



Building Strong First Nations Annual Report 2007–2008



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New Relationship Trust

Building Strong First Nations

Annual Report 2007–2008

The New Relationship Trust (NRT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to building strong, healthy, prosperous, independent First Nations within BC.



What makes a Nation?

Is it a people of common geography, culture, history, ethnicity and language?
Is a Nation defined by its sovereignty - the right to self-rule? These are ways the modern world describes the concept of a Nation. As First Peoples of this land, our ancient wisdom tells us that our Nations include all of these qualities, and more.

We do not define our Nations, they define us. They are who we are as a people — whether we are Coast Salish, Haida, Nisga'a, Kaska, Secwepemc — or any other great First Nation in BC.

Our Nationhood is deeply rooted in our past — thousands of years of heritage, tradition, ancestral law, language and culture. It is grounded in a place — the lands, waters,

mountains, animals and other natural features of our territory. It is manifest in the present — the way we are adapting and transforming within a modern context. And it is how we see our futures — our collective values, goals and aspirations.

Most of all, Nations are made up of people — communities, clans and families — and we must reconnect within

our Nations in order to prosper. Increased capacity, access to education for all Aboriginal peoples, revived languages and cultures, engagement of our youth and elders, and thriving economies — these are tools that can help strengthen our Nations and ensure they flourish well into the future.



Message from the Chair and CEO

Nathan Matthew and Cliff Fregin

If one word could describe NRT's focus for the 2007/08 fiscal year, that word might be **strategic**.

In 2006/07, we sought community input to clearly define our five program areas and determine our investment plan. This year, in order to ensure that the fund goes as far as possible, we turned our attention toward carving out a strategic approach to program development and spending.

Of the original \$100 million fund, \$20 million is allocated to program funding through 2010. Clearly, this amount would not go very far if divided equally amongst all 200+ First Nation communities in BC. To ensure the most effective use of funds, we asked some tough questions:

- Where will the money get the most return (i.e. have the most impact)?
- How can we ensure that the money dispensed goes to work immediately?
- How can we ensure that the majority of the money goes directly to communities and programs, as opposed to getting eaten up in administrative costs?
- How can we make sure the fund makes a lasting and sustainable impact?

The answers to these questions lie in a number of strategic approaches. For example, by forming strategic alliances with existing organizations, we can make sure NRT dollars get to communities as quickly as possible; in addition, those funds go directly to projects, rather than to creating and supporting redundant infrastructures and administrations.

We also took a good look at the investment strategy for the fund; ensuring that the invest/spend ratio and investment portfolio are sustainable will allow the fund to continue to grow in perpetuity, even as we make meaningful contributions to program support.

And of course the types of programs and initiatives we support – there are many options, but narrowing them down requires a strategic approach to ensure the money is best spent. Here, the NRT Board and staff have deliberately focused on programs within the five priority areas that will have a lasting impact and will support our overall mandate of building strong nations.

In this, our 2007/08 Annual Report, we include a series of short stories told by individuals who were directly impacted by NRT funding because either they or the organization/community they are associated with

received funds. What struck us as remarkable when collecting these stories was the range and scope the funds will eventually reach.

For example, we profile Toni Williams, a young woman of Cowichan heritage who works as Community Programs Coordinator for the Chemainus First Nation. With NRT support, Toni coordinated a science program for local youth.

We encourage you to read Toni's story, as well as those of Ben Matthew, Chelsea Nicolas, and Debbie Leighton-Stephens. Their stories give a glimpse into how NRT support is making a difference in the lives of people today, and into the future.

What may seem like small steps will create a bigger, lasting impact. And this is the key to the nation-building ideal we talk about. Working on a day-to-day basis on the immediate needs, while keeping a watchful eye on the bigger picture of how we envision the future – capable, strong, progressive First Nations in British Columbia.



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Fiberglass Composite

Toni Williams

Community Programs Coordinator, Chemainus First Nation

Nationality: **COWICHAN TRIBES**

Toni coordinated the Community Science Celebration and school program for the Chemainus First Nation. The program was supported by NRT funds.

I was born and raised in the traditional territory of Cowichan Tribes – the home of my ancestors. My mother is Lydia Hwitsum and my grandmother is Amelia Bob. Both of them have set incredible examples for me.

My mom is the current Chief of Cowichan Tribes. She has done a lot of advocacy work for First Nations at the provincial, federal and international levels. She put herself through law school and supported us as a single mom. She has been a major inspiration in my life. My grandmother too - she does a lot of traditional work with the community.

My formal education was formative for me too. I went to high school at an international boarding school with students from around the world. I had always wanted to go there and I got a scholarship to attend, so that was very exciting for me. It pushed me to a different level, both academically and socially. The expectation was that students would get involved and give back to their community.

After that, I attended Malaspina for the Arts One First Nation studies program, worked for a year in marketing, and then came back to Malaspina to get my BA, majoring in Criminology.

I started working at the Chemainus First Nation (CFN) as a practicum student in the fourth year of my degree, and was hired full time before my practicum ended. My current job is as Community Programs Coordinator. I develop programs and promote education for youth; I also provide youth with career support, and run the restorative justice program and facilitate prevention programs.

The [NRT] funding supported an in-school science program and celebration. We partnered with Science World, MISTIC – the Mid-Island Science, Technology and Innovation Council, and Snuneymuxw First Nation to take science-based activities into classrooms. We targeted ages 6–12, and classes with a high proportion of Aboriginal kids. The project highlighted science and technology uses in First Nations traditional and cultural practices, such as weaving, knitting, and traditional food preservation. Fishing with a weir is the most ecologically sound fishing method there is, and it's the traditional way First Nation people fished. Seeing that makes our

kids proud to see how advanced our people were, and still are, in these areas.

At the end, we held a science celebration. 350 kids and youth came, in the midst of a huge snowstorm. There were traditional exhibitions and hands-on activities, as well as stage shows. It was a big hit. It was also the first time Science World had partnered with a First Nation. We plan to do it again in 2008 and 2009 with Science World and other community stakeholders, and then we'll continue on our own, as a community.

In addition to my job at CFN, I have just been elected as the female youth representative from BC for the Assembly of First Nations. I think it's so important for Aboriginal youth to see the bigger world and the opportunities that are out there for them. If they see different educational and job opportunities, they may say: "wow, this is fun." If they can have a good time and do well, they won't dread going to school.

