

# EQUITY

**Equity Financial Holdings Inc.**

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**

**SECOND QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2016**

## ABOUT US

Equity Financial Holdings Inc. ("EQI" or the "Corporation"), is a Canadian company with its common shares listed and traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the stock symbol "EQI". Through its federally regulated and wholly-owned subsidiary, Equity Financial Trust Company ("EFT" or "Equity Trust"), the Corporation serves the Canadian alternative mortgage market by offering residential mortgage loans to non-prime and near-prime customers who do not meet the conventional underwriting standards of the major Canadian banks.

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## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

We have prepared this Management's Discussion & Analysis ("MD&A") with reference to National Instrument 51-102 *"Continuous Disclosure Obligations"* of the Canadian Securities Administrators, and it should be read in conjunction with our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2015 (the "2015 Audited Financial Statements"). Except as otherwise indicated, all financial information in this MD&A is determined in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") and all dollar amounts are in thousands of Canadian dollars unless otherwise indicated. Except as otherwise indicated, the information in this MD&A is current to August 11, 2016.

The non-IFRS measures used in this MD&A are presented in the Non-IFRS Financial Measures section of this MD&A.

### Forward-Looking Statements

Certain portions of this MD&A as well as other public statements by the Corporation contain "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation, which is also referred to as "forward-looking statements", which may not be based on historical fact. Wherever possible, words such as "will", "plans", "expects", "targets", "continues", "estimates", "scheduled", "anticipates", "believes", "intends", "may", "could", "would" or "might", and the negative of such expressions, statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved, have been used to identify forward-looking information. Such forward-looking statements include, without limitation, the Corporation's expectations in respect of earnings, fee income, expense levels, future loans and origination, repayment by borrowers, general economic, political and market factors in North America and internationally, interest and foreign exchange rates, global equity and capital markets activities, the Corporation's expected need for equity or debt financing, business competition, technological change, changes in government regulations and regulatory guidelines, unexpected judicial or regulatory proceedings, catastrophic events, and the Corporation's ability to complete strategic transactions and integrate acquisitions and other factors. Forward looking statements should not be read as guarantees of future events, future performance or results, and will not necessarily be accurate indicators of the times at, or which, such events, performance or results will be achieved, if achieved at all.

All material assumptions used in making forward-looking statements are based on management's knowledge of current business conditions and expectations of future business conditions and trends, including their knowledge of the current credit, interest rate and liquidity conditions affecting the Corporation and the Canadian economy, retail mortgage markets, housing sales, and capital markets. Certain material factors or assumptions are applied by the Corporation in making forward-looking statements, including without limitation, factors and assumptions regarding interest rates, availability of key personnel, the effect of competition, government regulation of its business, computer failure or security breaches, future capital requirements, its ability to fund its mortgage business, the value of mortgage originations, the competitive nature of the alternative mortgage market, the expected margin between the interest earned on its mortgage portfolio and the interest to be paid on its deposits, the relative continued health of real estate markets, acceptance of its products in the marketplace, as well as its operating cost structure and the current tax regime.

Forward-looking statements reflect the Corporation's current views with respect to future events and are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from results contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Readers should not place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements as they reflect the Corporation's current views with respect to future events and are subject to risks and uncertainties and are necessarily based upon a number of estimates and assumptions that, while considered reasonable by the Corporation, are inherently subject to significant business, economic, regulatory, competitive, political and social uncertainties and contingencies. Many factors could cause the Corporation's actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance, or achievements that may be expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements, including among others, a significant downturn in capital markets or the economy as a whole, errors or omissions by the Corporation in providing services to its customers, significant increases in the cost of complying with applicable regulatory requirements, civil unrest, economic recession, pandemics, war and acts of terrorism which may adversely impact the North American and global economic and financial markets, inability to raise funds through public or private financing, significant changes in interest rates, failure by the Corporation or its subsidiaries to meet ongoing regulatory obligations, the failure of borrowers or counterparties to honour their financial or contractual obligations to Equity Trust, failure by Equity Trust to adequately monitor and/or adjust its mortgage portfolio management practices for changing circumstances, failure by the Corporation to attract and to retain the necessary employees to meet its needs, failure by Equity Trust to adequately monitor the services provided by third party service providers or to establish alternative arrangements if required, failure by Equity Trust to secure sufficient deposits from securities dealers or a sufficient level of mortgage origination from its mortgage broker network, a failure of the computer systems of the Corporation or one or more of its service providers or the risks detailed from time-to-time in the Corporation's quarterly filings, annual information forms, annual reports and annual filings with securities regulators. The preceding list is not exhaustive of possible factors. The Corporation disclaims any intent or obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, estimates, future events or results, or otherwise, unless required to do so by applicable laws.

The forward-looking statements contained herein are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement. The forward-looking statements included in this report are made as of the date of this report or such other date specified in such statement. Except as otherwise indicated or as the context otherwise requires, the terms "we", "us" and "our" refer to the Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries. Words importing the singular, where the context requires, include the plural and vice versa and words importing any gender include all genders.

## THE BUSINESS

The Corporation operates through its wholly-owned subsidiary Equity Trust, which offers residential mortgage loans funded primarily through the issuance of retail deposits. Equity Trust is a deposit-taking institution regulated by the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions of Canada (“OSFI”) and is a member of the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation (“CDIC”).

### **Mortgage Lending**

Equity Trust focuses on financing residential mortgages for non-prime and near-prime customers, a market segment commonly referred to as the alternative mortgage market. We believe this market segment is underserved by existing lenders relative to the demand for alternative mortgages in Canada. Alternative residential mortgage loans are loans to borrowers who do not meet major banks’ standards of credit worthiness. Such mortgages are often granted to self-employed business people, new-comers to Canada and borrowers with an imperfect credit history. Equity Trust’s lending activities are currently concentrated in urban and suburban areas of Ontario.

Equity Trust sources its loans through mortgage brokers, who collectively originate approximately 30% of Canada’s residential mortgages. (Canadian Association of Accredited Mortgage Professionals: Annual State of the Residential Mortgage Market in Canada, December 2015)

We provide first mortgages primarily for owner occupied, single-family residential properties for purchases, refinances, equity take-outs and debt consolidation. Both open term and closed term mortgages to a maximum of five years are offered.

### **Deposits**

Equity Trust sources its deposit funding through registered investment dealers across Canada, offering Guaranteed Investment Certificates (“GICs”) for amounts of five thousand dollars and more, for terms from 30 days up to five years. All qualifying Equity Trust deposits are insured by the CDIC.

## OVERALL PERFORMANCE

### OVERALL PERFORMANCE FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

Table 1: Financial Highlights

(\$000s, except per share and percentage amounts)	For the three months ended			For the six months ended	
	June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015
<b>OPERATIONS</b>					
Net interest income	\$ 3,671	\$ 3,158	\$ 2,434	\$ 6,829	\$ 4,930
Provision for credit losses	(359)	(167)	(128)	(526)	(160)
Non-interest income	591	495	457	1,086	754
<b>Net interest income and other income, including provision for credit losses</b>	<b>3,903</b>	<b>3,486</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>7,389</b>	<b>5,524</b>
Net interest margin	2.81 %	2.86 %	2.88 %	2.84 %	2.97 %
Net income (loss)	\$ 46	\$ 149	\$ (992)	\$ 195	\$ (1,252)
Earnings (loss) per share - basic/diluted	- / -	0.02 / 0.02	(0.10) / (0.10)	0.02 / 0.02	(0.13) / (0.13)
ROE (annualized) <sup>1</sup>	0.2 %	0.6 %	(4.2)%	0.4 %	(2.7)%
<b>ADJUSTED INCOME (LOSS) AND EPS</b>					
Adjusted income (loss) <sup>2</sup>	\$ 46	\$ 149	\$ (472)	\$ 195	\$ (732)
Adjusted earnings (loss) per share - basic/diluted <sup>2</sup>	- / -	0.02 / 0.02	(0.05) / (0.05)	0.02 / 0.02	(0.08) / (0.08)
As at			June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015
<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>					
Total Assets			\$ 605,280	\$ 487,184	\$ 431,429
Mortgages receivable, net			538,616	441,330	383,282
Deposits			506,607	388,934	332,197
Shareholders' equity			93,917	93,664	93,455
<b>FINANCIAL STRENGTH</b>					
<b>Capital Measures <sup>3</sup></b>					
Regulatory capital (all-in basis)			\$ 84,523	\$ 84,427	\$ 84,200
Leverage ratio			13.6 %	16.9 %	19.1 %
Common equity tier 1 ratio (all-in basis)			36.9 %	44.6 %	49.8 %
<b>Share Information</b>					
Book value per common share			\$ 9.85	\$ 9.82	\$ 9.80
Common share price - close			10.45	9.00	8.06
Common shares outstanding			9,539,508	9,539,508	9,539,508
Market capitalization			\$ 99,688	\$ 85,856	\$ 76,888

