Imperial

2017 Annual financial statements and management discussion and analysis

Financial section

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Financial information (U.S. GAAP)

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015	2014	2013
Operating revenues	**29,125**	25,049	26,756	36,231	32,722
Net income (loss):					
Upstream	**(706)**	(661)	(704)	2,059	1,712
Downstream	**1,040**	2,754	1,586	1,594	1,052
Chemical	**235**	187	287	229	162
Corporate and other	**(79)**	(115)	(47)	(97)	(98)
Net income (loss)	**490**	2,165	1,122	3,785	2,828
Cash and cash equivalents at year-end	**1,195**	391	203	215	272
Total assets at year-end	**41,601**	41,654	43,170	40,830	37,218
Long-term debt at year-end	**5,005**	5,032	6,564	4,913	4,444
Total debt at year-end	**5,207**	5,234	8,516	6,891	6,287
Other long-term obligations at year-end	**3,780**	3,656	3,597	3,565	3,091
Shareholders’ equity at year-end	**24,435**	25,021	23,425	22,530	19,524
Cash flow from operating activities	**2,763**	2,015	2,167	4,405	3,292
Per share information (dollars)					
Net income (loss) per common share - basic	**0.58**	2.55	1.32	4.47	3.34
Net income (loss) per common share - diluted	**0.58**	2.55	1.32	4.45	3.32
Dividends per share - declared	**0.63**	0.59	0.54	0.52	0.49

Frequently used terms

Listed below are definitions of several of Imperial's key business and financial performance measures. The definitions are provided to facilitate understanding of the terms and how they are calculated.

Capital employed
Capital employed is a measure of net investment. When viewed from the perspective of how capital is used by the business, it includes the company's property, plant and equipment, and other assets, less liabilities, excluding both short-term and long-term debt. When viewed from the perspective of the sources of capital employed in total for the company, it includes total debt and equity. Both of these views include the company's share of amounts applicable to equity companies, which the company believes should be included to provide a more comprehensive measurement of capital employed.

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Business uses: asset and liability perspective			
Total assets	**41,601**	41,654	43,170
Less: Total current liabilities excluding notes and loans payable	**(3,934)**	(3,681)	(3,441)
Total long-term liabilities excluding long-term debt	**(8,025)**	(7,718)	(7,788)
Add: Imperial's share of equity company debt	**19**	17	18
Total capital employed	**29,661**	30,272	31,959
Total company sources: Debt and equity perspective			
Notes and loans payable	**202**	202	1,952
Long-term debt	**5,005**	5,032	6,564
Shareholders' equity	**24,435**	25,021	23,425
Add: Imperial's share of equity company debt	**19**	17	18
Total capital employed	**29,661**	30,272	31,959

Return on average capital employed (ROCE)
ROCE is a financial performance ratio. From the perspective of the business segments, ROCE is annual business-segment net income divided by average business-segment capital employed (an average of the beginning and end-of-year amounts). Segment net income includes Imperial's share of segment net income of equity companies, consistent with the definition used for capital employed, and excludes the cost of financing. The company's total ROCE is net income excluding the after-tax cost of financing divided by total average capital employed. The company has consistently applied its ROCE definition for many years and views it as the best measure of historical capital productivity in a capital-intensive, long-term industry to both evaluate management's performance and demonstrate to shareholders that capital has been used wisely over the long term. Additional measures, which are more cash flow based, are used to make investment decisions.

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Net income	**490**	2,165	1,122
Financing costs (after tax), including Imperial's share of equity companies	**48**	53	30
Net income excluding financing costs	**538**	2,218	1,152
Average capital employed	**29,967**	31,116	30,700
Return on average capital employed (percent) – corporate total	**1.8**	7.1	3.8

Cash flow from operating activities and asset sales

Cash flow from operating activities and asset sales is the sum of the net cash provided by operating activities and proceeds from asset sales reported in the consolidated statement of cash flows. This cash flow reflects the total sources of cash both from operating the company's assets and from the divesting of assets. The company employs a long-standing and regular disciplined review process to ensure that all assets are contributing to the company's strategic objectives. Assets are divested when they no longer meet these objectives or are worth considerably more to others. Because of the regular nature of this activity, the company believes it is useful for investors to consider sales proceeds together with cash provided by operating activities when evaluating cash available for investment in the business and financing activities, including shareholder distributions.

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Cash from operating activities	**2,763**	2,015	2,167
Proceeds from asset sales	**232**	3,021	142
Total cash flow from operating activities and asset sales	**2,995**	5,036	2,309

Operating costs

Operating costs are the costs during the period to produce, manufacture, and otherwise prepare the company's products for sale – including energy costs, staffing and maintenance costs. They exclude the cost of raw materials, taxes and interest expense and are on a before-tax basis. While the company is responsible for all revenue and expense elements of net income, operating costs represent the expenses most directly under the company's control and therefore, are useful in evaluating the company's performance.

Reconciliation of operating costs

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
From Imperial's consolidated statement of income			
Total expenses	**28,842**	24,910	24,965
Less:			
Purchases of crude oil and products	**18,145**	15,120	15,284
Federal excise tax	**1,673**	1,650	1,568
Financing costs	**78**	65	39
Subtotal	**19,896**	16,835	16,891
Imperial's share of equity company expenses	**62**	63	40
Total operating costs	**9,008**	8,138	8,114

Components of operating costs

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
From Imperial's consolidated statement of income			
Production and manufacturing	**5,698**	5,224	5,434
Selling and general	**893**	1,129	1,117
Depreciation and depletion	**2,172**	1,628	1,450
Exploration	**183**	94	73
Subtotal	**8,946**	8,075	8,074
Imperial's share of equity company expenses	**62**	63	40
Total operating costs	**9,008**	8,138	8,114

Management's discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations

Overview

The following discussion and analysis of Imperial's financial results, as well as the accompanying financial statements and related notes to consolidated financial statements to which they refer, are the responsibility of the management of Imperial Oil Limited.

The company's accounting and financial reporting fairly reflect its straightforward business model involving the extracting, refining and marketing of hydrocarbons and hydrocarbon based products. The company's business model involves the production (or purchase), manufacture and sale of physical products, and all commercial activities are directly in support of the underlying physical movement of goods.

Imperial, with its resource base, financial strength, disciplined investment approach and technology portfolio, is well positioned to participate in substantial investments to develop new Canadian energy supplies. The company's integrated business model, with significant investments in Upstream, Downstream and Chemical segments, reduces the company's risk from changes in commodity prices. While commodity prices are volatile on a short-term basis, depending upon supply and demand, Imperial's investment decisions are based on its long-term business outlook, using a disciplined approach in selecting and pursuing the most attractive investment opportunities. The corporate plan is a fundamental annual management process that is the basis for setting near-term operating and capital objectives, in addition to providing the longer-term economic assumptions used for investment evaluation purposes. Volumes are based on individual field production profiles, which are also updated annually. Price ranges for crude oil, natural gas, refined products and chemical products are based on corporate plan assumptions developed annually and are utilized for investment evaluation purposes. Major investment opportunities are evaluated over a range of economic scenarios. Once major investments are made, a reappraisal process is completed to ensure relevant lessons are learned and improvements are incorporated into future projects.

The term "project" as used in this report can refer to a variety of different activities and does not necessarily have the same meaning as in any government payment transparency reports.

Business environment and risk assessment

Long-term business outlook

The basis for the "Long-term business outlook" is the Exxon Mobil Corporation's annual *Outlook for Energy*, which is used to help form the company's long-term business strategies and investment plans. By 2040, the world's population is projected to grow to approximately 9.2 billion people, or about 1.7 billion more people than in 2016. Coincident with this population increase, the company expects worldwide economic growth to average close to 3 percent per year. As economies and populations grow, and as living standards improve for billions of people, the need for energy will continue to rise. Even with significant efficiency gains, global energy demand is projected to rise by about 25 percent from 2016 to 2040. This demand increase is expected to be concentrated in developing countries (i.e., those that are not member nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development). Canada is expected to see flat to modest local energy demand growth through to 2040 and will continue to be a large supplier of energy exports to help meet rising global energy needs.

As expanding prosperity drives global energy demand higher, increasing use of energy efficient technologies and practices, as well as lower emission fuels will continue to help significantly reduce energy consumption and emissions per unit of economic output over time. Substantial efficiency gains are likely in all key aspects of the world economy through 2040, affecting energy requirements for transportation, power generation, industrial applications and residential and commercial needs.

Energy for global transportation – including cars, trucks, ships, trains and airplanes – is expected to increase by about 30 percent from 2016 to 2040. The growth in transportation energy demand is likely to account for approximately 60 percent of the growth in liquid fuels demand worldwide over this period, even as liquids demand for light duty vehicles is relatively flat to 2040, reflecting the impact of better fleet fuel economy and significant growth in electric cars over the period. Nearly all the world's transportation fleets are likely to continue to run on liquid fuels, which are abundant, widely available and easy to transport, and provide a large quantity of energy in small volumes.

Demand for electricity around the world is likely to increase approximately 60 percent from 2016 to 2040, with developing countries accounting for about 85 percent of the increase. Consistent with this projection, power generation is expected to remain the largest and fastest growing major segment of global primary energy demand. Meeting the expected growth in power demand will require a diverse set of energy sources. The share of coal fired generation is likely to decline substantially and approach 25 percent of the world's electricity by 2040, versus nearly 40 percent in 2016, in part as a result of policies to improve air quality, as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions to address the risks of climate change. From 2016 to 2040, the amount of electricity supplied using natural gas, nuclear power, and renewables is likely to approximately double, and account for about 95 percent of the growth in electricity supplies. Renewables in total, led by wind and solar, will account for about half of the increase in electricity supplies worldwide over the period to 2040, reaching nearly 35 percent of global electricity supplies by 2040. Natural gas and nuclear will also gain share over the period to 2040, reaching about 25 percent and 12 percent respectively of global electricity supplies by 2040. Supplies of electricity by energy type will reflect significant differences across regions, reflecting a wide range of factors including the cost and availability of various energy types.

Liquid fuels provide the largest share of global energy supplies today due to their broad based availability, affordability, ease of distribution, storage and fitness as a practical solution to meet a wide variety of needs. By 2040, global demand for liquid fuels is projected to grow to approximately 118 million barrels per day, an increase of about 20 percent from 2016. Much of this demand today is met by crude production from traditional conventional sources; these supplies will remain important as significant development activity is expected to offset much of the natural declines from these fields. At the same time, a variety of emerging supply sources – including tight oil, deep water oil, oil sands, natural gas liquids and biofuels – are expected to grow to help meet rising demand. The world's resource base is sufficient to meet projected demand through 2040 as technology advances continue to expand the availability of economic supply options. However, access to resources and timely investments will remain critical to meeting global needs with reliable, affordable supplies.

Natural gas is a versatile fuel, suitable for a wide variety of applications and it is expected to grow the most of any primary energy type from 2016 to 2040, meeting more than 35 percent of global energy demand growth. Global natural gas demand is expected to rise nearly 40 percent from 2016 to 2040, with about 45 percent of that increase in the Asia Pacific region. Helping meet these needs will lead to significant growth in supplies of unconventional gas - the natural gas found in shale and other rock formations that was once considered uneconomic to produce. In total, about 55 percent of the growth in natural gas supplies is expected to be from unconventional sources. However, it is expected conventionally produced natural gas is likely to remain the cornerstone of supply, meeting about two-thirds of global demand in 2040. Worldwide liquefied natural gas (LNG) trade will expand significantly, meeting about one-third of the increase in demand growth, with much of this supply expected to help meet rising demand in Asia Pacific.

The world's energy mix is highly diverse and will remain so through 2040. Oil is expected to remain the largest source of energy with its share remaining close to one-third in 2040. Coal is currently the second largest source of energy, but it is likely to lose that position to natural gas in the 2020 to 2025 timeframe. The share of natural gas is expected to reach 25 percent by 2040, while the share of coal falls to about 20 percent. Nuclear power is projected to grow significantly, as many nations are likely to expand nuclear capacity to address rising electricity needs, as well as energy security and environmental issues. Total renewable energy is likely to exceed 15 percent of total global energy by 2040, with biomass, hydro and geothermal contributing a combined share of more than 10 percent. Total energy supplied from wind, solar and biofuels is expected to increase rapidly, growing nearly 250 percent from 2016 to 2040, when they will approach about 5 percent of the world's energy.

The company anticipates that the world's available oil and gas resource base will grow not only from new discoveries, but also from reserve increases in previously discovered fields. Technology will underpin these increases. The cost to develop and supply these resources will be significant. According to the International Energy Agency *World Energy Outlook 2017*, the investment required to meet oil and natural gas supply requirements worldwide over the period 2017 to 2040 will be about US$21 trillion (New Policies Scenario, measured in 2016 dollars) or approximately US$860 billion per year on average.

International accords and underlying regional and national regulations covering greenhouse gas emissions continue to evolve with uncertain timing and outcome, making it difficult to predict their business impact. Imperial's estimate of potential costs related to greenhouse gas emissions align with applicable provincial and federal regulations.

For the purposes of assessing Imperial's long-term business strategies and investment evaluations, ExxonMobil's *Outlook for Energy* is used as a foundation for estimating energy related greenhouse gas emissions. The climate accord reached at the Conference of the Parties (COP 21) in Paris set many new goals, and many related policies are still emerging. The ExxonMobil *Outlook for Energy* reflects an environment with increasingly stringent climate policies and is consistent with the aggregation of Nationally Determined Contributions which were submitted by signatories to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 2015 Paris Agreement. The ExxonMobil *Outlook for Energy* seeks to identify potential impacts of climate related policies, which often target specific sectors, by using various assumptions and tools including application of a proxy cost of carbon to estimate potential impacts on consumer demands. As people and nations look for ways to reduce risks of global climate change, they will continue to need practical solutions that do not jeopardize the affordability or reliability of the energy they need. Practical solutions to the world's energy and climate challenges will benefit from market competition, well informed, well designed and transparent policy approaches that carefully weigh costs and benefits. Such policies are likely to help manage the risks of climate change while also enabling societies to pursue other high priority goals around the world – including clean air and water, access to reliable, affordable energy, and economic progress for all people. All practical and economically viable energy sources, both conventional and unconventional, will need to be pursued to continue meeting global energy demand, recognizing the scale and variety of worldwide energy needs, as well as the importance of expanding access to modern energy to promote better standards of living for billions of people.

The information provided in the "Long-term business outlook" includes internal estimates and forecasts based upon ExxonMobil's internal data and analyses, as well as publicly available information from external sources including the International Energy Agency.

Upstream

Imperial produces crude oil and natural gas for sale predominantly into North American markets. Imperial's Upstream business strategies guide the company's exploration, development, production, research and gas marketing activities. These strategies include maximizing asset reliability, accelerating development and application of high impact technologies, maximizing value by capturing new business opportunities and managing the existing portfolio, as well as pursuing sustainable improvements in organizational efficiency and effectiveness. These strategies are underpinned by a relentless focus on operations integrity, commitment to innovative technologies, disciplined approach to investing and cost management, development of employees and investment in the communities within which the company operates.

Imperial has a significant oil and gas resource base and a large inventory of potential projects. The company continues to evaluate opportunities to support long-term growth. As future development projects bring new production online, Imperial expects growth from oil sands in-situ and mining, as well as unconventional resources, with the largest growth potential related to in-situ. Actual volumes will vary from year to year due to the factors described in Item 1A. "Risk factors".

The upstream industry environment continued to recover in 2017 as crude oil prices increased in response to tighter supply and higher demand. Prices for most of the company's crude oil sold are referenced to Western Canada Select (WCS) and West Texas Intermediate (WTI) oil markets and in 2017, the average WCS and WTI crude oil prices, in U.S. dollars, were higher versus 2016. The markets for crude oil and natural gas have a history of significant price volatility. Imperial believes prices over the long-term will continue to be driven by market supply and demand, with the demand side largely being a function of general economic activities and levels of prosperity. On the supply side, prices may be significantly impacted by political events, the actions of OPEC and other large government resource owners, and other factors. To manage the risks associated with price, Imperial evaluates annual plans and all major investments across a range of price scenarios.

Downstream

Imperial's Downstream serves predominantly Canadian markets with refining, logistics and marketing assets. Imperial's Downstream business strategies competitively position the company across a range of market conditions. These strategies include targeting industry leading performance in reliability, safety and operations integrity, as well as maximizing value from advanced technologies, capitalizing on integration across Imperial's businesses, selectively investing for resilient and advantaged returns, operating efficiently and effectively, and providing quality, valued and differentiated products and services to customers.

Imperial owns and operates three refineries in Canada, with aggregate distillation capacity of 423,000 barrels per day. Refining margins are largely driven by differences in commodity prices and are a function of the difference between what a refinery pays for its raw materials (primarily crude oil) and the market prices for the range of products produced (primarily gasoline, heating oil, diesel oil, jet fuel and fuel oil). Crude oil and many products are widely traded with published prices, including those quoted on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Prices for these commodities are determined by the global and regional marketplaces and are influenced by many factors, including global and regional supply / demand balances, inventory levels, industry refinery operations, import / export balances, currency fluctuations, seasonal demand, weather and political climate.