I'm doing this work because I want our youth to know they're that important.



Partnerships

There Is Strength in Unity

In keeping with our strategic approach, in 2007/08 NRT worked toward building a series of cooperative relationships with organizations that share our values, and that can help us to achieve our goals in a way that is more cost-effective and – ultimately – provides the most benefit to First Nations and their communities.

Partnerships have a number of strategic benefits, including:

- helping us get NRT funding directly into programs and communities, by allowing us to piggy back on existing initiatives and opportunities;
- eliminating the need for redundant administrations and infrastructures. This in turn means that more money goes directly to programming;
- allowing us to leverage more funding from outside organizations who will see the strength of the collective team of partners; and
- allowing us to build relationships of cooperation and collaboration amongst First Nation organizations with shared values, visions and goals.

To this end, in 2007/08 NRT entered into Protocol Agreements with four organizations:

First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC)

FNESC is committed to improving education for all First Nation learners in British Columbia. This year, by partnering with FNESC, NRT was able to support the Developmental Standard Term Certificate and New Paths for Education.

National Centre for First Nations Governance (NCFNG)

NCFNG supports First Nations by providing information and development of governance services, products and events. We supported the NCFNG's Governance Capacity Assessments, Youth Leadership Program, and First Nation Administrators curricula in 2007/08.

First Peoples Heritage, Language and Culture Council (FPHLCC)

FPHLCC assists B.C. First Nations in their efforts to revitalize their languages, arts and cultures. This year, we supported six programs administered by FPHLCC. Programs included two existing initiatives – First Voices and the BC Language Initiative – as well as four new initiatives: a master apprentice program, pre-school immersion, language and culture camps, and designated language authorities.

British Columbia Capacity Initiative Council (BCCIC)

BCCIC supports the development of capacity for First Nations in BC. We worked with BCCIC to support four First Nations undertaking capacity development projects that would not have been supported otherwise.

Program Highlights

NRT continues to support Nation Building through five key program areas: capacity, education, language & culture, youth & elders, and economic development. These priority areas were determined in 2006, during the province-wide regional engagement sessions. In late 2007, we surveyed communities once again to determine whether NRT was still on the right track; the majority said we are, and that the original five program areas are still the top priorities facing our communities today. A total of \$4.24 million was injected directly into programming in 2007/08.

EDUCATION

Advanced education provides the building blocks for individual achievement as well as improved capacity at the community and First Nation levels. Last year, we focused a lot of effort on education, developing two programs of our own and supporting two others through the First Nations Education Steering Committee (FNESC). In total, \$2.4 million went to education support in 2007/08.

SCHOLARSHIPS: We helped 97 First Nation post-secondary students reach their higher education goals,

by granting \$725,000 in Undergraduate, Masters, and Doctorate scholarships.

	APPROVED	GRANTED	#
UNDERGRADUATE	342,500	302,500	66
MASTERS	245,000	235,000	23
DOCTORATE	187,500	187,500	8
	775,000	725,000	97

EMPLOYMENT SUBSIDIES: We provided \$429,590 in grants so that 60 post-secondary students could get summer jobs in their fields of study, while at the same time working to build capacity in First Nations' communities or organizations. Projects totaling \$517,627 were originally approved for this initiative.

NEW PATHS FOR EDUCATION: We contributed \$700,625 to FNESC to support math, science and reading initiatives in grades K-12. The funds were used to purchase books and other learning materials, as well as for tutoring support, science fairs, and related activities.

LANGUAGE TEACHER CERTIFICATION: We contributed \$550,375 in funding to the Developmental Standard

Term Certificate (DSTC) program to certify Aboriginal language teachers within First Nations' communities.

CAPACITY

Building internal capacity helps First Nations and communities create healthy, self-sufficient, vibrant futures for their people. The capacity program area was further defined in late 2007/08, with emphasis placed on policy development, tools and resources, and direct capacity support for communities.

A total of \$0.54 million went to capacity initiatives in 2007/08.

BC CAPACITY INITIATIVE COUNCIL: We granted \$250,000 to support four capacity building projects that would not otherwise have been funded by the Council. Four First Nation communities received \$62,500 each in NRT funding, and they all took a different approach to capacity building. Money was used for such diverse activities as a Land Use and Management Plan, visioning exercises, needs assessments, and community.

GOVERNANCE CAPACITY ASSESSMENTS: We provided \$175,000 to the National Centre for First Nations





Governance (NCFNG) to assess First Nations' needs in a number of communities with respect to good governance and practices that promote the inherent right of self-governance. Each participating community receives an assessment report with strategic "next steps" on enhancing good governance.

FIRST NATION ADMINISTRATORS CURRICULA: We provided \$64,164 to NCFNG to support the development and pilot implementation of core curricula to be used in post-secondary institutions to develop professional competency training for First Nations as they move toward self-government.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP: We contributed \$40,000 to the NCFNG's Youth Leadership Program to engage and foster the emerging generation of First Nation leaders. Program outcomes will include a leadership forum for youth, a feasibility study and curriculum development for the forum.

LAND REFERRALS WORKSHOP: We provided \$14,844 toward the development of a workshop for First Nation groups developing land referral processes or tracking systems. The workshop, hosted by the First Nations

Technology Council, was held in September of 2007 in Prince George and attended by more than 70 people.

LANGUAGE & CULTURE

Virtually all 32 of BC's First Nation languages are endangered. In 2007, NRT contributed \$1 million to six initiatives designed to revive First Nation languages and cultures. Of this amount, \$500,000 went to four new programs and the remaining \$500,000 went to two existing programs. All six programs were administered by the First Peoples Heritage, Language and Culture Council (FPHLCC).

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CAMPS (NEW): We provided \$150,000 to support language and culture immersion camps for participants of all ages. Ten programs were funded, benefiting 29 communities in total.

MASTER APPRENTICE (NEW): We contributed \$150,000 to a new initiative that pairs learners with fluent speakers, to create a new generation of fluency. The funds supported seven projects in 14 communities.

PRE-SCHOOL IMMERSION (NEW): We gave \$100,000 to an immersion program for pre-school students and their parents. In total, six projects were funded and 96 children enrolled from four First Nation language groups in BC. As it was the first year of the program, some applicants had difficulty meeting the required hours of immersion due to a lack of fluent speakers in some communities, stressing the need for continuing language support.