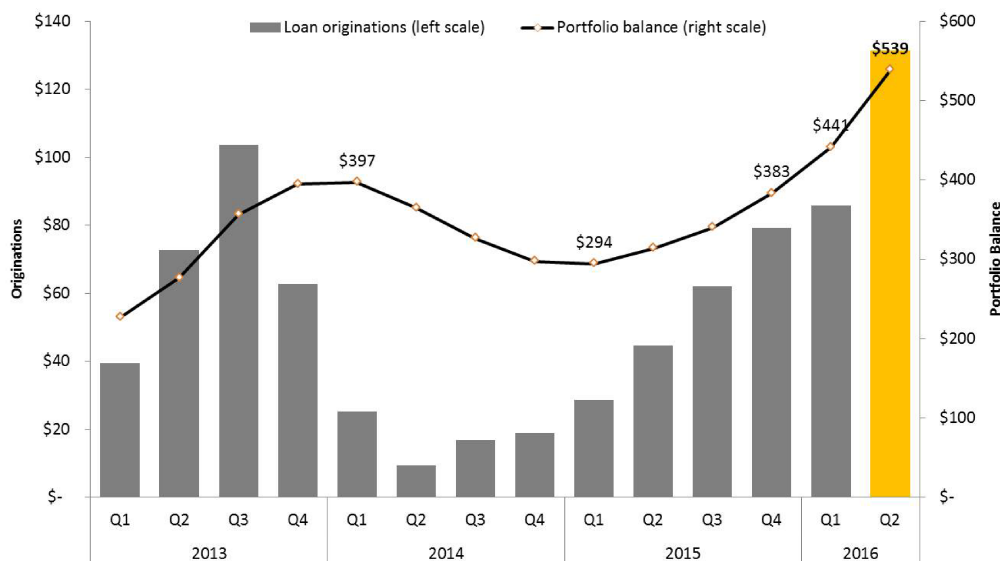
<sup>1</sup> See definition of ROE ("return on equity") under Non-IFRS Financial Measures section of this MD&A.

<sup>2</sup> Adjusted net income (loss), adjusted basic earnings (loss) per share, adjusted diluted earnings (loss) per share are defined in the Non-IFRS Financial Measures section of this MD&A.

<sup>3</sup> These figures relate to the Corporation's operating subsidiary, Equity Trust, and are calculated under Basel III (see Capital Management).

## Financial Highlights

Figure 1: Quarterly Mortgage Loan Originations and Portfolio Balance 2013 to 2016 (\$ millions)



Mortgage originations of \$131,427 in Q2 2016 was our highest quarterly volume since the inception of our mortgage operations in 2011 and 27% higher than our previous high in Q3 2013. Our mortgage loan portfolio grew by almost \$100 million, surpassing \$500 million for the first time and is up 71% from one year ago. Key financial results for the quarter:

- Mortgage receivable balance of \$538,616 as at June 30, 2016, an increase of 22% from the end of Q1 2016 and an increase of 41% from the end of 2015.
- Mortgage originations of \$131,427, up 53% from \$85,842 in Q1 2016 and up 194% from \$44,679 in Q2 2015. Year to date originations of \$217,269, up 199% from prior year.
- Net interest income of \$3,671 in Q2 2016, up 16% compared to \$3,158 earned in Q1 2016 and up 51% over Q2 2015. Year to date net interest income of \$6,829, up 38% compared to \$4,930 for the first six months of 2015.
- Net interest margin earned on our mortgage portfolio was 2.81% for Q2 2016, down slightly from 2.86% in Q1 2016 and 2.88% in Q1 2015. Year to date net interest margin was 2.84% compared to 2.97% in the same period in 2015. The decrease in net interest margin over the comparable period of 2015 reflects higher average credit quality on new originations and renewals over the past year.
- Non-interest income consists of mortgage servicing fees of \$366 for the quarter and \$711 year to date, up 6% from Q1 2016 and up 18% year to date from 2015. We also earned other fee income of \$225 in Q2 2016 and \$375 year to date related to EFT's transitional status as trustee for client relationships.
- Non-interest expenses for the quarter were \$3,769, up 16% from Q1 2016 and up 12% from Q2 2015. Year to date expenses were \$7,121, up 9% compared to the same period in 2015. While core operating expenses increased in line with asset and revenue growth, professional fees and mark-to-market expense on deferred share units due to share price appreciation resulted in higher total expenses for Q2 2016.
- Net income of \$46 or \$0.00 per share for the quarter compared to a net income of \$149 or \$0.02 per share in Q1 2016 and net loss of \$992 or \$0.10 per share in Q2 2015. Year to date net income of \$195 or \$0.02 per share compared to net loss of \$1,252 or \$0.13 per share in the prior year.

## OUTLOOK

The higher origination volumes in recent quarters were made possible by our fully staffed and trained mortgage underwriting and servicing teams, and supporting risk management and compliance infrastructure. We remain focused on balancing trade-offs between portfolio growth, net interest margins, duration and credit quality in order to build on our positive earnings year to date.

During the quarter, we entered into an operating lease agreement for new office space which adds 50% more capacity in anticipation of growth over next several years. In the second half of 2016, we plan to continue to augment our mortgage operations team to support growth in 2017. We continue to leverage the operational and risk management infrastructure established last year. We also plan to implement new mortgage underwriting and servicing systems to enhance efficiency and scalability.

Equity Trust is a well-capitalized, federally regulated deposit-taking institution, with a management team and Board with many years of experience in the non-prime and near-prime residential mortgage business. As such we believe we are well positioned to take advantage of the profitable opportunities in our industry in 2016 and beyond.



## INCOME STATEMENT REVIEW

Table 2: Income Statement Highlights

(\$000s, except per share and percentage amounts)	For the three months ended					For the six months ended		
	June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	% Change	June 30, 2015	% Change	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	% Change
<b>Operating Results</b>								
Net interest income	\$ 3,671	\$ 3,158	16 %	\$ 2,434	51 %	\$ 6,829	\$ 4,930	39 %
Provision for credit losses	(359)	(167)	(115)%	(128)	(180)%	(526)	(160)	(229)%
<b>Net interest income, including provision for credit losses</b>	<b>3,312</b>	<b>2,991</b>	<b>11 %</b>	<b>2,306</b>	<b>44 %</b>	<b>6,303</b>	<b>4,770</b>	<b>32 %</b>
Non-interest income	591	495	19 %	457	29 %	1,086	754	44 %
<b>Net interest income and non-interest income, including provision for credit losses</b>	<b>3,903</b>	<b>3,486</b>	<b>12 %</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>41 %</b>	<b>7,389</b>	<b>5,524</b>	<b>34 %</b>
Non-interest expenses	3,769	3,238	(16)%	3,361	(12)%	7,007	6,409	(9)%
Charge for contingent consideration	-	-	- %	600	100 %	-	600	100 %
<b>Income (loss) before income taxes</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>(46)%</b>	<b>(1,198)</b>	<b>111 %</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>(1,485)</b>	<b>126 %</b>
Income tax expense (recovery)	88	99	11 %	(206)	(143)%	187	(233)	(180)%
<b>Total net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 46</b>	<b>\$ 149</b>	<b>(69)%</b>	<b>\$ (992)</b>	<b>105 %</b>	<b>\$ 195</b>	<b>\$ (1,252)</b>	<b>116 %</b>
<b>Earnings (loss) per share</b>								
Total earnings (loss) per share, basic	-	0.02	(100)%	(0.10)	100 %	0.02	(0.13)	115 %
Total earnings (loss) per share, diluted	-	0.02	(100)%	(0.10)	100 %	0.02	(0.13)	115 %
ROE (annualized) <sup>1</sup>	0.2%	0.6%		(4.2)%		0.4 %	(2.7)%	

<sup>1</sup> See definition of ROE ("return on equity") under Non-IFRS Financial Measures section of this MD&A.