Demand growth remained strong in 2017 causing lower inventory levels of both gasoline and distillate products. North American refineries continue to benefit from cost-competitive feedstock and energy supplies.

As described in more detail in Item 1A. "Risk factors", proposed carbon policy and other climate related regulations, as well as continued biofuels mandates, could have negative impacts on the downstream business. Imperial's integration across the value chain, from refining to marketing, enhances overall value across the fuels business.

Imperial supplies petroleum products to the motoring public through Esso and Mobil-branded retail sites and independent marketers. On average during the year, there were more than 1,800 retail sites operating under a branded wholesaler model whereby Imperial supplies fuel to independent third parties who own and operate retail sites in alignment with Esso and Mobil brand standards. The Mobil fuels brand was launched in Canada in 2017 with the announcement of plans to convert more than 200 existing unbranded third party retail sites. Completion of this Mobil conversion is anticipated in 2018.

The company expects to continue to expand its branded presence across Canada with the launch of Mobil-branded retail sites and the ongoing conversion of third party sites to the Esso brand, in both retail and commercial.

Chemical

North America continued to benefit from abundant supplies of natural gas and gas liquids, providing both low cost energy and feedstock for steam crackers, and a favourable margin environment for integrated chemical producers. Imperial sustained a competitive advantage through continued operational excellence, investment and cost discipline. In 2017, the company continued to capture value from the integration of its chemical plant in Sarnia with the refinery. The company also benefits from its integration within ExxonMobil's North American chemical businesses, enabling Imperial to maintain a leadership position in its key market segments.

Results of operations

Consolidated

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Net income (loss)	**490**	2,165	1,122

2017
Net income in 2017 was $490 million, or $0.58 per share on a diluted basis, reflecting impairment charges of $289 million ($0.35 per share) associated with the Horn River development and $277 million ($0.33 per share) associated with the Mackenzie gas project. This compares with net income of $2,165 million or $2.55 per share in 2016, which included a gain of $1.7 billion ($2.01 per share) from the sale of retail sites.

2016
Net income in 2016 was $2,165 million, or $2.55 per share on a diluted basis, including a gain of $1.7 billion ($2.01 per share) from the sale of retail sites, versus net income of $1,122 million or $1.32 per share in 2015. Downstream net income was $2,754 million, up from $1,586 million in 2015. Chemical net income was $187 million. Upstream recorded a net loss of $661 million in 2016, compared to a net loss of $704 million in 2015.

Upstream

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Net income (loss)	**(706)**	(661)	(704)

2017
Upstream recorded a net loss of $706 million in 2017, reflecting impairment charges of $289 million associated with the Horn River development and $277 million associated with the Mackenzie gas project. Excluding these impairment charges, the net loss of $140 million compares to a net loss of $661 million in 2016. Results benefitted from higher Canadian crude oil realizations of about $1,190 million and higher Kearl volumes of about $60 million. Results were negatively impacted by higher royalties of about $250 million, lower Syncrude and Norman Wells volumes of about $190 million, higher operating expenses mainly associated with Syncrude and Kearl of about $150 million, higher energy costs of about $80 million and the impact of a stronger Canadian currency of about $60 million.

2016
Upstream recorded a net loss of $661 million in 2016, compared to a net loss of $704 million in 2015. The loss in 2016 reflected lower realizations of about $700 million, the impact of the northern Alberta wildfires of about $155 million and higher depreciation expense of about $120 million. These factors were partially offset by higher volumes of about $320 million, the impact of a weaker Canadian dollar of about $130 million, the favorable impact of lower royalties of about $80 million, lower field operating costs of about $80 million and lower energy cost of about $50 million. The loss in 2015 reflected the impact associated with the Alberta corporate income tax rate increase of $327 million.

Average realizations

Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Bitumen (per barrel)	**39.13**	26.52	32.48
Synthetic oil (per barrel)	**67.58**	57.12	61.33
Conventional crude oil (per barrel)	**53.51**	32.93	36.58
Natural gas liquids (per barrel)	**31.46**	15.58	14.70
Natural gas (per thousand cubic feet)	**2.58**	2.41	2.78

2017

West Texas Intermediate averaged US$50.85 per barrel in 2017, up from US$43.44 per barrel in the prior year. Western Canada Select averaged US$38.95 per barrel and US$29.49 per barrel respectively for the same periods. The WTI / WCS differential narrowed to 23 percent in 2017, from 32 percent in 2016. The Canadian dollar averaged US$0.77 in 2017, an increase of about US$0.02 from 2016.

Imperial's average Canadian dollar realizations for bitumen and synthetic crudes increased generally in line with the North American benchmarks, adjusted for changes in the exchange rate and transportation costs. Bitumen realizations averaged $39.13 per barrel for 2017, an increase of $12.61 per barrel versus 2016. Synthetic crude realizations averaged $67.58 per barrel, an increase of $10.46 per barrel from 2016.

2016

West Texas Intermediate averaged US$43.44 per barrel in 2016, down from US$48.83 per barrel in 2015. Western Canada Select averaged US$29.49 per barrel and US$35.34 per barrel respectively for the same periods. The WTI / WCS differential widened to 32 percent in 2016, up from 28 percent in 2015. The Canadian dollar averaged US$0.75 in 2016, a decrease of US$0.03 from 2015.

Imperial's average Canadian dollar realizations for bitumen and synthetic crudes declined essentially in line with the North American benchmarks, adjusted for changes in the exchange rate and transportation costs. Bitumen realizations averaged $26.52 for 2016, a decrease of $5.96 per barrel from 2015. Synthetic crude realizations averaged $57.12 per barrel, a decrease of $4.21 per barrel from 2015.

Crude oil and NGLs - production and sales (a)

thousands of barrels per day	**2017**		2016		2015	
	gross	**net**	gross	net	gross	net
Bitumen	**288**	**255**	281	256	266	245
Synthetic oil (b)	**62**	**57**	68	67	62	58
Conventional crude oil	**4**	**3**	14	12	15	14
Total crude oil production	**354**	**315**	363	335	343	317
NGLs available for sale	**1**	**1**	1	1	1	1
Total crude oil and NGL production	**355**	**316**	364	336	344	318
Bitumen sales, including diluent (c)	**381**		374		349	
NGL sales	**6**		5		5	

Natural gas - production and production available for sale (a)

millions of cubic feet per day	**2017**		2016		2015	
	gross	**net**	gross	net	gross	net
Production (d) (e)	**120**	**114**	129	122	130	125
Production available for sale (f)		**80**		87		94

(a) Volume per day metrics are calculated by dividing the volume for the period by the number of calendar days in the period. Gross production is the company's share of production (excluding purchases) before deduction of the mineral owners' or governments' share or both. Net production excludes those shares.
(b) The company's synthetic oil production volumes were from the company's share of production volumes in the Syncrude joint venture.
(c) Diluent is natural gas condensate or other light hydrocarbons added to crude bitumen to facilitate transportation to market by pipeline and rail.
(d) Gross production of natural gas includes amounts used for internal consumption with the exception of the amounts re-injected.
(e) Net production is gross production less the mineral owners' or governments' share or both. Net production reported in the above table is consistent with production quantities in the net proved reserves disclosure.
(f) Includes sales of the company's share of net production and excludes amounts used for internal consumption.

2017
Gross production of Cold Lake bitumen averaged 162,000 barrels per day in 2017, up from 161,000 barrels per day in 2016.

Gross production of Kearl bitumen averaged 178,000 barrels per day in 2017 (126,000 barrels Imperial's share) up from 169,000 barrels per day (120,000 barrels Imperial's share) in 2016. Increased 2017 production reflects improved reliability associated with the mining and ore preparation operations.

During 2017, the company's share of gross production from Syncrude averaged 62,000 barrels per day, compared to 68,000 barrels per day in 2016. Syncrude 2017 production was impacted by the March 2017 fire at the Syncrude Mildred Lake upgrader and planned maintenance. In 2016, production was impacted by the Alberta wildfires and planned maintenance.

2016
Gross production of Cold Lake bitumen averaged 161,000 barrels per day in 2016, up from 158,000 barrels per day in 2015.

Gross production of Kearl bitumen averaged 169,000 barrels per day in 2016 (120,000 barrels Imperial's share) compared to 152,000 barrels per day (108,000 barrels Imperial's share) in 2015. The increase was the result of start-up of the expansion project.

During 2016, the company's share of gross production from Syncrude averaged 68,000 barrels per day, up from 62,000 barrels per day in 2015. Increased production reflects continued efforts to improve the reliability of operations, which more than offset the impact of the Alberta wildfires.

Downstream

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Net income (loss)	**1,040**	2,754	1,586

2017
Downstream net income was $1,040 million, compared to $2,754 million in 2016, which included a $1,841 million gain from the sale of company-owned retail sites and the general aviation business. Excluding the impact of the 2016 asset sales, earnings increased by $127 million reflecting higher refining margins of about $340 million, lower marketing expenses of about $160 million, mainly associated with the retail divestment, and a gain of $151 million from the sale of a surplus property. These factors were partially offset by lower marketing margins of about $330 million, mainly associated with the impact of the retail divestment, and higher maintenance activity of about $130 million.

2016
Downstream net income was $2,754 million, up from $1,586 million in 2015. Earnings increased mainly due to a gain of $1,841 million from the sale of retail sites and the general aviation business, the impact of a weaker Canadian dollar of about $130 million, higher marketing sales volumes of $50 million, partially offset by lower downstream margins of about $910 million.

Refinery utilization

thousands of barrels per day (a)	**2017**	2016	2015
Total refinery throughput (b)	**383**	362	386
Refinery capacity at December 31	**423**	423	421
Utilization of total refinery capacity (percent)	**91**	86	92

Sales

thousands of barrels per day (a)	**2017**	2016	2015
Gasolines	**257**	261	247
Heating, diesel and jet fuels	**177**	170	170
Heavy fuel oils (c)	**18**	16	16
Lube oils and other products	**40**	37	45
Net petroleum product sales	**492**	484	478

(a) Volume per day metrics are calculated by dividing the volume for the period by the number of calendar days in the period.
(b) Crude oil and feedstocks sent directly to atmospheric distillation units.
(c) In 2017, carbon black product sales are reported under Net petroleum product sales – Heavy fuel oils; in 2016 and 2015, they were reported under Total petrochemical sales – Polymers and basic chemicals.

2017
Refinery throughput averaged 383,000 barrels per day in 2017, up from 362,000 barrels per day in 2016. Capacity utilization increased to 91 percent from 86 percent in 2016, reflecting reduced turnaround maintenance activity. Petroleum product sales were 492,000 barrels per day in 2017, up from 484,000 barrels per day in 2016. Sales growth continues to be driven by optimization across the full downstream value chain.

2016
Refinery throughput averaged 362,000 barrels per day in 2016, compared to 386,000 barrels per day in 2015. Capacity utilization decreased to 86 percent from 92 percent in 2015, reflecting the more significant scope of turnaround maintenance activity in the current year. Petroleum product sales were 484,000 barrels per day in 2016, up from 478,000 barrels per day in 2015. Sales growth was driven by the company's focus on establishing long-term supply agreements.

Chemical

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Net income (loss)	**235**	187	287

Sales

thousands of tonnes	**2017**	2016	2015
Polymers and basic chemicals (a)	**564**	697	735
Intermediate and others	**210**	211	210
Total petrochemical sales	**774**	908	945

(a) In 2017, carbon black product sales are reported under Net petroleum product sales – Heavy fuel oils; in 2016 and 2015, they were reported under Total petrochemical sales – Polymers and basic chemicals.

2017
Chemical net income was $235 million, up from $187 million in 2016, mainly due to stronger margins.

2016
Chemical net income was $187 million, compared to $287 million in the same period of 2015, mainly due to weaker margins across all major product lines and lower volumes.

Corporate and other

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Net income (loss)	**(79)**	(115)	(47)

2017
For 2017, Corporate and other costs were $79 million, versus $115 million in 2016, mainly due to lower share-based compensation charges.

2016
In 2016, net income effects from Corporate and other were negative $115 million, versus negative $47 million in 2015, primarily due to higher share-based compensation charges, the absence of the impact from the Alberta tax rate increase in 2015 and lower capitalized interest.

Liquidity and capital resources

Sources and uses of cash

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Cash provided by (used in)			
Operating activities	**2,763**	2,015	2,167
Investing activities	**(781)**	1,947	(2,884)
Financing activities	**(1,178)**	(3,774)	705
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	**804**	188	(12)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	**1,195**	391	203

The company issues long-term debt from time to time and maintains a commercial paper program. However, internally generated funds cover the majority of its financial requirements. Cash that may be temporarily surplus to the company's immediate needs is carefully managed through counterparty quality and investment guidelines to ensure that it is secure and readily available to meet the company's cash requirements and to optimize returns.

Cash flows from operating activities are highly dependent on crude oil and natural gas prices, as well as petroleum and chemical product margins. In addition, to provide for cash flow in future periods, the company needs to continually find and develop new resources, and continue to develop and apply new technologies to existing fields in order to maintain or increase production.

The company's financial strength enables it to make large, long-term capital expenditures. Imperial's portfolio of development opportunities and the complementary nature of its business segments help mitigate the overall risks for the company and its cash flows. Further, due to its financial strength, debt capacity and portfolio of opportunities, the risk associated with delay of any single project would not have a significant impact on the company's liquidity or ability to generate sufficient cash flows for its operations and fixed commitments.

Funding of registered retirement plans complies with federal and provincial pension regulations, and the company makes contributions to the plans based on an independent actuarial valuation completed at least once every three years, or more, depending on funding status. The most recent valuation of the company's registered retirement plans was completed as at December 31, 2016. The company contributed $212 million to the registered retirement plans in 2017. Future funding requirements are not expected to affect the company's existing capital investment plans or its ability to pursue new investment opportunities.

Cash flow from operating activities

2017
Cash flow generated from operating activities was $2,763 million in 2017, compared with $2,015 million in 2016, reflecting higher earnings, excluding the impact of asset sales and impairment charges, partially offset by the absence of favourable working capital effects.

2016
Cash flow generated from operating activities was $2,015 million in 2016, compared with $2,167 million in 2015, reflecting lower earnings, excluding the gain on retail sites and the general aviation business.

Cash flow from investing activities

2017
Investing activities used net cash of $781 million in 2017, compared with cash generated from investing activities of $1,947 million in 2016, reflecting lower proceeds from asset sales.

2016
Investing activities generated net cash of $1,947 million in 2016, compared with cash used in investing activities of $2,884 million in 2015, reflecting proceeds from asset sales and the completion of major upstream growth projects.

Cash flow from financing activities

2017
Cash used in financing activities was $1,178 million in 2017, compared with $3,774 million in 2016, mainly reflecting the absence of debt repayments, partially offset by share purchases under the company's share purchase program.

At the end of 2017, total debt outstanding was $5,207 million, compared with $5,234 million at the end of 2016.

In November 2017, the company extended the maturity date of its existing $250 million committed long-term line of credit to November 2019. The company has not drawn on the facility.

In December 2017, the company extended the maturity date of its existing $250 million committed short-term line of credit to December 2018. The company has not drawn on the facility.

During 2017 the company purchased about 16.4 million shares for $627 million, including shares purchased from Exxon Mobil Corporation.

Dividends paid in 2017 were $524 million. The per share dividend paid in 2017 was $0.62, up from $0.58 in 2016.

2016
Cash used in financing activities was $3,774 million in 2016, compared with cash provided by financing activities of $705 million in 2015. Cash from operating activities and proceeds from the asset sales were used to reduce outstanding debt.

At the end of 2016, total debt outstanding was $5,234 million, compared with $8,516 million at the end of 2015.

The company repaid debt of $1,505 million from existing long-term loan facilities and $1,749 million from short-term loan facilities.

In October 2016, the company decreased the amount of its unused committed long-term line of credit from $500 million to $250 million and extended the maturity date to November 2018.

In December 2016, the company decreased the amount of its unused committed short-term line of credit from $500 million to $250 million and extended the maturity date to December 2017.

During 2016, the company did not make any share purchases except those to offset the dilutive effects from the exercise of share-based awards.

Dividends paid in 2016 were $492 million. The per share dividend paid was $0.58, up from $0.53 in 2015.

Financial percentages and ratios

	2017	2016	2015
Total debt as a percentage of capital (a)	**18**	17	27
Interest coverage ratio – earnings basis (b)	**7**	21	20

(a) Current and long-term debt (page 30) and the company's share of equity company debt, divided by debt and shareholders' equity (page 30).

(b) Net income (page 28), debt-related interest before capitalization, including the company's share of equity company interest, and income taxes (page 28), divided by debt-related interest before capitalization, including the company's share of equity company interest.

Debt represented 18 percent of the company's capital structure at the end of 2017.

Debt-related interest incurred in 2017, before capitalization of interest, was $103 million, compared with $121 million in 2016. The average effective interest rate on the company's debt was 2.0 percent in 2017, compared with 1.5 percent in 2016.

The company's financial strength represents a competitive advantage of strategic importance providing it the opportunity to readily access capital markets under the full range of market conditions and enabling the company to take on large, long-term capital commitments in the pursuit of maximizing shareholder value.

