

# FIRST NATIONAL

---

FINANCIAL CORPORATION



## **Report to Shareholders**

**Period Ended March 31, 2015**

**Fellow Shareholders:**

First National continued to advance its position as Canada's largest non-bank mortgage originator and underwriter during the first quarter ended March 31, 2015 with 6% or \$200 million of year-over-year growth in originations. On this solid growth and success in renewals, Mortgages under Administration increased 13% to a record \$87 billion from \$77 billion at March 31, 2014. This growth will have a favourable impact on future results but did not translate into immediate earnings as the Company securitized more than half of its origination in the quarter.

Like many companies in Canada, First National was affected by the unexpected cut in the Bank of Canada's overnight rate in January. This had a large, negative impact on the financial instruments used to hedge interest rate risk because of the size of the interest rate correction and the large inventory of mortgages that the Company holds for securitization. The resulting loss on financial instruments affected both revenues and earnings.

First quarter revenue was down 3% year over year to \$167.5 million. Excluding the impact on the value of the Company's financial instruments, revenue would have increased 15% on more interest revenue from First National's growing securitized mortgage portfolio. Securitized mortgages amounted to \$23 billion at March 31, 2015, up 23% from \$19 billion a year ago.

The large loss on financial instruments in the quarter of \$0.49 per common share depressed earnings and led to a net loss of \$0.09 per common share. The offset to this loss is larger interest rate spreads inherent in the mortgages hedged. This value will be unlocked as these mortgages are securitized in the future and earn excess net interest margin. Despite this accounting impact, core performance was solid (Pre-Fair Market Value EBITDA, a non-IFRS measure that eliminates gains and losses on financial instruments was \$38.4 million in the quarter) and the Company continued to make investments that will benefit future periods.

The Board declared monthly common share dividends in the first quarter based on the current annual rate of \$1.50 per share and regular quarterly dividends on the 4.65% Class A Preference Shares for the period January 1 to March 31, 2015.

Looking forward, the Company expects the low interest rate environment, which was reinforced with the January Bank of Canada rate cut, to continue for the remainder of 2015. Low rates will continue to keep mortgage affordability at favourable levels and allay refinancing risk. The Company also expects to earn greater net interest from its portfolio of securitized mortgages. By realizing the significant renewal opportunities in the upcoming year and managing its partnerships with institutional customers, the Company will continue to focus on sustainable profitability.

First National also expects to begin to transition to profitability its new underwriting and fulfillment processing services business (launched in January 2015) as operations commence in western Canada and Quebec in the second quarter and the Ontario branch prepares for the seasonally stronger spring real estate market.

Sincerely,  
Stephen Smith  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Moray Tawse  
Executive Vice President

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

*The following management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is prepared as of April 28, 2015. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the unaudited consolidated financial statements of First National Financial Corporation (the "Company" or "Corporation" or "First National") as at and for the three months (the "period") ended March 31, 2015 and the notes thereto. This discussion should also be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2014. The unaudited consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").*

*This MD&A contains forward-looking information. Please see "Forward-Looking Information" for a discussion of the risks, uncertainties and assumptions relating to these statements. The selected financial information and discussion below also refer to certain measures to assist in assessing financial performance. These other measures such as "Pre-FMV EBITDA" and "After tax Pre-FMV Dividend Payout Ratio" should not be construed as alternatives to net income or loss or other comparable measures determined in accordance with IFRS as an indicator of performance or as a measure of liquidity and cash flow. These measures do not have standard meanings prescribed by IFRS and therefore may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers.*

*Unless otherwise noted, tabular amounts are in thousands of Canadian dollars.*

*Additional information relating to the Company is available in First National Financial Corporation's profile on the System for Electronic Data Analysis and Retrieval ("SEDAR") website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).*

### **General Description of the Company**

First National Financial Corporation is the parent company of First National Financial LP ("FNFLP"), a Canadian-based originator, underwriter and servicer of predominantly prime residential (single-family and multi-unit) and commercial mortgages. With \$87 billion in mortgages under administration ("MUA"), First National is Canada's largest non-bank originator and underwriter of mortgages and is among the top three in market share in the mortgage broker distribution channel.

Commencing in 2013, First National has consolidated its interest in First National Mortgage Investment Fund (the "Fund"), which it launched in late 2012. Although the Company owns about 16% of the units issued by the Fund, because of its status as sole seller to the Fund and its rights as promoter, the application of IFRS suggests that First National exercises control over the Fund. The Fund was created to obtain economic exposure to a diversified portfolio of primarily commercial mezzanine mortgages. Through the Fund's consolidation, the Company has effectively taken on a portfolio of about \$54 million (December 31, 2014 - \$55 million) of mortgages. Because of the Company's small proportionate interest in the Fund's units, it has also recorded a \$39 million (December 31, 2014 - \$39 million) non-controlling interest in equity which offsets these assets.

## First Quarter 2015 Results Summary

The Company is pleased with the growth of its mortgage portfolio in the first quarter of 2015. In the single-family segment, First National's origination was up almost 7% compared to the first quarter of 2014. New commercial origination increased by 2%. These volumes and consistent renewal rates enabled the Company to grow its MUA and build the value of its portfolio of securitized mortgages.

- MUA grew to \$87.0 billion at March 31, 2015 from \$77.0 billion at March 31, 2014, an increase of 13%; the growth from December 31, 2014, when MUA was \$85.9 billion, represented an annualized increase of 5%;
- The Canadian single-family real estate market started slowly in 2015 as an unforeseen drop in the price of oil affected prospects for growth in the Canadian economy. This was particularly evident in western Canada. The Company took a disciplined approach but still managed to grow origination levels from those recorded in the first quarter of 2014. New single-family mortgage originations for the Company increased by 7% to \$1.9 billion in 2015 from \$1.8 billion in the 2014 first quarter. The commercial segment had a solid start to the year as volumes increased by 2%, from \$717 million in the 2014 quarter to \$730 million in the 2015 first quarter. Together, overall origination for the first quarter increased by 6% year over year;
- The Company also took advantage of opportunities in the quarter to renew \$724 million of single-family mortgages. In the first quarter of 2014 the Company renewed \$441 million of single-family mortgages. The growth is attributable to more renewal opportunities. For the commercial segment, renewals decreased to \$246 million from \$274 million;
- During the first quarter of 2015, the Company used the Canada Mortgage Bonds ("CMB") program to successfully securitize about \$138 million of mortgages in the 10-year program and \$410 million of mortgages in the five-year term program. First National also securitized \$106 million of mortgages for CMB replacement purposes in the quarter;
- Revenue for the first quarter of 2015 decreased to \$167.5 million from \$172.7 million in 2014. The 3% decrease is attributable to higher losses on financial instruments which increased by \$33.0 million year over year. Without these amounts, revenue would have increased by approximately 15% on more interest revenue from the Company's growing portfolio of securitized mortgages;
- Income before income taxes for the first quarter decreased from \$31.3 million in 2014 to a loss of \$4.9 million in 2015. The decrease was due, in large part, to volatility in the bond market, which negatively affected the Company's interest rate hedges. Because of the unfavourable market on these hedges, large losses on financial instruments were recorded in both first quarters. The net change in gains and losses on financial instruments between 2015 and 2014 reduced income before income taxes between the years by \$33.0 million.
- Without the impact of gains and losses on financial instruments, the Company's earnings before income taxes, depreciation and amortization ("Pre-FMV EBITDA") for the first quarter of 2015 decreased by 7%, from \$41.4 million in 2014 to \$38.4 million in 2014. This decrease is due to the Company's decision to securitize more of its origination in 2015 instead of placing it with institutional investors. The cost of underwriting an additional \$0.5 billion of mortgages for securitization is reflected as a direct increase in operating expenses.

## Outstanding Securities of the Corporation

At March 31, 2015 and April 28, 2015, the Corporation had 59,967,429 common shares, 4,000,000 Class A preference shares, Series 1 and 175,000 May 2010 debentures outstanding. Pursuant to a transaction which closed in early April 2015, as at April 28, 2015, the Company also has 175,000 4.01% Series 1 Senior Unsecured Notes outstanding.

## Selected Quarterly Information

## Quarterly Results of First National Financial Corporation

(\$000s, except per share amounts)

	Revenue	Net Income (Loss) for the period	Pre-FMV EBITDA for the period <sup>(1)</sup>	Net Income (Loss) per Common Share	Total Assets
<b>2015</b>					
First Quarter	\$167,460	(\$3,499)	\$38,439	(\$0.09)	\$26,638,048
<b>2014</b>					
Fourth Quarter	\$198,254	\$17,856	\$43,229	\$0.27	\$25,953,914
Third Quarter	\$230,552	\$35,331	\$50,121	\$0.56	\$25,077,361
Second Quarter	\$201,596	\$28,217	\$48,392	\$0.44	\$23,902,513
First Quarter	\$172,705	\$23,061	\$41,388	\$0.35	\$21,683,307
<b>2013</b>					
Fourth Quarter	\$200,928	\$41,821	\$53,401	\$0.66	\$20,569,217
Third Quarter	\$200,522	\$39,399	\$56,124	\$0.63	\$19,930,780
Second Quarter	\$229,830	\$67,845	\$51,193	\$1.10	\$18,793,683

- (1) This non-IFRS measure adjusts income before income taxes by adding back expenses for amortization of intangible and capital assets but it also eliminates the impact of changes in fair value by adding back losses on the valuation of financial instruments and deducting gains on the valuation of financial instruments.

Given First National's large amount of MUA and portfolio of mortgages pledged under securitization, quarterly revenue is driven primarily by mortgage servicing revenue growth and the gross interest earned on the mortgages pledged under securitization. Servicing revenue will change as the third-party portfolio of mortgages grows or contracts. The gross interest on the mortgage portfolio is dependent both on the size of the portfolio of mortgages pledged under securitization as well as weighted average mortgage rates. Although mortgage rates have declined recently, the Company has steadily increased MUA and its portfolio of securitized mortgages over the last 24 months. Net income is partially dependent on conditions in the debt markets, which affect the value of gains and losses on financial instruments arising from the Company's interest rate hedging program. Accordingly, the movement of this measurement between quarters is related to factors external to the Company's core business (primarily conditions in the bond markets). By removing this volatility and analyzing Pre-FMV EBITDA, management believes a more appropriate measurement of the Company's performance can be assessed.

Generally, in the last eight quarters, the Company has grown its origination volumes in order to build its servicing portfolio and to enable it to securitize larger amounts of mortgages in the NHA-MBS market. This longer-term strategy has been successful and Pre-FMV EBITDA grew steadily to over \$197 million in 2013. Despite continued success in growing MUA and mortgage origination volume, tighter spreads in 2014 reduced the profitability of mortgages pledged for securitization and deferred placements fees. The table above shows a trend of growing income reflecting typical Canadian seasonality: slower first and fourth quarters and stronger mid-year quarters. In the first quarter of 2015, the surprise cut in the Bank of Canada's overnight rate on January 21, 2015, had a large, unfavourable effect on the Company's net income. Although the Company recorded growth in origination volumes and grew its MUA, the first quarter of 2015 featured large net losses on the fair value of financial instruments as bond yields fell. Tighter weighted average spreads on securitized mortgages and higher operating costs including those incurred for the new underwriting business have reduced pre-FMV EBITDA in the 2015 first quarter.

## Selected Annual Financial Information

(\$000s, except per share amounts)

	2014	2013	2012
<b>For the Year ended December 31,</b>			
<b>Income Statement Highlights</b>			
Revenue	803,107	776,508	628,613
Interest expense – securitized mortgages	(434,726)	(323,236)	(246,736)
Brokerage fees	(77,105)	(84,420)	(115,978)
Salaries, interest and other operating expenses	(143,062)	(127,404)	(106,547)
Add (deduct): realized and unrealized (gains) losses on financial instruments	34,916	(43,866)	(6,153)
Pre-FMV EBITDA <sup>(1)</sup>	183,130	197,582	153,199
Amortization of capital assets	(2,909)	(2,374)	(2,059)
Amortization of intangible assets	(5,000)	(5,563)	(6,468)
Add (deduct): realized and unrealized gains (losses) on financial instruments	(34,916)	43,866	6,153
Provision for income taxes	(35,840)	(61,410)	(40,500)
Net Income	104,465	172,101	110,325
Dividends declared	93,602	90,294	80,859
<b>Per Share Highlights</b>			
Net income per common share	1.62	2.75	1.76
Dividends per common share	1.48	1.38	1.27
<b>At Year End</b>			
<b>Balance Sheet Highlights</b>			
Total assets	25,953,914	20,569,217	15,022,236
Total long-term financial liabilities	176,418	179,195	181,275

Notes:

- (1) Pre-FMV EBITDA is not a recognized earnings measure under IFRS and does not have a standardized meaning prescribed by IFRS. Therefore, Pre-FMV EBITDA may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Investors are cautioned that Pre-FMV EBITDA should not be construed as an alternative to net income or loss determined in accordance with IFRS as an indicator of the Company's performance or as an alternative to cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities as a measure of liquidity and cash flows.