## Net interest Income

Table 3: Net Interest Income and Net Interest Margin<sup>3</sup>

(\$000s, except per share and percentage amounts)	For the three months ended								
	June 30, 2016			March 31, 2016			June 30, 2015		
	Average balance <sup>1</sup>	Income / Expense	Average rate <sup>2</sup>	Average balance <sup>1</sup>	Income / Expense	Average rate <sup>2</sup>	Average balance <sup>1</sup>	Income / Expense	Average rate <sup>2</sup>
<b>ASSETS</b>									
Cash and cash equivalents and securities	53,626	128	0.96 %	44,591	102	0.92 %	45,342	130	1.15 %
Mortgages receivable	487,753	5,842	4.82 %	409,657	4,906	4.82 %	302,941	3,712	4.91 %
<b>Total interest bearing assets</b>	<b>541,379</b>	<b>5,970</b>	<b>4.42 %</b>	<b>454,248</b>	<b>5,008</b>	<b>4.42 %</b>	<b>348,283</b>	<b>3,842</b>	<b>4.42 %</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>									
Deposits	448,605	2,299	2.06 %	361,573	1,850	2.06 %	254,543	1,408	2.22 %
<b>Total interest bearing liabilities</b>	<b>448,605</b>	<b>2,299</b>	<b>2.06 %</b>	<b>361,573</b>	<b>1,850</b>	<b>2.06 %</b>	<b>254,543</b>	<b>1,408</b>	<b>2.22 %</b>
Net interest income per financial statements		3,671			3,158			2,434	
Net interest margin for mortgage portfolio			2.81 %			2.86 %			2.88 %

(\$000s, except per share and percentage amounts)	For the six months ended					
	June 30, 2016			June 30, 2015		
	Average balance <sup>1</sup>	Income / Expense	Average rate <sup>2</sup>	Average balance <sup>1</sup>	Income / Expense	Average rate <sup>2</sup>
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Cash and cash equivalents and securities	49,205	230	0.94 %	41,896	241	1.16 %
Mortgage receivable	448,705	10,748	4.82 %	297,528	7,378	5.00 %
<b>Total interest bearing assets</b>	<b>497,910</b>	<b>10,978</b>	<b>4.42 %</b>	<b>339,424</b>	<b>7,619</b>	<b>4.53 %</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Deposits	405,089	4,149	2.06 %	242,749	2,689	2.23 %
<b>Total interest bearing liabilities</b>	<b>405,089</b>	<b>4,149</b>	<b>2.06 %</b>	<b>242,749</b>	<b>2,689</b>	<b>2.23 %</b>
Net interest income per financial statements		6,829			4,930	
Net interest margin for mortgage portfolio			2.84 %			2.97 %

<sup>1</sup> Average balance is calculated with reference to daily asset and liability balances.

<sup>2</sup> Average rate is equal to income/expense divided by the average balance on an annualized basis.

<sup>3</sup> See definition of net interest margin under Non IFRS Financial Measures section of this MD&A.

Net interest income for the second quarter of 2016 increased by \$513 or 16% compared to the first quarter of 2016 and increased by \$1,236 or 51% compared to the second quarter of 2015, reflecting the growth in our mortgage loan portfolio. The average net interest margin earned on our mortgage portfolio in the second quarter of 2016 was 2.81%, down slightly compared to 2.86% in the first quarter of 2016 and down compared to 2.88% in the second quarter of 2015.

Net interest income for the six months ended June 30, 2016 increased by \$1,898 or 38% compared to the same period last year reflecting the growth in our mortgage loan portfolio in the last twelve months. The year-to-date net interest margin earned on our mortgage portfolio in the second quarter of 2016 was 2.84%, down compared to 2.97% for the same period in 2015 primarily reflecting higher average credit quality on new originations and renewals over the past year.

## Provision and allowance for credit losses

Table 4: Provision for Credit Losses

(\$000s)	For the three months ended			For the six months ended	
	June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015
Provision for collective credit losses	\$ 273	\$ 165	\$ 70	\$ 437	\$ 61
Provision for individual credit losses	86	2	58	89	99
<b>Total provision for credit losses</b>	<b>\$ 359</b>	<b>\$ 167</b>	<b>\$ 128</b>	<b>\$ 526</b>	<b>\$ 160</b>

Our provision for credit losses for the second quarter of 2016 was an expense of \$359 compared to an expense of \$167 in the first quarter of 2016 and an expense of \$128 in the second quarter of 2015. The increase in the current quarter is the result of the growth of our mortgage loan portfolio and the specific provision taken for an impaired loan.

For the year to date, our provision for credit losses was an expense of \$526 compared to an expense of \$160 in same quarter of last year. The increase in total provision year to date is mainly attributed to provision for collective credit losses which increases as our mortgage loan portfolio grows.

Table 5: Allowance for Credit Losses

(\$000s except percentage amounts)	June 30, 2016	% of Gross Loans	March 31, 2016	% of Gross Loans	June 30, 2015	% of Gross Loans
Collective allowance	\$ 1,511	0.28 %	\$ 1,238	0.28 %	\$ 1,102	0.35 %
Individual allowance	87	0.02 %	-	- %	60	0.02 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,598</b>	<b>0.30 %</b>	<b>\$ 1,238</b>	<b>0.28 %</b>	<b>\$ 1,162</b>	<b>0.37 %</b>

We have established an allowance for credit losses of \$1,598 as at June 30, 2016. The overall increase in our allowance for credit losses for the second quarter compared to the prior quarter and second quarter of 2015 mainly reflects the increase in the balance of our mortgage receivable assets.

An impaired loan identified during the second quarter of 2016 resulted in an individual allowance of \$87.

Table 6: Past Due Loans

(\$000s except percentage amounts)	June 30, 2016	% of Net Loans	March 31, 2016	% of Net Loans	June 30, 2015	% of Net Loans
1-30 days	17,856	3.32 %	16,356	3.71 %	12,458	3.97 %
31-60 days	2,223	0.41 %	1,328	0.30 %	782	0.25 %
61-90 days	256	0.05 %	1,381	0.31 %	1,061	0.34 %
> 90 days	1,417	0.26 %	498	0.11 %	385	0.12 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,752</b>	<b>4.04 %</b>	<b>19,563</b>	<b>4.43 %</b>	<b>14,686</b>	<b>4.68 %</b>

A loan is considered past due when a borrower has not made a payment by the contractual due date. The table above presents the carrying value of mortgages that are past due but not classified as impaired either because

collection efforts are reasonably expected to result in full repayment or they have been restored to current status in accordance with our collection policy since the balance sheet date. Our past due loans percentage at the end of the second quarter of 2016 has remained relatively stable in recent quarters. The improving trend of our past due loans percentage is a positive reflection of our portfolio credit quality and loan collection process.

The Corporation classifies loans as impaired when, in the opinion of management, there is reasonable doubt as to the collectability, either in whole or in part, of principal or interest.

## Non-interest income

Non-interest income earned from mortgage servicing fees for the second quarter of 2016 was \$366 and \$711 for the year to date, an year over year increase of 19% and increase of 18% for the respective periods, reflecting the growth of our mortgage loan portfolio over the past year. Mortgage servicing fee income was up 6% compared to the first quarter of 2016, reflecting the growth in our mortgage loan portfolio during the quarter.

In addition to non-interest income earned from mortgage servicing fees, we also earned other fee income of \$225 in the second quarter of 2016 and \$375 year to date, related to EFT's transitional status as trustee for client relationships managed by a third party (see 2013 Sale Transaction). Quarterly other fee income increased from \$150 to \$225 as a result of the elapsed time on EFT's transitional status in accordance with the fee agreement.