Commitments

The following table shows the company's commitments outstanding at December 31, 2017. It combines data from the consolidated balance sheet and from individual notes to the consolidated financial statements, where appropriate.

		Payment due by period				
millions of Canadian dollars	Note reference	2018	2019 to 2020	2021 to 2022	2023 and beyond	Total
Long-term debt (a)	14	**-**	**4,492**	**26**	**487**	**5,005**
- Due in one year		**27**				**27**
Operating leases (b)	13	**120**	**75**	**3**	**1**	**199**
Firm capital commitments (c)		**245**	**154**	**-**	**-**	**399**
Pension and other post retirement obligations (d)	4	**297**	**116**	**119**	**1,053**	**1,585**
Asset retirement obligations (e)	5	**64**	**174**	**95**	**1,064**	**1,397**
Other long-term purchase agreements (f)		**746**	**1,553**	**1,461**	**7,712**	**11,472**

(a) Long-term debt includes a loan from an affiliated company of ExxonMobil of $4,447 million and capital lease obligations of $585 million, $27 million of which is due in one year. The payment by period for the related party long-term loan is estimated based on the right of the related party to cancel the loan on at least 370 days advance written notice.

(b) Minimum commitments for operating leases, shown on an undiscounted basis, covers primarily storage tanks, rail cars and marine vessels.

(c) Firm capital commitments represent legally-binding payment obligations to third parties where agreements specifying all significant terms have been executed for the construction and purchase of fixed assets and other permanent investments. In certain cases where the company executes contracts requiring commitments to a work scope, those commitments have been included to the extent that the amounts and timing of payments can be reliably estimated. Firm capital commitments related to capital projects, shown on an undiscounted basis.

(d) The amount by which the benefit obligations exceeded the fair value of fund assets for pension and other post retirement plans at year-end. The payments by period include expected contributions to funded pension plans in 2018 and estimated benefit payments for unfunded plans in all years.

(e) Asset retirement obligations represent the fair value of legal obligations associated with site restoration on the retirement of assets with determinable useful lives.

(f) Other long-term purchase agreements are non-cancelable, or cancelable only under certain conditions and long-term commitments other than unconditional purchase obligations. They include primarily raw material supply and transportation services agreements. The higher 2017 balance includes a $4.5 billion increase in commitments associated with additional long-term transportation service agreements to ship crude oil and products.

Unrecognized tax benefits totaling $78 million have not been included in the company's commitments table because the company does not expect there will be any cash impact from the final settlements as sufficient funds have been deposited with the Canada Revenue Agency. Further details on the unrecognized tax benefits can be found in note 3 to the financial statements on page 41.

Litigation and other contingencies
As discussed in note 9 to the consolidated financial statements on page 50, a variety of claims have been made against Imperial and its subsidiaries. Based on a consideration of all relevant facts and circumstances, the company does not believe the ultimate outcome of any currently pending lawsuits against the company will have a material adverse effect on the company's operations, financial condition, or financial statements taken as a whole.

Additionally, as discussed in note 9, Imperial was contingently liable at December 31, 2017, for guarantees relating to performance under contracts of other third-party obligations. These guarantees do not have a material effect on the company's operations, financial condition, or financial statements taken as a whole.

There are no events or uncertainties beyond those already included in reported financial information that would indicate a material change in future operating results or financial condition.

Capital and exploration expenditures

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016
Upstream (a)	**416**	896
Downstream	**200**	190
Chemical	**17**	26
Other	**38**	49
Total	**671**	1,161

(a) Exploration expenses included.

Total capital and exploration expenditures were $671 million in 2017, a decrease of $490 million from 2016.

For the Upstream segment, capital and exploration expenditures were $416 million in 2017, compared with $896 million in 2016. Investments were primarily related to sustaining activity in support of oil sands and unconventional assets.

For the Downstream segment, capital expenditures were $200 million in 2017, compared with $190 million in 2016. In 2017, investments were primarily in support of refinery projects to improve reliability, feedstock flexibility, energy efficiency and environmental performance.

Total capital and exploration expenditures are expected to range between $1.5 billion to $1.7 billion in 2018. Planned increases in spending versus 2017 are largely driven by the Cold Lake drilling program, projects at Kearl and the Strathcona refinery, as well as the timing of other potential upstream growth investments. Actual spending could vary depending on the progress of individual projects.

Market risks and other uncertainties

Crude oil, natural gas, petroleum product and chemical prices have fluctuated in response to changing market forces. The impacts of these price fluctuations on earnings from Upstream, Downstream and Chemical operations have varied. A significant portion of the company's production is bitumen. Imperial's earnings are largely influenced by heavy oil prices. At this time, Imperial is a net consumer of natural gas, used in Imperial's Upstream operation and refineries. A decrease in the value of natural gas reduces Imperial's operating expenses, thereby increasing Imperial's earnings.

In the competitive downstream and chemical environments, earnings are primarily determined by margin capture rather than absolute price levels on products sold. Refining margins are a function of the difference between what a refiner pays for its raw materials (primarily crude oil) and the market prices for the range of products produced. These prices in turn depend on global and regional supply / demand balances, inventory levels, refinery operations, import / export balances and weather.

Industry crude oil and natural gas commodity prices and petroleum and chemical product prices are commonly benchmarked in U.S. dollars. The majority of Imperial's sales and purchases are related to these industry U.S. dollar benchmarks. As the company records and reports its financial results in Canadian dollars, to the extent that the Canadian / U.S. dollar exchange rate fluctuates, the company's earnings will be affected.

Imperial is exposed to changes in interest rates, primarily on its debt which carries floating interest rates. The impact of a quarter percent change in interest rates affecting Imperial's debt would not be material to earnings, cash flow or fair value. Imperial has access to significant sources of long-term and short-term liquidity. Internally generated funds are expected to cover the majority of financial requirements, supplemented by long-term and short-term debt as needed.

The company's potential exposure to commodity price and margin, and Canadian / U.S. dollar exchange rate fluctuations is summarized in the earnings sensitivities table below, which shows the estimated annual effect, under current conditions, on the company's after-tax net income.

Earnings sensitivities (a)

millions of Canadian dollars, after tax		
One dollar (U.S.) per barrel change in heavy crude oil prices	+ (-)	**85**
Ten cents per thousand cubic feet decrease (increase) in natural gas prices	+ (-)	**5**
One dollar (U.S.) per barrel change in refining 2-1-1 margins (b)	+ (-)	**140**
One cent (U.S.) per pound change in sales margins for polyethylene	+ (-)	**7**
One cent decrease (increase) in the value of the Canadian dollar versus the U.S. dollar	+ (-)	**90**

(a) Each sensitivity calculation shows the impact on net income resulting from a change in one factor, after tax and royalties and holding all other factors constant. These sensitivities have been updated to reflect current conditions. They may not apply proportionately to larger fluctuations.

(b) The 2-1-1 crack spread is an indicator of the refining margin generated by converting two barrels of crude oil into one barrel of gasoline and one barrel of diesel.

The global energy markets can give rise to extended periods in which market conditions are adverse to one or more of the company's businesses. Such conditions, along with the capital-intensive nature of the industry and very long lead times associated with many of the company's projects, underscore the importance of maintaining a strong financial position. Management views the company's financial strength as a competitive advantage.

In general, segment results are not dependent on the ability to sell and / or purchase products to / from other segments. However, Imperial's integrated business model reduces the company's risk from changes in commodity prices. Where such intersegment sales take place, they are the result of efficiencies and competitive advantages from integrated business segments and refinery / chemical complexes. For instance, heavy crude oil may be subject to limits on transportation capacity to a larger extent than light crude oil resulting in an increased heavy oil price discount. Imperial is able to partially mitigate the heavy oil discount through secured market outlets achieved through integration with Downstream investments in refineries, pipeline commitments and the Edmonton rail terminal. About 62 percent of the company's intersegment sales are crude oil produced by the Upstream and sold to the Downstream. Other intersegment sales include those between refineries and the chemical plant related to raw materials, feedstocks and finished products. All intersegment sales are at market based prices.

The company has an active asset management program in which underperforming assets are either improved to acceptable levels or considered for divestment. The asset management program includes a disciplined, regular review to ensure that all assets are contributing to the company's strategic objectives.

The demand for crude oil, natural gas, petroleum products and petrochemical products are generally linked closely with general economic growth activity. The occurrence of recessions or other periods of low or negative economic growth will typically have a direct adverse impact on the company's financial results. In challenging economic times, the company follows the proven approach to continue to focus on the business elements within its control and take a long-term view.

Risk management

The company's size, strong capital structure and the complementary nature of the Upstream, Downstream and Chemical businesses reduce the company's enterprise-wide risk from changes in currency exchange rates and commodity prices. Imperial has the ability to use derivative instruments to offset exposures associated with hydrocarbon prices that arise from existing assets, liabilities and forecasted transactions. Credit risk associated with the company's derivative position is mitigated by several factors, including the use of derivative clearing exchanges and the quality of and financial limits placed on derivative counterparties. The company believes there are no material market or credit risks to the company's financial position, results of operations or liquidity as a result of the derivatives described in note 6 on page 48. The company maintains a system of controls that includes the authorization, reporting and monitoring of derivative activity.

Critical accounting estimates

The company’s financial statements have been prepared in accordance with United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). GAAP requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. The company’s accounting and financial reporting fairly reflect its straightforward business model. Imperial does not use financing structures for the purpose of altering accounting outcomes or removing debt from the balance sheet. The company’s significant accounting policies are summarized in note 1 to the consolidated financial statements on page 33.

Oil and gas reserves
Evaluations of oil and natural gas reserves are important to the effective management of upstream assets. They are an integral part of investment decisions about oil and gas properties such as whether development should proceed.

The estimation of proved reserves, which is based on the requirement of reasonable certainty, is an ongoing process based on rigorous technical evaluations, commercial and market assessments and detailed analysis of well information such as flow rates and reservoir pressure declines. The estimation of proved reserves is controlled by the company through long-standing approval guidelines. Reserve changes are made within a well-established, disciplined process driven by senior level geoscience and engineering professionals, assisted by the reserves management group which has significant technical experience, culminating in reviews with and approval by senior management and the company’s board of directors. Notably, the company does not use specific quantitative reserve targets to determine compensation. Key features of the reserve estimation process are covered in “Disclosure of reserves” in Item 1.

Oil and natural gas reserves include both proved and unproved reserves.

- Proved oil and natural gas reserves are determined in accordance with Securities and Exchange Commission requirements. Proved reserves are those quantities of oil and natural gas which, by analysis of geoscience and engineering data, can be estimated with reasonable certainty to be economically producible under existing economic and operating conditions and government regulations. Proved reserves are determined using the average of first-of-month oil and natural gas prices during the reporting year.

  Proved reserves can be further subdivided into developed and undeveloped reserves. Proved developed reserves include amounts which are expected to be recovered through existing wells with existing equipment and operating methods. Proved undeveloped reserves include amounts expected to be recovered from new wells on undrilled proved acreage or from existing wells where a relatively major expenditure is required for completion. Proved undeveloped reserves are recognized only if a development plan has been adopted indicating that the reserves are scheduled to be drilled within five years, unless specific circumstances support a longer period of time.

  The percentage of proved developed reserves was 71 percent of total proved reserves at year-end 2017, a reduction from 77 percent in 2016. Although the company is reasonably certain that proved reserves will be produced, the timing and amount recovered can be affected by a number of factors including completion of development projects, reservoir performance, regulatory approvals and significant changes in long-term oil and natural gas prices.

- Unproved reserves are quantities of oil and natural gas with less than reasonable certainty of recoverability and include probable reserves. Probable reserves are reserves that, together with proved reserves, are as likely as not to be recovered.

Revisions can include upward or downward changes in previously estimated volumes of proved reserves for existing fields due to the evaluation or re-evaluation of already available geologic, reservoir or production data; new geologic, reservoir or production data; or changes in the average of first-of-the-month prices and year-end costs that are used in the estimation of reserves. Revisions can also result from significant changes in either development strategy or production equipment / facility capacity.

At year-end 2016, downward revisions of proved developed and undeveloped bitumen reserves were a result of low prices. The entire 2.5 billion barrels of bitumen at Kearl and approximately 0.2 billion barrels of bitumen at Cold Lake no longer qualified as proved reserves under the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission definition of proved reserves.

As a result of improved prices in 2017, an additional 0.3 billion barrels of bitumen at Kearl and Cold Lake now qualify as proved reserves at year-end 2017. Among the factors that would result in additional amounts being recognized as proved reserves at some point in the future are a further recovery in yearly average price levels, a further decline in costs and additional planned investment in reliability improvements. Under the terms of certain contractual arrangements or government royalty regimes, lower prices can also increase proved reserves attributable to Imperial. The company's operating decisions and its outlook for future production volumes are not impacted by proved reserves as disclosed under the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission definition.

Unit-of-production depreciation
The calculation of unit-of-production depreciation is a critical accounting estimate that measures the depreciation of upstream assets. Oil and natural gas reserve quantities are used as the basis to calculate unit-of-production depreciation rates for most upstream assets. Depreciation is calculated by taking the ratio of asset cost to total proved reserves or proved developed reserves applied to the actual cost of production. The volumes produced and asset cost are known, while proved reserves are based on estimates that are subject to some variability.

In the event that the unit-of-production method does not result in an equitable allocation of cost over the economic life of an upstream asset, an alternative method is used. The straight-line method is used in limited situations where the expected life of the asset does not reasonably correlate with that of the underlying reserves. For example, certain assets used in the production of oil and natural gas have a shorter life than the reserves, and as such, the company uses straight-line depreciation to ensure the asset is fully depreciated by the end of its useful life.

To the extent that proved reserves for a property are substantially de-booked and that property continues to produce such that the resulting depreciation charge does not result in an equitable allocation of cost over the expected life, assets will be depreciated using a unit-of-production method based on reserves determined at the most recent SEC price which results in a more meaningful quantity of proved reserves, appropriately adjusted for production and technical changes. This approach was applied in 2017 and the effect on depreciation expense was immaterial versus 2016. Continued application for 2018 is anticipated to be immaterial.

Impact of oil and gas reserves and prices and margins on testing for impairment
The company tests assets or groups of assets for recoverability on an ongoing basis whenever events or circumstances indicate the carrying amounts may not be recoverable. Among the events or changes in circumstances which could indicate that the carrying value of an asset or asset group may not be recoverable are the following:

- A significant decrease in the market price of a long-lived asset;
- A significant adverse change in the extent or manner in which an asset is being used or in its physical condition including a significant decrease in the company’s current and projected reserve volumes;
- A significant adverse change in legal factors or in the business climate that could affect the value, including a significant adverse action or assessment by a regulator;
- An accumulation of project costs significantly in excess of the amount originally expected;
- A current-period operating loss combined with a history and forecast of operating or cash flow losses; and
- A current expectation that, more likely than not, a long-lived asset will be sold or otherwise disposed of significantly before the end of its previously estimated useful life.

Asset valuation analyses performed as part of the company’s asset management program and other profitability reviews assist Imperial in assessing whether events or circumstances indicate the carrying amounts of any of its assets may not be recoverable.

In general, Imperial does not view temporarily low prices or margins as an indication of impairment. Management believes prices over the long-term must be sufficient to generate investments in energy supply to meet global demand. Although prices will occasionally drop significantly, industry prices over the long term will continue to be driven by market supply and demand fundamentals. On the supply side, industry production from mature fields is declining. This is being offset by investments to generate production from new discoveries, field developments and technology and efficiency advancements. OPEC investment activities and production policies also have an impact on world oil supplies. The demand side is largely a function of general economic activities and levels of prosperity. Because the lifespans of the company's major assets are measured in decades, the value of these assets is predominantly based on long-term views of future commodity prices and production costs. During the lifespan of these major assets, the company expects that oil and gas prices will experience significant volatility, and consequently these assets will experience periods of higher earnings and periods of lower earnings, or even losses. In assessing whether the events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable, the company considers recent periods of operating losses in the context of its longer-term view of prices. While near-term prices are subject to wide fluctuations, longer term price views are more stable and meaningful for purposes of assessing future cash flows.

When the industry experiences a prolonged and deep reduction in commodity prices, the market supply and demand conditions may result in changes to the company's long-term price or margin assumptions it uses for its capital investment decisions. To the extent those changes result in a significant reduction to its long-term oil prices or natural gas prices or margin ranges, the company may consider that situation, in conjunction with other events and changes in circumstances such as a history of operating losses, as an indicator of potential impairment for certain assets.

In the upstream, the standardized measure of discounted cash flows included in the "Supplemental information on oil and gas exploration and production activities" is required to use prices based on the yearly average of first-of-month prices. These prices represent discrete points in time and could be higher or lower than the company's long-term price assumptions which are used for impairment assessments. The company believes the standardized measure does not provide a reliable estimate of the expected future cash flows to be obtained from the development and production of its oil and gas properties or of the value of its oil and gas reserves and therefore does not consider it relevant in determining whether events or changes in circumstances indicate the need for an impairment assessment.

