2016 Northfield Mutual Holding Company and Northfield Savings Bank

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY





March 2017 DEAR FRIENDS,

Northfield Savings Bank (NSB) moved well forward in 2016. We fulfilled the objectives we set for our 2014-2016 plan with a third year of progress fueled by gains in all business lines. We settled into our new operations center, advancing our systems and processes. We created fresh branding to fully reflect the strength of our organization and offerings. And we built a new three-year plan, centered on five strategic themes that will establish us as Vermont's leading independent bank.

> Total assets and equity capital at year-end were \$904.9 million and \$108.5 million, rising \$43.4 million and \$4.3 million, respectively, over prior year levels. Our balance sheet remains well capitalized and provides sufficient liquidity. Net income for the year exceeded our objective, finishing above \$4.8 million as we continued to absorb the costs of planned initiatives focusing on facilities, technology, people, and customer programs. We again met our community dividend commitment by returning 10% of our earnings to an impressive range of entities performing vital work.

> Loans at year-end of \$682.9 million were supported by \$639.4 million of deposits, rising \$57.1 million and \$45.2 million, respectively, over prior year levels. Asset growth was further supported by repurchase agreements securing additional commercial deposits of \$57.1 million at year-end, a rise of \$6.0 million compared to 2015. Sturdy growth in mortgage and commercial loan balances pointed again to the efforts of our skilled lending and operations teams that support an expanding portfolio. Asset quality remains in the upper quartile of national and regional peers.

> Through Infinex Investments, Inc.*, the broker/dealer offering securities on the premises of the Bank, Northfield Investment Services (NIS) continued to gain new wealth management relationships. Financial assets under management finished at \$194.1 million, rising \$39.1 million over the prior year. Our NIS team now serves more than 2,000 clients with investment programs that provide responsible solutions to a spectrum of personal objectives.

* See disclaimer on page 7

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NSB 2020 SETS THE FOCUS

We engaged in a thoughtful strategic planning process throughout the year. We examined national and regional banking trends, conducted primary and secondary local market research, and sought input from a range of NSB stakeholders. Deliberating about themes and initiatives, we tested our ideas with a nationally respected strategy consultant and charted a road map that points us to 2020.

We are upgrading our historic Northfield home and building initiatives among our Central Vermont communities aimed at securing and expanding our leading presence in the region. We are climbing in Chittenden County, with experienced NSB commercial lenders, community banking officers, mortgage originators and investment representatives equipped to play an important role. In Berlin, cross-functional teams are tackling touch points and engineering efficient work flows to assure the customer experience is central. Our digital platform is continuing to advance, meeting the test of providing 24/7 access supported by high standards of cybersecurity vigilance.

BRAND DEFINED BY COMMUNITY MISSION

NSB chooses to be a catalyst for the financial capability and financial well-being of the individuals, households, businesses, and community institutions we serve. Our NSB Foundation is midway through a major three-year investment in financial literacy initiatives being delivered by our regional community action partners. Our sustained record of charitable giving enriches educational, health care, cultural, and social wellness nonprofits that are among the many with whom we share our progress.

NSB people are the real deal. From cities, towns, and villages of the Green Mountains and Champlain Valley, we are linked to the common good of our state. A new look reflecting our historic spirit is being embraced and will gain visibility in the year ahead. Creative messaging across the media spectrum is underscoring our promise as we remain true to our commitments.

NSB CHAMPIONS BRIAN HARWOOD AND CHARLES HAYNES

The Northfield Savings Bank Board of Trustees is comprised of outstanding Vermonters that support our company's governance until term limitations apply. We are blessed by the devotion of two men who have nearly 40 years of combined service. Brian Harwood and Chuck Haynes each served as Chair during his tenure, and each has left an indelible stamp on our enterprise. Their sage stewardship ushered us into a new millennium on a healthy path. Brian contributed unique talents with his rich background in marketing, media, the arts, and history. Chuck's business, entrepreneurial, and community engagement gave us an advocate that will be hard to replicate. We are forever grateful to these rare leaders and true gentlemen. Their legacy will be fondly embraced as we welcome their successors at our annual meeting in April.