LANGUAGE AUTHORITIES (NEW): We contributed \$100,000 toward the development of language and cultural authorities. The initiative supports collaboration among communities that share the same language so they can build tools and work together on language revitalization. Seven projects were funded, impacting 107 communities.

FIRST VOICES: We provided \$250,000 in support to the First Voices program for language archiving and web-tool creation. NRT funds helped FPHLCC's First Voices program create 10 new language archives and create four new tools, including a language tutor, pod cast, MySpace site, and tracking database.



BC LANGUAGE INITIATIVE: We provided \$250,000 in support to the BC Language Initiative, which supports projects that seek to revitalize First Nation languages through documentation, language classes, immersion programs, material and curriculum development, and promotion. We funded 34 projects in 103 communities; 15 resources were also developed.

YOUTH & ELDERS

NRT programs designed to engage youth and elders are in the early stages of development. Our original objective was to support programs that engage youth and elders at the Provincial level, and the efforts we made in 2007/08 reflect that direction. We have since changed our strategic direction for this program area, however. Based on feedback received in the 2007 stakeholder consultation, we will be focusing on more local funding in coming years, including community-based projects, activities and events.

A total of \$0.19 million was spent on youth and elders' programs in 2007/08.

ELDERS GATHERING: We provided support in the amount of \$125,000 for the 31st annual Elders gathering, held in Vancouver and hosted by the Squamish Nation. The gathering was attended by 2,500 participants from 30 BC First Nations.

YOUTH GRANTS: We sponsored the North American Indigenous Games taking place in the Cowichan Valley and hosted by Cowichan Tribes in August 2008. NRT provided \$50,000 in support for the games.

ABORIGINAL YOUTH CONFERENCE: We supported the Unified Aboriginal Youth Conference held in Vancouver in March 2008. The conference brought together youth from around the Province to discuss issues of relevance to First Nation youth. NRT provided \$12,890 in general conference support.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic development is paramount to building strong First Nations as healthy economies will support and facilitate cultural revival and Nationhood. In 2007/08, NRT focused on supporting the creation of province-

wide strategies for communities to build their own economies and further their economic and social goals.

We provided \$0.1 million to support the creation of province-wide Economic Development Strategy and an Energy Action Plan.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN: Working with the First Nations Leadership Council, government, industry, and First Nations across the province, we supported the development of a province-wide First Nations Economic Development Action Plan. The strategy – currently in draft form – identifies collective goals and recommended approaches to reaching them. This initiative received \$25,751 in support from NRT in 2007/08.

ENERGY SUMMIT: We contributed \$75,000 to sponsor the First Nations Energy Summit held in April of 2007 in Vancouver. The summit resulted in a province-wide Energy Action Plan for First Nations.



Debbie Leighton-Stephens

District Principal for Aboriginal Education, BC School District 52

Nationality: Ts'MSYEN

The Ts'msyen Developmental Standard Term Certificate (DSTC) Advisory Committee received NRT funds to support the DSTC program in school district 52. The program is designed to increase qualified First Nation language and culture teachers within First Nations' communities and the education system. Debbie is an active member of the Advisory Committee.

I started working in education for my home community – Metlakatla – almost 30 years ago, as a home school coordinator. Since then, I have worked in various capacities, ranging from teaching to program development. Today, I oversee Aboriginal Education for school district 52 in Prince Rupert, including the Sm'algyax program.

Sm'algyax brings our Ts'msyen language to our schools by pairing fluent language speakers with classroom teachers. It began in our three remote community schools 25 years ago, and was introduced in Prince Rupert schools about 11 years ago. It's a very effective program that grows every year. But we are losing fluent speakers. Since I started, we have had about five fluent speakers retire and three of those have passed on. There are currently five fluent speakers and two or three are getting closer to retirement.

The Aboriginal Education Council, in partnership with University of Northern BC, started up the Ts'msyen Developmental Standard Term Certificate (DSTC) program two years ago; 26 people signed up to become certified Ts'msyen language teachers. They were a diverse group. Some had been out of school for a long time – or had not graduated high school – but they had the fluency, the cultural knowledge, and the desire to share it. At the other end, we had four students who had more recently graduated. And then there were those who had worked in the system, as childcare workers or support program coordinators, so they understood the system and the issues. There were challenges but it was also exciting because this diverse group found ways to benefit from each other's skills.

Recently, 18 of the students received their First Nation language certificate. And at the end of August, 17 will receive their First Nation language diploma. Of those, I expect about 15 to continue on for their full education degree. Of course we lost some, but their time has not been wasted. They will all benefit; as will members of our Nation. Many will still participate in the classroom.

Receiving the additional funds from NRT allowed us to give the students in the program as much access as

possible to fluent speakers. We also used NRT funds for academic support, and for language teaching strategies and workshops.

When I started 30 years ago, we had two Aboriginal teachers in our whole district. Today, we have approximately 25 Aboriginal educators working in our district. With 60% Aboriginal students in the district it's critical for those children to see the possibilities and to know that they can be involved in whatever they choose. This is especially critical in the education system. If our students see aboriginal teachers, guidance councilors, principals, support workers – this gives them hope.

Also, having more aboriginal people involved allows us to include aboriginal culture and language on a daily basis, not just once a year, as it was when I was growing up. That helps raise the self-esteem of our students. If children feel proud about who they are and where they come from, they will work harder because they have hope. They will believe in themselves as educators need to believe in their students.

Thirty years ago, that didn't exist. Now it does.

Measuring our Progress

NRT has established a number of short, medium and long-term performance measures intended to ensure we are reaching our mandate and goals.

The following table shows NRT progress according to the short-term measures.