## Vision and Strategy

The Company provides mortgage financing solutions to virtually the entire mortgage market in Canada. By offering a full range of mortgage products, with a focus on customer service and superior technology, the Company believes that it is the leading non-bank mortgage lender in the industry. Growth has been achieved while maintaining a relatively conservative risk profile. The Company intends to continue leveraging these strengths to lead the “non-bank” mortgage lending industry in Canada, while appropriately managing risk.

The Company's strategy is built on four cornerstones: providing a full range of mortgage solutions; growing assets under administration; employing leading-edge technology to lower costs and rationalize business processes; and maintaining a conservative risk profile. An important element of the Company's strategy is its direct relationship with the mortgage borrower. Although the Company places most of its originations with third parties, FNFLP is perceived by most of its borrowers as the mortgage lender. This is a critical distinction. It allows the Company to communicate with each borrower directly throughout the term of the related mortgage. Through this relationship, the Company can negotiate new transactions and pursue marketing initiatives. Management believes this strategy will provide long-term profitability and sustainable brand recognition for the Company.

## Key Performance Drivers

The Company's success is driven by the following factors:

- Growth in the portfolio of mortgages under administration;
- Growth in the origination of mortgages;
- Lowering the costs of operations through the innovation of systems and technology; and
- Employing innovative securitization transactions to minimize funding costs.

## Growth in Portfolio of Mortgages under Administration

Management considers the growth in MUA to be a key element of the Company's performance. The portfolio grows in two ways: through mortgages originated by the Company and through third-party mortgage servicing contracts. Mortgage originations not only drive revenues from placement and interest from securitized mortgages, but perhaps more importantly, longer-term value from servicing fees, mortgage administration fees, renewals and the growth of the customer base for marketing initiatives. As at March 31, 2015, MUA totalled \$87.0 billion, up from \$77.0 billion at March 31, 2014, an increase of 13%. This compares to \$85.9 billion at December 31, 2014, representing an annualized increase of about 5%.

## Growth in Origination of Mortgages

The origination of mortgages not only drives the growth of MUA as described above, but leverages the Company's origination platform, which has a large fixed-cost component. As more mortgages are originated, the marginal costs of underwriting decrease. The Company can also decide to securitize more mortgages and take advantage of its origination in periods of wider mortgage spreads. Prior to 2008, when the capital markets experienced significant turbulence, the prime mortgages that the Company originated had tight spreads such that the Company's strategy was to sell these mortgages on commitment to institutional investors and retain the servicing. This strategy changed with the challenges in the credit environment. The Company elected to invest in more mortgages directly and earn the mortgage spread for itself through securitization. Mortgage spreads can be illustrated by comparing posted five-year fixed single-family mortgage rates to a similar-term Government of Canada bond as listed in the table below.

Period	Average five year Mortgage Spread for the Period
2006	1.12%
2007	1.50%
2008	2.68%
2009	1.76%
2010	1.75%
2011	1.76%
2012	1.92%
2013	1.75%
2014	1.57%
First Quarter 2015	1.93%

The table shows an average spread of 1.12% in 2006. With the credit crisis, this spread ballooned to as high as 3.46% in 2008. Between 2009 and 2011, liquidity issues at financial institutions diminished and the competition for mortgages increased such that spreads remained consistently higher than pre-crisis levels. In mid 2011, the United States credit rating was downgraded and interest rates fell significantly, accounting for wider mortgage spreads in 2012 which tightened again in 2013. In 2014, more competitive pressures took mortgage rates lower and compressed mortgage spreads to 2007 levels. To begin 2015, mortgage spreads have widened as a slowdown in economic growth and the Bank of Canada rate cut have reduced bond yields dramatically. While funding spreads have also moved out, spreads are still greater than in 2014 and there is a stronger case for the Company to securitize. In the first quarter of 2015, the Company originated and renewed for securitization purposes approximately \$1.8 billion of single-family mortgages and \$0.2 billion of multi-unit residential mortgages in order to take advantage of these spreads. In the quarter, the Company securitized through NHA-MBS approximately \$0.4 billion of floating rate single-family mortgages, \$1.3 billion of fixed rate single-family mortgages and \$0.2 billion of fixed rate multi-unit residential mortgages.

## **Mortgage Underwriting and Fulfillment Processing Services**

Early in the third quarter of 2014, the Company entered into an agreement with a large Canadian schedule I bank ("Bank") to provide underwriting and fulfillment processing services for mortgages originated by the Bank through the single-family residential mortgage broker channel. Under the strategic agreement, First National employs a customized software solution based on its industry leading MERLIN technology to accept mortgage applications from the Bank in the mortgage broker channel and underwrite these mortgages in accordance with the Bank's underwriting guidelines. The Bank funds all the mortgages underwritten under the agreement and retains full responsibility for mortgage servicing and the client relationship. The Company believes it can operate this distinct division profitably after the start-up period. After launching the new business in Ontario in early 2015, the Company plans a full national roll out by the middle of 2015. Management considers the agreement a way to leverage the capabilities and strengths of First National in the mortgage broker channel and add some diversity to the Company's service offerings.

## **Lowering Costs of Operations**

### *Innovations in Systems and Technology*

The Company has always used technology to provide for efficient and effective operations. This is particularly true for its MERLIN underwriting system, Canada's only web-based, real-time broker information system. By creating a paperless, 24/7 commitment management platform for mortgage brokers, the Company is now ranked among the top three lenders by market share in the broker channel. This has translated into increased single-family origination volumes and higher closing ratios (the percentage of mortgage commitments the Company issues that actually become closed mortgages).

### *Increase of Bank Credit Facility*

The Company uses a \$1 billion revolving line of credit with a syndicate of banks. This facility enables the Company to fund the increasing amount of mortgages accumulated for securitization. The entire facility is floating rate and has a four-year term. The Company has elected to undertake this debt for a number of reasons: (1) the transaction increases the amount of debt available to fund mortgages originated for securitization purposes; (2) the debt is revolving and can be used and repaid as the Company requires, providing more flexibility than the debenture debt, which is always fully drawn; (3) the four-year term extension gives the Company a committed facility that strategically extends the maturity of this debt beyond that of the debenture in 2015; and (4) the cost of borrowing reflects the Company's BBB issuer rating.



## *Note Issuance*

Subsequent to quarter end, on April 6, 2015, the Company issued 175,000 4.01% Series 1 Senior Unsecured Notes due April 9, 2020 pursuant to a private placement under an offering memorandum. The net proceeds of the offering, after broker commissions, of \$174.3 million will be invested in FNFLP. On settlement, the proceeds will be used to repay a portion of the outstanding amount drawn on the bank credit facility. On May 7, 2015, the Company will then draw on the credit facility to repay the maturing 5.07% \$175 million debenture. Effectively the new note issuance will replace the funding provided by the maturing debenture. Unlike the debenture which is secured on a pari passu basis with the bank syndicate, the newly issued notes are unsecured and can be invested by FNFLP such that the amount will qualify as “net worth” which allows the Company to increase the amount of NHA MBS it can issue under CMHC guidelines. Accordingly, the Company considers these funds to represent a source of capital to fund its securitization program which requires upfront investment. The maturing debenture is used primarily to fund mortgages in the holding period prior to securitization.

## **Employing Securitization Transactions to Minimize Funding Costs**

### *Approval as both an Issuer of NHA-MBS and Seller to the Canada Mortgage Bonds Program*

The Company has been involved in the issuance of NHA-MBS since 1995. In December 2007, the Company was approved by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (“CMHC”) as an issuer of NHA-MBS and as a seller into the CMB program. Issuer status has provided the Company with a funding source that it can access independently. Perhaps more importantly, seller status for the CMB gives the Company direct access to the CMB. Generally, the demand for high-quality fixed and floating rate investments increased significantly with the economic turmoil in 2009. This demand has continued into 2015 and allowed the Company to issue more than \$1.8 billion of mortgages through the NHA-MBS and CMB programs during the first quarter. In August 2013, CMHC announced that it would be limiting the amount of guarantees it would issue on NHA-MBS pools created for sale to the “market”. CMHC indicated that the amount of guarantees it was providing for such market pools (generally any pool not sold to the Canada Housing Trust (“CHT”) for the CMB) was growing significantly. In order to better control the absolute amount of risk that it takes on in this respect, CMHC has implemented policies to allocate the amount of guarantees to issuers. The current amount being allocated to each issuer is approximately the amount that First National used in 2014. These rules are similar to the CMB allocation rules described below, which have been in place since 2008 and are subject to change each year.

### *Canada Mortgage Bonds Program*

The CMB program is an initiative sponsored by CMHC whereby the CHT issues securities to investors in the form of semi-annual interest-yielding five- and 10-year bonds. Pursuant to the Company’s approval as a seller into the CMB, the Company is able to make direct sales into the program. Because of the similarities to a traditional Government of Canada bond (both have five- and 10-year unamortizing terms and a federal government guarantee), the CMB trades in the capital markets at a modest premium to the yields on Government of Canada bonds. The ability to sell into the CMB has given the Company access to lower costs of funds on both single-family and multi-family mortgage securitizations. The Company also enjoys demand for mortgages from investment dealers who sell directly into the CMB. Because of the effectiveness of the CMB, there have been requests from approved CMB sellers for larger issuances. CHT has indicated that it will not unduly increase the size of its issuances and has created guidelines through CMHC that limit the amount that can be sold by each seller into the CMB each quarter. The Company is subject to these limitations.

## Key Performance Indicators

The principal indicators used to measure the Company's performance are:

- Earnings before income taxes, depreciation and amortization, and losses and gains on financial instruments ("Pre-FMV EBITDA" <sup>(1)</sup>); and
- Dividend payout ratio.

Pre-FMV EBITDA is not a recognized measure under IFRS. However, management believes that Pre-FMV EBITDA is a useful measure that provides investors with an indication of income normalized for capital market fluctuations and prior to capital expenditures. Pre-FMV EBITDA should not be construed as an alternative to net income determined in accordance with IFRS or to cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities. The Company's method of calculating Pre-FMV EBITDA may differ from other issuers and, accordingly, Pre-FMV EBITDA may not be comparable to measures used by other issuers.

	Quarter ended	
	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2014
<b>For the Period</b>	(\$ 000's)	
Revenue	167,460	172,705
Income (loss) before income taxes	(4,899)	31,261
Pre-FMV EBITDA <sup>(1)</sup>	38,439	41,388
<b>At Period end</b>		
Total assets	26,638,048	21,683,307
Mortgages under administration	86,998,747	76,974,628

Note:

- (1) This non-IFRS measure adjusts income before income taxes by adding back expenses for amortization of intangible and capital assets but it also eliminates the impact of changes in fair value by adding back losses on the valuation of financial instruments and deducting gains on the valuation of financial instruments.

Since going public in 2006, First National has been portrayed as a high-yielding dividend paying company. With a large MUA which generates continuing income and cash flow and a business model which is designed to make an efficient use of capital, the Company has been able to pay distributions to its shareholders which represent a relatively large ratio of its earnings. The Company calculates the dividend payout ratio as dividends declared on common shares over net income attributable to common shareholders. This measure is useful to shareholders as it indicates the percentage of earnings which have been paid out in dividends. Similar to the performance measure for earnings, the Company also calculates the dividend payout ratio on a basis using Pre-FMV EBITDA.

## Determination of Common Share Dividend Payout Ratio

	Quarter ended	
	March 31, 2015	March 31, 2014
<b>For the Period</b>	<b>(\$ 000's)</b>	
Net income (loss) attributable to common shareholders	(4,201)	22,329
Dividends paid or declared on common shares	22,488	21,488
Common Share Dividend Payout Ratio	N/A	96%
After tax Pre-FMV Dividend Payout Ratio <sup>(1)</sup>	89%	78%

Note:

- (1) This non-IFRS measure adjusts the net income used in the calculation of the dividend payout ratio to after tax Pre-FMV earnings so as to eliminate the impact of changes in fair value by adding back losses on the valuation of financial instruments and deducting gains on the valuation of financial instruments. The Company uses its aggregate effective tax rate to tax affect the impact of the valuation of financial instruments on this ratio.

