



The Management of The Bank of N.T. Butterfield & Son Limited is responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements contained in this Annual Report. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Bermuda and Canada and, where appropriate, are based on the best estimates and judgment of management.

Management has established and maintains a system of financial reporting and internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are properly authorised and recorded, assets are protected against unauthorised use or disposition and liabilities are recognised. These procedures include the careful selection and training of qualified staff, the establishment of organisational structures providing an appropriate and well-defined division of responsibilities, and the communication of policies and standards of business conduct throughout the Bank.

The system of internal controls is further supported by a professional staff of internal auditors which conducts periodic inspections of all aspects of the Bank's operations. In addition, the Bank's Head of Group Internal Audit has full and free access to the Audit & Compliance Committee.

The Audit & Compliance Committee of the Board of Directors, composed entirely of directors who are not employees of the Bank, reviews the financial statements before such statements are approved by the Board of Directors and submitted to the Bank's shareholders.

Under the provisions of the Bermuda Monetary Authority Act 1969, the Bermuda Monetary Authority is charged with the supervision of the Bank. Such supervision is in line with international practices and combines a comprehensive system of statistical returns, providing a detailed breakdown of the balance sheet and statement of income accounts of the Bank, and regular meetings with the senior management of the Bank. Such regular reviews are intended to satisfy the Authority that the safety and interests of the depositors, creditors and shareholders of the Bank are being duly observed and that the Bank is in a sound financial condition.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, the shareholders' independent auditors, have examined the consolidated financial statements of the Bank in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and have expressed their opinion in their report to the shareholders. The auditors have unrestricted access to, and meet periodically with, the Audit & Compliance Committee to review their findings regarding internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters and financial reporting issues.

M. Calum Johnston, FICB
President & Chief Executive Officer
17 August 2001