# Annual Report

2021



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# Message to Shareholders

Dear Shareholders,

I am pleased to report that 2021 was another year of good performance and significant accomplishment by your company. Your management team and all of our YP colleagues continued to strengthen and increase the value of our company, generating strong cash while continuing to make measured and deliberate investments in our future. Notable accomplishments included:

- **Produced strong profitability.** For the year, our profit (measured as Adjusted EBITDA margin<sup>1</sup>) was 35.5% of revenues, despite our investments in revenue initiatives.
- Continued to build cash. During the year, we fully repaid our remaining debt of approximately \$107 million and ended the year with approximately \$123.6 million in cash.
- Completed previous and launched another NCIB for our common stock. Under our Normal Course Issuer Bid programs, during 2021 the Company purchased 381,406 common shares for cash of \$5.3 million.
- **Increased quarterly cash dividends.** In the second quarter of 2021, we increased the regular quarterly dividend of 11 cents to 15 cents per common share per quarter, paying a total of \$14.7 million in dividends to our common shareholders during 2021.
- Implemented a Deficit Reduction Plan for our Defined Benefit Pension Plan. In May, we introduced a deficit reduction plan to increase the probability that the Corporation's Defined Benefit Pension Plan would be fully funded on a wind-up basis by 2030, compared to a projected fully funded status in the 2040s.
- Made Good Progress on "Bending the Revenue Curve." Every quarter in 2021, our percent change in revenue over prior year was better than the previous quarter's, and by the final quarter was 7½ points better than 2020's 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. In addition, promising bookings throughout the year point to further improvement in trends of reported revenue, as we approach revenue stability and the completion of our turnaround.
- Further advanced our revenue initiatives. While we continued to expand our tele-sales capacity in order to significantly ramp up our acquisition of new accounts, we launched a new and innovative advertising solution, Multi-Channel Ads, that centralizes the small and medium sized business's digital marketing into a single platform, and we entered into a strategic partnership with Wix.com Ltd. to enhance the Corporation's website solutions.

We believe we have produced strong results and advanced our company along a promising course for the future.

Thank you for your continued support.

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David A. Eckert

President and Chief Executive Officer

Adjusted EBITDA is equal to Income from operations before depreciation and amortization and restructuring and other charges (defined herein as Adjusted EBITDA), as shown in Yellow Pages Limited's consolidated statements of income. Adjusted EBITDA margin is defined as the percentage of Adjusted EBITDA to revenues. Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin are not performance measures defined under IFRS and are not considered an alternative to income from operations or net earnings in the context of measuring Yellow Pages performance. Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin do not have a standardized meaning under IFRS and are therefore not likely to be comparable to similar measures used by other publicly traded companies. Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin should not be used as exclusive measures of cash flow since they do not account for the impact of working capital changes, income taxes, interest payments, pension funding, capital expenditures, business acquisitions, debt principal reductions and other sources and uses of cash, which are disclosed on page 22 of our February 9, 2022 MD&A. Management uses Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin to evaluate the performance of its business as it reflects its ongoing profitability. Management believes that certain investors and analysts use Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin to measure a company's ability to service debt and to meet other payment obligations or as common measurement to value companies in the media and marketing solutions industry as well as to evaluate the performance of a business.

# Management's Discussion and Analysis

February 9, 2022

This management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) is intended to help the reader understand and assess trends and significant changes in the results of operations and financial condition of Yellow Pages Limited and its subsidiaries for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 and should be read in conjunction with our Audited Consolidated Financial Statements and accompanying notes for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020. Please also refer to Yellow Pages Limited's press release announcing its results for year ended December 31, 2021 issued on February 10, 2022. Quarterly reports, the Annual Report, Supplemental Disclosure and the Annual Information Form (AIF) can be found on SEDAR at <a href="https://corporate.yp.ca/en">www.sedar.com</a> and under the "Investor Relations – Reports & Filings" section of our corporate website: <a href="https://corporate.yp.ca/en">https://corporate.yp.ca/en</a>. Press releases are available on SEDAR and under the "News – Press Releases" section of our corporate website.

The consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the financial information herein was derived from those statements.

All amounts in this MD&A are in Canadian dollars, unless otherwise specified. Please refer to the section "Definitions of non-GAAP Financial Measures Relative to Understanding Our Results" for a list of defined non-GAAP financial measures.

Our reporting structure reflects how we manage our business and how we classify our operations for planning and for measuring our performance.

In this MD&A, the words "we", "us", "our", the "Company", the "Corporation", "Yellow Pages" and "YP" refer to Yellow Pages Limited and its subsidiaries (including Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions Limited, 411 Local Search Corp. (411.ca) dissolved as of September 30, 2020, YPG (USA) Holdings, Inc. and Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions LLC (the latter two collectively YP USA)).

# **Caution Regarding Forward-Looking Information**

This MD&A contains assertions about the objectives, strategies, financial condition, and results of operations and businesses of YP (including, without limitation, payment of a cash dividend per share per quarter to its common shareholders; the number of Shares purchased by the Company during the normal course issuer bid ("NCIB"); and the intention to limit purchases to \$16.0 million). These statements are considered "forward-looking" because they are based on current expectations, as at February 9, 2022, about our business and the markets we operate in, and on various estimates and assumptions.

Forward-looking information and statements are based on several assumptions which may lead to actual results that differ materially from our expectations expressed in, or implied by, such forward-looking information and statements, and that our business strategies, objectives and plans may not be achieved. As a result, we cannot guarantee that any forward-looking statement will materialize and we caution you against relying on any of these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking information and statements are included in this MD&A for the purpose of assisting investors and others in understanding our business strategies, objectives and plans. Readers are cautioned that such information may not be appropriate for other purposes. In making certain forward-looking statements, we have made the following assumptions:

- that general economic conditions in Canada will not deteriorate significantly further and will recover as COVID-19 pandemic activity restrictions are lifted;
- that we will be able to attract and retain key personnel in key positions;
- that we will be able to introduce, sell and provision the products and services that support our customer base and drive improvement in average spend per customer;
- that the decline in print revenues will remain at or below approximately 25% per annum;
- that gross profit margins will not deteriorate materially from current levels;
- that continuing reductions in spending will mitigate the cash flow impact of revenue declines on cash flows; and
- that exposure to foreign exchange risk arising from foreign currency transactions will remain insignificant.

Forward-looking information and statements are also based upon the assumption that none of the identified risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the anticipated or expected results described in the forward-looking information and statements will occur.

When used in this MD&A, such forward-looking statements may be identified by words such as "aim", "anticipate", "believe", "could", "estimate", "goal", "intend", "objective", "may", "plan", "predict", "seek", "should", "strive", "target", "will", "would" and other similar terminology. These statements reflect current expectations regarding future events and operating performance and speak only as at the date of this MD&A. The Corporation assumes no obligation to update or revise them to reflect new events or circumstances, except as may be required pursuant to securities laws. Forward-looking statements involve significant risks and uncertainties, should not be read as guarantees of future results or performance, and will not necessarily be accurate indications of whether or not such results or performance will be achieved. A number of factors could cause actual results or performance to differ materially from the results or performance discussed in the forward-looking statements and could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition, including, but not limited to, the following risk factors discussed under the "Risks and Uncertainties" section of this MD&A, and those described in the "Risk Factors" section of our AIF:

- · Failure by the Corporation to stabilize or grow its revenues and customer base;
- The inability of the Corporation to attract, retain and upsell customers;
- Substantial competition could reduce the market share of the Corporation;
- A higher than anticipated rate of decline in print revenue resulting from changes in preferences and consumer habits;
- The inability of the Corporation to successfully enhance and expand its offering of digital marketing and media products;
- The inability of the Corporation to supply the relationships and technologies required to appropriately service the needs of its customers;
- A prolonged economic downturn in principal markets of the Corporation;
- A higher than anticipated proportion of revenues coming from the Corporation's digital products with lower margins, such as services and resale;
- The Corporation's inability to attract and retain key personnel;
- The Corporation's business depends on the usage of its online and mobile properties and failure to protect traffic across the Corporation's digital properties could
  impair its ability to grow revenues and expand its business;
- Failure by either the Corporation or the Telco Partners to fulfill their obligations set forth in the agreements between the Corporation and the Telco Partners;
- Successfully prosecuted legal action against the Corporation;
- Work stoppages and other labour disturbances;
- Challenge by tax authorities of the Corporation's position on certain income tax matters:
- The loss of key relationships or changes in the level or service provided by mapping applications and search engines;
- The failure of the Corporation's computers and communication systems;
- The inability of the Corporation to generate sufficient funds from operations, debt financings, equity financings or refinancing transactions;
- Incremental contributions by the Corporation to its pension plans;
- The impacts of COVID-19 are unpredictable; and
- · An outbreak or escalation of a contagious disease may adversely affect the Corporation's business greater than anticipate

# Definitions of Non-GAAP Financial Measures Relative to Understanding Our Results

In this MD&A, we present several metrics used to explain our performance, including non-GAAP financial measures which are not defined under IFRS. These non-GAAP financial measures are described below.

# Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA Margin

We report on our Income from operations before depreciation and amortization and restructuring and other charges (defined herein as Adjusted EBITDA) as shown in Yellow Pages Limited's consolidated statements of income. Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin are not performance measures defined under IFRS and are not considered to be an alternative to income from operations or net earnings in the context of measuring Yellow Pages performance. Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin do not have a standardized meaning under IFRS and are therefore not likely to be comparable with similar measures used by other publicly traded companies. Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin should not be used as exclusive measures of cash flow since they do not account for the impact of working capital changes, income taxes, interest payments, pension funding, capital expenditures, business acquisitions, debt principal reductions and other sources and uses of cash, which are disclosed on page 22 of this MD&A.

Adjusted EBITDA is derived from revenues less operating costs, as shown in Yellow Pages Limited's consolidated statements of income. Adjusted EBITDA margin is defined as the percentage of Adjusted EBITDA to revenues. We use Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin to evaluate the performance of our business as these reflect its ongoing profitability. We believe that certain investors and analysts use Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin to measure a company's ability to service debt and to meet other payment obligations or as a common measurement to value companies in the media and marketing solutions industry as well as to evaluate the performance of a business.

## Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX and Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX margin

Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX and Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX margin are non-GAAP financial measures and do not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, are unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other publicly traded companies. We define Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX as Adjusted EBITDA, as defined above, less CAPEX, which we define as additions to intangible assets and additions to property and equipment as reported in the Investing Activities section of the Company's consolidated statements of cash flows. Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX margin is defined as the percentage of Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX to revenues. We use Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX and Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX margin to evaluate the performance of our business as it reflects cash generated from business activities. We believe that certain investors and analysts use Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX and Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX margin to evaluate the performance of businesses in our industry. Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX is also one component in the determination of short-term incentive compensation for all management employees.

The most comparable IFRS financial measure to Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX is Income from operations before depreciation and amortization and restructuring and other charges (defined above as Adjusted EBITDA) as shown in Yellow Pages Limited's consolidated statements of income. Refer to pages 9 and 17 of this MD&A for a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX.

This MD&A is divided into the following sections:

- 1. Our Business and Customer Offerings
- 2. Results
- 3. Liquidity and Capital Resources
- 4. Critical Assumptions and Estimates
- 5. Risks and Uncertainties
- 6. Controls and Procedure

# 1. Our Business and Customer Offerings

#### Our Business

Yellow Pages, a leading digital media and marketing solutions provider in Canada, offers targeted tools to local businesses, national brands and consumers allowing them to interact and transact within today's digital economy.

# **Customer Offerings**

Yellow Pages offers small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) across Canada full-serve access to one of the country's most comprehensive suites of digital and traditional marketing solutions, notably online and mobile priority placement on Yellow Pages digital media properties, content syndication, search engine solutions, website fulfillment, social media campaign management, digital display advertising, video production, e-commerce solutions as well as print advertising. The Company's dedicated sales force and customer care team of approximately 300 professionals offer this full suite of marketing solutions to local businesses across the country, while also supporting the evolving needs of its existing customer base of 104,700 SMEs.

## **Media Properties**

The Company's media properties, primarily desktop, mobile and print, continue to serve as effective marketplaces for Canadian local merchants, brands and consumers. The Company's network of media properties enables Canadians to discover businesses in their neighbourhoods across the services and retail verticals. Descriptions of the Company's digital media properties, are found below:

- YP<sup>M</sup> Available both online at YP.ca and as a mobile application, YP allows users to discover and transact within their local neighbourhoods through comprehensive merchant profiles, relevant editorial content, reviews and booking functionalities;
- Canada411 (C411) One of Canada's most frequented and trusted online and mobile destinations for personal and local business information;
- The Corporation is the official directory publisher for Bell, Telus, Bell Aliant, MTS Allstream, and a number of other incumbent telephone companies; and
- 411.ca A digital directory service to help users find and connect with people and local businesses.

# **Key Analytics**

The success of our business is dependent upon decelerating the rate of revenue decline ("bending the revenue curve") as well as continuing to improve operating and capital spending efficiency. Our longer-term success is dependent upon growth or stability in digital revenues and retaining and growing our customer base. Key analytics for the year ended December 31, 2021 include:

- Total Revenues Total Revenues decreased 13.8% year-over-year and amounted to \$287.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, an improvement from the decrease of 17.3% reported last year.
- Digital revenues Digital revenues decreased 12.2% year-over-year and amounted to \$221.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, an improvement from the decrease of 15.9% reported last year.
- Adjusted EBITDA<sup>1</sup> Adjusted EBITDA declined to \$102.0 million or 35.5% of revenues for the year ended December 31, 2021, relative to \$129.4 million or 38.8% of revenues for the same period last year.
- Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX¹ Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX decreased to \$96.9 million or 33.7% of revenues for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to \$123.9 million or 37.1% of revenues for the same period last year.
- YP Customer Count<sup>2</sup> YP's customer count decreased to 104,700 customers for the year ended December 31, 2021, as compared to 125,400 customers for same period last year. The customer count reduction of 20,700 for the year ended December 31, 2021 compares to a decline of 27,900 in the comparable period of the previous year.
- Headcount<sup>3</sup> Headcount decreased to 651 employees as at December 31, 2021 compared to 686 employees at December 31, 2020. Sales force headcount increased by 38 while all other headcount decreased by 73.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Adjusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX are non-GAAP financial measures and do not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, they are unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Definitions of these non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A.

<sup>2</sup> YP Customer Count is defined as the number of customers advertising through one of our products as at the end of the reporting period on a trailing twelve-month basis excluding 411.ca customers.

<sup>3</sup> The Company defines headcount as total employees including contracted employees but excluding employees on short term and long-term disability leave, and on maternity leave.

# 2. Results

This section provides an overview of our financial performance in 2021 compared to 2020 and 2019. We present several metrics to help investors better understand our performance, including certain metrics which are not measures recognized by IFRS. Definitions of these non-GAAP financial metrics are provided on page 4 of this MD&A and are important aspects which should be considered when analyzing our performance.

# **Highlights**

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share and percentage information)

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020	2019
Revenues	\$ 287,646	\$ 333,538	\$ 403,213
Income from operations before depreciation and amortization, and restructuring and other charges (Adjusted EBITDA <sup>1</sup> )	\$ 102,000	\$ 129,442	\$ 161,345
Adjusted EBITDA margin <sup>1</sup>	35.5%	38.8%	40.0%
Net earnings	\$ 70,635	\$ 60,298	\$ 94,669
Basic earnings per share	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.27	\$ 3.57
CAPEX <sup>1</sup>	\$ 5,074	\$ 5,573	\$ 9,738
Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX <sup>1</sup>	\$ 96,926	\$ 123,869	\$ 151,607
Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX margin <sup>1</sup>	33.7%	37.1%	37.6%
Cash flows from operating activities	\$ 104,579	\$ 126,998	\$ 144,759

<sup>1</sup> CAPEX, adjusted EBITDA and adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX are non-GAAP financial measures and do not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, they are unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Definitions of these non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A.

# Consolidated Operating and Financial Results (In thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share and percentage information)

		% of		% of		% of
For the years ended December 31,	2021	Revenues	2020	Revenues	2019	Revenues
Revenues	\$ 287,646		\$ 333,538		\$ 403,213	
Cost of sales	116,692	40.6%	127,789	38.3%	158,674	39.4%
Gross profit	170,954	59.4%	205,749	61.7%	244,539	60.6%
Other operating costs	68,954	24.0%	76,307	22.9%	83,194	20.6%
Income from operations before depreciation and amortization, and restructuring						
and other charges (Adjusted EBITDA)	102,000	35.5%	129,442	38.8%	161,345	40.0%
Depreciation and amortization	19,635	6.8%	27,664	8.3%	39,109	9.7%
Restructuring and other charges	5,344	1.9%	8,131	2.4%	12,499	3.1%
Income from operations	77,021	26.8%	93,647	28.1%	109,737	27.2%
Financial charges, net	9,343	3.2%	14,512	4.4%	39,600	9.8%
Loss on early repayment of debt	7,764	2.7%	_	_	_	-
Loss on sale of businesses	_	_	423	0.1%	367	0.1%
Earnings before income taxes	59,914	20.8%	78,712	23.6%	69,770	17.3%
(Recovery of) provision for income taxes	(10,721)	(3.7%)	18,414	5.5%	(24,899)	(6.2%)
Net earnings	\$ 70,635	24.6%	\$ 60,298	18.1%	\$ 94,669	23.5%
Basic earnings per share	\$ 2.68		\$ 2.27		\$ 3.57	
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 2.64		\$ 2.10		\$ 3.16	

# **Analysis of Consolidated Operating and Financial Results**

The President and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") is the Chief Operating Decision Maker and he uses Income from operations before depreciation and amortization and restructuring and other charges (Adjusted EBITDA) less CAPEX, to measure performance. Definitions of these non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A. The CEO also reviews revenues by similar products and services, such as Print and Digital.

# Fiscal year 2021 versus 2020

#### Revenues

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020	% Change
Digital	\$ 221,471	\$ 252,252	(12.2%)
_ Print	66,175	81,286	(18.6%)
Total revenues	\$ 287,646	\$ 333,538	(13.8%)

Total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2021 decreased by 13.8% to \$287.6 million, as compared to \$333.5 million for the same period last year. The decrease in revenues is mainly due to the decline of our higher margin digital media and print products and to a lesser extent to our lower margin digital services products, thereby creating pressure on our gross profit margins.

Total digital revenues decreased 12.2% year-over-year and amounted to \$221.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, as compared to \$252.3 million for the same period last year. The revenue decline for the period ended December 31, 2021, was mainly attributable to a decrease in digital customer count partially offset by an increase in spend per customer.

Total print revenues decreased 18.6% year-over-year and amounted to \$66.2 million for year ended December 31, 2021. The revenue decline was mostly attributable to decreases in the number of print customers as well as the spend per customer.

#### **Gross Profit**

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

		% of		% of	%
For the years ended December 31,	2021	Revenues	2020	Revenues	Change
Total gross profit	\$ 170,954	59.4%	\$ 205,749	61.7%	(16.9%)

Gross profit decreased to \$171.0 million or 59.4% of revenues for the year ended December 31, 2021, compared to \$205.7 million, or 61.7% of total revenues, for the same period last year. The decrease in gross profit is a result of the pressures from lower overall revenues, change in product mix and investments in our tele-sales force capacity, partially offset by continued optimizations and cost reductions.

# Adjusted EBITDA<sup>1</sup>

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

		% of		% of	%
For the years ended December 31,	2021	Revenues	2020	Revenues	Change
Total Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 102,000	35.5%	\$ 129,442	38.8%	(21.2%)

Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure and does not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, is unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Definitions of non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A.

For the year ended December 31, 2021 Adjusted EBITDA decreased by \$27.4 million or 21.2% to \$102.0 million or 35.5% of revenues, compared to \$129.4 million or 38.8% of revenues for the same period last year. The decrease in Adjusted EBITDA is the result of revenue pressures, investments in our tele-sales force capacity, as well as the impact of the Company's share-price on cash settled stock-based compensation expense and lower wage subsidies received, partially offset by efficiencies from optimization in cost of sales and reductions in other operating costs including reductions in our workforce and associated employee expenses as well the Company's

office space footprint and other spending across the Company. The change in YP's share price, resulted in an incremental charge of \$4.2 million related to cash settled stock-based compensation expense for the year ended December 31, 2021, compared to a charge of \$3.7 million for the period ended December 31, 2020. Furthermore, 2020 benefited from \$1.0 million recovery in compensation expense related to forfeitures. The Company received a total of \$4.2 million of emergency wage subsidies for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to \$7.3 million for the period ended December 31, 2020. Revenue pressures, coupled with increased headcount in our salesforce partially offset by continued optimization, will continue to cause some pressure on margin in upcoming quarters.

# Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX1

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

For the years ended December 31,	20	21	202	0 % Change
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 102,0	00	\$ 129,44	2 (21.2%)
CAPEX	5,0	74	5,57	3 (9.0%)
Total Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX	\$ 96,9	26	\$ 123,86	9 (21.8%)

Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX is a non-GAAP financial measure and does not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, is unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Definitions of non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A.

For the year ended December 31, 2021 Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX decreased by \$26.9 million or 21.8% to \$96.9 million, compared to \$123.9 million for the same period last year. The decrease is mainly driven by the decrease in Adjusted EBITDA, partially offset by lower capital expenditures driven by lower spend in software development year-over-year.

# **Depreciation and Amortization**

Depreciation and amortization decreased to \$19.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to \$27.7 million for the same period last year primarily due to lower software development expenditures in recent years.

# **Restructuring and Other Charges**

(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

For the years ended December 31,	 2021	2020
Severance, benefits and outplacement	\$ 4,520	\$ 2,895
Impairment of right-of-use assets and property and equipment and provision for future operation costs related to lease contracts for offices closed	733	5,512
Other costs (recoveries)	 91	(276)
Total restructuring and other charges	\$ 5,344	\$ 8,131

Yellow Pages Limited recorded restructuring and other charges of \$5.3 million during the year ended December 31, 2021 consisting mainly of restructuring charges of \$4.6 million associated with workforce reductions and a \$0.9 million charge related to future operation costs provisioned related to lease contracts for office closures, partially offset by a \$0.2 million recovery related to the surrender of vacated office space.

Restructuring and other charges of \$8.1 million were recorded for the year ended December 31, 2020 consisting mainly of restructuring charges of \$2.6 million associated with workforce reductions, a \$2.1 million charge related to future operation costs provisioned related to lease contracts for office closures, as well as a \$4.6 million charge related to the impairment of property and equipment and right-of-use assets related to vacated office space, partially offset by a \$1.2 million recovery related to the surrender of vacated office space.

#### **Financial Charges**

Financial charges decreased to \$9.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to \$14.5 million for the same period last year. The decrease is mainly due to a lower interest due to the full repayment of the Exchangeable debentures on May 31, 2021.

# Loss on early repayment of debt

Yellow Pages Limited recorded a loss on early repayment of debt of \$7.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2021, consisting of a loss of \$4.8 million on the early repayment of the Exchangeable debentures and a loss of \$3.0 million related to the derecognition of the redemption option of the Exchangeable debentures.

# (Recovery of) provision for Income Taxes

The combined statutory provincial and federal tax rates were 26.4% for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 26.5% for the same period in 2020. The Company recorded a recovery for income tax of \$10.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, including the recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences of \$27.0 million. In comparison, the company recorded an expense of income tax of \$18.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, including the recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences of \$2.8 million. The Company recorded an income tax recovery of 17.9% of earnings for the year ended December 31, 2021 (2020 – an income tax expense of 23.4%). These recoveries are non-cash items.

The difference between the effective and the statutory rates for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 is mainly due to recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences and the non-deductibility of certain expenses for tax purposes.

# **Net earnings**

Net earnings increased to \$70.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to net earnings of \$60.3 million, for the same period last year due to higher recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences. Earnings before income taxes decreased from \$78.7 million to \$59.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2021, explained principally by lower Adjusted EBITDA and the loss on early repayment of debt, partially offset by decreases in depreciation and amortization, restructuring and other charges, and financial charges.

# Fiscal year 2020 versus 2019

# **Segmented Information**

In 2019, the Company had operations categorized into two reportable segments: YP and Other.