NEW BEGINNINGS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

In 1867, a Norwich University professor and future president mobilized fellow Northfield citizens to charter a mutual savings institution to advance the welfare of the community. Over the ensuing 150 years, that modest beginning served to anchor our sensibilities and independence. We enter 2017 with firm purpose and direction. Our sesquicentennial observances in Central Vermont and Chittenden County will celebrate the hard-earned longevity underpinning today's vitality. As we set out on the next 150 years, we thank you for joining us in this chapter of our compelling history. We are honored by your trust.

Sincerely,

Thomas S. Leavitt President & CEO

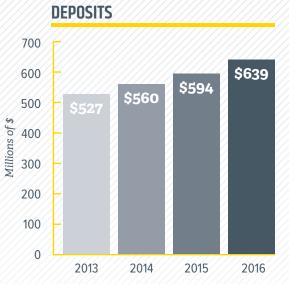
BALANCE SHEETS

As of December 31 (Dollars in thousands)

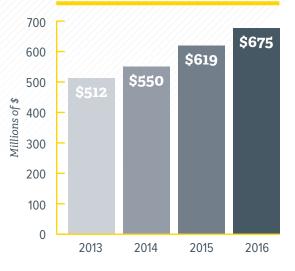
ASSETS	2016	2015
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 10,472	\$ 8,770
Investment Securities	156,233	171,780
Federal Home Loan Bank Stock	5,959	6,121
Residential Loans	340,860	300,396
Commercial Loans	284,544	267,549
Consumer Loans	57,494	57,838
Allowance for Loan Losses	(7,571)	(7,001)
Bank Premises and Equipment	17,099	18,001
Other Assets	39,795	38,025
Total Assets	\$904,885	\$861,479

LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	2016	2015	
Deposits	\$ 639,413	\$ 594,257	
Customer Repurchase Agreements	57,102	51,145	
Federal Home Loan Bank Borrowings	91,977	102,222	
Other Liabilities	7,860	9,599	
Equity Capital	108,533	104,256	
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$904,885	\$861,479	

The Bank had outstanding standby letters of credit of \$2,080,000 as of December 31, 2016 and \$1,958,000 as of December 31, 2015. Standby letters of credit are conditional commitments issued by the Bank to guarantee the performance of a customer to a third party.



NET LOANS



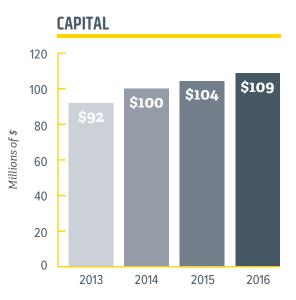
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS

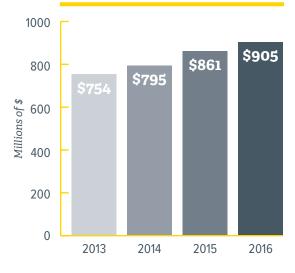
For Years Ended December 31 (Dollars in thousands)

	2016	2015
Interest on Loans Interest on Investments	\$ 26,536 3,635	\$ 24,274 3,760
Total Interest Income	30,171	28,034
Interest Paid on Deposits Interest Paid on Borrowings	3,041 1,015	2,995 762
Total Interest Expense	4,056	3,757

Net Interest Income	\$26,115	\$24,277
Provision for Loan Losses	(750)	(675)
Other Operating Income	5,307	4,901
Security Gains	392	288
Operating Expenses	(25,055)	(22,886)
Earnings Before Income Taxes	6,009	5,905
Income Taxes	1,194	1,579
Net Income	\$4,815	\$4,326



ASSETS



FOUR PILLARS THAT CONTINUE TO DRIVE OUR BUSINESS FORWARD



DEEPENING OUR CUSTOMER CONNECTIONS

We never take our collective eye off the communities, individuals and families we serve. Making life a bit easier for our customers and prospective customers is a focal point for Community Banking. One goal we established and achieved in service to this objective was a customer-focused overhaul of our complete deposit product lineup.

With an eye toward simplification and transparency, we streamlined personal and business deposit account offerings. Active outreach was also a cornerstone of 2016 efforts—with invitations to a series of casual, engaging events in Central Vermont and Chittenden County aimed at sparking personal connections outside the branch.

