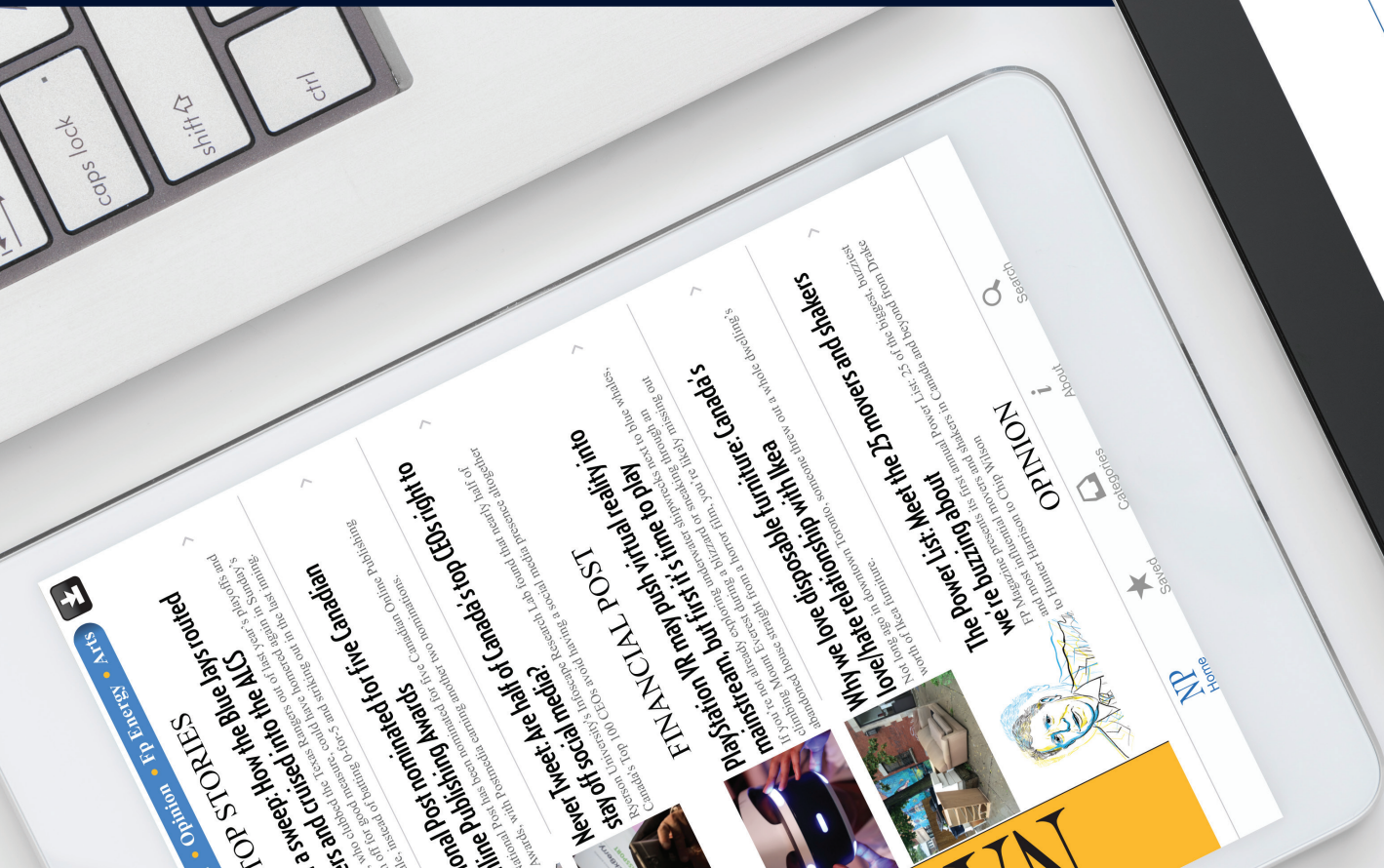
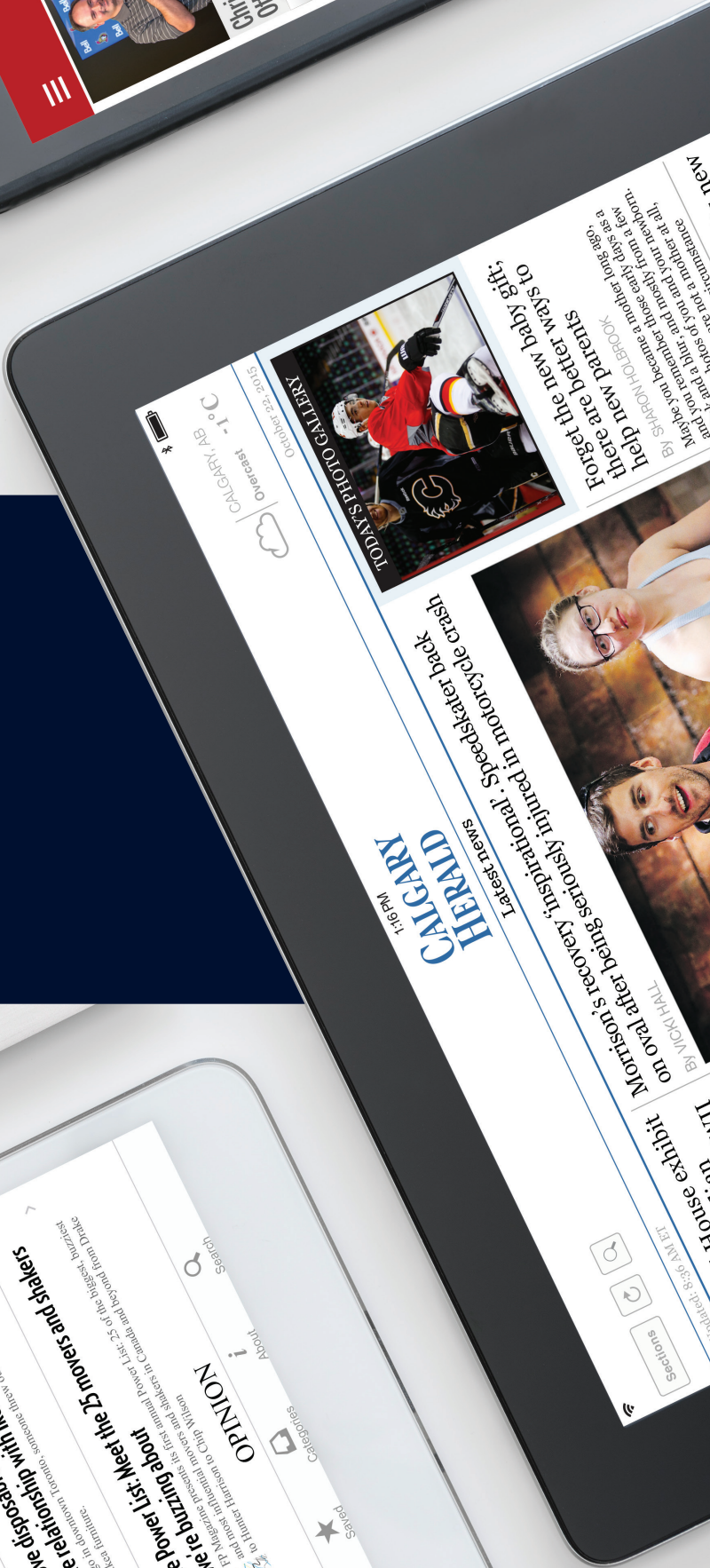


2016 ANNUAL REPORT



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO SHAREHOLDERS

This was a year of continued transformation at Postmedia. Thanks to the tremendous efforts and thoughtful work by the Special Committee of the Board of Directors and Postmedia's management team, we achieved a capital restructuring that gives Postmedia more runway for new revenue initiatives to gain traction without the tremendous debt pressure this company has faced since its inception.

It was also a year where we reaffirmed the importance of the work done across our company – reporting stories of local importance. No better was this demonstrated than during the wildfires that swept through Fort McMurray. In April, during massive wildfires that displaced 94,000 people, we saw a traffic lift of nearly 50% to our websites. At the peak of the tragedy nearly 10 million unique visitors came to our websites to stay informed. In the early days, as wildfires burned, *Fort McMurray Today* was delivered to its citizens in evacuation centres. And when the evacuation centres were evacuated, their local paper followed them too, as far away as Edmonton, approximately 440 kilometers from home.

When discussing our industry the headlines often focus on the most negative aspects of the business. While the pressures on our industry continue what endures is our fundamental belief that providing reliable and trustworthy news, information, context and commentary is critically important to our society and a cornerstone of our democracy.

We took that very message to Ottawa this past May when we participated in Heritage Committee hearings into the state of local media in Canada. We asked the government to be an ally in our efforts and offered recommendations on several fronts that could benefit not just Postmedia but our entire industry.

In the transition of our new capital structure we saw changes to our Boards of Directors. I want to make special mention of the directors who left our boards – all of these strong leaders demonstrated tremendous commitment to our company. They provided important insight and expertise including Robert Steacy and Charlotte Burke, both founding members of our boards. Earlier in the year we said goodbye to Ted Lodge who has been a valued supporter of our company since the beginning. Also leaving our boards this year were three of our newer members and we thank them for their enthusiasm and contributions during their short tenure: Martin Nisenholtz, Stephanie Coyles and Mitch Joel.

Looking ahead we know that the pace of change in our industry will continue to be swift. There is no doubt that the changes we need to undertake will not be easy but we must make Postmedia into a leaner, fitter and faster business so that we can survive in a rapidly shifting landscape.



Paul V. Godfrey, C.M.
President and Chief Executive Officer

“While the pressures on our industry continue what endures is our fundamental belief that providing reliable and trustworthy news, information, context and commentary is critically important to our society and a cornerstone of our democracy.”





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POSTMEDIA NETWORK CANADA CORP.
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015

Approved for issuance: October 20, 2016

OCTOBER 20, 2016

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations of Postmedia Network Canada Corp. as well as its subsidiaries, which includes Postmedia Network Inc. (collectively, "we", "our", "us", or "Postmedia") should be read in conjunction with the annual audited consolidated financial statements and related notes of Postmedia for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015. The audited consolidated financial statements of Postmedia for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 are available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

This discussion contains statements that are not historical facts and are forward-looking statements. These statements are subject to a number of risks described in the section entitled "Risk Factors". Risks and uncertainties may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in such forward-looking statements. Such statements reflect management's current views and are based on certain assumptions. They are only estimates of future developments, and actual developments may differ materially from these statements due to a number of factors. Investors are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. No forward-looking statement is a guarantee of future results. We have tried, where possible, to identify such statements by using words such as "believe", "expect", "estimate", "anticipate", "will", "could" and similar expressions in connection with any discussion of future operating or financial performance. Except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements or information, whether written or oral, that may be as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

All amounts are expressed in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted. The audited consolidated financial statements of Postmedia for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

This management's discussion and analysis is dated October 20, 2016 and does not reflect changes or information subsequent to this date. Additional information in respect of Postmedia is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

Additional IFRS Measures

We use operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring, as presented in the audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 and described in note 3 thereto, to assist in assessing our financial performance. Management and the Board of Directors of Postmedia use this measure to evaluate consolidated operating results and to assess Postmedia's ability to incur and service debt. In addition, this measure is used to make operating decisions as it is an indicator of how much cash is being generated by Postmedia and assists in determining the need for additional cost reductions, evaluation of personnel and resource allocation decisions. Operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring is referred to as an additional IFRS measure and may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies.

Overview and Background

Our business consists of news and information gathering and dissemination operations, with products offered in local, regional and major metro markets in Canada through a variety of print, web, tablet and smartphone platforms. The combination of these platforms provides audiences with a variety of media through which to access and interact with our content. The breadth of our reach and the diversity of our content enable advertisers to reach their target audiences on a local, regional or national scale through the convenience of a single provider. We are the largest publisher by circulation of daily newspapers in Canada, according to Newspapers Canada's 2015 Circulation Data Report and have the highest weekly print readership of newspapers in Canada, based on Vividata 2016 – Q1 survey data.

For financial reporting purposes we have one operating segment, the Newsmedia segment, which publishes daily and non-daily newspapers and operates digital media and online assets including the canada.com and canoe.com websites, each newspaper's online website and Infomart, our media monitoring service.

Recent Developments

On April 7, 2016, we announced that management, as overseen by an independent special board committee, was reviewing alternatives to improve its operations, capital structure and financial liquidity. We have experienced continued declines in revenues due to ongoing economic and structural factors resulting in an increasingly challenging operating environment. These challenges have had an impact on liquidity risk which is the risk that we will not be able to meet our financial obligations as they come due or the risk that those financial obligations have to be met at excessive cost. On July 7, 2016, we announced a proposed recapitalization transaction which was completed on October 5, 2016 (the "Recapitalization Transaction") by way of a corporate plan of arrangement (a "Plan of Arrangement") under the Canada Business Corporations Act as described below.

We redeemed \$77.8 million aggregate principal amount of 8.25% Senior-Secured Notes due 2017 ("First-Lien Notes") at par, plus accrued interest of \$10.8 million, from proceeds from the Recapitalization Transaction resulting in a total of \$225.0 million First-Lien Notes outstanding. In addition, the maturity date of the First-Lien Notes was extended to July 15, 2021 and they are subject to semi-annual mandatory principal redemptions equal to 50% of excess cash flow, calculated as per the terms of the First-Lien Note indenture, with a minimum of \$10.0 million annually. The First-Lien Notes are and will continue to be secured on a first priority basis by substantially all of our assets ("First-Lien Notes Collateral").

The 12.5% Senior-Secured Notes due 2018 (“Second-Lien Notes”) were exchanged for Class NC variable voting shares (“Variable Voting Shares”) that represent approximately 98% of the outstanding shares. Accrued interest of \$21.9 million (US\$16.8 million) originally due on July 15, 2016 was paid in cash upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction. In addition, we issued US\$88.6 million (CDN\$115.5 million) of 10.25% Second-Lien Secured Notes due 2023 (“New Second-Lien Notes”) for net proceeds of US\$84.4 million (CDN\$110.0 million). The Plan of Arrangement included the offering of the New Second-Lien Notes to holders of existing Second-Lien Notes, on a pro-rata basis determined based on their holdings of Second-Lien Notes as at August 5, 2016. The New Second-Lien Notes offering was backstopped by certain individual funds for which Chatham Asset Management LLC acts as investment advisor (“Chatham”) pursuant to a backstop commitment letter (the “Backstop Commitment Letter”). In consideration for entering into the Backstop Commitment Letter, Chatham received a fee of US\$4.2 million (CDN\$5.5 million), which was used to acquire additional New Second-Lien Notes included in the US\$88.6 million (CDN\$115.5 million) described above. The New Second-Lien Notes will bear interest at 10.25% cash interest or 11.25% paid-in-kind interest, at our option subject to the conditions of no cash interest for the first three years unless the aggregate amount of First-Lien Notes, together with any other first-lien debt, is \$112.5 million or less. The New Second-Lien Notes are secured on a second priority basis by the First-Lien Notes Collateral.

As part of the Plan of Arrangement, the Class C voting shares and Variable Voting Shares (“Shares”) were consolidated on the basis of one Share for every 150 existing Shares (the “Share Consolidation”) and all outstanding options, restricted share units and other rights to acquire Shares (except pursuant to the Postmedia Rights Plan) were cancelled and all outstanding deferred share units were settled for \$0.4 million in cash. The share option plan and restricted share unit plan will remain and the deferred share unit plan was terminated upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction. The Recapitalization Transaction resulted in the issuance of 91,842,855 Variable Voting Shares after the Share Consolidation. As at October 5, 2016 we have 93,717,199 Shares outstanding. Upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction, existing shareholders collectively own approximately 2% of the outstanding Shares and Chatham owns approximately 61,166,689, or 65% of the Shares.

During the year ended August 31, 2016, we incurred \$8.9 million of costs related to the Recapitalization Transaction, which are included in restructuring and other items on the consolidated statement of operations. Included in these costs are advisory, legal and other professional or consulting fees, as well as compensation expense associated with a key employment retention program.

We do not expect the Recapitalization Transaction to result in any cash taxes. However, it is anticipated that the settlement of the Second-Lien Notes will result in debt forgiveness for tax purposes that will be completely offset by available income tax attributes, including previously unused non-capital losses.

Restricted cash of \$4.8 million, as described in “Liquidity and capital resources”, was released to us upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction.

In May 2016, we committed to a third party outsourcing contract for the production of the London Free Press newspaper. The print outsourcing agreement for the production of The London Free Press began in October 2016.

We completed our annual impairment testing of goodwill and indefinite life intangible assets as at May 31, 2016. In addition, during the three months ended August 31, 2016 and February 29, 2016 as a result of the uncertainty of the print advertising market and the rapidly evolving digital advertising market, we performed interim impairment tests. Based on the impairment tests, we concluded that certain of our cash-generating unit’s recoverable amounts were less than their carrying value. As a result we recorded an impairment charge in the three months and year ended August 31, 2016 of \$60.7 million and \$267.7 million, respectively. See note 5 of the audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 for more information on the impairment tests.

In July 2015, we announced a plan to undertake cost reduction initiatives targeted to deliver an estimated \$50 million in annualized operating cost savings ("Transformation Program"). In January 2016, the operating cost savings target was updated to \$80 million which is expected to be completed in the first quarter of fiscal 2017. These cost reductions are expected to come from a combination of acquisition synergies and further reorganization of our operations. During the three months ended August 31, 2016 we implemented initiatives which are expected to result in an additional \$11 million of net annualized cost savings under the Transformation Program. In total, we implemented net annualized cost savings of approximately \$75 million, since the Transformation Program was announced in July 2015. We intend to undertake additional cost savings initiatives throughout fiscal 2017 including a company-wide voluntary buyout program aimed to reduce compensation expense by 20%.

On February 29, 2016, we acquired the assets of Start23 Inc. for cash consideration of \$1.0 million. The purchase includes the Ampifii software, which allows marketers to spread their content and message across a variety of networks. The purchase price was allocated to intangible assets on the consolidated statement of financial position.

In February 2016, we filed our final claim under the Ontario Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit program for the period from September 1, 2012 to April 23, 2015 in the amount of \$20.7 million. We will record the tax credit receivable and related recovery of expenses when there is reasonable assurance we have complied with the conditions of the program, and accordingly no amount has been accrued as at August 31, 2016. On April 23, 2015, the Ontario Minister of Finance announced changes to the eligibility rules for the program that will make us ineligible in the future.

In January 2016, we entered into a marketing collaboration agreement ("Marketing Agreement") with Mogo Finance Technology Inc. ("Mogo"). The Marketing Agreement provides us with revenue sharing and equity participation through warrants in Mogo in exchange for media promotional commitments over the next three years. As part of the Marketing Agreement, we paid \$1.2 million for 1,196,120 five year warrants that entitled us to purchase common shares of Mogo at an exercise price of \$2.96. Fifty percent of the warrants vest in equal instalments over three years and the remaining warrants vest in three equal instalments based on Mogo achieving certain quarterly revenue targets. In addition, Mogo paid a set-up fee of \$1.2 million which will be recognized as revenue over the term of the agreement.

Events Impacting the Historical Consolidated Financial Statements

On October 6, 2014, we entered into a purchase agreement with Quebecor Media Inc. ("QMI") to purchase all of the outstanding shares of 7717415 Canada Inc. (previously known as Quebecor Media Printing Inc.) ("QMPI"). As at the acquisition date of April 13, 2015, QMPI owned Sun Media Corporation's stable of more than 170 English-language newspapers and specialty publications as well as digital properties. The purchase price consisted of cash consideration of \$305.5 million, less a final closing working capital adjustment of \$1.2 million (the "Sun Acquisition"). During the year ended August 31, 2015, we incurred acquisition costs of \$10.4 million and integration costs of \$2.4 million, both of which were included in restructuring and other items in the consolidated statements of operations. Upon acquisition, QMPI and its subsidiary amalgamated to form a new corporation which subsequently amalgamated with Postmedia Network. We financed the purchase price and transaction costs associated with the Sun Acquisition through the issuance of First-Lien Notes, the issuance of Variable Voting Shares pursuant to a rights offering of subscription receipts (the "Rights Offering"), net proceeds related to the sale of the Montreal Gazette production facility and corporate cash all as described below.

The debt financing for the Sun Acquisition was provided through the issuance of additional First-Lien Notes for proceeds of \$140.0 million to an existing noteholder, Canso, acting on behalf of certain accounts that it manages. On October 31, 2014, pursuant to a subscription agreement with Canso, we issued subscription receipts ("Notes Subscription Receipts") which were automatically exchanged for the additional First-Lien Notes on April 13, 2015. The Notes Subscription Receipts bore interest at the same rate as the First-Lien Notes with interest commencing as of November 1, 2014. During the year ended August 31, 2015, we recorded \$5.2 million of interest expense related to the Notes Subscription Receipts and incurred \$4.9 million of debt issuance costs.

The equity financing for the Sun Acquisition was provided pursuant to the Rights Offering for proceeds of \$173.5 million. Under the terms of the Rights Offering, shareholders of Postmedia as of February 17, 2015 received one right for each share held to subscribe for 5.9929 subscription receipts ("Equity Subscription Receipts"). On March 18, 2015, the Rights Offering closed, with a total of 240,972,226 Equity Subscription Receipts issued at a subscription price of \$0.72, which represented a significant discount to the market price of the Variable Voting Shares at the time. On April 13, 2015, each Equity Subscription Receipt was automatically exchanged for one Variable Voting Share without additional consideration. During the year ended August 31, 2015, we incurred \$9.2 million of share issuance costs.

The remaining financing for the Sun Acquisition was provided through the net proceeds related to the sale of the Montreal Gazette production facility and corporate cash.

In October 2014, we received certification from the Ontario Digital Media Corporation that digital media tax credits totaling a cash claim of \$17.3 million for the years ended August 31, 2011 and 2012 were eligible to be claimed. We refiled the tax return for the year ended August 31, 2012 to reflect the digital media tax credits and during the year ended August 31, 2015 received \$17.8 million (including accrued interest of \$0.5 million), related to this claim. During the year ended August 31, 2016, we recorded the tax credit as a recovery of compensation expense of \$17.3 million as the claim primarily related to previously recognized compensation expense.

Selected Annual Information

	For the years ended August 31,	
	2016	2015
Revenues.....	877,156	750,283
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company.....	(352,482)	(263,405)
Net loss per share attributable to equity holders of the Company		
Basic.....	\$ (1.27)	\$ (1.98)
Diluted.....	\$ (1.27)	\$ (1.98)
Total assets.....	507,098	874,097
Total long-term financial liabilities.....	352,103	646,336

Key Factors Affecting Operating Results

Revenue is earned primarily from advertising, circulation and digital sources. Print advertising revenue is a function of the volume, or lineage, of advertising sold and rates charged. Print circulation revenue is derived from home-delivery subscriptions for newspapers, including All Access Subscriptions (across the four platforms of print, web, tablet and smartphone), single copy sales at retail outlets and vending machines and is a function of the number of newspapers sold and the price per copy. Digital revenue consists of revenue from national and local display advertising as well as digital classified advertising on our newspaper and other websites, including *canada.com*, *canoe.com*, revenue from e-Papers and Digital Access subscriptions, as well as subscription revenue generated through Infomart, our media monitoring service.

Print advertising revenue was \$97.5 million and \$466.6 million for the three months and year ended August 31, 2016, representing 49.1% and 53.2% of total revenue for such periods, respectively. Our major advertising categories consist of local, national, and inserts. These categories composed 53.6%, 21.5% and 23.8%, respectively, of total print advertising for the three months ended August 31, 2015, and 52.4%, 24.3% and 21.7%, respectively, of total print advertising for the year ended August 31, 2016.

Print advertising is influenced by both the overall strength of the economy and the impact of significant structural changes in the newspaper and media industries. The continuing shift in advertising dollars from print advertising to advertising in other formats, particularly online and other digital platforms including search and social media websites, combined with periods of economic uncertainty have resulted in significant declines in print advertising. We anticipate the print advertising market to remain challenging and expect trends in the three months ended August 31, 2016 to continue into fiscal 2017. During the three months ended August 31, 2016, we experienced a print advertising revenue decrease of 21.3% as compared to the same period in the prior year. During the year ended August 31, 2016, we experienced a print advertising revenue increase of 15.3% as compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of the Sun Acquisition. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, print advertising revenue would have decreased 19.1% for the year ended August 31, 2016. These decreases in print advertising revenue relate to weaknesses across all major advertising categories including local, national and insert advertising.

Print circulation revenue was \$64.4 million and \$260.9 million for the three months and year ended August 31, 2016, representing 32.4% and 29.7% of total revenue for such periods, respectively. Circulation revenues decreased \$5.6 million, or 8.0%, in the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year. Circulation revenues increased \$38.9 million, or 17.5%, in the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of the Sun Acquisition. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, print circulation revenue would have decreased \$14.0 million, or 7.6%, for the year ended August 31, 2016. These decreases are the result of declines in circulation volumes that have been experienced over the last few years and this trend continued in the three months and year ended August 31, 2016. We expect these print circulation revenue trends to continue into fiscal 2017.

Digital revenue was \$26.9 million and \$110.6 million for the three months and year ended August 31, 2016, representing 13.5% and 12.6% of total revenue for such periods, respectively. Digital revenue increased \$0.2 million, or 0.8%, in the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year. Digital revenue increased \$12.9 million, or 13.2%, in the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of the Sun Acquisition. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, digital revenues would have decreased \$1.9 million, or 2.2%, in the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year, as a result of decreases in local and national digital advertising revenue and digital classified revenue, partially offset by increases in other digital revenue. We continue to believe digital revenue represents a future growth opportunity for Postmedia and as a result we are focused on various new products and initiatives in this area.

Our principal expenses consist of compensation, newsprint, distribution and production. These composed 44.6%, 6.7%, 20.9% and 9.5%, respectively, of total operating expenses excluding depreciation, amortization and restructuring for the three months ended August 31, 2016 and 45.5%, 6.4%, 20.5% and 8.9%, respectively, of total operating expenses excluding depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring for the year ended August 31, 2016. We experienced decreases in compensation, newsprint, distribution and production expenses of \$6.9 million, \$0.8 million, \$2.3 million and \$0.8 million, respectively, in the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year. We experienced increases in compensation, newsprint, distribution and production expenses of \$68.4 million, \$13.6 million, \$39.9 million and \$11.9 million, respectively, in the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year. The decreases in compensation, newsprint, distribution and production expenses for the three months ended August 31, 2016 are primarily as a result of decreases newspaper circulation volumes and cost reduction initiatives. The increases in compensation, newsprint, distribution and production expenses for the year ended August 31, 2016 are primarily as a result of the Sun Acquisition. In addition, compensation expense is higher in the year ended August 31, 2016 when compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of the recovery of \$17.3 million related to the Ontario Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit in the year ended August 31, 2015 as described earlier in "Recent Developments".

As of August 31, 2015, we completed our three year business transformation program announced in July 2012 targeting total operating cost reductions of 15% to 20%. In total, we implemented net annualized cost savings of approximately \$136 million, or 20% of operating costs under the program. As a result of the Sun Acquisition and the continuing trends in advertising revenue, we will continue to pursue additional cost reduction initiatives in the future and as described earlier in “Recent Developments”, we are implementing a Transformation Program that is targeting a total of \$80 million in net annualized cost savings which is expected to be completed in the first quarter of fiscal 2017. These cost reductions are expected to come from a combination of acquisition synergies and further reorganization of our operations. During the three months ended August 31, 2016, we implemented initiatives which are expected to result in an additional \$11 million of net annualized cost savings under the Transformation Program. In total, we implemented net annualized cost savings of approximately \$75 million since the Transformation Program was announced in July 2015. We intend to undertake additional cost savings initiatives throughout fiscal 2017 including a company-wide voluntary buyout program aimed to reduce compensation expense by 20%.