The YP segment provided small and medium-sized businesses across Canada digital and traditional marketing solutions, including online and mobile priority placement on Yellow Pages owned and operated media, content syndication, search engine solutions, website fulfillment, social media campaign management and digital display advertising, video production and print advertising. This segment also included the 411.ca digital directory service helping users find and connect with people and local businesses which was integrated with the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions Limited, as at September 30, 2019.

The Other segment included YP Dine digital property allowing users to discover, search for and book local restaurants in addition to offering online ordering capabilities until its sale on April 30, 2019. This segment also included Mediative until its liquidation on January 31, 2019. Mediative's offers included dedicated marketing and performance media services to national clients Canada-wide.

Subsequent to the second quarter of 2019, there are no longer any operations being reported in the Other segment.

Segment results included items directly attributable to the segment as well as those that could be allocated on a reasonable basis. The Company accounts for transactions between reportable segments in the same manner it accounts for transactions with external customers and eliminated them on consolidation. There were no transactions between the reportable segments for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019.

#### Revenues

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

For the years ended December 31,	2020	2019	% Change
Digital	\$ 252,252	\$ 298,762	(15.6%)
Print	81,286	103,177	(21.2%)
YP	\$ 333,538	\$ 401,939	(17.0%)
Digital	\$ -	\$ 1,274	nm
Print	_	_	nm
Other	\$ -	\$ 1,274	nm
Digital	\$ 252,252	\$ 300,036	(15.9%)
Print	81,286	103,177	(21.2%)
Total revenues	\$ 333,538	\$ 403,213	(17.3%)

Total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2020 decreased by 17.3% year-over-year and amounted to \$333.5 million as compared to \$403.2 million for the same period in 2019.

Total digital revenues decreased 15.9% year-over-year and amounted to \$252.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$300.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2019.

Total print revenues decreased 21.2% year-over-year and amounted to \$81.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 as compared to print revenues of \$103.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2019.

As there are no longer any operations in the Other segment subsequent to the second quarter of 2019, the lower revenues for the year ended December 31, 2020 is due to the YP Segment.

# Reportable Segments Revenues

#### ΥP

Revenues for the YP segment for the year ended December 31, 2020 decreased by \$68.4 million or 17.0% year-over-year and amounted to \$333.5 million compared to \$401.9 million for the same period in 2019. The decrease for the year ended December 31, 2020 is due to the decline of our higher margin YP digital media and print products and to a lesser extent to our lower margin digital services products, thereby creating pressure on our gross profit margins. Revenues for 2020 were also impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic which impacted customer spend and to a lesser extent customer renewal rate.

Digital revenues decreased 15.6% year-over-year and amounted to \$252.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, this compares to \$298.8 million for the same period in 2019. The revenues were adversely impacted by a decline in the number of digital customers partially offset by a tenth consecutive quarter of higher spend per customer despite pressure on spend due to the pandemic.

Print revenues decreased 21.2% year-over-year and amounted to \$81.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2020. The revenues were adversely impacted by a decline in the number of print customers and lower spend per customer.

#### Other

Due to the divestitures there were no revenues generated by the Other segment for the year ended December 31, 2020, resulting in a year-over-year decline of \$1.3 million.

#### **Gross Profit**

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

		% of		% of	%
For the years ended December 31,	2020	Revenues	2019	Revenues	Change
YP	\$ 205,749	61.7%	\$ 243,889	60.7%	(15.6%)
Other	_	nm	650	51.0%	nm
Total gross profit	\$ 205,749	61.7%	\$ 244,539	60.6%	(15.9%)

Gross profit decreased to \$205.7 million or 61.7% of revenues for the year ended December 31, 2020, compared to \$244.5 million, or 60.6% of revenues, for the same period in 2019. The decrease in gross profit and increase in gross profit as a percentage of revenues is attributable to the YP segment.

## **Reportable Segments Gross Profit**

#### ΥP

Gross profit for the year ended December 31, 2020 totalled \$205.7 million or 61.7% of revenues, compared to \$243.9 million, or 60.7% of revenues, for the same period in 2019. The decrease in gross profit is a result of the pressures from lower overall revenues and change in product mix which were partially offset by efficiencies in sales and operations from optimization and cost reductions resulting in an increase in gross profit as a percentage of revenues.

## Other

Due to the divestitures there was no gross profit generated by the Other segment for the year ended December 31, 2020, resulting in a year-over-year decline of \$0.7 million in Other gross profit for the year ended December 31, 2020.

## Adjusted EBITDA1

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

		% of		% of	%
For the years ended December 31,	2020	Revenues	2019	Revenues	Change
YP	\$ 129,442	38.8%	\$ 161,014	40.1%	(19.6%)
Other	_	_	331	nm	nm
Total Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 129,442	38.8%	\$ 161,345	40.0%	(19.8%)

Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure and does not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, is unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Definitions of non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased by 19.8% to \$129.4 million or 38.8% of revenues for the year ended December 31, 2020, relative to \$161.3 million or 40.0% of revenues for the year ended December 31, 2019. The year-over-year results for the year ended December 31, 2020 were attributable to the YP Segment.

## Reportable Segments Adjusted EBITDA

#### ΥP

Adjusted EBITDA for the YP segment for the year ended December 31, 2020 totalled \$129.4 million or 38.8% of revenues compared to \$161.0 million or 40.1% of revenues for the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease in Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin for the year ended December 31, 2020 is the result of the overall revenue pressures in the segment partially offset by efficiencies in sales and operations from continued optimization and reductions in other operating costs including reductions in our workforce and associated employee expenses, reductions in the Company's office space footprint and other spending reductions across the segment. The Company received a total of \$7.3 million in emergency wage subsidies during the year ended December 31, 2020. In addition, the first quarter of 2019 was favorably impacted by an adjustment to the variable compensation expense due to employee attrition and previous year performances.

#### Other

Due to the divestitures there was no Adjusted EBITDA generated by the Other segment for the year ended December 31, 2020, resulting in a year-over-year decline of \$0.3 million.

## Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX1

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

For the years ended December 31,	2020	2019	% Change
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 129,442	\$ 161,014	(19.6%)
CAPEX	5,573	9,460	(41.1%)
YP	\$ 123,869	\$ 151,554	(18.3%)
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ _	\$ 331	nm
CAPEX	-	278	nm
Other	\$ _	\$ 53	nm
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 129,442	\$ 161,345	(19.8%)
CAPEX	5,573	9,738	(42.8%)
Total Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX	\$ 123,869	\$ 151,607	(18.3%)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX is a non-GAAP financial measure and does not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, is unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Definitions of non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A.

Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX decreased by \$27.7 million to \$123.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, compared to \$151.6 million during the same period in 2019.

# Reportable Segments Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX

#### ΥP

Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX for the YP segment for the year ended December 31, 2020 totalled \$123.9 million compared to \$151.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease for the year ended December 31, 2020 is mainly due to lower Adjusted EBITDA partially offset by lower capital expenditures due to decreased spending in software development.

# **Depreciation and Amortization**

Depreciation and amortization decreased to \$27.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$39.1 million for the same period in 2019, primarily due to lower software development expenditures.

## **Restructuring and Other Charges**

(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

For the years ended December 31,	2020	2019
Severance, benefits and outplacement	\$ 2,895	\$ 10,767
Settlement of litigation	_	(99)
Impairment of right-of-use assets and property and equipment and provision for future operation		
costs related to lease contracts for offices closed	5,512	371
Pension settlement (recovery) costs and past service (recovery) costs, net	_	(980)
Other (recoveries) costs	(276)	2,440
Total restructuring and other charges	\$ 8,131	\$ 12,499

Yellow Pages Limited recorded restructuring and other charges of \$8.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 consisting mainly of restructuring charges of \$2.6 million associated with workforce reductions, a \$2.1 million charge related to future operation costs provisioned related to lease contracts for office closures, as well as a \$4.6 million charge related to the impairment of property and equipment and right-of-use assets related to vacated office space, partially offset by a \$1.2 million recovery related to the surrender of vacated office space.

Restructuring and other charges of \$12.5 million were recorded for the year ended December 31, 2019 consisting of restructuring charges of \$12.1 million relating to workforce reductions, a \$1.9 million charge related to future operation costs provisioned related to lease contracts for office closures, a \$0.3 million charge related to software disposal, offset by a net recovery of \$1.8 million from more favorable lease recoveries than anticipated.

## **Financial Charges**

Financial charges decreased to \$14.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 compared to \$39.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2019. The decrease is primarily due to a lower level of indebtedness due to the full repayment of the Senior Secured Notes in 2019. The Company's effective average interest rate on our debt portfolio excluding lease obligations as at December 31, 2020 was 8.0% (2019 – 9.0%).

# Provision for (Recovery of) Income Taxes

The combined statutory provincial and federal tax rates were 26.5% for the year ended December 31, 2020 and 26.8% for the same period in 2019. The Company recorded an expense of \$18.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, including the recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences of \$2.8 million. In comparison, the company recorded a recovery of income tax of \$24.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2019, including recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences of \$44.2 million. The Company recorded an income tax expense of 23.4% of earnings for the year ended December 31, 2020 (2019 – an income tax recovery of 35.7%). These recoveries are non-cash items.

The difference between the effective and the statutory rates for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 is mainly due to recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences and the non-deductibility of certain expenses for tax purposes.

## Net earnings

Net earnings for the year ended December 31, 2020 amounted to \$60.3 million as compared to net earnings of \$94.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2019, due to higher recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences in 2019. Earnings before income taxes increased from \$69.8 million in 2019 to \$78.7 million for the year-ended December 31, 2020 as lower Adjusted EBITDA was more than offset by lower restructuring and other charges, financial charges and depreciation and amortization expense.

# **Summary of Consolidated Quarterly Results**

The following table shows selected consolidated financial data of Yellow Pages for the eight most recent quarters.

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except per share and percentage information)

				2021				2020
	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1
Total revenues	\$ 68,624	\$ 70,920	\$ 74,588	\$ 73,514	\$ 76,669	\$ 80,281	\$ 88,280	\$ 88,308
Operating costs	44,264	44,303	50,148	46,931	49,030	52,969	46,352	55,745
Income from operations before depreciation and amortization, and restructuring and other charges (Adjusted EBITDA)	24,360	26,617	24,440	26,583	27,639	27,312	41,928	32,563
,	35.5%	37.5%	32.8%	36.2%	36.0%	34.0%	47.5%	36.9%
Adjusted EBITDA margin								
Depreciation and amortization	4,557	5,058	4,928	5,092	6,249	6,624	7,190	7,601
Restructuring and other charges	2,665	1,423	200	1,056	221	4,461	134	3,315
Income from operations	17,138	20,136	19,312	20,435	21,169	16,227	34,604	21,647
Financial charges, net	1,214	1,132	3,202	3,795	2,014	4,196	4,121	4,181
Loss on early repayment of debt	_	_	7,764	_	_	_	_	_
(Gain) loss on sale of businesses	_	_	_	_	_	(79)	4	498
Earnings before income taxes	15,924	19,004	8,346	16,640	19,155	12,110	30,479	16,968
(Recovery of) provision for income taxes	(22,811)	5,257	2,328	4,505	2,340	3,069	8,440	4,565
Net earnings	\$ 38,735	\$ 13,747	\$ 6,018	\$ 12,135	\$ 16,815	\$ 9,041	\$ 22,039	\$ 12,403
Basic earnings per share	\$ 1.48	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.63	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.83	\$ 0.47
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 1.46	\$ 0.51	\$ 0.22	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.58	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.73	\$ 0.44

Sequential quarterly revenue trends are impacted by the print publication distribution schedules, with the second quarter being the strongest quarter. Year-over-year the quarterly revenues have decreased principally due to change in product mix and overall lower customer count partially offset by an increasing spend per customer over the last six quarters, driven by the increase in digital spend per customer more than offsetting the decline in print spend per customer. Revenues were also affected by the COVID-19 pandemic starting in the second quarter of 2020, impacting customer spend and to a lesser extent the customer renewal rate.

Operating costs decreased over the quarters driven by efficiencies from optimization in cost of sales and reductions in other operating costs including reductions in our workforce and associated employee expenses as well as the Company's office space footprint and other spending across the Company. The increase in YP's share price resulted in an incremental charge related to cash settled stock-based compensation expense of \$3.4 million in the second quarter of 2021, partially offset by the receipt of a \$1.9 million emergency wage subsidy. The Company also received \$0.8 million in emergency wage subsidies in each of the third and fourth quarters of 2021, respectively. The second quarter of 2020 benefited from the receipt of a \$4.8 million emergency wage subsidy and paused campaign spending related to the COVID-19 pandemic while the third quarter was impacted by a \$4.0 million increase for the expense related to the vesting of the CEO's long term incentive plan (LTIP) upon completion of his first contract term, resulting from the increase in the Company's share price. The third quarter of 2020 was also impacted by the resumed spending for the fulfillment of paused campaigns related to the COVID-19 pandemic partially offset by a \$1.2 million emergency wage subsidy. The Company also received a \$1.3 million emergency wage subsidy in the fourth quarter of 2020.

With the exception of the second quarter of 2021, the Adjusted EBITDA margin has been relatively stable since the fourth quarter of 2020 mainly due to lower revenue, pressures from the change in product mix and investment in increased sales capacity being partially offset by optimizations in cost of sales and decrease in other operating costs.

Depreciation and amortization have been decreasing due to lower intangible assets resulting from decreasing software development expenditures as well as lower intangible assets following the impairment recorded in the fourth quarter of 2017.

The Company's restructuring and other charges mainly relate to workforce reductions and impairments of right-of-use assets and future operating costs related to lease contracts for offices closed. The second quarter of 2020 benefited from a net recovery of \$1.2 million relating to the surrender of some of the previously vacated office space.

The financial charges have further declined in the last two quarters due to the full repayment of Exchangeable debentures in the second quarter of 2021. Financial charges in the fourth quarter of 2020 were impacted by the recognition of the \$2.6 million change in fair value of the redemption option for cash for the Company's Exchangeable debentures ("Redemption Option").

The Company recorded a loss on early repayment of debt related to the Exchangeable debentures of \$7.8 million in the second quarter of 2021.

Net earnings for the fourth quarter of 2021 and 2020 benefited from the recording of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences of \$27.0 million and \$2.8 million in the provision for income taxes, respectively.

# **Analysis of Fourth Quarter 2021 Results**

#### Revenues

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

For the three-month periods ended December 31,	2021	2020	% Change
Digital	\$ 53,798	\$ 58,904	(8.7%)
Print	14,826	17,765	(16.5%)
Total revenues	\$ 68,624	\$ 76,669	(10.5%)

Total revenues for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2021 decreased by 10.5% year-over-year and amounted to \$68.6 million as compared to \$76.7 million for the same period last year. The decrease for the quarter ended December 31, 2021 is due to the decline of our higher margin YP digital media and print products and to a lesser extent to our lower margin digital services products, thereby creating pressure on our gross profit margins. The revenue decrease of 10.5% for the fourth quarter represents an improvement from the decrease of 11.7% reported last quarter.

Total digital revenues decreased 8.7% year-over-year and amounted to \$53.8 million during the fourth quarter of 2021 compared to \$58.9 million for the same period last year. The revenues were adversely impacted by a decline in the number of digital customers partially offset by a higher spend per customer. The digital revenue decrease of 8.7% for the fourth quarter represents an improvement from the decrease of 10.3% reported last quarter.

Total print revenues decreased 16.5% year-over-year and amounted to \$14.8 million during the fourth quarter of 2021 as compared to \$17.8 million in the fourth quarter of 2020. The revenue decline was mostly attributable to decreases in the number of print customers as well as the spend per customer.

#### **Gross Profit**

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

		% of		% of	%
For the three-month periods ended December 31,	2021	Revenues	2020	Revenues	Change
Total gross profit	\$ 40,116	58.5%	46,424	60.6%	(13.6%)

Gross profit totalled \$40.1 million or 58.5% of revenues for the three-month period ended December 31, 2021, compared to \$46.4 million, or 60.6% of revenues, for the same period last year. The decrease in gross profit for the three-month period ended December 31, 2021 is a result of the pressures from lower overall revenues, change in product mix and investments in our tele-sales force capacity, partially offset by continued optimizations and cost reductions.

# Adjusted EBITDA1

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

		% of		% of	%
For the three-month periods ended December 31,	2021	Revenues	2020	Revenues	Change
Total Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 24,360	35.5%	\$ 27,639	36.0%	(11.9%)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure and does not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, is unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Definitions of non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A.

Adjusted EBITDA decreased to \$24.4 million or 35.5% of revenues in the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2021, relative to \$27.6 million or 36.0% of revenues for the same period last year. The decrease in Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted EBITDA margin in the three-month period ended December 31, 2021 is the result of revenue pressures, investments in our tele-sales force capacity, and lower wage subsidies received, partially offset by efficiencies from optimization in cost of sales and reductions in other operating costs including reductions in our workforce and associated employee expenses. The Company received a \$0.8 million emergency wage subsidy during the three-month period ended December 31, 2021 compared to \$1.2 million received during the same period last year. Revenue pressures, coupled with increased headcount in our salesforce partially offset by continued optimization, will create some pressure on margin in upcoming quarters.

# Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX<sup>1</sup>

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

For the three-month periods ended December 31,	2021	2020	% Change
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 24,360	\$ 27,639	(11.9%)
CAPEX	1,220	1,474	(17.2%)
Total Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX	\$ 23,140	\$ 26,165	(11.6%)

Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX is a non-GAAP financial measure and does not have any standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, is unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. Definitions of non-GAAP financial measures are provided on page 4 of this MD&A.

Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX decreased by \$3.1 million to \$23.1 million during the fourth quarter of 2021, compared to \$26.2 million during the same period last year. The decrease in Adjusted EBITDA less CAPEX for the three-month period ended December 31, 2021 is mainly due to lower Adjusted EBITDA partially offset by lower capital expenditures.

#### **Depreciation and Amortization**

Depreciation and amortization decreased to \$4.6 million for the three-month period ended December 31, 2021 compared to \$6.2 million for the same period last year. The decrease is primarily due to lower software development expenditures in recent periods.

#### Restructuring and Other Charges

(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

For the three-month periods ended December 31,	2021	2020
Severance, benefits and outplacement	\$ 2,048	\$ 926
Impairment of right-of-use assets, property and equipment, and provision for future operation		
costs (recovery) related to lease contracts for offices closed	535	(752)
Other costs	82	47
Total restructuring and other charges	\$ 2,665	\$ 221

Yellow Pages Limited recorded restructuring and other charges of \$2.7 million during the three-month period ended December 31, 2021 consisting mainly of restructuring charges of \$2.1 million associated with workforce reductions and a \$0.5 million charge related to future operation costs provisioned related to lease contracts of previously vacated office space. Restructuring and other charges of \$0.2 million were recorded for the three-month period ended December 31, 2020 consisting mainly of restructuring charges of \$1.0 million associated with workforce reductions, a \$1.1 million recovery for future operation costs provisioned related to lease contracts for offices closed, as well as a \$0.3 million charge related to the impairment of property and equipment and right-of-use assets related to vacated office space.

## **Financial Charges**

Financial charges decreased to \$1.2 million for the three-month period ended December 31, 2021 compared to \$2.0 million for the same period last year. The decrease is due to lower level of indebtedness due to the full repayment of the Exchangeable Debentures on May 31, 2021.

# (Recovery of) provision for Income Taxes

The combined statutory provincial and federal tax rates were 26.4% and 26.5% for the three-month periods ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, respectively. The Company recorded a recovery for income tax of \$22.8 million, including a recovery for the recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences of \$27.0 million for the three-month period ended December 31, 2021. In comparison, the Company recorded an expense of \$2.3 million, including a recovery for the recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences of \$2.8 million for the three-month period ended December 31, 2020. These recoveries were non-cash items.

The difference between the effective and the statutory rates during the three-month period ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 is mainly due to recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences and the non-deductibility of certain expenses for tax purposes.

## Net earnings

Net earnings for the three-month ended December 31, 2021 amounted to \$38.7 million as compared to net earnings of \$16.8 million for the same period last year due to higher recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences. Earnings before taxes decreased from \$19.2 million for the fourth quarter of 2020 to \$15.9 million for the three-month period ended December 31, 2021, explained principally by lower Adjusted EBITDA and the increase in restructuring and other charges, partially offset by decreases in depreciation and amortization and financial charges.

# 3. Liquidity and Capital Resources

This section examines the Company's capital structure, sources of liquidity and various financial instruments including its debt instruments.

# **Capital Structure**

(In thousands of Canadian dollars, except percentage information)

As at December 31,	202	1	2020
Cash	\$ 123,55	9 \$	153,492
Exchangeable debentures	\$	- \$	101,115
Lease obligations (including current portion)	49,87	9	52,874
Total debt	\$ 49,87	9 \$	153,989
Equity	116,13	1	29,301
Total capitalization	\$ 166,01	0 \$	183,290
Total cash net of debt <sup>1</sup>	\$ 73,68	0 \$	(497)
Total cash net of debt to total capitalization	44.4	<b>%</b>	0.0%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The term cash net of debt does not have a standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, it is unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. We define cash net of debt as cash less Lease obligations including the current portion and Exchangeable debentures, as shown in the Company's consolidated statements of financial position.

#### **Asset-Based Loan**

The Company, through its subsidiary Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions Limited, has an asset-based loan (ABL) with a term to August 2022 and a total commitment of \$25.0 million. The ABL is being used for general corporate purposes. Through the ABL, the Company has access to the funds in the form of prime rate loans, Banker's acceptance (BA) equivalent loans or letters of credit. The ABL is subject to an availability reserve of \$5.0 million if the Company's trailing twelve-month fixed charge coverage ratio is below 1.1 times. As at December 31, 2021, the Company's fixed charge coverage ratio was 0.7 times. The Company had \$2.8 million of letters of credit issued and outstanding under the ABL and a \$3.3 million deficiency in qualified collateral. As such, \$13.9 million of the ABL was available as at December 31, 2021.

As at December 31, 2021, the Company was in compliance with all covenants under the loan agreement governing the ABL.

# **Exchangeable Debentures**

On December 20, 2012, the Company, through its subsidiary Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions Limited, issued \$107.5 million of senior subordinated exchangeable debentures (the Exchangeable Debentures) due November 30, 2022.

Interest on the Exchangeable Debentures accrued at a rate of 8% per annum.

# **Optional Redemption**

The Company had the option to redeem all or part of the Exchangeable Debentures, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior notice, at a redemption price equal to:

- In the case of a redemption occurring prior to May 31, 2021, 110% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the redemption date: or
- In the case of a redemption occurring on or after May 31, 2021, 100% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the redemption date.

On May 31, 2021, the Company fully repaid the principal amount of Exchangeable Debentures of \$107.0 million at par plus any accrued and unpaid interest.

The redemption option on the exchangeable debentures was an embedded derivative and was recorded at fair value on the consolidated statements of financial position in Financial and other assets with changes in fair value recognized in financial charges. On May 31, 2021, upon early repayment of the debt, the Company derecognized the embedded derivative of \$3.0 million which was included in the loss on early repayment of debt. The fair value of the embedded derivative was \$2.6 million as at December 31, 2020.

The Company entered a NCIB on April 20, 2020, to purchase up to \$6.6 million principal amount of its Exchangeable Debentures for cancellation on or before April 19, 2021. As at April 19, 2021, YP had purchased Exchangeable Debentures under this NCIB program, with a carrying value of \$52 thousand for cash and a face value of \$56 thousand. Purchases were made in accordance with the NCIB at the prevailing market price at the time of acquisition.

# Liquidity

The Company's principal source of liquidity is cash generated from operations and cash on hand. The Company expects to generate sufficient liquidity in the short term and the long term to fund capital expenditures, working capital requirements and current obligations, and service its outstanding lease and post-employment benefit obligations. As at December 31, 2021, the Company had \$123.6 million of cash and \$13.9 million available under the ABL. As at January 31, 2022, the Company had approximately \$130.0 million of cash and \$13.9 million available under the ABL.