These initiatives, coupled with our continual commitment to providing outstanding customer service delivered at the local level, contributed to deposit growth of \$45 million.



BUSINESS BANKING STEPPING UP AND STANDING OUT

In 2016, impact was evident at every turn. We bolstered businesses of all sizes and across multiple industries including alternative energy, hospitality, healthcare, construction, and retail. Considerable depth was added to our Business Banking team—with new team members serving both established and new commercial customers.

A few highlights reflect how our business banking efforts have a broader influence on our communities. In Chittenden County, families have a new option for purchasing fresh, local products from an independent grocery store. And those looking to live in a downtown setting now have access to a new residential option. In Central Vermont, our financing drove the expansion of a specialty beverage business and the creation of independent living opportunities for elderly residents.

Beyond over \$75 million in financing for Vermont businesses, the bigger story is our ability to carve out a solid reputation as a "go-to" resource for many of Vermont's most trusted and respected businesses.

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MORTGAGES BIG BELIEVERS IN "HOME SWEET HOME"

Local, regional and national competition for mortgage business is fierce. As a testament to the dedication of our mortgage team, overall dollar volume in 2016 was the second largest in our storied 150-year history. Our borrowers tell a consistent story when asked why they chose to work with Northfield Savings Bank.

Overwhelmingly, our customers value the opportunity to work with a local lender who understands the market and is responsive throughout the process. The breakout of numbers reveal that purchase mortgages represented 50% of our overall mortgage business, refinance transactions nearly 43% and construction loans were 7%. In total volume, our mortgage lenders generated \$87 million in new loans. Of that, nearly \$16 million assisted first-time homebuyers through our Pathway Mortgage program.



NORTHFIELD INVESTMENT SERVICES THE BENEFITS OF LOOKING AT THE BIG PICTURE

The long-term financial health of an individual, family or business is a team effort—with meaningful participation coming from a host of trusted and proven resources. As the investment arm of Northfield Savings Bank and through Infinex Investments Inc.*, Northfield Investment Services (NIS) has steadily demonstrated an ability to partner with clients to help them reach their financial objectives.

Our momentum has picked up speed in recent years, reflected by an increase of \$39 million in assets under management and a roster of more than 2,000 clients. This ongoing growth and success is attributed to a combination of critical factors, including clients taking advantage of a broader range of services offered and the focused efforts of the NIS team in cultivating new relationships throughout the community.

Securities, advisory services and insurance products are offered by, and Investment Consultants are registered with, INFINEX INVESTMENTS, INC., member FINRA/SIPC, and a Registered Investment Advisor. Investment Consultants are dual employees of Northfield Savings Bank, a financial institution, and registered with INFINEX INVESTMENTS, INC., a registered broker dealer. Northfield Investment Services is a trade name of Northfield Savings Bank. Northfield Savings Bank is not a broker dealer. Infinex and Northfield Savings Bank are independent entities. Investment Products are: Not FDIC insured, not guaranteec by the bank, may go down in value, not insured by any federal government agency, not a deposit.

2016 CASH DONATIONS

Every year, we pay a "community dividend" through our commitment to donate 10% of our annual earnings to local nonprofits. In 2016, we supported:

Aldrich Public Library Alzheimer's Association Amercian Cancer Society American Heart Association American Legion Post 9 **ANEW Place** Barre Historical Society Barre Lions Club Barre Opera House Bethel Business Association Bethel Community Forward Festival Bethel Council on the Arts **Bethel Food Shelf** Boy Scouts Boys and Girls Club of Burlington Brookfield Community Partnership **Brownell Library Burlington Book Festival** Burlington Business Association Burlington Choral Society **Burlington City Arts** Camp TA-KUM-TA **Capital City Concerts** Capital City Soccer Club, Inc. **Capstone Community Action** Catamount Trail Association Central Vermont Community Response Central Vermont Humane Society **Central Vermont Adult Basic Education** Central Vermont Habitat for Humanity, Inc. Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice Community Emergency Relief Volunteers (CERV) **Champlain Community Services** Chandler Center for the Arts **Chelsea Senior Center** Children's Literacy Foundation Chittenden County Humane Society Chittenden Emergency Food Shelf Clara Martin Center Clyde Whittemore Little League

Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS) Community Capital of Vermont Community Friends Mentoring

Community Harvest of Central Vermont Community Health Center of Burlington Conquer the Day Champlain Valley Office of Economic **Opportunity (CVOEO) Cystic Fibrosis Foundation** Double H Ranch Earthwalk Vermont **Epilepsy Foundation of Vermont** Eric Hutchins Memorial Scholarship Fund Essex CHIPS Essex Junction Little League Family Creates Unity First Branch Wolves AAU Flynn Center for the Performing Arts Friends of Waterbury Parks & Recreation Friends of CVU Hockey Friends of the Mad River Generator, Inc. Gifford Last Mile Ride Girl Scouts Girls on the Run Girls/Boys First Mentoring Good Beginnings of Central Vermont Good Samaritan Haven Greater Barre Community Justice Greater Burlington YMCA Green Mountain Film Festival Green Mountain Habitat for Humanity Green Mountain United Way Green Up Vermont Harwood Union High School Haunted Hill Forest Fest Home Share Now **HOPE Works** Howard Center Hunger Free Vermont Intervale Center Jaquith Public Library Just Basics Kids Safe Vermont King Street Center Kiwanis Club of Montpelier Lake Champlain Community Sailing Center

Memorial Fund Little Bellas Lost Nation Theater Mad River Valley Community Fund Mad River Path Mad River Valley Ambulance Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce Main Street Alliance of Vermont Mayo Residential Care Activity Fund ME2 Orchestra, Inc. **Mercy Connections** National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Vermont New England Father & Children Unite New England Multiple Sclerosis Northfield Amateur Hockey Association Northfield Historical Society Northfield Junior Rifle Club Northfield Observances Norwich University **Onion River Chorus Onion River Food Shelf** Partners in Adventure **PAWSitive Pantry** People's Health & Wellness Clinic Prevent Child Abuse Vermont Race to Read Randolph Food Shelf Randolph Village Fire Department **Rebuilding Together Greater** Burlington Revitalizing Waterbury River of Light Parade Ronald McDonald House **Rotary Clubs** Royalton Memorial Library Safeline Sara Holbrook Community Center Sexual Assault Crisis Team Spaulding High School School of Cinema and Performing Arts (SOCAPA) South End Arts & Business Association Special Olympics Vermont

Laura Kate Winterbottom

Spectrum Youth and Family Services Stern Center for Language Studio Place Arts Team BIDMC The Barre Partnership The Galley Senior Meals on Wheels The Governor's Institute of Vermont The Lost Shul Mural Therapeutic Intervention Program Travis Roy Foundation Turning Point Center of Chittenden County United Way of Northwest Vermont UVM Medical Center Valley Players Vermont Adaptive Ski & Sports Vermont Community Loan Fund Vermont Council on Rural Development Vermont Creativity Quest Vermont Energy Education Program Vermont Food Bank Vermont Granite Museum Vermont Housing Finance Agency Vermont National Guard Fallen Heroes Vermont Philharmonic Vermont Public Television Vermont Scholarship Fund Vermont Senior Games Association Vermont Works for Women Vermont Young Professionals Vermont Symphony Orchestra VSA Vermont VT Gas and Steam Engine Association VT National Guard Charitable Foundation Washington County Diversion Washington County Mental Health Washington County Youth Services Waterbury Area Senior Citizens Association White River Craft Center Wings Over Washington Women Helping Battered Women

Note: This list is not all-inclusive

2016 COMMUNITY GIVING

In 2016, Northfield Savings Bank contributed approximately **\$500,000** to more than 220 nonprofit organizations in Vermont.



Employees dedicated more than **2,240** personal volunteer hours to organizations within the following areas of need:

- » Human Services
- » Education
- » Arts and Culture
- » Environment

- » Economic and Job Development
- » Animal Welfare
- » Programs for At-Risk Youth and Low/Moderate Income Families

In 2016, the Northfield Savings Bank Foundation continued its **\$450,000 commitment** to financial literacy initiatives in Central Vermont and Chittenden County with support of Capstone Community Action and Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity.

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Cory B. Richardson Treasurer

Cheryl A. LaFrance Corporate Secretary

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Senior Community Banking Officer/Barre

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