2010 TARGET (YEARS ONE – THREE)	PROGRESS IN 2007/08 (YEAR ONE)
Assist 200 First Nation students in graduating from post-secondary institutions by May 2010	97 post-secondary scholarships awarded: 8 Doctorate; 23 Masters; 66 Undergraduate
Compile a database on BC First Nation students attending/graduating post-secondary institutions	Database is being developed concurrently with the awarding of scholarships
Leverage \$20 million in project funding with a goal of 2:1, including an additional \$5 million in capital for First Nation language initiatives	\$979,000 of additional project funding was leveraged from the governments of British Columbia and Canada, and program partners, including \$900,000 for First Nation Language initiatives
Maintain investment fund at \$100 million by March 31, 2010 (assuming an 8% annual return for the first three years)	Market value of investment fund was \$98,393,254. Rate of return in 2007 / 2008 was -1.72%
Develop four consultation templates agreed to by the Province and First Nations to be used in negotiating lands, resources, title, rights, and/or revenue-sharing agreements	Work to begin in 2008 / 2009 through new strategic partnerships
Enter into four partnerships/protocols with other First Nation organizations in order to promote collaboration and prevent duplication of products and services	Partnerships entered with: First Peoples' Heritage, Language and Culture Council; First Nations Education Steering Committee; British Columbia Capacity Initiative Council; National Centre for First Nations Governance
Support the establishment of First Nation Economic Development Strategic Plan for BC that is supported by First Nations	Supported the BC Leadership Council to develop a draft First Nations Economic Development Strategy

Governance

NRT is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Board members serve a two year term; appointments to the Board are made by the Province of BC, the BC Leadership Council, the First Nations Summit, the BC Assembly of First Nations and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. Board roles and activities are guided by the New Relationship Trust Act, feedback from engaging with First Nations in British Columbia, and the NRT vision and mission.

In addition to its Board of Directors, NRT has three Committees of the Board. These are working committees that support and govern key areas of operations at NRT: finance, governance, and communications.

2007/08 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nathan Matthew, Chair
Kathryn Teneese, Vice Chair
Michael Bonshor
Dawn Farrell
Gloria Morgan (Yaw Yawt all Xa Xa7 t'e Boonllp)
Yvonne Smith
Terry Kuzma

OFFICERS

Cliff Fregin, CEO
Derek Sagima, CFO

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Gloria Morgan (Yaw Yawt all Xa Xa7 t'e Boonllp),
Chair
Nathan Matthew
Michael Bonshor

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Kathryn Teneese, Chair
Nathan Matthew
Dawn Farrell
Yvonne Smith

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Michael Bonshor, Chair
Nathan Matthew
Dawn Farrell
Terry Kuzma

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INVESTMENT COUNSEL

Aon Consulting Inc.
900 Howe Street
5th Floor
Vancouver, B.C. V6Z 2M4



Ben Matthew

Fourth Year Doctoral Student

Nationality: SIMPCW / SECWEPENC

Ben received an NRT Education Scholarship to support his doctoral studies.

I am Secwepemc. I belong to the Simpcw First Nation. My home community is Chu Chua, BC. All the people in my community have a common identity of being Simpcw or living within a Simpcw / Secwepemc context. We are connected through shared experience.

I am preparing for a career in medicine. I believe a healthy community is made up of healthy individuals and that our most valuable resources are the people in our community – elders, adults, youth and children. By making community health a priority, we implicitly commit to education, literacy, nutrition and fitness, and working together. Empowerment of the spirit through kindness, gentleness, patience, respect, and hope is the centre of wellness and healthy living.

I am beginning the fourth and final year of my studies to become a physician, with UBC's Northern Medical Program. This year, I begin my elective clerkships. These will involve applying the theory and skills that I have learned in my first three years, with the guidance of professors and experienced physician mentors, in a variety of situations within the university, hospitals and health care environments.

Chu Chua will always be home for me, however, I am at the place in my life where I must live away while I work toward my educational goals. I take with me responsibility to create awareness of First Nations issues and perspectives in the university context within which I currently exist. My role is to practice healthy living, be proactive in environmental issues, be collaborative, and communicate effectively.

I am very proud to be Simpcw / Secwepemc. I practice my traditional heritage in many ways. I am a hunter, trained by my father and my Xpe7e (grandfather). I enjoy fishing with my dad, uncles and cousins. When I study, I am nourished by meat from ts7 (deer), teny7e (moose), spu7 (grouse), swewll (salmon/trout). I love the treat of wild berries, especially prepared by my Kye7e (grandmother).

Becoming knowledgeable and utilizing traditional foods and resources is a first step; we must also protect these resources. Our elders can guide us in the ways of traditional practices. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Biology, and this is an issue that is close to my heart. As First Peoples of our territory, we have Aboriginal rights. With those rights come responsibilities. We must

lead the way in conserving the resources that sustain our cultural foundation.

I have lots of support from my community. I have many blessings in my life, I am especially grateful for my parents and their constant encouragement and support. With that support comes high expectations for living with integrity and serving to make a difference in the world. When I am completed my studies, I will contribute to my community by giving back the support that has been given to me steadily throughout my education, through supporting others who are pursuing post-secondary studies and initiatives to preserve our traditional language, Secwepemctsin.

I am very appreciative of what I have been given. Kucstemic.





Management Discussion and Analysis

Investing in Tomorrow

This section of the Report describes NRT's activities, the results of operations, and their impact on financial position and liquidity at March 31, 2008. Key accounting and other policies applied by NRT are also presented. The Management Discussion and Analysis should be read in conjunction with NRT's Audited Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2008.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FUND ACCOUNTING

NRT follows the Restricted Fund method of accounting whereby the \$100 million contribution received in March 2006 and any subsequent net investment income are restricted to the specific purposes listed in the New Relationship Trust Act. This method is in accordance with Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

NRT funds are divided into three categories, as follows:

Contribution Fund – reports the resources contributed by the Province and related net investment income. Funds are transferred from the Contribution fund to the other funds as required to finance expenditures.

Strategic Fund – reports on the Trust's strategic initiatives (programs).

Operating Fund – reports on the Trusts' governance, management and administration activities.

The Contribution Fund is restricted by the New Relationship Trust Act. The Strategic and Operating Funds are externally restricted by the New Relationship Trust Act and internally restricted by the Board of Directors.

The Equipment fund was combined with the Operating Fund during the year to improve the readability of the financial statements.

The Board of Directors approved an \$821,101 appropriation from the Strategic Fund to the Operating Fund to finance governance, administration and operating expenditures incurred during the year.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

NRT applied the new recommendations of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants regarding the recognition, measurement and presentation of financial instruments on April 1st, 2007.

