

**Treasurer's Report**  
**63rd Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Canadian Astronomical Society**  
**15 January 2014**  
**by videoconference**

- **General overview**

CASCA's financial situation halfway through FY2013 continues to be favourable. Income is lower than last year at a similar date mainly because a lower number of members have paid their dues. Expenditures are only slightly higher than last year but the projected expenses from now to the end of FY13 are lower. The value of our investments has increased by 4.5% since the beginning of the FY.

- **Membership dues**

Out of the 557 registered members of CASCA this year, 307 had paid their dues as of the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2013, 277 by Paypal and 30 by check. Currently, twenty-one members are taking advantage of the joint CAP/CASCA membership option. Reminders have been sent at the end of the months of September and October. As of the 30<sup>th</sup> of September, membership dues income is approximately \$36,280 compared to \$48,500 on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2012.

In addition to this, 122 members have fees in arrear by one year and 84 have fees in arrear by 2 years.

Due to the change in treasurer, we have not yet implanted the 5-year payment option through Paypal. This will be done in the following months.

- **Donations to CASCATrust**

We have received approximately \$1560 in donations to CASCATrust since the beginning of the Fiscal Year compared to \$1190 last year at a similar time and \$2038 for the entire FY2012. The new approach for billing for membership dues does not appear to have harmed the level of CASCATrust donations.

## - **Revenue Canada Payload account**

Following the reception of a letter from Revenue Canada by the Administrative Assistant (AA), it came to my attention that no deductions, neither for CPP, EI or income tax, have ever been made to her salary since she was hired by CASCA. Furthermore, CASCA has not been making any contributions for CPP and EI since she has been hired. Finally, T4s have not been issued for the fiscal year 2012. To remedy to this situation was actually one of the three recommendations to the board by Wilkinson in their report for the year ending on March 31, 2013.

Therefore, I have written a letter to Revenue Canada explaining the situation and asking them to set-up a payload account for CASCA in which the AA's and CASCA's CPP, EI and Tax contribution will be paid into. I have calculated the amounts that should have been paid and a check has been sent to Revenue Canada. Eventually, the AA will reimburse CASCA for the amounts that should have been deducted from her salary for CPP and EI. Here taxes on the other hand are in order. We are still waiting to hear from Revenue Canada on this matter. Starting with the January salary of the AA, the appropriate deductions will be made and when it is set-up they will be paid into the payload account at Revenue Canada. A T4 and T4 summary will also be issued for FY13.

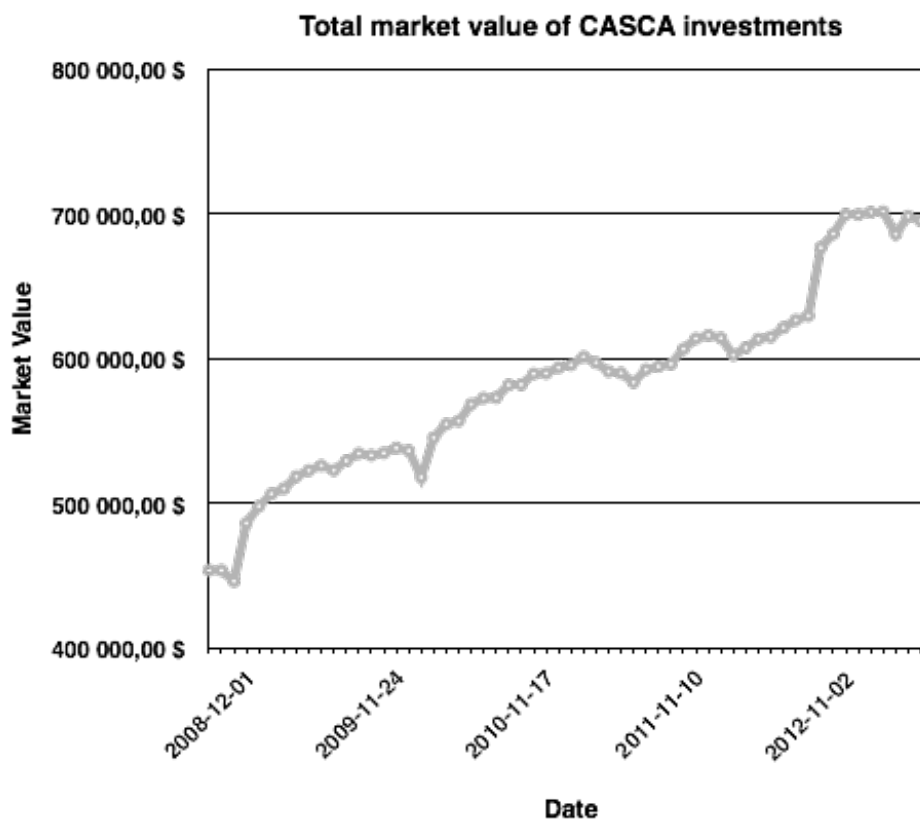
## - **Financial Statement**

The financial statements for the operating (RBC) and investment (Scotia-McLoead) accounts are included with this report. Also included as an appendix, is the calendar year-to-date summary of our investments provided by the investment manager. We have approximately \$18K in projected expenses to occur from now until the end of the FY. If there is a need, money can be transferred from the investments account to the bank account.

## - Report of the Investment Committee

The CASCA investments Committee (Grant Hill, Sergey Maschenko, René Racine and Nicole St-Louis [Chair]) met by skype on 9 December 2013 to discuss the most recent investment reports (as of 02 Dec. 2013). These were provided by Scotia-McCleod investment manager (IM), Scott Miller to Nicole St-Louis by email and discussed during a telephone meeting on 5 Dec. 2013.