Our operating results are affected by variations in the cost and availability of newsprint. Newsprint is the principal raw material used in the production of our daily newspapers and other print publications. It is a commodity that is generally subject to price volatility. We take advantage of the purchasing power that comes with the large volume of newsprint we purchase, as well as our proximity to paper mills across Canada, to minimize our total newsprint expense. Changes in newsprint prices can significantly affect our operating results. A \$50 per tonne increase or decrease in the price of newsprint would be expected to affect our newsprint expense by approximately \$4.1 million on an annualized basis. We experienced an increase in newsprint prices in fiscal 2016, but we don't expect a material change in newsprint prices in fiscal 2017.

Our distribution is primarily outsourced to third party suppliers. The key drivers of our distribution expenses are fuel costs and circulation and insert volumes. Our distribution expenses have decreased during the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year primarily related to cost savings as result of a reduction in newspaper circulation volumes and cost reduction initiatives. Distribution expenses have increased during the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year primarily related to the Sun Acquisition, partially offset by cost savings as result of a reduction in newspaper circulation volumes and cost reduction initiatives.

Our production costs include the costs related to outsourced production of our newspapers as well as ink and other production supplies. Our production expenses have decreased during the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year primarily due to lower newspaper circulation volumes. Production expenses have increased during the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of the Sun Acquisition, as well as outsourced newspaper production of both The Vancouver Sun and The Province in February 2015. We expect production costs to continue to decrease in fiscal 2017 due to lower newspaper circulation volumes, the outsourcing of the London Free Press as described earlier in “Recent Developments” and ongoing cost saving initiatives.

Other Factors

Seasonality

Revenue has experienced, and is expected to continue to experience, seasonality due to seasonal advertising patterns and seasonal influences on media consumption habits. Typically, our advertising revenue is highest in the first and third fiscal quarters, while expenses are relatively constant throughout the fiscal year.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires management to make estimates, assumptions and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, related amounts of revenues and expenses, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Although these estimates, assumptions and judgements are based upon management's knowledge of the amount, event or actions; actual results could differ from those estimates, assumptions and judgements.

We have identified the following significant areas that require management to use estimates, assumptions and judgements. These accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements are considered critical as changes in such estimates, assumptions and judgements have the potential to materially impact the audited consolidated financial statements. For a summary of our significant accounting policies please refer to note 2 of our audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015.

The following significant areas require management to use assumptions and to make estimates:

Impairment of goodwill and long lived assets

We test goodwill and indefinite life intangible assets for impairment annually, or more frequently if there are indicators that an impairment may have arisen. In testing for impairment, assets including indefinite life intangible assets and other long lived assets, are grouped into a cash generating unit ("CGU" or "CGUs") which represents the lowest level for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows. For the purpose of goodwill impairment testing, goodwill is allocated to each CGU (or group of CGUs) based on the level at which management monitors goodwill, however not higher than an operating segment. Accordingly, management has allocated its goodwill to its single operating segment, the Newsmedia operating segment. The recoverable amount of each CGU or group of CGUs is based on the higher of value in use and fair value less costs of disposal calculations ("FVLCD"). During the year ended August 31, 2016, we computed the FVLCD for each CGU using a market multiple range of 4.0 to 4.25 times the adjusted trailing twelve month operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring less disposal costs. Management determined this key assumption based on an average of market multiples for comparable entities.

During the year ended August 31, 2015, we computed the FVLCD for each CGU using a discounted cash flow model that required market participant assumptions about future cash flows and discount rates. The future cash flows were based on management's best estimate considering historical and expected operating plans, economic conditions and the general outlook for the industry and markets in which we operate. The cash flow projections were based upon financial forecasts prepared by management covering a three year period and cash flows after the three year period are extrapolated using industry growth rates. The after tax discount rate represented a weighted average cost of capital ("WACC") for comparable companies operating in our industry, based on publicly available information. The WACC is a market participant estimate of the overall required rate of return on an investment for both debt and equity owners and served as the basis for developing an appropriate discount rate. Determination of the WACC required separate analysis of the cost of equity and debt, and considered a market participant risk premium based on an assessment of risks related to the projected cash flows.

Refer to note 5 of our audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 for more details about the methods and assumptions used in estimating the recoverable amount.

Employee future benefits

The cost of defined benefit pension benefit plans, post-retirement benefit plans and other long-term employee benefit plans and the present value of the defined benefit obligation are determined using actuarial valuations. An actuarial valuation involves making various assumptions including the discount rate to measure the net defined benefit obligation and mortality rates, among others. Due to the complexity of the actuarial valuations and the long-term nature of employee future benefits, the corresponding obligation is highly sensitive to changes in assumptions. Discount rates and the expected return on plan assets compared to the actual return on plan assets are reviewed at each reporting date and corresponding adjustments are recognized in other comprehensive income and deficit. A change in the discount rate used in the valuation of net defined benefit obligations, affects the reported funded status of our plans as well as the net benefit cost in subsequent fiscal years. As at August 31, 2016 a 50 basis-point decrease in the discount rate would increase our defined benefit obligations by \$53.6 million and a 50 basis-point increase in the discount rate would decrease our defined benefit obligations by \$47.8 million. Refer to note 16 of our audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 for more details about the methods and assumptions used in estimating the cost of our defined benefit pension benefit plans, post-retirement benefit plans and other long-term employee benefit plans.

The following areas require management to use significant judgements apart from those involving estimates:

Determination of useful lives for the depreciation and amortization of assets with finite lives

For each class of assets with finite lives, management has to determine over which period we will consume the asset's future economic benefits. The determination of such periods and if necessary, the subsequent revision of such periods, involves judgement and has an impact on the depreciation and amortization expense recorded in the consolidated statements of operations. We take into account industry trends and industry specific factors, including changing technologies and expectations for the in-service period of assets when determining their respective useful lives.

Determination of fair value of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a Business Combination

For all identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed, management has to determine the fair value at acquisition. The determination of fair value involves judgement and has an impact on the property and equipment and intangible assets and the related deferred income tax effect recorded in the consolidated statement of financial position.

Determination of the recoverability of deferred tax assets

Judgement is required in determining whether deferred tax assets are recognised. Deferred tax assets, including those arising from unutilised tax losses require management to assess the likelihood that we will generate taxable earnings in future periods, in order to utilize deferred tax assets. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date based upon the likely timing and the level of the reversal of existing taxable temporary differences, future taxable income and future tax planning strategies. Deferred tax assets are reduced to the extent that in management's judgement it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realized.

Determination of the measurement of government grants and tax credits

Judgement is required in determining when government grants and tax credits are recognized. Government grants and tax credits are recognized when there is reasonable assurance that we have complied with the conditions associated with the relevant government program. The determination of reasonable assurance involves judgement due to the complexity of the programs and related claim and review processes.

Operating Results

Postmedia's operating results for the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the three months ended August 31, 2015

	2016	2015
Revenues		
Print advertising.....	97,500	123,870
Print circulation.....	64,357	69,980
Digital.....	26,916	26,710
Other.....	9,901	9,672
Total revenues	198,674	230,232
Expenses		
Compensation	85,259	92,140
Newsprint.....	12,765	13,539
Distribution.....	39,967	42,302
Production.....	18,246	19,063
Other operating.....	35,076	40,880
Operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring	7,361	22,308
Depreciation.....	5,599	5,782
Amortization.....	5,323	10,847
Impairments.....	60,700	-
Restructuring and other items.....	12,313	11,349
Operating loss	(76,574)	(5,670)
Interest expense.....	16,645	18,821
Net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans.....	1,450	1,405
(Gain) loss on disposal of property and equipment and asset held-for-sale.....	53	(411)
Loss on derivative financial instruments.....	4,433	21,901
Foreign currency exchange losses.....	285	19,387
Loss before income taxes	(99,440)	(66,773)
Recovery of income taxes.....	-	(12,681)
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	(99,440)	(54,092)

Revenue

Print advertising

Print advertising revenue decreased \$26.4 million, or 21.3%, to \$97.5 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in prior year, and declines were experienced across all of our major categories including decreases from local advertising of 22.0%, national advertising of 30.1%, and insert advertising of 7.0%. The decreases were due to declines in both volume and rate with the total print advertising lineage and average line rate decreasing 8.3% and 17.7%, respectively, during the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year.

Print circulation

Print circulation revenue decreased \$5.6 million, or 8.0%, to \$64.4 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of decreases in paid circulation volume.

Digital

Digital revenue increased \$0.2 million, or 0.8%, to \$26.9 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of an increase in Infomart revenue digital advertising revenue and other digital revenue, partially offset by a decrease in digital classified revenue of \$0.4 million.

Other

Other revenue increased by \$0.2 million, or 2.4%, to \$9.9 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year, primarily as a result of an increase in commercial printing revenue.

Expenses

Compensation

Compensation expenses decreased \$6.9 million, or 7.5%, to \$85.3 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. This decrease is primarily as a result of lower salary and benefits expense of \$9.9 million due to cost reduction initiatives, partially offset by an increase in short-term incentive plan expense of \$1.1 million and an increase of \$2.6 million in employee benefit plan expense as a result actuarial losses related to our other long-term employee benefit plans in the three months ended August 31, 2016.

Newsprint

Newsprint expenses decreased \$0.8 million, or 5.7%, to \$12.8 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year primarily as a result of decreases in consumption due to lower newspaper circulation volumes as well as continued usage reduction efforts, partially offset by an increase in newsprint cost per tonne as previously described in "Key Factors Affecting Operating Results". Newsprint expenses include newsprint purchased for production at both our owned and outsourced production facilities.

Distribution

Distribution expenses decreased \$2.3 million, or 5.5%, to \$40.0 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year primarily due to cost savings as a result of the reduction in newspaper circulation volumes and cost reduction initiatives.

Production

Production expenses decreased \$0.8 million, or 4.3%, to \$18.2 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year primarily due to the reduction in newspaper circulation volumes and ongoing cost reduction initiatives.

Other operating

Other operating expenses decreased \$5.8 million, or 14.2%, to \$35.1 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of ongoing cost reduction initiatives.

Operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring

Operating income before depreciation, amortization and restructuring decreased \$14.9 million to \$7.4 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year as a result of decreases in revenue, partially offset by decreases in compensation, newsprint, distribution, production and other expenses, all as discussed above.

Depreciation

Depreciation expense decreased \$0.2 million to \$5.6 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The decrease relates primarily to property and equipment that have been fully depreciated.

Amortization

Amortization expense decreased \$5.5 million to \$5.3 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The decrease relates primarily to finite life intangible assets that were fully amortized in the year ended August 31, 2015.

Impairment

During the three months ended August 31, 2016 we performed an interim impairment test due to indicators of potential impairment and concluded our assets were impaired. As a result of the impairment tests during the three months ended August 31, 2016, we recorded an impairment charge of \$60.7 million which consisted of \$20.8 million related to goodwill and \$39.9 million related to intangible assets. During the three months ended August 31, 2015, we recorded no impairment.

Restructuring and other items

Restructuring and other items expense increased \$1.0 million to \$12.3 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year. Restructuring and other items expense for the three months ended August 31, 2016 consists of severance costs of \$2.9 million, which include both involuntary terminations and voluntary buyouts, \$0.5 million for onerous leases related to unoccupied property and \$8.9 million of costs related to the Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in "Recent Developments". Restructuring and other items expense for the three months ended August 31, 2015 consisted of \$11.1 million of severance costs, which included both involuntary terminations and voluntary buyouts, and acquisition and integration costs related to the Sun Acquisition of \$0.1 million and \$0.1 million, respectively, as described in "Events Impacting the Historical Consolidated Financial Statements".

Operating loss

Operating loss increased \$70.9 million to \$76.6 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in operating loss is the result of a decrease in operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring and an increase in impairment and restructuring and other items expense, partially offset by decreases in depreciation expense and amortization expense, all as discussed above.

Interest expense

Interest expense decreased \$2.2 million, or 11.6%, to \$16.6 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. Interest expense primarily relates to interest on our long-term debt that is recognized using the effective interest rate method, which amortizes the initial debt financing costs and includes both cash and non-cash interest. The decrease in interest expense relates to a decrease in cash interest of \$5.9 million, partially offset by an increase in non-cash interest of \$3.7 million. The decrease in cash interest expense is related to interest expense on the Second-Lien Notes as interest did not accrue after July 15, 2016 as part of the Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in "Recent Developments", as well as a net decrease in the amount of First-Lien Notes outstanding due to contractual principal payments. The increase in non-cash interest is related to the acceleration of the amortization of debt issuance costs due to a revised estimate of the expected future cash flows as a result of the Recapitalization Transaction.

Net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans

Net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans increased a nominal amount to \$1.5 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year.

(Gain) loss on disposal of property and equipment and asset held-for-sale

During the three months ended August 31, 2016, we disposed of property and equipment and realized a nominal loss. During the three months ended August 31, 2015, we realized a gain of \$0.4 million on the sale of the Vancouver newspapers production facility.

Loss on derivative financial instruments

Loss on derivative financial instruments for the three months ended August 31, 2016 was \$4.4 million as compared to a loss of \$21.9 million during the same period in the prior year. The loss in the three months ended August 31, 2016 includes a loss of \$4.3 million related to the change in fair value of our variable prepayment option embedded derivatives on the First-Lien Notes and Second-Lien Notes and a loss of \$0.1 million related to the warrants acquired, as discussed previously in "Recent Developments". The loss in the three months ended August 31, 2015 relates to the change in fair value of our variable prepayment option embedded derivatives.

Foreign currency exchange losses

Foreign currency exchange losses for the three months ended August 31, 2016 were \$0.3 million as compared to \$19.4 million during the same period in the prior year. Foreign currency exchange losses consist primarily of unrealized losses related to changes in the carrying value of the Second-Lien Notes.

Loss before income taxes

Loss before income taxes was \$99.4 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to \$66.8 million for the same period in the prior year. The increase in loss before income taxes is primarily the result of an increase in operating loss and interest expense, partially offset by decreases in loss on derivative financial instruments and foreign currency exchange losses, all as discussed above.

Recovery of income taxes

We did not record a current or deferred tax expense or recovery for the three months ended August 31, 2016. Recovery of income taxes for the three months ended August 31, 2015 was \$12.7 million as a result of the recognition of a portion of our historical tax loss carryforwards which offset the scheduled reversal of taxable temporary differences acquired in the Sun Acquisition. We have not recognized any of our remaining cumulative tax loss carryforwards.

Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company

Net loss was \$99.4 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to \$54.1 million for the same period in the prior year, as a result of the factors described above in loss before income taxes and recovery of income taxes.

Operating Results

Postmedia's operating results for the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the year ended August 31, 2015

	2016	2015
Revenues		
Print advertising.....	466,573	404,685
Print circulation.....	260,885	221,969
Digital.....	110,577	97,669
Other.....	39,121	25,960
Total revenues	877,156	750,283
Expenses		
Compensation	361,738	293,326
Newsprint.....	50,591	37,015
Distribution.....	162,778	122,863
Production.....	70,787	58,908
Other operating.....	148,921	126,759
Operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring	82,341	111,412
Depreciation.....	22,018	31,957
Amortization.....	21,919	40,146
Impairments.....	267,700	153,043
Restructuring and other items.....	42,570	34,622
Operating loss	(271,866)	(148,356)
Interest expense.....	72,649	69,157
Net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans.....	5,798	5,577
(Gain) loss on disposal of property and equipment and asset held-for-sale.....	294	(1,157)
Loss on derivative financial instruments.....	2,995	18,389
Foreign currency exchange (gains) losses.....	(1,120)	61,764
Loss before income taxes	(352,482)	(302,086)
Recovery of income taxes.....	-	(38,681)
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	(352,482)	(263,405)

Revenue

Print advertising

Print advertising revenue increased \$61.9 million, or 15.3%, to \$466.6 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, print advertising revenue decreased \$58.8 million, or 19.1%, and was experienced across all of our major categories including decreases from local advertising of 18.1%, national advertising of 26.5%, and insert advertising of 6.6%. The decreases were due to declines in both volume and rate with the total print advertising lineage and average line rate decreasing 14.6% and 8.7%, respectively, during the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year.

Print circulation

Print circulation revenue increased \$38.9 million, or 17.5%, to \$260.9 million for the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, print circulation revenue decreased \$14.0 million, or 7.6%, as a result of paid circulation volume decreasing 6.8%.

Digital

Digital revenue increased \$12.9 million, or 13.2%, to \$110.6 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, digital revenue decreased \$1.9 million, or 2.2%, as a result of decreases in digital classified revenue of \$1.9 million and local and national digital advertising revenue of \$3.5 million, partially offset by increases in other digital revenue of \$2.5 million.

Other

Other revenue increased \$13.2 million to \$39.1 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, other revenue decreased \$3.4 million, or 19.5%, as compared to the same period in the prior year.

Expenses

Compensation

Compensation expenses increased \$68.4 million, or 23.3%, to \$361.7 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in compensation expenses is primarily related to the Sun Acquisition, the recovery of \$17.3 million of compensation expense relating to the Ontario Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit in the year ended August 31, 2015 as described earlier in “Events Impacting the Historical Consolidated Financial Statements” and an increase in employee benefit plan expense of \$3.2 million as a result actuarial losses related to our other long-term employee benefit plans, partially offset by declines in salary and benefits expense due to the cost reduction initiatives and decreases in share-based compensation and other long-term incentive plan expense of \$0.3 million and short-term incentive plan expense of \$0.6 million.

Newsprint

Newsprint expenses increased \$13.6 million to \$50.6 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, newsprint expenses decreased \$3.7 million, or 15.2%, as a result of consumption decreases of 16.6% due to continued usage reduction efforts as well as lower newspaper circulation volumes, partially offset by an increase in newsprint cost per tonne of 1.7%. Newsprint expenses include newsprint purchased for production at both our owned and outsourced production facilities.

Distribution

Distribution expenses increased \$39.9 million to \$162.8 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in distribution expenses is primarily related to the Sun Acquisition partially offset by cost savings as a result of the reduction in newspaper circulation volumes and cost reduction initiatives.

Production

Production expenses increased \$11.9 million to \$70.8 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in production expenses is primarily related to the Sun Acquisition and the outsourcing of the Vancouver newspapers in February 2015 partially offset by the reduction in newspaper circulation volumes and ongoing cost reduction initiatives.

Other operating

Other operating expenses increased \$22.2 million, or 17.5%, to \$148.9 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in other operating expenses is primarily related to the Sun Acquisition partially offset by the ongoing cost reduction initiatives.

Operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring

Operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring decreased \$29.1 million to \$82.3 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The decrease in operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring was as a result of increases in compensation, newsprint, distribution, production and other operating expenses, partially offset by increases in revenue, all as discussed above.

Depreciation

Depreciation expense decreased \$9.9 million to \$22.0 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The decrease relates primarily to reduced depreciation of the production assets of the Vancouver newspapers as a result of the outsourced production of these newspapers in February 2015, partially offset by additional depreciation expense related to the property and equipment acquired as part of the Sun Acquisition.

Amortization

Amortization expense decreased \$18.2 million to \$21.9 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The decrease relates primarily to finite life intangible assets that were fully amortized in the year ended August 31, 2015, partially offset by the additional amortization expense related to the finite life intangible assets acquired as part of the Sun Acquisition.

Impairments

During the year ended August 31, 2016 and 2015, we completed our annual impairment testing of goodwill and indefinite life intangible assets. In addition, during the three months ended August 31, 2016 and February 29, 2016 we performed interim impairment tests due to indicators of potential impairment and concluded our assets were impaired. As a result of the impairment tests during the year ended August 31, 2016, we recorded an impairment charge of \$267.7 million which consisted of \$88.4 million related to goodwill and \$179.3 million related to intangible assets. During the year ended August 31, 2015, we recorded an impairment of \$150.7 million which consisted of \$80.0 million related to goodwill and \$70.7 million related to intangible assets. The impairments were as a result of the uncertainty of the print advertising market and the rapidly evolving digital advertising market. In addition, due to the outsourcing of the production of the Edmonton Journal in August 2013, the production facility was no longer required. The estimated fair value less costs of disposal of the Edmonton production facility was reduced to \$8.2 million based on the expected net proceeds and as a result, during the year ended August 31, 2015, we recorded an impairment of \$2.3 million.

Restructuring and other items

Restructuring and other items expense increased \$7.9 million to \$42.6 million for the year ended August 31, 2016 as compared to the same period in the prior year. Restructuring and other items expense for the year ended August 31, 2016 consists of severance costs of \$29.8 million, which include both involuntary and voluntary buyouts, \$3.8 million for onerous leases related to unoccupied property and \$8.9 million of costs related to the Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments”. Restructuring and other items expense for the year ended August 31, 2015 consisted of severance costs of \$21.8 million, which include both involuntary terminations and voluntary buyouts, and acquisition costs and integration costs related to the Sun Acquisition of \$10.4 million and \$2.4 million, respectively, as described earlier in “Events Impacting the Historical Consolidated Financial Statements”.

Operating loss

Operating loss increased \$123.5 million to \$271.9 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. The increase in operating loss is primarily the result of a decrease in operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring, an increase in impairments and restructuring and other items expense, partially offset by decreases in depreciation and amortization expense, all as discussed above.

Interest expense

Interest expense increased \$3.5 million, or 5.0%, to \$72.6 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year. Interest expense primarily relates to interest on our long-term debt that is recognized using the effective interest rate method, which amortizes the initial debt financing costs and includes both cash and non-cash interest. The increase in interest expense relates to an increase in non-cash interest expense of \$4.1 million and a decrease in cash interest expense of \$0.6 million. The increase in non-cash interest is related to the acceleration of the amortization of debt issuance costs due to a revised estimate of the expected future cash flows as a result of the Recapitalization Transaction described earlier in “Recent Developments”. The decrease in cash interest is as a result of a net decrease of \$1.5 million related to the Second-Lien Notes as interest did not accrue after July 15, 2016 as part of the Recapitalization Transaction, partially offset by an increase in the US dollar currency translation. In addition, cash interest expense decreased \$0.2 million related to the First-Lien Notes as a result of a net decrease in the amount of First-Lien Notes outstanding due to contractual principal payments. These decreases were partially offset by interest income earned in the year ended August 31, 2015 related to interest from certain deposits associated with the Sun Acquisition of \$0.7 million and the Ontario Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit of \$0.5 million as described earlier in “Events Impacting the Historical Consolidated Financial Statements”.

Net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans

Net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans increased \$0.2 million to \$5.8 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year.

(Gain) loss on disposal of property and equipment and asset held-for-sale

During the year ended August 31, 2015, we disposed of property and equipment and realized a loss of \$0.3 million. During the year ended August 31, 2015, we disposed of property and equipment and assets held-for-sale and realized a gain of \$1.2 million.

Loss on derivative financial instruments

Loss on derivative financial instruments for the year ended August 31, 2016 was \$3.0 million as compared to \$18.4 million during the same period in the prior year. The loss in the year ended August 31, 2016 includes a loss of \$2.1 million related to the change in fair value of our variable prepayment option embedded derivatives on the First-Lien Notes and Second-Lien Notes and a loss of \$0.9 million related to the warrants acquired, as discussed previously in "Recent Developments". The loss in the year ended August 31, 2015 relates to the change in fair value of our variable prepayment option embedded derivatives.

Foreign currency exchange (gains) losses

Foreign currency exchange gains for the year ended August 31, 2016 were \$1.1 million as compared to foreign currency exchange losses of \$61.8 million during the same period in the prior year. Foreign currency exchange gains and losses consist primarily of unrealized gains or losses related to changes in the carrying value of the Second-Lien Notes.

Loss before income taxes

Loss before income taxes was \$352.5 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to \$302.1 million for the same period in the prior year. The increase in loss before income taxes is primarily the result of increases in operating loss and interest expense, partially offset by foreign currency exchange gains and a decrease in loss on derivative financial instruments, all as discussed above.

Recovery of income taxes

We did not record a current or deferred tax expense or recovery for the year ended August 31, 2016. Recovery of income taxes for the year ended August 31, 2015 was \$38.7 million as a result of the recognition of a portion of our historical tax loss carryforwards which offset the scheduled reversal of taxable temporary differences acquired in the Sun Acquisition. We have not recognized any of our remaining cumulative tax loss carryforwards.

Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company

Net loss for the year ended August 31, 2016 was \$352.5 million as compared to \$263.4 million for the same period in the prior year, as a result of the factors described above in loss before income taxes and recovery of income taxes.

Consolidated quarterly financial information

(\$ in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share information)	Fiscal 2016				Fiscal 2015			
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total revenues.....	198,674	218,318	209,084	251,080	230,232	205,092	145,445	169,514
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company.....	(99,440)	(23,682)	(225,129)	(4,231)	(54,092)	(140,840)	(58,218)	(10,255)
Net loss per share attributable to equity holders of the Company								
Basic.....	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.80)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.19)	\$ (0.84)	\$ (1.45)	\$ (0.26)
Diluted.....	\$ (0.35)	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.80)	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.19)	\$ (0.84)	\$ (1.45)	\$ (0.26)
Cash flows from (used in) operating activities.....	(4,698)	6,421	(5,591)	(2,712)	(4,394)	28,377	(641)	2,640

Liquidity and capital resources

Our principal uses of funds are for working capital requirements, debt servicing and capital expenditures. Based on our current and anticipated level of operations as well as the Recapitalization Transaction described earlier in “Recent Developments”, we believe that our cash on hand and cash flows from operations will enable us to meet our working capital, debt servicing, capital expenditure and other funding requirements. However, our ability to fund our working capital needs, debt servicing and other funding requirements depends on our future operating performance and cash flows. There are a number of factors which may adversely affect our operating performance and our ability to meet these obligations as described earlier in “Key Factors Affecting Operating Results”. Our cash flows from operating activities may be impacted by, among other things, the overall strength of the economy, competition from digital media and other forms of media as well as competition from alternative emerging technologies. In addition, in recent years there has been a growing shift in advertising dollars from newspaper advertising to other advertising formats, particularly online and other digital platforms such as search and social media websites. More recently, we have experienced continued declines in revenues due to ongoing economic and structural factors resulting in an increasingly challenging operating environment. We have significant debt obligations which currently include the First-Lien Notes (\$302.8 million) that mature in August 2017 and Second-Lien Notes (US\$268.8 million) that mature in July 2018. Pursuant to the Recapitalization Transaction described earlier in “Recent Developments” the contractual obligation related to our long-term debt was significantly reduced with extended maturities. The industry challenges impact liquidity risk which is the risk that we will not be able to meet our financial obligations as they come due or the risk that those financial obligations have to be met at excessive cost. We manage this risk by monitoring cash flow forecasts, the implementation of a number of cost reduction initiatives as described earlier in “Recent Developments”, deferring or eliminating discretionary spending and monitoring and maintaining compliance with terms of the note indentures.

As at August 31, 2016, we have restricted cash of \$4.8 million (August 31, 2015 - \$25.4 million). Pursuant to the First-Lien Notes indenture, any net proceeds from an asset disposition in excess of \$10.0 million shall be deemed as Mandatory Offer Collateral Proceeds and would be used to make an offer to redeem an equal amount of First-Lien Notes, while any net proceeds from an asset disposition of more than \$5.0 million but less than \$10.0 million are restricted to use in that they must be reinvested in the business. During the year ended August 31, 2015, net proceeds of \$17.2 million and \$8.2 million related to the sales of the Vancouver newspapers and the Edmonton Journal production facilities, respectively, were recorded as restricted cash on the consolidated statement of financial position. During the year ended August 31, 2016, restricted cash related to the Vancouver newspapers production facility was used to redeem \$6.5 million aggregate principal amount of First-Lien Notes and pay accrued interest of \$0.2 million. In addition, \$5.7 million was reinvested in the business through the purchase of property and equipment and intangible assets. During the year ended August 31, 2016, \$8.2 million of restricted cash related to the Edmonton Journal production facility was reinvested in the business through the purchase of property and equipment and intangible assets. The remaining restricted cash of \$4.8 million was being held in trust by the Second-Lien Notes noteholders and was released to Postmedia upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction, as described earlier in “Recent Developments”. Pursuant to the revised First-Lien Note indenture upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction, any net proceeds from an asset disposition in excess of \$0.1 million are held in a collateral account by the First-Lien noteholders. When the aggregate amount of the collateral account exceeds \$1.0 million it will be used to make an offer to redeem an equal amount of First-Lien Notes.