Due to the loss incurred in the quarter ended March 31, 2015, the common share payout ratio could not be measured. Because of the significant change in bond yields in the quarter, the Company's incurred \$41.1 million of losses on account of the fair value of financial instruments. The 2014 first quarter reported losses on these instruments of \$8.2 million. These losses are recorded in the period in which the bond yields change; however, the offsetting economic gains are reflected in wider spreads on the mortgages pledged for securitization and will be generally realized in net interest margin over the terms of the mortgages. If the losses on financial instruments in both quarters are excluded from the above calculations, the dividend payout ratio for the first quarter in 2015 would have been 89% versus 78% in the 2014 comparative quarter.

The Company also paid \$1.163 million of dividends on its preferred shares in the first quarter of 2015.

## Revenues and Funding Sources

### *Mortgage Origination*

The Company derives a significant amount of its revenue from mortgage origination activities. Most mortgages originated are funded either by placement with institutional investors or through securitization conduits, in each case with retained servicing. Depending upon market conditions, either an institutional placement or a securitization conduit may be the most cost-effective means for the Company to fund individual mortgages. In general, originations are allocated from one funding source to another depending on market conditions and strategic considerations related to maintaining diversified funding sources. The Company retains servicing rights on virtually all of the mortgages it originates, which provide the Company with servicing fees to complement revenue earned through originations. For the quarter ended March 31, 2015, new origination volume increased from \$2.5 billion to \$2.7 billion, or about 6%, compared to the first quarter of 2014.

### *Securitization*

The Company securitizes a portion of its origination through various vehicles, including NHA-MBS, CMB and Asset-backed Commercial Paper ("ABCP"). Although legally these transactions represent sales of mortgages, for accounting purposes they do not meet the requirements for sale recognition and instead are accounted for as secured financings. These mortgages remain as mortgage assets of the Company for the full term and are funded with securitization-related debt. Of the Company's \$3.6 billion of new originations and renewals for the quarter ended March 31, 2014, \$2.0 billion was originated for its own securitization programs.

### *Placement Fees and Gain on Deferred Placement Fees*

The Company recognizes revenue at the time that a mortgage is placed with an institutional investor. Cash amounts received in excess of the mortgage principal at the time of placement are recognized in revenue as “placement fees”. The present value of additional amounts expected to be received over the remaining life of the mortgage sold (excluding normal market-based servicing fees) is recorded as a “deferred placement fee”. A deferred placement fee arises when mortgages with spreads in excess of a base spread are sold. Normally the Company would earn an upfront cash placement fee, but investors prefer paying the Company over time as they earn net interest margin on such transactions. Upon the recognition of a deferred placement fee, the Company establishes a “deferred placement fee receivable” that is amortized as the fees are received by the Company. Of the Company's \$3.6 billion of new originations and renewals in the first quarter of 2015, \$1.5 billion was placed with institutional investors.

For all institutional placements and mortgages sold to institutional investors for the NHA-MBS market, the Company earns placement fees. Revenues based on these originations are equal to either (1) the present value of the excess spread, or (2) an origination fee based on the outstanding principal amount of the mortgage. This revenue is received in cash at the time of placement. In addition, under certain circumstances, additional revenue from institutional placements and NHA-MBS may be recognized as “gain on deferred placement fees” as described above.

### *Mortgage Servicing and Administration*

The Company services virtually all mortgages generated through its mortgage origination activities on behalf of a wide range of institutional investors. Mortgage servicing and administration is a key component of the Company's overall business strategy and a significant source of continuing income and cash flow. In addition to pure servicing revenues, fees related to mortgage administration are earned by the Company throughout the mortgage term. Another aspect of servicing is the administration of funds held in trust, including borrowers' property tax escrows, reserve escrows and mortgage payments. As acknowledged in the Company's agreements, any interest earned on these funds accrues to the Company as partial compensation for administration services provided. The Company has negotiated favourable interest rates on these funds with the chartered banks that maintain the deposit accounts, which has resulted in significant additional servicing revenue.

In addition to the interest income earned on securitized mortgages and deferred placement fees receivable, the Company also earns interest income on mortgage-related assets, including mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization, mortgage and loan investments and purchased mortgage servicing rights.

## Results of Operations

The following table shows the volume of mortgages originated by First National and mortgages under administration for the periods indicated:

<b>Mortgage Originations by Segment</b>	<b>Quarter ended</b>	
	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>March 31, 2014</b>
	<b>(\$ millions)</b>	
New Single-family residential	1,936	1,807
New Multi-unit and commercial	730	717
Sub-total	2,666	2,524
Single-family residential renewals	724	441
Multi-unit and commercial renewals	246	274
Total origination and renewals	3,636	3,239
<b>Mortgage Originations by Funding Source</b>		
Institutional investors – new residential	553	686
Institutional investors – renew residential	275	238
Institutional investors – multi/commercial	709	759
NHA-MBS/ CMB/ ABCP securitization	2,012	1,486
CMBS		
Internal Company resources	87	70
Total	3,636	3,239
<b>Mortgages under Administration</b>		
Single-family residential	67,978	58,929
Multi-unit residential and commercial	19,021	18,046
Total	86,999	76,975

Total new mortgage origination volumes increased in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the same quarter in 2014 by 6%. Single-family volumes increased by 7% and commercial segment volumes increased by 2% year over year as demand for housing and commercial real estate continued and the Company increased its share in the mortgage broker channel. The first quarter of 2015 was consistent with the slow seasonality typical for housing activity during the winter in Canada. The growth rate was mitigated by lower volumes originated from the Company's Calgary office. These volumes were lower by 5% year over year as the turmoil associated with the rapid decline in the price of oil slowed the housing market in Alberta and Saskatchewan. When combined with renewals, total production increased from \$3.2 billion in the 2014 quarter to over \$3.6 billion in the first quarter of 2015, or by 12%. The low interest rate environment which existed for most of 2014 continued in 2015, highlighted by the Bank of Canada's surprise announcement in January 2015 to lower its overnight rate. Low mortgage rates, which stimulate increased real estate transactions, together with the Company's expertise in underwriting insured mortgages, drove higher origination volumes. Origination for direct securitization into NHA-MBS, CMB and ABCP programs remained a large part of the Company's strategy with volumes increasing from \$1.5 billion in the first quarter of 2014 to \$2.0 billion in the 2015 comparative quarter.

### *Net Interest - Securitized Mortgages*

Comparing the quarter ended March 31, 2015 to the quarter ended March 31, 2014, “net interest – securitized mortgages” increased by 8% to \$29.5 million from \$27.4 million. The increase was due to a larger portfolio of securitized mortgages offset by tighter weighted-average spreads on the portfolio year over year. The portfolio of mortgages funded through securitization increased from \$18.7 billion as at March 31, 2014 to \$23.0 billion as at March 31, 2015; however, the market for prime mortgages became more competitive as the Company grew this portfolio. Between March 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015, tighter mortgage spreads and marginally higher origination costs decreased margins by approximately 0.08%. Generally as higher-spread securitizations have amortized down, new securitizations have been entered into at tighter spreads. Net interest is also affected by the amortization of deferred origination and other costs that are capitalized on securitized mortgages.

### *Placement Fees*

Placement fee revenue decreased by 8% to \$16.3 million from \$17.8 million. New origination volume for institutional customers, excluding renewals, decreased from \$1.45 billion in 2014 to \$1.26 billion in 2015 or by 13%. The decrease was offset somewhat by higher fees from renewed mortgages sold to institutional investors which increased revenue by \$0.6 million year over year.

### *Gains on Deferred Placement Fees*

Gains on deferred placement fees revenue decreased 11% to \$2.4 million from \$2.7 million. The gains relate to multi-unit residential mortgages originated and sold to institutional NHA-MBS issuers. Volumes for these transactions decreased by 21% from the 2014 first quarter to the 2015 first quarter, but spreads on these transactions widened so that the Company realized higher per unit gains.

### *Mortgage Servicing Income*

Mortgage servicing income increased 14% to \$26.3 million from \$23.0 million. This increase was due to revenue earned on the new underwriting and fulfillment processing services business which the Company commenced in January 2015. Without this revenue, mortgage servicing income grew by 3% year over year corresponding to 1) the growth in the third-party MUA of 9% between the first quarters and, 2) a decline in the average per unit servicing fee initiated for some of the largest residential investors late in 2013.

### *Mortgage Investment Income*

Mortgage investment income increased 6% to \$13.2 million from \$12.4 million. The change is largely due to the Company’s securitization program. As the Company elects to securitize more of its origination, mortgages accumulated for securitization increase and earn the Company higher interest income in the warehousing period prior to securitization.

## *Realized and Unrealized Gains (Losses) on Financial Instruments*

For First National, this financial statement line item typically consists of two components: (1) gains and losses related to the Company's economic hedging activities, and (2) gains and losses related to holding term assets derived using discounted cash flow methodology. Much like the short bonds that the Company uses for hedging, the term assets are affected by changes in credit markets and Government of Canada bond yields (which form the risk-free benchmarks used to price the Company's deferred placement fees receivable, and mortgages designated as held for trading). The following table summarizes these gains and losses by category in the periods indicated:

<b>Summary of realized and unrealized gains (losses) on financial instruments</b>	<b>Quarter ended</b>	
	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>March 31, 2014</b>
	(\$ 000's)	
Losses on short bonds used for the economic hedging program	(31,131)	(14,903)
Gains (losses) related to the mortgages designated at fair value net of interest rate swaps	(10,382)	6,747
Gains on deferred placement fees receivable	395	27
Other losses	(19)	(40)
<b>Total losses on financial instruments</b>	<b>(41,137)</b>	<b>(8,169)</b>

For most of 2014, poor economic news meant the likelihood of an increase in interest rates became remote and 5-year bond yields dropped by 0.60% in the course of the year. With the drop in oil prices in late 2014 and the ensuing move by the Bank of Canada of dropping its overnight rate in January 2015, interest rates fell considerably in the first quarter of 2015. For the Company, this meant the value of holding short bond positions as a hedge against its mortgages pending securitization decreased in both quarters and it recorded net losses related to the valuation of these financial instruments.

The Company uses short Government of Canada bonds (including CHT-issued bonds) together with repurchase agreements to create forward interest rate contracts to hedge the interest rate risk associated with fixed rate mortgages originated for its own securitization programs. For accounting purposes, these do not qualify as interest rate hedges as the bonds used are not derivatives but simple cash-based financial instruments. These gains or losses are recorded in the period in which the bond yields change; however, the offsetting economic gains or losses are not recorded in the same period. Instead, the resulting economic gain (or loss) will be reflected in wider or narrower spreads on the mortgages pledged for securitization and will be realized in net interest margin over the terms of the mortgages and the related debts. In the first quarter of 2015, the Company recorded losses on these hedges of \$31.1 million (2014 - losses of \$14.9 million). While these losses decreased the net income earned in each comparative quarter, the gross spread on the related portfolio of securitized mortgages going forward will be proportionally wider as the Company issues securitization-related debt at lower relative interest rates than it would have prior to the movement in bond yields. In order to adequately hedge its interest rate exposure, the Company had more than \$750 million of bonds sold short as at March 31, 2015.

The portion of the Company's mortgages which is held at fair value (primarily those funded through ABCP), was affected positively by the change in yields; however, these gains were offset by losses on the value of the interest rate swaps, which were used to hedge all fixed-rate mortgages in this portfolio. The mortgages were favourably affected by the lower interest rate environment; although widening of mortgage funding credit spreads experienced within the quarter, negatively impact these mortgages. The net fair value of the gains and losses on all mortgages held at fair value and the related swaps was a \$10.4 million net loss for the quarter.

## *Brokerage Fees Expense*

Brokerage fees expense decreased 7% to \$9.1 million from \$9.8 million. This decrease is explained almost entirely by lower origination volumes of single-family mortgages for institutional investors, which decreased by 19%. The remainder of the difference is explained by a higher commercial brokerage fees and volume bonus and other loyalty incentives awarded to brokers in excess of those awarded in 2014's first quarter.

### *Salaries and Benefits Expense*

Salaries and benefits expense increased 25% to \$20.2 million from \$16.2 million. The increase is due primarily to an increase in headcount and higher employee costs associated with the new third party underwriting business. The Company hired 96 employees during the fourth quarter of 2014 and early 2015 for this business. Accordingly, the Company had over \$1.6 million of direct salary-related expenses for this division in the first quarter of 2015. As at March 31, 2015, the Company had 839 employees, compared to 676 as at March 31, 2014. The growth in head count, excluding the new employees hired for the new third-party underwriting processing business, is 10%. This growth is largely to meet the administrative demand associated with the increased MUA, which grew by 13% year over year. Management salaries were paid to the two senior executives (Co-founders) who together control about 77% of the Company's common shares. The current period expense is a result of the compensation arrangement executed on the closing of the initial public offering ("IPO").