If events or circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable, the company estimates the future undiscounted cash flows of the affected properties to judge the recoverability of carrying amounts. In performing this assessment, assets are grouped at the lowest level for which there are identifiable cash flows that are largely independent of the cash flows of other groups of assets. Cash flows used in recoverability assessments are based on the company's assumptions which are developed in the annual planning and budgeting process, and are consistent with the criteria management uses to evaluate investment opportunities. These evaluations make use of the company's assumptions of future capital allocations, crude oil and natural gas commodity prices, refining and chemical margins, volumes, costs, foreign currency exchange rates and inflation rates. Volumes are based on projected field and facility production profiles, throughput, or sales. Where unproved reserves exist, an appropriately risk-adjusted amount of these reserves may be included in the evaluation. Cash flow estimates for impairment testing exclude the effects of derivative instruments.

An asset group is impaired if its estimated future undiscounted cash flows are less than the asset group's carrying value. Impairments are measured by the amount by which the carrying value exceeds fair value. Fair value is based on market prices if an active market exists for the asset group or discounted cash flows using a discount rate commensurate with the risk. Significant unproved properties are assessed for impairment individually, and valuation allowances against the capitalized costs would be recorded based on the estimated economic chance of success and the length of time that the company expects to hold the properties. Properties that are not individually significant are aggregated by groups and amortized based on development risk and average holding period.

The decisions not to proceed, at this time, with the Horn River development and Mackenzie gas project resulted in Upstream non-cash impairment charges of $566 million, after tax, in the fourth quarter 2017.

Supplemental information regarding oil and gas results of operations, capitalized costs and reserves is provided following the notes to consolidated financial statements.

Inventories
Crude oil, products and merchandise inventories are carried at the lower of current market value or cost (generally determined under the last-in, first-out method – LIFO).

Pension benefits
The company's pension plan is managed in compliance with the requirements of governmental authorities and meets funding levels as determined by independent third-party actuaries. Pension accounting requires explicit assumptions regarding, among others, the discount rate for the benefit obligations, the expected rate of return on plan assets and the long-term rate of future compensation increases. All pension assumptions are reviewed annually by senior management. These assumptions are adjusted only as appropriate to reflect long-term changes in market rates and outlook. The long-term expected rate of return on plan assets of 5.5 percent used in 2017, compares to actual returns of 6.3 percent and 7.3 percent achieved over the last 10- and 20-year periods respectively, ending December 31, 2017. If different assumptions are used, the expense and obligations could increase or decrease as a result. The company's potential exposure to changes in assumptions is summarized in note 4 to the consolidated financial statements on page 42. At Imperial, differences between actual returns on plan assets and the long-term expected returns are not recorded in pension expense in the year the differences occur. Such differences are deferred, along with other actuarial gains and losses, and are amortized into pension expense over the expected average remaining service life of employees. Employee benefit expense represented about 2 percent of total expenses in 2017.

Asset retirement obligations and other environmental liabilities
Legal obligations associated with site restoration on the retirement of assets with determinable useful lives are recognized when they are incurred, which is typically at the time the assets are installed. The obligations are initially measured at fair value and discounted to present value. Over time, the discounted asset retirement obligation amount will be accreted for the change in its present value, with this effect included in production and manufacturing expenses. As payments to settle the obligations occur on an ongoing basis and will continue over the lives of the operating assets, which can exceed 25 years, the discount rate will be adjusted only as appropriate to reflect long-term changes in market rates and outlook. For 2017, the obligations were discounted at 6 percent and the accretion expense was $92 million, before tax, which was significantly less than 1 percent of total expenses in the year. There would be no material impact on the company's reported financial results if a different discount rate had been used.

Asset retirement obligations are not recognized for assets with an indeterminate useful life. Asset retirement obligations for these facilities generally become firm at the time the facilities are permanently shut down and dismantled. These obligations may include the costs of asset disposal and additional soil remediation. However, these sites have indeterminate lives based on plans for continued operations, and as such, the fair value of the conditional legal obligations cannot be measured, since it is impossible to estimate the future settlement dates of such obligations. For these and non-operating assets, the company accrues provisions for environmental liabilities when it is probable that obligations have been incurred and the amount can be reasonably estimated.

Asset retirement obligations and other environmental liabilities are based on engineering estimated costs, taking into account the anticipated method and extent of remediation consistent with legal requirements, current technology and the possible use of the location. Since these estimates are specific to the locations involved, there are many individual assumptions underlying the company's total asset retirement obligations and provision for other environmental liabilities. While these individual assumptions can be subject to change, none of them is individually significant to the company's reported financial results.

Suspended exploratory well costs
The company continues capitalization of exploratory well costs when the well has found a sufficient quantity of reserves to justify its completion as a producing well and the company is making sufficient progress assessing the reserves and the economic and operating viability of the project. Exploratory well costs not meeting these criteria are charged to expense. The facts and circumstances that support continued capitalization of suspended wells at year-end are disclosed in note 15 to the consolidated financial statements on page 53.

Tax contingencies
The operations of the company are complex, and related tax interpretations, regulations and legislation are continually changing. Significant management judgment is required in the accounting for income tax contingencies and tax disputes because the outcomes are often difficult to predict.

The benefits of uncertain tax positions that the company has taken or expects to take in its income tax returns are recognized in the financial statements if management concludes that it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained with the tax authorities. For a position that is likely to be sustained, the benefit recognized in the financial statements is measured at the largest amount that is greater than 50 percent likely of being realized. A reserve is established for the difference between a position taken or expected to be taken in an income tax return and the amount recognized in the financial statements. The company's unrecognized tax benefits and a description of open tax years are summarized in note 3 to the consolidated financial statements on page 41.

Recently issued accounting standards

Effective January 1, 2018, Imperial adopted the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) standard, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, as amended. The standard establishes a single revenue recognition model for all contracts with customers, eliminates industry and transaction specific requirements, and expands disclosure requirements. The standard was adopted using the modified retrospective method, under which prior years' results are not restated, but supplemental information on the impact of the new standard will be included in the 2018 results if material. The standard is not expected to have a material impact on the company's financial statements. The cumulative effect of adoption of the new standard is de minimis.

Effective January 1, 2018, Imperial adopted the FASB standard update, Compensation – Retirement Benefits (Topic 715): *Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost*. The update requires the service cost component of net benefit costs to be reported in the same line in the income statement as other compensation costs and the other components of net benefit costs (non-service costs) be presented separately from the service cost component. Additionally, only the service cost component of net benefit costs is eligible for capitalization. The company expects to add a new line "Non-service pension and other postretirement benefit" expense to its consolidated statement of income, and expects to include all of these costs in the "Corporate and other" expenses. This line would reflect the non-service costs that were previously included in "Production and manufacturing" expenses, and "Selling and general" expenses. The update is not expected to have a material impact on Imperial's financial statements.

Effective January 1, 2019, Imperial will adopt the FASB standard, *Leases.* The standard requires that all leases with an initial term greater than one year be recorded on the balance sheet as an asset and a lease liability. Imperial is gathering and evaluating data, and recently acquired a system to facilitate implementation. The company continues to progress an assessment of the magnitude of the effect on the company's financial statements.

Management's report on internal control over financial reporting

Management, including the company's chief executive officer and principal accounting officer and principal financial officer, is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over the company's financial reporting. Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on this evaluation, management concluded that Imperial Oil Limited's internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2017.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, audited the effectiveness of the company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017, as stated in their report which is included herein.

/s/ Richard M. Kruger

R.M. Kruger
Chairman, president and
chief executive officer

/s/ Beverley A. Babcock

B.A. Babcock
Senior vice-president,
finance and administration, and controller
(Principal accounting officer and principal financial officer)

February 28, 2018

Report of independent registered public accounting firm

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of
Imperial Oil Limited

Opinions on the financial statements and internal control over financial reporting
We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Imperial Oil Limited and its subsidiaries as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, shareholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2017, including the related notes (collectively referred to as the "consolidated financial statements"). We also have audited the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework* (2013) issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017 and 2016**,** and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2017 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also in our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control — Integrated Framework* (2013) issued by the COSO.

Basis for opinions
The Company's management is responsible for these consolidated financial statements, for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying Management's report on internal control over financial reporting. Our responsibility is to express opinions on the Company's consolidated financial statements and on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud, and whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audits of the consolidated financial statements included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audits also included performing such other procedures, as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinions.

Definition and limitations of internal control over financial reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
February 28, 2018

We have served as the Company's auditor since 1934.

Consolidated statement of income (U.S. GAAP)

millions of Canadian dollars For the years ended December 31	**2017**	2016	2015
Revenues and other income			
Operating revenues (a)	**29,125**	25,049	26,756
Investment and other income (note 8)	**299**	2,305	132
Total revenues and other income	**29,424**	27,354	26,888
Expenses			
Exploration (note 15)	**183**	94	73
Purchases of crude oil and products (b)	**18,145**	15,120	15,284
Production and manufacturing (c)	**5,698**	5,224	5,434
Selling and general (c)	**893**	1,129	1,117
Federal excise tax	**1,673**	1,650	1,568
Depreciation and depletion	**2,172**	1,628	1,450
Financing costs (note 12)	**78**	65	39
Total expenses	**28,842**	24,910	24,965
Income (loss) before income taxes	**582**	2,444	1,923
Income taxes (note 3)	**92**	279	801
Net income (loss)	**490**	2,165	1,122
Per share information (Canadian dollars)			
Net income (loss) per common share - basic (note 10)	**0.58**	2.55	1.32
Net income (loss) per common share - diluted (note 10)	**0.58**	2.55	1.32
Dividends per common share	**0.63**	0.59	0.54
(a) Amounts from related parties included in operating revenues (note 16).	**4,110**	2,342	3,058
(b) Amounts to related parties included in purchases of crude oil and products (note 16).	**2,687**	2,224	2,684
(c) Amounts to related parties included in production and manufacturing, and selling and general expenses (note 16).	**544**	533	442

The information in the notes to consolidated financial statements is an integral part of these statements.

Consolidated statement of comprehensive income (U.S. GAAP)

millions of Canadian dollars For the years ended December 31	**2017**	2016	2015
Net income (loss)	**490**	2,165	1,122
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of income taxes			
Post retirement benefits liability adjustment (excluding amortization)	**(54)**	(210)	64
Amortization of post retirement benefits liability adjustment included in net periodic benefit costs	**136**	141	167
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	**82**	(69)	231
Comprehensive income (loss)	**572**	2,096	1,353

The information in the notes to consolidated financial statements is an integral part of these statements.

Consolidated balance sheet (U.S. GAAP)

millions of Canadian dollars At December 31	2017	2016
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash	**1,195**	391
Accounts receivable, less estimated doubtful accounts (a)	**2,712**	2,023
Inventories of crude oil and products (note 11)	**1,075**	949
Materials, supplies and prepaid expenses	**425**	468
Total current assets	**5,407**	3,831
Investments and long-term receivables (b)	**865**	1,030
Property, plant and equipment, less accumulated depreciation and depletion	**34,473**	36,333
Goodwill	**186**	186
Other assets, including intangibles, net (note 5)	**670**	274
Total assets	**41,601**	41,654
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Notes and loans payable (c) (note 12)	**202**	202
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (a) (note 11)	**3,877**	3,193
Income taxes payable	**57**	488
Total current liabilities	**4,136**	3,883
Long-term debt (d) (note 14)	**5,005**	5,032
Other long-term obligations (e) (note 5)	**3,780**	3,656
Deferred income tax liabilities (note 3)	**4,245**	4,062
Total liabilities	**17,166**	16,633
Commitments and contingent liabilities (note 9)		
Shareholders' equity		
Common shares at stated value (f) (note 10)	**1,536**	1,566
Earnings reinvested	**24,714**	25,352
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (note 17)	**(1,815)**	(1,897)
Total shareholders' equity	**24,435**	25,021
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	**41,601**	41,654

(a) Accounts receivable, less estimated doubtful accounts included net amounts receivable from related parties of $509 million (2016 - $172 million), (note 16).

(b) Investments and long-term receivables included amounts from related parties of $19 million (2016 – $0 million), (note 16).

(c) Notes and loans payable included amounts to related parties of $75 million (2016 – $75 million), (note 16).

(d) Long-term debt included amounts to related parties of $4,447 million (2016 – $4,447 million), (note 16).

(e) Other long-term obligations included amounts to related parties of $60 million (2016 – $104 million), (note 16).

(f) Number of common shares authorized and outstanding were 1,100 million and 831 million, respectively (2016 – 1,100 million and 848 million, respectively), (note 10).

The information in the notes to consolidated financial statements is an integral part of these statements.

Approved by the directors.

/s/ Richard M. Kruger

R.M. Kruger
Chairman, president and
chief executive officer

/s/ Beverley A. Babcock

B.A. Babcock
Senior vice-president,
finance and administration, and controller

Consolidated statement of shareholders' equity (U.S. GAAP)

millions of Canadian dollars At December 31	**2017**	2016	2015
Common shares at stated value (note 10)			
At beginning of year	**1,566**	1,566	1,566
Issued under the stock option plan	**-**	-	-
Share purchases at stated value	**30**	-	-
At end of year	**1,536**	1,566	1,566
Earnings reinvested			
At beginning of year	**25,352**	23,687	23,023
Net income (loss) for the year	**490**	2,165	1,122
Share purchases in excess of stated value	**(597)**	-	-
Dividends declared	**(531)**	(500)	(458)
At end of year	**24,714**	25,352	23,687
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) (note 17)			
At beginning of year	**(1,897)**	(1,828)	(2,059)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	**82**	(69)	231
At end of year	**(1,815)**	(1,897)	(1,828)
Shareholders' equity at end of year	**24,435**	25,021	23,425

The information in the notes to consolidated financial statements is an integral part of these statements.

Consolidated statement of cash flows (U.S. GAAP)

millions of Canadian dollars Inflow (outflow) For the years ended December 31	**2017**	2016	2015
Operating activities			
Net income (loss)	**490**	2,165	1,122
Adjustments for non-cash items:			
Depreciation and depletion	**2,172**	1,628	1,450
(Gain) loss on asset sales (note 8)	**(220)**	(2,244)	(97)
Inventory write-down to current market value	**-**	-	59
Deferred income taxes and other	**321**	114	367
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	**(689)**	(442)	(42)
Inventories, materials, supplies and prepaid expenses	**(83)**	197	(172)
Income taxes payable	**(431)**	36	418
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	**678**	237	(1,030)
All other items - net (a) (b)	**525**	324	92
Cash flows from (used in) operating activities	**2,763**	2,015	2,167
Investing activities			
Additions to property, plant and equipment (b)	**(993)**	(1,073)	(2,994)
Proceeds from asset sales (note 8)	**232**	3,021	142
Additional investments	**(1)**	(1)	(32)
Loans to equity company	**(19)**	-	-
Cash flows from (used in) investing activities	**(781)**	1,947	(2,884)
Financing activities			
Short-term debt - net	**-**	(1,749)	(32)
Long-term debt - additions (note 14)	**-**	495	1,206
Long-term debt - reductions (note 14)	**-**	(2,000)	-
Reduction in capitalized lease obligations (note 14)	**(27)**	(28)	(20)
Dividends paid	**(524)**	(492)	(449)
Common shares purchased (note 10)	**(627)**	-	-
Cash flows from (used in) financing activities	**(1,178)**	(3,774)	705
Increase (decrease) in cash	**804**	188	(12)
Cash at beginning of year	**391**	203	215
Cash at end of year (c)	**1,195**	391	203
(a) Included contribution to registered pension plans.	**212**	163	225

(b) The impact of carbon emission programs are included in additions to property, plant and equipment, and all other items - net.
(c) Cash is composed of cash in bank and cash equivalents at cost. Cash equivalents are all highly liquid securities with maturity of three months or less when purchased.

Non-cash transactions

In 2015, a capital lease of approximately $480 million was not included in "Additions to property, plant and equipment" or "Long-term debt - additions" lines on the Consolidated statement of cash flows.

The information in the notes to consolidated financial statements is an integral part of these statements.

Notes to consolidated financial statements

The accompanying consolidated financial statements and the supporting and supplemental material are the responsibility of the management of Imperial Oil Limited.

The company's principal business is energy, involving the exploration, production, transportation and sale of crude oil and natural gas, and the manufacture, transportation and sale of petroleum products. The company is also a major manufacturer and marketer of petrochemicals.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, which requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from these estimates. Prior years' data has been reclassified in certain cases to conform to the 2017 presentation basis. All amounts are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise indicated.

1. Summary of significant accounting policies

Principles of consolidation
The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of subsidiaries the company controls. Intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated. Subsidiaries include those companies in which Imperial has both an equity interest and the continuing ability to unilaterally determine strategic, operating, investing and financing policies. Imperial Oil Resources Limited is the only significant subsidiary included in the consolidated financial statements and is wholly owned by Imperial Oil Limited. The consolidated financial statements also include the company's share of the undivided interest in certain upstream assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, including its 25 percent interest in the Syncrude joint venture and its 70.96 percent interest in the Kearl joint venture.

Revenues
Revenues associated with sales of crude oil, natural gas, petroleum and chemical products and other items are recorded when the products are delivered. Delivery occurs when the customer has taken title and has assumed the risks and rewards of ownership, prices are fixed or determinable and collectability is reasonably assured. The company does not enter into ongoing arrangements whereby it is required to repurchase its products, nor does the company provide the customer with a right of return.