Cash flows from (used in) operating activities

Our principal sources of liquidity are cash flows from operating activities. For the three months and year ended August 31, 2016, our cash flows from operating activities were outflows of \$4.7 million and \$6.6 million, respectively (2015 – outflows of \$4.4 million and inflows \$26.0 million, respectively). Cash flows from operating activities decreased \$0.3 million for the three months ended August 31, 2016, as compared to the same period in the prior year due to a decrease in operating income before depreciation, amortization and restructuring and an increase in restructuring and unoccupied lease payments of \$0.3 million, partially offset by a decrease in interest payments of \$21.3 million and an increase in the net change in non-cash working capital as compared to the same period in the prior year. Cash flows from operating activities were outflows of \$6.6 million for the year ended August 31, 2016, as compared to inflows of \$26.0 million in the same period in the prior year due to a decrease in operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring and an increase in restructuring and unoccupied lease payments of \$16.1 million, partially offset by a decrease in interest payments of \$12.9 million and an increase in the net change in non-cash working capital as compared to the same period in the prior year which included the receipt of the Ontario Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit as described earlier in “Events Impacting the Historical Consolidated Financial Statements”.

As at August 31, 2016 we had cash of \$17.1 million (August 31, 2015 – \$43.8 million).

Cash flows from (used in) investing activities

For the three months and year ended August 31, 2016, our cash flows from investing activities were outflows of \$6.3 million and \$14.7 million, respectively (2015 – inflows of \$23.6 million and outflows of \$270.1 million, respectively). The net cash outflows from investing activities during the three months ended August 31, 2016 include outflows on capital expenditures related to property and equipment of \$5.3 million and intangible assets of \$1.0 million. The net cash inflows from investing activities during the three months ended August 31, 2015 include the net proceeds received on the sales of the Vancouver newspapers and Edmonton Journal production facilities of \$16.9 million and \$8.2 million, respectively, partially offset by outflows on capital expenditures related to property and equipment of \$1.3 million and intangible assets of \$0.2 million.

The net cash outflows from investing activities during the year ended August 31, 2016 include outflows on capital expenditures related to property and equipment of \$11.7 million and intangible assets of \$5.0 million, as well as outflows related to a purchase of warrants of \$1.2 million as described earlier in “Recent Developments”, partially offset by net proceeds received from the sale of property and equipment of \$1.9 million, the receipt of the working capital receivable of \$1.2 million related to the Sun Acquisition as described earlier in “Recent Developments” and an income tax refund received in excess of the estimate related to the identifiable assets acquired in the Sun Acquisition of \$0.1 million. The net cash outflows from investing activities during the year ended August 31, 2015 include outflows related to the Sun Acquisition of \$303.5 million, outflows on capital expenditures related to property and equipment of \$4.2 million and intangible assets of \$0.8 million, partially offset by the net proceeds received on the sales of the Montreal Gazette, Vancouver newspapers and Edmonton Journal production facilities of \$12.4 million, \$16.9 million and \$8.2 million, respectively, and the net proceeds from the sale of property and equipment of \$0.8 million.

Cash flows from (used in) financing activities

For the three months and year ended August 31, 2016, our cash flows from financing activities were inflows of \$7.5 million and outflows of \$5.4 million, respectively (2015 – outflows of \$25.7 million and inflows of \$257.4 million, respectively). The cash inflows from financing activities during the three months ended August 31, 2016 represent the release of restricted cash of \$7.5 million as discussed above. The cash outflows from financing activities during the three months ended August 31, 2015 include the restricted cash of \$25.4 million as discussed above and \$0.3 million of debt issuance costs.

The net cash outflows from financing activities during the year ended August 31, 2016 include cash outflows related to our indebtedness as discussed below, partially offset by a release of restricted cash of \$20.6 million as discussed above. The net cash inflows from financing activities during the year ended August 31, 2015 include proceeds from the issuance of First-Lien Notes of \$140.0 million, proceeds from the issuance of shares of \$173.5 million, partially offset by related outflows of \$9.2 million of share issuance costs and \$5.5 million of debt issuance costs, as well as outflows from restricted cash of \$25.4 million as discussed above. In addition, we had cash outflows related to our indebtedness as discussed below.

Indebtedness

As of August 31, 2016, we have \$302.8 million First-Lien Notes and US\$268.6 million Second-Lien Notes outstanding (August 31, 2015 - \$328.8 million and US\$268.6 million, respectively). During the year ended August 31, 2016, we made contractual redemptions of \$26.0 million (2015 - \$16.0 million), of aggregate principal amount of First-Lien Notes at par in accordance with the terms and conditions of the First-Lien Notes indenture.

The following tables set out the principal and carrying amount of our long-term debt outstanding as at August 31, 2016 and August 31, 2015. The first column of the table translates, where applicable, our US dollar debt to the Canadian equivalent based on the closing foreign exchange rate on August 31, 2016 of US\$1:\$1.3116 (August 31, 2015 – US\$1:\$1.3157). Subsequent to August 31, 2016 we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments” and as of October 5, 2016, we have \$225.0 million First-Lien Notes and US\$115.5 million New Second-Lien Notes outstanding.

	As at August 31, 2016			As at August 31, 2015		
(\$ in thousands of Canadian dollars)	Financing fees, discounts and other			Financing fees, discounts and other		
	Principal Outstanding	Carrying Value		Principal Outstanding	Carrying Value	
First-Lien Notes (CDN\$).....	302,784	(1,739)	301,045	328,780	(4,604)	324,176
Second-Lien Notes (US\$268.6M).....	352,342	(239)	352,103	353,443	(5,287)	348,156
	655,126	(1,978)	653,148	682,223	(9,891)	672,332

Financial Position as at August 31, 2016 and August 31, 2015

(\$ in thousands of Canadian dollars)	As at August 31, 2016	As at August 31, 2015
Current assets.....	123,338	191,627
Total assets.....	507,098	874,097
Current liabilities.....	444,347	169,035
Total liabilities.....	985,540	963,387
Deficiency.....	(478,442)	(89,290)

The decrease in our current assets at August 31, 2016 as compared to August 31, 2015 is primarily due to a decrease in cash, restricted cash and accounts receivable. Total assets as at August 31, 2016 decreased as compared to August 31, 2015 as a result of a decrease in goodwill and intangible assets due to impairments recorded during the year ended August 31, 2016, a decrease in the carrying value of property and equipment and intangible assets as a result of depreciation and amortization during the year ended August 31, 2016, and the decrease in current assets as previously described. Current liabilities have increased due to an increase in the current portion of long-term debt due to the maturity of the First-Lien Notes prior to the Recapitalization Transaction described earlier in “Recent Developments” and an increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities, partially offset by a decrease in provisions. The increase in total liabilities is due to increases in our employee benefit plan liabilities as a result of actuarial losses in the year ended August 31, 2016 and the increase in current liabilities as previously described, partially offset by a decrease in the carrying value of long-term debt.

Transactions with Related Parties

As at August 31, 2016, GoldenTree Asset Management LP or its affiliates (“GoldenTree”) owned 146,694,259, or 53%, of our Variable Voting Shares (August 31, 2015 – 146,694,259, or 52%). On October 6, 2014, we entered into a standby purchase agreement with GoldenTree, pursuant to which GoldenTree agreed to take up any subscription receipts not otherwise subscribed for under the Rights Offering. During the year ended August 31, 2015, GoldenTree was paid \$7.1 million for acting as standby purchaser under the standby purchase agreement. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction and related Share Consolidation described earlier in “Recent Developments”, GoldenTree owned 977,945, or 1%, of our Shares.

Upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction Chatham owns approximately 61,166,689, or 65% of our Shares.

Financial Instruments and Financial Instruments Risk Management

Our activities expose us to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including foreign currency risk and interest rate risk), credit risk and liquidity risk.

Current risk management techniques utilized include monitoring fair value of derivative financial instruments, fair value of publicly traded debt, foreign exchange rates and interest rates with respect to interest rates and foreign currency risk, aging analysis and credit reviews for credit risk and cash flow projections for liquidity risk. Our enterprise risk management process is managed by a risk oversight committee composed of senior executives of Postmedia.

Foreign currency risk

As at August 31, 2016, approximately 54% of the outstanding principal on our long-term debt is payable in US dollars (August 31, 2015 – 52%). As at August 31, 2016 and 2015, we have US\$268.6 million Second-Lien Notes outstanding. Based on long-term debt outstanding as at August 31, 2016, a \$0.01 change in the period-end exchange rate of a Canadian dollar per one US dollar, holding all other variables constant, would have resulted in a \$2.7 million increase or decrease to foreign currency exchange gains in the statement of operations. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments” which results in approximately 34% of the outstanding principal on our long-term debt payable in US dollars.

Interest rate risk

On October 16, 2014 we entered into a new senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility (the “ABL Facility”) for an aggregate amount of up to \$20.0 million. The ABL Facility matured on October 16, 2015 and was not replaced. The ABL Facility bore interest at floating rates while the First-Lien Notes and Second-Lien Notes bear interest at fixed rates. Therefore, changes in interest rates only exposed us to interest rate risk on the portion of the ABL Facility that was drawn, if any, at the time of the interest rate change. As at August 31, 2016 we are not subject to cash flow interest rate risk.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to Postmedia if a customer or counterparty to a financial asset fails to meet its contractual obligations. As at August 31, 2016, no individual balance represented a significant portion of our accounts receivable. We establish an allowance for doubtful accounts based on the specific credit risk of our customers and historical trends. The allowance for doubtful accounts amounted to \$3.4 million as at August 31, 2016 (August 31, 2015 – \$4.8 million).

We continuously monitor the financial condition of our customers, review the credit history of each customer, review the aging of accounts receivable, evaluate significant individual credit risk accounts and utilize each customer’s historical experience in order to both grant credit and set up our allowance for doubtful accounts. If such collectability estimates prove inaccurate, adverse adjustments to future operating results could occur and could be material.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that we will encounter difficulties in meeting its financial obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. Economic and structural factors as well as the long-term debt maturities impact liquidity risk; however, we manage this risk by monitoring cash flow forecasts, implementing a number of cost reduction initiatives, deferring or eliminating discretionary spending and maintaining compliance with the terms of the note indentures. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments” which significantly reduces long-term debt and annual interest costs resulting in an improved capital structure and liquidity.

Our obligations under firm contractual arrangements, including commitments for future payments under finance lease arrangements, operating lease arrangements, and pension funding agreements and debt agreements as of August 31, 2016 are as follows:

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Thereafter
Finance lease.....	-	-	-	-	-	1,560
Operating leases and other.....	35,548	25,628	17,190	12,261	9,080	36,683
Estimated employee benefit plan funding obligations ⁽¹⁾	20,139	20,139	20,139	20,139	20,139	N/A
Long-term debt ⁽²⁾	302,784	352,342	-	-	-	-
Interest on long-term debt ⁽²⁾	97,460	44,043	-	-	-	-
	455,931	442,152	37,329	32,400	29,219	38,243

⁽¹⁾ Reflects expected contributions to our defined benefit pension benefit plans, post-retirement benefit plans and other long-term employee benefit plans. Information for our pension funding obligations is based upon our actuarial valuation dated December 31, 2013 and does not include funding obligations related to the four defined benefit pension plans created as part of the Sun Acquisition nor does it include calculations of our funding obligations beyond fiscal 2021. Future required payments are expected to be material. Our next required actuarial funding valuations for its existing defined benefit pension plans will be as at December 31, 2016 and must be complete by September 30, 2017.

⁽²⁾ Long-term debt and interest on long-term debt consist of only the mandatory contractual payments and does not consider any refinancing of the First-Lien or Second-Lien Notes. US Dollar long-term debt and the related interest payments have been converted to Canadian dollars using the closing exchange rate as at August 31, 2016 of US\$1:\$1.3116.

Subsequent to August 31, 2016 we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments”. The revised contractual undiscounted obligations related to long-term debt and interest after the completion of the Recapitalization Transaction are as follows:

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Thereafter
Long-term debt ⁽¹⁾	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	195,000	135,606
Interest on long-term debt ⁽¹⁾	10,582	18,356	17,531	31,602	37,159	35,453
	10,582	28,356	27,531	41,602	232,159	171,059

⁽¹⁾ Long-term debt and interest on long-term debt consist of only the mandatory contractual payments and does not consider any refinancing of the First-Lien or New Second-Lien Notes. US Dollar long-term debt and the related interest payments have been converted to Canadian dollars based on the exchange rate used in the Recapitalization Transaction of US\$1:\$1.3039.

Guarantees and Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any significant guarantees or off-balance sheet arrangements.

Future Accounting Standards

We have not early adopted the following new standards and the impacts on the audited consolidated financial statements have not yet been determined:

(i) IFRS 9 – Financial Instruments

The standard was issued in July 2014 and addresses classification and measurement of financial assets and replaces the multiple category and measurement models in IAS 39 – Financial Instruments – Recognition and Measurement for debt instruments with a new mixed measurement model having only two categories: amortized cost and fair value through profit or loss. The new standard also addresses financial liabilities and they largely carry forward existing requirements in IAS 39, except that fair value changes to credit risk for liabilities designated at fair value through profit and loss would generally be recorded in other comprehensive income. In addition, the new standard introduces a new hedge accounting model more closely aligned with risk management activities undertaken by entities. This standard is required to be applied for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018, with earlier adoption permitted.

(ii) IFRS 15 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers

The standard was issued in May 2014 and is a new standard that specifies the steps and timing for entities to recognize revenue as well as requiring them to provide more informative, relevant disclosures. The standard replaces IAS 11 - Construction Contracts and IAS 18 - Revenue, as well as various IFRIC and SIC interpretations regarding revenue. The standard is required to be applied for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018, with earlier adoption permitted for entities that would also adopt IFRS 15 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers.

(iii) IFRS 16 – Leases

The standard was issued in January 2016 and replaces IAS 17 – Leases. The new standard provides a single lessee accounting model which eliminates the distinction between operating and finance leases. In particular, lessees will be required to report most leases on the statement of financial position by recognizing right-of-use assets and related financial liabilities. Lessor accounting remains largely unchanged. The standard is required to be applied for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019, with earlier adoption permitted for entities that would also adopt IFRS 15 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers.

Risk Factors

The risks and uncertainties described below are those we currently believe to be material, but should not be considered exhaustive. If any of the following risks, or any other risks and uncertainties that we have not yet identified or that we currently consider not to be material, actually occur or become material risks, our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and consequently the price of our shares, the First-Lien Notes and Second-Lien Notes could be materially and adversely affected.

Risks Relating to Our Business

Competition from digital and other forms of media may impair our ability to generate advertising and circulation revenue.

Participants in the newspaper publishing industry depend primarily upon advertising sales, paid subscriptions and single copy newspaper sales in order to generate revenue. Competition for advertising, subscribers, readers and distribution is intense and comes primarily from digital media, as well as, television; radio; local, regional and national newspapers; magazines; free publications; direct mail; telephone directories; and other communications and advertising and subscriber-based media that operate in these markets. In addition, in recent years there has been a growing shift in advertising dollars from newspaper advertising to other advertising platforms, including digital media competitors such as search and social media. Participants in the digital media industry also depend upon the sale of advertisements and paid subscriptions in order to generate revenue. The digital media industry experiences additional competitive challenges because barriers to entry are low and geographic location is less relevant.

Participants in digital media platforms may improve their ability to target specific audiences and therefore become an even more attractive media for advertisers. These circumstances could result in our newspaper online media not being as competitive as they are currently in relation to these other forms of media. In order to respond to changing circumstances, the costs of producing or promoting editorial content may increase, or we may need to reduce our advertising and/or subscription rates, either of which could adversely affect our financial performance. Increased competition could also lead to additional expenditures for editorial content and marketing.

In addition, there is increasing consolidation in the Canadian newspaper publishing and other media industries, and competitors increasingly include market participants with interests in multiple media. These competitors may be more attractive than we are to certain advertisers because they may be able to bundle advertising sales across newspaper, television and internet platforms. Some of these competitors also have access to greater financial and other resources than we do.

Our ability to continue to compete successfully in the newspaper and online media industries and to attract advertising dollars, subscribers and readers will depend upon a number of factors, including:

- our continued ability to offer high-quality editorial content;
- the variety, quality and attractiveness of our products and services;
- the pricing of our products and services;
- the platforms on which our products and services are offered;
- the manner in which we market and promote our products and services;
- the effectiveness of the distribution of our products and services;
- our customer service; and
- the emergence of technologies resulting in further shifts from newspaper advertising to advertising in other formats, including new media outlets.

These factors are largely dependent upon on our ability to:

- identify and successfully respond to changes in technology, customer trends and preferences and online digital platforms such as search and social media;
- develop new products across our business lines;
- protect our intellectual property and avoid infringing the intellectual property rights of others;
- avoid damage to our brands or reputation;
- appeal to many demographics; and
- expand into new distribution channels, particularly with respect to digital media and online products.

There can be no assurance that existing and future competitors will not pursue or be capable of achieving similar or competitive business strategies. In addition, there can be no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully with existing or potential competitors, or that increased competition will not have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Advertising revenue is the largest component of our revenues and our advertising revenue is influenced by prevailing economic conditions and the prospects of our advertising customers. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, advertising revenue has been declining since 2009.

We generate revenue primarily from the sale of advertising. Advertising revenue, including both print and digital advertising represented 61.8% of our consolidated revenues in the year ended August 31, 2016 (2015 – 62.7%).

Advertising revenue is affected in part by prevailing economic conditions. Adverse economic conditions generally, and downturns in the Canadian economy specifically, have a negative impact on the Canadian advertising industry and, consequently, on our financial prospects. Excluding the impact of the Sun Acquisition, we have been experiencing a decline in advertising revenue since 2009.

Our advertising revenue is also dependent on the prospects of our advertising customers. Certain of our advertising customers operate in industries that may be cyclical or sensitive to general economic conditions, such as the automobile, financial, employment, technology, retail, food and beverage, telecommunications, travel, packaged goods and entertainment industries. Advertising customers could alter their spending priorities and reduce their advertising budgets in the event of a downturn in their business or prospects which would have an adverse effect on the revenue we generate from advertising. In addition, because a substantial portion of our revenue is derived from retail advertisers, our business, financial condition and results of operations would also be adversely affected by a further downturn in the retail sector.

A further reduction in advertising revenues could result from:

- the continuing shift from newspaper advertising to advertising in other formats, including new media outlets;
- a decline in economic conditions;
- a decline in the circulation volume of our newspapers, which appears to be permanent;
- a decline in popularity of our editorial content or perceptions about our brands;
- a change in the demographic makeup of the populations to which our newspapers are targeted;
- the activities of our competitors, including increased competition from other forms of advertising-based media (e.g., magazines, radio and television broadcasters, cable television, direct mail and electronic media), and online digital platforms such as search and social media; and
- a decline in the amount spent on advertising in general or in particular industries such as those discussed above.

To the extent the economic conditions worsen and the structural shifts in advertising revenue and circulation continue, our business and advertising revenues will continue to be adversely affected, which would in turn adversely impact our operations and cash flows.

Failure to fulfill our strategy of building our digital media and online businesses would adversely affect our business prospects.

The competitive environment in which we operate demands, and our future growth strategies incorporate, the development of our digital media and online businesses. We believe the consumer preference for digital media and online products will accelerate as younger, more technologically savvy customers make up a greater portion of our potential customer base. In order for our digital media and online businesses to succeed, we must invest time and significant resources in them, to, among other things:

- accelerate the evolution of existing products (such as local newspaper websites and national content channels);
- develop new digital media and online products (such as redesigned classified sites in automotive, employment and real estate categories);
- develop new content channels (such as mobile optimized formats, online video capabilities and content for tablet devices);
- attract and retain talent for critical positions;
- transform our organization and operating model to grow our digital media and online business;
- continue to develop and upgrade our technologies and supporting processes to distinguish our products and services from those of our competitors;
- sell advertising in significant markets, and be a compelling choice for advertisers online;
- attract and retain a base of frequent, engaged visitors to our websites; and
- continuously advance our digital offerings based on fast-moving trends that may pose opportunities as well as risks (such as tablets and mobile applications).

No assurance can be provided that we will be successful in achieving these and other necessary objectives or that our digital media and online businesses will be profitable or successful. Our failure to adapt to new technology or delivery methods, or our choice of one technological innovation over another, may have an adverse impact on our ability to compete for new customers or to meet the demands of our existing customers. If our digital media and online businesses are not successful, we could lose significant opportunities for new advertising revenue from digital sources while also losing advertising revenue from traditional sources due to the reallocation from print to digital advertising currently taking place. If we are not successful in achieving our digital media and online objectives, our business, financial condition and prospects would be materially adversely affected.

Our failure to maintain our print and online newspaper readership and circulation levels would limit our ability to generate advertising and circulation revenue.

Our ability to attract advertisers and thereby generate revenue and profits is dependent in large part upon our success in attracting readership of the newspapers and online publications that we publish. Readership and to a lesser extent circulation volume are the key drivers of advertising prices and revenue in the Canadian news and newspaper information industry.

We believe reader acceptance is a function of the editorial and advertising content being offered and is influenced by a number of factors, including:

- the availability of alternative forms of news and other editorial content;
- the availability of alternative forms of media technologies, such as the internet and other new media formats, that are often free for users;
- a growing preference among some customers to receive all or a portion of their news from sources other than from a newspaper;
- increases in subscription and newsstand rates;
- general economic conditions, including the resulting decline in consumer spending on discretionary items such as newspapers;
- reviews of critics, promotions, the quality and acceptance of other competing editorial content in the marketplace;
- public tastes and perceptions generally; and
- other intangible factors.

Circulation volumes of our newspapers have been declining in both the home delivered and single copy distribution channels. The rate of circulation decline could increase due to changing media consumption patterns of our readers or other factors, and these declines appear to be permanent. If we are unable to stop these declines or if the rate of decline were to accelerate, it will result in lower readership and circulation levels and, consequently, may lead to decreased advertising and other revenues.

Although we make significant investments in the editorial content of our newspapers, there can be no assurance provided that our newspapers will maintain satisfactory readership or circulation levels and any decrease in such levels may be permanent. In addition, factors affecting our readership levels could change rapidly, and many of the changes may be beyond our control and permanent. Loss of readership could have a material adverse effect on our ability to generate advertising and circulation revenue.

Because a high percentage of our operating expenses are fixed, a decrease in advertising revenue could have a negative impact on our results of operations.

Newspaper publishing is both capital and labour intensive and, as a result, newspapers have relatively high fixed cost structures. Advertising revenue, on which we rely for a majority of our revenue, may fluctuate due to a variety of factors whereas our expenses do not vary significantly with the increase or decrease in advertising revenue. As a result, a relatively small change in advertising revenue could have a disproportionate effect on our results of operations. For example, during periods of economic contraction, our advertising revenue may decline while most costs remain fixed, resulting in decreased earnings, as has been evident in the current economic environment.

The financial difficulties of certain of our contractors and vendors could have a negative impact on our results of operations.

The financial difficulties that some of our contractors and vendors may face, including one or more contractor or vendor bankruptcies due to poor economic conditions, may cause them to fail to provide us with products and/or services or may increase the cost of the products and services that they provide us. We may be unable to procure replacement products and/or services from other contractors or vendors in a timely and efficient manner and on acceptable terms, or at all. Any material change in these relationships, such as increased pricing, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, liquidity and cash flow.

We compete with alternative emerging technologies and anticipate that we will be investing a significant amount of capital to address continued technological development.

The media industry is experiencing rapid and significant technological changes that have resulted in the development of alternative means of editorial content distribution. The continued growth of the internet has presented alternative content distribution options that compete with traditional media for advertising revenue. We may not be able to compete successfully with existing or newly developed alternative distribution technologies, or may be required to acquire, develop or integrate new technologies in order to compete. The cost of the acquisition, development or implementation of any such new technologies could be significant, and our ability to fund such implementation may be limited. In addition, even if we were able to fund such an implementation, we may be unable to implement any such technologies successfully. Any such event could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

In addition, the continuing growth and technological expansion of internet-based services has increased existing competitive pressure on our businesses. As web-based and digital formats grab an increasingly larger share of consumer readership, we may lose customers or fail to attract new customers if we are not able to transition and update our publications and other products to these new and evolving formats. Furthermore, to the extent that advertisers continue to shift advertising dollars to new media outlets, advertising revenues will decrease even if we are able to maintain our current share of print media advertising dollars. The increased competition may have a material adverse effect on our business and financial results.

We may not be able to achieve a profitable balance between circulation levels and advertising revenues.

We must balance our circulation levels with our advertising revenue objectives. This balancing necessitates a continuous effort that varies by publication and requires effective management of the circulation rate, the addition of new subscribers through cost-effective marketing methods and effective advertising operations. To maintain our readership and circulation rates, it may be necessary to incur additional costs that we may not be able to recover through circulation and advertising revenues. No assurance can be provided that we will be able to add and retain a sufficient number of newspaper subscribers in an economically efficient manner. Failure to do this could require reductions of our circulation rate or the elimination of certain products, which would negatively affect our advertising revenues and could materially and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

We may not realize our anticipated cost savings from cost savings initiatives and any failure to manage costs would hamper profitability.

The level of our expenses impacts our profitability. Because of general economic and business conditions and our operating results, we have taken steps to lower operating costs by implementing cost savings initiatives including various transformation projects. During the year ended August 31, 2015, we completed our three year Transformation Program aimed at significantly reducing legacy newspaper infrastructure costs. Initiatives included the shutdown of Postmedia News, our breaking news service, the centralizing of editorial production services through Postmedia Editorial Services in Hamilton, the streamlining of advertiser flyer insert operations, the cancellation of Sunday editions in three markets due to unprofitability, the outsourcing of our classified call centre and the outsourcing of production in certain markets. In addition, we implemented initiatives to reduce product costs by optimizing our distribution footprint, production schedules and shared distribution.

During the year ended August 31, 2015, we announced our intention to eliminate an additional \$50 million of operating costs by the end of fiscal 2017. During the year ended August 31, 2016, the operating cost savings target was updated to \$80 million. These cost reductions are expected to come from a combination of acquisition synergies and further reorganization of our operations.

Estimates of cost savings are inherently uncertain, and we may not be able to achieve cost savings or expense reductions within the time frame we have projected or at all. Our ability to successfully realize savings and the timing of any realization may be affected by factors such as the need to ensure continuity in our operations, labour and other contracts, regulations and/or statutes governing employee/employer relationships, and other factors. In particular, certain of our collective bargaining agreements limit our ability to achieve operating efficiencies by limiting our ability to implement strategic initiatives. In addition, our implementation of these initiatives has and is expected to require upfront costs. There can be no assurance that we will be able to successfully contain our expenses or that even if our savings are achieved that implementation or other expenses will not offset any such savings. Our estimates of the future expenditures necessary to achieve the savings we have identified may not prove accurate, and any increase in such expenditures may affect our ability to achieve our anticipated savings. If these cost-control efforts do not reduce costs in line with our expectations, our financial position, results of operations and cash flows will be negatively affected.

Our revenue, which is generated primarily from advertisers, is subject to significant seasonal variations, which may increase our borrowing needs at various points in the year.