### *Interest Expense*

Interest expense increased 27% to \$8.5 million from \$6.7 million. As discussed in the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" section of this analysis, the Company warehouses a portion of the mortgages it originates prior to settlement with the ultimate investor or funding with a securitization vehicle. The Company used the debenture together with a \$1 billion credit facility with a syndicate of banks and 30-day repurchase facilities to fund the mortgages during this period. The overall interest expense has increased from the prior period due to increased use of these facilities to warehouse the larger amounts of mortgages originated for the Company's securitization programs.

### *Other Operating and Amortization of Intangibles Expenses*

Other operating and amortization of intangibles expenses increased 24% to \$13.6 million from \$11.0 million. The amortization of intangible assets recognized on the IPO was \$1.25 million in each of the comparative first quarters. Other operating expenses increased by \$2.6 million as the costs for the new third party underwriting department added \$0.8 million of expenses to this category. The Company also incurred \$1.3 million in higher hedge costs related to its increased securitization activities and \$0.5 million of other expenses related to the growth of the business.

### *Income (loss) before Income Taxes and Pre-FMV EBITDA*

Income (loss) before income taxes decreased from income of \$31.3 million in the first quarter of 2014 to a loss of \$4.9 million in the first quarter of 2015. The decrease was due in large part to volatility in the bond market, which negatively affected the Company's interest rate hedges. Income before income taxes was comparatively lower in 2015 than 2014 by \$33.0 million because of the unfavourable change in gains and losses on financial instruments. Pre-FMV EBITDA, which eliminates the impact of gains and losses on financial instruments, decreased 7% to \$38.4 million from \$41.4 million. The decrease was due to the Company's decision to securitize more of its origination. While this has long term benefits to the Company, the costs of underwriting, hedging and warehousing these mortgages prior to securitization becomes a drag on current earnings.

### *Provision for Income Taxes*



The provision for taxes decreased from an expense of \$8.2 million in 2014's first quarter to a recovery of \$1.4 million in the first quarter of 2015. The provision is lower due to the loss incurred in the first quarter of 2015 compared to the income recorded in 2014.

## Operating Segment Review

The Company aggregates its business from two segments for financial reporting purposes: (i) Residential (which includes single-family residential mortgages); and (ii) Commercial (which includes multi-unit residential and commercial mortgages), as summarized below:

<b>Operating Business Segments</b>				
<b>Year ended</b>	<b>Residential</b>		<b>Commercial</b>	
	(\$000's except percent amounts)			
	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>March 31, 2014</b>	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>March 31, 2014</b>
Originations and renewals	2,660,373	2,247,417	975,623	990,387
<i>Percentage change</i>	<i>18%</i>		<i>(1%)</i>	
Revenue	124,096	129,114	43,364	43,591
<i>Percentage change</i>	<i>(4%)</i>		<i>(1%)</i>	
Income (loss) before income taxes	(10,213)	23,634	5,314	7,627
<i>Percentage change</i>	<i>(143%)</i>		<i>(30%)</i>	
<b>Period ended</b>	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>
Identifiable assets	21,638,602	21,112,421	4,969,670	4,811,717
Mortgages under administration	67,978,091	66,991,706	19,020,656	18,897,855

## Residential Segment

Overall residential origination including renewals increased by 18% between the first quarters of 2015 and 2014 while residential revenues decreased by about 4%. Part of the change in revenue is due to the change in gains and losses on financial instruments. Excluding these changes, revenue increased by 19% as the securitized mortgage portfolio grew and produced higher interest revenue. The net change in gains and losses on financial instruments of \$30.5 million also affected net income before income taxes. Without the impact of this large unfavourable fair value change, net income before income taxes for the residential segment would have decreased by 12% year over year, indicative of lower mortgage servicing and net placement fee revenue as the Company elected to securitize a greater portion of its origination. Identifiable assets increased since December 31, 2014, as the Company added about \$700 million of net single-family mortgages to mortgages pledged under securitization, \$75 million of mortgages accumulated for securitization net of a decline of \$350 million of government bonds purchased for hedging purposes.

## Commercial Segment

Commercial revenues decreased by 1% from the prior year, and increased by 5% if the impact of changes in gains and losses on the fair value of financial instruments are excluded. This growth is due to a larger securitized mortgage portfolio in the Company's commercial segment offset by tighter spreads on the securitized mortgages and deferred placement fees as the multi-unit residential mortgage market became more competitive. Without fair value amounts, net income before tax increased by 1% year over year, as higher net interest on securitized mortgages in 2015 offset lower income from deferred placement. Identifiable assets increased since December 31, 2014, as the Company increased the amount of government bonds purchased for hedging purposes by about \$80 million and mortgages accumulated for securitization by almost \$50 million.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company's fundamental liquidity strategy has been to invest in prime Canadian mortgages. Management's belief has always been that these mortgages are considered "AAA" by investors and will always be well bid and highly liquid. This strategy proved effective during the turmoil experienced in 2007 through 2009, when capital markets retreated and only the highest-quality assets were bid. As the Company's results in those years showed, First National had little, if any, trouble finding investors to purchase its mortgage origination at profitable margins. Originating prime mortgages also allows the Company to securitize in the capital markets; however, this activity requires significant cash resources to purchase and hold mortgages prior to arranging for term debt through the securitization markets. For this purpose, the Company uses the combination of the \$175 million debenture loan and the Company's revolving bank credit facility. This aggregate indebtedness is typically used to fund: (1) mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization, (2) the origination costs associated with securitization, and (3) mortgage and loan investments. The Company has a credit facility with a syndicate of eleven financial institutions for a total credit of \$1 billion. This facility was closed in January 2014 for a four-year term. Bank indebtedness may also include borrowings obtained through overdraft facilities. At March 31, 2015, the Company entered into repurchase transactions with financial institutions to borrow \$684 million related to \$695 million of mortgages held in "mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization" on the balance sheet.

At March 31, 2015, outstanding bank indebtedness (excluding bank indebtedness at the Fund level) was \$806.3 million (December 31, 2014 - \$601.9 million). Together with the debenture financing of \$175 million (December 31, 2014 - \$175 million), this "combined debt" was used to fund \$828.0 million (December 31, 2014 - \$690.2 million) of mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization. At March 31, 2015, the Company's other interest-yielding assets included: (1) deferred placement fees receivable of \$35.7 million (December 31, 2014 - \$34.6 million) and (2) mortgage and loan investments of \$253.8 million (December 31, 2014 - \$230.4 million). The difference between "combined debt" and the mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization funded by it, which the Company considers a proxy for true leverage, has increased between December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015, and now stands at \$153.3 million (December 31, 2014 - \$86.7). This represents a debt-to-equity ratio of approximately 0.40 to 1, which the Company believes is conservative. This ratio increased from December 31, 2014 when it was 0.21 to 1 as the Company invested \$8 million in net new mortgage securitizations, \$23 million in new mortgage and loan investments and \$41 million in losses on financial instruments associated primarily with mortgages accumulated for securitization.

The Company funds a large portion of its mortgage originations for institutional placement on the same day as the advance of the related mortgage. The remaining originations are funded by the Company on behalf of institutional investors or pending securitization on the day of the advance of the mortgage. On specified days, sometimes daily, the Company aggregates all mortgages warehoused to date for an institutional investor and transacts a settlement with that institutional investor. A similar process occurs prior to arranging for term funding through securitization. The Company uses a portion of the committed credit facility with the banking syndicate to fund the mortgages during this warehouse period. The credit facility is designed to be able to fund the highest balance of warehoused mortgages in a month and is normally only partially drawn.

The Company also invests in short-term mortgages, usually for six- to 18-month terms, to bridge existing borrowers in the interim period between long-term financing solutions. The banking syndicate has provided credit facilities to partially fund these investments. As these investments return cash, it will be used to pay down this bank indebtedness. The syndicate has also provided credit to finance a portion of the Company's deferred placement fees receivable and the origination costs associated with securitization as well as other miscellaneous longer-term financing needs.

A portion of the Company's capital has been employed to support its ABCP and NHA-MBS programs, primarily to provide credit enhancements as required by rating agencies. The most significant portion of cash collateral is the investment made on behalf of the Company's ABCP programs. As at March 31, 2015, the investment in cash collateral was \$25.8 million (December 31, 2014 - \$19.0 million).

As demonstrated previously, the Company continues to see strong demand for its mortgage product from institutional investors and liquidity from bank-sponsored commercial paper conduits. By focusing on the prime mortgage market, the Company believes it will continue to attract bids for mortgages as its institutional customers seek government-insured assets for investment purposes. The Company also believes it can manage any liquidity issues that would arise from a year-long slowdown in origination volumes. Based on cash flow received in the first quarter of 2015, the Company will receive approximately \$79 million of cash, annually, from its servicing operations and \$127 million of annually cash flow from securitization transaction spread and deferred placement fees receivables. Together, on an after-tax basis, this \$152 million of annual cash flow would be more than sufficient to support the annual dividends of \$90 million on the common shares and the \$4.65 million on the preference shares. Although this is a simplified analysis, it does highlight the sustainability of the Company's business model through periods of economic weakness.

The Company's Board of Directors has elected to pay dividends, when declared, on a monthly basis on the outstanding common shares and on a quarterly basis on the outstanding preference shares. For purposes of the enhanced dividend tax credit rules contained in the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) and any corresponding provincial and territorial tax legislation, all dividends (and deemed dividends) paid by the Company to Canadian residents on both common and preference shares after December 31, 2010, are designated as "eligible dividends". Unless stated otherwise, all dividends (and deemed dividends) paid by the Company hereafter are designated as "eligible dividends" for the purposes of such rules. For the preference shares, the Company has elected to pay any tax under Part VI.1 of the *Income Tax Act*, such that corporate holders of the shares will not be required to pay tax under Part VI.1 of the *Income Tax Act* on dividends received on such shares.

## Financial Instruments and Risk Management

The Company has elected to treat deferred placement fees receivable, certain mortgages pledged under securitization that have been funded with ABCP and NHA-MBS debt and several mortgages within mortgage and loan investments, as financial assets measured at “fair value through profit or loss” such that changes in market value are recorded in the statement of income. Effectively, these assets are treated much like bonds earning the Company a coupon at the discount rates used by the Company. The discount rates used represent the interest rate associated with a risk-free bond of the same duration plus a premium for the risk/uncertainty of the asset’s residual cash flows. As rates in the bond market change, the carrying values of these assets will change. These changes may be significant (favourable and unfavourable) from quarter to quarter. The Company enters into fixed-for-float swaps to manage the interest rate exposure of fixed mortgages sold to ABCP conduits. These instruments will also be treated as fair value through profit or loss. While the Company has attempted to exactly match the principal balances of the fixed mortgages over the next five-year period to the notional swap values for the same period, there will be differences in these amounts. Any favourable or unfavourable amounts will be recorded in the statement of earnings each quarter.

The Company believes its hedging policies are suitably designed such that the interest rate risk of holding mortgages prior to securitization is mitigated. From an accounting perspective, any gains or losses on these instruments are recorded in the current period, as the Company’s economic hedging strategy does not qualify as hedging for accounting purposes. The Company uses bond forwards (consisting of bonds sold short and bonds purchased under resale agreements) to manage interest rate exposure between the time a mortgage rate is committed to the borrower and the time the mortgage is transferred to the securitization vehicle and the matched term debt is arranged. As interest rates change, the value of these short bonds will vary inversely with the value of the related mortgages. As interest rates increase, a gain will be recorded on the bonds, which should be offset by a tighter interest rate spread between the interest rates on mortgages and the securitization debt. This spread will be earned over the term of the related mortgages. For single-family mortgages, primarily mortgages for the Company’s own securitization programs, only some of the mortgage commitments issued by the Company eventually fund. The Company must assign a probability of funding to each mortgage in the pipeline and estimate how that probability changes as mortgages move through the various stages of the pipeline. The amount that is actually hedged is the expected value of mortgages funding within the next 120 days (120 days being the standard maximum rate hold period available for the mortgages). As at March 31, 2015, the Company had \$619 million of notional forward bond positions related to its single-family programs. For multi-unit residential and commercial mortgages, the Company assumes all mortgages committed will fund and hedges each mortgage individually. This includes mortgages committed for the CMB program as well as mortgages for transfer to the Company’s other securitization vehicles. As at March 31, 2015, the Company had entered into \$143 million of notional value forward bond sales for this segment. The total net value of realized and unrealized gains and losses on account of all notional hedges pertaining to the period January 1, 2015 to March 31, 2015 was a \$31.1 million loss. This amount has been included in revenue in the statement of comprehensive income.

