

ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC
Form DEF 14A
January 30, 2002

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant [X]
Filed by a Party other than the Registrant []

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction
computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the
amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it
was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

(5) Total fee paid:

- Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange
Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting
fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration
statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536
(609) 282-4600

January 30, 2002

Dear Shareholder:

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders is to be held at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern time), on Thursday, March 21, 2002 at the offices of Prudential Securities Incorporated, One Seaport Plaza, 35th Floor, New York, New York. A Proxy Statement regarding the meeting, a proxy card for your vote at the meeting and an envelope postage prepaid in which to return your proxy card are enclosed.

At the Annual Meeting, the holders of the Fund's common stock will elect the Fund's Class I Directors for a three-year term and the holders of the Fund's preferred stock will vote separately as a single class to elect two additional Directors. In addition, the shareholders present will hear a report on the Fund. There will be an opportunity to discuss matters of interest to you as a shareholder.

Your Directors recommend that you vote in favor of each of the foregoing matters.

/s/ Martin J. Gilbert

MARTIN J. GILBERT
Chairman

YOU ARE URGED TO SIGN AND MAIL THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TO ASSURE A QUORUM AT THE MEETING. THIS IS IMPORTANT REGARDLESS OF THE SIZE OF YOUR SHAREHOLDING.

ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND, INC.

800 Scudders Mill Road
Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
March 21, 2002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Aberdeen Commonwealth Income Fund, Inc. (the "Fund") will be held at the offices of Prudential Securities Incorporated, One Seaport Plaza, 35th Floor, New York, New York, on Thursday, March 21, 2002, at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern time), for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect four Directors to serve as Class I Directors for a three-year term;
- (2) To elect two Directors to represent the interests of the holders of preferred stock for the ensuing year; and
- (3) To transact any other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on January 19, 2002 as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to vote at the meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

In the event that the necessary quorum to transact business or the vote required to approve or reject any proposal is not obtained at the meeting, the

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

persons named as proxy holders may propose one or more adjournments of the meeting, in accordance with applicable law, to permit further solicitation of proxies. Any such adjournment will require the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the Fund's shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting. The persons named as proxy holders will vote in favor of such adjournment those proxies which they are entitled to vote in favor of any proposal and will vote against any such adjournment those proxies to be voted against that proposal.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Roy M. Randall, Secretary

Plainsboro, New Jersey
January 30, 2002

IMPORTANT: You are cordially invited to attend the meeting. Shareholders who do not expect to attend the meeting in person are requested to complete, date and sign the enclosed proxy card and return it promptly in the addressed envelope which requires no postage and is intended for your convenience. Your prompt return of the enclosed proxy card may save the Fund the necessity and expense of further solicitations to assure a quorum at the meeting. The enclosed proxy is being solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Fund.

PROXY STATEMENT

ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND, INC.

800 Scudders Mill Road
Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536

Annual Meeting of Shareholders
March 21, 2002

INTRODUCTION

This Proxy Statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies on behalf of the Board of Directors of Aberdeen Commonwealth Income Fund, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "Fund"), to be voted at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Fund (the "Meeting") to be held at the offices of Prudential Securities Incorporated, One Seaport Plaza, 35th Floor, New York, New York, on Thursday, March 21, 2002, at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern time). The approximate mailing date for this Proxy Statement is January 30, 2002 or as soon as practicable thereafter.

All properly executed proxies received prior to the Meeting will be voted at the Meeting in accordance with the instructions marked on the proxy card. Unless instructions to the contrary are marked, proxies submitted by holders of the Fund's common stock will be voted FOR Proposal 1, and proxies submitted by holders of the Fund's preferred stock will be voted FOR Proposal 2. The appointed proxy holders will vote in their discretion on any other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof. Any proxy may be revoked at any time prior to its exercise by giving written notice to the Secretary of the Fund (addressed to the Secretary at the principal executive office of the Fund, 800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536). Shareholders may vote using the enclosed postage pre-paid

proxy card.

The presence at the Meeting, in person or by proxy, of the stockholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at the Meeting shall be necessary and sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business with respect to the Fund. For purposes of determining the presence of a quorum for transacting business at the Meeting, abstentions and broker non-votes (that is, proxies from brokers or nominees indicating that such persons have not received instructions from the beneficial owner or other persons entitled to vote shares on a particular proposal with respect to which the brokers or nominees do not have discretionary power) will be treated as shares that are present.

Approval of the election of Class I Directors to the Board of Directors (Proposal 1) will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of common stock present in person or by proxy at the Meeting. Approval of the election of Preferred Directors to the Board of Directors (Proposal 2) will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of preferred stock present in person or by proxy at the Meeting. Abstentions are treated as present and will have the effect of a vote "against" each Proposal. Proxies from brokers or nominees indicating that such persons have not received instructions from the beneficial owner or other persons entitled to vote shares on the Proposals will be voted "for" each Proposal.

In the event that the necessary quorum to transact business at the Meeting is not obtained or a quorum is present at the Meeting but sufficient votes to approve the proposals are not received, the proxy holders may propose one or more adjournments of the Meeting to permit further solicitation of proxies. Any adjournment will require the affirmative vote of a majority of those shares present at the Meeting in person or by proxy. If the necessary quorum is not obtained, the persons named as proxy holders will vote in favor of the adjournment. If a quorum is present, the proxy holders will vote those proxies required to be voted "for" a proposal with respect to which insufficient votes for approval have been received, in favor of such adjournment, and will vote those proxies required to be voted "against" a proposal, against adjournment. A shareholder vote may be taken on any proposal prior to adjournment if sufficient votes have been received for approval of that proposal.