# **Options**

On March 23, 2021, the Board approved an amendment to the 2012 Stock Option Plan to increase the insider participation limits and the maximum number of shares issuable to one person from 5% of the issued and outstanding shares to 10% of the issued and outstanding shares. In addition, the 2012 Stock Option Plan was amended to provide that any shares repurchased by the Company for cancellation pursuant to a NCIB will not constitute non-compliance with these limits for any options outstanding prior to such purchase of Shares for cancellation. A maximum of 1,290,612 stock options may be granted under the Stock Option Plan. On May 11, 2018, an amendment to the Stock Option Plan was approved, increasing the maximum number of common shares authorized for issuance upon the exercise of options, from 1,290,612 to 2,806,932. Participants are required to hold 25% of the common shares received pursuant to the exercise of the stock options until the Participants meet the ownership guidelines which apply to their respective position.

At the Annual and Special Meeting of Shareholders held on May 13, 2020 an amendment to the 2012 Stock Option Plan was approved to provide for a cashless exercise feature, payable in cash, without a full deduction of the underlying shares from the plan reserve. Subject to approval of the Board or the Human Resources and Compensation Committee at the time of exercise, an option holder may elect to surrender an exercisable option for cancellation in exchange for a cash payment equal to the amount by which the fair market value of the share on the date of surrender exceeds the exercise price. The underlying shares in respect of the surrendered option will be added back to the plan reserve.

Stock options granted that are payable in cash upon certain conditions being met are presented as a liability.

## **Share Data**

## **Outstanding Share Data**

As at	February 9, 2022	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Common shares outstanding	27,440,103	27,459,686	27,828,906
Exchangeable Debentures outstanding <sup>1</sup>	_	=	5,621,481
Common share purchase warrants outstanding	2,995,483	2,995,483	2,995,484
Stock options outstanding <sup>2</sup>	2,332,893	2,332,893	2,717,779

As at December 31, 2020 Yellow Pages had \$107.0 million principal amount of Exchangeable Debentures outstanding, which amount was exchangeable into 5,621,481 common shares of Yellow Pages Limited at an exchange price of \$19.04, subject to adjustment for specified transactions pursuant to the indenture governing the Exchangeable Debentures. These Exchangeable debentures were repaid on May 31, 2021.

The Company entered into a normal course issuer bid ("NCIB"), commencing August 10, 2020, to purchase up to \$5.0 million of Common Shares in the open market for cancellation, on or before August 9, 2021. The Company completed this NCIB program on July 16, 2021 after attaining the \$5.0 million limit.

On August 5, 2021, the Company announced a NCIB commencing August 10, 2021 to purchase up to 5% of the Company's outstanding shares for cancellation on or before August 9, 2022. However, the Company intends to limit aggregate purchases under the new NCIB to \$16.0 million. As at December 31, 2021, the Company had purchased under this NCIB program 251,376 common shares for cash of \$3.6 million.

# **Dividend policy**

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") modified its dividend policy of paying a quarterly cash dividend to its common shareholders by increasing the dividend from \$0.11 per share to \$0.15 per share. YP's dividend payout policy and the declaration of dividends on any of the Company's outstanding common shares are subject to the discretion of the Board and, consequently, there can be no guarantee that the dividend payout policy will be maintained or that dividends will be declared. Dividend decisions will continue to be dependent on YP's operations and financial results, subject to the Board's assessment on a quarterly basis, which are, in turn, subject to various assumptions and risks, including those set out in this MD&A.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company paid quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per common share during the first quarter and \$0.15 per common share during the second, third and fourth quarters. The dividends were paid on March 15, June 30, September 15 and December 15 of 2021 for a total consideration of \$14.7 million to common shareholders. During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company paid three quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per common share. The dividends were paid on June 15, September 15 and December 15 of 2020 for a total consideration of \$8.8 million to common shareholders.

On February 9, 2022, the Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.15 per common share, payable on March 15, 2022 to shareholders of record as at February 25, 2022. Future quarterly dividends are subject to Board approval.

# **Contractual Obligations and Other Commitments**

(in thousands of Canadian dollars)

			Payments due	for the	years following	Decem	ber 31, 2021
	Total	1 year	2 – 3 years		4 – 5 years		Thereafter
Lease obligations <sup>1,2</sup>	\$ 49,879	\$ 2,940	\$ 7,275	\$	7,587	\$	32,077
Operating portion of lease obligations	62,857	4,478	11,074		11,400		35,905
Purchase obligations	35,697	16,862	14,338		2,865		1,632
Total contractual obligations	\$ 148,433	\$ 24,280	\$ 32,687	\$	21,852	\$	69,614

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Principal amount.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Included in the stock options outstanding balance of 2,332,893 as at February 9, 2022 and December 31, 2021, are nil stock options exercisable as at those dates. Included in the stock options outstanding balance of 2,717,779 as at December 31, 2020 were nil stock options exercisable as at that date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Net present value.

# Lease obligations

We entered into finance lease agreements for premises. As at December 31, 2021, minimum payments under these finance leases up to 2033 total \$49.9 million.

## Operating portion of lease obligations

We rent our premises and office equipment under various leases for which an operating portion is recognized. As at December 31, 2021, minimum payments for the operating portion under these leases up to 2033 total \$62.9 million.

## Purchase obligations

We use the services of outside suppliers to distribute and print our directories and have entered into long-term agreements with a number of these suppliers. These agreements expire between 2022 and 2032. We also have purchase obligations under service contracts for both operating and capital expenditures. As at December 31, 2021, we have an obligation to purchase services for \$35.7 million over the next five years and thereafter. Cash from operations will be used to fund these purchase obligations.

#### **Pension Contributions**

YP sponsors a pension plan registered with the Canada Revenue Agency and the Financial Services Commission of Ontario with defined benefit (DB) for employees hired prior to January 1, 2006, and defined contribution (DC) components for the non-Québec based employees hired on or after January 1, 2006 (the YP Pension Plan) as well as a DC plan registered with the Régie des Rentes du Québec (the YP Québec Plan), for the Québec based employees hired on or after January 1, 2006. Both plans together cover substantially all employees of the Company.

As at December 31, 2021, the DB component of the YP Pension Plan's assets market value totalled \$496.6 million and were invested in a diversified portfolio of Canadian fixed income securities and Canadian and international equity securities. Its annual rate of return on assets was 4.54% for 2021, 1.79% above our benchmark portfolio.

The most recent actuarial valuation of the DB component of the YP Pension Plan for funding purposes was performed as at December 31, 2019. The valuation was prepared consistent with the Ontario funding basis, which requires no solvency deficit contribution if the plan is above 85% solvent. It also includes a requirement to fund on a going-concern basis a Provision for Adverse Deviation ("PfAD"), which is determined based on plan characteristics. There was no resulting solvency contribution, as it was determined that the plan was above the 85% solvency threshold, but the annual required contribution to cover the PfAD increased to \$4.7 million from \$1.8 million for a 10-year period starting in 2021. The next actuarial valuation for funding purposes will be prepared no later than December 31, 2022. For the benefit of our retirees, as of June 2020, the Company doubled the monthly contributions to fund the deficit in our Defined Benefit Pension Plan (the "Plan"), bringing the Company's contribution for the year ended December 31, 2020 from the required \$1.8 million to \$2.8 million.

On May 12, 2021, the Board approved a voluntary incremental \$4.0 million cash contribution in 2021 bringing cash payments to the Plan's wind-up deficit to \$6.0 million, as part of a deficit-reduction plan to increase the probability that the Plan will be fully funded on a wind-up basis by 2030. The deficit-reduction plan includes an intention to make cash payments to the wind-up deficit of \$6.0 million every year until 2030. The probability of achieving a wind-up ratio of 100% by 2030 is dependent upon other, uncontrollable factors, including, inter alia, market returns and discount rates. The Board will review the deficit-reduction plan annually.

As of December 31, 2020, the Company's Plan had a Prior Year Credit Balance ("PYCB") of \$5.9 million. During 2021, the Company drew down \$2.7 million (2020 - \$1.4 million) of the PYCB, thereby reducing cash payments required into the Plan and leaving a PYCB of \$3.2 million as of December 31, 2021.

Total cash payments for pension and other benefit plans made by the Company in 2021 were \$12.8 million, including the \$4.0 million voluntary incremental cash contribution toward the deficit-reduction plan. Total cash payments for pension and other benefit plans made by the Company in 2020 were \$9.2 million. Total cash payments for pension and other benefit plans expected in 2022 amount to approximately \$12.1 million.

# Sources and Uses of Cash

(In thousands of Canadian dollars)

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Cash flows from operating activities		
Cash flows from operations, excluding change in operating assets and liabilities	\$ 82,836	\$ 105,463
Change in operating assets and liabilities	21,743	21,535
	\$ 104,579	\$ 126,998
Cash flows used in investing activities		
Additions to intangible assets	\$ (4,957)	\$ (5,328)
Additions to property and equipment	(117)	(245)
Payments received from net investment in subleases	593	1,002
Proceeds on sale of businesses	_	1,564
	\$ (4,481)	\$ (3,007)
Cash flows used in financing activities		
Repayment of exchangeable debentures	(107,033)	(56)
Repurchase of common shares	(5,334)	(3,277)
Issuance of common shares	111	223
Payment of lease obligations	(3,045)	(2,989)
Dividends paid	(14,730)	(8,808)
	\$ (130,031)	\$ (14,907)
NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH	\$ (29,933)	\$ 109,084
CASH, BEGINNING OF PERIOD	153,492	44,408
CASH, END OF PERIOD	\$ 123,559	\$ 153,492

## Cash flows from operating activities

Cash flows from operating activities decreased by \$22.4 million to \$104.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 from \$127.0 million last year. The decrease is mainly due to lower Adjusted EBITDA of \$27.4 million and increased funding of post-employment benefit plans of \$4.2 million, partially offset by lower payments for restructuring and other charges of \$4.1 million, and lower interest paid of \$4.2 million.

#### Cash flows used in investing activities

Cash flows used in investing activities increased by \$1.5 million year-over-year mainly due to proceeds on sale of business received in 2020.

#### Cash flows used in financing activities

Cash flows used in financing activities increased by \$115.1 million to \$130.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 compared to \$14.9 million last year due mainly to the repayment of the exchangeable debentures of \$107.0 million, the increase of \$5.9 million in the payment of dividends and the increase of \$2.1 million for the repurchase of common shares during the year ended December 31, 2021.

# **Financial and Other Instruments**

(See Note 20 of the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020).

The Company's financial instruments primarily consist of cash, trade and other receivables, and trade and other payables.

Following the repayment of the exchangeable debentures on May 31, 2021, the redemption option on the exchangeable debentures, was derecognized and was included in the loss on early repayment of debt. The fair value as at December 31, 2020 was \$2.6 million. The fair value was calculated, using a binomial option pricing model based on guarter-end markets rates and prices as well as historical volatility data.

# 4. Critical Assumptions and Estimates

When we prepare our consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS, we must make certain estimates and assumptions about our business. These estimates and assumptions in turn affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities in the financial statements.

In this section, we provide detailed information on these important estimates and assumptions which are under continuous evaluation by the Company.

# Significant estimates

Management has revised the assumptions and estimates it would normally use to apply the Company's accounting policies affecting the carrying value of certain assets and the information disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements in order to reflect the estimated impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Any estimate of the length and severity, including the number of resurgences of COVID-19 cases (new waves), is subject to significant uncertainty, and, accordingly, estimates of the extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic may materially and adversely affect the Company's operations, financial results and condition in future periods are also subject to significant uncertainty. The impact of these changes in accounting estimates is recognized during the period in which the change took place and all affected future periods.

The estimates and assumptions made by management that are critical to the determination of the carrying value of assets are addressed below.

# Allowance for revenue adjustments

The Company records an allowance for revenue adjustments as a reduction to revenue. This reflects an estimate of claims expected from customers. The Company updates its estimate of the allowance for revenue adjustments based on historical experience related to claims, as well as client-related factors. This significant estimate could affect Yellow Pages Limited's future results if actual claims are higher or lower than previously anticipated.

#### Estimate of the lease term

When the Company recognizes a lease, it assesses the lease term based on the conditions of the lease and assesses whether it will extend the lease at the end of the lease contract or exercise an early termination option. The Company determined that the term of its leases is the original lease term as it is not reasonably certain that the extension of termination options will be exercised. This significant estimate could affect Yellow Pages Limited's future results if the Company extends the lease or exercises an early termination option.

# Assessment of whether a right-of-use asset is impaired

The Company assesses whether a right-of-use asset is impaired, particularly when it vacates an office space and it must determine the recoverability of the asset, depending on its capacity to sublease the assets or surrender the lease and recover its costs. The Company will examine its lease conditions as well as local market conditions and estimate its recoverability potential for each vacated premise. The determination of the lease cost recovery rate involves significant management estimates based on market availability of similar office space and local market conditions. This significant estimate could affect Yellow Pages Limited's future results if the Company succeeds in subleasing their vacated offices at a higher or lower rate or at different dates than initially anticipated.

#### Measurement of the ECL allowance on trade receivables

In relation to the impairment of trade receivables (including contract assets), the Company uses the expected credit losses ("ECL") model, which requires the Company to account for the ECL and changes in the ECL at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the trade receivable. The ECL related to doubtful accounts for trade receivables (also referred to as allowance for doubtful accounts) is established based on various factors, including amongst others the age of the exposure and in some case the customer's solvency. This significant estimate could affect the Company's future results if there is a further significant change in economic conditions or customer solvency or any new information that may impact our assumptions.

# Determining the discount rate for leases

IFRS 16 requires the Company to discount the lease payments using the rate implicit in the lease if that rate is readily available. If that rate cannot be readily determined, the lessee is required to use its incremental borrowing rate ("IBR"). The Company generally used its IBR rate when recording leases initially, since the implicit rates were not readily available due to information not being available from the Lessor regarding the fair value of underlying assets and directs costs incurred by the Lessor related to the leased assets. The IBR for each lease was based on the commencement date of the lease and recalculated at the remeasurement date where applicable.

# Useful lives of intangible assets and property and equipment

Yellow Pages Limited reviews the estimated useful lives of its intangible assets and property and equipment at the end of each reporting period. At the end of the current reporting period, management determined that the useful lives of its intangible assets and property and equipment were adequate.

## Employee future benefits

The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by employing the projected benefit method prorated on service using interest rates of high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid and that have terms to maturity approximating the terms of the related pension liability. Determination of the net benefit costs (recovery) requires assumptions such as the discount rate to measure defined benefit obligations and expected return on plan assets, the projected age of employees upon retirement, the expected rate of future compensation and the expected healthcare cost trend rate. Actual results may differ from results which are estimated based on assumptions.

#### Income taxes

Estimation of income taxes includes evaluating the recoverability of deferred tax assets based on an assessment of Yellow Pages Limited's ability to utilize the underlying future tax deductions against future taxable income before they expire. Yellow Pages Limited's assessment is based upon existing tax laws and estimates of future taxable income. If the assessment of Yellow Pages Limited's ability to utilize the underlying future tax deductions changes, Yellow Pages Limited would be required to recognize more or fewer of the tax deductions as assets, which would decrease or increase the income tax expense in the period in which this is determined. The carrying value of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date, remeasured to the extent that probable sufficient taxable profits will be available, or reduced to the extent it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered in the foreseeable future.

# **Accounting standards**

Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards that are issued but not yet effective on the consolidated financial statements

# Amendments to IAS 37 - Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

On May 14, 2020, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) issued amendments to IAS 37 – *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities, and Contingent Assets*, specifying which costs a company should include as the cost of fulfilling a contract when assessing whether a contract is onerous. The amendments to IAS 37, clarify that for the purpose of assessing whether a contract is onerous, the cost of fulfilling the contract includes both the incremental costs of fulfilling that contract and an allocation of other costs that relate directly to fulfilling contracts. The amendments are effective for contracts for which an entity has not yet fulfilled all its obligations on or after January 1, 2022. Earlier application is permitted. The Company is assessing the impact of adopting these amendments on its financial statements.

# Amendments to IAS 8 - Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors

On February 12, 2021, the IASB, issued amendments to IAS 8, these amendments introduce the definition of an accounting estimate and include other amendments to IAS 8 to help entities distinguish changes in accounting estimates from changes in accounting policies. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023 and changes in accounting policies and changes in accounting estimates that occur on or after the start of that period. Earlier application is permitted. The Company is assessing the impact of adopting these amendments on its financial statements.

#### Amendments to IFRS 3 - Business Combinations

These amendments to the implementation guidance of IFRS 3 clarify the definition of a business to assist entities to determine whether a transaction should be accounted for as a business combination or an asset acquisition. The amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2022. These amendments may have an impact on the accounting of future business combinations, if any.

#### Amendments to IAS 1 - Presentation of Financial Statements

The amendments to IAS 1 provide a more general approach to the classification of liabilities based on the contractual arrangements in place at the reporting date. The amendments clarify that the classification of liabilities as current or non-current should be based on rights that are in existence at the end of the reporting period and align the wording in all affected paragraphs to refer to the right to defer settlement by at least twelve months and make explicit that only rights in place at the end of the reporting period should affect the classification of a liability. The amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023 and are to be applied retrospectively. The Company is assessing the impact of adopting these amendments on its financial statements.

#### Amendments to IAS 12 – *Income taxes*

On May 7, 2021, IASB published Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction. The amendments clarify the accounting for deferred tax on transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences. The amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is assessing the impact of adopting these amendments on its financial statements.

# 5. Risks and Uncertainties

The following section examines the major risks and uncertainties that could materially affect YP's future business results.

Understanding and managing risks are important parts of YP's strategic planning process. The Board requires that our senior management identify and properly manage the principal risks related to our business operations. To understand and manage risks at YP, our Board and senior management analyze risks in three major categories:

- 1. Strategic risks which are primarily external to the business;
- Financial risks generally related to matters addressed in the Financial Risk Management Policy and in the Pension Statement of Investment Policy and Procedures; and
- 3. Operational risks related principally to risks across key functional areas of the organization.

YP has put in place certain guidelines in order to seek to manage the risks to which it may be exposed. Please refer to the "Risk Factors" section of our AIF for a complete description of these risk factors. Despite these guidelines, the Company cannot provide assurances that any such efforts will be successful.

# Failure by the Corporation to stabilize or grow its revenues and customer base could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation's revenues remain adversely impacted by a lower customer count. Failure to provide existing customers with marketing solutions that meet their key marketing objectives and generate return on investment may limit the Corporation's ability to retain existing customers. In addition, the inability of the Corporation's customer acquisition strategies and channels to find and attract new customers may limit the Corporation's ability to grow its total customer count. These events could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition.

# The inability of the Corporation to attract, retain and upsell customers could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation's revenues remain adversely impacted by a lower customer count. Failure to provide existing customers with marketing solutions that meet their key marketing objectives and generate return on investment may limit the Corporation's ability to retain existing customers. In addition, the inability of the Corporation's customer acquisition strategies and channels to find and attract new customers may limit the Corporation's ability to grow its total customer count. These events could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition.

# Substantial competition could reduce the market share of the Corporation and could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation competes with other directory, advertising media and classified advertising businesses and across various media and platforms. This includes the internet, newspapers, television, radio, mobile telecommunication devices, magazines, billboards and direct mail advertising. In particular, the directories business faces substantial competition due to increased online penetration, through the use of online search engines and social networking organizations. The Corporation may not be able to compete effectively with these online competitors, some of which may have greater resources. The Corporation's internet strategy and its directories business may be adversely affected if major search engines build local sales forces or otherwise begin to more effectively reach local businesses for local commercial search services. These competitors may reduce their prices to increase their market share or may be able to offer their services at lower costs than the Corporation can.

The Corporation may be forced to reduce its prices or offer and perform other services in order to remain competitive. The Corporation's failure to compete effectively with its current or future competitors could have a number of impacts such as a reduction in its advertiser base, lower rates and increased costs. This could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition.

# A higher than anticipated rate of decline in print revenue resulting from changes in preferences and consumer habits could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation could be materially adversely affected if the usage of print telephone directories declines at a rate higher than anticipated. The development of new technologies and the widespread use of the internet is causing changes in preferences and consumer habits. The usage of internet-based products providing information, formerly exclusively available in print directories, has increased rapidly. The internet has become increasingly accessible as an advertising medium for businesses of all sizes. Further, the use of the internet, including as a means to transact commerce through mobile devices, has resulted in new technologies and services that compete with traditional advertising mediums. In particular, this has a significant impact on print products, and the decrease in usage gradually leads to lower advertising revenues. References to print business directories may decline faster than expected as users increasingly turn to digital and interactive media delivery devices for local commercial search information.

# The inability of the Corporation to successfully enhance and expand its offering of digital and new media products could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The transition from print to digital causes uncertainties surrounding whether and when new product introductions will compensate for the declining trend in print revenues. If revenue from the Corporation's digital products does not increase significantly, the Corporation's cash flow, results of operations and financial condition will be materially adversely affected.

The Corporation expects to derive a greater portion of its total revenue from its digital and other new media products, as directory usage continues to shift from print directories to digital and other new media products.

The Corporation's transformational expansion towards digital and new media products is subject to a variety of challenges and risks, including the following:

- the Corporation may not continue to grow usage on its digital properties at the same rate as other providers or may grow at a slower rate than currently anticipated;
- internet usage as a source of information and a medium for advertising may not continue to grow, or may grow at a slower rate than currently anticipated, as a result of factors that the Corporation cannot predict or control;
- the Corporation may incur substantial additional costs and expenses related to investments in its information technology, modifications to existing products and development of new products and this may reduce profit margins in the future;

- the Corporation may be unable to develop and market new products in a timely and efficient manner, as the Corporation's markets are characterized by rapidly changing technology, introductions and enhancements to existing products and shifting advertising customer and end-user demands, including technology preferences;
- the Corporation may be unable to improve its information technology systems to efficiently manage increased levels of traffic on the Corporation's digital
  properties and provide new services and products;
- the Corporation may be unable to keep apprised of changes to search engines' terms of service or algorithms, which could cause the Corporation's digital properties, or its advertising customers' digital properties, to be excluded from or ranked lower in search results or make it more difficult or more expensive for the Corporation to provide search engine marketing and search engine optimisation solutions to its advertising customers;
- the Corporation's advertising customers may be unwilling to grow their investment in digital advertising; and
- the Corporation may be unable to increase or maintain the prices of its products and services in the future.

If any of the above-mentioned risks were to occur, the Corporation's digital revenue, as well as its business, results from operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected.

# The inability of the Corporation to supply the relationships and technologies required to appropriately service the needs of its customers could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation anticipates that it will continue to depend on various third-party relationships in order to grow its business, such as technology and content providers, real-time advertising exchanges and other strategic partners. The Corporation may not be able to maintain such relationships and these third parties may experience disruptions or performance problems, which could negatively affect the Corporation's efficiency and reputation.

In addition, the Corporation relies heavily on information technology systems to manage critical functions of its digital and mobile marketing solutions. The future success of the Corporation will depend in part upon its ability to continuously enhance and improve its existing solutions in a timely manner with features and pricing that meet changing advertiser needs. As marketing via new digital advertising channels, such as mobile advertising is emerging, it may evolve in unexpected ways, and the failure of the Corporation to adapt successfully to market evolution could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results of operations and financial condition.

# A prolonged economic downturn in principal markets of the Corporation could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation derives revenues principally from the sale of advertising in Yellow Pages print and digital directories across Canada. The Corporation's advertising revenues, as well as those of directories publishers in general, typically do not fluctuate widely with economic cycles. However, a prolonged economic downturn or recession affecting the Corporation's markets, or any deterioration in general economic conditions, could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's business. The adverse effects of an economic downturn or recession on the Corporation could be compounded by the fact that the majority of the Corporation's customers are SMEs. Such businesses have fewer financial resources and higher rates of failure than larger businesses and may be more vulnerable to prolonged economic downturns. Therefore, these SMEs may be more likely to reduce or discontinue advertising with the Corporation, which could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition.

# A higher than anticipated proportion of revenues coming from the Corporation's digital products with lower margins, such as services and resale, could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation's profitability

Digital advertising sold on the Corporation's owned and operated media currently operate at the highest level of profitability relative to digital service (websites, search engine optimization, content syndication and Facebook) solutions and resale (SEM) solutions. Revenues sourced from digital service and resale solutions that are proportionally materially higher than anticipated may have an adverse impact on the Corporation's profitability.

# The Corporation's inability to attract and retain key personnel could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The success of the Corporation depends on the abilities, experience and personal efforts of senior management of the Corporation, including their ability to retain and attract skilled employees. The Corporation is also dependent on the number and experience of its sales representatives and ISIT employees. The loss of the services of such key personnel could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, its results from operations and financial condition.