Upon settlement of the debenture issuance, the Company entered into a float-for-fix swap. The swap requires the Company to pay CDOR+2.134% on a notional amount of \$175 million and to receive the debenture interest coupon (5.07%) semi-annually. This effectively converts the fixed rate semi-annual debenture-based loan payable into a floating rate monthly resetting note payable. Since the date when this swap was entered into, five-year interest rates have decreased pursuant to global economic issues and the value of this swap was \$1.7 million as at March 31, 2015. The Company has documented this swap as a hedge for accounting purposes, as the fixed leg of the swap exactly matches the cash flow obligations under the debenture. Effectively, the unrealized gain of \$1.7 million on the swap has been excluded from earnings and been applied to increase the carrying value of the debenture note payable. The Company is also a party to three amortizing fix-for-float rate swaps that economically hedge the interest rate exposure related to certain mortgages held on the balance sheet that the Company has originated as replacement assets for its CMB activities. As at March 31, 2015, the aggregate notional value of these swaps was \$28.3 million. During the quarter the value of these swaps did not change significantly. The amortizing swaps mature between July 2015 and June 2021.

As described above, the Company employs various strategies to reduce interest rate risk. In the normal course of business, the Company takes some credit spread risk. This is the risk that the credit spread at which a mortgage is originated changes between the date of commitment of that mortgage and the date of sale or securitization. This can be illustrated by the Company's experience with commercial mortgages originated for the CMBS market in the spring of 2007. These mortgages were originated at credit spreads designed to be profitable to the Company when sold to a bank-sponsored CMBS conduit. Unfortunately for the Company, when these mortgages funded, the CMBS market had shut down. The alternative to this channel was more expensive as credit spreads elsewhere in the marketplace for this type of mortgage had widened. The Company adjusted for market-suggested increases in credit spreads in 2007 and 2008, adjusting the value of the mortgages downward. In 2009, the economic environment remained weak but did not worsen from what it was at the end of 2008. Overall credit spreads stopped widening such that the Company applied the same spreads to these mortgages and the Company did not record any additional unrealized losses or gains related to credit spread movement. Despite entering into effective economic interest rate hedges, the Company's exposure to credit spreads remained. This risk is inherent in the Company's business model and cannot be economically hedged.

The same exposure to risk is inherent in the Company's securitization through ABCP. The Company is exposed to the risk that 30-day ABCP rates are greater than 30-day BA rates. Prior to the financial crisis, the Company considered this a low risk given the quality of the assets securitized, the amount of credit enhancements provided by the Company and the strong covenant of the bank-sponsored conduits with which the Company transacted. In 2008, 30-day ABCP traded at approximately 1.10 percentage points over BAs; but by the end of March 2011 and continuing until the current period, it was priced at a discount to BAs. At the same time the Company has leveraged on changing credit spreads. The success of this approach has been demonstrated through the increase in volume and profitability of the NHA-MBS program and significant increases in gains on deferred placement fees from the sale of prime insured mortgages. As at March 31, 2015, the Company had various exposures to changing credit spreads. In particular, in mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization, there were almost \$1.5 billion of mortgages that are susceptible to some degree of changing credit spreads.

## **Capital Expenditures**

A significant portion of First National's business model consists of the origination and placement or securitization of financial assets. Generally, placement activities do not require much capital investment as the Company acts primarily in the capacity of a broker. On the other hand, the undertaking of securitization transactions may require significant amounts of the Company's own capital. This capital is provided in the form of cash collateral, credit enhancements, and the upfront funding of broker fees and other origination costs. These are described more fully in the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" section above. For fixed assets, the business requires capital expenditures on technology (both software and hardware), leasehold improvements and office furniture. During the year ended December 31, 2014, the Company equipped a new floor at its head office for growth of its administration department and purchased new computers and office and communications equipment primarily to support its single-family residential business. In the long term, the Company expects capital expenditures on fixed assets will be approximately \$4.0 million annually; however, in the nine months, there will be greater expenditures required to support the new third-party underwriting business.

## **Summary of Contractual Obligations**

The Company's long-term obligations include five- to 10-year premises leases for its five offices across Canada, and its obligations for the ongoing servicing of mortgages sold to securitization conduits and mortgages related to purchased servicing rights. The Company sells its mortgages to securitization conduits on a fully-serviced basis, and is responsible for the collection of the principal and interest payments on behalf of the conduits, including the management and collection of mortgages in arrears.

## **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

The Company prepares its financial statements in accordance with IFRS, which requires management to make estimates, judgments and assumptions that management believes are reasonable based upon the

information available. These estimates, judgments and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Management bases its estimates on historical experience and other assumptions that it believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. Management also evaluates its estimates on an ongoing basis. The significant accounting policies of First National are described in Note 2 to the Company's annual consolidated financial statements as at December 31, 2014. The policies which First National believes are the most critical to aid in fully understanding and evaluating its reported financial results include the determination of the gains on deferred placement fees and the impact of fair value accounting on financial instruments.

The Company uses estimates in valuing its gain or loss on the sale of its mortgages placed with institutions earning a deferred placement fee. Under IFRS, valuing a gain on deferred placement fees requires the use of estimates to determine the fair value of the retained interest (derived from the present value of expected future cash flows) in the mortgages. These retained interests are reflected on the Company's balance sheet as deferred placement fees receivable. The key assumptions used in the valuation of gains on deferred placement fees are prepayment rates and the discount rate used to present value future expected cash flows. The annual rate of unscheduled principal payments is determined by reviewing portfolio prepayment experience on a monthly basis. The Company uses different rates for its various programs, which average approximately 11% for single-family mortgages. The Company assumes there is virtually no prepayment on multi-unit residential fixed rate mortgages.

On a quarterly basis, the Company reviews the estimates used to ensure their appropriateness and monitors the performance statistics of the relevant mortgage portfolios to adjust and improve these estimates. The estimates used reflect the expected performance of the mortgage portfolio over the lives of the mortgages. The assumptions underlying the estimates used for the quarter ended March 31, 2015 continue to be consistent with those used for the year ended December 31, 2014 and the quarter ended March 31, 2014.

The Company has elected to treat its financial assets and liabilities, including deferred placement fees receivable, specific mortgages pledged under securitization, some mortgage and loan investments and bonds sold short, at fair value through profit or loss. Essentially, this policy requires the Company to record changes in the fair value of these instruments in the current period's earnings. The Company's assets and liabilities are such that the Company must use valuation techniques based on assumptions that are not fully supported by observable market prices or rates in most cases. Much like the valuation of deferred placement fees receivable described above, the Company's method of determining the fair value of its securitized mortgages has a significant impact on earnings. The Company uses different prepayment rates for its various programs, which average approximately 10% for single-family mortgages. The Company assumes there is virtually no prepayment on multi-unit residential fixed rate mortgages. Actual prepayment experience has been consistent with these assumptions. The Company has also assumed discount rates based on Government of Canada bond yields plus a spread that the Company believes would enable a third party to purchase the mortgages and make a normal profit margin for the risk involved.

## **Future Accounting Changes**

In July 2014, the IASB issued the final version of IFRS 9 – Financial Instrument, replacing IAS 39 and all previous versions of IFRS 9. This final version of IFRS 9 includes a logical model for classification and measurement, a single, forward-looking 'expected loss' impairment model and a substantially-reformed approach to hedge accounting. Under this standard, financial assets are classified and measured based on the business model in which they are held and the characteristics of their contractual cash flows. The accounting model for financial liabilities is largely unchanged from IAS 39 except for the presentation of the impact of own credit risk on financial liabilities which will be recognized in OCI, rather than in profit and loss as under IAS 39. The new general hedge accounting principles under IFRS 9 are aimed to align hedge accounting more closely with risk management. This new standard does not fundamentally change the types of hedging relationships or the requirement to measure and recognize ineffectiveness; however it is expected to provide more hedging strategies that are used for risk management to qualify for hedge accounting and introduce more judgment to assess the effectiveness of a hedging relationship.

IFRS 9 is mandatorily effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2018. The Company is in process of evaluating the impact of IFRS 9 on the Company's financial statements.

In May 2014, the IASB issued IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers, replacing IAS 11 - Construction Contracts, IAS 18 - Revenue, IFRIC 13 - Customer Loyalty Programs, IFRIC 15 - Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate, IFRIC 18 - Transfer of Assets from Customers, and SIC 31 Revenue - Barter Transactions Involving Advertising Services. The standard contains a single model that applies to contracts with customers and two approaches to recognizing revenue: at a point in time or over time. The model features a contract-based five-step revenue recognition process to determine the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows from the contracts with customers.

IFRS 15 is effective for fiscal years ending on or after December 31, 2017. The Company intends to adopt IFRS 15 in its financial statements for the annual period beginning on January 1, 2017 and is currently analyzing the impact on the Company's financial statements.

### *Disclosure Controls and Internal Controls over Financial Reporting*

The Company's disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed by the Company in reports filed under Canadian securities laws is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified under those laws, and include controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. Internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with reporting standards; however, because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis.

No changes were made in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting during the quarter ended March 31, 2015 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

### **Risks and Uncertainties Affecting the Business**

The business, financial condition and results of operations of the Company are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, and are affected by a number of factors outside the control of management of the Company. In addition to the risks addressed elsewhere in this discussion and the financial statements, these risks include: ability to sustain performance and growth, reliance on sources of funding, concentration of institutional investors, reliance on independent mortgage brokers, changes in interest rates, repurchase obligations and breach of representations and warranties on mortgage sales, risk of servicer termination events and trigger events on cash collateral and retained interests, reliance on multi-unit residential and commercial mortgages, general economic conditions, legislation and government regulation (including the policies set for mortgage default insurance companies), competition, reliance on mortgage insurers, reliance on key personnel and the ability to attract and retain employees and executives, conduct and compensation of independent mortgage brokers, failure or unavailability of computer and data processing systems and software, insufficient insurance coverage, change in or loss of ratings, impact of natural disasters and other events, and environmental liability. In addition, risks associated with the structure of the Company include those related to the dependence on FNFLP, leverage and restrictive covenants, dividends which are not guaranteed and could fluctuate with FNFLP's performance, restrictions on potential growth, the market price of the Company's shares, statutory remedies, control of the Company and contractual restrictions, and income tax matters. Risk and risk exposure are managed through a combination of insurance, a system of internal controls and

sound operating practices. The Company's key business model is to originate primarily prime mortgages and find funding through various channels to earn ongoing servicing or spread income. For the single-family residential segment, the Company relies on independent mortgage brokers for origination and several large institutional investors for sources of funding. These relationships are critical to the Company's success. For a more complete discussion of the risks affecting the Company, reference should be made to the Company's Annual Information Form.

## **Forward-Looking Information**

Forward-looking information is included in this MD&A. In some cases, forward-looking information can be identified by the use of terms such as "may", "will", "should", "expect", "plan", "anticipate", "believe", "intend", "estimate", "predict", "potential", "continue" or other similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. Forward-looking information may relate to management's future outlook and anticipated events or results, and may include statements or information regarding the future financial position, business strategy and strategic goals, product development activities, projected costs and capital expenditures, financial results, risk management strategies, hedging activities, geographic expansion, licensing plans, taxes and other plans and objectives of or involving the Company. Particularly, information regarding growth objectives, any increase in mortgages under administration, future use of securitization vehicles, industry trends and future revenues is forward-looking information. Forward-looking information is based on certain factors and assumptions regarding, among other things, interest rate changes and responses to such changes, the demand for institutionally placed and securitized mortgages, the status of the applicable regulatory regime, and the use of mortgage brokers for single-family residential mortgages. This forward-looking information should not be read as providing guarantees of future performance or results, and will not necessarily be an accurate indication of whether or not, or the times by which, those results will be achieved. While management considers these assumptions to be reasonable based on information currently available to it, they may prove to be incorrect. Forward-looking information is subject to certain factors, including risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially from what management currently expects. These factors include reliance on sources of funding, concentration of institutional investors, reliance on independent mortgage brokers, and changes in interest rates as outlined under "Risk and Uncertainties Affecting the Business". In evaluating this information, the reader should specifically consider various factors, including the risks outlined under "Risk and Uncertainties Affecting the Business", which may cause actual events or results to differ materially from any forward-looking information. The forward-looking information contained in this discussion represents management's expectations as of April 28, 2015, and is subject to change after such date. However, management and the Company disclaim any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required under applicable securities regulations.

