# EXAM 6 - CANADA, SPRING 2015

# 31. (1.5 points)

Contrast the following accounting concepts:

a. (0.5 point)

Liquidation vs. going concern

b. (0.5 point)

Fair value vs. historical cost

c. (0.5 point)

Principle-based vs. rule-based

### **EXAM 6C SPRING 2015 SAMPLE ANSWERS AND EXAMINER'S REPORT**

### **QUESTION 31**

TOTAL POINT VALUE: 1.5 LEARNING OBJECTIVE: C3 for all parts

### **SAMPLE ANSWERS (BY PART, AS APPLICABLE)**

#### Part a: 0.5 point

Candidate need one element from each concept to receive full credit.

- Liquidation:
  - o Liquidation sees assets and liabilities as a run-off.
  - Values of assets and liabilities if the company is forced to liquidate (shut down) today.
  - o Liquidation is important for the regulator.
- Going concern:
  - Going concern sees assets and liabilities as an ongoing business.
  - o Evaluation as if company will still operate in the future.
  - o Going concern is more important to investors or shareholders.

### Part b: 0.50 point

Candidate need one element from each concept to receive full credit.

- Fair value:
  - o Fair value is a value that it would be bought or sold for in the open market.
  - o Fair value is the current market value.
  - It is more accurate than historical price.
- Historical cost :
  - o Historical cost means valuing it at the original purchase price less depreciation.
  - o It is easier to obtain or calculate than fair value.

### Part c: 0.50 point

Candidate need one element from each concept to receive full credit.

- Principle-based:
  - A principle describes a general accounting approach that must be interprets and applied.
  - o More adaptable to changes vs. rule-based.
- Rule-based:
  - o A rule provides specific accounting guidance on how something should be done.
  - Easier to understand and audit than principle-based.

## **EXAMINER'S REPORT (BY PART, AS APPLICABLE)**

• Most candidates performed well on this question.

#### Part a

• The candidates should use the definitions of each concept to contrast or give some differences on one aspect between the two concepts.

### Part b

 The most common error was not specifying that the historical cost needs to consider depreciation.

### Part c

The most common error was to mix up the two concepts.