# The Corporation's business depends on the usage of its online and mobile properties and failure to protect traffic across the Corporation's digital properties could impair its ability to grow revenues and expand its business

The success of numerous of our customers' marketing campaigns is dependent on how well they can attract valuable audiences. The Corporation will invest in order to protect digital audiences across its network of online and mobile properties by enhancing the quality, completeness and relevance of the content distributed to its properties, and by providing compelling verticalized sites and applications for local discovery. The Corporation may not be able to protect or grow traffic across its digital properties and such investments may not prove to be cost-effective. There can be no assurance that current traffic or potential growth in traffic across the Corporation's digital properties may maintain or increase advertising customer renewal rates and/or annual spending or lead to a measurable increase in advertising customers.

# Failure by either the Corporation or the Telco Partners to fulfill their obligations set forth in the agreements between the Corporation and the Telco Partners could result in a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

We have three billing and collection services agreements. The agreement with Bell Canada ("Bell") expires on December 31, 2023 and the agreement with Northwestel Inc., an affiliate of Bell expires, November 29, 2032. The agreement with TELUS Communications Inc. (TELUS) expires in 2031. Through these agreements, our billing is included as a separate line item on the telephone bills of Bell and TELUS customers who use our services. Bell and TELUS (the Telco Partners) contract with third parties to conduct monthly billing of customers who use them as their local telephone service providers. In addition, the Telco Partners provide collection services for the Corporation with those customers who are also their customers. Additionally, the Corporation has entered into publishing agreements with each Telco Partner. If the Corporation fails to perform its obligations under these agreements and the agreements are consequently terminated by such Telco Partner, other agreements with such Telco Partner may also be terminated, including the Bell Canada Trademark License Agreement, the TELUS Trademark License Agreement, the MTS Inc. Branding and Trademark Agreement and the Bell Canada Inc. Branding and Trademark Agreement, as well as non-competition covenants we benefit from with such Telco Partners.

We have agreements with outside service suppliers to print and distribute our directories and publications. These agreements are for services that are integral to our business.

The failure of the Telco Partners or any of our other suppliers to fulfill their contractual obligations under these agreements could result in a material adverse effect on our business.

Customers who do not use the Telco Partners as their local telephone provider as well as all new customers are billed directly by the Corporation.

# Successfully prosecuted legal action against the Corporation, could adversely affect the results of operations and financial condition of the Corporation.

From time to time, the Corporation may be the subject of litigation arising out of its operations. The Corporation is not currently a party to any material litigation. However, if any legitimate cause of action arose which was successfully prosecuted against the Corporation, the results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected. Claims under such litigation may be material or may be indeterminate. Various types of claims may be made including, without limitation, breach of contract, negligence, tax and employment matters. The outcome of such litigation is uncertain and may materially impact the Corporation's financial condition or results of operations and the Corporation may be required to incur significant expenses or devote significant resources in defense against any such litigation. Moreover, unfavorable outcomes or settlements of litigation could encourage the commencement of additional litigation.

# Work stoppages and other labour disturbances could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

Certain non-management employees of the Corporation are unionized. The Corporation currently has seven union agreements, four of which have expired on December 31, 2021, two others expire on June 30, 2022 and the last on March 31, 2023. If the Corporation is unable to renew the agreements with its unionized staff as they come up for renegotiation from time to time, it could result in additional work stoppages and other labour disturbances, which could have a material adverse effect on our business.

# Challenge by tax authorities of the Corporation's position on certain income tax matters could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

In the normal course of the Corporation's activities, the tax authorities are carrying out ongoing reviews. In that respect, the Corporation is of the view that all expenses claimed by the different entities of the group are reasonable and deductible and that the cost amount and capital cost allowance claims of such entities' depreciable properties have been correctly determined. There is no assurance that the tax authorities may not challenge these positions. Such challenge, if successful, may have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition.

# The loss of key relationships or changes in the level of service provided by mapping applications and search engines could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation has entered into agreements with mapping applications and search engines to promote its online directories. These agreements facilitate access to the Corporation's content and customer advertising, allow the Corporation to generate a higher volume of traffic than it would on its own as well as generate business leads for its advertisers, while retaining the client relationship. Loss of key relationships or changes in the level of service provided by the mapping applications and search engines could impact performance of the Corporation's internet marketing solutions. In addition, internet marketing services are provided by many other competitors within the markets the Corporation serves, and its clients could choose to work with other, sometimes larger providers of these services, or with other search engines directly. The foregoing could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition.

# The failure of the Corporation's computers and communications systems could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation's business activities rely significantly on the efficient and uninterrupted operation of computers and communications systems as well as those of third parties. The Corporation's media properties, sales and advertising processing, data storage, production, billing, collection and day-to-day operations could be adversely impaired by cyber-attacks, or the failure of such technology, which could in turn have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition.

In addition, the Corporation's computer and ISIT systems may be vulnerable to damage or interruption from a variety of sources and its disaster recovery systems may be deemed ineffective. Any failure of these systems could impair the Corporation's business. This could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition.

# The inability of the Corporation to generate sufficient funds from operations, debt financings, equity financings or refinancing transactions could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The ability of the Corporation to make scheduled payments under its indebtedness will depend on, among other things, its future operating performance. There can be no assurance that the Corporation will be able to generate sufficient cash from its operations to pay its debt obligations. The Corporation's ability to generate sufficient funds from operations, debt financings, equity financings or refinancing transactions is, to a large extent, subject to economic, financial, competitive, operational and other factors, many of which are beyond the Corporation's control.

There can be no assurance that the Corporation will continue to be able to obtain on a timely basis sufficient funds on terms acceptable to the Corporation to provide adequate liquidity and to finance the operating and capital expenditures necessary to overcome the challenges associated with the evolution of its business and support its business strategy if cash flows from operations and cash on hand are insufficient.

Failure to generate sufficient funds, whether from operations or debt or equity financings or refinancing transactions, could require the Corporation to delay or abandon some of its anticipated expenditures or to modify its business strategy and could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition. Furthermore, competitors with greater liquidity or their ability to raise money more easily and on less onerous terms could create a competitive disadvantage for the Corporation.

# Incremental contributions by the Corporation to its pension plans could have a material adverse effect on the Corporation, its business, results from operations and financial condition

The Corporation may be required to make incremental contributions to its pension plans in the future depending on various factors including future returns on pension plan assets, long-term interest rates and changes in pension regulations, which may have a materially negative effect on the Corporation's liquidity and results from operations.

The funding requirements of the Corporation's pension plans, resulting from valuations of its pension plan assets and liabilities, depend on a number of factors, including actual returns on pension plan assets, long-term interest rates, plan demographic and pension regulations. Changes in these factors could cause actual future contributions to significantly differ from the Corporation's current estimates and could require the Corporation to make incremental contributions to its pension plans in the future and, therefore, could have a materially negative effect on the Corporation's liquidity, business, results from operations and financial condition.

There is no assurance that the Corporation's pension plans will be able to earn their assumed rate of return. A material portion of the Corporation's pension plans' assets is invested in public equity securities. As a result, the ability of the Corporation's pension plans to earn the rate of return that management has assumed depends significantly on the performance of capital markets. The market conditions also impact the discount rate used to calculate the Corporation's solvency obligations and thereby could also significantly affect the Corporation's cash funding requirements.

# The impacts of COVID-19 are unpredictable

The continuing global health, social, political and economic implications of the COVID-19 pandemic are highly unpredictable and could have significant impacts on our business, operations and future financial performance. As a result of the scale of the pandemic and the speed at which the global community has been impacted, our current and future financial performance, including quarterly and annual revenue growth rates and expenses as a percentage of revenues, may differ significantly from our historical performance and our future operating results may fall below expectations. The impacts of the pandemic on our business, operations and future financial performance could include, but are not limited to:

- A significant decline in revenue as customer spending slows due to an economic downturn and/or as customer demand otherwise decreases. This decline in revenue could persist through and beyond a recessionary period.
- Adverse impacts to our growth rates, cash flows and margins particularly if expenses do not decrease across our business at the same pace as revenue
  declines. Many of our expenses are less variable in nature and may not correlate to changes in revenues, such as depreciation and other costs associated with
  its office facilities and maintenance costs. As such, we may not be able to decrease them significantly in the short-term, or we may choose not to significantly
  reduce them in an effort to remain focused on its long-term outlook and opportunities.
- Major disruptions to the respective businesses of our principal customers and suppliers which could have a material impact on our business, operations, prospects and revenues and accordingly our financial position.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has caused organizations globally to rapidly and broadly shift to remote working, which has resulted in certain inherent productivity, connectivity and oversight challenges. Continued and/or new governmental lockdowns, restrictions, or regulations arising from the COVID-19 pandemic which restrict the movement of people in the jurisdictions in which we operate could significantly impact the ability of our employees, partners, customers and vendors to work productively. Governmental restrictions have been globally inconsistent, and it is not clear if and when a full return to worksite locations or travel will be permitted or for how long or what restrictions will be in place in these jurisdictions at any given time.

# An outbreak or escalation of a contagious disease may adversely affect the Corporation's business

A local, regional, national or international outbreak or escalation of a contagious disease, including the COVID-19 virus, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, H1N1 influenza virus, avian flu or any other similar illness, or fear of the foregoing, could adversely impact the ability of the Corporation's sales force to interact with customers and potential customers, cause economic uncertainty decreasing the willingness of customers to purchase services from the Corporation, cause labour shortages for the Corporation, interrupt supplies from third parties upon which the Corporation relies, increase operating costs, result in governmental regulation adversely impacting the Corporation's business and otherwise have an adverse effect on the Corporation's business, financial condition and results of operations.

# 6. Controls and Procedures

As a public entity, we must take steps to ensure that material information regarding our reports filed or submitted under securities legislation fairly presents the financial information of YP. Responsibility for this resides with management, including the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer. Management is responsible for establishing, maintaining and evaluating disclosure controls and procedures, as well as internal control over financial reporting.

# Disclosure Controls and Procedures (DC&P)

The evaluation of the design and effectiveness of DC&P (as defined in National Instrument 52-109) was performed under the supervision of the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer. They concluded that the Company's DC&P were effective, as at December 31, 2021.

# Internal Control over Financial Reporting (ICFR)

The design and effectiveness of ICFR (as defined in National Instruments 52-109) were evaluated under the supervision of the President and Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Based on the evaluations, they concluded that the Company's ICFR was effective, as at December 31, 2021.

During the quarter beginning on October 1, 2021 and ended on December 31, 2021, no changes were made to the Company's ICFR that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's ICFR.

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Shareholders of Yellow Pages Limited

# **Opinion**

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Yellow Pages Limited (the "Company"), which comprise the consolidated statements of financial position as at December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the years then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (collectively referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2021 and 2020, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

# **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards ("Canadian GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## **Key Audit Matters**

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2021. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

# Recoverability of Deferred Tax Assets — Refer to Notes 3.19.2, 3.21 and 13 to the financial statements

# Key Audit Matter Description

The Company recognizes deferred income taxes for tax attributes and differences between the carrying values and tax basis of assets and liabilities at enacted statutory tax rates in effect for the years in which the differences are expected to reverse. The carrying value of deferred income tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered in the foreseeable future.

Given the significant estimation uncertainty related to future taxable income and the determination of the probability that the deferred tax asset will be realized, auditing these estimates required a high degree of subjectivity in applying audit procedures and in evaluating the results of those procedures. This resulted in an increased extent of audit effort including the involvement of income tax specialists.

How the Key Audit Matter Was Addressed in the Audit

Our audit procedures related to future taxable income and the determination of the probability that the deferred income tax assets will be realized included the following, among others:

- Evaluated future taxable income by:
  - Evaluating the Company's ability to accurately estimate future taxable income by comparing actual results to the Company's historical estimates.
  - Assessing the reasonability of estimates of future taxable income by evaluating key inputs to the estimates such as revenue and earnings margins against
    historical performance, projections and trends.
  - Evaluating whether the estimates of future taxable income were consistent with evidence obtained in other areas of the audit.

- With the assistance of income tax specialists, assessed the probability that the deferred income tax assets will be realized by:
  - Assessing the existing temporary differences available for future utilization to evaluate deferred income tax assets available to the Company.
  - Assessing the period and sufficiency over which the Company expects to utilize the underlying future tax deductions against future taxable income before they
    expire.
  - Evaluating whether the taxable income in historical periods was of the appropriate character and available under the tax law.

# Revenues and Allowance for Revenue Adjustments— Refer to Notes 3.17, 3.21, 5, 16 and 20 to the financial statements

#### Kev Audit Matter Description

The Company's revenues consist of contract-based fees made up of a significant volume of low-dollar value transactions and relate to digital and print revenues. While digital revenues are primarily recognized over the term of the contract from the point at which service is first provided over the life of the contract, revenues from print products are recognized at a point in time upon delivery of the print directories. Further, the Company estimates an allowance for revenue adjustments, which is recorded as a reduction of revenue and reflects an estimate for claims expected from customers. This estimate is based in part on the Company's historical claims experience.

Auditing of revenues and the allowance for revenue adjustments required significant audit effort due to the volume of transactions, the highly manual process associated with portions of the revenue recognition process and the estimation uncertainty inherent to the determination of the allowance. This required a high degree of subjectivity in applying audit procedures and in evaluating the results of those procedures.

# How the Key Audit Matter Was Addressed in the Audit

Our audit procedures related to revenues and the estimate related to the allowance for revenue adjustments included the following, among others:

- Evaluated revenues by:
  - Testing the mathematical accuracy of the Company's revenue recognition that is reliant upon manual processes.
  - Assessing the customer contracts and fulfillment of service for a selection of revenue transactions and evaluating whether the contracts were properly
    recognized into revenues based on the terms and conditions of each contract.
  - Analyzing revenue recorded by comparing actuals to independently developed expectations.
  - Inspecting evidence from a combination of sources, where necessary, assessing considerations for contradictory evidence and evaluating whether revenue
    was appropriately recognized.
- Evaluated the allowance for revenue adjustments by:
  - Assessing the methodologies used by the Company to estimate the allowance for revenue adjustments by understanding the processes adopted to monitor
    and manage claims and collections, testing the mathematical accuracy of this calculation and testing the data used to establish this estimate.
  - Assessing the Company's ability to accurately estimate the allowance for revenue adjustments by comparing actual results to the Company's historical
    estimates. For a selection of historical customer claims, assessed claims to credits issued, debits recorded to revenue, the original contract, correspondence
    between the customer and the sales representative, and other supporting documents.

#### Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises:

- Management's Discussion and Analysis; and
- The information, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon, in the Annual Report.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

We obtained Management's Discussion and Analysis prior to the date of this auditor's report. If, based on the work we have performed on this other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact in this auditor's report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

The Annual Report is expected to be made available to us after the date of the auditor's report. If, based on the work we will perform on this other information, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact to those charged with governance.

## Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

# Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian GAAS, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive
  to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement
  resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of
  internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Company to express an opinion on
  the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Gianmarco Lombardi.

(signed) Deloitte LLP1

Montréal, Québec February 9, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>CPA auditor, CA, public accountancy permit No. A125494

# **Consolidated Statements of Financial Position**

(in thousands of Canadian dollars)

As at	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020		
ASSETS				
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash	\$ 123,559	\$	153,492	
Trade and other receivables (Notes 5 and 20)	42,267		62,896	
Prepaid expenses	4,137		4,826	
Deferred publication costs	1,945		2,115	
Net investment in subleases (Note 6)	1,485		1,206	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	173,393		224,535	
NON-CURRENT ASSETS				
Deferred commissions	1,959		1,921	
Financial and other assets (Note 20)	1,671		4,009	
Right-of-use assets (Note 6)	9,752		11,081	
Net investment in subleases (Note 6)	25,189		25,609	
Property and equipment (Note 7)	5,249		6,609	
Intangible assets (Note 8)	58,747		70,700	
Deferred income taxes (Note 13)	29,269		21,915	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	131,836		141,844	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 305,229	\$	366,379	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade and other payables (Note 9)	\$ 34,931	\$	33,522	
Income taxes payable	5,305		_	
Provisions (Note 10)	21,090		22,076	
Deferred revenues (Note 5)	1,622		1,496	
Current portion of lease obligations (Note 6)	2,940		3,011	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	65,888		60,105	
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Provisions (Note 10)	1,051		986	
Post-employment benefits (Note 11)	75,220		125,009	
Lease obligations (Note 6)	46,939		49,863	
Exchangeable debentures (Note 12)	_		101,115	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	123,210		276,973	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	189,098		337,078	
CAPITAL AND RESERVES	6,498,894		6,555,780	
DEFICIT	(6,382,763)		(6,526,479)	
TOTAL EQUITY	116,131		29,301	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$ 305,229	\$	366,379	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

Approved on behalf of Yellow Pages Limited by

(Signed) Susan Kudzman, Director and Chair of the Board (Signed) Rob Hall, Director and Chair of the Audit Committee

# **Consolidated Statements of Income**

(in thousands of Canadian dollars, except share and per share information)

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Revenues (Note 16)	\$ 287,646	\$ 333,538
Operating costs (Note 15)	185,646	204,096
Income from operations before depreciation and amortization, and restructuring and other charges	102,000	129,442
Depreciation and amortization (Notes 6,7 and 8)	19,635	27,664
Restructuring and other charges (Note 10)	5,344	8,131
Income from operations	77,021	93,647
Financial charges, net (Note 18)	9,343	14,512
Loss on early repayment of debt (Note 12)	7,764	_
Loss on sale of businesses (Note 4)	-	423
Earnings before income taxes	59,914	78,712
(Recovery of) provision for income taxes (Note 13)	(10,721)	18,414
Net earnings	\$ 70,635	\$ 60,298
Basic earnings per share	\$ 2.68	\$ 2.27
Weighted average shares outstanding – basic earnings per share (Note 14)	26,337,343	26,602,728
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 2.64	\$ 2.10
Weighted average shares outstanding – diluted earnings per share (Note 14)	26,722,245	32,558,101

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# **Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income**

(in thousands of Canadian dollars)

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Net earnings	\$ 70,635	\$ 60,298
Other comprehensive income:		
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to net earnings		
Actuarial gains (losses) (Note 11)	45,506	(1,931)
Income taxes relating to items that will not be reclassified subsequently to net earnings	(12,014)	512
Other comprehensive income (loss)	33,492	(1,419)
Total comprehensive income	\$ 104,127	\$ 58,879

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# **Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity**

(in thousands of Canadian dollars)

For the years ended December 31,

													2021
									tock-based				
	Sha	reholders'				Compo		CO	mpensation	Reduction			
		capital	Restricted	k		fina	ncial		and other	of capital	Total capital		Total
		(Note 14)	shares	3	Warrants	instrum	ents		reserves	reserve	and reserves	Deficit	equity
Balance, December 31, 2020	\$	3,992,754	\$ (19,318	3)	\$ 1,456	\$ 3	3,617	\$	120,218	\$ 2,457,053	\$ 6,555,780	\$ (6,526,479)	\$ 29,301
Other comprehensive income		_	-	_	_		_		_	_	_	33,492	33,492
Net earnings		_	-	_	_		_		_	_	_	70,635	70,635
Total comprehensive income		_	-	=	_				_	_	-	104,127	104,127
Repayment of exchangeable													
debentures (Note 12)		_	=	-	_	(3	3,617)		=	=	(3,617)	4,946	1,329
Repurchase of common shares		(54,771)	-	_	_		_		_	_	(54,771)	49,437	(5,334)
Shared issued under the stock option													
plan (Note 17)		141	-	_	_		_		(30)	_	111	_	111
Dividends to shareholders (Note 14)		_	-	_	_		_		64	_	64	(14,794)	(14,730)
Restricted shares settled		_	630	)	_		_		(566)	_	64		64
Restricted shares (Note 17)		_	-	-	_		_		297	_	297	_	297
Stock options (Note 17)		_	-	-	_		_		623	_	623	_	623
Common shares subject to													
repurchase (Note 14)		=	-	_	_				343	_	343	=	343
Balance, December 31, 2021	\$	3,938,124	\$ (18,688	3)	\$ 1,456	\$	_	\$	120,949	\$ 2,457,053	\$ 6,498,894	\$ (6,382,763)	\$ 116,131

															2020
									S	Stock-based					
	S	hareholders'						Compound	CO	mpensation	Reduction				
		capital	F	Restricted				financial		and other	of capital	7	Fotal capital		Total
		(Note 14)		shares	\	Varrants	in	istruments <sup>1</sup>		reserves	reserve	ar	nd reserves	Deficit	equity
Balance, December 31, 2019	\$	4,031,685	\$	(21,421)	\$	1,456	\$	3,619	\$	123,410	\$ 2,457,053	\$	6,595,802	\$ (6,612,462)	\$ (16,660)
Other comprehensive loss		_		-		_		_		=	_		_	(1,419)	(1,419)
Net earnings		_		-		_		_		=	_		_	60,298	60,298
Total comprehensive income		_		_		_		_		_	_		_	58,879	58,879
Repurchase of exchangeable															
debentures (Note 12)		_		_		_		(2)		=	_		(2)	=	(2)
Repurchase of common shares		(39,231)		-		_		_		=	_		(39,231)	35,954	(3,277)
Shared issued under the stock option															
plan (Note 17)		300		_		_		_		(77)	_		223	_	223
Dividends to shareholders (Note 14)		_		_		_		_		42	_		42	(8,850)	(8,808)
Restricted shares settled		_		2,103		_		_		(2,103)	_		_	_	-
Restricted shares (Note 17)		_		_		_		_		(642)	_		(642)	_	(642)
Stock options (Note 17)		_		_		_		_		567	_		567	_	567
Common shares subject to															
repurchase (Note 14)		_		_		_		_		(979)	-		(979)	_	(979)
Balance, December 31, 2020	\$	3,992,754	\$	(19,318)	\$	1,456	\$	3,617	\$	120,218	\$ 2,457,053	\$	6,555,780	\$ (6,526,479)	\$ 29,301

<sup>1</sup> The equity component of the exchangeable debentures presented above is net of income taxes of \$1.3 million.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

# **Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

(in thousands of Canadian dollars)

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net earnings	\$ 70,635	\$ 60,298
Adjusting items		
Stock-based compensation expense (recovery) – equity settled	920	(75)
Depreciation and amortization	19,635	27,664
Restructuring and other charges	5,344	8,131
Financial charges, net	9,343	14,512
Loss on early repayment of debt (Note 12)	7,764	_
Loss on sale of businesses (Note 4)	_	423
(Recovery of) provision for income taxes	(10,721)	18,414
Change in operating assets and liabilities	21,743	21,535
Funding of post-employment benefit plans in excess of costs	(7,523)	(3,364)
Restructuring and other charges paid (Note 10)	(5,987)	(10,038)
Interest paid	(6,574)	(10,762)
Income taxes received, net	_	260
	104,579	126,998
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Additions to intangible assets	(4,957)	(5,328)
Additions to property and equipment	(117)	(245)
Payments received from net investment in subleases, net of commissions	593	1,002
Proceeds on sale of businesses (Note 4)	_	1,564
	(4,481)	(3,007)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Repayment of exchangeable debentures (Note 12)	(107,033)	(56)
Repurchase of common shares (Note 14)	(5,334)	(3,277)
Issuance of common shares (Note 14)	111	223
Payment of lease obligations (Note 6)	(3,045)	(2,989)
Dividends paid (Note 14)	(14,730)	(8,808)
	(130,031)	(14,907)
NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH	 (29,933)	 109,084
CASH, BEGINNING OF YEAR	153,492	 44,408
CASH, END OF YEAR	\$ 123,559	\$ 153,492

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements

# 1. Description

Yellow Pages Limited, through its subsidiaries, offers local and national businesses access to digital and print media and marketing solutions to reach consumers in all the provinces and territories of Canada. References herein to Yellow Pages Limited (or the "Company") represent the financial position, financial performance, cash flows and disclosures of Yellow Pages Limited and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis.

Yellow Pages Limited's registered head office is located at 1751 Rue Richardson, Montreal, Québec, Canada, H3K 1G6 and the common shares of Yellow Pages Limited are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") under the symbol "Y".

The Board of Directors (the "Board") approved the consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 on February 9, 2022 for publication on February 10, 2022.