## **Outlook**

Management is pleased with MUA growth in the first quarter of 2015. With higher origination levels and renewal volume, the Company increased its securitization activities which will provide longer-term benefits to the business. The unexpected cut in the Bank of Canada overnight rate announced in January,



2015, had some short term negative consequences for the Company including a large mark-to-market adjustment on the economic hedging program.

Looking forward, the Company expects the low interest rate environment, which was reinforced with the January 2015 Bank of Canada rate cut, will continue for the remainder of 2015. Low rates will keep mortgage affordability at favourable levels and allay refinancing risk. It also expects to earn greater net interest from its portfolio of securitized mortgages. The mortgages accumulated for securitization at the end of March 2015 have higher coupons relative to the current mortgage market and the Company expects to be able to securitize these mortgages at the lower interest rates now available in the marketplace.

By realizing the significant renewal opportunities available in the upcoming year and managing its partnerships with institutional customers, the Company will continue to focus on sustainable profitability. Management expects the Company to continue to generate cash flow from its \$23 billion portfolio of mortgages pledged under securitization and \$64 billion servicing portfolio that will maximize financial performance. First National also expects its new underwriting and fulfillment processing services business to begin to transition to profitability as operations commence in western Canada and Quebec in the second quarter and the Ontario branch prepares for the seasonally stronger spring real estate market.

Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

**First National Financial Corporation**

[Unaudited]

First Quarter 2015

**First National Financial Corporation**

**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF  
FINANCIAL POSITION**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars]

As at

	Notes	March 31, 2015 \$	December 31, 2014 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Restricted cash	3	579,109	496,733
Accounts receivable and sundry		81,661	71,160
Securities purchased under resale agreements and owned		1,066,236	1,331,615
Mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization	5	1,522,583	1,369,778
Mortgages pledged under securitization	3	23,012,768	22,337,378
Deferred placement fees receivable	4	35,660	34,644
Cash held as collateral for securitization	3	25,834	18,973
Mortgage and loan investments	6	253,794	230,388
Income taxes recoverable		8,634	10,539
Other assets		51,769	52,706
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>26,638,048</b>	<b>25,953,914</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Bank indebtedness	8	813,344	609,870
Obligations related to securities and mortgages sold under repurchase agreements		683,697	660,360
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		118,901	94,524
Securities sold under repurchase agreements and sold short		1,066,718	1,330,699
Debt related to securitized and participation mortgages	9	23,301,545	22,573,362
Debenture loan payable		176,734	176,418
Deferred tax liabilities		53,600	57,400
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>26,214,539</b>	<b>25,502,633</b>
<b>Equity attributable to shareholders</b>			
Common shares	10	122,671	122,671
Preferred shares	10	97,394	97,394
Retained earnings		164,818	192,669
		<b>384,883</b>	<b>412,734</b>
<b>Non-controlling interests</b>		<b>38,626</b>	<b>38,547</b>
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>423,509</b>	<b>451,281</b>
<b>Total liabilities and equity</b>		<b>26,638,048</b>	<b>25,953,914</b>

See accompanying notes

On behalf of the board



John Brough



Robert Mitchell

**First National Financial Corporation**

**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS  
OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except earnings per share]

		<b>Three months ended</b>	
		<b>March 31,</b>	<b>March 31,</b>
		<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Notes		\$	\$
<b>REVENUE</b>			
	Interest revenue - securitized mortgages	<b>150,309</b>	125,053
	Interest expense - securitized mortgages	<b>(120,852)</b>	(97,637)
3	Net interest - securitized mortgages	<b>29,457</b>	27,416
	Placement fees	<b>16,338</b>	17,772
4	Gains on deferred placement fees	<b>2,428</b>	2,705
	Mortgage investment income	<b>13,247</b>	12,350
	Mortgage servicing income	<b>26,275</b>	22,994
	Realized and unrealized losses on financial instruments	<b>(41,137)</b>	(8,169)
		<b>46,608</b>	75,068
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
	Brokerage fees	<b>9,149</b>	9,833
	Salaries and benefits	<b>20,211</b>	16,221
	Interest	<b>8,502</b>	6,749
	Other operating	<b>12,395</b>	9,754
	Amortization of intangible assets	<b>1,250</b>	1,250
		<b>51,507</b>	43,807
	<b>Income (loss) before income taxes</b>	<b>(4,899)</b>	31,261
	Income tax expense (recovery)	<b>(1,400)</b>	8,200
	<b>Net income (loss) and comprehensive income (loss) for the period</b>	<b>(3,499)</b>	23,061
<b>Net income (loss) and comprehensive income (loss) attributable to:</b>			
	Shareholders	<b>(4,201)</b>	22,329
	Non-controlling interests	<b>702</b>	732
		<b>(3,499)</b>	23,061
<b>Earnings (loss) per share</b>			
	Basic	<b>(0.09)</b>	0.35

*See accompanying notes*

**First National Financial Corporation**

**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF  
CHANGES IN EQUITY**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars]

	<b>Common shares</b>	<b>Preferred shares</b>	<b>Retained earnings</b>	<b>Non- controlling interests</b>	<b>Total equity</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at January 1, 2015	<b>122,671</b>	<b>97,394</b>	<b>192,669</b>	<b>38,547</b>	<b>451,281</b>
Comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	(4,201)	702	(3,499)
Dividends paid or declared	—	—	(23,650)	(623)	(24,273)
<b>Balance as at March 31, 2015</b>	<b>122,671</b>	<b>97,394</b>	<b>164,818</b>	<b>38,626</b>	<b>423,509</b>

	<b>Common shares</b>	<b>Preferred shares</b>	<b>Retained earnings</b>	<b>Non- controlling interests</b>	<b>Total equity</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance as at January 1, 2014	122,671	97,394	184,561	45,285	449,911
Comprehensive income	—	—	22,329	732	23,061
Dividends paid or declared	—	—	(22,651)	(734)	(23,385)
<b>Balance as at March 31, 2014</b>	<b>122,671</b>	<b>97,394</b>	<b>184,239</b>	<b>45,283</b>	<b>449,587</b>

*See accompanying notes*

**First National Financial Corporation**

**INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS  
OF CASH FLOWS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars]

	<b>Three months ended</b>	
	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>March 31, 2014</b>
	\$	\$
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Net income (loss) for the period	(3,499)	23,061
Add (deduct) items not affecting cash		
Deferred income taxes	(3,800)	1,100
Non-cash portion of gains on deferred placement fees	(2,329)	(2,585)
Decrease (increase) in restricted cash	(82,376)	127,396
Net investment in mortgages pledged under securitization	(652,718)	(1,001,995)
Net increase in debt related to securitized mortgages	726,857	874,050
Amortization of deferred placement fees receivable	1,708	2,436
Amortization of purchased mortgage servicing rights	270	193
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	951	708
Amortization of intangible assets	1,250	1,250
Unrealized losses on financial instruments	18,596	556
	<b>4,910</b>	<b>26,170</b>
Net change in non-cash working capital balances related to operations	<b>(169,782)</b>	<b>(75,856)</b>
<b>Cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(164,872)</b>	<b>(49,686)</b>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(1,534)	(2,494)
Repayment (investment) of cash held as collateral under securitization	(6,861)	8,956
Investment in mortgage and loan investments	(34,788)	(25,603)
Repayment of mortgage and loan investments	11,382	32,190
<b>Cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(31,801)</b>	<b>13,049</b>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Dividends paid	(23,650)	(22,151)
Obligations related to securities and mortgages sold under repurchase agreements	23,337	(96,605)
Debt related to participation mortgages	1,326	3,903
Securities purchased under resale agreements and owned, net	265,379	(173,934)
Securities sold under repurchase agreements and sold short, net	(272,570)	168,317
Non-controlling interest	(623)	(734)
<b>Cash used in financing activities</b>	<b>(6,801)</b>	<b>(121,204)</b>
<b>Net increase in bank indebtedness during the period</b>	<b>(203,474)</b>	<b>(157,841)</b>
Bank indebtedness, beginning of period	<b>(609,870)</b>	<b>(274,484)</b>
<b>Bank indebtedness, end of period</b>	<b>(813,344)</b>	<b>(432,325)</b>
<b>Supplemental cash flow information</b>		
Interest received	179,042	146,925
Interest paid	153,843	99,899
Income taxes paid	495	14,960

See accompanying notes

## **First National Financial Corporation**

# **NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

## **1. GENERAL ORGANIZATION AND BUSINESS OF FIRST NATIONAL FINANCIAL CORPORATION**

First National Financial Corporation [the “Corporation” or “Company”] is the parent company of First National Financial LP [“FNFLP”], a Canadian-based originator, underwriter and servicer of predominantly prime residential [single family and multi-unit] and commercial mortgages. With almost \$87 billion in mortgages under administration, FNFLP is an originator and underwriter of mortgages and a significant participant in the mortgage broker distribution channel.

The Corporation is incorporated under the laws of the Province of Ontario, Canada and has its registered office and principal place of business located at 100 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario. The Corporation’s common and preferred shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbols FN and FN.PR.A, respectively.

## **2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Basis of preparation**

The interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 - *Interim Financial Reporting* under International Financial Reporting Standards, as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. The interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared using the same accounting policies used in the preparation of the audited annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014.

These interim condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited annual consolidated financial statements and are presented in Canadian dollars with all values rounded to the nearest thousand, except when otherwise indicated. The interim condensed consolidated financial statements were authorized for issue by the Board of Directors on April 28, 2015.

**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

**3. MORTGAGES PLEDGED UNDER SECURITIZATION**

The Company securitizes residential and commercial mortgages in order to raise debt to fund these mortgages. Most of these securitizations consist of the transfer of fixed and floating rate mortgages into securitization programs, such as Asset-backed Commercial Paper ["ABCP"], NHA-MBS, and the Canada Mortgage Bonds ["CMB"] program. In these securitizations, the Company transfers the assets to structured entities for cash, and incurs interest-bearing obligations typically matched to the term of the mortgages. These securitizations do not qualify for derecognition, although the structured entities and other securitization vehicles have no recourse to the Company's other assets for failure of the mortgages to make payments when due.

As part of the ABCP transactions, the Company provides cash collateral for credit enhancement purposes as required by the rating agencies. Credit exposure to securitized mortgages is generally limited to this cash collateral. The principal and interest payments on the securitized mortgages are paid to the Company by the structured entities monthly over the term of the mortgages. The full amount of the cash collateral is recorded as an asset and the Company anticipates full recovery of these amounts. NHA-MBS securitizations may also require cash collateral in some circumstances. As at March 31, 2015, the cash held as collateral for securitization was \$25,834 [December 31, 2014 - \$18,973].



**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

The following table compares the carrying amount of mortgages pledged for securitization and the associated debt:

	<b>March 31, 2015</b>		<b>December 31, 2014</b>	
	<b>Carrying amount of securitized mortgages</b>	<b>Carrying amount of associated liabilities</b>	<b>Carrying amount of securitized mortgages</b>	<b>Carrying amount of associated liabilities</b>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Securitized mortgages at face value	<b>22,820,228</b>	<b>23,338,324</b>	22,170,195	22,612,160
Mark to market adjustment	<b>59,629</b>	—	41,859	—
Capitalized origination costs	<b>132,911</b>	—	125,324	—
Debt discounts	—	<b>(55,788)</b>	—	(56,481)
	<b>23,012,768</b>	<b>23,282,536</b>	22,337,378	22,555,679
Add:				
Principal portion of payments held in restricted cash	<b>535,932</b>	—	455,003	—
Participation debt	—	<b>19,009</b>	—	17,683
	<b>23,548,700</b>	<b>23,301,545</b>	22,792,381	22,573,362

The principal portion of payments held in restricted cash represents payments on account of mortgages pledged under securitization which have been received at period end but have not been applied to reduce the associated debt. This cash is applied to pay down the debt in the month subsequent to period end. In order to compare the components of mortgages pledged under securitization to securitization debt, this amount is added to the carrying value of mortgages pledged under securitization in the above table.

The changes in capitalized origination costs for the three months ended March 31 are as follows:

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	\$	\$
Opening balance, January 1	<b>125,324</b>	80,995
Add: new origination costs in the period	<b>20,278</b>	16,128
Less: amortization in the period	<b>(12,691)</b>	(9,330)
Ending balance, March 31	<b>132,911</b>	87,793

## First National Financial Corporation

### NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

Mortgages pledged under securitization have been classified as loans and receivables, except for approximately \$3.5 billion [2014 - \$3.4 billion] of fair valued mortgages included in fair value through profit and loss ["FVTPL"] mortgages. The mortgages classified as loans and receivables are carried at par plus adjustment for unamortized origination costs.

