

INTEGRALIntros

Intro to Finance

The controls and policies every nonprofit needs

October 16, 2024
Presentation: Stella Penner




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Mohkinsstis

Land Acknowledgement

Bearspaw First Nation Siksika First Nation

Piikani First Nation Goodstoney First Nation

Chiniki First Nation Kainai First Nation

Tsuut'ina First Nation

Métis Nation of Alberta, District 5 and 6



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Your Facilitator for

Introduction to Financials

INTEGRALIntros

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Overview

- Roles of the board, treasurer, & bookkeeper or accountant
- What financial information does my board need?
- Purpose of "internal control"
- Key financial controls
- How does the budget relate to controls?

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Financial Reporting Roles and Responsibilities



Board	Treasurer	Bookkeeper/Accountant
Oversight	"Eyes and ears" of the board	Financial record keeping
Has fiduciary responsibilities	Advises board, finance committee, and management	Reports to ED
Stewardship	Interprets and conveys financial info to board	Provides financial info to ED and/or treasurer to be conveyed to board
Planning ahead, setting priorities	Liaison between board and auditor	Liaison between management and audit team
Risk assessment	-	-
Monitoring	Monitoring	Monitoring

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Financial Information Your Board Needs



Where are we now?
Where are we going?
Planning and monitoring decisions

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Financial Information Your Board Needs *Where are we now?*

- Statement of operations (income statement)
- Income statement compared to budget
- Statement of financial position (balance sheet)
- Restricted cash/deferred contributions status

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Financial Information Your Board Needs *Where are we going?*

- Strategic plan & priorities
- Capital life cycle plan
- Mid-term (2-3 year) projections
- Current year budget based on action plan

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Financial Information Your Board Needs *Planning & Monitoring Decisions*

- Comparing actual to budget
- Variance explanations
- Planning responses to variance & forecasting
- Exception reporting
- Are our plans and policies being carried out?

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Key Financial Controls Purposes

- Implement management policies
- Asset protection
- Risk mitigation
- Efficiencies
- Monitoring



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Key Financial Controls Types

- General/entity wide controls
- Specific/application controls
- Any control may be:
 - Preventative
 - Detective
 - Separation of duties



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General/Entity wide controls

- Knowing your people
- Organizational culture – tone at the top
- Access to information
- Clear policies including values statement



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Specific/Application controls

- Bank reconciliations
- Purchase and payment approvals
- Deposit/revenue processes
- Hiring and payroll policies
- Financial reporting
- Regulatory compliance



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Terminology Payment Methods

- Cash
- Cheques
- EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)
- Pre-Authorized Debits/Credits (Auto-withdrawals)
- E-Transfers/Interac/Email Payments
- Wire Transfers
- Credit Card Payments



Do you have more questions about payment methods?
We may be able to answer them in a free IntegralOrg clinic

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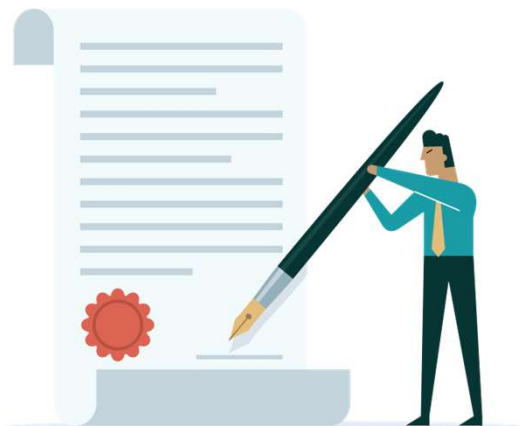
Specific/Application controls **Bank Reconciliation**



- ✓ Ensures integrity
- ✓ Enhances accuracy
- ✓ Document the review!

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Specific/Application controls **Purchase & Payment approvals**



- ✓ Have clear policies and processes
- ✓ Budgeter should have purchase permissions
- ✓ Code and approve
- ✓ Payment approval separate from purchase approval (i.e. cash flow management)

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Specific/Application controls **Deposits & Revenue**



- ✓ How often to deposit
- ✓ Dealing with e-transfers
- ✓ Separation of duties

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Specific/Application controls **Hiring & Payroll**

- ✓ Document changes
- ✓ Written approvals
- ✓ External payroll service



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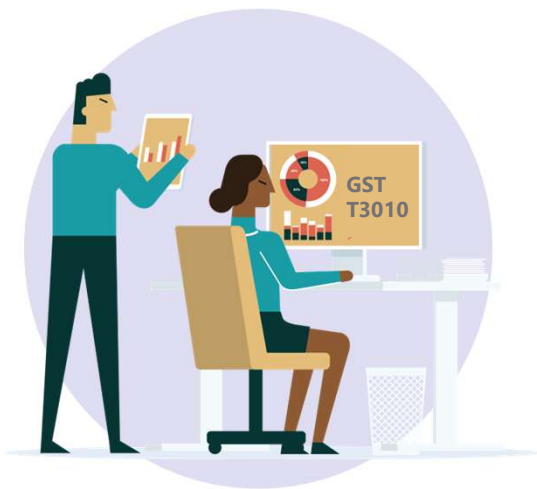
Specific/Application controls Financial Reporting

- ✓ Internal
 - Department managers
 - Senior management
 - Board
- ✓ External
 - Funders, donors, lenders



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Specific/Application controls Regulatory Compliance



Who is responsible?

