for Not-For-Profit Organizations (ASNPO).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization'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 Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's 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 Canadian generally accepted auditing standards 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 financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards (CASs), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain 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 Organization'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 Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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.

DS CPA Professional Corporation

Chartered Professional Accountants

Licensed Public Accountants Authorized to practice public accounting by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario

Smiths Falls, Ontario

October 26, 2026

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES FOIRES ET EXPOSITIONS

Statement of Financial Position

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2026

Assets

	2026	2025
CURRENT		
Cash	$130,976	$222,786
Investments - at cost (note 5)	$90,000	$90,000
- government including GST/HST	$1,087	$1,215
Prepaid expense	$9,972	$46,475
	$232,035	**$360,476**
CAPITAL - AT COST		
Computer	$1,923	$1,923
Less accumulated amortization	$1,923	$1,282
	-	**$641**
	$232,035	**$361,117**

Liabilities

	2026	2025
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$4,310	$668
Deferred income	$74,337	$131,726
Current portion of CNE Loan payable	$45,000	-
	$123,647	**$132,394**
LONG TERM		
CNE Loan payable (note 6)	$71,250	$120,000
(DEFICIENCY IN) NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	($29,009)	$41,827
Externally Restricted (note 9)	$66,147	$66,896
	$232,035	**$361,117**



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES FOIRES ET EXPOSITIONS

Statement of Operations and (Deficiency In) Net Assets

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2026

Revenues

	2026	2025
Memberships	$96,148	$81,210
Convention	$214,234	$188,125
Fair News & Directory	$1,826	$2,694
CAFE Service Levy	$10,875	$2,200
Merchandise, donations and other income	$68,712	$17,228
Lobbying Support sponsorship	-	$152,436
	$391,795	**$443,893**

Expenses

	2026	2025
Management and administration	$224,497	$188,780
Convention	$183,853	$176,468
Funding Adjustment	$23,475	-
Fair News and Directory	$18,902	$13,213
Lobby Subcontractor	$10,571	$103,940
Special Projects	$2,082	$2,207
	$463,380	$484,608
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	**($71,585)**	**($40,715)**
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	**$41,827**	**$82,542**
Transfer from Externally Restricted (note 9)	$749	-
(DEFICIENCY IN) NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	**($29,009)**	**$41,827**

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES FOIRES ET EXPOSITIONS

Statement of Cash Flow

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JULY 31, 2026

Operating Activities

	2026	2025
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	($71,585)	($40,715)
Amortization	$641	$641
	($70,944)	**($40,074)**
CHANGES IN CERTAIN NON-CASH OPERATING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		
Accounts receivable	$128	$18,626
Prepaid expense	$36,503	($19,000)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$3,642	($15,922)
Deferred revenue	($57,389)	$80,078
	($17,116)	**$63,782**
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Decrease in CNE Loan Payable	($3,750)	-
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND EQUIVALENTS DURING THE YEAR	($91,810)	$23,708
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS, AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	$312,786	$289,078
CASH AND EQUIVALENTS,AT END OF YEAR (NOTE 8)	**$220,976**	**$312,786**

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended July 31, 2026

1. The Organization

The Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions/Association Canadienne des Foires et Expositions (CAFE/ACFE) is the national association representing fairs, exhibitions and agricultural society organizations and such firms, organizations and enterprises as may rely on the Canadian Fair Industry for an important part of their continuing livelihood.

The CAFE/ACFE was incorporated without share capital under the *Canada Corporations Act* as a not-for-profit organization and is a charitable organization under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada).

2. Basis of Presentation

These financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO) in Part III of the *CPA Canada Handbook* - Accounting to present the assets, liabilities, net assets, revenue, expenses and cash flows of the Organization.

3. Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Use of Estimates
The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenditures during the reporting period. These estimates are reviewed periodically, and adjustments are made as appropriate in the year they become known. Significant estimates include useful lives of capital assets, impairments, accrued pension assets and liabilities, and accrued liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(b) Financial Instruments
Measurement of financial instruments
The Organization initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value. The Organization subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

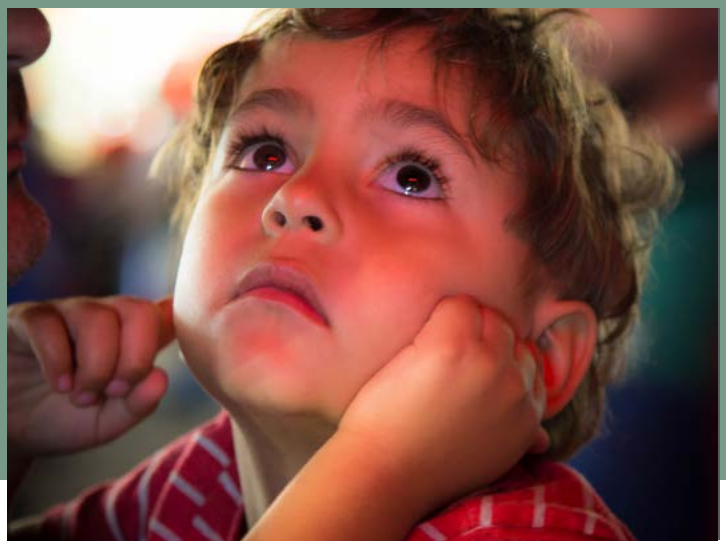
Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash, accounts receivable and investments.
Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and loans payable.