The Company uses various assumptions to value the FVTPL mortgages, which are set out in the table below, including the rate of unscheduled prepayment. Accordingly, FVTPL mortgages are subject to measurement uncertainty. The effect of variations between actual experience and assumptions will be recorded in future statements of comprehensive income. Key economic weighted average assumptions and the sensitivities of the current carrying values to immediate 10% and 20% adverse changes in those assumptions are as follows:

	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	
	<b>Commercial mortgages</b>	<b>Residential mortgages</b>
FVTPL mortgages	<b>149,086</b>	<b>3,308,968</b>
Average life [in months] <sup>[1]</sup>	<b>28</b>	<b>22</b>
Prepayment speed assumption [annual rate]	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>11.5%</b>
Impact on fair value of 10% adverse change	<b>—</b>	<b>686</b>
Impact on fair value of 20% adverse change	<b>1</b>	<b>1,366</b>
Discount rate [annual rate]	<b>1.7%</b>	<b>1.6%</b>
Impact on fair value of 10% adverse change	<b>605</b>	<b>7,960</b>
Impact on fair value of 20% adverse change	<b>1,204</b>	<b>15,884</b>
	<hr/>	
	<b>March 31, 2014</b>	
	<b>Commercial mortgages</b>	<b>Residential mortgages</b>
FVTPL mortgages	\$220,496	\$3,147,859
Average life [in months] <sup>[1]</sup>	23	25
Prepayment speed assumption [annual rate]	5.9%	11.7%
Impact on fair value of 10% adverse change	\$3	\$622
Impact on fair value of 20% adverse change	\$5	\$1,238
Discount rate [annual rate]	2.4%	2.5%
Impact on fair value of 10% adverse change	\$937	\$10,498
Impact on fair value of 20% adverse change	\$1,857	\$20,935

## **First National Financial Corporation**

### **NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

<sup>(1)</sup> The weighted average life of prepayable assets in periods [for example, months or years] can be calculated by multiplying the principal collections expected in each future period by the number of periods until that future period, summing those products, and dividing the sum by the initial principal balance.

These sensitivities are hypothetical and should be used with caution. As the figures indicate, changes in carrying value based on a 10% or 20% variation in assumptions generally cannot be extrapolated because the relationship of the change in assumption to the change in fair value may not be linear. Also, in this table, the effect of a variation in a particular assumption on the fair value is calculated without changing any other assumption; in reality, changes in one factor may result in changes in another [for example, increases in market interest rates may result in lower prepayments], which might magnify or counteract the sensitivities.

#### **4. DEFERRED PLACEMENT FEES RECEIVABLE**

The Company enters into transactions with institutional investors to sell primarily fixed rate mortgages in which placement fees are received over time as well as at the time of the mortgage placement. These mortgages are derecognized when substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred and the Company has minimal exposure to the variability of future cash flows from these mortgages. The investors have no recourse to the Company's other assets for failure of mortgagors to make payments when due.

During the three months ended March 31, 2015, \$416,857 [2014 - \$529,690] of mortgages were placed with institutional investors which created gains on deferred placement fees of \$2,428 [2014 - \$2,705]. Cash receipts on deferred placement fees receivable for the three months ended March 31, 2015 were \$2,324 [2014 - \$2,649].

**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

The Company uses various assumptions to value the deferred placement fees receivable, which are set out in the table below, including the rate of unscheduled prepayments. Accordingly, the deferred placement fees receivable are subject to measurement uncertainty. As at March 31, 2015, the fair value of deferred placement fees receivable is \$35,660 [December 31, 2014 - \$34,644]. An assumption of no credit losses was used, commensurate with the credit quality of the investors. The effect of variations between actual experience and assumptions will be recorded in future statements of comprehensive income. Key economic weighted average assumptions and the sensitivity of the current carrying value of residual cash flows to immediate 10% and 20% adverse changes in those assumptions are summarized as follows:

	<b>March 31, 2015</b>
	<b>Commercial mortgages</b>
Average life [in months] <sup>[1]</sup>	<b>63</b>
Residual cash flows discount rate [annual rate]	<b>3.6%</b>
Impact on fair value of 10% adverse change	<b>324</b>
Impact on fair value of 20% adverse change	<b>644</b>

	<b>March 31, 2014</b>	
	<b>Commercial mortgages</b>	<b>Residential mortgages</b>
Average life [in months] <sup>[1]</sup>	55	25
Prepayment speed assumption [annual rate]	—	15%
Impact on fair value of 10% adverse change	—	\$4
Impact on fair value of 20% adverse change	—	\$7
Residual cash flows discount rate [annual rate]	4.7%	4.0%
Impact on fair value of 10% adverse change	\$397	\$1
Impact on fair value of 20% adverse change	\$785	\$2

<sup>[1]</sup> The weighted average life of prepayable assets in periods [for example, months or years] can be calculated by multiplying the principal collections expected in each future period by the number of periods until that future period, summing those products, and dividing the sum by the initial principal balance.

## First National Financial Corporation

### NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

These sensitivities are hypothetical and should be used with caution. As the figures indicate, changes in carrying value based on a 10% or 20% variation in assumptions generally cannot be extrapolated because the relationship of the change in assumption to the change in fair value may not be linear. Also, in this table, the effect of a variation in a particular assumption on the fair value of the retained interest is calculated without changing any other assumption; in reality, changes in one factor may result in changes in another [for example, increases in market interest rates may result in lower prepayments], which might magnify or counteract the sensitivities.

#### 5. MORTGAGES ACCUMULATED FOR SALE OR SECURITIZATION

Mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization consist of mortgages the Company has originated for its own securitization programs together with mortgages funded in advance of settlement with institutional investors.

Mortgages originated for the Company's own securitization programs are classified as loans and receivables and are recorded at amortized cost. Mortgages funded for placement with institutional investors are designated as FVTPL and are recorded at fair value. The fair values of mortgages at FVTPL approximate their carrying values due to their short-term nature. The following table summarizes the components of mortgages according to their classification:

	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>
	\$	\$
Mortgages accumulated for securitization	<b>1,492,846</b>	1,354,572
Mortgages accumulated for sale	<b>29,737</b>	15,206
	<b>1,522,583</b>	1,369,778

## First National Financial Corporation

### NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

#### 6. MORTGAGE AND LOAN INVESTMENTS

Mortgage and loan investments consist primarily of commercial first and second mortgages held for various terms, the majority of which mature within one year.

Mortgage and loan investments consist of the following:

	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>
	\$	\$
Mortgage loans, classified as loans and receivables	<b>200,070</b>	175,570
Mortgage loans, designated as FVTPL	<b>53,724</b>	54,818
	<b>253,794</b>	230,388

Mortgage and loan investments classified as loans and receivables are carried at outstanding principal balances adjusted for unamortized premiums or discounts and are net of specific provisions for credit losses, if any.

#### 7. MORTGAGES UNDER ADMINISTRATION

As at March 31, 2015, the Company had mortgages under administration of \$86,998,747 [December 31, 2014 - \$85,889,561], including mortgages held on the Company's interim condensed consolidated statements of financial position. Mortgages under administration are serviced for financial institutions such as banks, insurance companies, pension funds, mutual funds, trust companies, credit unions and securitization vehicles. As at March 31, 2015, the Company administered 278,151 mortgages [December 31, 2014 - 274,674] for 95 institutional investors [December 31, 2014 - 93] with an average remaining term to maturity of 41 months [December 31, 2014 - 42 months].

## First National Financial Corporation

### NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

Mortgages under administration are serviced as follows:

	<b>March 31, 2015</b>	<b>December 31, 2014</b>
	\$	\$
Institutional investors	<b>53,968,574</b>	53,625,460
Mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization and mortgage and loan investments	<b>1,768,091</b>	1,593,103
Securitization vehicles, deferred placement investors	<b>5,357,080</b>	5,197,507
Mortgages pledged under securitization	<b>22,820,318</b>	22,170,195
CMBS conduits	<b>3,084,684</b>	3,303,296
	<b>86,998,747</b>	85,889,561

The Company's exposure to credit loss is limited to mortgages under administration totaling \$224,908 [December 31, 2014 - \$336,998], of which \$831 of mortgages have principal and interest payments in arrears as at March 31, 2015 [December 31, 2014 - \$1,328]. The Company did not incur any actual credit losses during the three months ended March 31, 2015 [2014 - \$370, net of recoveries]. As at March 31, 2015, the Company has \$22,100 [December 31, 2014 - \$17,462] of uninsured non-performing mortgages [net of provisions for credit losses] included in accounts receivable and sundry.

The Company maintains trust accounts on behalf of the investors it represents. The Company also holds municipal tax funds in escrow for mortgagors. Since the Company does not hold a beneficial interest in these funds, they are not presented on the interim condensed consolidated statements of financial position. The aggregate of these accounts as at March 31, 2015 was \$560,173 [December 31, 2014 - \$537,524].

**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

**8. BANK INDEBTEDNESS**

Bank indebtedness includes a revolving credit facility of \$1,000,000 [December 31, 2014 - \$1,000,000] maturing in January 2018, of which \$805,452 [December 31, 2014 - \$609,639] was drawn as at March 31, 2015 and against which the following have been pledged as collateral:

- [a] a general security agreement over all assets, other than real property, of the Company; and
- [b] a general assignment of all mortgages owned by the Company.

The credit facility bears a variable rate of interest based on prime and bankers' acceptance rates.

**9. DEBT RELATED TO SECURITIZED AND PARTICIPATION  
MORTGAGES**

Debt related to securitized mortgages represents the funding for mortgages pledged under the NHA-MBS, CMB and ABCP programs. As at March 31, 2015, debt related to securitized mortgages was \$23,282,536 [December 31, 2014 - \$22,555,679], net of unamortized discounts of \$55,788 [December 31, 2014 - \$56,481]. A comparison of the carrying amounts of the pledged mortgages and the related debt is summarized in note 3.

As at March 31, 2015, debt related to participation mortgages was \$19,009 [December 31, 2014 - \$17,683].

Debt related to securitized and participation mortgages is reduced on a monthly basis when the principal payments received from the mortgages are applied. Debt discounts and premiums are amortized over the term of each debt on an effective yield basis.



**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

**10. SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**

**[a] Authorized**

Unlimited number of common shares  
Unlimited number of cumulative 5-year rate reset preferred shares, Class A Series 1  
Unlimited number of cumulative 5-year rate reset preferred shares, Class A Series 2

**[b] Capital stock activities**

	Common shares		Preferred shares	
	#	\$	#	\$
<b>Balance, December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015</b>	<b>59,967,429</b>	<b>122,671</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	<b>97,394</b>

**[c] Earnings per share**

	Three months ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
Net income (loss) attributable to shareholders	<b>\$(3,499)</b>	\$23,061
Less dividends declared on preferred shares	<b>(1,163)</b>	(1,163)
Less earnings related to non-controlling interests	<b>(702)</b>	(732)
Net earnings (loss) attributable to common shareholders	<b>\$(5,364)</b>	\$21,166
Number of common shares outstanding	<b>59,967,429</b>	59,967,429
Basic earnings (loss) per common share	<b>\$(0.09)</b>	\$0.35

## **First National Financial Corporation**

### **NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

#### **11. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

##### **Fair value measurement**

The Company uses the following hierarchy for determining and disclosing the fair value of financial instruments recorded at fair value in the interim condensed consolidated statements of financial position:

- Level 1 - quoted market price observed in active markets for identical instruments;
- Level 2 - quoted market price observed in active markets for similar instruments or other valuation techniques for which all significant inputs are based on observable market data; and
- Level 3 - valuation techniques in which one or more significant inputs are unobservable.

##### **Valuation methods and assumptions**

The Company uses valuation techniques to estimate fair values, including reference to third party valuation service providers using proprietary pricing models and internal valuation models such as discounted cash flow analysis. The valuation methods and key assumptions used in determining fair values for the financial assets and financial liabilities are as follows:

- [a] FVTPL mortgages in mortgages under securitization and certain mortgage and loan investments

The fair value of these mortgages is determined by discounting projected cash flows using market industry pricing practices. Discount rates used are determined by comparison to similar term loans made to borrowers with similar credit. This methodology will reflect changes in interest rates which have occurred since the mortgages were originated. Impaired mortgages are recorded at net realizable value. Refer to note 3 “Mortgages pledged under securitization” for the key assumptions used and sensitivity analysis.

- [b] Deferred placement fees receivable

The fair value of deferred placement fees receivable is determined by internal valuation models using market data inputs, where possible. The fair value is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows related to the placed mortgages at market interest rates. The expected future cash flows are estimated based on certain assumptions which are not supported by observable market data. Refer to note 4 “Deferred placement fees receivable” for the key assumptions used and sensitivity analysis.