Revenues include amounts billed to customers for shipping and handling. Shipping and handling costs incurred up to the point of final storage prior to delivery to a customer are included in “Purchases of crude oil and products” in the consolidated statement of income. Delivery costs from final storage to customer are recorded as a marketing expense in "Selling and general" expenses.

Purchases and sales of inventory with the same counterparty that are entered into in contemplation of one another are combined and recorded as exchanges measured at the book value of the item sold.

Consumer taxes
Taxes levied on the consumer and collected by the company are excluded from the consolidated statement of income. These are primarily provincial taxes on motor fuels, the federal goods and services tax and the federal/provincial harmonized sales tax.

Derivative instruments
Imperial has the ability to use derivative instruments to offset exposures associated with hydrocarbon prices that arise from existing assets, liabilities and forecasted transactions. The gains and losses resulting from changes in the fair value of derivatives are recorded under “Purchases of crude oil and products” on the consolidated statement of income. The company does not currently make use of derivative instruments to offset exposures associated with foreign currency and interest rates.

Fair value

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. Hierarchy Levels 1, 2 and 3 are terms for the priority of inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. Hierarchy Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Hierarchy Level 2 inputs are inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability. Hierarchy Level 3 inputs are inputs that are not observable in the market.

Inventories

Inventories are recorded at the lower of current market value or cost. The cost of crude oil and products is determined primarily using the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method. LIFO was selected over the alternative first-in, first-out and average cost methods because it provides a better matching of current costs with the revenues generated in the period.

Inventory costs include expenditures and other charges (including depreciation), directly or indirectly incurred in bringing the inventory to its existing condition and location. Selling and general expenses are reported as period costs and excluded from inventory costs.

Investments

The company's interests in the underlying net assets of affiliates it does not control, but over which it exercises significant influence, are accounted for using the equity method. They are recorded at the original cost of the investment plus Imperial's share of earnings since the investment was made, less dividends received. Imperial's share of the after-tax earnings of these investments is included in "Investment and other income" in the consolidated statement of income. Other investments are recorded at cost. Dividends from these other investments are included in "Investment and other income".

These investments represent interests in non-publicly traded pipeline companies and a rail loading joint venture that facilitate the sale and purchase of liquids in the conduct of company operations. Other parties who also have an equity interest in these investments share in the risks and rewards according to their percentage of ownership. Imperial does not invest in these investments in order to remove liabilities from its balance sheet.

Property, plant and equipment

Cost basis

Imperial uses the "successful efforts" method to account for its exploration and production activities. Under this method, costs are accumulated on a field-by-field basis. Costs incurred to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire a property (whether unproved or proved) are capitalized when incurred. Exploratory well costs are carried as an asset when the well has found a sufficient quantity of reserves to justify its completion as a producing well and where the company is making sufficient progress assessing the reserves and the economic and operating viability of the project. Exploratory well costs not meeting these criteria are charged to expense. Other exploratory expenditures, including geophysical costs and annual lease rentals, are expensed as incurred. Development costs, including costs of productive wells and development dryholes, are capitalized.

Maintenance and repair costs, including planned major maintenance, are expensed as incurred. Improvements that increase or prolong the service life or capacity of an asset are capitalized.

Depreciation, depletion and amortization
Depreciation, depletion and amortization are primarily determined under either the unit-of-production method or the straight-line method, which is based on estimated asset service life taking obsolescence into consideration. Depreciation and depletion for assets associated with producing properties begin at the time when production commences on a regular basis. Depreciation for other assets begins when the asset is in place and ready for its intended use. Assets under construction are not depreciated or depleted.

Acquisition costs of proved properties are amortized using a unit-of-production method, computed on the basis of total proved oil and gas reserves. Capitalized exploratory drilling and development costs associated with productive depletable extractive properties are amortized using the unit-of-production rates based on the amount of proved developed reserves of oil and gas that are estimated to be recoverable from existing facilities using current operating methods. Under the unit-of-production method, oil and gas volumes are considered produced once they have been measured through meters at custody transfer or sales transaction points at the outlet valve on the lease or field storage tank. In the event that the unit-of-production method does not result in an equitable allocation of cost over the economic life of an upstream asset, an alternative method is used. The straight-line method is used in limited situations where the expected life of the asset does not reasonably correlate with that of the underlying reserves. For example, certain assets used in the production of oil and natural gas have a shorter life than the reserves, and as such, the company uses straight-line depreciation to ensure the asset is fully depreciated by the end of its useful life. Investments in mining heavy equipment and certain ore processing plant assets at oil sands mining properties are depreciated on a straight-line basis over a maximum of 15 years and 50 years respectively. Depreciation of other plant and equipment is calculated using the straight-line method, based on the estimated service life of the asset.

To the extent that proved reserves for a property are substantially de-booked and that property continues to produce such that the resulting depreciation charge does not result in an equitable allocation of cost over the expected life, assets will be depreciated using a unit-of-production method based on reserves determined at the most recent SEC price which results in a more meaningful quantity of proved reserves, appropriately adjusted for production and technical changes. The effect of this approach on the company's 2018 depreciation expense compared to 2017 is anticipated to be immaterial.

Investments in refinery, chemical process, and lubes basestock manufacturing equipment are generally depreciated on a straight-line basis over a 25-year life. Maintenance and repairs, including planned major maintenance, are expensed as incurred. Major renewals and improvements are capitalized and the assets replaced are retired.

Impairment assessment
The company tests assets or groups of assets for recoverability on an ongoing basis whenever events or circumstances indicate the carrying amounts may not be recoverable. Among the events or changes in circumstances which could indicate that the carrying value of an asset or asset group may not be recoverable are the following:

- A significant decrease in the market price of a long-lived asset;
- A significant adverse change in the extent or manner in which an asset is being used or in its physical condition including a significant decrease in the company's current and projected reserve volumes;
- A significant adverse change in legal factors or in the business climate that could affect the value, including a significant adverse action or assessment by a regulator;
- An accumulation of project costs significantly in excess of the amount originally expected;
- A current-period operating loss combined with a history and forecast of operating or cash flow losses; and
- A current expectation that, more likely than not, a long-lived asset will be sold or otherwise disposed of significantly before the end of its previously estimated useful life.

Asset valuation analyses performed as part of the company's asset management program and other profitability reviews assist Imperial in assessing whether events or circumstances indicate the carrying amounts of any of its assets may not be recoverable.

In general, Imperial does not view temporarily low prices or margins as an indication of impairment. Management believes prices over the long-term must be sufficient to generate investments in energy supply to meet global demand. Although prices will occasionally drop significantly, industry prices over the long term will continue to be driven by market supply and demand fundamentals. On the supply side, industry production from mature fields is declining. This is being offset by investments to generate production from new discoveries, field developments and technology and efficiency advancements. OPEC investment activities and production policies also have an impact on world oil supplies. The demand side is largely a function of general economic activities and levels of prosperity. Because the lifespans of the company's major assets are measured in decades, the value of these assets is predominantly based on long-term views of future commodity prices and production costs. During the lifespan of these major assets, the company expects that oil and gas prices will experience significant volatility, and consequently these assets will experience periods of higher earnings and periods of lower earnings, or even losses. In assessing whether the events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable, the company considers recent periods of operating losses in the context of its longer-term view of prices. While near-term prices are subject to wide fluctuations, longer term price views are more stable and meaningful for purposes of assessing future cash flows.

When the industry experiences a prolonged and deep reduction in commodity prices, the market supply and demand conditions may result in changes to the company's long-term price or margin assumptions it uses for its capital investment decisions. To the extent those changes result in a significant reduction to its long-term oil prices or natural gas prices or margin ranges, the company may consider that situation, in conjunction with other events and changes in circumstances such as a history of operating losses, as an indicator of potential impairment for certain assets.

In the upstream, the standardized measure of discounted cash flows included in the "Supplemental information on oil and gas exploration and production activities" is required to use prices based on the yearly average of first-of-month prices. These prices represent discrete points in time and could be higher or lower than the company's long-term price assumptions which are used for impairment assessments. The company believes the standardized measure does not provide a reliable estimate of the expected future cash flows to be obtained from the development and production of its oil and gas properties or of the value of its oil and gas reserves and therefore does not consider it relevant in determining whether events or changes in circumstances indicate the need for an impairment assessment.

If events or circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable, the company estimates the future undiscounted cash flows of the affected properties to judge the recoverability of carrying amounts. In performing this assessment, assets are grouped at the lowest level for which there are identifiable cash flows that are largely independent of the cash flows of other groups of assets. Cash flows used in recoverability assessments are based on the company's assumptions which are developed in the annual planning and budgeting process, and are consistent with the criteria management uses to evaluate investment opportunities. These evaluations make use of the company's assumptions of future capital allocations, crude oil and natural gas commodity prices, refining and chemical margins, volumes, costs, foreign currency exchange rates and inflation rates. Volumes are based on projected field and facility production profiles, throughput, or sales. Where unproved reserves exist, an appropriately risk-adjusted amount of these reserves may be included in the evaluation. Cash flow estimates for impairment testing exclude the effects of derivative instruments.

An asset group is impaired if its estimated future undiscounted cash flows are less than the asset group's carrying value. Impairments are measured by the amount by which the carrying value exceeds fair value. Fair value is based on market prices if an active market exists for the asset group or discounted cash flows using a discount rate commensurate with the risk. Significant unproved properties are assessed for impairment individually, and valuation allowances against the capitalized costs would be recorded based on the estimated economic chance of success and the length of time that the company expects to hold the properties. Properties that are not individually significant are aggregated by groups and amortized based on development risk and average holding period.

Gains on sales of proved and unproved properties are only recognized when there is neither uncertainty about the recovery of costs applicable to any interest retained nor any substantial obligation for future performance by the company. Losses on properties sold are recognized when incurred or when the properties are held for sale and the fair value of the properties is less than the carrying value.

Gains or losses on assets sold are included in "Investment and other income" in the consolidated statement of income.

Interest capitalization
Interest costs incurred to finance expenditures during the construction phase of projects are capitalized as part of property, plant and equipment and are depreciated over the service life of the related assets. The project construction phase commences with the development of the detailed engineering design and ends when the constructed assets are ready for their intended use.

Goodwill and other intangible assets
Goodwill is not subject to amortization. Goodwill is tested for impairment annually or more frequently if events or circumstances indicate it might be impaired. Impairment losses are recognized in current period earnings. The evaluation for impairment of goodwill is based on a comparison of the carrying values of goodwill and associated operating assets with the estimated present value of net cash flows from those operating assets.

Intangible assets with determinable useful lives are amortized over the estimated service lives of the assets. Computer software development costs are amortized over a maximum of 15 years and customer lists are amortized over a maximum of 10 years. The amortization is included in “Depreciation and depletion” in the consolidated statement of income.

Asset retirement obligations and other environmental liabilities
Legal obligations associated with site restoration on the retirement of assets with determinable useful lives are recognized when they are incurred, which is typically at the time the assets are installed. These obligations primarily relate to soil reclamation and remediation, and costs of abandonment and demolition of oil and gas wells and related facilities. The company uses estimates, assumptions and judgments regarding such factors as the existence of a legal obligation for an asset retirement obligation, technical assessments of the assets, estimated amounts and timing of settlements, the credit-adjusted risk-free rate to be used, and inflation rates. The obligations are initially measured at fair value and discounted to present value. A corresponding amount equal to that of the initial obligation is added to the capitalized costs of the related asset. Over time, the discounted asset retirement obligation amount will be accreted for the change in its present value, and the initial capitalized costs will be depreciated over the useful lives of the related assets.

No asset retirement obligations are set up for those manufacturing, distribution, marketing and office facilities with an indeterminate useful life. Asset retirement obligations for these facilities generally become firm at the time the facilities are permanently shut down and dismantled. These obligations may include the costs of asset disposal and additional soil remediation. However, these sites have indeterminate lives based on plans for continued operations, and as such, the fair value of the conditional legal obligations cannot be measured, since it is impossible to estimate the future settlement dates of such obligations. Provision for environmental liabilities of these assets is made when it is probable that obligations have been incurred and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Provisions for environmental liabilities are determined based on engineering estimated costs, taking into account the anticipated method and extent of remediation consistent with legal requirements, current technology and the possible use of the location. These provisions are not reduced by possible recoveries from third parties and projected cash expenditures are not discounted.

Foreign-currency translation
Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies have been translated at the rates of exchange prevailing on December 31. Any exchange gains or losses are recognized in income.

Share-based compensation
The company awards share-based compensation to certain employees in the form of restricted stock units. Compensation expense is measured each reporting period based on the company's current stock price and is recorded as "Selling and general" expenses in the consolidated statement of income over the requisite service period of each award. See note 7 to the consolidated financial statements on page 49 for further details.

Recently issued accounting standards
Effective January 1, 2018, Imperial adopted the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) standard, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, as amended. The standard establishes a single revenue recognition model for all contracts with customers, eliminates industry and transaction specific requirements, and expands disclosure requirements. The standard was adopted using the modified retrospective method, under which prior years' results are not restated, but supplemental information on the impact of the new standard will be included in the 2018 results if material. The standard is not expected to have a material impact on the company's financial statements. The cumulative effect of adoption of the new standard is de minimis.

Effective January 1, 2018, Imperial adopted the FASB standard update, Compensation – Retirement Benefits (Topic 715): *Improving the Presentation of Net Periodic Pension Cost and Net Periodic Postretirement Benefit Cost*. The update requires the service cost component of net benefit costs to be reported in the same line in the income statement as other compensation costs and the other components of net benefit costs (non-service costs) be presented separately from the service cost component. Additionally, only the service cost component of net benefit costs is eligible for capitalization. The company expects to add a new line "Non-service pension and other postretirement benefit" expense to its consolidated statement of income, and expects to include all of these costs in the "Corporate and other" expenses. This line would reflect the non-service costs that were previously included in "Production and manufacturing" expenses, and "Selling and general" expenses. The update is not expected to have a material impact on Imperial's financial statements.

Effective January 1, 2019, Imperial will adopt the FASB standard, *Leases.* The standard requires that all leases with an initial term greater than one year be recorded on the balance sheet as an asset and a lease liability. Imperial is gathering and evaluating data, and recently acquired a system to facilitate implementation. The company continues to progress an assessment of the magnitude of the effect on the company's financial statements.

2. Business segments

The company operates its business in Canada. The Upstream, Downstream and Chemical functions best define the operating segments of the business that are reported separately. The factors used to identify these reportable segments are based on the nature of the operations that are undertaken by each segment and the structure of the company's internal organization. The Upstream segment is organized and operates to explore for and ultimately produce crude oil and its equivalent, and natural gas. The Downstream segment is organized and operates to refine crude oil into petroleum products and to distribute and market these products. The Chemical segment is organized and operates to manufacture and market hydrocarbon-based chemicals and chemical products. The above segmentation has been the long-standing practice of the company and is broadly understood across the petroleum and petrochemical industries.

These functions have been defined as the operating segments of the company because they are the segments (a) that engage in business activities from which revenues are earned and expenses are incurred; (b) whose operating results are regularly reviewed by the company's chief operating decision maker to make decisions about resources to be allocated to each segment and assess its performance; and (c) for which discrete financial information is available.

Corporate and other includes assets and liabilities that do not specifically relate to business segments – primarily cash, capitalized interest costs, short-term borrowings, long-term debt and liabilities associated with incentive compensation and post retirement benefits liability adjustment. Net earnings effects under Corporate and other activities primarily include debt-related financing, corporate governance costs, share-based incentive compensation expenses and interest income.

Segment accounting policies are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies. Upstream, Downstream and Chemical expenses include amounts allocated from Corporate and other activities. The allocation is based on proportional segment expenses. Transfers of assets between segments are recorded at book amounts. Intersegment sales are made essentially at prevailing market prices. Assets and liabilities that are not identifiable by segment are allocated.