## Non-interest expenses

Table 7: Non-interest expenses

(\$000s, except percentage amounts)	For the three months ended					For the six months ended		
	June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	% Change	June 30, 2015	% Change	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	% Change
Staffing costs	\$ 2,014	\$ 1,971	2 %	\$ 1,837	10 %	\$ 3,985	\$ 3,651	9 %
Rent	152	120	27 %	123	24 %	271	247	10 %
General and administration	1,494	1,002	49 %	1,226	22 %	2,497	2,161	16 %
Amortization	109	145	(25)%	175	(38)%	254	350	(27)%
<b>Total non-interest expenses</b>	<b>\$ 3,769</b>	<b>\$ 3,238</b>	<b>16 %</b>	<b>\$ 3,361</b>	<b>12 %</b>	<b>\$ 7,007</b>	<b>\$ 6,409</b>	<b>9 %</b>

**Staffing Costs** – Second quarter 2016 staffing costs increased by 2% compared to the first quarter of 2016 due to higher commission expense driven by higher mortgage originations. Staffing costs are higher by 10% compared to the same quarter last year due to higher average headcount during the quarter. Headcount has remained stable since the beginning of the year. The year to date increase of 9% compared to 2015 is due to increased headcount and higher commission and performance-based incentive compensation.

**Rent** – Rent expense in the quarter and year to date was higher as a result of recognizing an onerous lease contract provision relating to our existing office lease upon the signing of our new office lease. As a result, our rent expense for the second half of 2016 will be higher.

**General and Administration** – The 49% increase in general and administration costs in the second quarter of 2016 compared to the first quarter of 2016 was primarily due to increases in professional fees, including costs incurred to reaffirm our existing operational controls and processes, and mark-to-market expense on DSUs due to share price appreciation. The remaining core expenses grew in line with asset and revenue growth. The quarter over quarter and the year to date increase of 22% and 16% compared to 2015 is due to the same factors but absent of consulting fees incurred in 2015 to complete third party reviews of our redesigned mortgage originations and

corporate governance processes.

**Amortization and depreciation** – Amortization and depreciation costs decreased in the second quarter of 2016 compared to the first quarter of 2016 and same quarter last year is the result of lower amortization of intangible assets as the costs of our core operation systems became fully amortized during the first quarter of 2015. This also resulted in lower year to date expense compared to 2015. We expect this to be a temporary decrease of our amortization expense prior to the launch of our new mortgage underwriting and servicing system later in 2016, at which point amortization expense is expected to trend toward historical levels.

## Net income (loss) and earnings (loss) per share

Table 8: Earnings Per Share

(\$000s, except per share and percentage amounts)	For the three months ended					For the six months ended		
	June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	Change	June 30, 2015	Change	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	Change
Net income (loss)	\$ 46	\$ 149	\$ (103)	\$ (992)	\$ 1,038	\$ 195	\$ (1,252)	\$ (1,447)
Comprehensive income (loss)	80	149	(69)	(992)	1,072	229	(1,252)	(1,481)
Basic earnings (loss) per share	-	0.02	-	(0.10)	0.10	0.02	(0.13)	(0.15)
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	-	0.02	-	(0.10)	0.10	0.02	(0.13)	(0.15)
<b>ADJUSTED INCOME</b>								
Adjusted net income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	\$ 46	\$ 149	(69)%	\$ (472)	110 %	\$ 195	\$ (732)	(127)%
Adjusted earnings (loss) per share - basic <sup>1</sup>	-	0.02	(100)%	(0.05)	100 %	0.02	(0.08)	(125)%
Adjusted earnings (loss) per share - diluted <sup>1</sup>	-	0.02	(100)%	(0.05)	100 %	0.02	(0.08)	(125)%

<sup>1</sup> Adjusted net income (loss), adjusted basic earnings (loss) per share and adjusted diluted earnings (loss) per share are defined in the Non-IFRS Financial Measures section of this MD&A.

Comprehensive income (loss) is the aggregate of net income (loss) and other comprehensive income (OCI). Comprehensive income for the quarter was \$80 compared to \$149 in the prior quarter and loss of \$992 in the second quarter of 2015.

For the second quarter of 2016 we generated a net income of \$46 or \$0.00 per share compared to net income of \$149 or \$0.02 per share in the first quarter of 2016. The lower net income in the second quarter compared to the first quarter is the result of higher non-interest expenses from professional fees and mark-to-market adjustments on DSUs due to share price appreciation. Net loss in the second quarter of 2015 was \$992 or \$0.10 per share. After removing the effect of a charge for contingent consideration of \$600 (\$520 after tax) related to the 2013 sale of our transfer agent and corporate trust business (see 2013 Sale Transaction), the adjusted net loss for the second quarter of 2015 was \$472 or \$0.05 per share.

OCI in the quarter was \$34, which reflects the appreciation in the fair value of the available for sale securities. Available for sale securities were purchased during the second quarter of 2016, as such prior quarter OCI was \$nil.

For the year to date we generated net income of \$195 or \$0.02 per share compared to net loss of \$1,252 or \$0.13 per share in the prior year. After removing the effect of the charge for contingent consideration in 2015, the adjusted year to date net loss was \$732 or \$0.08 in the prior year. The year over year increase in adjusted net income primarily reflects higher net interest income as a result of the growth in our mortgage portfolio balance in the last twelve months.

## 2013 SALE TRANSACTION

On April 5, 2013, the Corporation completed the sale of the assets of its transfer agent and corporate trust services business for a purchase price of \$64,000 (the "Transaction"). In April 2016, in accordance with the terms of the sale agreement, the Corporation paid \$1,000 in contingent consideration based on the future capital requirements of the transfer agent and corporate trust service business.

Since the date of the sale, transfer agent and corporate trust business relationships have been managed by a third party for its economic benefit, including the administration of segregated funds. Beginning in the second quarter of 2015, the Corporation began earning other fee income related to EFT's transitional status as trustee for these client relationships. Other fee income amounted to \$225 for the quarter and \$375 year to date (2015 - \$150 for the quarter and year to date). As at June 30, 2016, EFT remains the trustee of segregated funds in the amount of \$1,289,019 (December 31, 2015 - \$1,428,663) which are reported off-balance sheet.

## FINANCIAL POSITION REVIEW

Table 9: Balance Sheet Highlights

(\$000s, except percentage amounts)	As at June 30, 2016	As at		Change over			
		March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015	Jun 2016 - Mar 2016		Jun 2016 - Dec 2015	
				\$	%	\$	%
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash and cash equivalents	57,383	41,712	44,326	15,671	38 %	13,057	29 %
Available for sale securities	4,984	-	-	4,984	100 %	4,984	100 %
Mortgages receivable	538,616	441,330	383,282	97,286	22 %	155,334	41 %
Other assets	4,297	4,142	3,821	155	4 %	476	12 %
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>605,280</b>	<b>487,184</b>	<b>431,429</b>	<b>118,096</b>	<b>24 %</b>	<b>173,851</b>	<b>40 %</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Customer deposits	506,607	388,934	332,197	117,673	30 %	174,410	53 %
Other liabilities	4,756	4,586	5,777	170	4 %	(1,021)	(18)%
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>511,363</b>	<b>393,520</b>	<b>337,974</b>	<b>117,843</b>	<b>30 %</b>	<b>173,389</b>	<b>51 %</b>
<b>Shareholders' equity</b>	<b>93,917</b>	<b>93,664</b>	<b>93,455</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>- %</b>	<b>462</b>	<b>- %</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>	<b>605,280</b>	<b>487,184</b>	<b>431,429</b>	<b>118,096</b>	<b>24 %</b>	<b>173,851</b>	<b>40 %</b>

Total assets as at June 30, 2016 were \$605,280, an increase of 24% compared to the balance as at March 31, 2016 and an increase of 40% compared to the balance as at December 31, 2015 primarily due to the increase in mortgages receivable and cash and cash equivalents.

Total liabilities as at June 30, 2016 were \$511,363, an increase of 30% compared to the balance as at March 31, 2016 and an increase of 51% compared to the balance as at December 31, 2015 due to the increase in deposit liabilities corresponding to the increase in assets.