(c) Contributed Materials and Services
Contributions of materials and services are recognized at fair market value only to the extent that they would normally be purchased and the fair value can be reasonably estimated.

(d) Revenue Recognition
The Association of Fairs follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Fees for services, such as







membership fees, are recognized as revenue when the related services are provided. Conference, advertising for publications and project revenues are recorded in the year the function or supply takes place. The CAFE Service Levy is recorded when received.

Contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Restricted contributions received in respect of future operations are deferred and recognized as revenue when the related expenses are incurred and recognized.

4. Accounts Receivable

Included in accounts receivable is a GST/HST receivable for an amount of $1,087 (2025 - $1,215).

5. Short Term Investments

Investments are comprised of mutual funds measured at cost.

6. CNE Loan Payable

Pursuant to a loan agreement dated June 11, 2024, and an amendment to the loan agreement dated July 9, 2026 with the Canadian National Exhibition Association, CAFE shall repay the loan commencing in July 2026 over a period of thirty-two consecutive months. Interest is payable at the prime lending rate plus 2%. Minimum repayments over the next three years are as follows:

2027: $45,000
2028: $45,000
2029: $26,250

7. Financial Instruments and Related Risks

Risks and concentrations
The Association is exposed to various risks associated with its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the Association's risk exposure and concentrations as at July 31, 2026.

Liquidity risk
Liquidity risk is the risk that the Association will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Organization is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The Organization manages liquidity risk by ensuring it will have sufficient liquidity to meet liabilities when due.

The Organization's current trade financial liabilities generally have contractual maturities of 30-60 days and are subject to normal trade terms. There were no significant changes to liquidity risk exposures from the prior year.

8. Cash and Equivalents

Cash and equivalents consist of the following:

	2026	2025
Cash	$130,976	$222,786
Investments	$90,000	$90,000
	$220,976	**$312,786**

9. Externally Restricted Equity

During 2023, the Central Canada Exhibition Association donated to the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions the sum of $66,896 for the purpose of sponsoring scholarships for youth. The funds are to be invested, with amounts determined by the Association withdrawn annually for awards to selected youth.

During fiscal 2026, a complimentary convention registration valued at $749 was awarded through the fund. There were no other disbursements and no investment income during fiscal 2026 or 2025.

LOOKING AHEAD

With the 2026–2030 Strategic Plan in place, CAFE enters the next year with a stronger foundation and a clear emphasis on execution.

- Deliver the refreshed Designation Program and strengthen professional development opportunities for members.
- Deliver the Youth Work Exchange and advance other initiatives that support succession, mentorship and sector careers.
- Advance the national economic impact study and translate the findings into practical advocacy and member resources.
- Continue national advocacy on workforce, regulatory, infrastructure and policy issues affecting fairs and exhibitions.
- Strengthen partnerships with provincial associations, service members, funders and allied organizations.
- Increase the visibility of fairs and exhibitions as contributors to tourism, agriculture, rural vitality and community life.
- Build diversified and sustainable revenue so CAFE can continue to expand its capacity and member value.
- Carry the lessons of Halifax into planning for the 2027 Annual Convention and continue evolving the convention experience based on member feedback.





ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

CAFE's strength comes from the people and organizations that make up the fair and exhibition community across Canada.

To our members: thank you for your trust, your participation and the knowledge you share so generously with one another. Your work in communities of every size gives this Association its purpose.

To our provincial associations and industry partners: thank you for helping CAFE build stronger connections, coordinate advocacy and extend the reach of our programs and communications.

To our sponsors and funders: thank you for investing in the continued development of the sector and for making new programs, learning opportunities and national initiatives possible.

CAFE extends special thanks to the RBC Foundation, whose support made it possible to add dedicated program capacity this year and move the Designation Program, the Youth Work Exchange and our professional development calendar from concept toward delivery.

To our Board of Directors: thank you for your leadership, thoughtful oversight and commitment to the future of CAFE.

To the volunteers, staff, suppliers, midway operators, entertainers, exhibitors, agricultural organizations and community partners who bring fairs and exhibitions to life: your contribution extends far beyond the event gates. You help create gathering places, support local economies, celebrate agriculture and culture, and strengthen the communities you serve.

Together, we continue to build a stronger, more connected and more visible Canadian fair industry.





cafe
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