Our investments have grown by 4.5% between the end of FY12 and the end of November 2013. The following figure shows the growth of the market value of CASCA's investments since December 2008.



Following these discussions, the IM made the following recommendations:

*Buy 300 shares of Crescent Point Energy; shares are at \$40.55, yield is 6.8% and 1 yr target is \$50. Sell 600 shares of TransAlta; [I'm concerned] the dividend could get cut and there is no catalyst to move the stock to price higher. Add 100 shares to each of Emera and Fortis. Sell 300 [shares of] Shoppers Drug; we do not want to own Loblaws. Buy 300 CVS Drugs.*

Committee members once more raised the question of the investment strategy. There is a sense that the performance should be linked to the economy. One member re-emphasized that his personal investments (which he qualified as prudent) were doing much better and another member supported this. The present target return is set to 5-7% per year. This was first determined when the investment account was established. The committee wishes to ask the board's opinion on this matter. In any case, the Board must approve any change in target return.

At the present time the investments have approximately a 50-50 balance between equities and bonds. The committee is satisfied with this situation. According to the IM, this is a conservative approach and conforms to our return target. The IM pointed out that if the target is changed he would change this balance for a higher fraction of equities.

Nevertheless, the committee agreed unanimously that the above short-term recommendations by the IM were reasonable.

***I recommend that the Board approve the purchases and sales recommended by the investment manager and ask for advice concerning the investment strategy that should be adopted by the investment committee. The details will be arranged through discussions between the Treasurer and the investment manager.***

CANADIAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'ASTRONOMIE  
INC. 1983

**Financial Statement as of 31 September 2013**  
(Giving details since the statement of March 31, 2013)

|  |  |             |
|--|--|-------------|
| <b>Balance at start of FY (31 march)</b> |  | \$50,486.93 |
| Held as follows:                         |  |             |
| in bank account (Royal Bank)             |  | \$7,021.54  |
| In Paypal account                        |  | \$43,465.39 |

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>                          |             |
| Membership dues (less Paypal premiums) | \$34,642.20 |
| Donations from members                 | \$1,333.07  |
|  | \$35,975.27 |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <b>EXPENDITURES</b>   |            |
| Auditor/tax return preparation (Wilkinson)                  | \$6,328.00 |
| D&O liability insurance premium                             | \$1,188.00 |
| Board and Committee expenses                                | \$340.28   |
| Receiver General of Canada                                  | \$30.00    |
| Coalition for Canadian Research (CCR) annual membership fee | \$300.00   |
| <b>Office expenses</b>                                      |            |
| Salary and benefits (Susan)                                 | \$9,333.36 |
| On-line election  | \$590.00   |
| Postage, stationery and other miscellaneous office expenses | \$302.29   |
| Domain name renewals & new domain names                     | \$666.75   |
| Bank charges  | \$114.89   |
| ACURA   | \$5,000.00 |
| Contribution to CUPC  | \$500.00   |

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
|  |                    |
| Executive award (Hutchings)  | \$1,500.00         |
| Petrie prize and travel costs (Combs)                                | \$3,016.00         |
| Hogg Prize Lecture   | \$750.00           |
| Martin Award (V. Kaspi)  | \$1,617.00         |
| Press officer travel expenses to AGM                                 | \$2,092.50         |
| LRP Lunch at AGM   | \$528.00           |
|  |                    |
| Fees refund (Turner, Chen & Besla)                                   | \$254.48           |
|  |                    |
| <b>CASCATrust expenses</b>   |                    |
|  |                    |
| Student/PDF travel for CASCA meeting                                 | \$8,200.00         |
| Plaskett Award and travel costs (Y. Hasegawa)                        | \$3,745.31         |
| Awards for best student talk and poster at AGM (Hezaveh & Bahramian) | \$400.00           |
|  |                    |
| <b>Westar expenses</b>   |                    |
|  |                    |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>  | <b>\$46,296.86</b> |

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
|  |             |
| <b>Balance at start of FY (30 september)</b> | \$40165.34  |
| Held as follows:                             |             |
|  |             |
| in bank account (Royal Bank)                 | \$8,420.27  |
| In Paypal account                            | \$31,745.07 |

CANADIAN ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
 SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'ASTRONOMIE  
 SCOTIA-MCLEOD IN TRUST

**Financial Statement as of 31 September 2013**  
 (Giving details since the statement of March 31, 2013)

| FY 2013 to date                              |                  |       |
|--|------------------|-------|
| <b>Market value at star of FY (31 March)</b> | <b>\$699,357</b> | 100%  |
| Held as follows:                             |                  |       |
| Cash and cash equivalent                     | \$55,817         | 8.0%  |
| Fixed Income                                 | \$126,737        | 18.1% |
| Preferreds                                   | \$178,508        | 25.5% |
| Equity                                       | \$338,295        | 48.4% |

| CAPITAL ADDED:                |               |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>TOTAL CAPITAL INVESTED</b> | <b>\$0.00</b> |

| INCOME EARNED        |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Interest accrued     | \$3,366.56        |
| Dividends accrued    | \$10,937.02       |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME:</b> | <b>\$14303.58</b> |

| EXPENDITURES                               |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Transfer to general account for operations | \$0.00            |
| Account management fees                    | \$3,102,71        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES:</b>                 | <b>\$3,102,71</b> |

| Market value on 30th Septembre | <b>\$704,445</b> | 100%  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-------|
| Help as follows:               |                  |       |
| Cash and cash equivalents      | \$60,198         | 8.5%  |
| Fixed Income                   | \$123,837        | 17,6% |
| Preferreds                     | \$184,495        | 26.2% |
| Equity                         | \$335,915        | 47.7% |