## Liquidity Resources

Equity Trust is a member of CDIC and sources its deposit funding through registered investment dealers across Canada. We believe ample liquidity is available to Equity Trust to meet its requirements. Our deposit taking activities constitute our primary funding source and we also use a portion of our internal cash to fund mortgage loans. We manage our liquidity resources in accordance with our liquidity policy (see “Risk Management – Liquidity Risk”), which has been updated to include new OSFI issued liquidity adequacy requirements. Institutions are required to maintain an adequate supply of unencumbered high quality liquid assets that can be converted into cash over a 30-day period.

Table 10: Cash and Cash Equivalents and Securities

(\$000s, except percentage amounts)	June 30, 2016	As at		Change over			
		March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015	Jun 2016 - Mar 2016		Jun 2016 - Dec 2015	
				\$	%	\$	%
Deposits with regulated financial institutions	57,383	39,714	42,328	17,669	44 %	15,055	36 %
Short-term investments	-	1,998	1,998	(1,998)	(100)%	(1,998)	(100)%
Available for sale securities	4,984	-	-	4,984	100 %	4,984	100 %
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents and Securities</b>	<b>62,367</b>	<b>41,712</b>	<b>44,326</b>	<b>20,655</b>	<b>50 %</b>	<b>18,041</b>	<b>41 %</b>

During the second quarter of 2016, we purchased debt securities, which are classified as available for sale securities. Cash and cash equivalents as at June 30, 2016 increased by \$13,057 compared to December 31, 2015, as a result of the inflows and outflows described below.

Table 11: Sources and Uses of Cash

(\$000s, except percentage amounts)	For the six months ended		Change	
	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	\$	%
Cash flows provided by operating activities	18,724	15,105	3,619	24 %
Cash flows provided by financing activities	-	16	(16)	(100)%
Cash flows used in investing activities	(5,667)	(18)	(5,649)	(31,383)%

### Cash flows from operating activities

Cash flow from operating activities was \$18,724 for the six months ended June 30, 2016, an increase of \$3,619, or 24% compared to cash flows from operating activities for the same period in 2015. Increases to our deposit liability and mortgages receivable balances constitute the largest sources of operating inflows and outflows respectively. For the six months ended June 30, 2016, we had net inflows of \$174,410 from new deposits against net outflows of \$155,765 to fund mortgages. For the same period in 2015, we had net inflows of \$33,107 from new deposits and net outflows of \$16,817 to fund mortgages.

### Cash flows from financing activities

There were no cash flows from financing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2016. Cash flows from financing activities in 2015 represent proceeds from exercise of employee stock options.

## Cash flows used in investing activities

Cash flows used in investing activities for the six months ended June 30, 2016 were primarily for the purchase of available for sale securities (approximately \$5 million) and the development of our new mortgage underwriting and servicing systems (\$700). Cash flows used in the six months ended June 30, 2015 were for regular maintenance of our information technology systems.

## Mortgages receivable

Table 12: Mortgage Production & Portfolio Highlights

(\$000s, except percentage and year figures)	For the three months ended				For the six months ended	
	June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015	June 30, 2015	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015
Mortgage originations	\$ 131,427	\$ 85,842	\$ 79,325	\$ 44,679	\$ 217,269	\$ 73,355
Average loan -to-value ratio at origination	73.9 %	74.0 %	73.8 %	74.6 %	73.9 %	74.2 %
<b>As at</b>						
Mortgages receivable	538,616	441,330	383,282	314,086		
Mortgages receivable due in one year	362,118	292,205	244,757	196,672		
Weighted average term to maturity in years	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.0		
Weighted average effective interest rate	4.88 %	4.88 %	4.86 %	4.85 %		
Weighted average amortization period in years	29.2	29.4	29.6	30.4		

Mortgages receivable consist of uninsured loans with terms up to five years for the purchase or refinancing of single-family homes in urban and suburban areas of Ontario.

During the second quarter of 2016 we originated mortgages of \$131,427, our highest quarterly originations since the inception of our mortgage operations in 2011 and 27% higher than our previous high in the third quarter of 2013. Compared to the first quarter of 2016, current quarter originations grew by \$45,585 or 53%, and compared to the same period last year, quarterly originations grew by \$86,748 or 194%. Our mortgage receivable balance increased to a new high of \$538,616 as at June 30, 2016, surpassing the \$500 million level for the first time and up 22% compared to the balance as at March 31, 2016 and up 41% compared to the balance as at December 31, 2015.

As at June 30, 2016, the amount of mortgages due within one year is \$362,118, the weighted average term to maturity of the portfolio is 1.2 years with a weighted average amortization period of 29.2 years. The weighted average effective interest rate of the portfolio was 4.88% as at June 30, 2016, which remained stable compared to 4.88% as at March 31, 2016 and 4.85% as at June 30, 2015. As at June 30, 2016, the Corporation had outstanding commitments to make future advances on mortgages loans of \$36.5 million for various dates through to September 2016.



## Customer Deposits

Table 13: Customer Deposits

(\$000s, except percentage and year figures)	As at			
	June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015	June 30, 2015
Deposits	\$ 506,607	\$ 388,934	\$ 332,197	\$ 268,704
Customer deposits due in one year	362,118	208,630	174,376	178,270
Weighted average term to maturity in years	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.0
Weighted average effective interest rate	2.12 %	2.09 %	2.13 %	2.21 %

Customer deposits consist of GICs, which are sold through registered investment dealers, with fixed maturity dates and a weighted average term to maturity of 1.2 years. As at June 30, 2016, the portion of customer deposits due within one year is \$362,118 and the weighted average effective interest rate paid on deposits was 2.12%.

For the second quarter of 2016, our customer deposits balance increased by \$117,673 or 30% compared to March 31, 2016 and by \$174,410 or 53% compared to the balance as at December 31, 2015 reflecting the growth of our mortgage loan book which is primarily funded by GIC deposits.

## Financial instruments

The use of financial instruments exposes us to credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. A fuller discussion on our risk exposures and how we manage them can be found under the section "Risk Management".

Available for sale securities are carried at fair value and the disclosed fair value is determined by using published bid prices.

Mortgages receivable are carried at amortized cost and the disclosed fair value of mortgages receivable is determined by discounting the expected future cash flows of the mortgages at market rates for mortgages with similar terms and credit risks.

Contingent consideration payable is carried at fair value and the disclosed fair value of the contingent consideration is determined by using management's best estimate based on a probability weighted range of future outcomes.

Customer deposits are carried at amortized cost and the disclosed fair value of customer deposits is determined by discounting the contractual cash flows using current market interest rates for deposits with similar terms and risks.

Derivative financial instruments are carried at fair value and the disclosed fair value is determined based on commonly used pricing methodologies (primarily discounted cash flow models) that incorporate observable market data. Frequently applied valuation techniques incorporate various inputs such as stock prices, bond prices and interest rate curves into present value calculations.

The following table presents the carrying value of each category of financial assets and liabilities and their estimated fair values as at June 30, 2016. The table does not include assets and liabilities that are not considered financial instruments.

Table 14: Financial Assets and Liabilities

June 30, 2016	Held for Trading	Available for Sale	Loans and Receivables/ Financial Liabilities	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Fair Value (Under) Over Carrying Value
<b>Financial assets</b>						
Available for sale securities	-	4,984	-	4,984	4,984	-
Mortgages receivable, net	-	-	538,616	538,616	541,217	2,601
Derivative assets	8	-	-	8	8	-
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4,984</b>	<b>538,616</b>	<b>543,608</b>	<b>546,209</b>	<b>2,601</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>						
Customer deposits	-	-	506,607	506,607	510,144	3,537
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>506,607</b>	<b>506,607</b>	<b>510,144</b>	<b>3,537</b>

### Contractual commitments and contingencies

On July 4, 2016, the Corporation entered into an operating lease agreement for new Toronto office space to replace the existing lease expiring in January 2017. The new lease has a term of ten years plus a free rent period, expiring in 2027. The new lease agreement provides for a five-year renewal option at the expiry of the lease at occupancy rates equivalent to fair market value at time of renewal.