# 2. Revised standards

# 2.1 Standards, interpretations and amendments to published standards that are issued but not yet effective on the consolidated financial statements

# Amendments to IAS 37 - Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

On May 14, 2020, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) issued amendments to IAS 37 – *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities, and Contingent Assets*, specifying which costs a company should include as the cost of fulfilling a contract when assessing whether a contract is onerous. The amendments to IAS 37, clarify that for the purpose of assessing whether a contract is onerous, the cost of fulfilling the contract includes both the incremental costs of fulfilling that contract and an allocation of other costs that relate directly to fulfilling contracts. The amendments are effective for contracts for which an entity has not yet fulfilled all its obligations on or after January 1, 2022. Earlier application is permitted. The Company is assessing the impact of adopting these amendments on its financial statements.

# Amendments to IAS 8 - Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors

On February 12, 2021, the IASB, issued amendments to IAS 8, these amendments introduce the definition of an accounting estimate and include other amendments to IAS 8 to help entities distinguish changes in accounting estimates from changes in accounting policies. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023 and changes in accounting policies and changes in accounting estimates that occur on or after the start of that period. Earlier application is permitted. The Company is assessing the impact of adopting these amendments on its financial statements.

### Amendments to IFRS 3 - Business Combinations

These amendments to the implementation guidance of IFRS 3 clarify the definition of a business to assist entities to determine whether a transaction should be accounted for as a business combination or an asset acquisition. The amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2022. These amendments may have an impact on the accounting of future business combinations, if any.

#### Amendments to IAS 1 - Presentation of Financial Statements

The amendments to IAS 1 provide a more general approach to the classification of liabilities based on the contractual arrangements in place at the reporting date. The amendments clarify that the classification of liabilities as current or non-current should be based on rights that are in existence at the end of the reporting period and align the wording in all affected paragraphs to refer to the right to defer settlement by at least twelve months and make explicit that only rights in place at the end of the reporting period should affect the classification of a liability. The amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023 and are to be applied retrospectively. The Company is assessing the impact of adopting these amendments on its financial statements.

### Amendments to IAS 12 - Income taxes

On May 7, 2021, IASB published Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction. The amendments clarify the accounting for deferred tax on transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences. The amendments are effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023. Early adoption is permitted. The Company is assessing the impact of adopting these amendments on its financial statements.

# 3. Basis of presentation and significant accounting policies

# 3.1 Statement of compliance

These consolidated financial statements of Yellow Pages Limited and its subsidiaries were prepared by management in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the following significant accounting policies that have been applied consistently to all periods presented throughout the consolidated entities.

### 3.2 Basis of measurement

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for the revaluation of certain assets and liabilities (including derivative instruments) at fair value as explained in the policies below.

# 3.3 Functional and presentation currency

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Canadian dollars, which is the functional and presentation currency of Yellow Pages Limited.

### 3.4 Basis of consolidation

### 3.4.1 Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries that are directly controlled by Yellow Pages Limited or indirectly controlled through other consolidated subsidiaries are fully consolidated. Subsidiaries are all entities over which Yellow Pages Limited exercises control.

Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the effective date of acquisition up to the effective date of disposal. Intercompany assets, liabilities, and transactions between fully consolidated companies are eliminated. Gains and losses on internal transactions with controlled companies are fully eliminated. Accounting policies and methods are modified where necessary to ensure consistency of accounting treatment at the Yellow Pages Limited level.

#### 3.4.2 Business combinations

Acquisitions of subsidiaries and businesses are accounted for using the acquisition method. The cost of the acquisition is measured at the aggregate of the fair values, at the date of exchange, of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued by Yellow Pages Limited in exchange for control of the acquired entity. Transaction costs associated with business acquisitions are recognized in the statement of income, as incurred.

#### 3.5 Cash

#### 3.5.1 Cash

Cash consists of funds on deposit and, from time to time, highly liquid investments with a purchased maturity of three months or less.

#### 3.6 Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognized in the Company's statement of financial position when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value. Transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of financial assets and financial liabilities (other than financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss) are added to or deducted from the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities, as appropriate, on initial recognition. Transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are recognized immediately in profit or loss.

### 3.6.1 Financial assets

### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets are classified into the following specified categories: "amortized cost"; "fair value through other comprehensive income for equity investment" ("FVOCI – equity investment"); and "fair value through profit or loss" ("FVTPL").

The classification of financial assets at initial recognition depends on the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics and the Company's business model for managing them.

The Company's business model for managing financial assets refers to how it manages its financial assets in order to generate cash flows. The business model determines whether cash flows will result from collecting contractual cash flows, selling the financial assets, or both.

### Subsequent measurement

#### Financial asset at amortized cost

The Company measures financial assets at amortized cost if both of the following conditions are met:

- · The financial asset is held within a business model with the objective to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Financial assets at amortized cost are subsequently measured using the effective interest rate ("EIR") method and are subject to impairment. Gains and losses are recognized in profit or loss when the asset is derecognized, modified or impaired.

The Company's financial assets at amortized cost include trade and other receivables, net investment in subleases, and cash.

# Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income for equity investment ("FVOCI - equity investment")

Upon initial recognition, the Company can elect to classify irrevocably its equity investments as equity instruments designated at FVOCI when they meet the definition of equity under IAS 32 — Financial Instruments: Presentation and are not held for trading. The classification is determined on an instrument-by-instrument basis.

Gains and losses on these financial assets are never recycled to profit or loss. Dividends are recognized as other income in the statement of profit or loss when the right of payment has been established, except when the Company benefits from such proceeds as a recovery of part of the cost of the financial asset, in which case, such gains are recorded in OCI.

# Financial asset at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL")

Financial assets at FVTPL include financial assets held for trading, financial assets designated upon initial recognition at fair value through profit or loss, or financial assets mandatorily required to be measured at fair value. Financial assets are classified as held for trading if they are acquired for the purpose of selling or repurchasing in the near term. Derivatives, including separated embedded derivatives, are also classified as held for trading unless they are designated as effective hedging instruments. Financial assets with cash flows that are not solely payments of principal and interest are classified and measured at fair value through profit or loss, irrespective of the business model. Financial assets at FVTPL are carried in the statement of financial position at fair value with net changes in fair value recognized in the statement of profit or loss.

The Company has a loan receivable associated with a forward contract under this category. The loan receivable is included in other receivables.

An embedded derivative is a component of a hybrid contract that also includes a non-derivative host – with the effect that some of the cash flows of the combined instrument vary in a way similar to a stand-alone derivative. A derivative embedded in a hybrid contract, with a financial liability or non-financial host, is separated from the host and accounted for as a separate derivative if it is separated from the host when certain conditions are met and accounted for as a separate derivative. Embedded derivatives are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognized in profit or loss.

# Derecognition

The Company derecognizes a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another party.

There is no reclassification on derecognition of equity investments at FVOCI.

### Impairment of financial assets

In relation to the impairment of financial assets, IFRS 9 requires an expected credit loss ("ECL") model. The ECL model requires the Company to account for the ECL and changes in the ECL at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the financial assets. For trade receivables (including contract assets), the Company applied the simplified approach permitted under IFRS 9, which requires lifetime ECL to be recognized from initial recognition. While cash and other receivables and net investment in subleases are also subject to the impairment requirements under IFRS 9, the identified ECL was insignificant. The lifetime ECL related to doubtful accounts for trade receivables (also referred to as allowance for doubtful accounts) is established based on various factors, including amongst others the age of the exposure and in some case the customer's solvency.

At each reporting date, the Company assesses whether financial assets are credit impaired. The Company will consider a financial asset to be in default when the indebted party is unlikely to pay its obligations to the Company in full, without recourse by the Company to actions such as realizing security (if any). The Company elected to consider that default does not occur when a financial asset is 90 days past due as the Company has reasonable and supportable information to demonstrate that a more lagging default criterion is more appropriate, and that default risk is not necessarily increased. In assessing whether an indebted party is in default, the Company will consider indicators that are qualitative (e.g. breach of conditions), quantitative (e.g. overdue status), and data developed internally and obtained from external sources. Inputs into the assessment of whether a financial asset is in default and their significance may vary over time to reflect circumstances. The same factors are considered when determining whether to write-off amounts charged to the ECL allowance for trade receivables against the customer accounts receivable is written-off directly to the bad debt expense.

### 3.6.2 Financial liabilities

### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial liabilities are classified, at initial recognition, as financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL"), loans and borrowings, payables, or as derivatives designated as hedging instruments in an effective hedge, as appropriate. All financial liabilities are recognized initially at fair value and, in the case of loans and borrowings and payables, at fair value less transaction costs.

The Company's financial liabilities include trade and other payables and lease obligations.

Yellow Pages Limited recognizes all financial liabilities, specifically exchangeable debentures, and trade and other payables, initially at fair value less transaction costs and subsequently at amortized cost, using the effective interest method.

### Subsequent measurement

The measurement of financial liabilities depends on their classification, as described below:

### Loans and borrowings

After initial recognition, interest-bearing loans and borrowings are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the EIR method. Gains and losses are recognized in profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognized as well as through the EIR amortization process. Amortized cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and fees or costs that are an integral part of the EIR. The EIR amortization is included as finance charges in the statement of profit or loss. This category applied to exchangeable debentures.

### Derecognition

The Company derecognizes financial liabilities when, and only when, the Company's obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognized and the consideration paid and payable is recognized in profit or loss.

# 3.7 Deferred publication costs

Deferred publication costs are recognized for direct and incremental publication costs incurred during the sale, manufacturing and distribution of telephone print directories as well as the sale, provisioning and fulfillment of digital products and services. The intangible asset represents costs that will be recovered in future periods, when the related directories revenues, digital products and services revenues are recognized. An asset is capitalized when the following conditions are met:

- Yellow Pages Limited has control over the contract for which the costs were incurred;
- The control results from past events;
- Future economic benefits are expected to flow to Yellow Pages Limited; and
- The asset is identifiable, non-monetary and without physical substance.

Deferred publication costs are initially measured at cost and are recognized in operating costs upon delivery of the publication or fulfillment of the digital products and services.

### 3.8 Deferred commissions

Deferred commissions paid represent costs to obtain new sales contracts. These costs are amortized on a straight-line basis over a two-year period as this reflects the expected period of benefit. The Company recognizes as an expense, the commissions paid for contract renewals with revenue recognized within one year or less.

# 3.9 Property and equipment

Property and equipment are recognized at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The various components of property and equipment are depreciated separately based on their estimated useful lives and therefore, their depreciation periods are significantly different. The cost of an asset includes the expenses that are directly attributable to its acquisition.

Subsequent costs are included in the carrying value of the asset or recognized as a separate component, where necessary, if it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to Yellow Pages Limited and the cost of the asset can be reliably measured. All other repair and maintenance costs are expensed in the year they are incurred. Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method, based on the capitalized costs, less any residual value over a period corresponding to the useful life of each asset.

As at December 31, 2021, the expected useful lives are as follows:

Office equipment	10 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Leasehold improvements	Shorter of term of lease or useful life

The residual value, the depreciation method and the useful life of an asset are reviewed at a minimum annually. Property and equipment are tested for impairment when an indication of impairment exists. When the asset's recoverable amount is less than its net carrying value, an impairment loss is recognized. Where an individual asset does not generate independent cash inflows, Yellow Pages Limited determines the recoverable amount of the cash generating units ("CGUs") or group of CGUs to which the asset belongs.

### 3.10 Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To assess whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, the Company assesses whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset:
- The Company has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- The Company has the right to direct the use of the asset.

At inception, the Company allocates the consideration in the contract to each lease component on the basis of the relative stand-alone prices.

### 3.10.1 As a lessee

The Company recognizes a right-of-use asset and a lease obligation at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease obligation adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, plus any initial direct costs incurred and an estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located, less any lease incentives received.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain remeasurements of the lease obligation. Right-of-use assets are tested for impairment in accordance with IAS 36 – *Impairment of Assets*, and impairments are recorded in restructuring and other charges on the consolidated statements of income.

The lease obligation is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, the Company's incremental borrowing rate. Generally, the Company uses its incremental borrowing rate ("IBR") as the discount rate.

The lease obligation is subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method (EIR) and is adjusted for accrued interest and lease payments when there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in an index or rate. It is remeasured if there is a change in the Company's estimate of the amount expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee, if there are modifications to the lease conditions such as a change of square footage of a lease, or if the Company changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension or termination option.

When the lease obligation is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

For short-term leases (lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low-value assets, as permitted, the Company has opted to recognize a lease expense on a straight-line basis. This expense is presented within Operating Costs in the consolidated statements of income. The amounts related to these low value leases are insignificant.

#### 3.10.2 As a lessor

When the Company acts as a lessor, it determines at lease commencement whether each lease is a finance lease or an operating lease.

To classify each lease, the Company makes an overall assessment of whether the lease transfers to the lessee substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership incidental to ownership of the underlying asset. If this is the case, then the lease is a finance lease; if not, then it is an operating lease. As part of this assessment, the Company considers certain indicators such as whether the lease is for the major part of the economic life of the asset.

The Company assessed and classified its subleases as finance leases, and therefore derecognized the right-of-use assets relating to the respective head leases being sublet, recognized lease receivables equal to the net investment in the subleases, retained the previously recognized lease obligations in its capacity as lessee, recognized the related interest expense thereafter and recognized interest income on the subleases receivable in its capacity as finance lessor.

# 3.11 Intangibles assets

Intangible assets acquired through a business combination are identified and recognized separately from goodwill where they arise from legal or contractual rights or are capable of being separated from the acquiree and sold, transferred, licensed or exchanged. The cost of such intangible assets is deemed to be their fair value at the acquisition date. Intangible assets not acquired through a business combination are reported at cost less accumulated amortization and accumulated impairment losses.

Internally-generated intangible assets, consisting of software used by the Company, are recognized to the extent the criteria in IAS 38 – *Intangible Assets* are met. Development costs for internally-generated intangible assets are capitalized at cost if, and only if, Yellow Pages Limited can demonstrate:

- the technical feasibility of completing the asset so that it will be available for use or sale;
- the intention to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it;
- the ability to use or sell the intangible asset;
- how the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits;
- the availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset; and
- the ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

The amount initially recognized for internally-generated intangible assets is the sum of the expenditures incurred from the date when the intangible asset first meets the recognition criteria listed above. Where no internally-generated intangible asset can be recognized, development expenditures are charged to the statement of income in the period in which they are incurred.

Internally-generated intangible assets include the cost of software tools and licenses used in the development of Yellow Pages Limited's systems, as well as all directly attributable payroll and consulting costs. These items are not amortized until the assets are available for use.

Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortization and any accumulated impairment loss. Intangibles assets are amortized, as follows:

Non-competition agreements	Straight-line over shorter of 7 years or life of agreement
Customer-related intangible assets	Straight-line over a period not exceeding 3 years
Trademarks	Straight-line over 10 years
Domain names	Straight-line over 4 – 12 years
Software	Straight-line over 3 years

The estimated useful life and amortization method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period or annual reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate being accounted for on a prospective basis.

An intangible asset is de-recognized on disposal, or when no future economic benefits are expected from use or disposal. Gains or losses arising from the de-recognition of an intangible asset, measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds or fair value, as applicable, and the carrying value of the asset, are recognized in the statement of income when the asset is de-recognized.

# 3.12 Impairment of tangible and intangible assets

At each reporting date, Yellow Pages Limited determines whether there are any indications that the carrying values of its finite life tangible and intangible assets are impaired. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss, if any. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, Yellow Pages Limited estimates the recoverable amount of the CGU or group of CGUs to which the asset belongs. A CGU is the smallest identifiable group of assets that generate cash inflows that are independent of those from other assets.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives, intangible assets not yet available for use and goodwill, if any, are tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the asset may be impaired. A majority of the Company's intangible assets do not have cash inflows independent of those from other assets and as such, are tested within their respective CGUs.

The recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset (or CGU) for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or CGU) is estimated to be less than its carrying value, the carrying value of the asset (or CGU) is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognized immediately in the statement of income.

If the recoverable amount of a CGU or group of CGUs is less than the carrying amount, the impairment loss is allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of goodwill, if any, and then to the other assets of the unit pro-rata on the basis of the carrying amount of each asset in the unit. The Company does not reduce the carrying value of an asset below the highest of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use.

# 3.13 Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables, including accruals, are recorded when Yellow Pages Limited is required to make future payments as a result of purchases of assets or services. Trade and other payables are carried at amortized cost.

### 3.14 Provisions

Provisions are recognized when Yellow Pages Limited has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognized as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Provisions are measured at the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation using a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the obligation. The increase in the provision due to passage of time is recognized as a financial charge. Provisions are reversed when new external factors, such as market conditions, or internal factors indicates that the recoverable amount is higher or lower than originally anticipated.

### 3.14.1 Onerous contracts

Present obligations arising under onerous contracts are recognized and measured as provisions. An onerous contract is considered to exist where Yellow Pages Limited has a contract under which the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract exceed the economic benefits expected to be received under it.

# 3.14.2 Restructuring

A restructuring provision is recognized when Yellow Pages Limited has developed a detailed formal plan for the restructuring and has raised a valid expectation in those affected that it will carry out the restructuring by starting to implement the plan or announcing its main features to those affected by it. The measurement of a restructuring provision includes only the direct expenditures arising from the restructuring, which are those amounts that are both necessarily entailed by the restructuring and not associated with the ongoing activities of the entity.

# 3.15 Employee benefits

### 3.15.1 Defined contribution plans

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which an entity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognized as an employee benefit expense in the statement of income when they are due. Prepaid contributions are recognized as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in future payments is available.

# 3.15.2 Defined benefit plans

A defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan. Yellow Pages Limited's net obligation in respect of defined benefit pension plans is calculated separately for each plan by estimating the amount of future benefits that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value. The fair value of any plan assets is deducted from the obligation. The discount rate is the yield at the reporting date on high-quality corporate bonds that have terms to maturity approximating to the terms of the related pension liability adjusted for a spread to reflect any additional credit risk and that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits are expected to be paid. The calculation is performed annually by a qualified actuary using the projected benefit method prorated on service.

Yellow Pages Limited recognizes all actuarial gains and losses arising subsequently from defined benefit plans in OCI. Re-measurement, comprising actuarial gains and losses, the effects of changes to the asset ceiling, if applicable, and the return on plan assets, excluding net interest on the defined benefit obligation, is reflected immediately in the statement of financial position with a charge or credit recognized in OCI. Re-measurement recognized in OCI is reflected immediately in retained earnings and will not be classified to the statement of income. Past service costs are recognized in the statement of income in the period a plan amendment is announced to employees. The net interest amount, which is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net defined liability or asset of defined benefit plans, is included within net financial charges while service costs are recorded in operating expenses.

### 3.15.3 Other long-term employee benefits

Yellow Pages Limited's net obligation in respect of long-term employee benefits other than pension plans is the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value, and the fair value of any related asset is deducted. The discount rate is the yield at the reporting date on high quality corporate bonds that have terms to maturity approximating the terms of the related obligation. The calculation is performed using the projected unit credit method. Any actuarial gains or losses are recognized in the period in which they arise.

### 3.15.4 Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognized as an expense when Yellow Pages Limited can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits, or if earlier, when there is no realistic possibility of withdrawal from a formal detailed plan to either terminate employment before the normal retirement date, or from providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Termination benefits for voluntary redundancies are recognized as an expense if Yellow Pages Limited has made an offer of voluntary redundancy, it is probable that the offer will be accepted, and the number of acceptances can be estimated reliably.

### 3.15.5 Short-term benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis and are expensed as the related service is provided.

A liability is recognized for the amount expected to be paid if Yellow Pages Limited has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of a past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

### 3.15.6 Share-based payments

Yellow Pages Limited's restricted share units (RSUs), performance share units (PSUs), deferred share units (DSUs), stock options and share appreciated rights granted to employees and directors are measured at the fair value of the equity instruments at the grant date.

### RSUs, PSUs and DSUs and Stock options

The RSUs, PSUs, DSUs and stock options, granted may be settled in cash or equity at the Company's option. If the RSU and PSU plan is funded, eligible employees will receive, upon vesting of the instruments, common shares. The funded portion of these plans is treated as equity-settled instruments and recorded accordingly in equity and operating costs over the vesting period. In the event these plans are unfunded, Yellow Pages Limited will pay to the eligible employees and directors, upon vesting of the instruments, an amount in cash. The fair value determined at the grant date of the equity-settled instruments is expensed on a straight-line basis over the vesting period, based on Yellow Pages Limited's estimate of RSUs, PSUs and DSUs expected to vest. Additional RSUs, PSUs and DSUs are issued to reflect the dividends declared on common shares.

The unfunded portion of these plans is treated as cash-settled instruments and recorded as a liability. In addition, certain of the Company's stock options and RSUs will be settled in cash based on contractual conditions. These stock options and RSUs are recorded as a liability, which is re-measured at fair value at each reporting period with any changes recorded in operating costs.

At each reporting period, Yellow Pages Limited revises its estimate of the number of share-based instruments expected to vest. The impact of the revision of the original estimate, if any, is recognized in the statement of income, with a corresponding adjustment to the reserve or corresponding liability.

# Share appreciation rights

The share appreciation rights are settled in cash and recorded accordingly as a liability. For share appreciation rights granted, Yellow Pages Limited recognizes compensation expense in Operating costs in the income statements, equal to the market value of the Company's common share at the date of grant, recognized over the term of the vesting period, with a corresponding credit to liability. At each reporting period, the liability is re-measured at fair value with any changes recorded in operating costs.

# 3.16 Equity instruments issued

An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of an entity after deducting all of its liabilities. Equity instruments issued by Yellow Pages Limited are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs.

Transaction costs incurred by Yellow Pages Limited in issuing, acquiring or reselling its own equity instruments are accounted for as a deduction from equity to the extent that they are incremental costs directly attributable to the equity transaction that otherwise would have been avoided.

### 3.17 Revenues

Yellow Pages Limited's revenues consist of contract-based fees made up of a significant volume of low-dollar value transactions and relate to digital and print revenues. The Company's revenues are measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after deduction of an allowance for revenue adjustments and sales taxes. The consideration amounts are generally fixed.

Revenues from print products are recognized at a point in time upon delivery of the print directories. Print revenues are generally billed on a monthly basis over the year of publication.

Digital revenues from classified and display advertisements are recognized into income over the term of the contract on a monthly basis from the point at which service is first provided over the life of the contract, which is generally 12 months, since the customer receives and consumes the benefits of the advertisement simultaneously over the period of display of the advertisement. Certain revenues, such as website and video design fees, are recognized at a point in time upon completion of the design of the website and video since the satisfaction of performance obligation is completed at that time.

Unless the product description states otherwise, customer contracts are automatically renewed for consecutive subsequent periods equal in length to the initial term, unless the client gives the Company a written notice of non-renewal per the contract terms and conditions.

Payments terms for all customers are generally due upon receipt of the invoice. The disaggregation of revenue by product group has been disclosed in the *Revenues* note.

The allowance for revenue adjustments is recorded as a reduction of revenue and reflects an estimate for claims expected from customers. This estimate is based in part on the Company's historical claims experience.

# 3.18 Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition or construction of qualifying assets, which are assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to get ready for their intended use, are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use. All other borrowing costs are recognized in profit or loss in the period in which they are incurred. The Company currently has not capitalized any borrowing costs.

### 3.19 Taxation

Income tax expense represents the sum of the current and deferred tax.

### 3.19.1 Current income tax

Taxable profit differs from profit as reported in the consolidated statement of income because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. Yellow Pages Limited's liability for current income tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

### 3.19.2 Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognized on differences between the carrying values of assets and liabilities in the consolidated financial statements and the corresponding tax basis used in the computation of taxable profit and is accounted for using the liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognized for all taxable temporary differences, and deferred tax assets are generally recognized for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which those deductible temporary differences can be utilized. Such assets and liabilities are not recognized if the temporary difference arises from goodwill or from the initial recognition (other than in a business combination) of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the taxable profit nor the accounting profit.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognized for taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries and associates, except where Yellow Pages Limited is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Deferred tax assets arising from deductible temporary differences associated with such investments and interests are only recognized to the extent it is probable that there will be sufficient taxable profits against which to utilize the benefits of the temporary differences and they are expected to reverse in the foreseeable future.