	Upstream			Downstream			Chemical		
millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015	**2017**	2016	2015	**2017**	2016	2015
Revenues and other income									
Operating revenues (a)	**7,302**	5,492	5,776	**20,714**	18,511	19,796	**1,109**	1,046	1,184
Intersegment sales	**2,264**	2,215	2,486	**1,155**	1,007	1,019	**262**	212	234
Investment and other income (note 8)	**16**	13	22	**269**	2,278	104	**-**	-	-
	9,582	7,720	8,284	**22,138**	21,796	20,919	**1,371**	1,258	1,418
Expenses									
Exploration (b) (note 15)	**183**	94	73	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-
Purchases of crude oil and products	**4,526**	3,666	3,768	**16,543**	14,178	14,526	**751**	705	725
Production and manufacturing	**3,913**	3,591	3,766	**1,576**	1,428	1,461	**209**	205	207
Selling and general	**-**	(5)	(2)	**772**	972	986	**78**	83	87
Federal excise tax	**-**	-	-	**1,673**	1,650	1,568	**-**	-	-
Depreciation and depletion (b)	**1,939**	1,396	1,193	**202**	206	233	**12**	10	11
Financing costs (note 12)	**13**	(7)	5	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-
Total expenses	**10,574**	8,735	8,803	**20,766**	18,434	18,774	**1,050**	1,003	1,030
Income (loss) before income taxes	**(992)**	(1,015)	(519)	**1,372**	3,362	2,145	**321**	255	388
Income taxes (note 3)									
Current	**484**	(491)	(77)	**(504)**	674	476	**(32)**	68	97
Deferred	**(770)**	137	262	**836**	(66)	83	**118**	-	4
Total income tax expense (benefit)	**(286)**	(354)	185	**332**	608	559	**86**	68	101
Net income (loss)	**(706)**	(661)	(704)	**1,040**	2,754	1,586	**235**	187	287
Cash flows from (used in) operating activities	**1,257**	402	224	**1,396**	1,574	1,686	**235**	203	383
Capital and exploration expenditures (c)	**416**	896	3,135	**200**	190	340	**17**	26	52
Property, plant and equipment									
Cost	**45,542**	45,850	45,171	**5,683**	6,166	7,596	**888**	872	857
Accumulated depreciation and depletion	**(13,844)**	(12,312)	(11,016)	**(3,594)**	(4,037)	(4,584)	**(644)**	(629)	(616)
Net property, plant and equipment (b) (d)	**31,698**	33,538	34,155	**2,089**	2,129	3,012	**244**	243	241
Total assets	**35,044**	36,840	36,971	**4,890**	3,958	5,574	**399**	346	394

	Corporate and other			Eliminations			Consolidated		
millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015	**2017**	2016	2015	**2017**	2016	2015
Revenues and other income									
Operating revenues (a)	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**29,125**	25,049	26,756
Intersegment sales	**-**	-	-	**(3,681)**	(3,434)	(3,739)	**-**	-	-
Investment and other income (note 8)	**14**	14	6	**-**	-	-	**299**	2,305	132
	14	14	6	**(3,681)**	(3,434)	(3,739)	**29,424**	27,354	26,888
Expenses									
Exploration (b) (note 15)	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**183**	94	73
Purchases of crude oil and products	**-**	-	-	**(3,675)**	(3,429)	(3,735)	**18,145**	15,120	15,284
Production and manufacturing	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**5,698**	5,224	5,434
Selling and general	**49**	84	50	**(6)**	(5)	(4)	**893**	1,129	1,117
Federal excise tax	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**1,673**	1,650	1,568
Depreciation and depletion (b)	**19**	16	13	**-**	-	-	**2,172**	1,628	1,450
Financing costs (note 12)	**65**	72	34	**-**	-	-	**78**	65	39
Total expenses	**133**	172	97	**(3,681)**	(3,434)	(3,739)	**28,842**	24,910	24,965
Income (loss) before income taxes	**(119)**	(158)	(91)	**-**	-	-	**582**	2,444	1,923
Income taxes (note 3)									
Current	**(6)**	(51)	(45)	**-**	-	-	**(58)**	200	451
Deferred	**(34)**	8	1	**-**	-	-	**150**	79	350
Total income tax expense (benefit)	**(40)**	(43)	(44)	**-**	-	-	**92**	279	801
Net income (loss)	**(79)**	(115)	(47)	**-**	-	-	**490**	2,165	1,122
Cash flows from (used in) operating activities	**(125)**	(143)	(124)	**-**	(21)	(2)	**2,763**	2,015	2,167
Capital and exploration expenditures (c)	**38**	49	68	**-**	-	-	**671**	1,161	3,595
Property, plant and equipment									
Cost	**665**	627	579	**-**	-	-	**52,778**	53,515	54,203
Accumulated depreciation and depletion	**(223)**	(204)	(188)	**-**	-	-	**(18,305)**	(17,182)	(16,404)
Net property, plant and equipment (b) (d)	**442**	423	391	**-**	-	-	**34,473**	36,333	37,799
Total assets	**1,703**	894	579	**(435)**	(384)	(348)	**41,601**	41,654	43,170

(a) Includes export sales to the United States of $4,392 million (2016 - $3,612 million, 2015 - $4,157 million). Export sales to the United States were recorded in all operating segments, with the largest effects in the Upstream segment.
(b) The Upstream segment in 2017 includes non-cash impairment charges of $396 million, before tax, associated with the Horn River development and $379 million, before tax, associated with the Mackenzie gas project. The impairment charges are recognized in the lines exploration, and depreciation and depletion on the consolidated statement of income, and the accumulated depreciation and depletion line of the consolidated balance sheet.
(c) Capital and exploration expenditures (CAPEX) include exploration expenses, additions to property, plant and equipment, additions to capital leases, additional investments and acquisitions. CAPEX excludes the purchase of carbon emission credits.
(d) Includes property, plant and equipment under construction of $1,047 million (2016 - $2,705 million, 2015 - $3,719 million).

3. Income taxes

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Current income tax expense (a)	**(58)**	200	451
Deferred income tax expense (a) (b)	**150**	79	350
Total income tax expense (a) (c)	**92**	279	801
Statutory corporate tax rate (percent)	**26.9**	26.8	27.2
Increase (decrease) resulting from:			
Disposals (d)	**(5.3)**	(11.6)	(0.4)
Enacted tax rate change (a)	**0.9**	-	16.1
Other	**(6.6)**	(3.8)	(1.2)
Effective income tax rate	**15.9**	11.4	41.7

(a) On November 2, 2017 the British Columbia government enacted a 1 percent increase in the provincial tax rate from 11 percent to 12 percent. On June 30, 2015 the Alberta government enacted a 2 percent increase in the provincial tax rate, from 10 percent to 12 percent.
(b) There were no material net (charges) credits for the effect of changes in tax laws and rates included in the provisions for deferred income taxes in 2016.
(c) Cash outflow from income taxes, plus investment credits earned, was $322 million (2016 - $172 million, 2015 - $202 million).
(d) 2017 disposals are primarily associated with the sale of surplus property in Ontario. 2016 disposals are primarily associated with the sales of company-owned Esso retail sites and the general aviation business. Capital gains tax treatment was applied on the majority of disposals.

In 2017 and 2016, the decrease in the statutory tax rate in the other category mainly represents prior year adjustments and re-assessments.

Deferred income taxes are based on differences between the accounting and tax values of assets and liabilities. These differences in value are re-measured at each year-end using the tax rates and tax laws expected to apply when those differences are realized or settled in the future. Components of deferred income tax liabilities and assets as at December 31 were:

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Depreciation and amortization	**5,564**	5,361	4,677
Successful drilling and land acquisitions	**762**	891	922
Pension and benefits	**(422)**	(457)	(396)
Asset retirement obligation	**(376)**	(396)	(406)
Capitalized interest	**118**	114	104
LIFO inventory valuation (a)	**(318)**	(240)	-
Tax loss carryforwards	**(936)**	(1,056)	(610)
Other (a)	**(196)**	(212)	(100)
Net long-term deferred income tax liabilities	**4,196**	4,005	4,191
LIFO inventory valuation (a)	**-**	-	(112)
Other (a)	**-**	-	(160)
Net current deferred income tax assets	**-**	-	(272)
Net current deferred income tax liabilities (a)	**-**	-	41
Net deferred income tax liabilities	**4,196**	4,005	3,960

(a) Effective 2016, under ASU 2015-17, deferred tax assets and liabilities have been classified as non-current. 2015 was not restated.

Unrecognized tax benefits
Unrecognized tax benefits reflect the difference between positions taken or expected to be taken on income tax returns and the amounts recognized in the financial statements.

The following table summarizes the movement in unrecognized tax benefits:

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Balance as of January 1	**106**	132	151
Additions for prior years' tax position	**2**	2	10
Reductions for prior years' tax positions	**-**	(18)	(4)
Reductions due to lapse of the statute of limitations	**-**	(5)	-
Settlements with tax authorities	**(30)**	(5)	(25)
Balance as of December 31	**78**	106	132

The unrecognized tax benefit balances shown above are predominately related to tax positions that would reduce the company's effective tax rate if the positions are favourably resolved. Unfavourable resolution of these tax positions generally would not increase the effective tax rate. The 2017, 2016 and 2015 changes in unrecognized tax benefits did not have a material effect on the company's net income or cash flow. The company's tax filings from 2010 to 2017 are subject to examination by the tax authorities. Tax filings from 1998, 2000 and 2003 to 2009 have open objections and therefore are also subject to examination by the tax authorities. The Canada Revenue Agency has proposed certain adjustments to the company's filings. Management is currently evaluating those proposed adjustments and believes that a number of outstanding matters are expected to be resolved in 2018. The impact on unrecognized tax benefits and the company's effective income tax rate from these matters is not expected to be material.

Resolution of the related tax positions could take many years to complete. It is difficult to predict the timing of resolution for tax positions since such timing is not entirely within the control of the company.

The company classifies interest on income tax related balances as interest expense or interest income and classifies tax related penalties as operating expense.

4. Employee retirement benefits

Retirement benefits, which cover almost all retired employees and their surviving spouses, include pension income and certain health care and life insurance benefits. They are met through funded registered retirement plans and through unfunded supplementary benefits that are paid directly to recipients.

Pension income benefits consist mainly of company-paid defined benefit plans that are based on years of service and final average earnings. The company shares in the cost of health care and life insurance benefits. The company's benefit obligations are based on the projected benefit method of valuation that includes employee service to date and present compensation levels, as well as a projection of salaries to retirement.

The expense and obligations for both funded and unfunded benefits are determined in accordance with accepted actuarial practices and U.S. GAAP. The process for determining retirement-income expense and related obligations includes making certain long-term assumptions regarding the discount rate, rate of return on plan assets and rate of compensation increases. The obligation and pension expense can vary significantly with changes in the assumptions used to estimate the obligation and the expected return on plan assets.

The benefit obligations and plan assets associated with the company's defined benefit plans are measured on December 31.

	Pension benefits		Other post retirement benefits	
	2017	2016	**2017**	2016
Assumptions used to determine benefit obligations at December 31 (percent)				
Discount rate	**3.40**	3.75	**3.40**	3.75
Long-term rate of compensation increase	**4.50**	4.50	**4.50**	4.50

millions of Canadian dollars				
Change in projected benefit obligation				
Projected benefit obligation at January 1	**8,356**	8,147	**706**	642
Current service cost	**217**	203	**16**	16
Interest cost	**313**	319	**23**	27
Actuarial loss (gain)	**415**	157	**(49)**	46
Benefits paid (a)	**(516)**	(470)	**(26)**	(25)
Projected benefit obligation at December 31	**8,785**	8,356	**670**	706
Accumulated benefit obligation at December 31	**8,043**	7,681		

The discount rate for the purpose of calculating year-end post retirement benefits plan liabilities is determined by using the Canadian Institute of Actuaries recommended spot curve for high-quality, long-term Canadian corporate bonds with an average maturity (or duration) approximating that of the liabilities. The measurement of the accumulated post retirement benefit obligation assumes a health care cost trend rate of 4.50 percent in 2018 and subsequent years.

	Pension benefits		Other post retirement benefits	
millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	**2017**	2016
Change in plan assets				
Fair value at January 1	**7,359**	7,260		
Actual return (loss) on plan assets	**700**	316		
Company contributions	**212**	163		
Benefits paid (b)	**(401)**	(380)		
Fair value at December 31	**7,870**	7,359		
Plan assets in excess of (less than) projected benefit obligation at December 31				
Funded plans	**(408)**	(444)		
Unfunded plans	**(507)**	(553)	**(670)**	(706)
Total (c)	**(915)**	(997)	**(670)**	(706)

(a) Benefit payments for funded and unfunded plans.
(b) Benefit payments for funded plans only.
(c) Fair value of assets less projected benefit obligation shown above.

Funding of registered retirement plans complies with federal and provincial pension regulations, and the company makes contributions to the plans based on an independent actuarial valuation. In accordance with authoritative guidance relating to the accounting for defined pension and other post retirement benefits plans, the underfunded status of the company's defined benefit post retirement plans was recorded as a liability in the balance sheet, and the changes in that funded status in the year in which the changes occurred was recognized through other comprehensive income.

millions of Canadian dollars	Pension benefits 2017	2016	Other post retirement benefits 2017	2016
Amounts recorded in the consolidated balance sheet consist of:				
Current liabilities	**(28)**	(29)	**(28)**	(29)
Other long-term obligations	**(887)**	(968)	**(642)**	(677)
Total recorded	**(915)**	(997)	**(670)**	(706)
Amounts recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income consist of:				
Net actuarial loss (gain)	**2,408**	2,461	**140**	197
Prior service cost	**4**	14	**-**	-
Total recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income, before tax	**2,412**	2,475	**140**	197

The company establishes the long-term expected rate of return on plan assets by developing a forward-looking long-term return assumption for each asset class, taking into account factors such as the expected real return for the specific asset class and inflation. A single, long-term rate of return is then calculated as the weighted average of the target asset allocation percentages and the long-term return assumption for each asset class. The 2017 long-term expected return of 5.5 percent used in the calculations of pension expense compares to an actual rate of return of 6.3 percent and 7.3 percent over the last 10- and 20-year periods respectively, ending December 31, 2017.

millions of Canadian dollars	Pension benefits 2017	2016	2015	Other post retirement benefits 2017	2016	2015
Assumptions used to determine net periodic benefit cost for years ended December 31 (percent)						
Discount rate	**3.75**	4.00	3.75	**3.75**	4.00	3.75
Long-term rate of return on funded assets	**5.50**	5.50	5.75	**-**	-	-
Long-term rate of compensation increase	**4.50**	4.50	4.50	**4.50**	4.50	4.50

millions of Canadian dollars						
Components of net periodic benefit cost						
Current service cost	**217**	203	211	**16**	16	15
Interest cost	**313**	319	307	**23**	27	25
Expected return on plan assets	**(408)**	(400)	(392)	**-**	-	-
Amortization of prior service cost	**10**	9	16	**-**	-	-
Amortization of actuarial loss (gain)	**176**	162	198	**8**	13	14
Net periodic benefit cost	**308**	293	340	**47**	56	54
Changes in amounts recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income						
Net actuarial loss (gain)	**123**	241	(86)	**(49)**	46	(2)
Amortization of net actuarial (loss) gain included in net periodic benefit cost	**(176)**	(162)	(198)	**(8)**	(13)	(14)
Amortization of prior service cost included in net periodic benefit cost	**(10)**	(9)	(16)	**-**	-	-
Total recorded in other comprehensive income	**(63)**	70	(300)	**(57)**	33	(16)
Total recorded in net periodic benefit cost and other comprehensive income, before tax	**245**	363	40	**(10)**	89	38

Costs for defined contribution plans, primarily the employee savings plan, were $40 million in 2017 (2016 - $44 million, 2015 - $43 million).

A summary of the change in accumulated other comprehensive income is shown in the table below:

	Total pension and other post retirement benefits		
millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
(Charge) credit to other comprehensive income, before tax	**120**	(103)	316
Deferred income tax (charge) credit (note 17)	**(38)**	34	(85)
(Charge) credit to other comprehensive income, after tax	**82**	(69)	231

The company's investment strategy for pension plan assets reflects a long-term view, a careful assessment of the risks inherent in various asset classes and broad diversification to reduce the risk of the portfolio. Consistent with the long-term nature of the liability, the plan assets are primarily invested in global, market-cap-weighted indexed equity and domestic indexed bond funds to diversify risk while minimizing costs. The equity funds hold Imperial Oil Limited stock only to the extent necessary to replicate the relevant equity index. The balance of the plan assets is largely invested in high-quality corporate and government debt securities. Studies are periodically conducted to establish the preferred target asset allocation. The target asset allocation for equity securities is 28 percent. The target allocation for debt securities is 67 percent. Plan assets for the remaining 5 percent are invested in venture capital partnerships that pursue a strategy of investment in U.S. and international early stage ventures.

The 2017 fair value of the pension plan assets, including the level within the fair value hierarchy, is shown in the table below:

		Fair value measurements at December 31, 2017, using:			
millions of Canadian dollars	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Net Asset Value
Asset class					
Equity securities					
Canadian	**182**				**182**
Non-Canadian	**2,138**				**2,138**
Debt securities - Canadian					
Corporate	**1,248**				**1,248**
Government	**4,016**				**4,016**
Asset backed	**-**				**-**
Equities – Venture capital	**215**				**215**
Cash	**71**	**34**			**37**
Total plan assets at fair value	**7,870**	**34**	**-**	**-**	**7,836**

The 2016 fair value of the pension plan assets, including the level within the fair value hierarchy, is shown in the table below:

		Fair value measurements at December 31, 2016, using:			
millions of Canadian dollars	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Net Asset Value (a)
Asset class					
Equity securities					
Canadian	433				433
Non-Canadian	2,448				2,448
Debt securities - Canadian					
Corporate	988				988
Government	3,218				3,218
Asset backed	-				-
Equities – Venture capital	241				241
Cash	31	6			25
Total plan assets at fair value	7,359	6	-	-	7,353

(a) Per ASU 2015-07, certain investments that are measured at fair value using the Net Asset Value (NAV) per share practical expedient have been re-categorized from the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the total value of plan assets.