The future minimum payments for this commitment is as follows:

Table 15: Commitments

(\$000s)	For the six months ended June 30, 2016			Total
	Not later than one year	Later than one year and not later than five years	Later than five years	
Office space lease agreements	-	3,504	6,306	9,810
<b>Total commitments</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,504</b>	<b>6,306</b>	<b>9,810</b>

## QUARTERLY FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Table 16: Summary of Quarterly Results

	2016	2016	2015	2015	2015	2015	2014	2014
(\$000s, except per share amounts)	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3
<b>Operating Results</b>								
Net interest income	\$ 3,671	\$ 3,158	\$ 2,857	\$ 2,553	\$ 2,434	\$ 2,496	\$ 2,805	\$ 3,213
Provision for credit losses	(359)	(167)	101	(106)	(128)	(32)	88	146
Non-interest income	591	495	475	465	457	297	340	407
<b>Net interest income and other income, including provision for credit losses</b>	<b>3,903</b>	<b>3,486</b>	<b>3,433</b>	<b>2,912</b>	<b>2,763</b>	<b>2,761</b>	<b>3,233</b>	<b>3,766</b>
Non-interest expenses	3,769	3,238	3,758	3,168	3,361	3,048	3,451	3,053
Charge for contingent consideration	-	-	-	400	600	-	-	-
Net income (loss)	46	149	(304)	(601)	(992)	(260)	(229)	535
Basic earnings (loss) per share	\$ -	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.06)	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.06
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	-	0.02	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.10)	(0.03)	(0.02)	0.06
Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance Sheet Highlights</b>								
Cash and cash equivalents	57,383	41,712	44,326	39,183	48,334	36,462	33,231	36,479
Mortgages receivable, net	538,616	441,330	383,282	340,119	314,086	294,398	297,375	326,393
Assets	605,280	487,184	431,429	383,366	366,394	334,876	334,953	367,590
Deposits	506,607	388,934	332,197	285,465	268,704	236,496	235,597	269,176
Liabilities	511,363	393,520	337,974	289,758	272,419	240,088	240,102	272,840
Shareholders' equity	93,917	93,664	93,455	93,608	93,975	94,788	94,851	94,750

Net interest income has increased or decreased each quarter in line with the change in the size of our average mortgage portfolio. The net losses in the second and third quarter of 2015 included the effect of contingent consideration related to the sale of our discontinued transfer agent and corporate trust service business (see 2013 Sale Transaction).

## CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

### Capital Requirements

Equity Trust's Capital Management Policy governs the quantity and quality of its capital, ensuring it meets minimum regulatory requirements, is consistent with our risk appetite framework, and supports our business plans. Our internal capital adequacy assessment process ("ICAAP") is integral to our capital planning activities and incorporates a stress testing program that evaluates the impact potential scenarios have on income and capital. Regulatory capital requirements addressed by our policy include the Leverage Ratio and risk based capital ratios (Common Equity Tier 1, Tier 1 and Total Capital).

Equity Trust calculates regulatory capital and capital ratios based on the Capital Adequacy Requirements ("CAR") Guidelines issued by OSFI in April 2014. The CAR Guidelines are based on "Basel III: A global regulatory framework for more resilient banks and banking systems – A Revised Framework" ("Basel III") issued by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision ("BCBS"). Equity Trust's total regulatory capital is comprised entirely of shareholder's equity (the total of share capital, contributed surplus and retained earnings less adjustments for intangible assets net of deferred taxes) which qualifies as common equity tier 1 capital ("CET1"). Equity Trust calculates its risk based CET1

ratio by dividing CET1 capital by the sum of credit and operational risk-weighted assets. Equity Trust calculates risk-weighted assets using the standardized approach for credit risk and the basic indicator approach for operational risk.

Under Basel III, capital is calculated two ways during a transitional period ending January 1, 2018. To measure compliance with minimum risk based capital ratio requirements, capital is calculated on an all-in basis, which includes all applicable deductions immediately. As at June 30, 2016, Equity Trust held CET1 on an “all-in” basis of \$84,523 compared with \$84,200 as at December 31, 2015.

*Table 17: Regulatory Capital (Based on Equity Financial Trust)*

		As at					
(\$000s, except percentage amounts)		June 30, 2016		March 31, 2016		December 31, 2015	
	Line No.	All-in	Transitional	All-in	Transitional	All-in	Transitional
Common Equity Tier 1 capital: Instruments and reserves							
Directly issues qualifying common share capital plus related stock surpluses	1	34,461	34,460	34,145	34,145	33,912	33,912
Retained earnings	2	52,042	52,041	51,890	51,890	51,697	51,697
Accumulated other comprehensive income	3	34	34	-	-	-	-
<b>Common Equity Tier 1 capital before regulatory adjustments</b>	6	<b>86,537</b>	<b>86,535</b>	86,035	86,035	85,609	85,609
<b>Common Equity Tier 1 capital: Regulatory adjustments</b>							
Total regulatory adjustments to Common Equity Tier 1	28	(2,014)	(1,208)	(1,608)	(965)	(1,409)	(563)
<b>Common Equity Tier 1 capital (CET1)</b>	29	<b>84,523</b>	<b>85,327</b>	84,427	85,070	84,200	85,046
Tier 1 capital	45	84,523	85,327	84,427	85,070	84,200	85,046
Total capital	59	84,523	85,327	84,427	85,070	84,200	85,046
Total risk-weighted assets	60	228,822	229,614	189,203	190,168	169,246	170,091
<b>Capital ratios</b>							
Common Equity Tier 1 (as percentage of risk-weighted assets)	61	36.9 %	37.2 %	44.6 %	44.7 %	49.8 %	50.0 %
Tier 1 (as percentage of risk-weighted assets)	62	36.9 %	37.2 %	44.6 %	44.7 %	49.8 %	50.0 %
Total capital (as percentage of risk-weighted assets)	63	36.9 %	37.2 %	44.6 %	44.7 %	49.8 %	50.0 %
<b>OSFI all-in target</b>							
Common Equity Tier 1 capital all-in target ratio	69	7.0 %	-	7.0 %	-	7.0 %	-
Tier 1 capital all-in target ratio	70	8.5 %	-	8.5 %	-	8.5 %	-
Total capital all-in target ratio	71	10.5 %	-	10.5 %	-	10.5 %	-

Note: Line item numbers reference the Pillar III Modified Capital Disclosure Requirements issued by OSFI.

## Leverage Requirements

Under the Basel III leverage ratio framework, public disclosure of the leverage ratio was required beginning in 2015. OSFI has established leverage ratio targets on a confidential and institution by institution basis. The leverage ratio of 13.6% (December 31, 2015 - 19.1%) is in excess of OSFI's established minimum target of 3%, as well as the minimum ratio target assigned to Equity Trust by OSFI.

Table 18: Leverage Ratio (Based on Equity Financial Trust)

(\$000s, except percentage amounts)	Line No.	As at		
		June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	December 31, 2015
<b>On-balance sheet exposures</b>				
On-balance sheet items	1	606,021	487,396	431,392
Asset amounts deducted in determining Basel III "all-in" Tier 1 capital	2	(2,014)	(1,608)	(1,409)
<b>Total on-balance sheet exposure</b>	3	<b>604,007</b>	485,788	429,983
<b>Derivative exposures</b>				
Replacement cost	4	8	-	-
Add-on amounts for PFE	5	20	-	-
Total derivatives exposure	11	28	-	-
<b>Other off-balance sheet exposures</b>				
Off-balance sheet exposure at gross notional amount	17	93,860	75,030	59,297
Adjustment for conversion to credit equivalent amounts	18	20 %	20 %	20 %
<b>Off-balance sheet items</b>	19	<b>18,772</b>	15,006	11,859
Tier 1 capital	20	84,523	84,427	84,200
Total exposures	21	622,807	500,794	441,842
Basel III leverage ratio	22	13.6 %	16.9 %	19.1 %

Note: Line item numbers reference the Basel III Leverage Ratio Framework and Disclosure Requirements issued by OSFI.

## Capital Resources

Equity Trust has a capital base sufficient to support its current growth objectives in alternative mortgage lending. We may, however, require further capital from time to time to support asset growth, pursue strategic initiatives or to develop future related lines of business.

