Fund financial statements of the

# BROCK UNIVERSITY PENSION PLAN

Year ended June 30, 2017

Registration Number 327767



KPMG LLP 80 King Street, Suite 620 St. Catharines ON L2R 7G1 Canada Tel 905-685-4811 Fax 905-682-2008

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Trustees of Brock University

We have audited the accompanying fund financial statements of the Brock University Pension Plan, which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as at June 30, 2017, and the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information. The fund financial statements have been prepared by management based on the financial reporting provisions of Section 76 of Regulation 909 of the Pension Benefits Act (Ontario).

Management's Responsibility for the Fund Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these fund financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Section 76 of Regulation 909 to the Pension Benefits Act (Ontario), and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable

the preparation of fund financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

## Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these fund financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the fund financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the fund financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the fund financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the fund financial statements 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the fund financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



## Opinion

In our opinion, the fund financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Brock University Pension Plan as at June 30, 2017, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting provisions of Section 76 of Regulation 909 of the Pension Benefits Act (Ontario).

## Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Use

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to note 1 to the fund financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The fund financial statements are prepared to assist the Pension Committee of the Brock University Pension Plan to comply with the requirements of the Financial Services Commission of Ontario under Section 76 of Regulation 909 of the Pension Benefits Act (Ontario). As a result, the fund financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

Our report is intended solely for the Board of Trustees of Brock University and the Financial Services Commission of Ontario and should not be used by parties other than the Board of Trustees of Brock University and the Financial Services Commission of Ontario.

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

St. Catharines, Canada September 28, 2017

LPMG LLP

Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits

June 30, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

	2017	2016
Assets		
Contributions receivable:		
Employer	\$ 1,105,904	\$ 1,114,287
Employees	619,694	622,014
	1,725,598	1,736,301
Accrued income (note 2)	-	169,812
Investments (note 2)	480,116,093	447,994,058
	480,116,093	448,163,870
	\$ 481,841,691	\$ 449,900,171
Liabilities		
Accrued liabilities (note 3)	667,604	489,539
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 481,174,087	\$ 449,410,632

See accompanying notes to the fund financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Gervan Fearon

President and Vice-Chancellor

Gary Comerford

Chair, Board of Trustees

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year ended June 30, 2017, with comparative information for 2016

		2017		2016
Increase in net assets available for benefits:				
Investment income (note 4)	\$	22,325,524	\$	39,451,352
Transfers from other pension plans	·	157,961	·	1,957
Net realized gain on sale of investments		25,499,102		31,117
		47,982,587		39,484,426
Contributions (note 5):				
Employer		13,240,370		12,979,189
Employee		7,338,902		7,179,357
		20,579,272		20,158,546
		68,561,859		59,642,972
Decrease in net assets available for benefits:				
Benefit payments (note 6)		30,913,510		22,036,971
Change in net unrealized loss in investments		2,708,732		22,735,890
Administrative expenses and professional fees (note 7)		3,176,162		2,967,463
		36,798,404		47,740,324
Increase in net assets available for benefits		31,763,455		11,902,648
Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year		449,410,632		437,507,984
Net assets available for benefits, end of year	\$	481,174,087	\$	449,410,632

See accompanying notes to the fund financial statements.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements

Year ended June 30, 2017

The Brock University Pension Plan (the "Plan") is a registered pension plan in the Province of Ontario under registration number 327767. The Plan is a hybrid defined benefit money purchase pension plan, which contains both a defined contribution component and a defined benefit component. The defined contribution component of the plan is funded by Brock University (the "University") and member contributions and provides a benefit to members based on their accumulated account. The defined benefit component of the Plan is funded by University contributions and provides for a guaranteed minimum benefit. The Plan provides pension benefits to substantially all permanent employees of the University.

## 1. Significant accounting policies:

#### (a) Basis of presentation:

As permitted under Section 76 of Regulation 909 to the Pension Benefits Act (Ontario), the Plan has prepared these fund financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for pension plans, excluding pension obligations and any resulting surplus or deficit.

The Pension Plan complies on a consistent basis with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") in Part 1 of the Chartered Professional Accountants ("CPA Canada") Handbook.