The carrying value of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period in which the liability is settled or the asset realized, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date. The measurement of deferred tax liabilities and assets reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which Yellow Pages Limited expects, at the reporting date, to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off tax assets against tax liabilities and when they relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority and Yellow Pages Limited intends to settle its tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

# 3.19.3 Current and deferred tax for the period

Current and deferred taxes are recognized as an expense or income in the statement of income, except when they relate to items that are recognized outside net earnings (whether in OCI or directly in equity), in which case the tax is also recognized outside net earnings, or where they arise from the initial accounting for a business combination. In the case of a business combination, the applicable tax effects are taken into account in the accounting for the business combination.

# 3.20 Government grants

Government grants are recognized when there is reasonable assurance that the Company will comply with the conditions attaching to it and that the grant will be received. Government grants related to an expense are recognized in profit or loss as a reduction in the related expense for which the grants are intended to compensate.

In response to the negative economic impact of COVID-19, various government programs have been enacted to provide financial relief to businesses. The Company determined that it qualified for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ("CEWS") program under the COVID-19 Economic Response plan for certain periods. The contributions received are recorded as a reduction to operating costs in the consolidated statements of income.

# 3.21 Significant estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that can affect the carrying value of certain assets and liabilities, income and expenses and the information disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements. Management reviews these estimates and assumptions on a regular basis to ensure their pertinence with respect to past experience and the current economic situation. Items in future financial statements could differ from current estimates as a result of changes in these assumptions. The impact of changes in accounting estimates is recognized during the period in which the change took place and all affected future periods.

Management has revised the assumptions and estimates it would normally use to apply the Company's accounting policies affecting the carrying value of certain assets and the information disclosed in the notes to the consolidated financial statements in order to reflect the estimated impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Any estimate of the length and severity, including the number of resurgences of COVID-19 cases (new waves), is subject to significant uncertainty, and, accordingly, estimates of the extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic may materially and adversely affect the Company's operations, financial results and condition in future periods are also subject to significant uncertainty. The impact of these changes in accounting estimates is recognized during the period in which the change took place and all affected future periods.

The estimates made by management that are critical to the determination of the carrying value of assets and liabilities are addressed below.

### Allowance for revenue adjustments

The Company records an allowance for revenue adjustments as a reduction to revenue. This reflects an estimate of claims expected from customers. The Company updates its estimate of the allowance for revenue adjustments based on historical experience related to claims, as well as client-related factors. This significant estimate could affect Yellow Pages Limited's future results if actual claims are higher or lower than previously anticipated.

#### Estimate of the lease term

When the Company recognizes a lease, it assesses the lease term based on the conditions of the lease and assesses whether it will extend the lease at the end of the lease contract or exercise an early termination option. The Company determined that the term of its leases is the original lease term as it is not reasonably certain that the extension or early termination options will be exercised. This significant estimate could affect Yellow Pages Limited's future results if the Company extends the lease or exercises an early termination option.

### Assessment of whether a right-of-use asset is impaired

The Company assesses whether a right-of-use asset is impaired, particularly when it vacates an office space and it must determine the recoverability of the asset, to the extent that the Company can sublease the assets or surrender the lease and recover its costs. The Company will examine its lease conditions as well as local market conditions and estimate its recoverability potential for each vacated premise. The determination of the lease cost recovery rate involves significant management estimates based on market availability of similar office space and local market conditions. This significant estimate could affect Yellow Pages Limited's future results if the Company succeeds in subleasing their vacated offices at a higher or lower rate or at different dates than initially anticipated.

### Measurement of ECL allowance for trade receivables

In relation to the impairment of trade receivables (including contract assets), the Company uses the expected credit losses ("ECL") model, which requires the Company to account for the ECL and changes in the ECL at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition of the trade receivable. The ECL related to doubtful accounts for trade receivables (also referred to as allowance for doubtful accounts) is established based on various factors, including amongst others the age of the exposure and in some cases the customer's solvency. This significant estimate could affect the Company's future results if there is a further significant change in economic conditions or customer solvency or any new information that may impact our assumptions.

### Determining the discount rate for leases

IFRS 16 requires the Company to discount the lease payments using the rate implicit in the lease if that rate is readily available. If that rate cannot be readily determined, the lessee is required to use its IBR. The Company generally used its IBR rate when recording leases initially, since the implicit rates were not readily available due to information not being available from the lessor regarding the fair value of underlying assets and directs costs incurred by the lessor related to the leased assets. The IBR for each lease was determined on the commencement date of the lease and recalculated at the remeasurement date where applicable.

### Useful lives of intangible assets and property and equipment

Yellow Pages Limited reviews the estimated useful lives of its intangible assets and property and equipment at the end of each reporting period. At the end of the current reporting period, management determined that the useful lives of its intangible assets and property and equipment were adequate.

# **Employee future benefits**

The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by employing the projected benefit method prorated on service using interest rates of high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid and that have terms to maturity approximating the terms of the related pension liability. Determination of the net benefit costs (recovery) requires assumptions such as the discount rate to measure defined benefit obligations and expected return on plan assets, the projected age of employees upon retirement, the expected rate of future compensation and the expected healthcare cost trend rate. Actual results may differ from results which are estimated based on assumptions.

#### Income taxes

Estimation of income taxes includes evaluating the recoverability of deferred tax assets based on an assessment of Yellow Pages Limited's ability to utilize the underlying future tax deductions against future taxable income before they expire. Yellow Pages Limited's assessment is based upon existing tax laws and estimates of future taxable income. If the assessment of Yellow Pages Limited's ability to utilize the underlying future tax deductions changes, Yellow Pages Limited would be required to recognize more or fewer of the tax deductions as assets, which would decrease or increase the income tax expense in the period in which this is determined. The carrying value of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date, remeasured to the extent that probable sufficient taxable profits will be available, or reduced to the extent it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered in the foreseeable future.

### 4. Loss on sale of businesses

On July 6, 2018, the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions Limited, sold ComFree/DuProprio ("CFDP") to Purplebricks Group PLC ("PB") for cash consideration of \$51.0 million on a cash free debt free basis, subject to a working capital adjustment. Of the \$1.8 million balance that had been placed in escrow, the Company received \$1.4 million, and recorded a loss of \$0.4 million related to the amount it no longer expects to receive for the year ended December 31, 2020.

# 5. Contract assets and liabilities

The following table provides information about contract assets, which are included in trade and other receivables.

As at	December 31, 2021	December 3	December 31, 2020			
Contract assets	\$ 25,366	\$	31,210			
Allowance for revenue adjustments and ECL	(1,884)		(2,892)			
Contract assets net of allowance for revenue adjustments and ECL	\$ 23,482	\$	28,318			

The contract assets, which are included in trade and other receivables, consist of payments for print products on delivered directories that are not yet due from the customer and represent the Company's right to consideration for the services rendered. Any amount previously recognized as a contract asset is reclassified to trade receivables once it is invoiced to the customer.

The change in contract assets for the year ended December 31, 2021 is primarily related to the fluctuation in print revenue. The revenues related to the performance obligations that are unsatisfied (or partially unsatisfied at the reporting date) are expected to be recognized over the next twelve (12) months. The contract liabilities consist of deferred revenues which primarily relate to the advanced consideration received from customers for which revenue is recognized over time.

### 6. Leases

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company subleased a previously vacated office location, resulting in a decrease in right-of-use assets and property and equipment related to this office location, consisting mainly of leasehold improvements and office equipment, as well as an increase in investment in subleases. During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company vacated some office locations which it surrendered, subleased or anticipated to sublease resulting in a decrease in right-of-use assets and property and equipment related to these office locations, consisting mainly of leasehold improvements and office equipment, as well as a decrease in lease obligations and increase in investment in subleases. During the year ended December 31, 2020 the Company also acquired computer equipment under finance leases, resulting in an increase in right-of-use assets as well as an increase in lease obligations.

The impact of the above resulted in the following:

- A reduction in right-of-use assets of \$0.2 million (2020 \$1.7 million);
- An increase in lease obligations of \$0.1 million (2020 decrease of \$2.0 million);
- An increase in net investment in subleases of \$0.5 million (2020 \$0.1 million); and
- A reduction in property and equipment of \$0.1 million (2020 \$3.9 million).

As a result of the transactions described above the Company recorded a net recovery of \$0.2 million (2020 – net expense of \$3.4 million) to restructuring and other charges for the year ended December 31, 2021.

# Lease obligations

The following table summarizes the continuity of the lease obligations:

As at	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020		
Lease obligations, opening balance	\$ 52,874	\$	57,885	
Additions	60		2,027	
Surrenders or disposals	(10)		(4,049)	
Payment of lease obligations	(3,045)		(2,989)	
Lease obligations, closing balance	\$ 49,879	\$	52,874	
Less current portion	2,940		3,011	
Non-current portion	\$ 46,939	\$	49,863	

The following table provides the maturities of the contractual lease obligations on an undiscounted basis for the next five years and thereafter:

As at	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Less than one year	\$ 6,783	\$ 7,078
One to five years	27,558	27,707
Thereafter	40,916	47,529
Total undiscounted lease obligations	\$ 75,257	\$ 82,314

# 6.1 As a lessee

The Company leases offices, which typically run for a period of 15 to 18 years. Some leases include an option to renew the lease for an additional period of five years after the end of the contract term.

# 6.1.1 Right-of-use assets<sup>1</sup>

	2021	2020
Cost		
Opening balance	\$ 68,115	\$ 73,509
Additions	315	2,027
Surrenders or disposals	(1,186)	(6,415)
Impairment	-	(1,006)
Closing balance	\$ 67,244	\$ 68,115
Accumulated depreciation		
Opening balance	\$ 57,034	\$ 59,449
Depreciation expense	1,098	1,255
Surrenders or disposals	(640)	(3,637)
Impairment	-	(33)
Closing balance	\$ 57,492	\$ 57,034
Net book value – closing balance	\$ 9,752	\$ 11,081

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Right-of-use assets consist primarily of office spaces.

# Amounts recognized in the consolidated statements of income

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Depreciation expense on right-of-use assets	\$ (1,098)	\$ (1,255)
Impairment on right-of-use assets	\$ (22)	\$ (973)
Interest expense on lease obligations	\$ (4,009)	\$ (4,110)
Interest income on investment in subleases	\$ 1,877	\$ 1,885

# 6.2 As a lessor

The Company subleases offices that it originally leased in 2014, 2015 and 2017. The Company has classified these subleases as finance leases, because the subleases cover the remaining term of the respective head lease.

# 6.2.1 Net investment in subleases

	2021	2020
Net investment in subleases, opening balance	\$ 26,815	\$ 26,537
Additions	269	48
Accretion of net investment in subleases	183	1,232
Payment received from sub-lessees, net of commissions	(593)	(1,002)
Net investment in subleases, closing balance	\$ 26,674	\$ 26,815
Less current portion	1,485	1,206
Non-current portion	\$ 25,189	\$ 25,609

# 6.2.2 Maturity analysis – contractual undiscounted cash flows

As at	December 31, 2	December 31, 2021				
Less than one year	\$ 3	,276	\$	2,307		
One to two years	3	,335		3,146		
Two to three years	3	,440		3,157		
Three to four years	3	,550		3,196		
Four to five years	3	,630		3,350		
Thereafter	21	,315		25,406		
Total undiscounted lease payments receivable	\$ 38	,546	\$	40,562		
Unearned interest income	11	,872		13,747		
Net investment in subleases	\$ 26	,674	\$	26,815		

# 7. Property and equipment

					2021
	Off	ice	Computer	Leasehold	
	equipm	ent	equipment	improvements	Total
Cost					
As at December 31, 2020	\$ 7,3	344	\$ 40,012	\$ 10,694	\$ 58,050
Additions		1	104	3	108
Disposals, write-offs and transfers	(3	884)	(2,438)	(769)	(3,591)
As at December 31, 2021	\$ 6,9	61 9	37,678	\$ 9,928	\$ 54,567
Accumulated depreciation					
As at December 31, 2020	\$ 6,7	703	\$ 39,096	\$ 5,642	\$ 51,441
Depreciation expense	•	10	905	409	1,424
Disposals, write-offs and transfers	(3	371)	(2,438)	(738)	(3,547)
As at December 31, 2021	\$ 6,4	42 \$	37,563	\$ 5,313	\$ 49,318
Net book value as at December 31, 2021	\$	519 5	115	\$ 4,615	\$ 5,249

				2020
	Office	Computer	Leasehold	
	equipment	equipment	improvements	Total
Cost				
As at December 31, 2019	\$ 8,355	\$ 41,455	\$ 15,254	\$ 65,064
Additions	_	79	166	245
Disposals, write-offs and transfers	(1,011)	(1,522)	(4,726)	(7,259)
As at December 31, 2020	\$ 7,344	\$ 40,012	\$ 10,694	\$ 58,050
Accumulated depreciation				
As at December 31, 2019	\$ 7,006	\$ 39,262	\$ 6,487	\$ 52,755
Depreciation expense	153	1,297	580	2,030
Disposals, write-offs and transfers	(456)	(1,463)	(1,425)	(3,344)
As at December 31, 2020	\$ 6,703	\$ 39,096	\$ 5,642	\$ 51,441
Net book value as at December 31, 2020	\$ 641	\$ 916	\$ 5,052	\$ 6,609

# 8. Intangible assets

					2021
	Trademarks and	Trademarks and No			Total intangible
	domain names		agreements	Software <sup>1</sup>	assets
Cost					
As at December 31, 2020	\$ 90,611	\$	258,983	\$ 263,965	\$ 613,559
Additions	_		_	5,225	5,225
Disposals, write-offs and transfers	_		_	(9,026)	(9,026)
As at December 31, 2021	\$ 90,611	\$	258,983	\$ 260,164	\$ 609,758
Accumulated amortization					
As at December 31, 2020	\$ 35,658	\$	258,983	\$ 248,218	\$ 542,859
Amortization expense	7,850		_	9,263	17,113
Disposals, write-offs and transfers	_		_	(8,961)	(8,961)
As at December 31, 2021	\$ 43,508	\$	258,983	\$ 248,520	\$ 551,011
Net book value as at December 31, 2021	\$ 47,103	\$	_	\$ 11,644	\$ 58,747

							2020
	-	Trademarks and domain names		lon-competition			Total intangible
				agreements		agreements	
Cost							
As at December 31, 2019	\$	90,611	\$	258,983	\$	258,825 \$	608,419
Additions		_		_		5,328	5,328
Disposals, write-offs and transfers		_				(188)	(188)
As at December 31, 2020	\$	90,611	\$	258,983	\$	263,965 \$	613,559
Accumulated amortization							
As at December 31, 2019	\$	27,807	\$	258,983	\$	231,880 \$	518,670
Amortization expense		7,851		_		16,528	24,379
Disposals, write-offs and transfers		_		_		(190)	(190)
As at December 31, 2020	\$	35,658	\$	258,983	\$	248,218 \$	542,859
Net book value as at December 31, 2020	\$	54,953	\$	_	\$	15,747 \$	70,700

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Software under development amounted to \$4.3 million (2020 - \$3.6 million).

# Impairment of intangible assets

As a majority of the intangible assets do not generate cash inflows that are largely independent of those from other assets or group of assets, the Company performs its impairment analysis of its intangible assets at the CGU level. Following the organizational changes made throughout fiscal 2018 and during the first quarter of 2019, the Company has one remaining group of CGUs to which assets belong. In 2021 and 2020, the Company performed an assessment of indicators of impairment on the finite life intangible assets and no further impairment analysis was required.

Yellow Pages Limited has accumulated impairment losses on intangible assets and property and equipment in the amounts of \$1,379.6 million and \$21.9 million, respectively.

# 9. Trade and other payables

As at	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Trade	\$ 19,127	\$ 18,726
Accrued interest on exchangeable debentures	_	723
Payroll related	2,586	3,235
Long-term incentive plans	9,744	6,981
Other accrued liabilities	2,838	2,878
Common shares subject to repurchase (Note 14)	636	979
	\$ 34,931	\$ 33,522

# 10. Provisions

Yellow Pages Limited recorded restructuring and other charges of \$5.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 consisting mainly of restructuring charges of \$4.6 million associated with workforce reductions, a \$0.9 million charge related to future operation costs provisioned related to lease contracts for office closures, partially offset by a \$0.2 million recovery related to the sublease of previously vacated office space.

Yellow Pages Limited recorded restructuring and other charges of \$8.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2020 consisting of restructuring charges of \$2.6 million relating to workforce reductions, a \$2.1 million charge related to future operation costs provisioned related to lease contracts for office closures, as well as a \$4.6 million charge related to the impairment of property and equipment and right-of-use assets related to vacated office space, partially offset by a \$1.2 million recovery related to the surrender of vacated office space.

The provisions for restructuring and other charges represent the present value of the best estimate of the future outflow of economic benefits that will be required to settle the provisions and may vary as a result of new events affecting the severances and charges that will need to be paid. Other provisions include provisions primarily for vacation and short-term incentive plans.

	Provisions for restructuring <sup>1</sup>		Provisions for other charges <sup>1</sup>		Other provisions		Total provisions	
As at December 31, 2020	\$	2,307	\$	3,321	\$	17,434	\$	23,062
Charges		3,999		794		13,391		18,184
Payments		(3,347)		(2,119)		(13,639)		(19,105)
As at December 31, 2021	\$	2,959	\$	1,996	\$	17,186	\$	22,141
Less current portion		2,532		1,372		17,186		21,090
Non-current portion	\$	427	\$	624	\$	=	\$	1,051

<sup>1</sup> Included in the restructuring and other charges of \$5.3 million on the statement of income is an expense and payment of \$0.5 million not affecting the provision.

		ions for cturing²	visions for r charges²	Other	provisions	Tota	al provisions
As at December 31, 2019	\$	7,429	\$ 1,642	\$	19,149	\$	28,220
Charges		2,883	3,712		17,320		23,915
Payments		(8,005)	(2,033)		(19,035)		(29,073)
As at December 31, 2020	\$	2,307	\$ 3,321	\$	17,434	\$	23,062
Less current portion		2,018	2,624		17,434		22,076
Non-current portion	\$	289	\$ 697	\$	_	\$	986

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Included in the restructuring and other charges of \$8.1 million on the statement of income is a net recovery of \$1.5 million not affecting the provision.

# 11. Post-employment benefits

Yellow Pages Limited maintains pension plans with defined benefit and defined contribution components which cover substantially all of the employees of Yellow Pages Limited. Yellow Pages Limited maintains unfunded supplementary defined benefit pension plans for certain executives and also maintains other retirement and post-employment benefits ("other benefits") plans which cover substantially all of its employees.

The defined benefit plans typically expose the Company to actuarial risks such as investment, interest rate, longevity and salary risks.

Investment risk	The present value of the defined benefit plan obligation is calculated using a discount rate determined by reference to high quality corporate bond yields; if the actual return on plan assets is below the assumed rate, it will create a plan deficit. Currently, the defined benefit plan has a relatively balanced investment in equity securities and debt instruments. Due to the long-term nature of the defined benefit plan obligation, the pension committee considers it appropriate that a reasonable portion of the plan assets should be invested in equity instruments to leverage the return generated by the fund.
Interest risk	A decrease in the bond interest rate will increase the defined benefit plan obligation, particularly on a solvency basis. Although this will be partially offset by an increase in the return of the defined benefit plan's investments, the impact may be material as pension liabilities are sensitive to variations in interest rates.
Longevity risk	The present value of the defined benefit plan obligation is calculated based on assumptions regarding mortality rates of plan participants both during and after their employment. An increase in the life expectancy of the plan participants will increase the defined benefit obligation.
Inflation risk	The present value of the defined benefit plan obligation is calculated by reference to the inflation rate. As such, a higher inflation rate than projected will increase the defined benefit plan's liability.

The present value of the defined benefit obligation and the related current service cost and past service costs were measured using the projected benefit method prorated on service. This was based on the actuarial valuation and the present value of the defined benefit plan obligation which was carried out by LifeWorks, Fellows of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries and Society of Actuaries, as at December 31, 2019, and extrapolated to December 31, 2021. For funding purposes, an actuarial valuation of the defined benefit component of the Yellow Pages pension plans was also performed as at December 31, 2019. The actuarial valuation for the other benefits was performed by HUB International as at July 1, 2021 and the results were extrapolated to December 31, 2021.

The changes in the defined benefit obligations and in the fair value of assets and the reconciliation of the funded status of the defined benefit plans to the amount recorded on the consolidated statements of financial position as at December 31, 2021 and 2020 were as follows:

As at		De	ecembe	er 31, 2021	December 31, 2020				
	Pensio	Pension benefits <sup>1</sup>		er benefits	Pension benefits <sup>1</sup>		Other benefits		
Fair value of plan assets, beginning of year	\$	505,918	\$	-	\$	484,029	\$	=	
Employer contributions		8,402		2,327		4,448		2,412	
Employee contributions		347		_		430		_	
Interest income		12,647		_		14,450		_	
Return on plan assets excluding interest income		7,262		_		47,368		_	
Benefit payments		(35,043)		(2,327)		(44,153)		(2,412)	
Administration costs		(485)		_		(654)		_	
Fair value of plan assets, end of year	\$	499,048	\$	-	\$	505,918	\$	_	
Accrued benefit obligation, beginning of year	\$	596,227	\$	34,700	\$	572,740	\$	33,856	
Current service cost		2,704		9		2,905		8	
Employee contributions		347		_		430		_	
Benefit payments		(35,043)		(2,327)		(44,153)		(2,412)	
Interest cost		15,016		879		17,231		1,023	
Actuarial (gains) losses due to:									
Experience adjustments		(80)		796		4,564		_	
Changes in financial assumptions		(34,439)		(4,521)		42,510		2,225	
Defined benefit obligation, end of year	\$	544,732	\$	29,536	\$	596,227	\$	34,700	
Net defined benefit obligation	\$	(45,684)	\$	(29,536)	\$	(90,309)	\$	(34,700)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Including unfunded supplementary defined benefit pension plans.

While all the plans are not considered fully funded for financial reporting purposes, registered plans are funded in accordance with the applicable statutory funding rules and regulations governing the particular plans.

The significant assumptions adopted in measuring Yellow Pages Limited's pension and other benefit obligations as at December 31, 2021 and 2020 were as follows:

As at	De	cember 31, 2021	December 31, 2020			
	Pension benefits	Other benefits	Pension benefits	Other benefits		
Post-employment benefit obligation						
Discount rate, end of year	3.20%	3.20%	2.60%	2.60%		
Rate of compensation increase <sup>1</sup>	2.15%	n.a	1.85%	n.a		
Inflation Rate	1.80%	2.00%	1.50%	2.00%		
Net benefit plan costs						
Discount rate (current service cost), end of preceding year	2.80%	2.80%	3.20%	3.20%		
Discount rate (interest expense), end of preceding year	2.60%	2.60%	3.10%	3.10%		
Rate of compensation increase <sup>1</sup>	1.85%	n.a	1.90%	n.a		
Inflation Rate	1.50%	2.00%	1.40%	2.00%		
Weighted average duration (years)	13	13	14	14		

<sup>1</sup> As at December 31, 2021: 1.80% plus a productivity, merit and promotional scale, and as at December 31, 2020: 1.50% plus a productivity, merit and promotional scale.

For measurement purposes, actual per capita cost of covered medical care benefits was used for 2022, and the rate of increase was assumed at 5.78% for the next 5 years followed by a linear decrease to 3.57% by 2040 and to remain at that level thereafter. For dental care benefits, actual per capita cost was used for 2022, and the rate of increase was assumed at 4.00% for the next 5 years followed by a linear decrease to 3.57% by 2040 and to remain at that level thereafter.