Our revenue has experienced, and is expected to continue to experience, seasonal variances due to seasonal advertising patterns and seasonal influences on media consumption habits. Typically, our revenue is lowest during the fourth quarter of our fiscal year, which ends in August, and highest during the first and third quarters, which end in November and May, respectively, while expenses are relatively constant throughout the fiscal year. These seasonal variations may lead to short-term fluctuations in cash flow, which could consequently leave us in a more constrained liquidity position.

Our intellectual property rights are valuable, and any inability to protect them or liability for infringing the intellectual property rights of others could reduce the value of our services and our brands.

We rely on the trademark, copyright, internet/domain name, trade secret and other laws of Canada and other countries, as well as nondisclosure and confidentiality agreements, to protect our intellectual property rights. However, we may be unable to prevent third parties from using our intellectual property without our authorization, breaching any nondisclosure agreements with us, acquiring and maintaining domain names that infringe or otherwise decrease the value of our trademarks and other proprietary rights, or independently developing intellectual property that is similar to ours, particularly in those countries that do not protect our proprietary rights as fully as in Canada. The use of our intellectual property by others could reduce or eliminate any competitive advantage we have developed, cause us to lose sales or otherwise harm our businesses. If it became necessary to litigate to protect these rights, any proceedings could be burdensome and costly, and we may not prevail.

We have obtained and applied for several Canadian and foreign service mark and trademark registrations, and will continue to evaluate the registration of additional service marks and trademarks, as appropriate. We cannot guarantee that any of our pending applications will be approved by the applicable governmental authorities. Moreover, even if the applications are approved, third parties may seek to oppose or otherwise challenge these registrations. A failure to obtain trademark registrations in Canada and in other countries could limit our ability to protect our trademarks and impede our marketing efforts in those jurisdictions.

We cannot be certain that our intellectual property does not and will not infringe the intellectual property rights of others. We may be subject to legal proceedings and claims in the ordinary course of our business, including claims of alleged infringement of the trademarks, copyrights and other intellectual property rights of third parties. Any such claims, whether or not meritorious, could result in costly litigation and divert resources and the efforts of our personnel. Moreover, should we be found liable for infringement, we may be required to enter into licensing agreements (if available on acceptable terms, or at all) or to pay damages and to cease using certain trademarks or copyrights or making or selling certain products, or to redesign or rename some of our products or processes to avoid future infringement liability. Any of the foregoing could cause us to incur significant costs.

We maintain many well-known mastheads, consumer brands and trademarks, damage to the reputation of any of which could have an adverse impact upon our business, financial performance or results of operations.

The mastheads, brand names and trademarks that we own are well-known to consumers and are important in maintaining existing business and sourcing new business, as our ability to attract and retain customers is in part dependent upon our external perceptions, the quality of our products and services and our integrity. Damage to the reputation of any of these brands or negative publicity or perceptions about us could have an adverse impact upon the business, financial performance or results of operations.

We may be adversely affected by variations in the cost and availability of newsprint.

Newsprint is our largest raw material expense, representing approximately 6.4% of total operating expenses excluding depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring in the year ended August 31, 2016 (2015 – 5.8%). Newsprint is a commodity and, as such, price varies considerably from time to time as a result of, among other factors, foreign currency exchange fluctuations and supply shortfalls. The price of newsprint can increase as a result of various factors, including consolidation in the newsprint industry, which has resulted in a smaller number of suppliers and reduced competition on price among them, and declining newsprint supply as a result of mill closures and conversions to other grades of paper. Changes in newsprint prices can significantly impact our operating results. We would expect a \$50 per tonne increase or decrease in the price of newsprint to affect our operating expenses by approximately \$4.1 million on an annualized basis. There can be no assurance that we will not be exposed to increased newsprint costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. In addition, if newspaper suppliers experience labour unrest, transportation difficulties or other supply disruptions, our ability to produce and deliver newspapers could be impaired and the cost of the newsprint could increase, both of which would negatively affect our operating results.

We rely upon information systems and technology and other manufacturing systems, disruptions to which could adversely affect our operations.

Our newspaper and digital media and online operations rely upon information technology systems, and other complex manufacturing systems, in order to produce and distribute our products. Our information technology and manufacturing systems may be vulnerable to unauthorized access, computer viruses, system failures, human error, natural disasters, fire, power loss, communications failure or acts of sabotage or terrorism. If a significant disruption or repeated failure were to occur, our business or revenue could be adversely affected. There may also be significant costs incurred as a result of such disruptions or failures that adversely affect our financial performance or capital expenditure levels.

Our operations could be adversely affected by labour disruptions, and labour agreements limit our ability to achieve operating efficiencies.

Approximately 29% of our staff were employed under 53 separate collective agreements as of August 31, 2016. A majority of our collective agreements include provisions that could impede restructuring efforts, including work force reduction, centralization, outsourcing and other initiatives. We are currently in negotiations with 15 bargaining units, covering 375 full-time equivalent employees, regarding expired agreements. In addition, we have 17 agreements that cover approximately 253 full-time equivalent employees that will expire by December 31, 2016. Of our remaining agreements, 14 expire in 2017 while the remainder expire in 2018.

There can be no assurance provided that any of these collective agreements will be renewed on satisfactory terms, or at all. Labour organizing activities could result in additional employees becoming unionized, which could result in higher ongoing labour costs and reduced flexibility in running our operations. In addition, labour disruptions or grievances could also affect our operations and certain unions have filed grievances against us alleging violations of one or more provisions of the applicable collective agreements. There can be no assurance provided that we will not experience other labour disruptions, or that a material grievance will not be decided against us, or that we will not experience other forms of labour protest. Any strike, lock out or other form of labour disruption could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of our operations.

Equipment failure may have a material adverse effect.

There is a risk of equipment failure, primarily related to our printing facilities, due to wear and tear, latent defect, design error or operator error, among other things, which could have a material adverse effect on us. Although our printing facilities have generally operated in accordance with expectations, there can be no assurance that they will continue to do so. There may also be significant costs incurred as a result of such disruptions or failures that adversely affect our financial performance or capital expenditure levels.

We are subject to environmental, health and safety laws and regulations, which could subject us to liabilities, increase our costs or restrict our business or operations in the future.

We are subject to a variety of laws and regulations concerning emissions to the air, water and land, sewer discharges, handling, storage and disposal of, or exposure to, hazardous substances and wastes, recycling, remediation and management of contaminated sites, or otherwise relating to protection of the environment and employee health and safety. Environmental laws and regulations and their interpretation have become increasingly more stringent, and we may incur additional expenses to comply with existing or future requirements. If we fail to comply with environmental or health and safety requirements we could incur monetary fines, civil or criminal sanctions, third-party claims or cleanup obligations or other costs. In addition, our compliance with environmental and health and safety requirements could restrict our ability to expand our operations or require us to install costly pollution control equipment, incur other significant expenses or modify our printing processes.

We use and store hazardous substances such as inks and solvents in conjunction with our operations at our printing facilities. Such hazardous substances have in the past been stored in underground storage tanks at some of our properties. Some of our printing and other facilities are located in areas with a history of long-term industrial use, and they may be impacted by past activities onsite or by contamination emanating from nearby industrial sites. In the past, we have had contamination resulting from leaks and spills at some of our locations. We have not conducted environmental site assessments with respect to all of our owned and leased facilities, and where such assessments have been conducted, they may not have identified all potential causes of environmental liability. There can be no assurance provided that remediation costs or potential claims for personal injury or property or natural resource damages resulting from any newly-occurring or newly-discovered contamination will not be material, or that a material environmental condition does not otherwise exist at any of our properties.

Our editorial content may be controversial and may result in litigation.

We have had, in the ordinary course of our business, and expect to continue to have, litigation claims filed against us, most of which are claims for defamation arising from the publication of our editorial content. While we maintain insurance in respect of claims for defamation, some claims made against us may not be insured or may result in costs above our coverage limits. In the event that a judgement is rendered against us, there can be no assurance that our insurance coverage will cover that particular loss.

We are currently involved in unresolved litigation matters.

We are involved in various legal claims arising in the ordinary course of our newspaper and digital media and online businesses. The majority of these claims are brought pursuant to defamation laws in the province of publication. We maintain a multi-media liability insurance policy in respect of defamation claims. Subject to the terms and conditions of that policy, and the insurer's coverage position in respect of individual claims, the resolution of these matters is not expected to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Failure to comply with “Canadian newspaper” status would materially affect our financial results and our business prospects.

Under the Tax Act, generally no deduction is allowed for an outlay or expense for advertising space in an issue of a newspaper for an advertisement directed primarily to a market in Canada, unless the issue is a “Canadian issue” of a “Canadian newspaper.”

In order to qualify as a “Canadian issue”, the issue generally must have its type set in Canada, be edited in Canada by individuals resident in Canada for purposes of the Tax Act and be printed and published in Canada. Issues of our newspapers currently meet these criteria.

The test of whether a newspaper is a “Canadian newspaper” depends on the jurisdiction, governance, factual control and share ownership of the corporation which directly publishes the newspaper. We publish our newspapers directly. In order to satisfy the requirements of a “Canadian newspaper” (subject to a statutory 12 month grace period), we must satisfy the following: (i) the corporation must be incorporated under the laws of Canada or a province thereof, (ii) the chairperson or other presiding officer and at least 75% of the directors or other similar officers of the corporation must be Canadian citizens, and (iii) the corporation must not be controlled, in fact, directly or indirectly, by persons or partnerships who could not themselves hold the right to produce and publish issues of a “Canadian newspaper”, including by citizens or subjects of a country other than Canada.

In addition, under the share ownership requirements, at least 75% of a non-public corporation’s voting shares and shares having a fair market value in total of at least 75% of the fair market value of all issued shares of a non-public corporation, must be beneficially owned by either (i) Canadian citizens or (ii) one or more Qualifying Public Corporations. Upon the listing of Postmedia Network Canada Corp’s shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange (“TSX”), it became a Qualifying Public Corporation. As Postmedia Network Inc. is a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Postmedia Network Canada Corp., our newspapers qualify as “Canadian newspapers”.

Issues of our newspapers therefore qualify as “Canadian issues” of “Canadian newspapers” (or otherwise fall outside of the limitation on deductibility of advertising expenses) and as a result advertisers currently have the right to deduct their advertising expenditures for Canadian tax purposes.

There can be no assurance that issues of the newspapers published or produced by us will continue to be “Canadian issues” of “Canadian newspapers” under the Tax Act, or that Canadian federal income tax laws respecting the treatment of deductibility of advertising expenses incurred in relation to “Canadian issues” of “Canadian newspapers” will not be changed in a manner which adversely affect us.

If our newspapers cease to be “Canadian newspapers” for purposes of the Tax Act, it is expected that our advertising revenue will decline significantly, which would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The collectability of accounts receivable could deteriorate to a greater extent than provided for in our financial statements.

In the normal course of business, we are exposed to credit risk for accounts receivable from our customers. Our accounts receivable are carried at net realizable value and our allowance for doubtful accounts has been determined based on several factors, including the aging of accounts receivable, evaluation of significant individual credit risk accounts and historical experience. If such collectability estimates prove inaccurate, adverse adjustments to future operating results could occur and could be material.

We may have additional asset impairments

As at August 31, 2016, we had intangible assets of \$117.1 million. We conduct annual impairment testing to determine if we will be able to recover all or a portion of the carrying value of indefinite life intangible assets. In addition, we are required to review indefinite life intangible assets for impairment more frequently if impairment indicators arise. If the recoverable amount is insufficient to recover the carrying amount of our indefinite life intangible assets, we may be required to record a material non-cash charge to the statement of operations.

As disclosed in note 5 of our audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015, we concluded that under IFRS during the year ended August 31, 2016 we had impairments of \$267.7 million (2015 – \$153.0 million). The impairments during the year ended August 31, 2016 included an impairment loss related to goodwill of \$88.4 million and intangible assets of \$179.3 million. The impairments during the year ended August 31, 2015 included an impairment loss related to: goodwill of \$80.0 million and intangible assets of \$70.7 million. In addition, we had an impairment loss of \$2.3 million during the year ended August 31, 2015 with respect to the net proceeds received on the sale of the Edmonton Journal production facility.

We monitor impairment indicators on a quarterly basis. Significant changes in market conditions, and estimates or judgements used to determine expected future cash flows that indicate a reduction in carrying value, may give rise to impairments in the period that the change becomes known and such impairments could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

Disruptions in the credit markets could adversely affect the availability and cost of short-term funds for liquidity requirements, and could adversely affect our access to capital or our ability to obtain financing at reasonable rates and refinance existing debt at reasonable rates or at all.

If internal funds are not available from our operations, we may be required to rely on the banking and credit markets to meet our financial commitments and short-term liquidity needs. Disruptions in the capital and credit markets could adversely affect our ability to access additional funds in the capital markets or draw on or refinance our existing or any future credit facilities. Although we believe that our operating cash flow and access to capital and credit markets will give us the ability to meet our financial needs for the foreseeable future, there can be no assurance provided that continued or increased volatility and disruption in the capital and credit markets will not impair our liquidity. If this should happen, we may not be able to put alternative credit arrangements in place or without a potentially significant increase in our cost of borrowing. As of August 31, 2016, we have \$302.8 million First-Lien Notes and US\$268.6 million Second-Lien Notes outstanding. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments”.

We may be adversely affected by the availability and terms of our insurance policies.

We carry liability, property and casualty insurance and director and officer liability insurance coverage subject to certain deductibles, limits and exclusions which we believe are customary or reasonable given the cost of procuring insurance and current operating conditions. However, there can be no assurance that: (i) such insurance coverage will continue to be offered on economically feasible terms, (ii) all events which could give rise to a loss or liability will be insurable, or (iii) the amounts of insurance coverage will at all times be sufficient to cover each and every material loss or claim which may occur involving our assets or operations.

Our underfunded registered pension plans or our inability to make required cash contributions to our pension plans could have a material adverse effect on us, our business, cash flows, operations and financial condition.

We maintain several defined benefit and defined contribution plans providing pension and other retirement and post-employment benefits to our employees. Provincial pension legislation requires that the funded status of registered defined benefit pension plans be determined on both a going concern basis (which essentially assumes the pension plan continues indefinitely) and a solvency basis (which essentially assumes a cessation of a pension plan, and is based on statutory requirements). Based on our most recently filed actuarial valuations as of December 31, 2013, the aggregate going concern surplus was approximately \$24.6 million and the aggregate wind up deficiency (which essentially assumed that all of the pension plans terminated on their actuarial valuation dates) was approximately \$57.7 million. The actual funded status of our pension plans and our contribution requirements are dependent on many factors, including regulatory developments and changes to legislation, changes to the level of benefits provided by the plans, actuarial assumptions and methods used, changes in plan demographics and experience, and changes in the economic conditions, such as the return on fund assets and changes in interest rates and other factors. Additionally, significant changes in investment performance or in a change in the portfolio mix of invested assets can result in corresponding increases and decreases in the valuation of plan assets, particularly equity securities, or in a change to the expected rate of return on plan assets. Significant variations in pension performance could produce volatility in our reported results, and significant underfunding in our pension plans could necessitate higher company contributions to those plans, which could have a material effect on our cash flows, liquidity and financial condition.

Significant changes in pension fund investment performance or assumptions relating to pension costs may have a material effect on the valuation of pension obligations, the funded status of pension plans and our pension cost.

Our pension cost is materially affected by the discount rate used to measure defined benefit obligations, and the level of plan assets available to fund those obligations at the measurement date. A change in the discount rate could result in a significant increase or decrease in the valuation of pension obligations, affecting the reported funded status of our pension plans as well as the net pension cost in subsequent fiscal years.

We may be adversely affected by foreign exchange fluctuations.

As of August 31, 2016, approximately 54% of the outstanding principal of our long-term debt is denominated in US dollars and interest, principal and premium, if any, on such borrowings must be paid in US dollars. As at August 31, 2016, we have US\$268.6 million of Second-Lien Notes outstanding. Canadian currency is volatile and may retain the same or higher levels of volatility in the coming years. As a result, we have significant exposure to foreign exchange rate risk. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments”.

Our distribution costs could increase due to increases in fuel prices.

Although we do not incur significant fuel related distribution costs directly, our third-party distributors are adversely affected by rising fuel costs. Significant increases in fuel prices could result in increased fees paid to our distributors in the form of fuel subsidies or surcharges. Significant increases in fuel prices could result in material increases to our distribution expenses which could result in an adverse effect to our financial condition and results of operations.

We outsource certain aspects of our business to third-party vendors that may fail to reduce costs and may subject us to risks, including disruptions in our business and increased costs.

We continuously seek to make our cost structure more efficient and to focus on our core strengths. These efforts include contracting with other companies to perform functions or operations that, in the past, we have performed ourselves. We currently rely on partners or third-party service providers for services such as the provision of advertising production, call centre services, and certain of our printing operations, and we may outsource additional business functions in the future. Although we believe that outsourcing will result in lower costs and increased efficiencies, this may not be the case. Because these third parties may not be as responsive to our needs as we might be ourselves or they experience problems to their own operations beyond our control, outsourcing increases the risk of disruption to our operations. If we are unable to effectively utilize, or integrate with, our outsource providers, or if these partners or third-party service providers experience business difficulties or are unable to provide business services as anticipated, we may need to seek alternative service providers or resume providing these business processes internally, which could be costly and time-consuming and have a material adverse effect on our business and results of operations.

Our business may suffer if we are not able to retain and attract sufficient qualified personnel, including key managerial, editorial, technical, marketing and sales personnel.

We operate in an industry where there is intense competition for experienced personnel. We depend on our ability to identify, recruit, hire, train, develop and retain qualified and effective personnel. Our future success depends in large part upon the continued contribution of our senior management and other key employees. A loss of a significant number of skilled managerial, editorial or technical personnel would have a negative effect on the quality of our products. Similarly, a loss of a significant number of experienced and effective marketing and sales personnel would likely result in fewer sales of our products and could materially and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition. Our ability to identify, recruit, hire, train, develop and retain qualified and effective personnel depends on numerous factors, including factors that we cannot control, such as competition and conditions in the local employment markets in which we operate. The loss of the services of any of our senior management or other key employees could harm our business and materially and adversely affect our ability to compete in our markets. Although we have employment agreements with certain members of senior management and key employees, those individuals may choose to terminate their respective employment at any time, and any such termination may have a material adverse effect on our business.

Increases in sales and other taxes could reduce our revenues and impact profit and cash flows.

In the markets in which we operate, some or all of our products are subject to local and national sales taxes and other taxes such as value-added taxes. Increases in taxes may have a negative effect on the sales of our products. Higher taxes may reduce profit margins on our products if we are unable to pass on the increase to our customers.

The occurrence of natural or man-made disasters could disrupt the marketing and promotion and delivery of our products and services, and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operation.

The success of our businesses is largely contingent on the availability of direct access to customers. As a result, any event that disrupts or limits our direct access to customers or disrupts our ability to rely on delivery services would materially and adversely affect our business. We are exposed to various risks arising out of natural disasters, as well as man-made disasters, including acts of terrorism and military actions. The threat of terrorism and ongoing military actions may cause significant volatility in global financial markets, and a natural or man-made disaster could trigger an economic downturn in the areas directly or indirectly affected by the disaster. These consequences could, among other things, result in a decline in business from those areas. Disasters also could disrupt public and private infrastructure, including communications and financial services, which could disrupt our normal business operations. In addition, increased energy costs, strikes and other labour-related supply chain disruptions could adversely affect our business. A natural or man-made disaster also could disrupt the operations of our counterparties or result in increased prices for the products and services they provide to us.

We have become subject to the requirements of Regulation 52-109 on Certification of Disclosure in Issuers' Annual and Interim Filings and must devote time and resources to maintain compliance.

As a result of listing our shares on the TSX in the year ended August 31, 2011 we are subject to the requirements of Regulation 52-109, which requires, among other things, public companies to maintain disclosure controls and procedures to ensure timely disclosure of material information, and, to have management review the effectiveness of those controls on an annual basis. These requirements may place a strain on our systems and resources. Regulation 52-109 also requires public companies to have and maintain internal controls over financial reporting to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and preparation of financial statements and to have management review the effectiveness of those controls on an annual basis following the filing of a company's first annual report. In order to maintain and improve our disclosure controls and procedures and internal control over financial reporting, significant resources and management oversight are required. This may divert management's attention from other business concerns, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

If we fail to maintain an effective system of internal controls, we may not be able to provide timely and reliable financial reports.

We are responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, which is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Our business could be adversely affected by a change of laws.

Changes to the laws, regulations and policies governing our operations, the introduction of new laws, regulations or policies and changes to the treatment of the tax deductibility of advertising expenditures could have a material effect on our business, financial condition, prospects and results of operations. In addition, we may incur increased costs in order to comply with existing and newly adopted laws and regulations or pay penalties for any failure to comply. It is difficult to predict in what form laws and regulations will be adopted or how they will be construed by the relevant courts, or the extent to which any changes might adversely affect us.

Security breaches and other disruptions could compromise our information and expose us to liability, which would cause our business and reputation to suffer.

In the ordinary course of our business, we collect and store sensitive data, including intellectual property, our proprietary business information and that of our customers, suppliers and business partners, as well as personally identifiable information of our customers (including credit card information) and employees, on our networks. The secure processing, maintenance and transmission of this information is critical to our operations and business strategy. Despite our security measures, our information technology and infrastructure may be vulnerable to attacks by hackers or breached due to employee error, malfeasance or other disruptions. Any such breach could compromise our networks and the information stored there could be accessed, publicly disclosed, lost or stolen. Any such access, disclosure or other loss of information could result in legal claims or proceedings, liability under laws that protect the privacy of personal information, regulatory penalties, disrupt our operations and the services we provide to customers, damage our reputation, and cause a loss of confidence in our products and services, which could adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows.

Risks Related to our Indebtedness

Our substantial indebtedness could adversely affect our financial condition.

As of August 31, 2016, total carrying value of amounts outstanding under our respective debt agreements was \$653.1 million (August 31, 2015 - \$672.3 million). Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments”.

Subject to the limits contained in the indenture that governs the First-Lien Notes and the indenture that governs the Second-Lien Notes, we may be able to incur substantial additional debt from time to time to finance working capital, capital expenditures, investments or acquisitions, or for other purposes. If we do so, the risks related to our high level of debt could intensify. Specifically, our high level of debt could have important consequences, including the following:

- making it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to the First-Lien Notes and Second-Lien Notes;
- limiting our ability to obtain additional financing to fund future working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions or other general corporate requirements;
- requiring a substantial portion of our cash flows to be dedicated to debt service payments instead of other purposes, thereby reducing the amount of cash flows available for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions and other general corporate purposes;
- increasing our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions;
- exposing us to the risk of increased interest rates if of our borrowings are at variable rates of interest;
- limiting the flexibility in planning for and reacting to changes in the industry in which we compete;
- placing us at a disadvantage compared to other, less leveraged competitors; and
- increasing our cost of borrowing.

In addition, the indenture that governs the First-Lien Notes and the indenture that governs the Second-Lien Notes contain restrictive covenants that limit our ability to engage in activities that may be in our long-term best interests. Our failure to comply with those covenants could result in an event of default which, if not cured or waived, could result in the acceleration of all our debts.

Despite our current level of indebtedness, we may be able to incur substantially more debt. This could further exacerbate the risks to our financial condition described above.

Our operating subsidiary may be able to incur significant additional indebtedness in the future. Although the indenture that governs the First-Lien Notes and the indenture that governs the Second-Lien Notes contain restrictions on the incurrence of additional indebtedness, these restrictions are subject to a number of qualifications and exceptions and the additional indebtedness incurred in compliance with these exceptions could be substantial. We may be able to issue additional First-Lien Notes under the indenture under certain circumstances, and may be able to incur other indebtedness that ranks equally with the First-Lien Notes. These borrowings would be secured indebtedness. If new debt is added to our current debt levels, the related risks that we and our operating subsidiary now face could intensify. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments”.

The terms of the First-Lien Notes and the Second-Lien Notes restrict our current and future operations, particularly our ability to respond to changes or to take certain actions.

The indenture that governs the First-Lien Notes and the indenture that governs the Second-Lien Notes contain a number of restrictive covenants that impose significant operating and financial restrictions on us and may limit our ability to engage in acts that may be in our long-term best interests, including, among other things, restrictions on our ability to:

- incur additional indebtedness;
- pay dividends or make other distributions or repurchase or redeem certain indebtedness or capital stock;
- make loans and investments;
- sell assets;
- incur certain liens;
- enter into transactions with affiliates;
- alter the businesses we conduct;
- enter into agreements restricting any subsidiary's ability to pay dividends; and
- consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of our assets.

A breach of the covenants under the indenture that governs the First-Lien Notes and the indenture that governs the Second-Lien Notes could result in an event of default under the applicable indebtedness. Such default may allow our creditors to accelerate the repayment of the related debt and may result in the acceleration of any other debt to which a cross-acceleration or cross-default provision applies. Furthermore, if we are unable to repay the amounts due and payable under the First-Lien Notes or the Second-Lien Notes, the applicable lenders could proceed against the collateral granted to such lenders to secure the indebtedness under the applicable facility. As a result of these restrictions, we may be:

- limited in how we conduct our business;
- unable to raise additional debt or equity financing to operate during general economic or business downturns; or
- unable to compete effectively or to take advantage of new business opportunities.

These restrictions may affect our ability to grow in accordance with our plans.

We did not replace our ABL Facility

We had an ABL Facility with an availability of an aggregate amount of up to \$20 million. The ABL Facility was secured on a first-priority basis by accounts receivable, cash and inventory of Postmedia Network Inc. and any related assets of Postmedia Network Canada Corp. The ABL Facility matured on October 16, 2015. We did not rely on the ABL Facility however the flexibility it provided will no longer be available during periods of constrained liquidity.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness and may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under our indebtedness, which may not be successful.

Our ability to make scheduled payments on or to refinance our debt obligations and derivative financial instruments depends on our financial condition and operating performance, which are subject to prevailing economic and competitive conditions and to certain financial, business, legislative, regulatory and other factors beyond our control. We may be unable to maintain a level of cash flows from operating activities sufficient to permit us to pay the future amounts due on our indebtedness.

If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to fund our debt service obligations, we could face substantial liquidity problems and could be forced to reduce or delay investments and capital expenditures or to dispose of material assets or operations, seek additional debt or equity capital or restructure or refinance indebtedness. We may not be able to affect any such alternative measures, if necessary, on commercially reasonable terms, or at all and, even if successful, such alternative actions may not allow us to meet our scheduled debt service and derivative financial instrument obligations. The indenture that governs the First-Lien Notes and the indenture that governs the Second-Lien Notes restrict our ability to dispose of assets and use the proceeds from any such dispositions and may also restrict our ability to raise debt or equity capital to be used to repay other indebtedness when it becomes due. We may not be able to consummate those dispositions or to obtain proceeds in an amount sufficient to meet any debt service and derivative financial instrument obligations then due.

Our inability to generate sufficient cash flows to satisfy our debt and derivative financial instrument obligations, or to refinance indebtedness on commercially reasonable terms, or at all, would materially and adversely affect our business, financial position and results of operations, and our ability to satisfy such obligations.

If we cannot make scheduled payments on our debt, we will be in default and, as a result, holders of the First-Lien Notes and Second-Lien Notes could declare all outstanding principal and interest to be due and payable. In addition, our secured lenders could foreclose on or exercise other remedies against the assets securing such borrowings on a basis senior to the First-Lien Notes and we could be forced into bankruptcy, liquidation or other insolvency proceedings.

Risks Relating to Our Shares

An active public market for the Shares has not yet been developed.

On June 14, 2011 our Class C voting shares and our Class NC variable voting shares (“Shares”) began trading on the TSX. An active public market for the Shares has not yet developed and, if developed, may not be sustained. If an active public market does not develop, the liquidity of an investment in our Shares, and therefore the ability to buy or sell our Shares at or near the market price, may be limited. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in “Recent Developments”.

Volatile market price for the Shares.