Accordingly, under the new recommendations, NRT has classified its investment portfolio as being "available-for-sale", with the result that:

- the investment portfolios are presented on the statement of financial position at their market value at March 31, 2008;
- the difference between the cost of the investment portfolio and its market value is unrealized and is presented on the statement of financial position as a "cumulative net unrealized gain (loss) on available for sale financial instruments"; and
- realized gains and losses are presented on the statement of operations.

Categorizing NRT's investments as "available-for-sale" most closely reflects the long-term nature of NRT's investment strategy, whereby investments are held for three to ten years, and gains and losses are not realized until the eventual disposition of the investments.

At March 31, 2008, the market value of the investment portfolio was \$98,393,254. A cumulative unrealized loss on available-for-sale financial instruments of \$7,540,727 is recorded under Net Assets.

RESULTS FROM OPERATIONS

CONTRIBUTION FUND

Contribution fund excess of revenues over expenses was \$6,123,755, consisting of net investment revenue. Investment income consisted of interest and dividends (\$2,674,925), and realized capital gains (\$3,778,911). Investment management fees were \$330,081.

STRATEGIC FUND

The NRT strategic plan envisions spending \$20,750,000 during the first three years (fiscal 2008 through fiscal 2010) on capacity building, education, language and culture, youth and elders, and economic development. \$5.75 million was allocated for disbursement in fiscal 2008.

Notes number seven (7) and eight (8) to the audited financial statements disclose in detail how the \$426,222 was committed and how the \$3,812,017 was disbursed, in relation to the strategic plan.

The Strategic Fund also earned \$905,748 of investment income during the year. Investment income was comprised of interest.

OPERATING FUND

Operating expenditures were \$822,276 during the period versus a budget of \$995,175, and consisted mainly of salaries and benefits, governance, consulting, occupancy, and professional fees.

Annual operating expenditures are budgeted at 1% or less of total investments. Actual operating expenditures were 0.81% of the average total investments during the year.

FINANCIAL POSITION AND LIQUIDITY

At fiscal year-end, the total assets of the New Relationship Trust were \$98,594,492 and consisted mainly of investments (\$8,525,000 current and \$89,868,254 long-term). The current portion of

investments in the Strategic Fund is allocated for expenditure during fiscal 2009.

Accounts payable and liabilities were \$205,132 and were comprised of operational payables, investment management fees, and strategic payables.

INVESTMENTS

INVESTMENT POLICY

The Board of Directors developed and adopted an investment strategy and policy to govern the investment of the \$100 million contribution and related net investment income.

The main features of the investment policy are:

- ongoing engagement with a professional, independent Investment Advisory firm to advise management and directors on investment policy, strategy, performance and on investment management firms;
- ongoing engagement with a professional Custodian to hold NRT's investments and provide an independent accounting of all investment transactions;
- selection and monitoring of three professional Investment Management firms, each managing one of the long-term components of the investment fund; either fixed income, global equities, or Canadian equities;
- establish quality criteria for NRT investments;
- diversification of investments amongst securities, companies, geographic regions, and Investment

2007/08 STRATEGIC FUND EXPENDITURES AND COMMITMENTS

	EXPENDITURES	COMMITMENTS	TOTAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
CAPACITY	494,008	50,000	544,008	1,500,000	955,992
EDUCATION	2,029,368	376,222	2,405,590	2,500,000	94,410
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	1,000,000	-
YOUTH AND ELDERS	187,890	-	187,890	250,000	62,110
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	100,751	-	100,751	500,000	399,249
	3,812,017	426,222	4,238,239	5,750,000	* 1,511,761

* The Board of Directors re-allocated the unspent strategic funds of \$1,511,761 from fiscal 2008 to 2009, 2010, and 2011.

Managers. Diversification is also achieved by investing in Institutional Pooled Funds versus individual securities; and

- rebalancing of the investment portfolio to maintain a long-term target asset mix.

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

The main objectives of the investment strategy are to preserve capital in real terms, generate sufficient annual cash flow to meet expenditure objectives, and increase cash flows to meet rising expenditures over the long term.

\$20 million of the original \$100 million contribution was segregated and invested in a short-term portfolio to fund planned expenditures over the three fiscal years ending in March of 2010. The \$20 million short-term portfolio was invested in a money market pooled fund managed by a specialist fixed income Investment Manager.

The objective of the short-term portfolio is to preserve capital and provide ease of access to cash as required to fund disbursements.

The remaining \$80 million along with \$3.9 million of net investment income earned was invested in June 2008 in a long-term portfolio to fund expenditures after fiscal 2010. The long-term portfolio target asset mix is 40% fixed income, 30% global equities, and 30% Canadian equities; the portfolio is reviewed quarterly to determine if re-balancing between asset classes is required to maintain NRT's target mix.

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO PERFORMANCE

The investment portfolio rate of return for the year ended March 31, 2008 was -1.72%. The negative rate of return

was due principally to the re-pricing of North American and global equities arising from the US housing market adjustment and the sub-prime mortgage and global credit crises.

On a relative basis, the investment portfolio underperformed the portfolio benchmark rate of return of -0.08% for the year by 1.64%.

The performance of the Investment Managers is monitored over a longer-term to better match the underlying strategy of the investment portfolio, and to accommodate short-term market and management fluctuations. Specifically, Investment Managers are monitored at the end of each quarter by comparing their four year rolling rate of return to their underlying rolling four year benchmark.

NRT's investments are subject to external capital market risks (e.g. interest, inflation, exchange rates, commodity prices, geo-political, etc), as well as risks associated with asset and geographic diversification, and Investment Manager performance, and accordingly may suffer losses from time to time.

INCOME TAXES

The Canada Revenue Agency issued an Advance Tax Ruling that exempts the net investment income earned by NRT from income taxes.





Chelsea Nicholas

Aboriginal Early Years Outreach worker for the Ktunaxa Nation

Nationality: KTUNAXA

Chelsea was hired by St. Mary's Band for four months to work in the daycare and summer camp programs. Funding for Chelsea's position was provided through the NRT employment subsidy program.

I belong to the Ktunaxa Nation. I'm working toward becoming a youth support worker in my community. I have taken a year and a half of the Aboriginal Youth Culture and Language program at the College of the Rockies here in Cranbrook and will be returning in September.

Last summer, with a grant from NRT, I was able to work for four months in two different jobs for St. Mary's Band. I started out in the daycare at the end of April and worked there through May and June as a care provider for kids aged 1-5. That work gave me a lot of experience I can apply to my current job, as an Aboriginal Early Years Outreach worker for the Ktunaxa Nation.