The following table shows how the defined benefit obligation as at December 31, 2021 would have been affected by changes that were reasonably possible at that date in each significant actuarial assumption:

	Pension	Pension benefits					
Decrease of 0.25% in discount rate, end of year	\$	18,584	\$	960			
Increase of 0.25% in the inflation rate	\$	8,910	\$	-			
Increase of 1% in health care cost trend rates	\$	n.a	\$	1,793			

The net benefit plan costs included in the statements of income and other comprehensive income are comprised of the following components:

For the years ended December 31,		2021											
	Pens	ion benefits	Othe	r benefits	Pensi	on benefits	Other benefits						
Current service cost <sup>1</sup>	\$	2,704	\$	9	\$	2,905	\$	8					
Administration costs <sup>1</sup>		485		_		654		_					
Service cost	\$	3,189	\$	9	\$	3,559	\$	8					
Interest cost	\$	15,016	\$	879	\$	17,231	\$	1,023					
Interest income		(12,647)		_		(14,450)		_					
Net interest on the net defined benefit obligation (Note 18)	\$	2,369	\$	879	\$	2,781	\$	1,023					
Net benefit costs recognized in the statement of income	\$	5,558	\$	888	\$	6,340	\$	1,031					
Actuarial (gains) losses recognized in OCI	\$	(41,781)	\$	(3,725)	\$	(294)	\$	2,225					
Total net benefit plan costs (recovery) for the Yellow Pages ("YP") defined benefit plans	\$	(36,223)	\$	(2,837)	\$	6,046	\$	3,256					
Net benefit plan costs for the YP defined contribution plans <sup>1</sup>		2,035		_		2,275							
Total net benefit plan (recovery) costs	\$	(34,188)	\$	(2,837)	\$	8,321	\$	3,256					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Included in operating costs.

No significant workforce reductions occurred during the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020.

Plan assets include primarily Canadian and foreign equities, government and corporate bonds, debentures and secured mortgages. Plan assets are held in trust and the asset allocation was as follows as at December 31, 2021 and 2020:

(in percentages - %)	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020
Fair value of the plan assets:		
Pooled fund units		
Canadian pooled equity funds	4.5	6.5
Global pooled equity funds	25.0	28.0
Emerging markets pooled equity funds	10.0	12.0
Canadian pooled fixed-income funds	44.0	42.5
Pooled real estate funds	10.5	9.0
Pooled private equity funds	4.0	1.0
Pooled infrastructure funds	2.0	0.5
Cash and cash equivalents	0.0	0.5

As at December 31, 2021 and 2020, the publicly traded equity securities did not directly include any shares of Yellow Pages Limited.

The total cash payments for pension and other benefit plans made by Yellow Pages Limited amounted to \$12.8 million for 2021 (2020 – \$9.2 million). Total cash payments for pension and other benefit plans expected in 2022 amount to approximately \$12.1 million.

Yellow Pages Limited's funding policy is to make contributions to its pension plans based on various actuarial cost methods as permitted by pension regulatory bodies. Yellow Pages Limited is responsible to adequately fund the plans. Contributions reflect actuarial assumptions concerning future investment returns, salary projections and future service benefits.

In addition, Yellow Pages Limited recorded an expense for provincial, federal and state pension plans of \$2.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 (2020 – \$2.3 million).

As at December 31, 2021, Yellow Pages Limited had recognized an accumulated balance of \$18.5 million, net of income taxes of \$4.7 million, in actuarial losses in OCI.

# 12. Exchangeable debentures

The table below represents the continuity of the Exchangeable debentures:

	2021	2020
Exchangeable debentures, opening balance	\$ 101,115	\$ 98,537
Repayment of exchangeable debentures	(102,207)	_
Repurchase of exchangeable debentures	_	(52)
Interest accretion for the year	1,092	2,630
Exchangeable debentures, closing balance	\$ -	\$ 101,115

The Exchangeable debentures is comprised of the following:

As at December 31,	20.	21	2020
Principal amount of exchangeable debentures (at maturity, November 30, 2022)	\$	- \$	107,033
Unaccreted interest		_	(5,918)
Exchangeable debentures	\$	- \$	101,115

On December 20, 2012, the Company, through its subsidiary Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions Limited, issued \$107.5 million of senior subordinated exchangeable debentures (the Exchangeable Debentures) due November 30, 2022.

Interest on the Exchangeable Debentures accrued at a rate of 8% per annum.

# **Optional Redemption**

The Company had the option to redeem all or part of the Exchangeable Debentures at its option, upon not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior notice, at a redemption price equal to:

- In the case of a redemption occurring prior to May 31, 2021, 110% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the redemption date; or
- In the case of a redemption occurring on or after May 31, 2021, 100% of the principal amount thereof, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the redemption date.

On May 31, 2021, the Company fully repaid the principal amount of Exchangeable Debentures of \$107.0 million at par plus any accrued and unpaid interest.

The redemption option on the exchangeable debentures was an embedded derivative and was recorded at fair value on the consolidated statements of financial position in Financial and other assets with changes in fair value recognized in financial charges. On May 31, 2021, upon early repayment of the debt, the Company derecognized the embedded derivative of \$3.0 million which was included in the loss on early repayment of debt. The fair value of the embedded derivative was \$2.6 million as at December 31, 2020.

The Company recorded a loss on early repayment of debt of \$7.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2021 consisting of a loss of \$4.8 million on the early repayment of the exchangeable debentures and a loss of \$3.0 million related to the derecognition of the redemption option of the exchangeable debentures previously recognized as Financial and other assets on the consolidated statements of financial position.

The Company entered a Normal Course Issuer Bid ("NCIB") on April 20, 2020, to purchase up to \$6.6 million principal amount of its Exchangeable Debentures for cancellation on or before April 19, 2021. Prior to April 19, 2021, YP had purchased Exchangeable Debentures under this NCIB program, with a carrying value of \$52 thousand for cash and a face value of \$56 thousand. Purchases were made in accordance with the NCIB at the prevailing market price at the time of acquisition.

# 13. Income taxes

A reconciliation of income taxes at Canadian statutory rates with reported income taxes is as follows:

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Earnings before income taxes	\$ 59,914	\$ 78,712
Combined Canadian federal and provincial tax rates <sup>1</sup>	26.40%	26.50%
Income tax expense at statutory rates	\$ 15,816	\$ 20,857
Increase (decrease) resulting from:		
Recognition of previously unrecognized tax attributes and temporary differences	(26,996)	(2,773)
Non-deductible expenses for tax purposes	451	241
Other	8	89
(Recovery of) provision for income taxes	\$ (10,721)	\$ 18,414

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The combined applicable statutory tax rate decreased mainly by provincial allocation of revenues earned and the decrease in the Alberta and Nova Scotia statutory tax rate.

Provision for (recovery of) income taxes includes the following amounts:

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Current	\$ 7,318	\$ 90
Deferred	(18,039)	18,324
Total	\$ (10,721)	\$ 18,414

Deferred income tax (assets) liabilities are attributable to the following items:

									Pro	perty, plant					Deferred
			N	lon-capital			Post-		and	d equipment				ii	come tax
		Deferred	los	sses carry	Deferred	6	employment	Accrued		and lease	Exc	hangeable	Intangible		(assets)
	finan	cing costs		forward	revenues		benefits	liabilities	ir	nducements		ebentures)	assets	liab	ilities, net
Balance, December 31, 2020 Expense (benefit) to statement	\$	154	\$	(2,200)	\$ (394)	\$	(512)	\$ (10,490)	\$	-	\$	1,684	\$ (10,157)	\$	(21,915)
of income		(264)		2,200	(34)		(17,183)	3,530		1,451		(355)	(7,384)		(18,039)
Expense (benefit) to equity		_		_	_		_	_		-		(1,329)	_		(1,329)
Expense (benefit) to OCI		_		_	_		12,014			_		_	_		12,014
Balance, December 31, 2021	\$	(110)	\$	_	\$ (428)	\$	(5,681)	\$ (6,960)	\$	1,451	\$	-	\$ (17,541)	\$	(29,269)

			N	lon-capital		Post-			roperty, plant id equipment				Deferred income tax		
		Deferred	los	sses carry	Deferred	employment	Accrued		and lease	Excl	nangeable	Intangible		(assets)	
	finan	cing costs		forward	revenues	benefits	liabilities	i	inducements	D	ebentures	assets	lia	bilities, net	
Balance, December 31, 2019 Expense (benefit) to statement	\$	(993)	\$	(11,780)	\$ (710)	\$ - \$	(8,613)	\$	_	\$	2,373	\$ (20,004)	\$	(39,727)	
of income		1,147		9,580	316	_	(1,877)		_		(689)	9,847		18,324	
Expense (benefit) to OCI		_		_		(512)			_					(512)	
Balance, December 31, 2020	\$	154	\$	(2,200)	\$ (394)	\$ (512) \$	(10,490)	\$	_	\$	1,684	\$ (10,157)	\$	(21,915)	

As at December 31, 2021, the Company and its subsidiaries have not recognized deferred income tax assets with respect to US operating losses of \$272.7 million, which expire gradually between 2028 and 2037 and indefinitely when incurred after 2017. Furthermore, the Company and its subsidiaries have not recognized deferred income tax assets with respect to Canadian capital losses of \$10.1 million which can be utilized indefinitely and US capital losses of \$5.1 million which expire in 2024.

As at December 31, 2021, the Company and its subsidiaries have not recognized deductible temporary differences of \$483.3 million (2020 – \$596.3 million).

# 14. Shareholders' capital

### Common shares – Issued

For the year ended December 31, 2021	Number of Shares	Amount
Balance, December 31, 2020	27,828,906 \$	3,992,754
Common shares repurchased	(381,406)	(54,771)
Shared issued under stock option plan	12,185	141
Exchange of common share purchase warrants	1	_
Balance, December 31, 2021	27,459,686 \$	3,938,124

For the year ended December 31, 2020	Number of Shares	Amount
Balance, December 31, 2019	28,075,308	\$ 4,031,685
Common shares repurchased	(273,190)	(39,231)
Shared issued under stock option plan	26,788	300
Balance, December 31, 2020	27,828,906	\$ 3,992,754

Yellow Pages is authorized to issue an unlimited number of common shares.

The holders of the common shares of Yellow Pages are entitled to one vote per common share at all meetings of shareholders of the Company. The holders of the common shares of Yellow Pages are entitled to receive any dividend declared by the Board of the Company on the common shares. In the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding-up of Yellow Pages, whether voluntary or involuntary, the holders of the common shares of Yellow Pages are entitled to receive, after payment of all liabilities of Yellow Pages and subject to the preferential rights of any class of shares of Yellow Pages ranking in priority to the common shares of Yellow Pages, the remaining assets and property of Yellow Pages.

The total number of common shares of Yellow Pages Limited held by the trustee for the purpose of funding the RSU Plan amounted to 1,360,615 as at December 31, 2021 (see Note 17).

Under the Stock Option Plan, the maximum number of common shares authorized for issuance upon the exercise of options is 2,806,932 (see Note 17). During the year ended December 31, 2021, 12,185 common shares were issued upon the exercise of options.

### Share repurchases

The Company entered into a normal course issuer bid ("NCIB"), commencing August 10, 2020, to purchase up to \$5.0 million of Common Shares in the open market for cancellation, on or before August 9, 2021. Upon completion of this NCIB on July 16, 2021, the Company had purchased 403,220 common shares for cash of \$5.0 million. The related historical carrying value of these shares was reclassified from shareholder's capital to deficit.

On August 5, 2021, the Company's announced a NCIB commencing August 10, 2021 to purchase up to 5% of the Company's outstanding shares for cancellation on or before August 9, 2022. However, the Company intends to limit aggregate purchases under the new NCIB to \$16.0 million. For the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company purchased under this NCIB program 251,376 common shares for cash of \$3.6 million. The related historical carrying value of these shares was reclassified from shareholder's capital to deficit.

As at December 31, 2021, a \$0.6 million financial liability (2020 – \$1.0 million), with a corresponding amount in equity, was recorded in Trade and other payables on the consolidated statements of financial position in relation with the NCIB. This liability represents the value of common shares authorized to be repurchased by a designated broker under an automatic share purchase plan from January 1, 2022 to February 11, 2022. This automatic share purchase plan allows for the purchase of the Company's common shares under pre-set conditions at times when the Company would ordinarily not be permitted due to regulatory restrictions or self-imposed blackout periods. These common shares are included in the outstanding common shares as at December 31, 2021.

#### **Dividends**

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") modified its dividend policy of paying a quarterly cash dividend to its common shareholders by increasing the dividend from \$0.11 per share to \$0.15 per share. YP's dividend payout policy and the declaration of dividends on any of the Company's outstanding common shares are subject to the discretion of the Board and, consequently, there can be no guarantee that the dividend payout policy will be maintained or that dividends will be declared.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company paid quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per common share during the first quarter and \$0.15 per common share during the second, third and fourth quarters. The dividends were paid on March 15, June 30, September 15 and December 15 of 2021 for a total consideration of \$14.7 million to common shareholders. During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Company paid three quarterly dividends of \$0.11 per common share. The dividends were paid on June 15, September 15 and December 15 of 2020 for a total consideration of \$8.8 million to common shareholders.

#### Warrants

On December 20, 2012, the Company issued 2,995,506 common share purchase warrants ("Warrants").

During the year ended December 31, 2021, 1 Warrant was exercised in exchange for 1 common share of Yellow Pages Limited. As at December 31, 2021, the Company had a total of 2,995,483 Warrants outstanding for an amount of \$1.5 million. As at December 31, 2020, the Company had a total of 2,995,484 Warrants outstanding for an amount of \$1.5 million.

Each Warrant is transferable and entitles the holder to purchase one common share of Yellow Pages Limited at an exercise price of \$28.16 per Warrant payable in cash at any time on or prior to December 20, 2022. The fair value of the Warrants on December 20, 2012 was \$1.5 million.

The fair value of the Warrants was calculated using a binomial option pricing model with the following assumptions:

Risk free interest rate	2.27%
Expected life	10 years
Expiry date	December 20, 2022
Expected volatility	33.5%

\$

70,635 \$

68,527

# Earnings per share

The following table presents the weighted average number of shares outstanding used in computing earnings per share and the weighted average number of shares outstanding used in computing diluted earnings per share as well as net earnings used in the computation of basic earnings per share to net earnings adjusted for any dilutive effect:

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Weighted average number of shares outstanding used in computing basic earnings per share <sup>1</sup>	26,337,343	26,602,728
Dilutive effect of restricted share units	116,208	121,348
Dilutive effect of stock options	268,694	212,544
Dilutive effect of exchangeable debentures	_	5,621,481
Weighted average number of shares outstanding used in computing diluted earnings per share <sup>1</sup>	26,722,245	32,558,101
For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Net earnings used in the computation of basic earnings per share	\$ 70,635	\$ 60,298
Impact of assumed conversion of exchangeable debentures, net of applicable taxes	_	8.229

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The weighted average number of shares outstanding used in the earnings per share calculation is reduced by the shares held by the trustee for the purpose of funding the restricted share unit and performance share unit plan (the "RSU and PSU Plan").

For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, the diluted earnings per share calculation did not take into consideration the potential dilutive effect of the Warrants as well as stock options that are not in the money and therefore are not dilutive.

# 15. Operating costs

Total net earnings used in the computation of diluted earnings per share

For the years ended December 31,	20	)21	2020
Salaries, commissions and benefits	\$ 82,7	200	\$ 91,241
Supply chain and logistics <sup>1</sup>	64,4	179	67,702
Other goods and services <sup>2</sup>	11,5	12	14,326
Information systems	19,	505	21,936
Remeasurement of ECL, net of recovery (Note 20)	7,!	550	8,891
	\$ 185,6	346	\$ 204,096

<sup>1</sup> Supply chain and logistics costs relate to external supplier costs for manufacturing and distribution of our print and digital products.

During the years ended December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2020, the Company applied for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy offered by the Government of Canada. The Company was eligible for the subsidy as it met the criteria for certain periods. Yellow Pages Limited received non-refundable contributions of \$4.2 million during the year ended December 31, 2021 and \$7.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2020, respectively, for admissible salaries related to its workforce. The contributions are recorded as a reduction to operating costs in the consolidated statements of income.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Other goods and services include promotion and advertising costs, real estate, office services, consulting services including contractors and professional fees.

# 16. Revenues

The Company reviews revenues by similar products and services, such as Print and Digital.

Print revenues are recognized at a point in time, whereas 99% of digital revenues were recognized over the term of the contract and 1% at a point in time for the year ended December 31, 2021 and 100% of digital revenues were recognized over the term of the contract for the year ended December 31, 2020, respectively.

The following tables present financial information for the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020.

For the years ended December 31,	2021	2020
Digital	\$ 221,471	\$ 252,252
Print	66,175	 81,286
Total revenues	\$ 287,646	\$ 333,538

# 17. Stock-based compensation plans

Yellow Pages Limited's stock-based compensation plans consist of restricted share units, performance share units, deferred share units, stock options and share appreciation rights.

### Restricted Share Unit and Performance Share Unit Plan

On May 6, 2013, Yellow Pages Limited adopted a restricted share unit and performance share unit plan (the "RSU and PSU Plan") to reward key employees and officers of Yellow Pages Limited (the "Participants"). Following the implementation of the RSU and PSU Plan, Yellow Pages Limited granted to Participants a number of RSUs and PSUs, as applicable, based on the volume weighted average trading price of the common shares for the five days immediately preceding the grant date. The RSUs are time-based awards and will vest upon the continuous employment of the Participants for a period of 36 months starting from the date of the grant or such other period not exceeding 36 months determined by the Board. The PSUs are performance-based awards and will vest upon confirmation by the Board of the achievement of specified performance targets and upon the continuous employment of the Participants for a period of 36 months starting from the date of the grant or such other period not exceeding 36 months determined by the Board. The PSUs for which the performance targets have not been achieved shall automatically be forfeited and cancelled. The number of PSUs that vest could potentially reach up to one-and-a-half times the actual number of PSUs awarded if the actual performance reaches the maximum level of performance targets. At December 31, 2021, there are no PSUs outstanding.

During the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020, nil common shares of Yellow Pages Limited were purchased on the open market of the TSX by the trustee appointed under the RSU and PSU Plan for the purpose of funding of the RSU and PSU Plan. The total number of common shares of Yellow Pages Limited held by the trustee for the purpose of funding the restricted share unit and performance share unit plan (the "RSU and PSU Plan") amounted to 1.360.615 as at December 31, 2021.

The following table summarizes the continuity of the RSUs presented as a liability during the years ended December 31:

			2021		2020
	Number of RSUs	L	_iability¹	Number of RSUs	Liability <sup>1</sup>
Outstanding, beginning of year	327,617	\$	831	156,839	\$ 972
Granted	_		_	321,671	859
Dividends credited <sup>2</sup>	12,204		86	9,244	42
Settled	(62,504)		(891)	(160,137)	(1,850)
Variation due to change in fair value and vesting	_		1,924	-	808
Outstanding, end of year <sup>3</sup>	277,317	\$	1,950	327,617	\$ 831

<sup>1</sup> The liability related to the RSUs is recorded in trade and other payables, and the expense related to the vested RSUs and the variation due to change in fair value are included in operating costs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Dividends in the form of additional RSUs are credited to the participant's account on each dividend payment date and are equivalent in value to the dividend paid on common shares.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The number of restricted shares vested as of December 31, 2021 is 142,735 (2020 – 66,259)

The following table summarizes the continuity of all the RSUs and PSUs, including those shown in the table above, during the years ended December 31:

		2021		2020
Number of	RSUs <sup>1</sup>	PSUs	RSUs <sup>1</sup>	PSUs
Outstanding, beginning of year	448,965	_	318,536	60,406
Granted	26,512	_	359,395	_
Reduction in payout related to under-achievement of targets <sup>2</sup>	<del>-</del>	_	=	(15,105)
Settled	(97,688)	_	(226,775)	(45,301)
Dividends credited <sup>3</sup>	16,848	-	13,072	=
Forfeited	(1,112)	-	(15,263)	
Outstanding, end of year	393,525	-	448,965	=
Weighted average remaining life (years)	1.16	_	1.66	

<sup>1</sup> Included in the RSUs outstanding balance as at December 31, 2021 are 277,317 RSUs granted in July 2020 as well as dividends credited related to this grant, representing a liability of \$2.0 million (2020 – 327,617 RSUs and \$0.8 million, respectively) recorded in trade and other payables and the expense related to the units vested and the variation due to changes in stock price is included in operating costs.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, an expense of \$2.3 million (2020 – an expense of \$2.0 million) was recorded in the consolidated statement of income in operating costs in relation to the RSU and PSU Plan.

### **Deferred Share Unit Plan**

On June 12, 2013, Yellow Pages Limited adopted a deferred share unit plan (the "DSU Plan"). The DSU Plan was amended in October 2013 to provide for the participation by eligible employees as designated by the Board. The Company shall settle the vested deferred share units ("DSUs") in cash or in common shares of Yellow Pages Limited acquired on the open market at the discretion of the Company when a Director leaves the Board or an eligible employee ceases employment with the Company.

The following table summarizes the continuity of the deferred share units ("DSUs") during the years ended December 31:

		2021		2020
	Number of DSUs	Liability <sup>1</sup>	Number of DSUs	Liability <sup>1</sup>
Outstanding, beginning of year	339,808	\$ 4,257	325,435	\$ 2,948
Granted <sup>2</sup>	30,704	347	53,719	447
Forfeited	(3,292)	_	(4,196)	_
Settled	(80,929)	(1,162)	(45,556)	(416)
Dividends credited <sup>3</sup>	14,628	202	10,406	115
Variation due to change in stock price	_	467	-	1,163
Outstanding and vested, end of year	300,919	\$ 4,111	339,808	\$ 4,257

<sup>1</sup> The liability related to the DSU Plan is recorded in trade and other payables, and the expense related to the units vested and the variation due to changes in stock price is included in operating costs.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, an expense of \$0.5 million (2020 – an expense of \$1.7 million) was recorded in the consolidated statement of income in operating costs in relation to the Deferred Share Unit Plan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The reduction in payout is related to the under-achievement of certain performance targets resulting in a reduction of 25% for the year ended December 31, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dividends in the form of additional RSUs are credited to the participant's account on each dividend payment date and are equivalent in value to the dividend paid on common shares.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The liability related to the DSUs granted represents the portion that is vested as at December 31.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dividends in the form of additional DSUs are credited to the participant's account on each dividend payment date and are equivalent in value to the dividend paid on common shares.

### Stock options

On March 23, 2021, the Board approved an amendment to the 2012 Stock Option Plan to increase the insider participation limits and the maximum number of shares issuable to one person from 5% of the issued and outstanding shares to 10% of the issued and outstanding shares. In addition, the 2012 Stock Option Plan was amended to provide that any shares repurchased by the Company for cancellation pursuant to a NCIB will not constitute non-compliance with these limits for any options outstanding prior to such purchase of Shares for cancellation. A maximum of 1,290,612 stock options may be granted under the Stock Option Plan. On May 11, 2018, an amendment to the Stock Option Plan was approved, increasing the maximum number of common shares authorized for issuance upon the exercise of options, from 1,290,612 to 2,806,932. Participants are required to hold 25% of the common shares received pursuant to the exercise of the stock options until the Participants meet the ownership guidelines which apply to their respective position.

At the Annual and Special Meeting of Shareholders held on May 13, 2020 an amendment to the 2012 Stock Option Plan was approved to provide for a cashless exercise feature, payable in cash, without a full deduction of the underlying shares from the plan reserve. Subject to approval of the Board or the Human Resources and Compensation Committee at the time of exercise, an option holder may elect to surrender an exercisable option for cancellation in exchange for a cash payment equal to the amount by which the fair market value of the share on the date of surrender exceeds the exercise price. The underlying shares in respect of the surrendered option will be added back to the plan reserve.

Stock options granted that are payable in cash upon certain conditions being met are presented as a liability.

The following table summarizes the continuity of the stock options presented as a liability during the years ended December 31:

		2021		2020
	Number of options	Liability <sup>1</sup>	Number of options	Liability <sup>1</sup>
Outstanding, beginning of year	1,567,487	\$ 1,703	701,875	\$ 1,078
Granted	_	_	1,567,487	1,488
Stock options reclassified from equity-settled to cash settled <sup>2</sup>	363,948	1,129	_	_
Settled	(886,443)	(4,392)	(701,875)	(2,434)
Variation due to change in fair value and vesting	_	4,875	_	1,571
Outstanding, end of year <sup>3</sup>	1,044,992	\$ 3,315	1,567,487	\$ 1,703

<sup>1</sup> The liability related to the stock options is recorded in trade and other payables, and the expense related to the vested options and the variation due to change in fair value are included in operating costs.