The market price for the Shares may be volatile and subject to wide fluctuations in response to numerous factors, many of which are beyond our control, including the following:

- the lack of liquidity in the trading of our Shares;
- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our quarterly results of operations;
- changes in estimates of future results of operations by ourselves or securities research analysts;
- changes in the economic performance or market valuations of other companies that investors deem comparable to us;
- addition or departure of our executive officers and other key personnel;
- release or other transfer restrictions on outstanding Shares;
- sales or perceived sales of additional Shares;
- our dual class share structure;
- significant acquisitions or business combinations, strategic partnerships, joint ventures or capital commitments by or involving ourselves or our competitors; and
- news reports relating to trends, concerns or competitive developments, regulatory changes and other related issues in our industry or target markets.

Financial markets are susceptible to significant price and volume fluctuations that may affect the market prices of equity securities of companies and may be unrelated to the operating performance, underlying asset values or prospects of such companies. Accordingly, the market price of the Shares may decline even if our operating results, underlying asset values or prospects have not changed. Additionally, these factors, as well as other related factors, may cause decreases in asset values which may result in impairment losses. As well, certain institutional investors may base their investment decisions on consideration of our environmental, governance and social practices and performance against such institutions’ respective investment guidelines and criteria, and failure to meet such criteria may result in a limited or no investment in the Shares by those institutions, which could adversely affect the trading price of the Shares. There can be no assurance that continuing fluctuations in price and volume will not occur. If such increased levels of volatility and market turmoil continue, our operations could be adversely impacted and the trading price of the Shares may be adversely affected.

We have a dual class share structure.

Our authorized capital consists of two classes: Voting Shares and Variable Voting Shares. The Voting Shares may only be beneficially owned by persons that are Canadian. If a Canadian acquires Variable Voting Shares, such Shares will be automatically converted into Voting Shares. A holder of Voting Shares, however, has the option at any time to convert some or all of such Shares into Variable Voting Shares and to convert those Shares back to Voting Shares. Given these conversion features and the fact that we will not know whether a purchaser of Variable Voting Shares is a Canadian unless such person completes a declaration provided by our transfer agent, the transfer agent's records of the amount of Voting Shares and Variable Voting Shares outstanding at any one time may not be accurate. As we believe that the issued and outstanding Variable Voting Shares as at August 31, 2016 represent more than 98% of the outstanding Shares, if a Canadian acquires Variable Voting Shares such Shares would automatically convert into a larger percentage of the outstanding Voting Shares. In certain circumstances, such an acquisition may constitute an indirect take-over bid under applicable securities laws and require the offeror to make a formal take-over bid for the outstanding Voting Shares or, alternatively, rely on certain exemptions from the formal take-over bid requirements under applicable securities laws. Purchasers of our Shares should consider applicable take-over bid laws as well as the Postmedia Rights Plan prior to purchasing Shares that may represent more than 20% of any class. For purposes of determining beneficial ownership under the Postmedia Rights Plan, Variable Voting Shares beneficially owned or controlled by a person or subject of Canada are deemed to also include the Voting Shares into which such Variable Voting Shares could be converted. In addition, one class of Shares may be less liquid than the other and the classes of Shares may have different trading prices. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in "Recent Developments".

Postmedia Network Canada Corp. is a holding company.

Postmedia Network Canada Corp. ("PNCC") is a holding company and a substantial portion of its assets are the capital stock of its subsidiary, Postmedia Network Inc. ("PMNI"). As a result, investors in PNCC are subject to the risks attributable to PMNI. As a holding company, PNCC conducts substantially all of its business through PMNI, which generates substantially all of its revenues. Consequently, PNCC's cash flows and ability to complete current or desirable future enhancement opportunities are dependent on the earnings of PMNI and the distribution of those earnings to PNCC. The ability of PMNI to pay dividends and other distributions will depend on its operating results and will be subject to applicable laws and regulations which require that solvency and capital standards be maintained, and contractual restrictions contained in the instruments governing its debt. In the event of a bankruptcy, liquidation or reorganization of PMNI, holders of indebtedness and trade creditors will generally be entitled to payment of their claims from the assets of the subsidiary before any assets are made available for distribution to PNCC.

Future sales of Shares by directors and executive officers.

Subject to compliance with applicable securities laws, officers and directors and their affiliates may sell some or all of their Shares in the future. No prediction can be made as to the effect, if any, such future sales of Shares will have on the market price of the Shares prevailing from time to time. However, the future sale of a substantial number of Shares by our officers and directors and their affiliates, or the perception that such sales could occur, could adversely affect prevailing market prices for the Shares.

Dilution and future sales of Shares may occur.

Our articles permit the issuance of an unlimited number of Shares, and shareholders will have no pre-emptive rights in connection with such further issuances. Our directors have the discretion to determine the price and the terms of issue of further issuances of Shares. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, we completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described earlier in "Recent Developments".

Internal Controls

Disclosure controls and procedures within Postmedia have been designed to provide reasonable assurance that all relevant information is identified to its management, including the President and Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) and the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”), as appropriate, to allow required disclosures to be made in a timely fashion.

Internal controls over financial reporting have been designed by management, under the supervision of and with the participation of the CEO and CFO, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of Postmedia’s financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS.

Management previously limited the scope of the design of internal controls over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures to exclude the controls, policies and procedures related to the Sun Acquisition. The scope limitation was in accordance with Section 3.3 of National Instrument 52-109, Certification of Disclosure in Issuer’s Annual and Interim Filings, which allows an issuer to limit its design of internal controls over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures to exclude the controls, policies and procedures of a company acquired not more than 365 days before the end of the financial period to which the certificate relates. For the six months ended August 31, 2016, the internal controls over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures are in scope related to the Sun Acquisition.

The CEO and CFO of Postmedia have evaluated the effectiveness of Postmedia’s internal controls over financial reporting during the year ended August 31, 2016. Based on this evaluation, the CEO and CFO concluded that disclosure controls and procedures and internal controls over financial reporting were effective as at August 31, 2016. The CEO and CFO have evaluated whether there were changes to Postmedia’s internal control over financial reporting during the three months ended August 31, 2016, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, internal control over financial reporting. There were no changes expected to have a material effect on internal control over financial reporting identified during their evaluation.

Share Capital

As at October 17, 2016 we had the following number of shares and options outstanding:

Class C voting shares.....	40,636
Class NC variable voting shares.....	93,676,563
Total shares outstanding.....	<u>93,717,199</u>

Total options and restricted share units outstanding.....	<u>-</u>
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POSTMEDIA NETWORK CANADA CORP.
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015

Approved for issuance: October 20, 2016

Management's Responsibility for Consolidated Financial Statements

The accompanying consolidated financial statements of Postmedia Network Canada Corp. (the "Company") and its subsidiaries are the responsibility of management and have been approved by the Board of Directors of Postmedia Network Canada Corp.

Management is responsible for the preparation of these consolidated financial statements in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards, as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board, the selection of accounting policies and making significant accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements. Management is also responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting which includes those policies and procedures that provide reasonable assurance over the completeness, fairness and accuracy of the consolidated financial statements and other financial items.

The Board of Directors fulfills its responsibility for the consolidated financial statements principally through its Audit Committee, which is composed of independent external directors. The Audit Committee reviews the Company's annual consolidated financial statements and recommends their approval to the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee meets with the Company's management and external auditors to discuss internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters and financial reporting issues, and formulates the appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors. The auditor appointed by the shareholders has full access to the Audit Committee, with or without management being present.

The external auditors appointed by the Company's shareholders, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, conducted an independent audit of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards and express their opinion thereon. Those standards require that the audit is planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement.



Paul Godfrey
President and
Chief Executive Officer



Doug Lamb
Chief Financial Officer and
Executive Vice President

Toronto, Canada
October 20, 2016



October 20, 2016

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Shareholders of Postmedia Network Canada Corp.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Postmedia Network Canada Corp. and its subsidiaries, which comprise the consolidated statements of financial position as at August 31, 2016 and August 31, 2015 and the consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive loss, changes in deficiency and cash flows for the years then ended, and the related notes, which comprise a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's responsibility for the consolidated financial statements

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

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits 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 consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated 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 consolidated financial statements.

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

*PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
PwC Tower, 18 York Street, Suite 2600, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5J 0B2
T: +1 416 863 1133, F: +1 416 365 8215*

"PwC" refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an Ontario limited liability partnership.



Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Postmedia Network Canada Corp and its subsidiaries as at August 31, 2016 and August 31, 2015 and their financial performance and their cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

POSTMEDIA NETWORK CANADA CORP.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts)

	2016	2015
Revenues		
Print advertising	466,573	404,685
Print circulation	260,885	221,969
Digital	110,577	97,669
Other	39,121	25,960
Total revenues	877,156	750,283
Expenses		
Compensation (note 7)	361,738	293,326
Newsprint	50,591	37,015
Distribution	162,778	122,863
Production	70,787	58,908
Other operating	148,921	126,759
Operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring (note 3)	82,341	111,412
Depreciation (note 10)	22,018	31,957
Amortization (note 11)	21,919	40,146
Impairments (notes 5, 10, 11 and 12)	267,700	153,043
Restructuring and other items (notes 1, 4, and 14)	42,570	34,622
Operating loss	(271,866)	(148,356)
Interest expense	72,649	69,157
Net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans (note 16)	5,798	5,577
(Gain) loss on disposal of property and equipment and asset held-for-sale (note 10)	294	(1,157)
Loss on derivative financial instruments (note 8)	2,995	18,389
Foreign currency exchange (gains) losses	(1,120)	61,764
Loss before income taxes	(352,482)	(302,086)
Recovery of income taxes (note 4)	-	(38,681)
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	(352,482)	(263,405)
Loss per share attributable to equity holders of the Company (note 17):		
Basic	\$ (1.25)	\$ (1.98)
Diluted	\$ (1.25)	\$ (1.98)

The notes constitute an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

POSTMEDIA NETWORK CANADA CORP.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015

(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

	2016	2015
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	(352,482)	(263,405)
Amounts not subsequently reclassified to the statement of operations		
Net actuarial losses on employee benefits, net of tax of nil (note 16)	(36,816)	(1,444)
Other comprehensive loss	(36,816)	(1,444)
Comprehensive loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	(389,298)	(264,849)

The notes constitute an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

POSTMEDIA NETWORK CANADA CORP.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015

(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

	2016	2015
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	17,139	43,813
Restricted cash (notes 6 and 10)	4,804	25,373
Accounts receivable	82,018	99,548
Income taxes receivable (note 19)	-	3,700
Inventory (note 9)	7,036	6,879
Prepaid expenses and other assets	12,341	12,314
Total current assets	123,338	191,627
Non-Current Assets		
Property and equipment (notes 5 and 10)	261,986	274,511
Derivative financial instruments (note 8)	298	2,093
Other assets (note 16)	4,339	3,998
Intangible assets (notes 5 and 11)	117,137	313,394
Goodwill (notes 4, 5 and 12)	-	88,474
Total assets	507,098	874,097
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 13)	89,849	87,083
Provisions (note 14)	16,853	18,546
Deferred revenue	36,600	37,410
Current portion of long-term debt (note 15)	301,045	25,996
Total current liabilities	444,347	169,035
Non-Current Liabilities		
Long-term debt (note 15)	352,103	646,336
Employee benefit obligations and other liabilities (notes 16 and 18)	188,479	147,574
Provisions (note 14)	611	442
Total liabilities	985,540	963,387
Deficiency		
Capital stock (note 17)	535,468	535,468
Contributed surplus (note 18)	10,315	10,169
Deficit	(1,024,225)	(634,927)
Total deficiency	(478,442)	(89,290)
Total liabilities and deficiency	507,098	874,097

Commitments (note 22), Subsequent event (note 26)

On October 20, 2016, the Board of Directors (the "Board") approved the consolidated financial statements.

On behalf of the Board,

Signed
Paul Godfrey
 Director

Signed
Rod Phillips
 Chair

The notes constitute an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

POSTMEDIA NETWORK CANADA CORP.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN DEFICIENCY

FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015

(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

	2016			
	Capital stock	Contributed surplus	Deficit	Total Deficiency
Balance as at August 31, 2015	535,468	10,169	(634,927)	(89,290)
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	-	-	(352,482)	(352,482)
Other comprehensive loss	-	-	(36,816)	(36,816)
Comprehensive loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	-	-	(389,298)	(389,298)
Share-based compensation plans (note 18)	-	146	-	146
Balance as at August 31, 2016	535,468	10,315	(1,024,225)	(478,442)

	2015			
	Capital stock	Contributed surplus	Deficit	Total Equity (Deficiency)
Balance as at August 31, 2014	371,132	9,890	(370,078)	10,944
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	-	-	(263,405)	(263,405)
Other comprehensive loss	-	-	(1,444)	(1,444)
Comprehensive loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	-	-	(264,849)	(264,849)
Share-based compensation plans (note 18)	-	279	-	279
Shares issued (note 4)	173,500	-	-	173,500
Share issuance costs (note 4)	(9,164)	-	-	(9,164)
Balance as at August 31, 2015	535,468	10,169	(634,927)	(89,290)

The notes constitute an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

POSTMEDIA NETWORK CANADA CORP.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015

(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

	2016	2015
CASH GENERATED (UTILIZED) BY:		
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company	(352,482)	(263,405)
Items not affecting cash:		
Depreciation (note 10)	22,018	31,957
Amortization (note 11)	21,919	40,146
Impairments (notes 5, 10, 11 and 12)	267,700	153,043
Loss on derivative financial instruments (note 8)	2,995	18,389
Non-cash interest	8,016	3,905
(Gain) loss on disposal of property and equipment and asset held-for-sale	294	(1,157)
Non-cash foreign currency exchange (gains) losses	(1,107)	61,494
Share-based compensation plans and other long-term incentive plan expense (recovery) (note 18)	(166)	102
Deferred income tax recovery	-	(38,681)
Net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans (note 16)	5,798	5,577
Employee benefit funding in excess of compensation expense (note 16)	(1,468)	(2,573)
Net change in non-cash operating accounts (note 24)	19,903	17,185
Cash flows from (used in) operating activities	(6,580)	25,982
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Net proceeds from the sale of property and equipment and asset held-for-sale (note 10)	1,949	38,319
Purchases of property and equipment (note 10)	(11,736)	(4,206)
Purchases of intangible assets (note 11)	(3,973)	(753)
Purchase of warrants (note 8)	(1,200)	-
Receipt of working capital adjustment (note 4)	1,208	-
Acquisitions, net of cash acquired (notes 4 and 11)	(915)	(303,458)
Cash flows used in investing activities	(14,667)	(270,098)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt (notes 4 and 15)	-	140,000
Proceeds from issuance of shares (note 4)	-	173,500
Repayment of long-term debt (note 15)	(25,996)	(15,983)
Restricted cash (note 6)	20,569	(25,373)
Debt issuance costs (notes 4 and 15)	-	(5,541)
Share issuance costs (note 4)	-	(9,164)
Cash flows from (used in) financing activities	(5,427)	257,439
Net change in cash	(26,674)	13,323
Cash at beginning of year	43,813	30,490
Cash at end of year	17,139	43,813
	2016	2015
Supplemental disclosure of operating cash flows		
Interest paid	(49,783)	(62,688)
Income taxes (paid) received (note 12)	3,785	(47)

The notes constitute an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

POSTMEDIA NETWORK CANADA CORP.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2016 AND 2015

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except as otherwise noted)

1. DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS AND RECAPITALIZATION

Postmedia Network Canada Corp. ("Postmedia" or the "Company") is a holding company that has a 100% interest in its subsidiary Postmedia Network Inc. ("Postmedia Network"). The Company was incorporated on April 26, 2010, pursuant to the Canada Business Corporations Act. The Company's head office and registered office is 365 Bloor Street East, 12th Floor, Toronto, Ontario.

The Company's operations consist of both news and information gathering and dissemination operations, with products offered in local, regional and major metro markets in Canada through a variety of print, web, tablet and smartphone platforms, and digital media and online assets including the *canada.com* and *canoe.com* websites, each newspaper's online website and Infomart, the Company's media monitoring service. The Company supports these operations through a variety of centralized shared services. The Company has one operating segment for financial reporting purposes, the Newsmedia segment. The Newsmedia segment's revenue is primarily from advertising and circulation/subscription revenue.

On April 7, 2016, the Company announced that management, as overseen by an independent special board committee, was reviewing alternatives to improve its operations, capital structure and financial liquidity. The Company has experienced continued declines in revenues due to ongoing economic and structural factors resulting in an increasingly challenging operating environment. These challenges have had an impact on liquidity risk which is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they come due or the risk that those financial obligations have to be met at excessive cost. On July 7, 2016, the Company announced a proposed recapitalization transaction which was completed on October 5, 2016 (the "Recapitalization Transaction") by way of a corporate plan of arrangement (a "Plan of Arrangement") under the Canada Business Corporations Act as described below.

The Company redeemed \$77.8 million aggregate principal amount of 8.25% Senior-Secured Notes due 2017 ("First-Lien Notes") at par, plus accrued interest of \$10.8 million, from proceeds from the Recapitalization Transaction resulting in a total of \$225.0 million First-Lien Notes outstanding. In addition, the maturity date of the First-Lien Notes was extended to July 15, 2021 and they are subject to semi-annual mandatory principal redemptions equal to 50% of excess cash flow, calculated as per the terms of the First-Lien Notes indenture, with a minimum of \$10.0 million annually. The First-Lien Notes are and will continue to be secured on a first priority basis by substantially all of the assets of the Company ("First-Lien Notes Collateral").

The Company's 12.5% Senior-Secured Notes due 2018 ("Second-Lien Notes") were exchanged for Class NC variable voting shares of the Company ("Variable Voting Shares") that represent approximately 98% of the outstanding shares. Accrued interest of \$21.9 million (US\$16.8 million) originally due on July 15, 2016 was paid in cash upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction. In addition, the Company issued US\$88.6 million (CDN\$115.5 million) of 10.25% Second-Lien Secured Notes due 2023 ("New Second-Lien Notes") for net proceeds of US\$84.4 million (CDN\$110.0 million). The Plan of Arrangement included the offering of the New Second-Lien Notes to holders of existing Second-Lien Notes, on a pro-rata basis determined based on their holdings of Second-Lien Notes as at August 5, 2016. The New Second-Lien Notes offering was backstopped by certain individual funds for which Chatham Asset Management LLC acts as investment advisor ("Chatham") pursuant to a backstop commitment letter (the "Backstop Commitment Letter"). In consideration for entering into the Backstop Commitment Letter, Chatham received a fee of US\$4.2 million (CDN\$5.5 million), which was used to acquire additional New Second-Lien Notes included in the US\$88.6 million (CDN\$115.5 million) described above. The New Second-Lien Notes will bear interest at 10.25% cash interest or 11.25% paid-in-kind interest, at the option of the Company subject to the conditions of no cash interest for the first three years unless the aggregate amount of First-Lien Notes, together with any other first-lien debt of the Company, is \$112.5 million or less. The New Second-Lien Notes are secured on a second priority basis by the First-Lien Notes Collateral.

As part of the Plan of Arrangement, the Class C voting shares and Variable Voting Shares of the Company ("Shares") were consolidated on the basis of one Share for every 150 existing Shares (the "Share Consolidation") and all outstanding options, restricted share units and other rights to acquire Shares (except pursuant to the Postmedia Rights Plan) were cancelled and all outstanding deferred share units were settled for \$0.4 million in cash. The share option plan and restricted share unit plan will remain and the deferred share unit plan was terminated upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction. The Recapitalization Transaction resulted in the Company issuing 91,842,855 Variable Voting Shares after the Share Consolidation. As at October 5, 2016 the Company has 93,717,199 Shares outstanding. Upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction, existing shareholders collectively own approximately 2% of the outstanding Shares of the Company and Chatham owns approximately 61,166,689, or 65% of the Company's Shares (note 23).

During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company incurred \$8.9 million of costs related to the Recapitalization Transaction, which are included in restructuring and other items on the consolidated statement of operations. Included in these costs are advisory, legal and other professional or consulting fees, as well as compensation expense associated with a key employment retention program.

The Company does not expect the Recapitalization Transaction to result in any cash taxes. However, it is anticipated that the settlement of the Second-Lien Notes will result in debt forgiveness for tax purposes that will be completely offset by available income tax attributes, including previously unused non-capital losses (note 19).

Restricted cash of \$4.8 million, as described in note 6, released to the Company upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction. Pursuant to the revised First-Lien Note indenture upon Completion of the Recapitalization Transaction, any net proceeds from an asset disposition in excess of \$0.1 million are held in a collateral account by the First-Lien noteholders. When the aggregate amount of the collateral account exceeds \$1.0 million it will be used to make an offer to redeem an equal amount of First-Lien Notes.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are described below.

(a) Basis of presentation

The Company prepares its consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

(b) Basis of measurement

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for the revaluation of derivative financial instruments to fair value, certain assets classified as held-for-sale which were recorded at fair value less costs of disposal and the deferred share unit plan which is recorded at fair value.

(c) Principles of consolidation

These consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and Postmedia Network, along with its subsidiaries. Subsidiaries are all entities which the Company controls. For accounting purposes, control is established by an investor when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated on consolidation.

(d) Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires management to make estimates, assumptions and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, related amounts of revenues and expenses, and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. Although these estimates, assumptions and judgements are based upon management's best knowledge of the amount, event or actions; actual results could differ from those estimates, assumptions and judgements.

The following significant areas require management to use assumptions and to make estimates:

Impairment of goodwill and long lived assets

The Company tests goodwill and indefinite life intangible assets for impairment annually, or more frequently if there are indicators that an impairment may have arisen. In testing for impairment, assets including indefinite life intangible assets and other long lived assets, are grouped into a cash generating unit ("CGU" or "CGUs") which represents the lowest level for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows. For the purpose of goodwill impairment testing, goodwill is allocated to each CGU (or group of CGUs) based on the level at which management monitors goodwill, however not higher than an operating segment. Accordingly, management has allocated its goodwill to its single operating segment, the Newsmedia operating segment. The recoverable amount of each CGU or group of CGUs is based on the higher of value in use and fair value less costs of disposal calculations ("FVLCD"). During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company computed the FVLCD for each CGU using a market multiple range of 4.0 to 4.25 times the adjusted trailing twelve month operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring less disposal costs. Management determined this key assumption based on an average of market multiples for comparable entities.

During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company computed the FVLCD for each CGU using a discounted cash flow model that required market participant assumptions about future cash flows and discount rates. The future cash flows were based on management's best estimate considering historical and expected operating plans, economic conditions and the general outlook for the industry and markets in which the Company operates. The cash flow projections were based upon financial forecasts prepared by management covering a three year period and cash flows after the three year period were extrapolated using industry growth rates. The after tax discount rate represented a weighted average cost of capital ("WACC") for comparable companies operating in the Company's industry, based on publicly available information. The WACC is a market participant estimate of the overall required rate of return on an investment for both debt and equity owners and served as the basis for developing an appropriate discount rate. Determination of the WACC required separate analysis of the cost of equity and debt, and considered a market participant risk premium based on an assessment of risks related to the projected cash flows.

Additional information on the Company's impairment testing is contained in note 5.

Employee future benefits

The cost of defined benefit pension benefit plans, post-retirement benefit plans and other long-term employee benefit plans and the present value of the defined benefit obligation are determined using actuarial valuations. An actuarial valuation involves making various assumptions including the discount rate to measure the net defined benefit obligation and mortality rates, among others. Due to the complexity of the actuarial valuations and the long-term nature of employee future benefits, the corresponding obligation is highly sensitive to changes in assumptions. Discount rates are reviewed at each reporting date and corresponding adjustments to the net defined benefit obligation are recognized in other comprehensive income and deficit. Additional information on the Company's employee benefit plans is contained in note 16.

The following areas require management to use significant judgements apart from those involving estimates:

Determination of useful lives for the depreciation and amortization of assets with finite lives

For each class of assets with finite lives, management has to determine over which period the Company will consume the asset's future economic benefits. The determination of such periods and if necessary, the subsequent revision of such periods, involves judgement and has an impact on the depreciation and amortization recorded in the consolidated statements of operations. The Company takes into account industry trends and Company specific factors, including changing technologies and expectations for the in-service period of assets, when determining their respective useful lives.

Determination of fair value of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed in a Business Combination

For all identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed, management has to determine the fair value at acquisition. The determination of fair value involves judgement and has an impact on the property and equipment and intangible assets and the related deferred income tax effect recorded in the consolidated statement of financial position.

Determination of the recoverability of deferred tax assets

Judgement is required in determining whether deferred tax assets are recognised. Deferred tax assets, including those arising from unutilised tax losses require management to assess the likelihood that the Company will generate taxable earnings in future periods, in order to utilize deferred tax assets. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date based upon the likely timing and the level of the reversal of existing taxable temporary differences, future taxable income and future tax planning strategies. Deferred tax assets are reduced to the extent that in management's judgement it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realized.

Determination of the measurement of government grants and tax credits

Judgement is required in determining when government grants and tax credits are recognized. Government grants and tax credits are recognized when there is reasonable assurance that the Company has complied with the conditions associated with the relevant government program. The determination of reasonable assurance involves judgement due to the complexity of the programs and related claim and review processes.

(e) Disposals of non-current assets

Non-current assets are classified as held for sale if the carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continued use, they are available for sale in their present condition and such sale is considered highly probable. The criteria for a sale to be considered highly probable includes a firm decision by the appropriate level of management or the Board to dispose of a business or a group of assets, such business or group of assets must be actively marketed for a price that is reasonable in relation to their current market value and there must be an expectation that such disposal will be completed within a twelve month period. Assets held for sale are carried at the lower of their carrying amount or FVLCD.

(f) Foreign currency translation

These consolidated financial statements are presented in Canadian dollars, the Company's functional and reporting currency. As at the date of the statement of financial position, monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into Canadian dollars using the foreign currency exchange rate in effect at that date. Revenues and expense items are translated at the foreign currency exchange rate in effect when the transaction occurred. The resulting foreign currency exchange gains and losses are recognized in the statement of operations in foreign currency exchange (gains) losses.

(g) Cash

Cash is composed of cash on hand and current balances with banks. Cash not available for immediate use is classified as restricted cash.

(h) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs consist of interest and other costs that the Company incurs in connection with the borrowing of funds. Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of an asset that necessarily takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sale are capitalized as part of the cost of the asset. All other borrowing costs are expensed in the period they are incurred in interest expense in the statement of operations.

(i) Property and equipment

Property and equipment are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes purchase cost, expenditures that are directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management, and borrowing costs if applicable.

Depreciation is provided for on a straight line basis over the following useful lives:

Assets	Estimated useful life
Buildings	10 - 40 years
Leaseholds	3 - 20 years
Computer hardware	3 - 5 years
Machinery and equipment	5 - 25 years

The depreciation method estimates of useful lives and residual values ascribed to property and equipment are reviewed at least at each financial year end and if necessary depreciation is adjusted for on a prospective basis.

(j) Intangible assets

Finite life intangibles

(i) Software

Costs of internally generated software are composed of all directly attributable costs necessary to create, produce and prepare the asset to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Internally generated software consists primarily of internal costs in connection with the development of software to be used internally or for providing services to customers. All costs incurred during the research phase are expensed as incurred. Development costs that are attributable to the design and testing are recognized as intangible assets if the asset can be separately identified, it is probable the asset will generate future economic benefits, the development cost can be measured reliably, the project is technically feasible and the project will be completed with a view to use the asset.

Software costs are amortized using the straight line method of amortization over their estimated useful lives, which range from 2 to 10 years. The amortization method and estimates of useful lives ascribed to software are reviewed at least at each financial year end and if necessary amortization is adjusted on a prospective basis.