Then in July and August, I worked with the summer program for kids age 6-12. Here, I ended up taking on a leadership role. That meant doing a summer's worth of programming for the kids. I set up field trips, organized outdoor activities, found resources, and led the activities. The focus was on science and technology, so a lot of

the activities involved technology – like using video cameras – and we did a lot of traditional science.

For example, we led ethnobotany walks where we explained traditional plants used for medicinal purposes and for sustenance. Also we taught the kids survival skills, like how to make a lean-to in the forest, and fire making. A lot of the kids had prior knowledge of these things from their parents or grandparents; others had not really been exposed to it as much, but they really enjoyed it.

I have always wanted to work with children in a language and culture capacity and to nurture that knowledge so they can then pass it on. It's important to keep our language going because it is an isolate and we almost lost it.

When I was younger I studied with some of the elders in our community. A big influence in my life has been my auntie Felicity – Phyllis Nicholas – as well as a lot of the elders. But there are elders passing on month-to-month. It's vital that we pass on the language through the younger generations.

I'm grateful to have been able to work in the daycare and summer programs. One of the big challenges to the Band's education programming is getting qualified

Nation people to work with the kids. Their licensing requires them to hire certified Early Childhood Education workers, and my course work qualified me for this. It was the first time a Nation person was qualified to run the summer camp program.

I think our kids and youth need role models, so they can see the possibilities for their own lives. As a Nation member, I can support the staff as well as the kids. As for me, I'm just trying to get as much knowledge as I can under my belt and see where that takes me.



New Relationship Trust

Financial Statements

MARCH 31, 2008



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AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Directors of,
New Relationship Trust:

We have audited the statement of financial position of NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST as at March 31, 2008 and the statements of operations and changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of New Relationship Trust as at March 31, 2008 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

May 30, 2008

Chartered Accountants LLP

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION MARCH 31, 2008 AND 2007

ASSETS					
	Contribution Fund	Strategic Fund	Operating Fund	2008 Total	2007 Total
(Note 2(c))					
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Restricted cash (Note 4)	\$ 23,671	\$ 47,618	\$ -	\$ 71,289	\$ 5,175,000
Investments (Note 5)	-	8,525,000	-	8,525,000	-
Accounts receivable	368	33,536	43,512	77,416	24,915
Prepayments	-	-	14,301	14,301	89,532
Total current assets	24,039	8,606,154	57,813	8,688,006	5,289,447
RESTRICTED CASH (Note 4)	-	-	-	-	98,354,233
INVESTMENTS (Note 5)	81,056,802	8,811,452	-	89,868,254	-
EQUIPMENT (Note 6)	-	-	38,232	38,232	39,407
DUE FROM (TO) OTHER FUNDS	340,124	(343,227)	3,103	-	-
	\$ 81,420,965	\$ 17,074,379	\$ 99,148	\$ 98,594,492	\$103,683,087

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS					
CURRENT LIABILITIES:					
Accounts payable	\$ 100,589	\$ 43,627	\$ 60,916	\$ 205,132	\$ 134,651
COMMITMENTS (Note 5)					
NET ASSETS:					
Invested in equipment	-	-	38,232	38,232	39,407
Externally restricted funds	88,882,784	17,009,071	-	105,891,855	103,509,029
	88,882,784	17,009,071	38,232	105,930,087	103,548,436
Cumulative net unrealized gains (losses) on available for sale financial instruments (Note 2(b) and 5)	(7,562,408)	21,681	-	(7,540,727)	-
	81,320,376	17,030,752	38,232	98,389,360	103,548,436
	\$ 81,420,965	\$ 17,074,379	\$ 99,148	\$ 98,594,492	\$103,683,087

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of this statement.

APPROVED BY:

Director
 Director

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008 AND
FOR THE PERIOD FROM MARCH 23, 2006 TO MARCH 31, 2007

	Contribution Fund	Strategic Fund	Operating Fund	2008 Total	2007 Total
(Note 2(c))					
REVENUES:					
Provincial grant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000,000
Investment income (Note 5)	6,453,836	905,748	-	7,359,584	4,319,156
	6,453,836	905,748	-	7,359,584	104,319,156
STRATEGIC EXPENDITURES (Note 8):					
Education	-	2,029,368	-	2,029,368	-
Language and culture	-	1,000,000	-	1,000,000	-
Capacity	-	494,008	-	494,008	-
Youth and elders	-	187,890	-	187,890	-
Economic development	-	100,751	-	100,751	-
	-	3,812,017	-	3,812,017	-
OPERATING EXPENDITURES:					
Salaries and benefits	-	-	481,068	481,068	148,491
Investment management	330,081	13,559	-	343,640	-
Governance	-	-	65,196	65,196	50,136
Consulting fees	-	-	63,820	63,820	301,757
Occupancy	-	-	50,910	50,910	19,109
Professional fees	-	-	47,875	47,875	216,279
Travel	-	-	34,611	34,611	14,538
Advertising	-	-	23,036	23,036	-
Office	-	-	19,472	19,472	2,924
Communications	-	-	14,839	14,839	6,643
Amortization	-	-	11,733	11,733	5,917
Insurance	-	-	6,329	6,329	1,534
Professional development	-	-	2,109	2,109	-
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	1,278	1,278	3,392
	330,081	13,559	822,276	1,165,916	770,720
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	6,123,755	(2,919,828)	(822,276)	2,381,651	103,548,436
APPROPRIATIONS (Note 9)					
	-	(821,101)	821,101	-	-
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	82,759,029	20,750,000	39,407	103,548,436	-
BALANCE, END OF PERIOD	\$ 88,882,784	\$ 17,009,071	\$ 38,232	\$ 105,930,087	\$ 103,548,436

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of this statement.