## RISK MANAGEMENT

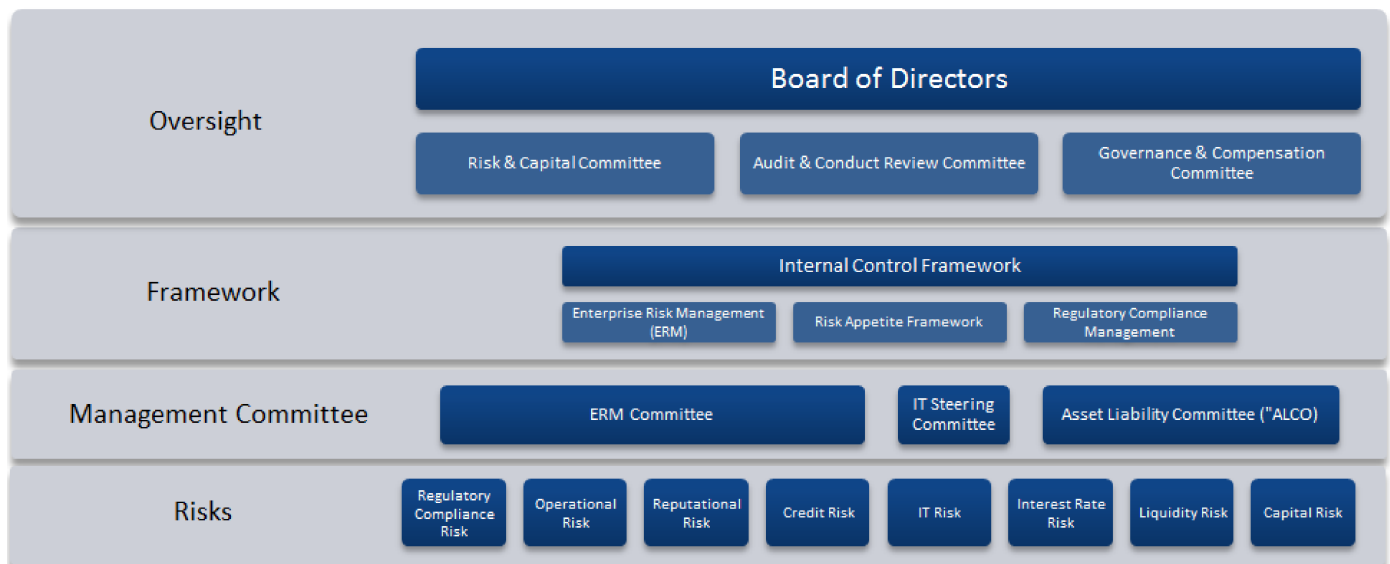
The shaded areas of this section of the MD&A represent a discussion of risk management policies and procedures relating to credit, liquidity and interest rate risks that are required under *IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures*, which permits these specific disclosures to be included in the MD&A. Therefore, the shaded areas presented in this Risk Management section form an integral part of the interim consolidated financial statements for the quarter ended June 30, 2016.

The Corporation's activities in pursuit of its strategic goals and objectives expose the Corporation to a wide range of risks that could adversely affect its business, financial condition and operating results. Many of these risk factors are beyond the Corporation's direct control. The Corporation's risk appetite framework provides a structured process to identify, quantify and limit the amount of risk that Equity Trust is willing to take. The types of risk to which the Corporation is exposed include but are not limited to credit, liquidity, interest rate, market, regulatory compliance, reputational, operational, and information technology. A discussion of risks beyond credit, liquidity, interest rate and market risk can be found on pages 28 to 31 of the Corporation's annual MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2015.

### Enterprise Risk Management Framework

The Corporation's strategies and risk management are supported by the Corporation's Enterprise Risk Management ("ERM") framework. The ERM framework is a Board approved, systematic and integrated process that enables senior management to effectively manage material risks impacting the operations of Equity Trust, the achievement of strategic and business objectives and the deployment of capital. The ERM framework is designed to foster a strong risk culture by identifying, measuring, mitigating, monitoring and reporting risk, including the establishment of roles, responsibilities, processes and tools which are used in relation to our risk appetite framework. It is an ongoing process involving the Board, senior management and other personnel.

The Board of Directors of Equity Trust, through its three Board Committees, namely the Risk and Capital Committee, Audit and Conduct Review Committee and Governance and Compensation Committee, establishes a strong risk and control culture utilizing a three lines of defense model comprised of operations, risk management and compliance, and internal audit.



## ***Credit Risk***

Credit risk is defined as the risk of loss resulting from the failure of a borrower or counterparty to honour its financial or contractual obligations. The nature of our mortgage lending operations creates an exposure to credit risk resulting from possible defaults in payment by our borrowers. Equity Trust oversees the management of credit risk through its ERM Committee, which is comprised of members of senior management. The ERM Committee meets regularly to review performance and risk factors in the mortgage portfolio and periodically considers and recommends adjustments to the credit risk and concentration limits in our Board approved credit lending policy.

There can be no absolute assurances that our monitoring of credit risk and our efforts to mitigate credit risk through appropriate underwriting policies, procedures and loss mitigation strategies will be sufficient to prevent an adverse effect on our profitability and financial condition. As part of the underwriting process, we rely heavily upon information supplied by both borrowers and third parties. If any of this information is intentionally or negligently misrepresented and the misrepresentation is not detected by internal controls and procedures before completing the transaction, the credit risk associated with the transaction may be increased.

Our mortgage portfolio consists of uninsured residential mortgages. As a result, our primary credit risk relates to the potential for financial loss resulting from the failure of a borrower to fully honour their financial or contractual obligations, such as the failure to repay principal and/or interest on the mortgage. Our portfolio consists of residential mortgages originated under lending programs designed to serve non-prime and near-prime customers who have limited access to traditional mortgage financing. There is a higher risk of default associated with these customers than with traditional borrowers. The typical non or near prime borrower may have had previous financial difficulties or may not yet have established a sufficient credit history. Because we serve customers who are unable to meet the conventional underwriting standards of the major Canadian banks, we generally charge interest at higher rates than those charged by those lenders. The factors used in determining borrowers' creditworthiness may be subject to change over time. An increase in loan losses beyond those expected and provided for could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition. We mitigate this risk primarily by conducting appropriate diligence on each borrower and by dealing with known and reputable mortgage brokers. In addition, as an uninsured residential mortgage lender, our credit risk also results from reliance on the stability of collateral values. We are therefore selective in the types of property we accept as collateral, the reliability of the appraisal of the property, and its geographic location.

Although subject to change with Board approval, we predominantly lend to borrowers in urban and suburban areas of Ontario. Although the areas we lend in are among Canada's largest housing markets, a significant economic shock to regional economies could have a disproportionately adverse impact on our mortgage portfolio, in light of the general economic conditions and credit risks discussed above, compared to the impact for a lender with a more regionally or nationally diversified mortgage portfolio. As an added precaution against loss, we lend only in neighbourhoods where we believe there is clear evidence that properties are highly marketable as evidenced by such indicators as days-on-market.

Other financial instruments potentially exposed to credit risk include cash and cash equivalents and securities. We consider our exposure to credit risk over cash and cash equivalents and securities to be remote as they consist of cash deposits at Canadian Schedule I banks and securities issued by the Government of Canada or its Provinces.

## **Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity risk is defined as the possibility we will be unable to generate or maintain sufficient cash or cash equivalents, in a timely manner, to meet our financial commitments as they become due.

Managing liquidity risk requires management to maintain sufficient liquid assets on hand at all times to pay our cash obligations, in a timely manner, such as maturing deposits and deposit interest, new mortgage commitments, accounts payables, accrued liabilities and other business obligations.

Equity Trust has established a liquidity management framework which includes the following:

- A Board-approved policy that quantifies Equity Trust's liquidity risk tolerance and minimum liquidity requirements;
- A monitoring and risk control framework that forecasts cash inflows and outflows and contractual liquidity commitments for both short and long-term time horizons;
- Requirements for the diversification of funding sources;
- The maintenance of a liquidity reserve consisting of cash and cash equivalents and high quality liquid assets ("HQLA");
- Daily reporting that measures compliance with Board-approved limits;
- Periodic stress testing of liquidity assumptions and forecasts which may include company-specific liquidity shocks, exogenous systemic disruptions, or combinations of both; and
- A liquidity contingency plan that considers a number of scenarios according to which Equity Trust's liquidity operations could be disrupted and details what actions will be followed under each scenario.