(ii) Other identifiable intangible assets

Other identifiable intangible assets are recorded at cost and are carried at cost less accumulated amortization and impairment. Other identifiable intangible assets with finite lives are amortized using the straight-line method of amortization over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

Other identifiable intangible assets with finite lives	Estimated useful life
Subscribers	5 years
Customer relationships	4-5 years
Domain names	15 years

The amortization method and estimates of useful lives ascribed to other identifiable intangible assets are reviewed at least at each financial year end and if necessary amortization is adjusted for on a prospective basis.

Costs associated with purchasing and developing content are expensed as incurred, except for content development on the Company's websites which are capitalized when such costs meet the criteria for capitalization.

Indefinite life intangibles

Intangible assets with indefinite lives are not amortized. These include newspaper mastheads and certain domain names related to the newspaper online websites. The assessment of indefinite life is reviewed each period to determine whether the indefinite life assumption continues to be supportable. If it is deemed unsupportable the change in useful life from indefinite to finite life is made and amortization is recognized on a prospective basis.

(k) Business combinations and goodwill

The Company uses the acquisition method of accounting to record business combinations. The acquisition method of accounting requires the Company to recognize, separately from goodwill, the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed and any non-controlling interest in the acquiree measured at the acquisition-date fair values. The consideration transferred shall be measured at fair value calculated as the sum of the acquisition-date fair values of the assets transferred by the Company, the liabilities assumed by the Company and any equity interests issued by the Company. Contingent consideration is recognized as part of the consideration transferred. Goodwill as of the acquisition date is measured as the excess of the consideration transferred and the amount of any non-controlling interest acquired over the net of the acquisition-date amounts of the identifiable assets acquired and the liabilities assumed, measured at fair value. Goodwill acquired through a business combination is allocated to the CGU (or group of CGUs) that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the business combination. After initial recognition, goodwill is measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. Acquisition related costs are expensed in the period they are incurred except for those costs to issue equity securities which are offset against the related equity instruments and those costs to issue debt which are offset against the corresponding debt and amortized using the effective interest method. Acquisition related costs include advisory, legal, accounting, valuation and other professional or consulting fees; and costs of registering and issuing debt and securities.

(l) Impairments

Impairments are recorded when the recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is less than its carrying amount. The Company's CGUs are primarily geographical groups of newspapers by city or region, as applicable. The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of an asset or CGUs FVLCD or its value in use, and is determined for an individual asset, unless the asset does not generate cash inflows that are largely independent of those from other assets or groups of assets. When the carrying amount of an asset or CGU exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. Impairment losses, other than those relating to goodwill, are evaluated for potential reversals when events or changes in circumstances warrant such consideration.

(i) Non-financial assets

The carrying values of non-financial assets with finite lives, except inventories and employee benefit plan net assets are assessed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying amounts may not be recoverable. Additionally, intangible assets with indefinite lives composed of mastheads and newspaper domain names are included in their related CGU, and are tested annually for impairment or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying amounts may not be recoverable. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash inflows (CGUs). Any corporate assets and cash flows are allocated to the respective CGUs. Non-financial assets other than goodwill that have incurred an impairment in previous periods are reviewed for the possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

(ii) Goodwill

Goodwill is reviewed for impairment annually or more frequently if there are indications that impairment may have occurred. For the purpose of impairment testing, goodwill is allocated to each CGU (or group of CGUs) based on the level at which management monitors goodwill, however not higher than an operating segment. Impairment is determined by assessing the recoverable amount of each CGU (or group of CGUs) to which the goodwill relates. Accordingly, management has allocated its goodwill to its single operating segment, the Newsmedia operating segment. Impairment losses relating to goodwill cannot be reversed in future periods.

(m) Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable net of any discounts, if applicable. The Company bases any estimates on historical results, taking into consideration the type of customer, the type of transaction and the specifics of each arrangement.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognized when the following criteria have been met:

- the significant risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to customers, and the Company retains neither managerial involvement nor effective control,
- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, and
- the receipt of economic benefit is probable and the costs incurred can be measured reliably.

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognized when the following criteria have been met:

- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably,
- the receipt of economic benefit is probable, and
- the stage of completion of the transaction and the costs incurred can be measured reliably.

Print advertising revenue is recognized when advertisements are published. Print circulation revenue includes home-delivery subscriptions and single-copy sales at newsstands and vending machines. Print circulation revenue from subscriptions is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the subscriptions. Print circulation revenue from single-copy sales at newsstands and vending machines, net of a provision for estimated returns based on historical rates of returns, is recognized when the newspapers are delivered. Digital revenue is recognized when advertisements are placed on a website or, with respect to certain online advertising, each time a user clicks on certain ads. Digital revenue also includes subscription revenue for digital subscription sales and business research and corporate financial information services and is recognized on a straight-line basis over the term of the subscriptions or contracts. Other revenue is recognized when the related service or product has been delivered.

Amounts received relating to services to be performed in future periods and sale of goods that require future performance are recorded as deferred revenue on the statement of financial position.

(n) Inventory

Inventory, consisting primarily of printing materials, is valued at the lower of cost, using the first-in-first out cost formula, and net realizable value, where net realizable value is determined to be the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less estimated costs of completion and estimated costs necessary to make the sale. Reversals of previous write-downs to net realizable value are required when there is a subsequent increase in the value of inventories.

(o) Share-based compensation and other long-term incentive plans

The Company has a share option plan and a restricted share unit plan that will be settled through the issuance of shares of Postmedia or through cash at the option of the Company and a deferred share unit plan that will be settled with cash. The Company uses the graded vesting method to calculate compensation expense for all share-based compensation plans.

(i) Share option plan

The Company recognizes compensation expense for all share options granted based on the fair value of the option on the date of grant, net of estimated forfeitures, using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The fair value of the options is recognized as compensation expense over the vesting period of the options, with a corresponding credit to contributed surplus. The contributed surplus balance is reduced as options are exercised through a credit to capital stock when the options are exercised.

(ii) Restricted share unit plan

The Company recognizes compensation expense for all restricted share units granted based on the fair value of the Company's shares on the issuance date of each restricted share unit grant net of estimated forfeitures. The fair value of the restricted share units is recognized as compensation expense, over the vesting period of each restricted share unit grant, with a corresponding credit to contributed surplus. Compensation expense is not adjusted for subsequent changes in the fair value of the Company's shares. The contributed surplus balance is reduced as units are exercised through a credit to capital stock.

(iii) Deferred share unit plan

The Company recognizes compensation expense for its deferred share unit plan based on the fair value of the Company's shares. The deferred share units outstanding are re-measured at each reporting period until settlement, using the fair value of the shares of the Company. The fair value of the deferred share units is recognized as compensation expense, over the vesting period of each deferred share unit grant, with a corresponding credit to other non-current liabilities.

(p) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are classified as fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables or other financial liabilities.

(i) Fair value through profit or loss

Financial instruments are classified as fair value through profit or loss if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short-term, or if so designated by management and it eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency, or is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis. Assets in this category principally include embedded derivatives and warrants. Financial instruments classified as fair value through profit or loss are carried at fair value with changes recognized in the statement of operations.

(ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Assets in this category include accounts receivable and cash. Loans and receivables are initially recognized at fair value plus transaction costs and subsequently carried at amortized cost using the effective interest method, less a provision for impairment. Loans and receivables are included in current assets, except for those with maturities greater than twelve months after the end of the reporting period, which are classified as non-current assets.

(iii) Other financial liabilities

Other financial liabilities include accounts payable and accrued liabilities and long-term debt. Other financial liabilities are recognized initially at fair value, net of any transaction costs incurred, and subsequently at amortized cost using the effective interest method. Other financial liabilities are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within twelve months; otherwise, they are classified as non-current liabilities. Financing fees related to revolving debt arrangements are initially recognized as an other asset and amortized over the term of the arrangement in interest expense.

The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash flows through the expected life of the financial instrument to its net carrying amount.

(q) Derivative financial instruments and hedging

Periodically, the Company uses derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency rates and interest rates. Derivative financial instruments are initially recognized at fair value on the date a contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured at their fair value. The method of recognizing the resulting gain or loss depends on whether the derivative financial instrument is designated as a hedging instrument and the nature of the item being hedged. The Company documents at the inception of the transaction the relationship between hedging instruments and hedged items, as well as its strategy for using hedges and its risk management objectives. The Company also documents its assessment, both at hedge inception and on an ongoing basis, of whether the derivative financial instruments that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in fair values or cash flows of hedged items. Non-performance risk, including credit risk, is considered when determining the fair value of derivative financial instruments. The Company does not hold or use any derivatives instruments for trading purposes.

The Company enters into or is a party to the following types of derivative financial instruments:

Embedded derivatives

An embedded derivative is a component of a hybrid instrument that also includes a non-derivative host contract, with the effect that some of the cash flows of the combined instrument vary in a way similar to a stand-alone derivative. If certain conditions are met, an embedded derivative is separated from the host contract and measured at fair value in the statement of financial position.

Warrants

A warrant is a derivative financial instrument that grants the owner the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a security at a certain price before expiration and is measured at fair value in the statement of financial position.

Changes in the fair value of embedded derivatives and warrants are recorded in the statement of operations as gain or loss on derivative financial instruments.

(r) Provisions

Provisions represent liabilities of the Company for which the amount or timing is uncertain. Provisions are recognized when the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and the amount can be reliably estimated. Provisions are measured at the current best estimate required to settle the obligation and when necessary the use of estimation techniques are utilized. If the effect of the time value of money is material the provision is measured at the present value of the expected expenditures required to settle the obligation using a discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognized as interest expense in the statement of operations.

(s) Employee benefits

(i) Pension and post-retirement obligations

The Company maintains a number of defined contribution and defined benefit pension and defined benefit post-retirement plans. For defined benefit plans, the defined benefit obligation associated with pension and post-retirement benefits earned by employees is actuarially determined on an annual basis by independent actuaries. The determination of benefit expense requires assumptions such as the discount rate to measure the net defined benefit obligations, expected rate of future compensation increases, retirement ages of employees, expected health care cost trend rate and other factors as applicable. The asset or liability recognized in the statement of financial position is the present value of the defined benefit obligation less the fair value of plan assets at the end of the reporting period. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future cash outflows using interest rates of Canadian corporate AA bonds that have terms to maturity which are similar to the terms of the related liability. The estimate of the expected long-term rate of return on plan assets is based on the discount rate of the defined benefit obligation. All actuarial gains and losses that arise in calculating the present value of the defined benefit obligation and the fair value of plan assets are recognized in other comprehensive income and then immediately transferred to deficit. Past service costs from plan amendments are recognized immediately in compensation expense in the statement of operations. The current service cost and past service cost of employee benefits expense is recorded in compensation expense in the statement of operations. The financing expense on the net defined benefit obligations are presented in net financing expense relating to employee benefit plans in the statement of operations. Gains and losses on curtailments or settlements are recognized in the period in which the curtailment or settlement occurs in restructuring and other items in the statement of operations.

The Company's defined benefit pension plans are subject to minimum funding requirements. The liability in respect of minimum funding requirements is determined using the projected minimum funding requirements based on management's best estimates of the actuarially determined funded status of the plan, market discount rates and salary escalation estimates. The liability related to the minimum funding requirement and any subsequent re-measurement of that liability is recognized immediately in other comprehensive income and then immediately transferred to deficit without subsequent reclassification to the statement of operations.

For defined contribution plans, the Company pays contributions to the plan on a contractual basis. The Company has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid. The contributions are recognized as an expense in the period when they are earned by the employees.

(ii) Other long-term benefits

The Company maintains a number of other long-term employee benefit plans that are to be settled more than twelve months after the service was provided that entitled the employee to the benefit. These plans are accounted for similarly to the defined benefit pension and post-retirement plans with the exception that actuarial gains and losses are recognized immediately in the statement of operations.

(iii) Termination benefits

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated by the Company before the normal retirement date, or whenever an employee accepts voluntary termination in exchange for these benefits. The Company recognises termination benefits when the Company has a detailed formal plan, approved by management, to terminate the employment of current employees without possibility of withdrawal. In the case of an offer made to encourage voluntary termination, the termination benefits are measured based on the number of employees expected to accept the offer. If the effect of the time value of money is material, benefits falling due more than twelve months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to present value.

(t) Income taxes

Current income taxes are recognized with respect to amounts expected to be paid or recovered for current and prior periods under the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted as at the date of the statement of financial position.

Deferred income taxes are accounted for using the liability method. Under this method, deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the estimated tax consequences attributable to differences between the carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements and the tax bases of assets and liabilities. However, deferred tax is not recognized if it arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that, at the time of the transaction, affects neither accounting nor taxable income or loss. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted or substantively enacted tax rates, as at the date of the statement of financial position, in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect of a change in tax rates on deferred income tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the period that includes the substantive enactment date. A deferred tax asset is recognized initially when it is probable that future taxable income will be sufficient to use the related tax benefits and may be subsequently reduced, if necessary, to an amount that is probable of being realized. In general, deferred tax is recognized in respect of temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements.

Tax expense or recovery is recognized in other comprehensive income or otherwise directly in equity to the extent that it relates to items that are recognized in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are presented as non-current.

(u) Government grants and tax credits

Government grants and refundable tax credits related to digital media development products are recognized when there is reasonable assurance that the Company has complied with the conditions associated with the relevant government program. These programs are recorded as either a reduction to the carrying amount of the related asset or as a recovery in the statement of operations. Government grants and tax credits receivable are recorded as accounts receivable in the statement of financial position.

(v) Leases

Leasing agreements which transfer to the Company substantially all the benefits and risks of ownership of an asset are treated as finance leases, as if the asset had been purchased outright. The assets are included in property and equipment and the related liabilities are shown as obligations under finance leases. Assets held under finance leases are depreciated on a basis consistent with similar owned assets or the lease term if shorter. The interest element of the obligations under finance leases is included in the statement of operations within interest expense.

All other leases are operating leases and the rental costs are charged to the statement of operations on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(w) Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share are calculated using the daily weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period.

Diluted earnings per share are calculated using the daily weighted average number of shares that would have been outstanding during the period had all potential common shares been issued at the beginning of the period, or when the underlying options were granted, if later. The treasury stock method is employed to determine the incremental number of shares that would have been outstanding had the Company used proceeds from the exercise of the options to acquire shares provided the shares are not anti-dilutive.

Accounting standards issued but not yet effective

The Company has not early adopted the following new standards and the impacts on the consolidated financial statements have not yet been determined:

IFRS 9 - Financial Instruments

The standard was issued in July 2014 and addresses classification and measurement of financial assets and replaces the multiple category and measurement models in IAS 39 – Financial Instruments – Recognition and Measurement for debt instruments with a new mixed measurement model having only two categories: amortized cost and fair value through profit or loss. The new standard also addresses financial liabilities and they largely carry forward existing requirements in IAS 39, except that fair value changes to credit risk for liabilities designated at fair value through profit and loss would generally be recorded in other comprehensive income. In addition, the new standard introduces a new hedge accounting model more closely aligned with risk management activities undertaken by entities. The standard is required to be applied for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018, with earlier adoption permitted.

IFRS 15 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers

The standard was issued in May 2014 and is a new standard that specifies the steps and timing for entities to recognize revenue as well as requiring them to provide more informative, relevant disclosures. The standard replaces IAS 11 - Construction Contracts and IAS 18 - Revenue, as well as various IFRIC and SIC interpretations regarding revenue. The standard is required to be applied for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018, with earlier adoption permitted.

IFRS 16 – Leases

The standard was issued in January 2016 and replaces IAS 17 – Leases. The new standard provides a single lessee accounting model which eliminates the distinction between operating and finance leases. In particular, lessees will be required to report most leases on the statement of financial position by recognizing right-of-use assets and related financial liabilities. Lessor accounting remains largely unchanged. The standard is required to be applied for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2019, with earlier adoption permitted for entities that would also adopt IFRS 15 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers.

3. OPERATING INCOME BEFORE DEPRECIATION, AMORTIZATION, IMPAIRMENT AND RESTRUCTURING

The Company presents as an additional IFRS measure, operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring, in the consolidated statement of operations, to assist users in assessing financial performance. The Company's management and Board use this measure to evaluate consolidated operating results and to assess the ability of the Company to incur and service debt. In addition, this measure is used to make operating decisions as it is an indicator of how much cash is being generated by the Company and assists in determining the need for additional cost reductions, evaluation of personnel and resource allocation decisions. Operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring is referred to as an additional IFRS measure and may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies.

4. BUSINESS ACQUISITION

On October 6, 2014, the Company entered into a purchase agreement with Quebecor Media Inc. ("QMI") to purchase all of the outstanding shares of 7717415 Canada Inc. (previously known as Quebecor Media Printing Inc.) ("QMPI"). As at the acquisition date of April 13, 2015, QMPI owned Sun Media Corporation's stable of more than 170 English-language newspapers and specialty publications as well as digital properties. The purchase price consisted of cash consideration of \$305.5 million, less a final closing working capital adjustment of \$1.2 million (the "Sun Acquisition"). During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company incurred acquisition costs of \$10.4 million and integration costs of \$2.4 million, both of which were included in restructuring and other items in the consolidated statements of operations. Upon acquisition, QMPI and its subsidiary amalgamated to form a new corporation which subsequently amalgamated with Postmedia Network. The Company financed the purchase price and transaction costs associated with the Sun Acquisition through the issuance of First-Lien Notes, the issuance of Variable Voting Shares pursuant to a rights offering of subscription receipts (the "Rights Offering"), net proceeds related to the sale of the Montreal Gazette production facility and corporate cash all as described below.

The debt financing for the Sun Acquisition was provided through the issuance of additional First-Lien Notes for proceeds of \$140.0 million to an existing noteholder, Canso Investment Counsel Ltd. ("Canso"), acting on behalf of certain accounts that it manages. On October 31, 2014, pursuant to a subscription agreement with Canso, the Company issued subscription receipts ("Notes Subscription Receipts") which were automatically exchanged for the additional First-Lien Notes on April 13, 2015. The Notes Subscription Receipts bore interest at the same rate as the First-Lien Notes with interest commencing as of November 1, 2014. During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company recorded \$5.2 million of interest expense related to the Notes Subscription Receipts in the consolidated statement of operations and incurred \$4.9 million of debt issuance costs which were included in the carrying value of long-term debt on the consolidated statement of financial position.

The equity financing for the Sun Acquisition was provided pursuant to the Rights Offering for proceeds of \$173.5 million. Under the terms of the Rights Offering, shareholders of the Company as of February 17, 2015 received one right for each share held to subscribe for 5.9929 subscription receipts ("Equity Subscription Receipts"). On March 18, 2015, the Rights Offering closed, with a total of 240,972,226 Equity Subscription Receipts issued at a subscription price of \$0.72, which represented a significant discount to the market price of the Variable Voting Shares at the time. On April 13, 2015, each Equity Subscription Receipt was automatically exchanged for one Variable Voting Share without additional consideration (note 17). During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company incurred \$9.2 million of share issuance costs which were included in the carrying value of capital stock on the consolidated statement of financial position.

The remaining financing for the Sun Acquisition was provided through corporate cash and the net proceeds related to the sale of the Montreal Gazette production facility. The sale of the Montreal Gazette production facility closed on October 31, 2014 and the net proceeds of \$12.4 million were used to fund a portion of the Sun Acquisition (note 10).

On April 13, 2015, the date of acquisition, the Company made the following payment in order to complete the Sun Acquisition:

<hr/>	
Cash	
Payment of cash consideration	305,500
Working capital	
Working capital adjustment	(1,208)
Acquisition Consideration	<u>304,292</u>

The fair value of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed as at April 13, 2015 were as follows:

	(revised - note 12)
Assets acquired	
Cash	2,042
Accounts receivable ⁽¹⁾	49,526
Inventory	5,497
Prepaid expenses	2,870
Income taxes receivable	3,738
Other assets ⁽²⁾	3,900
Property and equipment ⁽³⁾	164,514
Intangible assets ⁽⁴⁾	135,698
Total assets acquired	367,785
Liabilities assumed	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	27,263
Provisions	123
Deferred revenue	16,896
Deferred income taxes ⁽⁵⁾	38,000
Total liabilities assumed	82,282
Net assets acquired at fair value	285,503

⁽¹⁾ The fair value of trade receivables was \$49.5 million. The gross contractual amount for trade receivables was \$52.5 million of which \$3.0 million was deemed not collectible.

⁽²⁾ As part of the Sun Acquisition, the Company has established four pension benefit plans which will provide defined benefit pension benefits to union members from April 13, 2015 in accordance with the terms of the former QMI plans. The Company has agreed to assume the defined benefit obligation accrued by union members prior to April 13, 2015 of \$49.8 million contingent on the completion of an asset transfer from the QMI pension plans. The Company has determined a preliminary asset transfer in the amount of \$53.7 million as at April 13, 2015 subject to the approval of the Financial Services Commission of Ontario ("FSCO"). The ultimate transfer amount will be based on the transfer amount as of April 13, 2015 adjusted for a net interest adjustment to the approved transfer date by FSCO. As at April 13, 2015 the Company estimated the net defined benefit asset acquired to be \$3.9 million.

⁽³⁾ Of the \$164.5 million of property and equipment acquired, \$20.3 million was assigned to land, \$71.3 million was assigned to buildings and leaseholds with useful lives between 1 to 40 years, \$5.3 million was assigned to hardware with useful lives between 1 and 3 years and \$67.6 million was assigned to machinery and equipment with useful lives between 1 and 25 years.

⁽⁴⁾ Of the \$135.7 million of intangible assets acquired, \$42.6 million was assigned to mastheads with indefinite lives, \$4.1 million was assigned to domain names with indefinite lives, \$22.0 million was assigned to software with useful lives between 3 and 7 years, \$60.5 million was assigned to subscribers with an estimated useful life of 5 years, \$5.8 million was assigned to commercial print customers with an estimated useful life of 4 years and \$0.7 million was assigned to domain names with an estimated useful life of 15 years.

⁽⁵⁾ The deferred income taxes of \$38.0 million were recognized based on the current taxable temporary differences of the net assets acquired (note 19).

Goodwill of \$18.8 million has been recognized and consists of the assembled workforce, non-contractual customer relationships and future synergies.

Acquisition Consideration	304,292
Net assets acquired at fair value	285,503
Goodwill ⁽¹⁾ (notes 5 and 12)	18,789

⁽¹⁾ The Company does not expect any goodwill to be deductible for tax purposes.

The revenue and net earnings of the properties acquired as part of the Sun Acquisition for the period from April 13, 2015 to August 31, 2015 was \$157.1 million and \$7.2 million, respectively. Had the Sun Acquisition occurred on September 1, 2014, the revenue and net loss of the combined Company for the year ended August 31, 2015, would have been \$1,014.3 million and \$217.1 million (including impairment expense of \$153.0 million), respectively.

5. IMPAIRMENT OF GOODWILL AND LONG LIVED ASSETS

The Company's impairments for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 consist of the following:

	2016	2015
Impairment of goodwill and long lived assets		
Goodwill (note 12)	88,389	80,000
Intangible assets - mastheads (note 11)	142,129	64,750
Intangible assets - domain names (note 11)	17,331	5,213
Intangible assets - subscriber lists (note 11)	19,851	737
Other impairments		
Asset held-for-sale - land and building (note 10)	-	2,343
Impairments	267,700	153,043

Impairment of goodwill and long lived assets

The Company completed its annual impairment testing of goodwill and indefinite life intangible assets as at May 31, 2016. In addition during the three months ended August 31, 2016 and February 29, 2016 as a result of indicators of impairment relating to the uncertainty in the print advertising market and the rapidly evolving digital advertising market, the Company performed interim impairment tests. The recoverable amounts for all tests were based on FVLCD of the CGUs, which are primarily geographical groups of newspapers by city or region, as applicable. The FVLCD was determined by applying a market multiple range of 4.0 to 4.25 times the adjusted trailing twelve month operating income before depreciation, amortization, impairment and restructuring less disposal costs. Management determined this key assumption based on an average of market multiples for comparable entities.

During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company determined FVLCD using a discounted cash flow approach, however due to the uncertainty associated with advertising markets, the Company revised its methodology to a market multiple approach. The discounted cash flow approach used during the year ended August 31, 2015, were based upon financial forecasts prepared by management covering a three year period using market participant assumptions considering historical and expected operating plans, economic conditions, and the general outlook for the industry and markets in which the Company operates. Cash flows beyond the three year period were extrapolated using estimated growth rates. The after tax discount rate and terminal growth rate used by the Company for the annual impairment test as at May 31, 2015 was 12.7% and 0.0%, respectively.

Impairment of long lived assets

As a result of the impairment tests during the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company determined that certain of its CGU's recoverable amounts were less than their carrying amount. As a result the Company recorded an impairment charge during the year ended August 31, 2016 of \$179.3 million (2015 - \$70.7 million) which was allocated to its mastheads, domain names and subscriber lists of \$142.1 million, \$17.3 million and \$19.9 million, respectively, within the individual CGUs (2015 - \$64.8 million, \$5.2 million and \$0.7 million, respectively). As the recoverable amount of these CGUs were equal to their carrying value as at August 31, 2016, any reasonably possible change in key assumption, primarily being the market multiple, would impact the impairment recorded. If the market multiple were to decrease or increase by 0.25 times, the impairment would increase or decrease approximately \$3.2 million.

Impairment of goodwill

As a result of the impairment tests as at February 29, 2016 and August 31, 2016, the Company determined the Newsmedia operating segment was impaired as the recoverable amount was less than its carrying amount. The Newsmedia operating segment contains goodwill, as goodwill is monitored by management at the level of the Company's single operating segment. As a result the Company recorded a goodwill impairment charge for the year ended August 31, 2016 of \$88.4 million (2015 - \$80.0 million). As the recoverable amount of the Newsmedia operating segment is equal to its carrying value as at August 31, 2016, any reasonably possible change in key assumption, primarily being the market multiple, would impact the impairment recorded. If the market multiple were to increase by 0.25 times, the impairment would decrease approximately \$21.5 million. A decrease in the market multiple would not have an impact, as the goodwill balance is nil as at August 31, 2016.

There were no tax impacts as a result of the impairment charges. The FVLCD measurements would represent a Level 3 measurement within the fair value hierarchy due to required allocation of corporate costs and the estimated costs of disposal within the individual CGUs.

6. RESTRICTED CASH

Pursuant to the First-Lien Notes indenture, any net proceeds from an asset disposition in excess of \$10.0 million shall be deemed as Mandatory Offer Collateral Proceeds and would be used to make an offer to redeem an equal amount of First-Lien Notes, while any net proceeds from an asset disposition of more than \$5.0 million but less than \$10.0 million are restricted to use in that they must be reinvested in the business. During the year ended August 31, 2015, net proceeds of \$17.2 million and \$8.2 million related to the sales of the Vancouver newspapers and the Edmonton Journal production facilities, respectively, were recorded as restricted cash on the consolidated statement of financial position.

	Restricted Cash
August 31, 2014	-
Net proceeds from sale of Edmontal Journal production facility (note 10)	8,173
Net proceeds from sale of Vancouver newspapers production facility (note 10)	17,200
August 31, 2015	25,373
First-Lien Notes payment ⁽¹⁾	(6,717)
Purchases of property and equipment and intangible assets ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾	(13,916)
Interest earned	64
August 31, 2016	4,804

⁽¹⁾ During the year ended August 31, 2016, \$6.7 million of restricted cash related to the Vancouver newspapers production facility was used to redeem \$6.5 million aggregate principal amount of First-Lien Notes and pay accrued interest of \$0.2 million. In addition, during the year ended August 31, 2016, \$5.7 million was reinvested in the business through the purchase of property and equipment and intangible assets. The remaining restricted cash of \$4.8 million was being held in trust by the Second-Lien Notes noteholders and was released to the Company upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction. Pursuant to the revised First-Lien Note indenture upon Completion of the Recapitalization Transaction, any net proceeds from an asset disposition in excess of \$0.1 million are held in a collateral account by the First-Lien noteholders. When the aggregate amount of the collateral account exceeds \$1.0 million it will be used to make an offer to redeem an equal amount of First-Lien Notes. (note 1).