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008 AND
FOR THE PERIOD FROM MARCH 23, 2006 TO MARCH 31, 2007

	2008	2007
CASH WAS PROVIDED FROM (USED IN):		
Operating Activities:		
Excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ 2,381,651	\$ 103,548,436
Item not involving cash - Amortization	11,733	5,917
	2,393,384	103,554,353
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Increase in accounts receivable	(52,501)	(24,915)
Decrease (increase) in prepayments	75,231	(89,532)
Increase in accounts payable	70,481	134,651
Net changes	93,211	20,204
Investing Activities:		
Purchase of equipment	(10,558)	(45,324)
Purchase of investments	(105,933,981)	-
	(105,944,539)	(45,324)
Increase (decrease) in cash	(103,457,944)	103,529,233
CASH, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	103,529,233	-
CASH, END OF PERIOD (Note 4)	\$ 71,289	\$ 103,529,233
CASH REPRESENTED BY:		
Restricted cash, current	\$ 71,289	\$ 5,175,000
Restricted cash, long term	-	98,354,233
	\$ 71,289	\$ 103,529,233

The accompanying Notes are an integral part of this statement.

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 31, 2008

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST

The New Relationship Trust ("NRT") was established as a not-for-profit corporation by the Province of British Columbia (the "Province") on March 23, 2006 through enactment of the New Relationship Act, Bill 11 – 2006.

The Province subsequently provided a \$100 million grant to NRT to assist First Nations to build their own capacity to participate in the processes and activities envisioned by, and that evolve out of, the new relationship between the Province and First Nations by enhancing First Nation governance, leadership and institutional and human resources capacity to address social, cultural and economic needs and priorities.

Canada Revenue Agency issued an advance tax ruling on May 10, 2007 which exempts NRT from income tax otherwise payable under Part I of the Income Tax Act.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Accounting Changes

On April 1, 2007 NRT adopted the revised recommendations of CICA Handbook section 1506, Accounting Changes. The new recommendations permit the voluntary changes in accounting policy only if they result in financial statements which provide more reliable and relevant information. Accounting policy changes are applied retrospectively unless it is impractical to determine the period or cumulative impact of the change. Corrections of prior period errors are applied retrospectively and changes in accounting estimates are applied prospectively by including these changes in earnings.

(b) Accounting Policy Changes

On April 1, 2007 NRT applied on a prospective basis the new recommendations of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants regarding the recognition, measurement and presentation of financial instruments following the release of Section 3855 "Financial instruments - Recognition and Measurement", 3862 "Financial Instruments - Disclosure" and 3863 "Financial Instruments - Presentation".

All financial instruments are classified into one of the following five categories: (1) loans and receivables; (2) assets held to maturity; (3) assets available for sale; (4) financial liabilities; and (5) held-for-trading. Financial instruments designated as held-for-trading or available-for-sale are recorded at fair market value while most other financial instruments are recorded at amortized cost.

NRT's financial assets and liabilities are classified and measured as follows:

- (i) Cash and cash equivalents are classified as held for trading and are measured at fair value. Gains and losses related to periodic revaluation are recorded in net income.
- (ii) Portfolio investments are classified as available for sale and are measured at fair value. Gains and losses related to the periodic revaluation are recorded in net assets.

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - MARCH 31, 2008 (Continued)

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

- (iii) Accounts receivable are classified as loans and receivables and are initially measured at fair value, and subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method.
- (iv) Accounts payable, accrued liabilities and loans payable are classified as other liabilities and are initially measured at fair value, and subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method.

(c) Fund Accounting

NRT follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions. All of NRT's funds are externally restricted by the Province of British Columbia to specific purposes in accordance with the New Relationship Trust Act. The Strategic and Operating Funds are also subject to internal restrictions. The financial statements have been segregated into funds whose purposes are as follows:

(i) Contribution Fund

The Contribution Fund reports the original \$100 million contributed by the Province along with the related investment income earned on this contribution less investment management fees and amounts appropriated to other funds.

(ii) Strategic Fund

The Strategic Fund reports on NRT's strategic initiatives and activities and includes funds transferred from the Contribution Fund to finance such activities.

(iii) Operating Fund

The Operating Fund reports on NRT's operations, administration and governance activities and includes equipment to perform such activities; it also includes amounts transferred from the Strategic Fund to finance such activities.

The Operating and Equipment funds were combined in 2008 to improve the readability of the financial statements.

(d) Equipment

Equipment is recorded at cost and amortized over its estimated useful life using the declining balance method at the following rates:

Computer equipment and software	30%
Office equipment	30%
Furniture	20%

In the year of acquisition, the above rates are reduced by one-half.

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - MARCH 31, 2008 (Continued)

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(e) Revenue Recognition

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the contribution fund.

Restricted net investment income is recognized as revenue of the Contribution Fund and Strategic Fund based on the appropriations approved by the Board.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the relating appropriate fund when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

(f) Expenditures

Expenditures are recorded on an accrual basis.

Strategic expenditures relate to initiatives and activities which are undertaken in accordance with the NRT's strategic plan. The strategic plan is reviewed and revised annually on the basis of stakeholder feedback, and is approved by the Board of Directors.

Administration expenditures relate to initiatives and activities which are undertaken to support the governance of the NRT and implementation of its strategic plan.

(g) Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. These estimates are reviewed periodically, and, as adjustments become necessary, they are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known.

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The fair values of financial instruments other than investments, which include cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable, approximate their carrying values due to their short-term nature.

Investments are exposed to credit risk and price risk. Price risk comprises currency, interest rate and market risk as follows:

Credit risk

Credit risk relates to the possibility that a loss may occur from the failure of another party to comply with the terms of a contract. The investment policy established by NRT limits credit risk by limiting the maximum exposure to any one single security issuer and by investing only in securities from counterparties with a minimum rating of at least "BBB" as defined by Moody's, Standard & Poors or Dominion Bond Rating Service.

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - MARCH 31, 2008 (Continued)

3. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

Currency risk

Currency risk relates to the possibility that the investments will change in value due to future fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. The total value of investments exposed to currency risk amounts to \$ 21,403,524 (Note 5). NRT does not use derivative instruments to reduce its exposure to currency risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk relates to the possibility that fixed income investments will change in value due to future fluctuations in market interest rates. NRT has hired three financial managers to manage its cash and investments based on its cash flow needs and to optimize its investment income. The total value of investments exposed to interest rate risk amounts to \$ 35,142,626 (Note 5). NRT does not use derivative instruments to reduce its exposure to interest rate risk.