A summary of pension plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets is shown in the table below:

	Pension benefits	
millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016
For funded pension plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets:		
Projected benefit obligation	-	-
Accumulated benefit obligation	-	-
Fair value of plan assets	-	-
Accumulated benefit obligation less fair value of plan assets	-	-
For unfunded plans covered by book reserves:		
Projected benefit obligation	**507**	553
Accumulated benefit obligation	**480**	525

Estimated 2018 amortization from accumulated other comprehensive income

millions of Canadian dollars	Pension benefits	Other post retirement benefits
Net actuarial loss (gain) (a)	**170**	**9**
Prior service cost (b)	**4**	**-**

(a) The company amortizes the net balance of actuarial loss (gain) as a component of net periodic benefit cost over the average remaining service period of active plan participants.

(b) The company amortizes prior service cost on a straight-line basis.

Cash flows

Benefit payments expected in:

millions of Canadian dollars	Pension benefits	Other post retirement benefits
2018	**425**	**29**
2019	**430**	**29**
2020	**435**	**29**
2021	**435**	**30**
2022	**435**	**30**
2023 - 2027	**2,165**	**155**

In 2018, the company expects to make cash contributions of about $240 million to its pension plans.

Sensitivities

A one percent change in the assumptions at which retirement liabilities could be effectively settled is as follows:

Increase (decrease) millions of Canadian dollars	One percent increase	One percent decrease
Rate of return on plan assets:		
Effect on net benefit cost, before tax	**(75)**	**75**
Discount rate:		
Effect on net benefit cost, before tax	**(90)**	**120**
Effect on benefit obligation	**(1,215)**	**1,570**
Rate of pay increases:		
Effect on net benefit cost, before tax	**55**	**(45)**
Effect on benefit obligation	**265**	**(225)**

A one percent change in the assumed health-care cost trend rate would have the following effects:

Increase (decrease) millions of Canadian dollars	One percent increase	One percent decrease
Effect on service and interest cost components	**6**	**(5)**
Effect on benefit obligation	**80**	**(60)**

5. Other long-term obligations

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016
Employee retirement benefits (a) (note 4)	**1,529**	1,645
Asset retirement obligations and other environmental liabilities (b) (d)	**1,460**	1,544
Share-based incentive compensation liabilities (note 7)	**99**	139
Other obligations (c)	**692**	328
Total other long-term obligations	**3,780**	3,656

(a) Total recorded employee retirement benefits obligations also included $56 million in current liabilities (2016 – $58 million).

(b) Total asset retirement obligations and other environmental liabilities also included $101 million in current liabilities (2016 – $108 million).

(c) Included carbon emission program obligations. Carbon emission program credits are recorded under other assets, including intangibles, net.

(d) For 2017, the asset retirement obligations were discounted at 6 percent (2016 - 6 percent).
Asset retirement obligations incurred in the current period were Level 3 fair value measurements. The following table summarizes the activity in the liability for asset retirement obligations:

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016
Balance as at January 1	**1,472**	1,571
Additions (deductions)	**(124)**	(160)
Accretion	**92**	97
Settlement	**(43)**	(36)
Balance as at December 31	**1,397**	1,472

6. Derivatives and financial instruments

The company's size, strong capital structure and the complementary nature of the Upstream, Downstream and Chemical businesses reduce the company's enterprise-wide risk from changes in currency exchange rates and commodity prices. The company makes use of derivatives instruments to offset exposures associated with hydrocarbon prices that arise from existing assets, liabilities and forecasted transactions. Credit risk associated with the company's derivative position is mitigated by several factors, including the use of derivative clearing exchanges and the quality of and financial limits placed on derivative counterparties. The company believes there are no material market or credit risks to the company's financial position, results of operations or liquidity as a result of the derivatives. The company maintains a system of controls that includes the authorization, reporting and monitoring of derivative activity.

The estimated fair value of derivative instruments outstanding and recorded on the balance sheet was a net liability of $4 million at year-end 2017 (2016 - $0 million). Assets and liabilities associated with derivatives are usually recorded either in "Materials, supplies and prepaid expenses" or "Accounts payable and accrued liabilities".

The company's fair value measurement of its derivative instruments use either Level 1 or Level 2 inputs.

The company recognized a before-tax loss related to settled and unsettled derivative instruments of $5 million during 2017 (2016 - $0 million). Income statement effects associated with derivatives are recorded in "Purchases of crude oil and products".

The fair value of the company's financial instruments is determined by reference to various market data and other appropriate valuation techniques. There are no material differences between the fair values of the company's financial instruments and the recorded book value. The fair value hierarchy for long-term debt is primarily Level 2.

7. Share-based incentive compensation programs

Share-based incentive compensation programs are designed to retain selected employees, reward them for high performance and promote individual contribution to sustained improvement in the company's future business performance and shareholder value over the long-term. The nonemployee directors also participate in share-based incentive compensation programs.

Restricted stock units and deferred share units
Under the restricted stock unit plan, each unit entitles the recipient to the conditional right to receive from the company, upon vesting, an amount equal to the value of one common share of the company, based on the five-day average of the closing price of the company's common shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange on and immediately prior to the vesting dates. Fifty percent of the units vest on the third anniversary of the grant date, and the remainder vest on the seventh anniversary of the grant date. The company may also issue units where either 50 percent of the units vest on the fifth anniversary of the grant date and the remainder vest on the tenth anniversary of the grant date, or where 50 percent of the units vest on the fifth anniversary of the grant date and the remainder vest on the tenth anniversary of the grant date, or date of retirement of the recipient, whichever is later.

The deferred share unit plan is made available to nonemployee directors. The nonemployee directors can elect to receive all or part of their eligible directors' fees in units. The number of units granted is determined at the end of each calendar quarter by dividing the dollar amount of the nonemployee director's fees for that calendar quarter elected to be received as deferred share units by the average closing price of the company's shares for the five consecutive trading days ("average closing price") immediately prior to the last day of the calendar quarter. Additional units are granted based on the cash dividend payable on the company's shares divided by the average closing price immediately prior to the payment date for that dividend and multiplying the resulting number by the number of deferred share units held by the recipient, as adjusted for any share splits. Deferred share units cannot be exercised until after termination of service as a director, including termination due to death, and must be exercised in their entirety in one election no later than December 31 of the year following the year of termination of service. On the exercise date, the cash value to be received for the units is determined based on the company's average closing price immediately prior to the date of exercise, as adjusted for any share splits.

All units require settlement by cash payments with the following exceptions. The restricted stock unit program provides that, for units granted to Canadian residents, the recipient may receive one common share of the company per unit or elect to receive the cash payment for the units that vest on the seventh year anniversary of the grant date. For units where 50 percent vest on the fifth anniversary of the grant date and the remainder vest on either the tenth anniversary of grant, or the later of ten years following the grant date or the retirement date of the recipient, the recipient may receive one common share of the company per unit or elect to receive cash payment for all that vest.

The company accounts for all units by using the fair-value-based method. The fair value of awards in the form of restricted stock and deferred share units is the market price of the company's stock. Under this method, compensation expense related to the units of these programs is measured each reporting period based on the company's current stock price and is recorded in the consolidated statement of income over the requisite service period of each award.

The following table summarizes information about these units for the year ended December 31, 2017:

	Restricted stock units	Deferred share units
Outstanding at January 1, 2017	**6,662,126**	**136,177**
Granted	**758,990**	**13,231**
Vested / Exercised	**(1,545,921)**	**-**
Forfeited and cancelled	**(16,145)**	**-**
Outstanding at December 31, 2017	**5,859,050**	**149,408**

In 2017, the before-tax compensation expense charged against income for these programs was $14 million (2016 - $83 million, 2015 - $48 million). Income tax benefit recognized in income related to compensation expense for the year was $4 million (2016 - $24 million, 2015 - $13 million). Cash payments of $71 million were made for these programs in 2017 (2016 - $79 million, 2015 - $78 million).

As of December 31, 2017, there was $94 million of total before-tax unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested restricted stock units based on the company's share price at the end of the current reporting period. The weighted average vesting period of non-vested restricted stock units is 3.8 years. All units under the deferred share programs have vested as of December 31, 2017.

8. Investment and other income

Investment and other income includes gains and losses on asset sales as follows:

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Proceeds from asset sales	**232**	3,021	142
Book value of asset sales	**12**	777	45
Gain (loss) on asset sales, before tax (a) (b)	**220**	2,244	97
Gain (loss) on asset sales, after tax (a) (b)	**192**	1,908	79

(a) 2017 included a gain of $174 million ($151 million after tax) from the sale of surplus property in Ontario.
(b) 2016 included a gain of $2.0 billion ($1.7 billion, after tax) from the sale of company-owned Esso-branded retail sites; and a gain of $161 million ($134 million, after tax) from the sale of Imperial’s general aviation business.

9. Litigation and other contingencies

A variety of claims have been made against Imperial and its subsidiaries in a number of lawsuits. Management has regular litigation reviews, including updates from corporate and outside counsel, to assess the need for accounting recognition or disclosure of these contingencies. The company accrues an undiscounted liability for those contingencies where the incurrence of a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. If a range of amounts can be reasonably estimated and no amount within the range is a better estimate than any other amount, then the minimum of the range is accrued. The company does not record liabilities when the likelihood that the liability has been incurred is probable but the amount cannot be reasonably estimated or when the liability is believed to be only reasonably possible or remote. For contingencies where an unfavourable outcome is reasonably possible and which are significant, the company discloses the nature of the contingency and, where feasible, an estimate of the possible loss. For purposes of the company’s contingency disclosures, “significant” includes material matters, as well as other matters which management believes should be disclosed. Based on a consideration of all relevant facts and circumstances, the company does not believe the ultimate outcome of any currently pending lawsuits against the company will have a material adverse effect on the company's operations, financial condition, or financial statements taken as a whole.

Additionally, the company has other commitments arising in the normal course of business for operating and capital needs, all of which are expected to be fulfilled with no adverse consequences material to the company's operations or financial condition. Unconditional purchase obligations, as defined by accounting standards, are those long-term commitments that are non-cancelable or cancelable only under certain conditions and that third parties have used to secure financing for the facilities that will provide the contracted goods and services. No unconditional purchase obligations existed in 2017 and 2016 (2015 - $125 million).

As a result of the completed sale of Imperial’s remaining company-owned Esso retail sites, the company was contingently liable at December 31, 2017, for guarantees relating to performance under contracts of other third-party obligations totaling $42 million (2016 - $49 million).

10. Common shares

thousands of shares	**As at Dec 31 2017**	As at Dec 31 2016
Authorized	**1,100,000**	1,100,000
Common shares outstanding	**831,242**	847,599

The current 12-month normal course issuer bid program was announced on June 22, 2017, under which Imperial continued its share purchase program. The program enables the company to purchase up to a maximum of 25,395,927 common shares (3 percent of the total shares on June 13, 2017), which includes shares purchased under the normal course issuer bid and from Exxon Mobil Corporation concurrent with, but outside of the normal course issuer bid. As in the past, Exxon Mobil Corporation has advised the company that it intends to participate to maintain its ownership percentage at approximately 69.6 percent. The excess of the purchase cost over the stated value of shares purchased has been recorded as a distribution of earnings reinvested.

The company's common share activities are summarized below:

	Thousands of shares	Millions of dollars
Balance as at January 1, 2015	847,599	1,566
Issued under employee share-based awards	1	-
Purchases at stated value	(1)	-
Balance as at December 31, 2015	847,599	1,566
Issued under employee share-based awards	1	-
Purchases at stated value	(1)	-
Balance as at December 31, 2016	847,599	1,566
Issued under employee share-based awards	**2**	**-**
Purchases at stated value	**(16,359)**	**(30)**
Balance as at December 31, 2017	**831,242**	**1,536**

The following table provides the calculation of basic and diluted earnings per common share:

	2017	2016	2015
Net income (loss) per common share – basic			
Net income (loss) (millions of Canadian dollars)	**490**	2,165	1,122
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding (millions of shares)	**842.9**	847.6	847.6
Net income (loss) per common share (dollars)	**0.58**	2.55	1.32
Net income (loss) per common share - diluted			
Net income (loss) (millions of Canadian dollars)	**490**	2,165	1,122
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding (millions of shares)	**842.9**	847.6	847.6
Effect of employee share-based awards (millions of shares)	**2.8**	2.9	3.0
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding, assuming dilution (millions of shares)	**845.7**	850.5	850.6
Net income (loss) per common share (dollars)	**0.58**	2.55	1.32

11. Miscellaneous financial information

In 2017, net income included an after-tax gain of $5 million (2016 – $5 million gain, 2015 – $39 million loss) attributable to the effect of changes in last-in, first-out (LIFO) inventories. The replacement cost of inventories was estimated to exceed their LIFO carrying values at December 31, 2017 by about $1.4 billion (2016 – $1 billion). Inventories of crude oil and products at year-end consisted of the following:

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016
Crude oil	**690**	558
Petroleum products	**307**	300
Chemical products	**42**	51
Natural gas and other	**36**	40
Total inventories of crude oil and products	**1,075**	949

Net research and development costs charged to expenses in 2017 were $111 million (2016 – $152 million, 2015 – $149 million). These costs are included in expenses due to the uncertainty of future benefits.

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities included accrued taxes other than income taxes of $437 million at December 31, 2017 (2016 – $396 million).

12. Financing costs and additional notes and loans payable information

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Debt-related interest	**103**	121	102
Capitalized interest	**(38)**	(49)	(68)
Net interest expense	**65**	72	34
Other interest	**13**	(7)	5
Total financing costs (a)	**78**	65	39

(a) Cash interest payments in 2017 were $58 million (2016 – $73 million, 2015 – $74 million). The weighted average interest rate on short-term borrowings in 2017 was 0.9 percent (2016 – 0.8 percent, 2015 – 0.8 percent). Average effective rate on the long-term borrowings with ExxonMobil in 2017 was 1.3 percent (2016 - 1.0 percent, 2015 - 1.0 percent).

As at December 31, 2017, the company had borrowed $75 million under an arrangement with an affiliated company of ExxonMobil that provides for a non-interest bearing, revolving demand loan from ExxonMobil to the company of up to $75 million. The loan represents ExxonMobil's share of a working capital facility required to support purchasing, marketing and transportation arrangements for crude oil and diluent products undertaken by Imperial on behalf of ExxonMobil.

In November 2017, the company extended the maturity date of its existing $250 million committed long-term line of credit to November 2019. The company has not drawn on the facility.

In December 2017, the company extended the maturity date of its existing $250 million committed short-term line of credit to December 2018. The company has not drawn on the facility.

13. Leased facilities

At December 31, 2017, the company held non-cancelable operating leases covering primarily storage tanks, rail cars and marine vessels, with minimum undiscounted lease commitments totaling $199 million as indicated in the following table:

	Payments due by period						
millions of Canadian dollars	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	After 2022	Total
Lease payments under minimum commitments (a)	**120**	**56**	**19**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**199**

(a) Net rental cost under cancelable and non-cancelable operating leases incurred in 2017 was $206 million (2016 - $253 million, 2015 - $311 million). Related rental income was not material.

14. Long-term debt

millions of Canadian dollars	**As at Dec 31 2017**	As at Dec 31 2016
Long-term debt (a)	**4,447**	4,447
Capital leases (b)	**558**	585
Total long-term debt	**5,005**	5,032

(a) Borrowed under an existing agreement with an affiliated company of ExxonMobil that provides for a long-term, variable-rate, Canadian dollar loan from ExxonMobil to the company of up to $7.75 billion at interest equivalent to Canadian market rates. The agreement is effective until July 31, 2020, cancelable if ExxonMobil provides at least 370 days advance written notice.

(b) Capital leases are primarily associated with transportation facilities and services agreements. The average imputed rate was 7.0 percent in 2017 (2016 – 6.9 percent). Total capitalized lease obligations also include $27 million in current liabilities (2016 - $27 million). Principal payments on capital leases of approximately $21 million on average per year are due in each of the next four years after December 31, 2018.

15. Accounting for suspended exploratory well costs

The company continues capitalization of exploratory well costs when the well has found a sufficient quantity of reserves to justify its completion as a producing well and the company is making sufficient progress assessing the reserves and the economic and operating viability of the project. The term “project” as used in this report can refer to a variety of different activities and does not necessarily have the same meaning as in any government payment transparency reports.

Exploratory well costs at year-end 2016 that were capitalized as part of the Horn River project for a period greater than 12 months were expensed in 2017.

The following two tables provide details of the changes in the balance of suspended exploratory well costs, as well as an aging summary of those costs.

Change in capitalized suspended exploratory well costs:

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Balance as at January 1	**143**	167	167
Additions pending the determination of proved reserves	**-**	-	-
Charged to expense	**(143)**	(24)	-
Reclassification to wells, facilities and equipment based on the determination of proved reserves	**-**	-	-
Balance as at December 31	**-**	143	167

Period end capitalized suspended exploratory well costs:

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Capitalized for a period of one year or less	**-**	-	-
Capitalized for a period of between one and ten years	**-**	143	167
Capitalized for a period of greater than one year	**-**	143	167
Total	**-**	143	167

Exploration activity often involves drilling multiple wells, over a number of years, to fully evaluate a project. The table below provides a breakdown of the number of projects with exploratory well costs capitalized in the preceding 12 months and those that have had exploratory well costs capitalized for a period greater than 12 months.