These fund financial statements have been prepared to assist the Pension Committee in meeting the requirements of the Financial Services Commission of Ontario under Section 76 of Regulation 909 of the Pension Benefits Act (Ontario). As a result, these fund financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose.

These fund financial statements of the Plan do not purport to show the adequacy of the Plan's assets to meet its pension obligation. Such an assessment requires additional information, such as the Plan's actuarial reports and information about the University's financial health.

#### (b) Basis of measurement:

The fund financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for financial instruments which are measured at fair value through the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

# 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(c) Functional and presentation currency:

These fund financial statements are presented in Canadian dollars, which is the Plan's functional currency.

- (d) Financial assets and financial liabilities:
  - (i) Non-derivative financial assets:

Financial assets are recognized initially on the trade date, which is the date that the Plan becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Upon initial recognition, attributable transaction costs are recognized in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits as incurred.

The Plan measures all of its investments at fair value through the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits. All other non-derivative financial assets including contributions receivable are measured at amortized cost.

The Plan derecognizes a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred or in which the Plan neither transfers nor retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership and does not retain control of the financial asset.

On derecognition of a financial asset, the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and consideration received is recognized in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits as a net realized gain or loss on sale of investments.

#### (ii) Non-derivative financial liabilities:

All financial liabilities are recognized on the trade date at which the Plan becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The Plan derecognizes a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled or expired.

The Plan considers its accrued liabilities to be a non-derivative financial liability.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

- (d) Financial assets and financial liabilities (continued):
  - (iii) Derivative financial instruments:

Derivative financial instruments are recognized initially at fair value and attributable transaction costs are recognized in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits as incurred. Subsequent to initial recognition, derivatives are measured at fair value, and all changes are recognized immediately in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of net assets available for benefits, when, and only when, the Plan has a legal right to offset the amounts and it intends either to settle on a net basis or to realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### (e) Fair value measurement:

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

In determining fair value, the Plan follows the guidance in IFRS 13, Fair Value Measurement ("IFRS 13"), in Part I of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting. As allowed under IFRS 13, if an asset or a liability measured at fair value has a bid and an ask price, the price within the bid-ask spread that is the most representative of fair value in the circumstances shall be used to measure fair value. The Plan uses closing market price as a practical expedient for fair value measurement.

When available, the Plan measures the fair value of an instrument using quoted prices in an active market for that instrument. A market is regarded as active if quoted prices are readily and regularly available and represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis.

If a market for a financial instrument is not active, then the Plan establishes fair value using a valuation technique. Valuation techniques include using recent arm's length transactions between knowledgeable, willing parties (if available), reference to the current fair value of other instruments that are substantially the same, discounted cash flow analyses and option pricing models.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

#### (e) Fair value measurement (continued):

The best evidence of the fair value of a financial instrument at initial recognition is the transaction price, i.e. the fair value of the consideration given or received, unless the fair value of that instrument is evidenced by comparison with other observable current market transactions in the same instrument or based on a valuation technique whose variables include only data from observable markets. When transaction price provides the best evidence of fair value at initial recognition, the financial instrument is initially measured at the transaction price and any difference between this price and the value initially obtained from a valuation model is subsequently recognized in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits on an appropriate basis over the life of the instrument but not later than when the valuation is supported wholly by observable market data or the transaction is closed out.

All changes in fair value, other than investment income and expense, are recognized in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits as part of the change in net unrealized gains in investments.

The investments are stated at fair value.

Fair values of investments are determined as follows:

Pooled fund investments are valued at the unit values supplied by the pooled fund administrator, which represent the Plan's proportionate share of underlying net assets at fair values determined using closing market prices.

(f) Net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments:

The net realized gain (loss) on sale of investments is the difference between proceeds received and the average cost of investments sold.

#### (g) Investment income:

Investment income, which is recorded on the accrual basis, includes interest income, dividends and pooled fund distributions.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

# 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

#### (h) Foreign currency translation:

The fair values of foreign currency denominated investments included in the statement of net assets available for benefits are translated into Canadian dollars at the year end rate of exchange. Gains and losses arising from translations are included in the change in net unrealized gains on investments.