The following table summarizes the continuity of all stock options under the Stock Option Plan, during the year ended December 31:

		2021					
		Weighted average				eighted average	
	Number of options	ptions exercise price per option Numb		per of options exercise price per option Number of option	Number of options	exercise price p	er option
Outstanding, beginning of year	2,717,779	\$	8.71	1,983,102	\$	7.11	
Granted	519,276	\$	11.86	2,004,069	\$	9.51	
Forfeited	(5,533)	\$	11.98	(540,729)	\$	6.79	
Exercised	(12,185)	\$	9.15	(26,788)	\$	8.33	
Settled	(886,444)	\$	8.88	(701,875)	\$	7.97	
Outstanding, end of year	2,332,893	\$	9.34	2,717,779	\$	8.71	
Exercisable, end of year	_	\$	_	-	\$	_	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> On February 10, 2021, a modification adding a cash alternative to the settlement of certain stock options resulted in an obligation to settle in cash. A re-class from equity to liability was recorded at the modification date, based on the difference between the fair value of the shares at the modification date and the exercise price of the option. The variation due to change in fair value subsequent to the modification date is included in operating costs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The number of stock options vested as of December 31, 2021 is 616,836 (2020 – 399,129)

The following table provides additional information about Yellow Pages Limited's Stock Option Plan as at December 31:

		2021		2020
	Number of options	Weighted average	Number of options	Weighted average
Exercise price	outstanding	remaining life	outstanding	remaining life
\$5.86	458,536	1.2	458,536	2.2
\$7.61	<del>-</del>	_	251,979	1.1
\$8.79	1,044,991	1.0	1,567,487	2.0
\$10.47	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	19,869	1.6
\$11.86	516,522	1.9	_	_
\$12.10	312,844	1.3	419,908	1.9
Outstanding, end of year	2,332,893	1.3	2,717,779	1.9
Exercisable, end of year	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	-	-

Stock options were valued using a binomial option pricing model. Expected volatility is determined by the implied volatility from the current market price of the Company's outstanding warrants. The following table shows the key inputs into the valuation model for year ended December 31:

		2021	2	2020
Weighted average grant date share price	\$	11.86	\$ 9	9.51
Exercise price	\$	11.86	\$ 9	9.51
Expected volatility	5	4.2%	60.	0.3%
Option life	2.7 y	ears	2.5 ye	/ears
Risk-free interest rate	0	.66%	8.0	.80%
Weighted average remaining life	1.9 y	ears	2.0 ye	/ears

During the year ended December 31, 2021, an expense of \$6.6 million (2020 – an expense of \$3.6 million) was recorded in the consolidated statement of income in operating costs in relation to the Stock Option Plan.

### Share appreciation rights plan

On September 15, 2017, Yellow Pages Limited adopted a share appreciation rights plan (the "SAR Plan") to provide incentive compensation to key employees and officers of Yellow Pages Limited (the "Participants") who are in a position to make a material contribution to the successful operation of the business and to more closely align the interests of management with those of shareholders of Yellow Pages Limited. The SARs are time-based awards and will vest upon the continuous employment of the Participants at a date determined by the Board of Directors. Pursuant to the terms of the SAR Plan, the Participants will receive, upon vesting of the SARs, a payment in cash representing the excess of the fair value of Yellow Pages Limited's shares on the vesting date less the fair value of Yellow Pages Limited's shares on the grant date.

The following table summarizes the continuity of the share appreciation rights ("SARs") during the year ended December 31:

			2021		2020
	Number of SARs	ı	_iability¹	Number of SARs	Liability <sup>1</sup>
Outstanding, beginning of year	174,165	\$	190	701,875	\$ 1,078
Granted	<del>-</del>		_	174,165	594
Settled	(58,055)		(322)	(701,875)	(2,434)
Variation due to change in fair value and vesting	-		500	=	952
Outstanding, end of year <sup>2</sup>	116,110	\$	368	174,165	\$ 190

<sup>1</sup> The liability related to the SAR Plan is recorded in trade and other payables, and the expense related to the units vested and the variation due to change in fair value are included in operating costs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The number of SARs vested as of December 31, 2021 is 68,537 (2020 – 44,348)

SARs were valued using a binomial option pricing model. Expected volatility is determined by the implied volatility from the current market price of the Company's outstanding warrants. The following table shows the key inputs into the valuation model as at December 31:

	202	1	2020
Weighted average grant date share price	\$ 8.7	9 \$	8.79
Exercise price	\$ 8.7	9 \$	8.79
Expected volatility	63.9	6	63.9%
Weighted average SAR life	2.5 year	s	2.5 years
Risk-free interest rate	0.60	6	0.60%
Weighted average remaining life	1.0 yea	r	2.0 years

During the year ended December 31, 2021, an expense of \$0.5 million (2020 – an expense of \$1.5 million) was recorded in the consolidated statement of income in operating costs in relation to the SARs plan.

# 18. Financial charges, net

The significant components of the financial charges, net are as follows:

For the years ended December 31,	20	21	2020
Interest on exchangeable debentures <sup>1</sup>	\$ 4,6	92	\$ 11,261
Interest on lease obligations, net of interest income on investment in subleases	2,1	32	2,225
Net interest on the defined benefit obligations	3,2	48	3,804
Redemption Option	(3	11)	(2,627)
Other, net	(4	18)	(151)
Financial charges, net	\$ 9,3	43	\$ 14,512

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Company fully repaid the principal amount of Exchangeable Debentures of \$107.0 million at par plus accrued and unpaid interest on May 31, 2021.

# 19. Commitments and contingencies

a) As at December 31, 2021, Yellow Pages Limited has commitments under purchase and service contract obligations for both operating and capital expenditures for each of the next 5 years and thereafter, and in the aggregate of:

	Total	commitments
2022	\$	21,340
2023		14,551
2024		10,861
2025		7,982
2026		6,283
Thereafter		37,537
	\$	98,554

b) Yellow Pages Limited has three billing and collection services agreements. The agreement with Bell Canada ("Bell") expires on December 31, 2023 and the agreement with Northwestel Inc., an affiliate of Bell expires, November 29, 2032. The agreement with TELUS Communications Inc. ("TELUS") expires in 2031.

Pursuant to publication agreements with Bell and TELUS, Yellow Pages Limited produces alphabetical listing telephone directories for each of these companies in order for them to meet their regulatory obligations.

The Company also has other agreements with Bell and TELUS, providing for the use of listing information and trademarks for the publications of directories. If the Company materially fails to perform its obligations under the publication agreements mentioned above and as a result these publication agreements are terminated in accordance with their terms, these other listing information and trademark licenses with Bell and TELUS, as the case may be, may also be terminated. These other agreements with Bell and TELUS will terminate between 2031 and 2037.

- c) Yellow Pages Limited entered into directory printing agreements with its printing suppliers to print, bind and furnish alphabetical, classified and combined directories as well as other publications. It also entered into distribution agreements.
- d) Yellow Pages Limited is subject to various claims and proceedings which have been instituted against it during the normal course of business for which certain of the claims are provided for and included in trade and other payables, and provisions based on management's best estimate of the likelihood of the outcome. Management believes that the disposition of the matters pending or asserted is not expected to have any material adverse effect on the financial position, financial performance or cash flows of Yellow Pages Limited.

# 20. Financial risk management

#### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk stems primarily from the potential inability of a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument to meet its contractual obligations. Yellow Pages Limited is exposed to credit risk with respect to cash, trade receivables from customers and investment in subleases. The carrying value of financial assets represents Yellow Pages Limited's maximum exposure. Credit risk associated with cash is minimized substantially by ensuring that these financial assets are placed with creditworthy counterparties. An ongoing review is performed to evaluate changes in the status of counterparties.

Yellow Pages Limited's extension of credit to customers involves judgment. Yellow Pages Limited has established internal controls designed to mitigate credit risk, including a formal credit policy managed by its credit department. New customers, customers increasing their advertising spend by a certain threshold and customers not respecting payment terms are subject to a specific vetting and approval process. Yellow Pages Limited considers that it has limited exposure to concentration of credit risk with respect to trade receivables from customers due to its large and diverse customer base operating in numerous industries and its geographic diversity. There are no individual customers that account for 10% or more of revenues and there are no trade receivables from any one individual customer that exceeds 10% of the total balance of trade receivables at any point in time during the year.

Bell and TELUS provide Yellow Pages Limited with customer collection services with respect to advertisers who are also their customers. As such, they receive money from customers on behalf of Yellow Pages Limited. Yellow Pages Limited retains the ultimate collection risk on these receivables.

The components of trade and other receivables are as follows:

As at	Decembe	December 31, 2021		
Current	\$	33,800	\$	44,686
Past due less than 180 days		3,639		7,138
Past due over 180 days		1,259		5,980
Trade receivables <sup>1</sup>	\$	38,698	\$	57,804
Other receivables <sup>2</sup>	\$	3,569	\$	5,092
Trade and other receivables	\$	42,267	\$	62,896

<sup>1</sup> Trade and other receivables are presented net of allowance for revenue adjustments ("AFRA") and ECL of \$27.7 million as at December 31, 2021 (\$34.3 million as at December 31, 2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Other receivables included a loan receivable associated with a forward contract net of \$3.1 million as at December 31, 2021 (\$2.9 million as at December 31, 2020).

The following table provides information about the exposure to credit risk and the ECL allowance for trade receivables (including contract assets).

For the years ended December 31,					2021					2020
	Expected credit	Gr	oss carrying			Expected credit	(	Gross carrying		
	loss rate		amount <sup>1</sup>	ECL	allowance	loss rate		amount <sup>1</sup>	EC	L allowance
Current	2.0%	\$	34,491	\$	691	2.8%	\$	45,952	\$	1,266
Past due less than 180 days	35.6%		5,648		2,009	29.2%		10,076		2,938
Past due over 180 days	89.9%		12,450		11,191	70.2%		20,062		14,082
Total		\$	52,589	\$	13,891		\$	76,090	\$	18,286

<sup>1</sup> The gross carrying value is net of the allowance for revenue adjustments of \$13.8 million as at December 31, 2021 (\$16.0 million as at December 31, 2020).

The following table shows the movement in ECL allowance that has been recognized for trade receivables (including contract assets).

As at	December 31, 2021	December 31, 2020		
Balance, beginning of the year	\$ 18,286	\$ 17,580		
Remeasurement of ECL allowance, net of recovery	7,550	8,891		
Amounts written-off	(11,945)	(8, 185)		
Balance, end of year	\$ 13,891	\$ 18,286		

Yellow Pages Limited estimates the loss allowance on the net investment in subleases at the end of the reporting period at an amount equal to lifetime ECL. None of the net investment in subleases at the end of the reporting period is past due, and taking into account the historical default experience and the future prospects of the industries in which the lessees operate, together with the value of collateral held over the net investment in subleases, the ECL on net investment in subleases is insignificant.

#### (i) Interest Rate Risk

Yellow Pages Limited is exposed to interest rate risks resulting from fluctuations in interest rates on its ABL with rates which are generally based on the Prime rate or Canadian BA rate. Yellow Pages Limited does not use derivative instruments to reduce its exposure to interest rate risk. The Company manages its interest rate risk by maximizing the interest income earned on excess funds while maintaining the necessary liquidity to conduct its day-to-day operations.

#### (ii) Foreign Exchange Risk

Yellow Pages Limited is exposed to foreign exchange risk arising from various currency transactions, the financial risks which are not significant. Foreign exchange transaction risk arises primarily from commercial transactions that are denominated in a currency that is not the functional currency of Yellow Pages Limited's business unit that is party to the transaction. Yellow Pages Limited is exposed to fluctuations in the U.S. dollar. The effect on net earnings from existing U.S. dollar exposures of a one point increase or decrease in the Canadian/U.S. dollar exchange rate is not significant. The Company's expenditures, net of revenues, denominated in U.S. dollars were approximately \$12.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2021 (2020 – \$16.0 million). As at December 31, 2021, there were no foreign currency contracts outstanding.

### **Liquidity Risk**

Liquidity risk is the exposure of Yellow Pages Limited to the risk of not being able to meet its financial obligations as they become due.

Yellow Pages Limited manages this risk by maintaining detailed cash forecasts and long-term operating and strategic plans. The management of liquidity requires a constant monitoring of expected cash inflows and outflows which is achieved through a detailed forecast of the Company's liquidity position to ensure adequate and efficient use of cash resources.

The Company expects to meet its financial obligations through internally generated cash and cash on hand.

The following are the contractual maturities of the financial liabilities:

	Payments due for the years following Decem								cember 31, 2021	
	Total		1 year	2 -	- 3 years	4	– 5 years		Thereafter	
Non-derivative financial liabilities										
Trade and other payables (Note 9)	\$ 34,931	\$	34,931	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	
Provisions (Note 10)	22,141		21,090		847		111		93	
Lease obligations (Note 6)	49,879		2,940		7,275		7,587		32,077	
Total	\$ 106,951	\$	58,961	\$	8,122	\$	7,698	\$	32,170	

#### Fair value hierarchy

The three levels of fair value hierarchy are as follows:

- Level 1 inputs are unadjusted guoted prices of identical instruments in active markets.
- Level 2 inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 inputs used in a valuation technique are not based on observable market data in determining fair values of the instruments.

Determination of fair value and the resulting hierarchy requires the use of observable market data whenever available. The classification of a financial instrument in the hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the measurement of fair value.

The fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants.

The redemption option on the exchangeable debentures was an embedded derivative and was recorded at fair value on the consolidated statements of financial position as Financial and other assets with changes in fair value recognized in financial charges. Following the repayment of the exchangeable debentures on May 31, 2021, the redemption option on the exchangeable debentures, was derecognized and was included in the loss on early repayment of debt. The fair value as at December 31, 2020 was \$2.6 million.

Cash, trade and other receivables, and trade and other payables are not measured at fair value in the consolidated statement of financial position, as their carrying amount is a reasonable approximation of fair value due to their short-term maturity.

#### **Asset-Based Loan**

The Company, through its subsidiary Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions Limited, has an asset-based loan (ABL) with a term of the ABL to August 2022 and a total commitment of \$25.0 million. The ABL is being used for general corporate purposes. Through the ABL, the Company has access to the funds in the form of prime rate loans, Banker's acceptance (BA) equivalent loans or letters of credit. The ABL is subject to an availability reserve of \$5.0 million if the Company's trailing twelve-month fixed charge coverage ratio is below 1.1 times. As at December 31, 2021, the Company's fixed charge coverage ratio was 0.7 times. The Company had \$2.8 million of letters of credit issued and outstanding under the ABL and a \$3.3 million deficiency in qualified collateral. As such, \$13.9 million of the ABL was available as at December 31, 2021. As at December 31, 2021, the Company was in compliance with all covenants under the loan agreement governing the ABL.

# 21. Capital Management

Yellow Pages Limited's objective in managing capital is to ensure sufficient liquidity to cover financial obligations, investment requirements and to provide its shareholders with appropriate returns. Yellow Pages Limited monitors its capital structure and makes adjustments based on the objectives described above in response to changes in economic conditions and the risk characteristics of the underlying assets and the Company's working capital requirements. This includes changes to the Company's current dividend policy. Yellow Pages Limited also uses various financial metrics to monitor its capital structure such as cash net of debt to total capitalization.

Yellow Pages Limited's capital is comprised of Exchangeable Debentures, Lease obligations and equity attributable to Yellow Pages Limited's shareholders as follows:

As at		ber 31, 2021	December 31, 2020		
Cash	\$	123,559	\$	153,492	
Exchangeable debentures <sup>1</sup> (Note 12)		_		101,115	
Lease obligations (Note 6)		49,879		52,874	
Total debt	\$	49,879	\$	153,989	
Equity		116,131		29,301	
Total capitalization	\$	166,010	\$	183,290	
Total cash net of debt <sup>2</sup>	\$	73,680	\$	(497)	
Total cash net of debt to total capitalization		44.4%		0.0%	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Represents the principal amount less unaccreted interest on the Exchangeable debentures.

#### 22. Guarantees

In the normal course of operations, Yellow Pages Limited has entered into agreements which are customary in the industry that provide for indemnifications and guarantees to counterparties in transactions involving business acquisitions, business dispositions and sale of assets. Yellow Pages Limited has entered into agreements which contain indemnification of its directors and officers indemnifying them against expenses (including legal fees), judgments, fines and any amount actually and reasonably incurred by them in connection with any action, suit or proceeding in which the directors and/or officers are sued as a result of their service, if they acted honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of Yellow Pages Limited. Yellow Pages Limited benefits from directors' and officers' liability insurance which it has purchased. No amount has been accrued in the consolidated statements of financial position as at December 31, 2021 and 2020 with respect to these indemnities.

The nature of these guarantees prevents Yellow Pages Limited from making a reasonable estimate of the maximum potential amount it could be required to pay to counterparties.

### 23. List of subsidiaries

	Principal activity		of ownership
As at		I	December 31,
Canada		2021	2020
Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions Limited	Digital and print media marketing solutions provider	100%	100%
USA			
YPG (USA) Holdings, Inc.	Holding company	100%	100%
Yellow Pages Digital & Media Solutions, LLC	Operational support services provider	100%	100%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The term cash net of debt does not have a standardized meaning under IFRS. Therefore, it is unlikely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. We define cash net of debt as cash less Lease obligations including current portion and Exchangeable debentures, as shown in the Company's consolidated statements of financial position.

# 24. Related party disclosures

### Key management personnel compensation

Yellow Pages Limited's key management personnel have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the Company's activities and consist of Yellow Pages Limited's executive team and the members of the Board.

Total compensation expense for key management personnel, and the composition thereof, is as follows:

For the years ended December 31,	2	021	2020
Salary, board fees and short-term incentive plans	\$ 5,	466	\$ 5,375
Post-employment benefits		298	397
Share-based compensation expense, including share price revaluation	8,	901	7,178
All other compensation		946	2,082
	\$ 15,	611	\$ 15,032

### **Head Office**

David A. Eckert

President and Chief Executive Officer

John R. Ireland

Senior Vice-President, Organizational Effectiveness

Franco Sciannamblo

Senior Vice-President, Chief Financial Officer

**Sherilyn King** 

Senior Vice President - Sales, Marketing and Customer Service

Treena Cooper

Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel

### **Board of Directors**

Susan Kudzman

Director and Chair of the Board

David A. Eckert

Director President and Chief Executive Officer

**Craig Forman** 

Director

Chair of the Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee

Robert Hall

Director

Chair of the Audit Committee

Paul W. Russo

Director

Chair of the Human Resources and Compensation Committee

### **Head Office**

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### **Investor Relations**

Telephone: 1 877 956-2003

E-mail: ir.info@pj.ca

### **Auditor**

Deloitte LLP.

# **TSX Symbols**

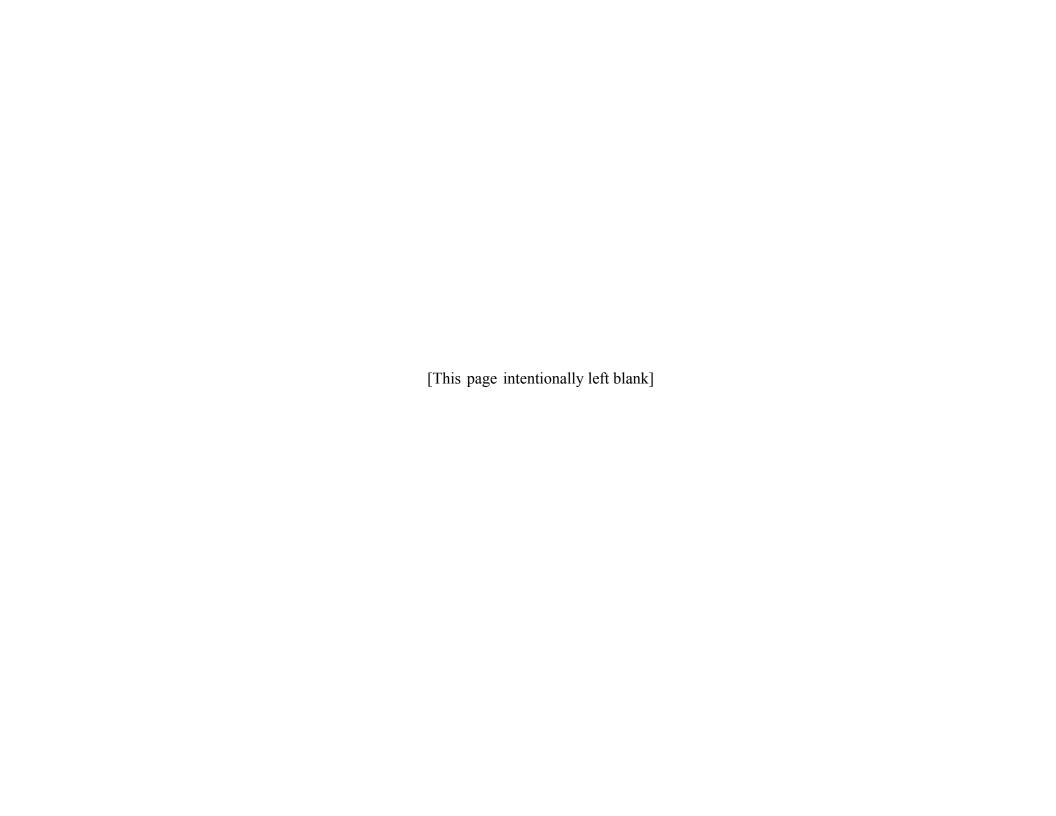
Y Common Shares

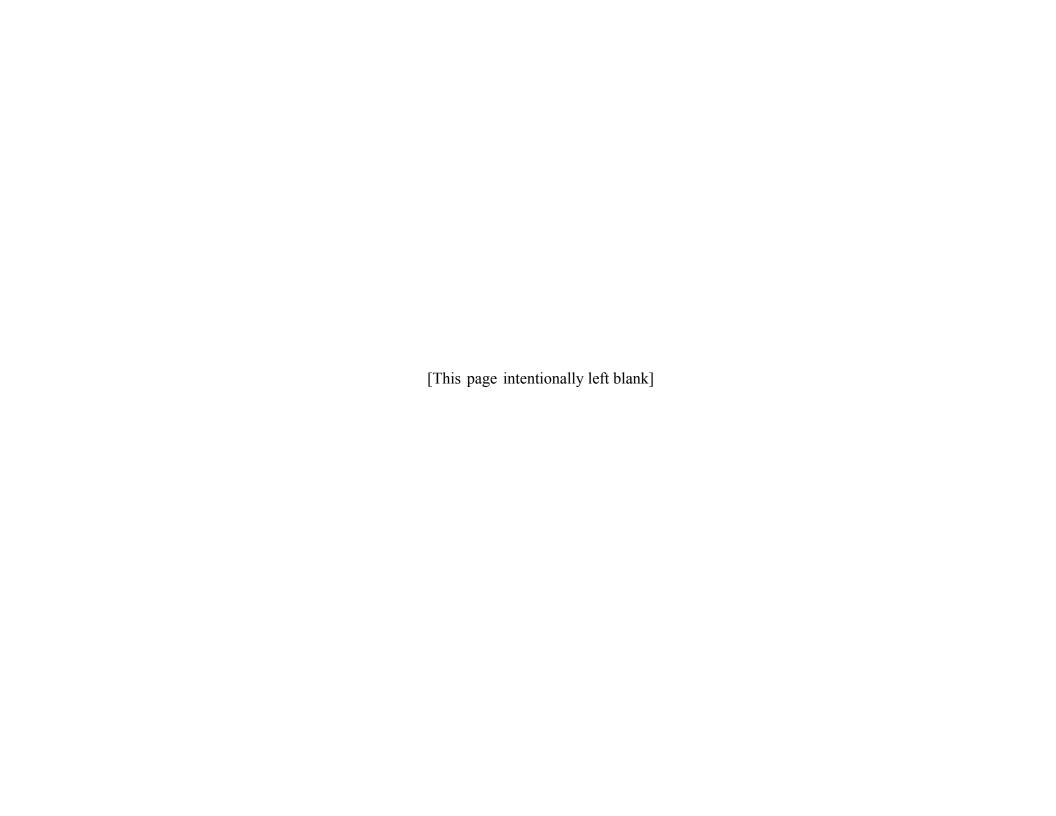
Y.WT Warrants

# **Transfer Agent**

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