## **First National Financial Corporation**

### **NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

[c] Securities owned and sold short

The fair values of securities owned and sold short used by the Company to hedge its interest rate exposure are determined by quoted prices.

[d] Servicing liabilities

The fair value of the servicing liability is determined by internal valuation models using market data inputs, where possible. The fair value is determined by discounting the expected future cost related to the servicing of explicit mortgages at market interest rates. The expected future cash flows are estimated based on certain assumptions which are not supported by observable market data.

[e] Other financial assets and financial liabilities

The fair value of mortgage and loan investments classified as loans and receivables, mortgages accumulated for sale or securitization, cash held as collateral for securitization, restricted cash and bank indebtedness corresponds to the respective outstanding amounts due to their short-term maturity profiles.

#### **Carrying value and fair value of selected financial instruments**

The fair value of the financial assets and financial liabilities of the Company approximates its carrying value, except for mortgages pledged under securitization, which has a carrying value of \$23,012,768 [December 31, 2014 - \$22,337,378] and a fair value of \$23,559,698 [December 31, 2014 - \$22,734,523], and debt related to securitized and participation mortgages, which has a carrying value of \$23,301,545 [December 31, 2014 - \$22,573,362], and a fair value of \$23,810,422 [December 31, 2014 - \$22,802,804]. These fair values are estimated using valuation techniques in which one or more significant inputs are unobservable [Level 3].

**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

The following tables represent the Company's financial instruments measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

	<b>March 31, 2015</b>			<b>Total</b>
	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Mortgages accumulated for sale	—	29,737	—	29,737
FVTPL mortgages	—	—	3,458,054	3,458,054
Deferred placement fees receivable	—	—	35,660	35,660
Mortgage and loan investments	—	—	53,724	53,724
Interest rate swaps	—	1,734	—	1,734
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>31,471</b>	<b>3,547,438</b>	<b>3,578,909</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>				
Securities sold under repurchase agreements and sold short	1,066,718	—	—	1,066,718
Interest rate swaps	—	40,088	—	40,088
Debenture loan payable	—	176,734	—	176,734
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>1,066,718</b>	<b>216,822</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,283,540</b>

**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

	<b>December 31, 2014</b>			<b>Total</b>
	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Financial assets</b>				
Mortgages accumulated for sale	—	15,206	—	15,206
FVTPL mortgages	—	—	3,983,793	3,983,793
Deferred placement fees receivable	—	—	34,644	34,644
Mortgage and loan investments	—	—	54,818	54,818
Interest rate swaps	—	1,432	—	1,432
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>16,638</b>	<b>4,073,255</b>	<b>4,089,893</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>				
Securities sold under repurchase agreements and sold short	1,330,699	—	—	1,330,699
Interest rate swaps	—	9,580	—	9,580
Debenture loan payable	—	176,418	—	176,418
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>	<b>1,330,699</b>	<b>185,998</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1,516,697</b>

In estimating the fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities using valuation techniques or pricing models, certain assumptions are used including those that are not fully supported by observable market prices or rates [Level 3]. The amount of the change in fair value recognized by the Company in net income for the three months ended March 31, 2015 that was estimated using a valuation technique based on assumptions that are not fully supported by observable market prices or rates was a gain of \$23,068 [2014 - \$13,524]. Although the Company's management believes that the estimated fair values are appropriate as at the date of the interim condensed consolidated statements of financial position, those fair values may differ if other reasonably possible alternative assumptions are used.

Transfers between levels in the fair value hierarchy are deemed to have occurred at the beginning of the period in which the transfer is made. Transfers between levels can occur as a result of additional or new information regarding valuation inputs and changes in their observability. During the quarter, the Company did not have any transfers between levels.

## First National Financial Corporation

### NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

The following table presents changes in the fair values including realized losses of \$22,542 [2014 - gains of \$7,613] of the Company's financial assets and financial liabilities for the quarters ended March 31, 2015 and 2014, all of which have been classified as FVTPL:

	Three months ended March 31,	
	2015	2014
	\$	\$
FVTPL mortgages	(10,382)	6,747
Deferred placement fees receivable	395	27
Securities owned and sold short	(31,131)	(14,903)
Interest rate swaps	(19)	(40)
	<u>(41,137)</u>	<u>(8,169)</u>

#### Movement in Level 3 financial instruments measured at fair value

The following tables show the movement in Level 3 financial instruments in the fair value hierarchy for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and 2014. The Company classifies financial instruments to Level 3 when there is reliance on at least one significant unobservable input in the valuation models.

**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

	Fair value as at January 1, 2015	Investments	Unrealized gains recorded in income	Payments and amortization	Fair value as at March 31, 2015
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Financial assets</b>					
FVTPL mortgages	3,983,793	540,571	22,673	(1,088,983)	3,458,054
Deferred placement fees receivable	34,644	2,329	395	(1,708)	35,660
Mortgage and loan investments	54,818	—	—	(1,094)	53,724
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>4,073,255</b>	<b>542,900</b>	<b>23,068</b>	<b>(1,091,785)</b>	<b>3,547,438</b>
	Fair value as at January 1, 2014	Investments	Unrealized gains recorded in income	Payments and amortization	Fair value as at March 31, 2014
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Financial assets</b>					
FVTPL mortgages	3,969,524	606,995	13,497	(554,438)	4,035,578
Deferred placement fees receivable	33,580	2,585	27	(2,436)	33,756
Mortgage and loan investments	68,954	—	—	(3,107)	65,847
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>4,072,058</b>	<b>609,580</b>	<b>13,524</b>	<b>(559,981)</b>	<b>4,135,181</b>

**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

**Derivative financial instrument and hedge accounting**

The Company entered into a swap agreement to hedge the debenture loan payable against changes in fair value by converting the fixed rate debt into a variable rate debt. The swap agreement has been designated as a fair value hedge and the hedging relationship is formally documented, including the risk management objective and measurement of effectiveness. The swap agreement is recorded at fair value with the changes in fair value recognized in income. Changes in fair value attributed to the hedged risk are accounted for as basis adjustments to the debenture loan payable and are recognized in income. Accordingly, as at March 31, 2015, accounts receivable and sundry have been increased by \$1,734 [December 31, 2014 - \$1,418] to account for the swap derivative, and the debenture loan payable has been increased by the same amount.

**12. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT**

The Company's objective is to maintain a strong capital base so as to maintain investor, creditor and market confidence and sustain future development of the business. Management defines capital as the Company's equity, long-term debt and retained earnings. The Company has a minimum capital requirement as stipulated by its bank credit facility. The agreement limits the debt under bank indebtedness together with the debentures to four times FNFLP's equity. As at March 31, 2015, the ratio was 2.51:1 [December 31, 2014 - 1.85:1]. The Company was in compliance with the bank covenant throughout the period.



**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

**13. EARNINGS BY BUSINESS SEGMENT**

The Company operates principally in two business segments, Residential and Commercial. These segments are organized by mortgage type and contain revenue and expenses related to origination, underwriting, securitization and servicing activities. Identifiable assets are those used in the operations of the segments.

	<b>Three months ended March 31, 2015</b>		
	<b>Residential</b>	<b>Commercial</b>	<b>Total</b>
	\$	\$	\$
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Interest revenue - securitized mortgages	115,164	35,145	150,309
Interest expense - securitized mortgages	(92,270)	(28,582)	(120,852)
Net interest - securitized mortgages	<u>22,894</u>	<u>6,563</u>	<u>29,457</u>
Placement and servicing	35,338	9,703	45,041
Mortgage investment income	8,732	4,515	13,247
Realized and unrealized losses on financial instruments	(35,138)	(5,999)	(41,137)
	<u>31,826</u>	<u>14,782</u>	<u>46,608</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Amortization	1,555	646	2,201
Interest	7,672	830	8,502
Other operating	32,812	7,992	40,804
	<u>42,039</u>	<u>9,468</u>	<u>51,507</u>
<b>Income (loss) before income taxes</b>	<u>(10,213)</u>	<u>5,314</u>	<u>(4,899)</u>
Identifiable assets	21,638,602	4,969,670	26,608,272
Goodwill	—	—	29,776
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>21,638,602</u>	<u>4,969,670</u>	<u>26,638,048</u>
<b>Capital expenditures</b>	<u>1,074</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>1,534</u>

**First National Financial Corporation**

**NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

	<b>Three months ended March 31, 2014</b>		
	<b>Residential</b>	<b>Commercial</b>	<b>Total</b>
	\$	\$	\$
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Interest revenue - securitized mortgages	93,520	31,533	125,053
Interest expense - securitized mortgages	(70,369)	(27,268)	(97,637)
Net interest - securitized mortgages	<u>23,151</u>	<u>4,265</u>	<u>27,416</u>
Placement and servicing	32,557	10,914	43,471
Mortgage investment income	7,661	4,689	12,350
Realized and unrealized losses on financial instruments	(4,624)	(3,545)	(8,169)
	<u>58,745</u>	<u>16,323</u>	<u>75,068</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Amortization	1,301	657	1,958
Interest	6,361	388	6,749
Other operating	27,449	7,651	35,100
	<u>35,111</u>	<u>8,696</u>	<u>43,807</u>
<b>Income before income taxes</b>	<u>23,634</u>	<u>7,627</u>	<u>31,261</u>
Identifiable assets	17,309,595	4,343,936	21,653,531
Goodwill	—	—	29,776
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>17,309,595</u>	<u>4,343,936</u>	<u>21,683,307</u>
<b>Capital expenditures</b>	<u>1,746</u>	<u>748</u>	<u>2,494</u>

## **First National Financial Corporation**

### **NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

[Unaudited - in thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts  
or unless otherwise noted]

March 31, 2015

#### **14. RELATED PARTY AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS**

The Company has referred several commercial mezzanine mortgage opportunities to a business controlled by a senior executive and shareholder of the Company. The Company services these mortgages during their terms at market commercial servicing rates. The mortgages which are administered by the Company have a balance of \$26,174 as at March 31, 2015 [December 31, 2014 - \$24,765]. Three of the mortgages are secured by real estate in which the Company is also a mortgage lender. In some cases, the Company's interests are subordinate in rank to the interests held by the controlled business.

A senior executive and shareholder of the Company has a significant investment in a mortgage default insurance company. In the ordinary course of business, the insurance company provides insurance policies to the Company's borrowers at market rates. In addition, the insurance company has also provided the Company with portfolio insurance at market premiums. The total bulk insurance premium paid by the Company during the three-month period ended March 31, 2015 was \$734 [2014 - \$737], net of third party investor reimbursement. The insurance company has also engaged the Company to service a portfolio of mortgages at market commercial servicing rates. As at March 31, 2015, the portfolio had a balance of \$7.2 million [December 31, 2014 - \$8.7 million].

An entity controlled by a senior executive and shareholder of the Company has a 75% interest in a property on which the Company is the lender. The related entity effectively assumed 75% of the mortgage upon the purchase. As at March 31, 2015, the mortgage had a principal balance of \$17.4 million [December 31, 2014 - \$17.5 million].

#### **15. SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

On April 9, 2015, the Company issued \$175 million of new senior unsecured notes for a five-year term maturing on April 9, 2020. The notes bear interest at 4.01% payable in equal semi-annual payments commencing October 9, 2015. The net proceeds of the issuance (\$174.3 million, net of \$683 of financing fees) have been invested in FNFLP. The Company plans to use these funds to repay the 5.07% \$175 million debentures when they mature on May 7, 2015.

#### **16. COMPARATIVE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The comparative unaudited interim consolidated financial statements have been reclassified from statements previously presented to conform to the presentation of the 2015 unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

# **First National Financial Corporation**

## **Shareholder Information**

### **Corporate Office**

100 University Avenue  
North Tower, Suite 700  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5J 1V6  
Phone: 416-593-1100  
Fax: 416-593-1900

### **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

Computershare Investor Services Inc.  
Toronto, Ontario  
Phone: 1-800-564-6253

### **Auditors**

Ernst & Young LLP  
222 Bay Street, P.O. Box 251  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5K 1J7

### **TSX Symbol**

FN

### **Investor Relations**

Rob Inglis  
Chief Financial Officer  
First National Financial LP  
Tel: 416-593-1100  
Email: [rob.inglis@firstnational.ca](mailto:rob.inglis@firstnational.ca)

Ernie Stapleton  
President  
Fundamental Creative Inc.  
Tel: 905.648.9354  
Email: [ernie@fundamental.ca](mailto:ernie@fundamental.ca)