	2017	2016	2015
Number of projects with first capitalized well drilled in the preceding 12 months	**-**	-	-
Number of projects that have exploratory well costs capitalized for a period of greater than 12 months	**-**	1	1
Total	**-**	1	1

16. Transactions with related parties

Revenues and expenses of the company also include the results of transactions with affiliated companies of ExxonMobil in the normal course of operations. These were conducted on terms comparable to those which would have been conducted with unrelated parties and primarily consisted of the purchase and sale of crude oil, natural gas, petroleum and chemical products, as well as technical, engineering and research, and development costs. Transactions with ExxonMobil also included amounts paid and received in connection with the company's participation in a number of upstream activities conducted jointly in Canada.

In addition, the company has existing agreements with ExxonMobil:

a) To provide computer and customer support services to the company and to share common business and operational support services that allow the companies to consolidate duplicate work and systems;

b) To operate certain western Canada production properties owned by ExxonMobil, as well as provide for the delivery of management, business and technical services to ExxonMobil in Canada. These agreements are designed to provide organizational efficiencies and to reduce costs. No separate legal entities were created from these arrangements. Separate books of account continue to be maintained for the company and ExxonMobil. The company and ExxonMobil retain ownership of their respective assets, and there is no impact on operations or reserves;

c) To provide for the delivery of management, business and technical services to Syncrude Canada Ltd. by ExxonMobil;

d) To provide for the option of equal participation in new upstream opportunities; and

e) Whereby ExxonMobil enters into derivative agreements on the company's behalf.

Certain charges from ExxonMobil have been capitalized; they are not material in the aggregate.

The amounts of purchases and sales by Imperial in 2017, with ExxonMobil, were $2,648 million and $4,080 million respectively (2016 - $2,187 million and $2,315 million respectively).

As at December 31, 2017, the company had outstanding long-term loans of $4,447 million (2016 – $4,447 million) and short-term loans of $75 million (2016 – $75 million) from ExxonMobil (see note 14 "Long-term debt", on page 53 and note 12, "Financing costs and additional notes and loans payable information", on page 52 for further details).

Imperial has other related party transactions not detailed above in note 16, as they are not significant.

17. Other comprehensive income (loss) information

Changes in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss):

millions of Canadian dollars	2017	2016	2015
Balance at January 1	**(1,897)**	(1,828)	(2,059)
Post retirement benefits liability adjustment:			
Current period change excluding amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income	**(54)**	(210)	64
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income	**136**	141	167
Balance at December 31	**(1,815)**	(1,897)	(1,828)

Amounts reclassified out of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) - before-tax income (expense):

millions of Canadian dollars	2017	2016	2015
Amortization of post retirement benefits liability adjustment included in net periodic benefit cost (a)	**(194)**	(184)	(228)

(a) This accumulated other comprehensive income component is included in the computation of net periodic benefit cost (note 4).

Income tax expense (credit) for components of other comprehensive income (loss):

millions of Canadian dollars	2017	2016	2015
Post retirement benefits liability adjustments:			
Post retirement benefits liability adjustment (excluding amortization)	**(20)**	(77)	24
Amortization of post retirement benefits liability adjustment included in net periodic benefit cost	**58**	43	61
Total	**38**	(34)	85

Supplemental information on oil and gas exploration and production activities (unaudited)

The information on pages 56 to 57 excludes items not related to oil and natural gas extraction, such as administrative and general expenses, pipeline operations, gas plant processing fees and gains or losses on asset sales. The company's 25 percent interest in proved synthetic oil reserves in the Syncrude joint-venture is included as part of the company's total proved oil and gas reserves and in the calculation of the standardized measure of discounted future cash flows, in accordance with U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and U.S. Financial Accounting Standards Board rules. Results of operations, costs incurred in property acquisitions, exploration and development activities, and capitalized costs include the company's share of Syncrude, Kearl and other unproved mineable acreages in the following tables.

Results of operations

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Sales to customers (a)	**3,283**	2,210	2,483
Intersegment sales (a) (b)	**1,750**	1,791	1,855
	5,033	4,001	4,338
Production expenses	**3,959**	3,657	3,727
Exploration expenses	**183**	94	73
Depreciation and depletion	**1,623**	1,275	1,102
Income taxes	**(217)**	(366)	174
Results of operations	**(515)**	(659)	(738)

The amounts reported as costs incurred in property acquisitions, exploration and development activities include both capitalized costs and costs charged to expense during the year. Costs incurred also include new asset retirement obligations established in the current year, as well as increases or decreases to the asset retirement obligation resulting from changes in cost estimates or abandonment date.

Costs incurred in property acquisitions, exploration and development activities

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Property costs (c)			
Proved	**-**	1	-
Unproved	**32**	-	-
Exploration costs	**40**	70	76
Development costs	**214**	543	3,035
Total costs incurred in property acquisitions, exploration and development activities	**286**	614	3,111

(a) Sales to customers or intersegment sales do not include the sale of natural gas and natural gas liquids purchased for resale, as well as royalty payments. These items are reported gross in note 2 in "Operating revenues", "Intersegment sales" and in "Purchases of crude oil and products".

(b) Sales of crude oil to consolidated affiliates are at market value, using posted field prices. Sales of natural gas liquids to consolidated affiliates are at prices estimated to be obtainable in a competitive, arm's-length transaction.

(c) "Property costs" are payments for rights to explore for petroleum and natural gas and for purchased reserves (acquired tangible and intangible assets such as gas plants, production facilities and producing-well costs are included under "producing assets"). "Proved" represents areas where successful drilling has delineated a field capable of production. "Unproved" represents all other areas.

Capitalized costs

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016
Property costs (a)		
Proved	**2,214**	2,194
Unproved	**2,465**	2,466
Producing assets	**38,332**	36,827
Incomplete construction	**673**	2,287
Total capitalized cost	**43,684**	43,774
Accumulated depreciation and depletion	**(13,733)**	(12,243)
Net capitalized costs	**29,951**	31,531

(a) "Property costs" are payments for rights to explore for petroleum and natural gas and for purchased reserves (acquired tangible and intangible assets such as gas plants, production facilities and producing-well costs are included under "producing assets"). "Proved" represents areas where successful drilling has delineated a field capable of production. "Unproved" represents all other areas.

Standardized measure of discounted future cash flows

As required by the U.S. Financial Accounting Standards Board, the standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows is computed by applying first-day-of-the-month average prices, year-end costs and legislated tax rates and a discount factor of 10 percent to net proved reserves. The standardized measure includes costs for future dismantlement, abandonment and remediation obligations. The company believes the standardized measure does not provide a reliable estimate of the company's expected future cash flows to be obtained from the development and production of its oil and gas properties or of the value of its proved oil and gas reserves. The standardized measure is prepared on the basis of certain prescribed assumptions, including first-day-of-the-month average prices, which represent discrete points in time and therefore may cause significant variability in cash flows from year to year as prices change.

Standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows related to proved oil and gas reserves

millions of Canadian dollars	**2017**	2016	2015
Future cash flows	**72,325**	53,743	168,482
Future production costs	**(44,822)**	(36,100)	(122,188)
Future development costs	**(14,640)**	(11,917)	(36,048)
Future income taxes	**(3,916)**	(1,263)	(3,333)
Future net cash flows	**8,947**	4,463	6,913
Annual discount of 10 percent for estimated timing of cash flows	**(3,811)**	(1,717)	(3,683)
Discounted future cash flows	**5,136**	2,746	3,230

Changes in standardized measure of discounted future net cash flows related to proved oil and gas reserves

Balance at beginning of year	**2,746**	3,230	31,057
Changes resulting from:			
Sales and transfers of oil and gas produced, net of production costs	**(1,516)**	(718)	(1,134)
Net changes in prices, development costs and production costs (a)	**4,231**	(1,468)	(37,945)
Extensions, discoveries, additions and improved recovery, less related costs	**81**	14	29
Development costs incurred during the year	**376**	651	2,250
Revisions of previous quantity estimates	**110**	56	972
Accretion of discount	**290**	417	1,683
Net change in income taxes	**(1,182)**	564	6,318
Net change	**2,390**	(484)	(27,827)
Balance at end of year	**5,136**	2,746	3,230

(a) SEC rules require the company's reserves to be calculated on the basis of average first-of-month oil and natural gas prices during the reporting year. Future net cash flows are determined based on the net proved reserves as outlined in the Net Proved Reserves table.

Net proved reserves (a)

	Liquids (b)	Natural gas	Synthetic oil	Bitumen	Total oil-equivalent basis (c)
	millions of barrels	billions of cubic feet	millions of barrels	millions of barrels	millions of barrels
Beginning of year 2015	46	627	534	3,274	3,959
Revisions	(10)	(28)	68	331	384
Improved recovery	-	-	-	-	-
(Sale) purchase of reserves in place	1	11	-	-	3
Discoveries and extensions	2	18	-	-	5
Production	(5)	(45)	(21)	(90)	(124)
End of year 2015	34	583	581	3,515	4,227
Revisions	3	(58)	8	(2,720)	(2,719)
Improved recovery	-	-	-	-	-
(Sale) purchase of reserves in place	-	-	-	-	-
Discoveries and extensions	2	15	-	-	4
Production	(4)	(45)	(25)	(94)	(130)
End of year 2016	35	495	564	701	1,382
Revisions	**4**	**115**	**(70)**	**332**	**286**
Improved recovery	**-**	**1**	**-**	**6**	**6**
(Sale) purchase of reserves in place	**4**	**28**	**-**	**-**	**9**
Discoveries and extensions	**2**	**43**	**-**	**-**	**9**
Production	**(1)**	**(41)**	**(21)**	**(93)**	**(122)**
End of year 2017	**44**	**641**	**473**	**946**	**1,570**
Net proved developed reserves included above, as of					
January 1, 2015	36	300	534	1,635	2,255
December 31, 2015	23	283	581	3,063	3,714
December 31, 2016	19	263	564	436	1,063
December 31, 2017	**9**	**282**	**473**	**591**	**1,120**
Net proved undeveloped reserves included above, as of					
January 1, 2015	10	327	-	1,639	1,704
December 31, 2015	11	300	-	452	513
December 31, 2016	16	232	-	265	319
December 31, 2017	**35**	**359**	**-**	**355**	**450**

(a) Net reserves are the company's share of reserves after deducting the shares of mineral owners or governments or both. All reported reserves are located in Canada. Reserves of natural gas are calculated at a pressure of 14.73 pounds per square inch at 60°F.
(b) Liquids include crude, condensate and natural gas liquids (NGLs). NGL proved reserves are not material and are therefore included under liquids.
(c) Gas converted to oil-equivalent at six million cubic feet per one thousand barrels.

The information above describes changes during the years and balances of proved oil and gas reserves at year-end 2015, 2016 and 2017. The definitions used are in accordance with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's Rule 4-10 (a) of Regulation S-X.

Proved oil and natural gas reserves are those quantities of oil and gas, which, by analysis of geoscience and engineering data, can be estimated with reasonable certainty to be economically producible – from a given date forward, from known reservoirs, and under existing economic conditions, operating methods and government regulations – prior to the time at which contracts providing the right to operate expire. In some cases, substantial new investments in additional wells and other facilities will be required to recover these proved reserves.

In accordance with SEC rules, the year-end reserves volumes, as well as the reserves change categories shown in the proved reserves tables are required to be calculated on the basis of average prices during the

12-month period prior to the ending date of the period covered by the report, determined as an unweighted arithmetic average of the first-day-of-the-month price for each month within such period. These reserves quantities were also used in calculating unit-of-production depreciation rates and in calculating the standardized measure of discounted net cash flow.

Revisions can include upward or downward changes in previously estimated volumes of proved reserves for existing fields due to the evaluation or re-evaluation of already available geologic, reservoir or production data; new geologic, reservoir or production data; or changes in the average of first-of-month oil and natural gas prices and / or costs that are used in the estimation of reserves. Revisions can result from significant changes in either development strategy or production equipment / facility capacity.

At year-end 2015, upward revisions of proved developed bitumen reserves were associated with migration of the Kearl expansion project from proved undeveloped, and improved performance demonstrated at Kearl. As well, upward revision to bitumen and synthetic oil were associated with lower royalty obligations driven by lower pricing.

At year-end 2016, downward revisions of proved developed and undeveloped bitumen reserves were a result of low prices. The entire 2.5 billion barrels of bitumen at Kearl and approximately 0.2 billion barrels of bitumen at Cold Lake no longer qualified as proved reserves under the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission definition of proved reserves.

As a result of improved prices in 2017, an additional 0.3 billion barrels of bitumen at Kearl and Cold Lake now qualify as proved reserves at year-end 2017. Among the factors that would result in additional amounts being recognized as proved reserves at some point in the future are a further recovery in yearly average price levels, a further decline in costs and additional planned investment in reliability improvements. Under the terms of certain contractual arrangements or government royalty regimes, lower prices can also increase proved reserves attributable to Imperial. The company's operating decisions and its outlook for future production volumes are not impacted by proved reserves as disclosed under the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission definition.

At year-end 2017, downward revisions of proved developed synthetic oil reserves were a result of higher royalty obligations driven by higher pricing and mine plan updates.

Net proved reserves are determined by deducting the estimated future share of mineral owners or governments or both. For liquids and natural gas, net proved reserves are based on estimated future royalty rates as of the date the estimate is made incorporating the applicable governments’ oil and gas royalty regimes. For bitumen, net proved reserves are based on the company’s best estimate of average royalty rates over the remaining life of each of the Cold Lake and Kearl fields, and they incorporate the Alberta government's oil sands royalty regime. For synthetic oil, net proved reserves are based on the company’s best estimate of average royalty rates over the remaining life of the project, and they incorporate the Alberta government’s oil sands royalty regime. In all cases, actual future royalty rates may vary with production, price and costs.

Net proved developed reserves are those volumes that are expected to be recovered through existing wells and facilities with existing equipment and operating methods or in which the cost of the required equipment is relatively minor compared to the cost of a new well or facility. Net proved undeveloped reserves are those volumes that are expected to be recovered as a result of future investments to drill new wells, to recomplete existing wells and/or to install facilities to collect and deliver the production from existing and future wells and facilities.

Quarterly financial and stock trading data (a)

	2017 three months ended				2016 three months ended			
	Dec. 31	**Sept. 30**	**June 30**	**Mar. 31**	Dec. 31	Sept. 30	June 30	Mar. 31
Financial data (millions of Canadian dollars)								
Total revenues and other income	**8,077**	**7,158**	**7,033**	**7,156**	8,442	7,442	6,248	5,222
Total expenses	**8,286**	**6,662**	**7,158**	**6,736**	6,779	6,260	6,500	5,371
Income (loss) before income taxes	**(209)**	**496**	**(125)**	**420**	1,663	1,182	(252)	(149)
Income taxes	**(72)**	**125**	**(48)**	**87**	219	179	(71)	(48)
Net income (loss)	**(137)**	**371**	**(77)**	**333**	1,444	1,003	(181)	(101)
Net income (loss) (millions of Canadian dollars)								
Upstream	**(481)**	**62**	**(201)**	**(86)**	103	(26)	(290)	(448)
Downstream	**290**	**292**	**78**	**380**	1,361	1,002	71	320
Chemical	**74**	**52**	**64**	**45**	27	56	55	49
Corporate and other	**(20)**	**(35)**	**(18)**	**(6)**	(47)	(29)	(17)	(22)
Net income (loss)	**(137)**	**371**	**(77)**	**333**	1,444	1,003	(181)	(101)
Per share information (Canadian dollars)								
Net income (loss) per common share - basic	**(0.16)**	**0.44**	**(0.09)**	**0.39**	1.70	1.18	(0.21)	(0.12)
Net income (loss) per common share - diluted	**(0.16)**	**0.44**	**(0.09)**	**0.39**	1.70	1.18	(0.21)	(0.12)
Dividends per share - declared	**0.16**	**0.16**	**0.16**	**0.15**	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.14
Share prices (Canadian dollars) (b)								
Toronto Stock Exchange								
High	**42.26**	**40.11**	**41.77**	**47.60**	48.72	42.10	43.21	46.25
Low	**37.88**	**35.15**	**37.27**	**40.51**	40.76	38.41	38.71	37.25
Close	**39.23**	**39.86**	**37.80**	**40.52**	46.71	41.04	40.88	43.39
NYSE American LLC (U.S. dollars) (b)								
High	**32.75**	**32.15**	**31.14**	**35.43**	36.85	32.42	34.11	35.48
Low	**29.41**	**27.81**	**27.59**	**30.04**	31.07	29.26	29.54	25.55
Close	**31.19**	**31.94**	**29.18**	**30.50**	34.76	31.32	31.56	33.40
Shares traded (thousands) (c)	**88,735**	**88,089**	**92,636**	**84,436**	70,560	67,098	101,121	112,059

(a) Quarterly data has not been audited by the company's independent auditors.

(b) Imperial's shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange. The company's shares also trade in the United States of America on the NYSE American LLC. Imperial has unlisted privileges on the NYSE American LLC. The symbol on these exchanges for Imperial's common shares is IMO. Share prices were obtained from stock exchange records. U.S. dollar share price presented is based on consolidated U.S. market data.

(c) The number of shares traded is based on transactions on the above stock exchanges and through other designated exchanges and published markets in Canada.

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