Foreign currency denominated transactions are translated into Canadian dollars at the rate of exchange on the date of the related transaction. Cost of investments, as disclosed in note 2, are translated into Canadian dollars at the rate of exchange on the date of purchase.

#### (i) Income taxes:

The Plan is not subject to income taxes since it is a Registered Pension Trust as defined by the Income Tax Act (Canada).

#### (i) Use of estimates:

The preparation of fund financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the statement of net assets available for benefits and the reported amounts of changes in net assets available for benefits during the year. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future years affected.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

## 2. Investments:

The following is a summary of investments, including all individual investments with a cost or fair value in excess of 1% of the cost or market value of the total Plan, as required by the Pension Benefits Act (Ontario):

	2017	2017	2016	2016
	Cost	Fair value	Cost	Fair value
Equity Funds:				
Walter Scott and Partners				
Canadian Institutional				
Trust Global Equity Fund	\$ 104,826,039	\$ 142,247,451	\$ 170,301,785	\$ 220,301,906
Mawer Global Equity Fund	47.045.405	54 044 405		
Class O	47,645,485	51,941,435	-	-
Pier 21 World Wide Equity	40.070.050	F0 7F0 00F		
Pool	48,078,253	52,752,965	-	-
Mawer Canadian Equity	4E 404 700	64 947 490	42 CEO 222	E0 EE2 000
Fund	45,184,722		43,650,222	58,553,009
	245,734,499	311,758,980	213,952,007	278,854,915
Fixed Income Funds:				
Alliance Berstein Core				
Plus Bond Fund	154,084,860	161,659,714	109,183,984	120,479,566
Alliance Berstein Core			00 =00 044	00 044 000
Short-Term Bond Fund	-	-	38,722,911	38,641,288
Mawer Canadian Money	4 700 404	4 700 040	0.400.074	0.040.405
Market Fund	4,763,184		6,426,874	6,618,135
	158,848,044	166,422,963	154,333,769	165,738,989
Cash and cash equivalents	1,934,150	1,934,150	3,569,962	3,569,966
	\$ 406,516,693	\$ 480,116,093	\$ 371,855,738	\$ 448,163,870

Cash and cash equivalents includes pending investments held by RBC Investor and Treasury Services. Accrued income of \$nil (2016 - \$169,812) is included in the Alliance Bernstein Core Short-Term Bond Fund.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

# 3. Accrued liabilities:

	2017	2016
Portfolio administration fees Actuarial and other professional fees Custodial fees Audit fees	\$ 552,049 86,290 18,892 10,373	\$ 434,062 28,223 16,881 10,373
	\$ 667,604	\$ 489,539

# 4. Investment income:

	2017	2016
Pooled funds: Canadian bonds and debentures Canadian equity Global equity Money market Accrued income	\$ 6,503,331 4,628,162 11,186,615 7,416	\$ 5,090,282 3,608,929 30,577,914 4,415 169,812
	\$ 22,325,524	\$ 39,451,352

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

# 5. Contributions:

Contributions received by the Plan were as follows:

2017 Regular		Voluntary		Special		Total	
Employer Employee	\$	12,827,370 7,271,424	\$	67,478	\$	413,000 \$	13,240,370 7,338,902
	\$	20,098,794	\$	67,478	\$	413,000 \$	20,579,272

2016 Regular		Voluntary		Special		Total		
Employer Employee	\$	12,566,189 7,120,641	\$	- 58,716	\$	413,000	\$	12,979,189 7,179,357
	\$	19,686,830	\$	58,716	\$	413,000	\$	20,158,546

# 6. Benefit payments:

	2017	2016
Pension benefits Transfers to other pension funds Cash refunds Death benefits	\$ 10,666,086 13,214,720 4,306,846 2,725,858	\$ 10,229,854 8,988,327 1,737,898 1,080,892
	\$ 30,913,510	\$ 22,036,971

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

## 7. Administrative expenses and professional fees:

	2017	2016
Portfolio administration fees Actuarial and other professional fees Custodial fees Audit fees	\$ 2,479,612 579,918 106,752 9,880	\$ 2,179,120 677,608 100,389 10,346
	\$ 3,176,162	\$ 2,967,463

## 8. Related party transactions:

The University provides certain administrative services to the Plan. The cost to the Plan for these services in the year ended June 30, 2017 were \$166,725 (2016 - \$161,518), being the exchange amount agreed to by the parties, and is included in administrative expenses and professional fees in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits. At June 30, 2017 accounts payable and accrued liabilities included \$14,536 (2016 - \$14,414) owing to the University relating to such services.