Market risk

Market risk relates to the possibility that the equity investments will change in value due to future fluctuations in market prices. As the equity investments are held at cost, those investments are exposed to market risk to the extent that a decrease in market value is not considered temporary. NRT does not use derivative instruments to reduce its exposure to market risk. The investment policy established by NRT limits market risk by limiting the maximum exposure to any single security, to holdings of less than 10% of the total portfolio. It also limits equity holding to less than 10% of the total voting shares or available public float.

4. RESTRICTED CASH

Restricted cash is comprised of operating accounts and a term deposit. Restricted cash is recorded at cost, which approximates fair market value, and consists of the following:

Investment	Rate	Maturity	Contribution Fund	Strategic Fund	2008 Total	2007 Total
Deposit account			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 93,887,449
Bankers acceptance			-	-	-	9,497,943
Operating accounts	1.25 - 2.5%	On demand	-	47,618	47,618	120,170
Term deposit	4.40%	Nov. 23, 2008	23,671	-	23,671	23,671
Total			23,671	47,618	71,289	103,529,233
Less - current portion			23,671	47,618	71,289	5,175,000
Long-term			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 98,354,233

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - MARCH 31, 2008 (Continued)

5. INVESTMENTS

	Fair Value	Cost Base	2008 Unrealized Gain (Loss)	2007 Unrealized Gain (Loss)
Contribution Fund				
Fixed Income	\$ 35,142,626	\$ 34,308,929	\$ 833,697	\$ -
Canadian Equity	24,510,652	28,102,662	(3,592,010)	-
Global Equity	21,403,524	26,207,619	(4,804,095)	-
	81,056,802	88,619,210	(7,562,408)	-
Strategic Fund				
Money Market - Short-term	8,525,000	8,525,000	-	-
Money Market - Long-term	7,897,541	7,897,541	-	-
Fixed Income	913,911	892,230	21,681	-
	17,336,452	17,314,771	21,681	-
Total Investments	\$ 98,393,254	\$105,933,981	\$ (7,540,727)	\$ -
Current	\$ 8,525,000	\$ 8,525,000	\$ -	\$ -
Long-term	89,868,254	97,408,981	(7,540,727)	-
Total Investments	\$ 98,393,254	\$105,933,981	\$ (7,540,727)	\$ -

Investments are held by a custodian and are comprised of institutional pooled funds managed by professional investment managers. Investment activities are governed by the Board approved NRT "Statement of Investment Policy and Procedures".

Investments are recorded at fair value. Fair value is based on the quoted market price as at March 31, 2008.

Investment income earned during the year is comprised as follows:

	Contribution Fund	Strategic Fund	2008	2007
Interest and Dividend Income	\$ 2,674,925	\$ 905,748	\$ 3,580,673	\$ 4,319,156
Capital Gains	3,778,911	-	3,778,911	-
	\$ 6,453,836	\$ 905,748	\$ 7,359,584	\$ 4,319,156

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - MARCH 31, 2008 (Continued)

6. EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	2008 Net Book Value	2007 Net Book Value
Computer equipment and software	\$ 29,135	\$ (10,079)	\$ 19,056	\$ 19,030
Office equipment	7,414	(2,463)	4,951	4,504
Furniture	19,333	(5,108)	14,225	15,873
	\$ 55,882	\$ (17,650)	\$ 38,232	\$ 39,407

7. COMMITMENTS

a) Operating Fund

NRT has entered into an operating lease for its premises ending in 2011. Future minimum lease obligations are as follows:

2009	\$ 50,135
2010	50,135
2011	50,135
	\$ 150,405

NRT has authorized a letter of credit for \$ 23,671 in favour of the lessor.

b) Strategic Fund

NRT was committed to fulfilling certain contractual obligations in relation to its Strategic initiatives. The obligations and the initiatives to which they relate are summarized as follows:

New Paths Grade-school Learning Enhancement	\$ 214,500
Developmental Certificate for First Nations Language Teacher	139,437
BC Capacity Initiative	50,000
Post-Secondary Employment Subsidies	14,785
Scholarships	7,500
	\$ 426,222

NEW RELATIONSHIP TRUST

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - MARCH 31, 2008 (Continued)

8. STRATEGIC EXPENDITURES

	2008
EDUCATION:	
Scholarships	\$ 717,500
New Paths Grade-School Learning Enhancement	486,125
Post-Secondary Employment Subsidies	414,805
Developmental Certificate for First Nations Language Teacher	410,938
	2,029,368
LANGUAGE AND CULTURE:	
First Voices	250,000
BC Language Initiative	250,000
Language and Culture Camps	150,000
Master - Apprentice	150,000
Language Nests	100,000
Language Authorities	100,000
	1,000,000
CAPACITY:	
BC Capacity Initiative	200,000
Governance Assessments	175,000
Development of First Nations Administrators Curricula	64,164
Youth Leadership	40,000
Land Referral Workshop	14,844
	494,008
YOUTH AND ELDERS:	
Annual Elders Gathering	125,000
Sponsorship of the 2008 North American Indigenous Games	50,000
Unified Aboriginal Youth Conference	12,890
	187,890
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:	
First Nations Energy Summit	75,000
First Nations Economic Development Strategy	25,751
	100,751
TOTAL STRATEGIC EXPENDITURES	\$ 3,812,017

9. APPROPRIATIONS

During the year, the Board approved the transfer of \$ 821,101 (2007 - \$ Nil) from the Strategic Fund to the Operating Fund, \$ Nil (2007 - \$20,750,000) from the Contribution Fund to the Strategic Fund, and \$ Nil (2007 - \$810,127) from the Contribution Fund to the Operating Fund.



Mission

To increase authority and jurisdiction of First Nation governments through the use of the fund and thereby improve the quality of life of First Nation citizens in British Columbia.

Vision

A better British Columbia where First Nations have efficient and effective governments, vibrant cultures and languages, social justice, and economic prosperity.

Guiding Principles

In providing benefits to First Nations in British Columbia, the New Relationship Trust will:

- Reflect the intent and purpose of the New Relationship vision and the Transformative Change Accord
- Communicate effectively with First Nations in BC
- Respect each First Nation's decision-making authority
- Be guided by principles of fairness and equity
- Encourage and support First Nation participation in the Trust's activities and programs
- Not replace or duplicate existing government or First Nation programs
- Leverage Trust funds wherever possible
- Actively grow the investment fund, in order to provide more benefit to First Nations
- Be transparent and accountable at all times to stakeholders and the public