- ✓ Program reports
- ✓ Tax filings
(e.g. T3010, GST claims)
- ✓ Registration documents
(e.g. Annual Societies return)

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Budgeting and Controls

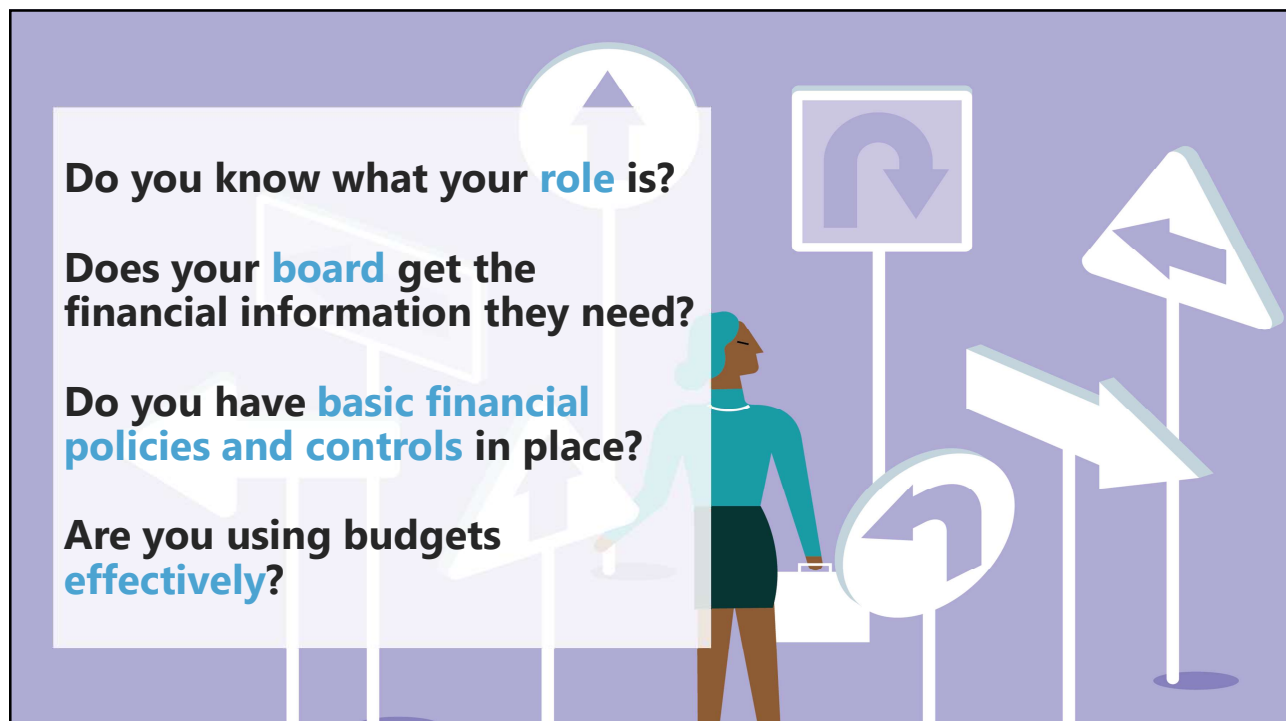
What are our priorities?
What activities will achieve those priorities?
Where is the revenue for activities coming from?
How much will it cost to do activities?

Budgeting = planning
 May also mean:

- Approval to spend
- Statement of priorities
- A basis to monitor activities

Use of budgets is critical to building effective financial controls

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Do you know what your **role** is?

Does your **board** get the financial information they need?

Do you have **basic financial policies and controls** in place?

Are you using budgets **effectively**?

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Thank you for attending!

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More on Financial Management

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Sliding Scale Tickets from \$10-\$30
Wed October 30 1:00-2:30 pm
with Stella Penner

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**A virtual or phone conversation
or**

**A *clinic*, a 1-hour problem-solving
session between IntegralOrg
subject matter experts and your
team.**

**You might have
questions about**

- Attaining charitable status
- Strategic planning
- Policies & bylaws (writing and review)
- Financial management practices
- Governance and board development

These services are free of charge!

Find out more at integralorg.ca/who-we-work-with/clinics/

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