#### 9. Fair value of financial instruments:

The objective of the Plan is to accumulate funds for the purpose of providing lifetime income in retirement for Members of the Plan. The objectives of the Administrator are to establish suitable investment vehicles that meet the risk tolerances of the Members and to provide information and education to enable the Members to understand the nature of the investments.

The Plan manages the following risks by engaging knowledgeable investment managers who are charged with the responsibility of investing existing funds and new funds in accordance with the approved Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures. The Pension Committee reviews on a quarterly basis the performance of investments invested by the Plan's investment managers.

#### (a) Fair values:

The fair values of investments are described in note 1(e) and disclosed in note 2. The fair value of other financial assets and liabilities, being contributions receivable and accrued liabilities, approximates their carrying value due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

Fair value measurements recognized in the statement of net assets available for benefits are categorized using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of inputs used in determining the fair values.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

## 9. Fair value of financial instruments (continued):

#### (a) Fair values (continued):

- Level 1 unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities;
- Level 2 inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the assets or liabilities, either directly or indirectly; and
- Level 3 inputs for assets and liabilities that are not based on observable market data.

All investments are categorized as Level 2 at June 30, 2017 except for \$ nil (2016 - \$38,641,288) in bonds held with Alliance Bernstein which are categorized as Level 1. There has been no change in the category of any of the Plan's financial instruments during the year.

#### (b) Associated risks:

### (i) Market price risk:

Market price risk is the risk that the value of an instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, whether caused by factors specific to an individual investment, its issuer or all other factors affecting all instruments traded in the market. As all of the Plan's financial instruments are carried at fair value with fair value changes recognized in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits, all changes in market conditions will directly result in a change in net assets available for benefits. Market price risk is managed by the Plan by offering its members a diversified portfolio of instruments traded on various markets and across various industries.

As at June 30, 2017, had the equity prices of all equity benchmarks increased or decreased by 10% and assuming there is a perfect positive correlation between the Plan's equities and the benchmarks, with all other variables held constant, the value of the Plan's investments would have increased or decreased, by approximately \$31,175,898 (2016 - \$27,885,491).

### (ii) Foreign currency risk:

Foreign currency risk is the risk that fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign currency rates. Through the pooled fund investments the Plan holds investments in financial instruments and enters into transactions denominated in various foreign currencies. Consequently, the Plan is exposed to risks that the exchange rate of the foreign currency may change in a manner that has an adverse effect on the value of the portion of the Plan's assets or liabilities denominated in currencies other than Canadian dollars. The Plan's overall currency positions and exposures are monitored on a regular basis by the Plan.

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

# 9. Financial instruments (continued):

- (b) Associated risks (continued):
  - (ii) Foreign currency risk (continued):

Presently equity investments are not hedged; however, the plan has adopted a mechanism to apply a US dollar hedge under certain market conditions. Of the total Alliance Bernstein Core Plus Bond Fund portfolio, 19.22% is held in foreign currency with 1.20% of the Alliance Bernstein Core Plus Bond Fund portfolio not hedged back to the Canadian Dollar.