Equity Trust's Asset-Liability Committee ("ALCO") is comprised of members of senior management and is charged with monitoring Equity Trust's liquidity exposures. ALCO periodically reviews Equity Trust's liquidity policies and procedures as considered appropriate to evolving business requirements and makes recommendations for policy amendments to the Board as required. ALCO also reviews the results of periodic stress tests and may direct management to temporarily alter its liquidity strategy accordingly.

Equity Trust's Board has established minimum liquidity requirement limits using two measures required under Basel III and included in OSFI's Liquidity Adequacy Requirements Guideline ("LARG"):

- Liquidity Coverage Ratio ("LCR"): the ratio of the Equity Trust's reserve of HQLA to net cash inflows and outflows for a specified time horizon; and
- Net Stable Funding Ratio ("NSFR"): the ratio of Equity Trust's liabilities to assets adjusted by factors that represent their inherent stability or permanence, which will become effective in 2018.

These requirements are supplemented by additional supervisory monitoring metrics including the OSFI-designed Net Cumulative Cash Flow (NCCF).



The appropriateness of these limits is reviewed from time to time by ALCO and the Board in light of prevailing and anticipated business and economic conditions.

### **Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk is defined as the possibility that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect our profitability and financial condition. Interest rate risk may be affected if an unduly large proportion of our assets or liabilities have unmatched terms, interest rates or other attributes. The primary method of managing interest rate risk involves matching asset and liability maturity profiles, closely monitoring interest rates and acting upon any mismatch in a timely manner to ensure that any sudden or prolonged change in interest rates does not adversely affect our net interest income. Any failure to appropriately match our asset and liability maturity profiles could negatively impact our operating results and financial condition.

We use simulated interest rate change sensitivity models to estimate the effect of various interest rate change scenarios on the economic value of shareholders' equity ("EVE") and on net interest income for the twelve months following the measurement date. Certain assumptions that are based on actual experience are built into the simulations, including assumptions related to the prepayment and renewal rates of mortgages, the volumes and maturity distributions of future mortgages and deposits, future interest rate margins earned on mortgages and paid on deposits, and the growth of other interest rate sensitive items such as cash. Equity Trust's ALCO is responsible for the oversight of interest rate risk, including the establishment of modelling assumptions, parameters and scenarios.

The following table illustrates the results of management's sensitivity modelling to immediate and sustained interest rate increase and decrease scenarios. The estimate of sensitivity to interest rate changes is dependent on a number of assumptions that could result in a difference in actual outcomes in the event of an actual interest rate change, limited by the assumption that interest rates will not fall below zero.

*Table 19: Impact of Interest Rate Shifts*

(\$000s, except percentage amounts)	Increase	Decrease
<b>Change of 100 bps</b>		
Impact on net interest income	650	(784)
Impact on EVE	835	(748)
EVE impact as a % of common shareholders' equity	0.9 %	(0.8)%
<b>Change of 200 bps</b>		
Impact on net interest income	1,315	(784)
Impact on EVE	1,678	(748)
EVE impact as a % of common shareholders' equity	1.8 %	(0.8)%

### **Market Risk**

Market risk is the exposure to adverse changes in the value of financial assets. Our market risk factors include price risk on available for sale securities. We mitigate this risk by investing only in high-quality, liquid assets guaranteed by the Government of Canada or its Provinces and actively monitoring our investments.

## ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND POLICIES

Our significant accounting policies are disclosed in Note 2 to our 2015 Audited Financial Statements and new policies can be found in Note 2 to our interim consolidated financial statements for the second quarter ended June 30, 2016 .

### Current & future changes in accounting policies

Certain new standards, interpretations and amendments to existing standards have been published by the IASB and the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committees (“IFRIC”) that will become effective for future periods and could have a potential implication on the accounting policies of the Corporation.

#### IFRS 15 - Revenue from Contracts with Customers

In April 2016, the IASB issued an amendment to the revenue standard, clarifying some requirements and providing additional transition relief for companies that are implementing the new standard. The amendments clarify how to identify a performance obligation, determine whether a company is a principal or an agent and determine whether the revenue from granting a license should be recognized at a point in time or over time. The amendments have the same effective date as the original standard of January 1, 2018. The Corporation is in the process of evaluating the impact of IFRS 15 on its consolidated financial statements.

## CONTROL REPORTING

### Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Our Disclosure Controls and Procedures (“DCP”) are designed to provide reasonable assurance that all relevant information is identified and communicated to our Disclosure Committee. The Disclosure Committee is comprised of members of senior management and is charged with ensuring that appropriate and timely decisions are made regarding public disclosure. Management has evaluated the effectiveness of our DCP and concluded they are effective. There were no material changes in our DCP during the quarter ended June 30, 2016

### Internal Controls over Financial Reporting

Internal controls over financial reporting (“ICFR”) are designed, based on the Internal Control - Integrated Framework (2013) issued in May 2013 by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO), to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS.

Because of its inherent limitations, ICFR can provide only reasonable assurance and may not prevent or detect misstatements. Furthermore, projecting an evaluation of effectiveness to future periods is subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies and procedures may deteriorate.

There were no changes in our ICFR that occurred during the quarter ended June 30, 2016 that materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the reliability of our financial reporting or the preparation of our financial statements for external purposes.

## NON-IFRS FINANCIAL MEASURES

The Corporation employs certain financial measures to assess its performance that do not have any standardized meaning prescribed by IFRS and may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. However, we believe the non-IFRS measures are useful supplemental measures that may assist financial analysts and investors in assessing certain aspects of our performance. These measures should not be considered as an alternative to any measures of performance presented in accordance with IFRS.

### Adjusted net income (loss) and adjusted basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share

Our second quarter 2015 net loss was affected by a contingent consideration fair value adjustment of \$600 (\$520 after tax) related to the 2013 sale of our transfer agent and corporate trust operations (see 2013 Sale Transaction). The table below provides a reconciliation of net income (loss) to adjusted net income (loss).

Table 20: Reconciliation of Net income (loss) to Adjusted net income (loss)

(\$000s, except per share and percentage amounts)	For the three months ended					For the six months ended		
	June 30, 2016	March 31, 2016	% Change	June 30, 2015	% Change	June 30, 2016	June 30, 2015	% Change
Net income (loss)	\$ 46	\$ 149	(69)%	\$ (992)	105 %	\$ 195	\$ (1,252)	116 %
<b>Adjustments for costs incurred in relation to:</b>								
charge for contingent consideration (net of tax)	-	-	0 %	520	(100)%	-	520	(100)%
<b>Adjusted net income (loss)</b>	<b>\$ 46</b>	<b>\$ 149</b>	<b>(69)%</b>	<b>\$ (472)</b>	<b>110 %</b>	<b>\$ 195</b>	<b>\$ (732)</b>	<b>127 %</b>
Adjusted basic earnings (loss) per share	-	0.02	(100)%	(0.05)	100 %	0.02	(0.08)	125 %
Adjusted diluted earnings (loss) per share	-	0.02	(100)%	(0.05)	100 %	0.02	(0.08)	125 %

### Net interest margin

Net interest margin on our mortgage portfolio is calculated by taking net interest income earned on the portfolio divided by average total mortgage assets generating the interest income.

### Return on equity ("ROE")

ROE is calculated as net income divided by the simple average of reported shareholders' equity at the beginning and end of the period, multiplied by the appropriate factor to arrive at an annualized figure. ROE is used as an indicator of whether we use our capital resources efficiently.

## DISCLOSURE OF OUTSTANDING SHARE DATA

Our common shares trade on the TSX under the symbol "EQI". Our authorized share capital consists of an unlimited number of common shares without par value. As at August 11, 2016 we had 9,539,508 common shares outstanding and 738,910 stock options to purchase up to an aggregate of 738,910 common shares, with a weighted average exercise price of \$9.33, expiring from September 2016 to February 2021.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information relating to EQI, including the Corporation's annual information form, is available on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).