⁽²⁾ During the year ended August 31, 2016, \$8.2 million of restricted cash related to the Edmonton Journal production facility was reinvested in the business through the purchase of property and equipment and intangible assets.

7. ONTARIO INTERACTIVE DIGITAL MEDIA TAX CREDIT

In October 2014, the Company received certification from the Ontario Digital Media Corporation that digital media tax credits totaling a cash claim of \$17.3 million for the years ended August 31, 2011 and 2012 were eligible to be claimed. The Company refiled the tax return for the year ended August 31, 2012 to reflect the digital media tax credits and during the year ended August 31, 2015 received \$17.8 million (including accrued interest of \$0.5 million), related to this claim. During the year ended August 31, 2015 the Company recorded the tax credit as a recovery of compensation expense of \$17.3 million as the claim primarily related to previously recognized compensation expenses.

On April 23, 2015, the Ontario Minister of Finance announced changes to the eligibility rules for the Ontario Interactive Digital Media Tax Credit that will result in the Company being ineligible in the future. As a result, in February 2016, the Company filed its final claim under the program for the period from September 1, 2012 to April 23, 2015 in the amount of \$20.7 million, and will record the tax credit receivable and related recovery of expenses when there is reasonable assurance the Company has complied with the conditions of the program, and accordingly no amount has been accrued as at August 31, 2016.

8. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	As at August 31, 2016	As at August 31, 2015
Assets		
Embedded derivatives (notes 15 and 21)	-	2,093
Warrants ⁽¹⁾ (note 21)	298	-
Non-current derivative financial instruments	298	2,093

The Company's (gain) loss on derivative financial instruments for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 consists of the following:

	2016	2015
Loss on embedded derivatives (notes 15 and 21)	2,093	18,389
Loss on warrants ⁽¹⁾	902	-
Loss on derivative financial instruments	2,995	18,389

⁽¹⁾ On January 25, 2016, the Company entered into a marketing collaboration agreement ("Marketing Agreement") with Mogo Finance Technology Inc. ("Mogo"). The Marketing Agreement provides the Company with revenue sharing and equity participation through warrants in Mogo in exchange for media promotional commitments over the next three years. As part of the Marketing Agreement, the Company paid \$1.2 million for 1,196,120 five year warrants that entitled the Company to purchase common shares of Mogo at an exercise price of \$2.96. Fifty percent of the warrants vest in equal instalments over three years and the remaining warrants vest in three equal instalments based on Mogo achieving certain quarterly revenue targets. In addition, Mogo paid a set-up fee of \$1.2 million which will be recognized as revenue over the term of the agreement. During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company recognized a loss of \$0.9 million related to the warrants which is included in loss on derivative financial instruments in the consolidated statements of operations.

9. INVENTORY

	As at August 31, 2016	As at August 31, 2015
Newsprint	3,357	3,251
Other	3,679	3,628
Total inventory	7,036	6,879

No inventories were carried at net realizable value at August 31, 2016 and 2015.

10. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

	Land	Buildings and leaseholds	Computer hardware	Machinery and equipment	Total
Cost					
August 31, 2014 ⁽¹⁾	42,060	99,753	20,420	112,117	274,350
Additions	-	464	3,363	379	4,206
Acquisition (note 4)	20,327	71,285	5,323	67,579	164,514
Disposals ⁽²⁾	-	(12)	(3,418)	(5,418)	(8,848)
Transfer - asset held for sale ⁽²⁾	(11,050)	(9,050)	-	-	(20,100)
Other adjustments	-	-	(43)	43	-
August 31, 2015	51,337	162,440	25,645	174,700	414,122
Additions	-	2,880	5,484	3,372	11,736
Disposals	(423)	(2,234)	(753)	(62,732)	(66,142)
August 31, 2016	50,914	163,086	30,376	115,340	359,716
Accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses					
August 31, 2014 ⁽¹⁾	-	(28,371)	(12,721)	(78,251)	(119,343)
Depreciation	-	(9,763)	(3,875)	(18,319)	(31,957)
Disposals ⁽²⁾	-	12	3,417	4,666	8,095
Transfer - asset held for sale ⁽²⁾	-	3,594	-	-	3,594
Other adjustments	-	-	43	(43)	-
August 31, 2015	-	(34,528)	(13,136)	(91,947)	(139,611)
Depreciation	-	(9,856)	(4,924)	(7,238)	(22,018)
Disposals	-	475	753	62,671	63,899
August 31, 2016	-	(43,909)	(17,307)	(36,514)	(97,730)
Net carrying value					
August 31, 2015	51,337	127,912	12,509	82,753	274,511
August 31, 2016	50,914	119,177	13,069	78,826	261,986

⁽¹⁾ Due to the outsourcing of the production of the Edmonton Journal in August 2013, the production facility was no longer required, and as a result the Company classified the production facility with a carrying value of \$10.5 million as held-for-sale in the consolidated statement of financial position as at August 31, 2014. During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company sold the land and building related to the Edmonton Journal production facility for gross proceeds of \$9.4 million. The estimated FVLCD of the production facility was reduced to \$8.2 million based on the expected net proceeds and as a result, during the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company recorded an impairment of \$2.3 million. Pursuant to the First-Lien Notes indenture, the net proceeds of \$8.2 million were being held in trust by the First-Lien noteholders and as a result were classified as restricted cash on the consolidated statement of financial position (note 6).

Due to the outsourcing of the production of the Montreal Gazette in August 2014, the production facility and equipment were no longer required, and as a result the Company classified the production facility and equipment with a carrying value of \$11.7 million as held-for-sale in the consolidated statement of financial position as at August 31, 2014. During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company sold the land, building and equipment related to the Montreal Gazette production facility for gross proceeds of \$12.5 million and realized a gain on sale of \$0.7 million in the consolidated statement of operations. The net proceeds of \$12.4 million from the sale were used to fund a portion of the Sun Acquisition (note 4).

⁽²⁾ Due to the outsourcing of the production of the Vancouver newspapers, which includes both The Vancouver Sun and The Province, in February 2015 the production facility was no longer required and as a result the Company classified the production facility as held-for-sale in the consolidated statement of financial position. During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company sold the land and building related to the Vancouver newspapers production facility for gross proceeds of \$17.6 million and realized a gain on sale of \$0.4 million in the consolidated statements of operations. Net proceeds from the sale of the Vancouver newspapers production facility of \$17.2 million were classified as restricted cash on the consolidated statement of financial position and pursuant to the First-Lien Notes indenture were used to make an offer to redeem an equal amount of First-Lien Notes (note 6 and 15). In addition, during the year ended August 31, 2015, the related production equipment of the Vancouver newspapers production facility was sold for net proceeds of \$0.8 million and the Company realized a nominal gain.

11. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Finite Life				Indefinite Life		
	Software	Subscribers	Customer relationships	Domain names	Mastheads	Domain names	Total
Cost							
August 31, 2014	56,767	145,700	11,834	6,947	229,100	27,447	477,795
Additions	753	-	-	-	-	-	753
Acquisition	21,948	60,500	5,800	740	42,600	4,110	135,698
Disposals	(3,015)	-	-	-	-	-	(3,015)
August 31, 2015	76,453	206,200	17,634	7,687	271,700	31,557	611,231
Additions	3,973	-	-	-	-	-	3,973
Acquisition ⁽¹⁾	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Disposals	(350)	-	-	-	-	-	(350)
August 31, 2016	81,076	206,200	17,634	7,687	271,700	31,557	615,854
Accumulated amortization and accumulated impairment losses							
August 31, 2014	(40,671)	(120,553)	(10,133)	(2,249)	(15,100)	(1,300)	(190,006)
Amortization	(8,488)	(28,949)	(2,259)	(450)	-	-	(40,146)
Impairments (note 5)	-	(737)	-	-	(64,750)	(5,213)	(70,700)
Disposals	3,015	-	-	-	-	-	3,015
August 31, 2015	(46,144)	(150,239)	(12,392)	(2,699)	(79,850)	(6,513)	(297,837)
Amortization	(8,093)	(12,061)	(1,435)	(330)	-	-	(21,919)
Impairments (note 5)	-	(19,851)	-	(2,833)	(142,129)	(14,498)	(179,311)
Disposals	350	-	-	-	-	-	350
August 31, 2016	(53,887)	(182,151)	(13,827)	(5,862)	(221,979)	(21,011)	(498,717)
Net carrying value							
August 31, 2015	30,309	55,961	5,242	4,988	191,850	25,044	313,394
August 31, 2016	27,189	24,049	3,807	1,825	49,721	10,546	117,137

⁽¹⁾ On February 29, 2016, the Company acquired the assets of Start23 Inc. for cash consideration of \$1.0 million. The purchase includes the Ampifii software, which allows marketers to spread their content and message across a variety of networks. The purchase price was allocated to intangible assets on the consolidated statement of financial position.

12. GOODWILL

	Goodwill
August 31, 2014	149,600
Acquisition ⁽¹⁾ (note 4)	18,874
Impairment (note 5)	(80,000)
August 31, 2015	88,474
Measurement period adjustment (note 4)	(85)
Impairment ⁽¹⁾ (note 5)	(88,389)
August 31, 2016	-

⁽¹⁾ During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company received \$3.8 million related to income taxes receivable, of which \$3.7 million was estimated as part of the identifiable assets acquired in the Sun Acquisition resulting in a decrease to the goodwill acquired of \$0.1 million.

13. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	As at August 31, 2016	As at August 31, 2015
Trade accounts payable	12,105	19,525
Accrued liabilities	47,396	52,977
Accrued interest on long-term debt	30,348	14,581
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	89,849	87,083

14. PROVISIONS

	Restructuring ^(a)	Unoccupied leases (a)	Other provisions ^(b)	Total
Provisions as at August 31, 2015	18,392	-	596	18,988
Charges (recoveries)	29,817	3,837	(192)	33,462
Payments	(32,379)	(2,560)	(47)	(34,986)
Provisions as at August 31, 2016	15,830	1,277	357	17,464
Portion due within one year	(15,830)	(916)	(107)	(16,853)
Non-current provisions	-	361	250	611

(a) Restructuring and unoccupied leases

During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company completed a three year business transformation program aimed at significantly reducing legacy newspaper infrastructure costs. The restructuring expense consisted of severance costs which include both involuntary and voluntary buyouts and included initiatives such as the outsourcing of the Company's production at certain newspapers. During the year ended August 31, 2015 the Company began new initiatives which include the integration of the properties acquired as part of the Sun Acquisition and incurred restructuring expense in the year ended August 31, 2016 that consists of severance costs of \$29.8 million which include both involuntary and voluntary buyouts, as well as a provision for onerous leases related to unoccupied property of \$3.8 million in the year ended August 31, 2016. The new integration initiative is expected to be completed by the year ending August 31, 2017.

(b) Other provisions

Other provisions include unfavorable lease contracts, as well as provisions for certain claims and grievances which have been asserted against the Company.

15. LONG-TERM DEBT

				As at August 31, 2016	As at August 31, 2015
	Maturity	Principal	Financing fees, discounts and other	Carrying value of debt	Carrying value of debt
8.25% Senior Secured Notes ⁽¹⁾	August 2017	302,784	(1,739)	301,045	324,176
12.5% Senior Secured Notes (US\$268.6M) ^{(2) (*)}	July 2018	352,342	(239)	352,103	348,156
Senior Secured Asset-Based Revolving Credit Facility ⁽³⁾	October 2015	N/A	N/A	N/A	-
Total long-term debt				653,148	672,332
Portion due within one year				(301,045)	(25,996)
Non-current long-term debt				352,103	646,336

(*) - US\$ principal translated to the Canadian equivalent based on the foreign exchange rate on August 31, 2016 of US\$1:\$1.3116 (August 31, 2015 - US\$1:\$1.3157).

⁽¹⁾ 8.25% Senior Secured Notes due 2017 ("First-Lien Notes")

As at August 31, 2016, Postmedia Network has \$302.8 million of First-Lien Notes outstanding (August 31, 2015 - \$328.8 million). During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company financed the Sun Acquisition in part through the issuance of additional First-Lien Notes (note 4). Accordingly, on April 13, 2015 the Company exchanged the Notes Subscription Receipts of \$140.0 million, at a premium of 0.5% for \$139.3 million principal amount of First-Lien Notes. The effective interest rate of the First-Lien Notes which amortizes the aggregate initial financing fees, premium and embedded derivative based on the initial estimated future cash flows is 9.3%. The First-Lien Notes are secured on a first priority basis by substantially all of the assets of Postmedia Network and the assets of the Company ("First-Lien Notes Collateral"). The First-Lien Notes are subject to minimum annual principal redemptions equal to 5% of the aggregate original principal amount of \$389.3 million. The annual principal redemptions are payable in semi-annual instalments of \$9.7 million on April 30 and October 31 of each year. During the year ended August 31, 2015, the proceeds from the sale of the Vancouver newspapers production facility of \$17.2 million were used to make an offer to redeem an equal amount of First-Lien Notes (note 10). A total of \$6.5 million aggregate principal amount of First-Lien Notes were tendered for repurchase and during the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company made a payment of \$6.7 million (including accrued interest of \$0.2 million) to redeem the notes. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, the Company refinanced the First-Lien Notes as part of the Recapitalization Transaction which included a redemption of \$77.8 million aggregate principal amount of First-Lien Notes at par, plus accrued interest, resulting in a total of \$225.0 million First-Lien Notes outstanding. In addition, the maturity date of the First-Lien Notes were extended to July 15, 2021 and are subject to semi-annual mandatory principal redemptions equal to 50% of excess cash flow, calculated as per the terms of the First-Lien Notes indenture, with a minimum of \$10.0 million annually (note 1). Although the First-Lien Notes were refinanced and the maturity was extended as part of the Recapitalization Transaction, they are classified as current liabilities as at August 31, 2016 based on their contractual maturity of August 15, 2017.

Interest will accrue from the date of issuance and is payable semi-annually in arrears on April 30 and October 31 of each year. After February 28, 2013, and for each subsequent quarter ending February and August, if the consolidated First-Lien Notes leverage ratio exceeds 2:1, the Company is obligated to make a mandatory First-Lien Notes excess cash flow offer, calculated based on 50% of the Company's excess cash flow provided this amount is at least 1% of the original issuance. As at February 29, 2016, the consolidated First-Lien Notes leverage ratio exceeded 2:1; however the excess cash flow did not meet the minimum threshold. Due to the Recapitalization Transaction (note 1), the calculation was not required as at August 31, 2016.

Other than as described above, the Company is not required to make any other mandatory payments or offers with respect to the First-Lien Notes. The Company may, at its option, redeem all or part of the First-Lien Notes at a premium of 6.188% for the twelve month period beginning on August 16, 2015, and at a premium of 4.125% for the twelve month period beginning on August 16, 2016. Certain of the prepayment options represent an embedded derivative that is accounted for separately at fair value. During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company recognized an embedded derivative of \$2.1 million related to the issuance of additional First-Lien Notes. As at August 31, 2016, the embedded derivative asset has a fair value of \$1.1 million (August 31, 2015 - \$2.0 million), which is recorded on the consolidated statement of financial position as a non-current asset in derivative financial instruments (note 8). During the year ended August 31, 2016 the Company recorded a loss of \$1.0 million (2015 - \$3.7 million) in loss on derivative instruments in the consolidated statement of operations related to this embedded derivative (note 8).

The First-Lien Notes are also subject to covenants that restrict the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness, pay dividends or make other distributions or repurchase or redeem certain indebtedness or capital stock, make loans and investments, sell assets, incur certain liens, enter into certain transactions with affiliates, alter the businesses it conducts, enter into agreements restricting its subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends and consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of its assets.

(2) 12.50% Senior Secured Notes due 2018 ("Second-Lien Notes")

As at August 31, 2016, Postmedia Network has US\$268.6 million (CDN\$352.3 million) of Second-Lien Notes outstanding (August 31, 2015 - US\$268.6 million (CDN\$353.4 million)). The effective interest rate of the Second-Lien Notes which amortizes the initial financing fees, discounts and other based on the initial estimated future cash flows is 13.3%. The Second-Lien Notes are secured on a second priority basis by the First-Lien Notes Collateral. There were no redemptions of Second-Lien Notes during the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, the Company refinanced the Second-Lien Notes as part of the Recapitalization Transaction which included an exchange of the Second-Lien Notes for Variable Voting Shares and the payment of accrued interest of \$21.9 million (US\$16.8 million) originally due on July 15, 2016 in cash. In addition, the Company issued US\$88.6 million (CDN\$115.5 million) of New Second-Lien Notes. The Plan of Arrangement included the offering of the New Second-Lien Notes to holders of existing Second-Lien Notes, on a pro-rata basis determined based on their holdings of Second-Lien Notes as at August 5, 2016. The New Second-Lien Notes will bear interest at 10.25% cash interest or 11.25% paid-in-kind interest, at the option of the Company subject to the conditions of no cash interest for the first three years unless the aggregate amount of First-Lien Notes, together with any other first-lien debt of the Company, is \$112.5 million or less. The New Second-Lien Notes are secured on a second priority basis by the First-Lien Notes Collateral (note 1).

The Second-Lien Notes had a variable prepayment option subject to a premium of 3.125% for the period July 15, 2015 to July 14, 2016. The prepayment option represented an embedded derivative that was accounted for separately at fair value. As at August 31, 2016, the embedded derivative asset had a fair value of nil (2015 - \$0.1 million) which was recorded on the consolidated statement of financial position as a non-current asset in derivative financial instruments (note 8). During the year ended August 31, 2016 the Company recorded a loss of \$0.1 million (2015 - \$14.7 million) in loss on derivative financial instruments in the consolidated statement of operations related to this embedded derivative (note 8).

The Second-Lien Notes are subject to covenants that restrict the Company's ability to incur additional indebtedness, pay dividends or make other distributions or repurchase or redeem certain indebtedness or capital stock, make loans and investments, sell assets, incur certain liens, enter into certain transactions with affiliates, alter the businesses it conducts, enter into agreements restricting its subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends and consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of its assets.

(3) Senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility

On October 16, 2014 the Company entered into a new senior secured asset-based revolving credit facility (the "ABL Facility") for an aggregate amount of up to \$20.0 million. The ABL Facility matured on October 16, 2015 and was secured on a first-priority basis by accounts receivable, cash and inventory and any related assets of the Company and on a third priority basis by the First-Lien Notes collateral. The ABL Facility calculated interest at either bankers acceptance rates plus 3.75% (reduced to 3.50% when the average availability under the ABL Facility is greater than \$10 million) or Canadian prime plus 2.75% (reduced to 2.50% when the average availability under the ABL Facility is greater than \$10 million). During the year ended August 31, 2015, the Company incurred \$0.6 million of debt issuance costs which were amortized to interest expense in the consolidated statement of operations over the term of the ABL Facility. Amortization expense in respect of the financing fees of the ABL Facility for the year ended August 31, 2016 was \$0.1 million (2015 - \$0.6 million). As at August 31, 2015, the Company had no amounts drawn and had availability of \$20.0 million on the ABL Facility.

Principal undiscounted minimum payments of long-term debt, based upon terms and conditions existing at August 31, 2016 are as follows:

2017	302,784
2018	352,342
Thereafter	-
	<u>655,126</u>

Aggregate interest expense relating to long-term debt for the year ended August 31, 2016 was \$72.7 million (2015 - \$64.8 million).

16. EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

The Company has a number of funded and unfunded defined benefit plans that include pension benefits, post-retirement benefits, and other long-term employee benefits as well as a defined contribution pension benefit plan. The defined benefit pension plans are registered under the Ontario Pension Benefits Act, 1987 and provide benefits upon retirement, termination or death based upon years of service and final average salary. The post-retirement benefit plans are non-contributory and include health and life insurance benefits available to eligible retired employees. The other long-term benefit plans are non-contributory and include disability, health and life insurance benefits available to eligible active employees. The Company pays contributions to the defined contribution pension benefit plan which provides benefits upon retirement to eligible employees.

The net defined benefit plan obligation related to the Company's pension benefit plans, post-retirement benefit plans and other long-term employee benefit plans recorded in other non-current liabilities on the consolidated financial position as at August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	As at August 31, 2016	As at August 31, 2015
Pension benefits	104,667	56,653
Post-retirement benefits	57,135	65,202
Other long-term employee benefits	23,339	22,140
Net defined benefit plan obligation	185,141	143,995

Changes to the Company's pension benefit plans, post-retirement benefit plans and other long-term employee benefit plans benefit obligations and the fair value of plan assets for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	Pension benefits ⁽¹⁾		Post-retirement benefits		Other long-term employee benefits	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
Change in benefit obligations						
Benefit obligations, beginning of year	498,035	495,912	65,202	64,609	22,140	39,460
Current service cost	13,880	13,066	1,496	1,465	1,782	3,388
Interest cost	20,541	20,143	2,613	2,528	656	723
Employee contributions	3,240	3,118	-	-	-	-
Actuarial losses (gains)	72,250	(4,470)	(9,425)	(875)	1,344	(1,416)
Benefits paid	(27,921)	(29,734)	(2,751)	(2,525)	(2,583)	(2,515)
Settlement funds in trust ⁽²⁾	-	-	-	-	-	(17,500)
Benefit obligations, end of year	580,025	498,035	57,135	65,202	23,339	22,140
Change in fair value of plan assets						
Fair value of plan assets, beginning of year	441,382	442,934	-	-	-	17,500
Expected return on plan assets ⁽³⁾	18,012	17,817	-	-	-	-
Actuarial gains (losses)	26,009	(6,789)	-	-	-	-
Employer contributions	15,700	14,779	2,751	2,525	2,583	2,515
Employee contributions	3,240	3,118	-	-	-	-
Benefits paid	(27,921)	(29,734)	(2,751)	(2,525)	(2,583)	(2,515)
Administration costs	(1,064)	(743)	-	-	-	-
Settlement funds in trust ⁽²⁾	-	-	-	-	-	(17,500)
Fair value of plan assets, end of year	475,358	441,382	-	-	-	-
Net defined benefit plan obligations						
Benefit obligations	580,025	498,035	57,135	65,202	23,339	22,140
Fair value of plan assets	475,358	441,382	-	-	-	-
Net defined benefit plan obligations ⁽⁴⁾	104,667	56,653	57,135	65,202	23,339	22,140

⁽¹⁾ Pension benefits for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 include the benefits earned after April 13, 2015 for the four pension benefit plans created as part of the Sun Acquisition which provides defined benefit pension benefits to union members from April 13, 2015 in accordance with the terms of the former QMI plans (note 4). The Company has agreed to assume the defined benefit obligation accrued by union members prior to April 13, 2015 contingent on the completion of an asset transfer from the QMI pension plans which is subject to the approval of the FSCO. The Company agreed to reimburse QMI for half of any special payments made prior to the completion of the asset transfer and accordingly in the year ended August 31, 2016 paid QMI \$0.4 million (2015 – nil). The net defined benefit plan asset related to the benefits accrued to union members prior to April 13, 2015 estimated to be \$4.3 million as at August 31, 2016 (2015 - \$3.9 million), are excluded from above and are recorded in other assets in the consolidated statement of financial position.

⁽²⁾ During the year ended August 31, 2014, the Company made a payment of \$17.5 million in trust which was disbursed in February 2015 to fund the restructuring payments related to the outsourcing of the production of the Vancouver newspapers. The Company accounted for this trust as an other long-term employee benefit plan.

⁽³⁾ The actual return on plan assets for the year ended August 31, 2016 was \$44.0 million (2015 - \$11.0 million).

⁽⁴⁾ As at August 31, 2016 and 2015, none of the Company's pension benefit plans were fully funded.

The investment strategy for pension plan assets is to utilize a balanced mix of equity and fixed income portfolios to earn a long-term investment return that meets the Company's pension plan obligations. Active management strategies and style diversification strategies are utilized for the equity portfolios in anticipation of realizing investment returns in excess of market indices. The Compensation and Pension Committee, composed of certain members of the Company's Board oversees and monitors the management and overall governance of the pension and retirement plans sponsored and administered by the Company. The Compensation and Pension Committee, among other things, oversees the investment strategy for the pension plan assets, including adopting the Company's investment policy and monitoring compliance with the policy, appoints the investment fund managers and reviews their performance. The utilization of investment fund managers who adopt different style mandates allows the Company to achieve a diversified portfolio and reduce portfolio risks.

The Company's investment policy addresses the permitted and prohibited investments for the plan assets including restrictions on the fixed income quality, and quantity of investments in various asset classes as follows:

- The fixed income quality restrictions include a minimum rating of "BBB" from the Dominion Bond Rating Services or equivalent for bonds and debentures; a minimum rating of "R1" from the Dominion Bond Rating Services or equivalent for short-term investments; and a minimum rating of "P1" or equivalent for preferred stock.
- The quantity of investments allowed in various asset classes ranges from 5% to 45% and contains restrictions such that no single equity holding shall exceed 10% of the book value of plan assets, no single equity holding shall exceed 15% of the market value of an investment managers equity portfolio, no single equity holding will exceed 30% of the voting shares of any such corporation, no more than 10% of any investment managers bond portfolio may be invested in bonds of any such company other than bonds of the federal government or bonds of any such provincial government with a minimum rating of AA and no more than 15% of the market value of any investment managers bond portfolio may be invested in bonds with a rating of BBB or equivalent.
- Investment managers are prohibited from making direct investments in resource properties, mortgages, venture capital financing, bonds of foreign issuers, investing in companies for the purposes of managing them, purchasing securities on margin or making short sales.
- The pension plans are not permitted to directly invest in debt or equity securities of the Company.

The pension benefit plans of the Company have an asset mix as at August 31, 2016 and 2015, as follows:

	As at August 31, 2016	As at August 31, 2015	Target	Fair value hierarchy (note 21)
Canadian equities	29%	28%	30%	Level 2
Foreign equities	32%	32%	30%	Level 2
Fixed income	39%	40%	40%	Level 2
Cash	0%	0%	0%	Level 1

The net employee benefit plan costs related to the Company's pension benefit plans, post-retirement benefit plans and other long-term employee benefit plans reported in net loss in the consolidated statements of operations for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	Pension benefits		Post-retirement		Other long-term employee		Total	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
Current service cost	13,880	13,066	1,496	1,465	1,782	3,388	17,158	17,919
Administration costs	1,064	743	-	-	-	-	1,064	743
Net actuarial (gains) losses	-	-	-	-	1,344	(1,416)	1,344	(1,416)
Net financing expense	2,529	2,326	2,613	2,528	656	723	5,798	5,577
Net defined benefit plan expense	17,473	16,135	4,109	3,993	3,782	2,695	25,364	22,823
Employer contributions to defined contribution plans	5,068	4,304	-	-	-	-	5,068	4,304
Total plan expense	22,541	20,439	4,109	3,993	3,782	2,695	30,432	27,127

Actuarial gains and losses related to the Company's pension benefit plans and post-retirement benefit plans recognized in the consolidated statements of comprehensive loss for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	Pension benefits		Post-retirement		Total	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
Net actuarial gains (losses) on employee benefits	(46,241)	(2,319)	9,425	875	(36,816)	(1,444)
Net actuarial gains (losses) recognized in other comprehensive loss	(46,241)	(2,319)	9,425	875	(36,816)	(1,444)

The cumulative actuarial losses related to the Company's pension benefit plans and post-retirement benefit plans recognized directly in deficit in the consolidated statement of financial position as at August 31, 2016 are as follows:

	2016
Cumulative actuarial losses recognized directly in deficit as at August 31, 2015	(21,741)
Net actuarial losses recognized in other comprehensive loss and deficit	(36,816)
Cumulative actuarial losses recognized directly in deficit as at August 31, 2016	(58,557)

Significant actuarial assumptions used in measuring the Company's benefit obligations as at August 31, 2016 and 2015 and employee benefit plan expense for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	Pension benefits		Post-retirement benefits ⁽¹⁾		Other long-term employee benefits	
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
Benefit obligations ⁽²⁾						
Discount rate ⁽³⁾	3.10%	4.05%	3.05%	4.00%	2.40%	2.90%
Rate of compensation increase	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	5.00%	5.00%
	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015
Benefit plan expense						
Discount rate	4.05%	4.00%	4.00%	3.90%	2.90%	3.00%
Rate of compensation increase	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	2.75%	5.00%	5.00%

(1) The assumed health care cost trend rates for the next year used to measure the expected cost of benefits covered for the post-retirement benefit health and life plans were 6.25% for medical, with an ultimate rate of 4.5% over 9 years to 2025.