The Plan's currency exposure of its equity investments as at June 30 is as follows:

		2016		
	Canadian		Canadian	
	dollar	Percentage	dollar	Percentage
	equivalent	of total	equivalent	of total
US dollar	\$ 129,491,928	27.0% \$	104,026,560	23.2%
Euro	21,360,470	4.4%	16,919,186	3.8%
Japanese yen	17,836,886	3.7%	21,171,013	4.7%
Swiss franc	14,630,277	3.0%	20,113,564	4.5%
Pound sterling	14,439,989	3.0%	8,900,197	2.0%
Hong Kong dollar	13,530,770	2.8%	10,971,035	2.4%
Chinese renminbi	5,448,077	1.1%	9,252,680	2.1%
Danish krone	4,595,139	1.0%	4,251,827	0.6%
New Taiwan dollar	3,949,820	0.8%	4,912,732	1.3%
Australian dollar	3,309,021	0.7%	5,177,095	0.6%
Other currencies	10,495,029	2.3%	7,269,963	1.6%
	\$ 239,087,406	49.8% \$	212,965,852	46.8%

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

## 9. Financial instruments (continued):

### (b) Associated risks (continued):

### (ii) Foreign currency risk (continued):

As at June 30, 2017, if the Canadian dollar strengthened or weakened by 5% in each respective foreign currency, with all other factors remaining constant, the following table summarizes the estimated impacts:

		Net exposure	Estimated impact
LIO delles	Φ.	400 404 000 ft	0.474.500
US dollar	\$	129,491,928 \$	6,474,596
Euro		21,360,470	1,068,024
Japanese yen		17,836,886	891,844
Swiss franc		14,630,277	731,514
Pound sterling		14,439,989	721,998
Hong Kong dollar		13,530,770	676,538
Chinese renminbi		5,448,077	272,404
Danish krone		4,595,139	229,757
New Taiwan dollar		3,949,820	174,741
Australian dollar		3,309,021	165,451
Other currencies		10,495,029	524,751
	\$	239,087,406 \$	11,931,618

#### (iii) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Plan will not be able to meet its obligations as they fall due. The Plan maintains an investment policy, as approved by the Plan, which contains asset mix guidelines which help to ensure the Plan is able to liquidate investments to meet its pension benefits or other obligations.

The accrued liabilities are all due within 90 days or less.

# (iv) Interest rate risk:

Interest rate risk refers to the adverse consequences of interest rate changes on the Plan's cash flows, financial position and income. The value of the Plan's assets is affected by short-term changes in interest rates. Interest rate changes directly impact the value of any fixed income securities in the pooled funds.

As at June 30, 2017, had the prevailing interest rates increased or decreased by 1% with all other variables remaining unchanged, Plan net assets available for benefits would have decreased or increased by approximately \$12,447,798 (2016 - \$10,153,156).

Notes to Fund Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended June 30, 2017

## 9. Financial instruments (continued):

- (b) Associated risks (continued):
  - (v) Credit risk:

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or counterparty will be unable or unwilling to meet a commitment that it has entered into with the Plan. Credit risk is generally higher when a non-exchange traded financial instrument is involved because the counterparty for non-exchange traded financial instruments is not backed by an exchange clearing house.

## 10. Capital risk management:

The Plan defines its capital as the net assets available for benefits. The main objective of the defined benefit component of the Plan is to ensure the security of the promised pension benefits under the Plan. The primary investment objective of the defined contribution component of the Plan is to permit members to accumulate assets within the Plan in order to provide an appropriate level of retirement income, considering contribution rates under the Plan and the member's individual investment objectives and risk tolerances. The Plan fulfils its primary objective by adhering to specific investment policies outlined in its Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures (the "SIPP"), which is reviewed annually by the Pension Committee. The SIPP states investment objectives, guidelines and benchmarks used in investing the capital of the Plan, permitted categories of investment, asset-mix diversification and rate of return expectations. The Plan manages net assets available for benefits by engaging knowledgeable investment managers who are charged with the responsibility of investing existing funds and new funds (current year's employer contributions) in accordance with the approved SIPP. The SIPP was last amended effective June 22, 2017. This amendment included changes to the asset mix and outlined the plan's intent to shift a portion of investments to real estate assets in the future, as well as minor verbiage updates. There is no change in the manner in which the capital is managed in the current year.

Although there are no regulatory requirements relating to the level of net assets available for benefits, the funding to be maintained by the defined benefit component of the Plan is determined through triennial actuarial valuations. More details on employer contributions that were paid during the year can be found in note 5. Contributions past due as of June 30, 2017 are presented as contributions receivable on the Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits.

The Plan is required to file fund financial statements with the Financial Services Commission of Ontario annually.