(2) As at August 31, 2016 and 2015, the duration of the pension, post-retirement and other long term employee benefit obligation was 17, 15 and 7 years, respectively.

(3) A change in the discount rate used in the valuation of defined benefit obligations, affects the reported funded status of the Company's plans as well as the net benefit cost in subsequent years. As at August 31, 2016, a 50 basis-point decrease in the discount rate would increase the pension, post-retirement and other long-term employee benefit obligations by \$49.0 million, \$3.8 million and \$0.8million, respectively, and a 50 basis-point increase in the discount rate would decrease the pension, post-retirement and other long-term employee defined benefit obligations by \$43.6 million, \$3.4 million and \$0.8million, respectively.

The most recently filed actuarial funding valuations for all of the pension benefit plans were as of December 31, 2013 and indicated they had an aggregate going concern actuarial surplus of \$24.6 million and a wind up deficiency (which assumes that the pension plans terminate on their actuarial valuation date) of \$57.7 million. The Company expects to contribute \$14.9 million (including special payments of \$10.6 million) to its defined benefit pension plans, \$2.5 million to its post-retirement benefit plans and \$2.7 million to its other long-term employee benefit plans for the year ending August 31, 2017. In addition, the Company expects to make special payments to the former QMI plans of approximately \$0.4 million on an annual basis up until the completion of the asset transfer. The Company's next required actuarial funding valuations for its existing defined benefit pension plans will be as at December 31, 2016 and must be complete by September 30, 2017 and upon approval of the asset transfer by FSCO, the Company will perform actuarial funding valuations for the four defined benefit pension plans created as part of the Sun Acquisition (note 4).

17. CAPITAL STOCK

The Company's shares trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") under the symbols PNC.A for its Class C voting shares ("Voting Shares") and PNC.B for its Variable Voting Shares. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, the Company completed a Share Consolidation and issued an additional 91,842,855 of Variable Voting Shares as part of the Recapitalization Transaction (note 1). As at October 5, 2016, the Company has 93,717,199 Shares outstanding.

Authorized capital stock

The Company's authorized capital stock consists of two classes; Voting Shares and Variable Voting Shares. The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited number of Voting Shares and Variable Voting Shares.

Voting Shares

Holders of the Voting Shares shall be entitled to one vote at all meetings of shareholders of the Company. The Voting Shares and Variable Voting Shares rank equally on a per share basis in respect of dividends and distributions of capital.

A Voting Share shall be converted into one Variable Voting Share automatically if a Voting Share becomes held or beneficially owned or controlled, by a person who is a citizen or subject of a country other than Canada. In addition to the automatic conversion feature, a holder of Voting Shares shall have the option at any time to convert some or all of such shares into Variable Voting Shares on a one-for-one basis and to convert those shares back to Voting Shares on a one-for-one basis.

Variable Voting Shares

The Variable Voting Shares have identical terms as the Voting Shares and rank equally with respect to voting, dividends and distribution of capital, except that Variable Voting Shares shall not carry one vote per Variable Voting Share if:

- (a) the number of issued and outstanding Variable Voting Shares exceeds 49.9% of the total number of all issued and outstanding shares; or
- (b) the total number of votes that may be cast by, or on behalf of, holders of Variable Voting Shares present at any meeting of holders of Shares exceeds 49.9% of the total number of votes that may be cast by all holders of Shares present and entitled to vote at such meeting.

If either of the above-noted thresholds is surpassed at any time, the vote attached to each Variable Voting Share will decrease automatically to equal the maximum permitted vote per Variable Voting Share.

Postmedia Rights Plan

Under the Postmedia Rights Plan, one right has been issued by Postmedia in respect of each Voting Share and Variable Voting Share. A right shall become exercisable upon a person, including any party related to it, acquiring or attempting to acquire beneficial ownership of 20% or more of the outstanding shares of a class without complying with the "Permitted Bid" provisions of the Postmedia Rights Plan. For purposes of determining beneficial ownership under the Postmedia Rights Plan, Variable Voting Shares beneficially owned or controlled by a person or subject of Canada are deemed to also include the Voting Shares into which such Variable Voting Shares could be converted. Should such an acquisition occur or be announced, subject to all other provisions of the Postmedia Rights Plan, each right will entitle the holder to purchase from Postmedia additional shares at a substantial discount to the prevailing market price. This purchase could cause significant dilution to the person or group of persons attempting to acquire control of Postmedia, other than by way of a Permitted Bid. The Board has discretion to waive the application of the Postmedia Rights Plan, and to amend the Postmedia Rights Plan at any time, or redeem the rights for \$0.000001 per right.

The Postmedia Rights Plan will remain in force until the earlier of the Termination Time (the time at which the right to exercise rights will terminate pursuant to the Postmedia Rights Plan) and the date of the next reconfirmation of the Postmedia Rights Plan by shareholders. As part of the Recapitalization Transaction (note 26), amendments were made to the Postmedia Rights Plan which included, among other things, extending the next reconfirmation date to the annual shareholder meeting to be held in 2020.

Issued and outstanding capital stock

	Voting Shares		Variable Voting Shares		Total Shares	
	Number	\$ 000's	Number	\$ 000's	Number	\$ 000's
Balance as of August 31, 2014	944,719	9,548	39,264,900	361,584	40,209,619	371,132
Conversions	95,434	185	(95,434)	(185)	-	-
Shares issued (note 4)	-	-	240,972,226	173,500	240,972,226	173,500
Share issuance costs (note 4)	-	-	-	(9,164)	-	(9,164)
Balance as of August 31, 2015	1,040,153	9,733	280,141,692	525,735	281,181,845	535,468
Conversions	4,529,435	8,495	(4,529,435)	(8,495)	-	-
Balance as of August 31, 2016	5,569,588	18,228	275,612,257	517,240	281,181,845	535,468

The following table provides a reconciliation of the denominators, which are presented in whole numbers, used in computing basic and diluted loss per share for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015. No reconciling items in the computation of net loss exist.

	2016	2015
Basic weighted average shares outstanding during the period	281,181,845	133,297,520
Dilutive effect of RSUs	-	-
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding during the period	281,181,845	133,297,520
Options and RSUs outstanding which are anti-dilutive	2,050,000	2,043,000

18. SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS AND OTHER LONG-TERM INCENTIVE PLANS

Share option plan

The Company has a share option plan (the "Option Plan") for its employees and officers to assist in attracting, retaining and motivating officers and employees. The Option Plan is administered by the Board. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, the Company cancelled all outstanding options as part of the Recapitalization Transaction (note 1).

The maximum number of options available for issuance under the Option Plan is 18.3 million and shall not exceed 10% of the Company's issued and outstanding shares. The issued options entitle the holder to acquire one share of the Company at an exercise price no less than the fair value of a share at the date of grant, of which fair value is determined to be the volume-weighted average trading price of the Voting Shares on the TSX for the five trading days immediately preceding the issuance of such options. The issued options vest as follows: 20% immediately with the remainder vesting evenly over 4 years on the anniversary date of the date of grant. Each option may be exercised during a period not exceeding 10 years from the date of grant.

During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company granted nil options under the Option Plan (2015 – 0.7 million options). The fair value of the underlying options issued in the year ended August 31, 2015 was estimated using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The weighted average fair value of the issued options and key assumptions used in applying the Black-Scholes option pricing model were as follows:

	2015
Weighted average fair value	\$ 0.61
Key assumptions	
Exercise Price	\$ 1.81
Risk-free interest rate ⁽¹⁾	0.66%
Dividend yield	-
Volatility factor ⁽²⁾	37.57%
Expected life of options ⁽³⁾	5 years

⁽¹⁾ Based on Bank of Canada five year benchmark bond yield in effect on the date of grant.

⁽²⁾ Based on the volatility of the Company's shares.

⁽³⁾ Based on contractual terms and a published academic study.

The following table provides details on the changes to the issued options, which are presented in whole numbers, for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015:

	2016		2015	
	Options	Weighted average exercise price	Options	Weighted average exercise price
Balance beginning of year	2,229,000	\$ 5.44	1,710,000	\$ 6.66
Granted	-	\$ -	680,000	\$ 1.81
Forfeited	(51,000)	\$ (1.94)	(152,000)	\$ (3.16)
Cancelled	(233,000)	\$ (5.10)	(9,000)	\$ (1.98)
Balance end of year	1,945,000	\$ 5.57	2,229,000	\$ 5.44
Vested options at end of year - exercisable	1,450,000	\$ 6.82	1,443,000	\$ 7.26

During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company recorded compensation expense relating to the Option Plan of \$0.1 million (2015 - \$0.3 million), with an offsetting credit to contributed surplus.

Total unrecognized compensation expense is \$0.1 million, which is expected to be recognized upon cancellation due to the Recapitalization Transaction (note 1).

Restricted share unit plan

The Company has a restricted share unit plan (the "RSU Plan"). The RSU Plan provides for the grant of restricted share units ("RSUs") to participants, being current, part-time or full-time officers, employees or consultants of the Company. The maximum aggregate number of RSUs issuable pursuant to the RSU Plan outstanding at any time shall not exceed 0.6 million Shares of the Company. The RSU Plan is administered by the Board. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, the Company cancelled all outstanding RSUs as part of the Recapitalization Transaction (note 1).

Each RSU will be settled for one Share, without payment of additional consideration, after such RSU has vested; however, at any time, a participant may request in writing, upon exercising vested RSUs, subject to the consent of the Company, that the Company pay an amount in cash equal to the aggregate current fair market value of the Shares on the date of such exercise in consideration for the surrender by the participant to the Company of the rights to receive Shares under such RSUs. The Board may in its sole discretion accelerate the vesting date for all or any RSUs for any participant at any time and from time to time. RSUs are non-transferable. The terms and conditions of RSUs granted under the RSU Plan will be subject to adjustments in certain circumstances, at the discretion of the Board and contain certain conditions regarding the resignation, cessation and termination of participants.

The Company granted a tandem award in July 2010 that provides a choice to either exercise 0.6 million stock options or 0.6 million RSU's. Of the tandem award, 0.1 million vested immediately on the date of the grant with the remaining 0.5 million vesting evenly over a four year period on the anniversary date of the date of grant. As at August 31, 2016 and 2015, 0.6 million RSU's had vested. The fair value of the tandem award was estimated by using a grant date fair value per share of \$9.26. The fair value of \$9.26 per share was based on the per share proceeds received on the initial capitalization of the Company. The Company granted no RSU's and recorded no compensation expense relating to the tandem award during the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015.

Deferred share unit plan

The Company has a deferred share unit plan (the "DSU Plan") for the benefit of its non-employee directors. The DSU Plan is administered by the Board. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, the Company settled all outstanding deferred share units ("DSUs") and terminated the DSU Plan as part of the Recapitalization Transaction (note 1).

Under the DSU Plan, non-employee directors of the Company are required to elect to receive at least 50% (and may irrevocably elect to receive up to 100%) of their annual fees satisfied in the form of DSUs, and may receive additional grants of DSUs under the DSU Plan. The number of DSUs to be credited to a director will be calculated, on the date that fees are payable to such director, by dividing the dollar amount elected by such director in respect of such fees by the value of a share. The value of a share will be the volume-weighted average trading price of the Voting Shares for the five trading days immediately preceding the issuance of such DSU's. As at August 31, 2016, the fair value per DSU was based on a fair value per share of \$0.02 (August 31, 2015 – \$0.58). The vesting conditions (which may include time restrictions, performance conditions or a combination of both) of each DSU granted under the DSU Plan, will be determined by the Board, and on redemption (which would occur after the holder of the DSUs ceases to serve as a director and is not otherwise employed by the Company) will be paid out in cash. The DSUs are generally non-transferable. If cash dividends are paid on the shares of the Company, additional DSUs will be credited to directors. The Board may discontinue the DSU Plan at any time or, subject to certain exceptions set out in the DSU Plan, may amend the DSU Plan at any time.

During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company granted 17,543,864 DSUs under the DSU Plan (2015 – 980,474). All DSUs issued in the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 vested immediately. During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company recorded a recovery of \$0.3 million to compensation expense relating to the DSU Plan (2015 – \$0.2 million), with an offset to employee benefit obligations and other liabilities. Future changes in the fair value of the DSUs will be reflected through adjustments to compensation expense until such a date as the DSUs are settled in cash. During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company settled 603,777 DSUs for \$0.1 million in cash and cancelled 27,411 DSUs for no consideration (2015 – no settlements or cancellations of DSUs). On October 5, 2016, the Company settled all outstanding DSUs for \$0.4 million in cash as part of the Recapitalization Transaction (note 1).

The aggregate carrying value of the DSU Plan liability was \$0.3 million as at August 31, 2016 (August 31, 2015 - \$0.7 million) and is recorded in employee benefit obligations and other liabilities on the consolidated statement of financial position.

During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company has recorded a recovery of compensation expense of \$0.2 million (2015 – compensation expense of \$0.1 million) relating to its share-based compensation and other long-term incentive plans.

19. INCOME TAXES

Provision for income taxes

The provision for income taxes differs from the amount that would have resulted from applying the statutory tax rate to loss before income taxes for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 as follows:

	2016	2015
Net loss before income taxes	(352,482)	(302,086)
Statutory income tax rate based on combined federal and provincial rates	26.61%	26.44%
Tax recovery based on statutory tax rates	(93,795)	(79,872)
Effects of:		
Non-taxable portion of net capital gains	(8)	-
Non-deductible expenses	84	14,542
Non-deductible portion of impairments	17,882	14,711
Tax rate changes on deferred income taxes	(105)	(1,554)
Adjustments in respect of prior years	(893)	1
Change in unrecognized deferred income tax assets	76,824	52,281
Recognition of previously unrecognized tax benefits ⁽¹⁾	-	(38,681)
Other	11	(109)
Recovery of income taxes	-	(38,681)

⁽¹⁾ During the year ended August 31, 2015 the Company recorded a recovery of \$38.7 million to recognize a portion of existing tax loss carryforwards of Postmedia Network that have not been previously recognized as a deferred tax asset (note 4).

The Company's applicable tax rate is the Canadian combined rates applicable in the jurisdictions in which the Company operates. The increase in the Company's effective tax rate is due to the change in allocation of income taxes to the various jurisdictions in which the Company operates.

No taxes have been recorded in other comprehensive loss as the associated deferred tax assets have not been recognized.

Deferred income tax

As at August 31, 2016 deferred income tax assets of \$31.7 million have been recognized to offset other deferred income tax liabilities, primarily related to property and equipment and intangible assets (August 31, 2015 - \$35.3 million).

As at August 31, 2016 and 2015, the Company has not recognized deferred tax assets in respect of the following:

	2016	2015
Total tax loss carryforwards	354,968	285,836
Other deductible temporary differences	465,938	223,720
Total deductible temporary differences	820,906	509,556
Deferred income tax rate	26.61%	26.58%
Deferred income tax assets	218,443	135,440
Deferred income tax liabilities	(31,692)	(35,320)
Net deferred income tax assets not recognized	186,751	100,120

As at August 31, 2016, the total non-capital losses and net-capital losses with expiration dates are as follows:

Year	Tax losses
2030	33,217
2031	100,291
2032	86,124
2033	12,946
2034	25,347
2035	21,537
2036	72,955
Total non-capital losses ⁽¹⁾	352,417
Total net-capital losses (no expiry date)	2,551
Total loss carryforwards	354,968

⁽¹⁾ Subsequent to August 31, 2016, the Company completed a Recapitalization Transaction (note 1). The Company does not expect the Recapitalization Transaction to result in any cash taxes. However, it is anticipated that the settlement of the Second-Lien Notes will result in debt forgiveness for tax purposes that will be completely offset by available income tax attributes, including previously unused non-capital losses.

20. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The Company's capital management objective is to maximize shareholder returns by (a) prioritizing capital expenditures related to the development of digital media products with growth potential, and (b) utilizing the majority of remaining free cash flow for the repayment of debt. During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Company's capital management strategy included reviewing alternatives to improve its capital structure and financial liquidity. This review was conducted by management, as overseen by an independent special board committee and resulted in the Recapitalization Transaction which was completed on October 5, 2016 (note 1).

The Company's capital structure is composed of deficiency and long-term debt, less assets related to derivative financial instruments, restricted cash and cash. The capital structure as at August 31, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

	2016	2015
Long-term debt (note 15)	653,148	672,332
Net assets related to derivative financial instruments (note 8)	(298)	(2,093)
Cash	(17,139)	(43,813)
Restricted cash (note 6)	(4,804)	(25,373)
Net liabilities	630,907	601,053
Deficiency	(478,442)	(89,290)
Total capital	152,465	511,763

The Company's capital structure decreased \$359.3 million in the year ended August 31, 2016, primarily as a result of the comprehensive loss for the year ended August 31, 2016.

21. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Company is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risks relating to foreign exchange and interest rate fluctuations. The enterprise risk management process is managed by a risk oversight committee composed of senior executives of the Company.

(a) Fair value of financial instruments measured at fair value

The Company has considered the following fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in measuring its financial instruments accounted for at fair value in the statement of financial position:

Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;

Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e., as prices) or indirectly (i.e., derived from prices); and

Level 3: inputs that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

The financial instruments measured at fair value in the consolidated statement of financial position, categorized by level according to the fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements as at August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	2016			2015		
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Derivative financial instruments						
Embedded derivatives	-	-	-	-	-	2,093
Warrants	-	298	-	-	-	-

The fair value of early prepayment options recognized as embedded derivatives is determined by option pricing models using Level 3 market inputs, including entity-specific credit risk, interest rate volatility and discount factors. The fair value of the warrants are determined by the Black-Scholes option pricing model using Level 2 market inputs, including exercise price, risk-free interest rate, expected life, dividend yield and expected volatility.

The Company's policy is to recognize transfers in and out of the fair value hierarchy levels as of the date of the event or change in circumstances that caused the transfer. During the year ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 there were no transfers within the fair value hierarchy.

The changes to the fair value of derivative financial instruments (Level 3) for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	2016	2015
Asset as at beginning of year (note 8)	2,093	18,392
Recognition of embedded derivative on issuance of First-Lien Notes (note 15)	-	2,090
Loss on derivative financial instruments recognized in the statement of operations (note 8)	(2,093)	(18,389)
Asset as at end of year (note 8)	-	2,093

(b) Financial instruments measured at amortized cost

Financial instruments that are not measured at fair value on the consolidated statement of financial position include cash, restricted cash, accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The fair values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values due to their short-term nature.

The financial carrying value and fair value of long-term debt as at as at August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	2016		2015	
	Carrying value	Fair value	Carrying value	Fair value
Other financial liabilities				
Long-term debt	653,148	566,256	672,332	693,977

The fair value of long-term debt is estimated based on quoted market prices (Level 1 inputs).

(c) Credit risk management

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Company if a customer or counterparty to a financial asset fails to meet its contractual obligations.

The maximum credit exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the carrying value of cash, restricted cash and accounts receivable in an asset position. No collateral is held from any of the counterparties to these financial assets.

Accounts receivable

In the normal course of business, the Company continuously monitors the financial condition of its customers and reviews the credit history of each new customer. The Company's sales are widely distributed and the largest amount due from any single customer as at August 31, 2016 is \$3.5 million or 4% of receivables (August 31, 2015 – \$3.5 million or 4%). The Company establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts when collection is determined to be unlikely based on the specific credit risk of its customers and historical trends. The allowance for doubtful accounts amounted to \$3.4 million as at August 31, 2016 (August 31, 2015 - \$4.8 million). As at August 31, 2016, \$39.8 million or 49% (2015 - \$45.8 million or 47%) of trade accounts receivable is considered past due as per the contractual credit terms and not yet impaired, which is defined as amounts outstanding beyond normal credit terms and conditions for respective customers. The amount past due relates to a number of independent customers for whom there is no recent history of default. The aging analysis of these trade receivables based on original invoice terms as at August 31, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

	2016	2015
30 - 90 days	30,423	35,846
Greater than 90 days	9,416	10,000
	39,839	45,846

Changes to the allowance for doubtful accounts for the year ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	2016	2015
Balance as at beginning of year	4,778	3,406
Provision for (recovery of) doubtful accounts	(687)	1,430
Write-offs	(706)	(58)
Balance as at end of year	3,385	4,778

(d) Liquidity risk management

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will encounter difficulties in meeting its financial obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. Economic and structural factors as well as the long-term debt maturities impact liquidity risk, however, the Company manages this risk by monitoring cash flow forecasts, implementing a number of cost reduction initiatives, deferring or eliminating discretionary spending and maintaining compliance with the terms of the note indentures. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, the Company completed a Recapitalization Transaction which significantly reduces long-term debt and annual interest costs (note 1).

Material contractual obligations related to financial instruments include debt repayments and interest on long-term debt. These contractual undiscounted obligations and their maturities as at August 31, 2016 are as follows:

	Total	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5 years or more
Accounts payable	12,105	12,105	-	-	-
Accrued liabilities	47,396	47,396	-	-	-
Finance lease	1,560	-	-	-	1,560
Long-term debt ⁽¹⁾	655,126	302,784	352,342	-	-
Interest payments ⁽²⁾	141,503	97,460	44,043	-	-
Total	857,690	459,745	396,385	-	1,560

⁽¹⁾ Contractual principal payments of long-term debt are based on the foreign exchange rate as at August 31, 2016 of US\$1:\$1.3116.

⁽²⁾ Interest to be paid on long-term debt is based on fixed contractual interest rates and the foreign exchange rate as at August 31, 2016 of US\$1:\$1.3116.

Subsequent to August 31, 2016 the Company completed a Recapitalization Transaction (note 1). The revised contractual undiscounted obligations related to long-term debt and interest after the Completion of the Recapitalization Transaction as at October 5, 2016 are as follows:

	Total	Less than 1 year	1-3 years	3-5 years	5 years or more
Long-term debt ⁽¹⁾	360,606	-	20,000	205,000	135,606
Interest payments ⁽²⁾	150,684	10,582	35,888	68,761	35,453
Total	511,290	10,582	55,888	273,761	171,059

⁽¹⁾ Contractual principal payments of long-term debt are based on the foreign exchange rate used in the Recapitalization Transaction of US\$1:\$1.3039.

⁽²⁾ Interest to be paid on long-term debt is based on fixed contractual interest rates and the foreign exchange rate used in the Recapitalization Transaction of US\$1:\$1.3039.

(e) Market risk management

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices due to foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the value of the Company's financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to mitigate and control exposures within acceptable parameters while optimizing the return on risk.

Foreign currency risk

As at August 31, 2016, approximately 54% of the outstanding principal on the Company's long-term debt is payable in US dollars (August 31, 2015 – 52%). As at August 31, 2016 and 2015, the Company is exposed to foreign currency risk on the US\$268.6 million of Second-Lien Notes outstanding. Based on long-term debt outstanding as at August 31, 2016, a \$0.01 change in the period-end exchange rate of a Canadian dollar per one US dollar, holding all other variables constant, would have resulted in a \$2.7 million increase or decrease to foreign currency exchange gains in the statement of operations. Subsequent to August 31, 2016 the Company completed a Recapitalization Transaction which results in approximately 34% of the outstanding principal on the Company's long-term debt payable in US dollars (note 1).

Interest rate risk

The ABL Facility bore interest at floating rates while the First-Lien Notes and Second-Lien Notes bear interest at fixed rates. Therefore, changes in interest rates only exposed the Company to interest rate risk on the portion of the ABL Facility that was drawn, if any, at the time of the interest rate change. The ABL Facility matured on October 16, 2015, and as a result the Company is not subject to cash flow interest rate risk.

22. COMMITMENTS

The Company has entered into various operating lease agreements for property, office equipment and vehicles and various other commitments. Aggregate future minimum payments under the terms of these commitments are as follows:

2017	35,548
2018	25,628
2019	17,190
2020	12,261
2021	9,080
Thereafter	36,683

23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Key management personnel include the Company's senior management and all members of the Board. Key management personnel compensation for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015 is as follows:

	2016	2015
Salaries and short-term benefits	5,481	5,543
Share-based compensation plans and other long-term incentive plans (note 18)	(216)	(177)
Total compensation	5,265	5,366

As at August 31, 2016, GoldenTree Asset Management LP or its affiliates ("GoldenTree") owned 146,694,259, or 53%, of the Company's Variable Voting Shares (August 31, 2015 – 146,694,259, or 52%). On October 6, 2014, the Company entered into a standby purchase agreement with GoldenTree, pursuant to which GoldenTree agreed to take up any subscription receipts not otherwise subscribed for under the Rights Offering. During the year ended August 31, 2015, GoldenTree was paid \$7.1 million for acting as standby purchaser under the standby purchase agreement. Subsequent to August 31, 2016, upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction and related Shared Consolidation (note 1), GoldenTree owns 977,945, or 1%, of the Company's Shares.

Upon completion of the Recapitalization Transaction Chatham owns approximately 61,166,689, or 65% of the Company's Shares.

24. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

The following amounts compose the net change in non-cash operating accounts included in cash flows from operating activities in the consolidated statement of cash flows for the years ended August 31, 2016 and 2015:

	2016	2015
Accounts receivable	16,322	16,057
Income taxes receivable	3,700	(47)
Inventory	(157)	912
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(449)	444
Accounts payable, accrued liabilities and provisions	1,073	3,541
Deferred revenue	(810)	(3,662)
Employee benefit obligations and other liabilities and provisions	224	(60)
Changes in non-cash operating accounts	19,903	17,185

25. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company has one operating segment for financial reporting purposes, the Newsmedia segment. The Newsmedia segment publishes daily and non-daily newspapers and operates digital media and online assets including the canada.com network, each newspaper's online website and Infomart, the Company's media monitoring service. Its revenue is primarily from advertising and circulation/subscription revenue.

Included within digital revenue in the consolidated statements of operations during the year ended August 31, 2016 is advertising revenue of \$75.9 million (2015 - \$65.5 million) and circulation/subscription revenue of \$34.7 million (2015 - \$32.2 million). Accordingly, aggregate print and digital revenue from advertising for the year ended August 31, 2016 was \$542.4 million (2015 - \$470.1 million) and aggregate print and digital revenue from circulation/subscription was \$295.6 million (2015 - \$254.2 million).

26. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On October 5, 2016 the Company completed a Recapitalization Transaction as described in note 1.



Corporate Information

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Godfrey
President and Chief Executive Officer

Rod Phillips
Chair

Wendy Henkelman

Mary Junck

David Pecker

Daniel Rotstein

Graham Savage

Peter Sharpe

STOCK EXCHANGE LISTINGS

The Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX)
Trading Symbols: PNC.A, PNC.B

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HEAD OFFICE

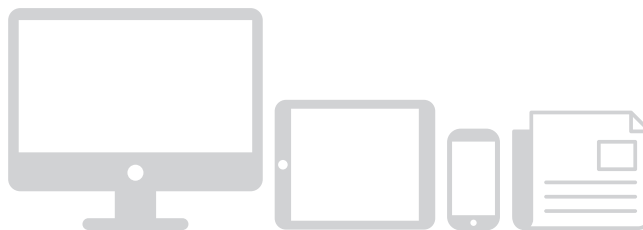
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