1

The following table indicates which class of the Fund's shareholders is being solicited with respect to each Proposal to be considered at the Meeting.

	Solicitation of Vote of Common Stockholders	Solicitation of Vote of Preferred Stockholders (Series W-7)
	-----	-----
Proposal 1:		
Election of Class I Directors.....	Yes	No
Proposal 2:		
Election of Preferred Directors.....	No	Yes

The Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on January 19, 2002 as the record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the Meeting and at any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Shareholders on the record date will be entitled to one vote for each share held. As of January 19, 2002, the Fund had outstanding 9,266,209 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share and 1,200 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series W-7, par value \$0.01 per share.

The Board of Directors of the Fund knows of no business other than that mentioned in the Notice of the Meeting which will be presented for consideration at the Meeting. If any other matter is properly presented, it is the intention of the persons named on the enclosed proxy card to vote in accordance with their best judgment.

The Fund will furnish, without charge, a copy of the Fund's annual report for its fiscal year ended October 31, 2001, and any more recent reports, to any Fund shareholder upon request. To request a copy, please call or write to Investor Relations, Aberdeen Asset Management, 45 Broadway, 31st Floor, New York, New York 10006, Telephone: 1-800-522-5465.

PROPOSAL 1: ELECTION OF CLASS I DIRECTORS

The Fund's Articles of Incorporation provide that the Board of Directors to be elected by holders of the Fund's common stock will be divided into three classes, as nearly equal in number as possible, each of whom, after a transition period, will serve for three years with one class being elected each year. Each year the term of office of one class will expire. The Board of Directors of the Fund, including the Directors who are not interested persons of the Fund, upon the recommendation of the Fund's Nominating Committee which is composed entirely of Directors who are not interested persons of the Fund, has nominated David Lindsay Elsum, Laurence S. Freedman, E. Duff Scott, and Sir David Rowe-Ham to serve as Class I Directors for a three-year term to expire at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held in 2005 and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Messrs. Elsum, Freedman and Scott were elected by shareholders to serve until the 2002 Annual Meeting. Sir David Rowe-Ham was appointed to the Board by the Board of Directors, including the Directors who are not interested persons of the Fund, upon the recommendation of the Fund's Nominating Committee which is composed entirely of Directors who are not interested persons of the Fund, to fill a vacancy on the Board of Directors. The nominees have indicated an intention to serve if elected and have consented to be named in this Proxy Statement.

It is the intention of the persons named on the enclosed proxy card to vote for the election of the persons listed below under Class I for a three-year term. The Board of Directors of the Fund knows of no reason why any of these nominees will be unable to serve, but in the event of any such inability, the proxies received will be voted for such substituted nominees as the Board of Directors may recommend.

The following table sets forth certain information concerning each of the Fund's nominees for election as a Director and each Director of the Fund. Each of the Fund's nominees is currently a Director of the Fund.

Name and Address	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships	Director Age Since o
-----	-----	-----

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Class I
 (Current Directors and Nominees for a Term
 Expiring at the Annual Meeting to be held in 2005)

David Lindsay Elsum, A.M.++ 9 May Grove South Yarra, Victoria 3141 Australia	Mr. Elsum has over 20 years of experience in investment and insurance markets. He was a member of the Corporations and Securities Panel of the Australian Securities Commission to 2000 and a member of the Australian Federal Government Administrative Appeals Tribunal to 2001 and has been a member of the State of Victoria Regulator-General Appeal Panel since 2001. Previously, he was founding Managing Director of Capel Court Investment Bank and Chairman of Stodart Investment Pty. Ltd., and subsequently, Chief Executive of major public companies including The MLC Limited (insurance) and President of the State of Victoria Superannuation Fund (pension fund management). Director, Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. (since 1985), Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc. (since 1986) and Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited (since 1986); Chairman, Audit Victoria (government statutory authority) (from 1997-2000); Chairman, Melbourne Wholesale Fish Market Pty. Ltd.; Chairman, Queen Victoria Market Pty. Ltd. (municipal market); Director, EquitiLink e-Link Fund Limited (investment company); Director, Financial Planning Association Limited (industry association); Director, Aberdeen Leaders Limited (investment company).	64	1992
Laurence S. Freedman* 25 Lime Street, Suite 405 Sydney, N.S.W. 2000 Australia	Mr. Freedman has over 35 years of experience in funds management with a focus on global investment analysis. Prior to founding EquitiLink in 1981, he was Director of Investment at BT Australia Limited. Mr. Freedman's areas of fund management specialization include investment in resource and development companies, international economies and the geo-political impact on investment markets. He was Chairman of the Fund from 2000 to 2001 and President of the Fund to 2001. He was founder of the Fund's Investment Adviser, and until December 2000, he was Joint Managing Director of the Fund's Investment Adviser and a Director of the Fund's Investment Manager.	58	1992

Name and Address -----	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships -----	Director Age Since	Out on 1	Ben Ow %
---------------------------	--	-----------------------	-------------	----------------

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Chairman, (from 1995 to 2001), President (from 1985 to 2000) and Director (since 1985), Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.; Chairman (from 1995 to 2000), Vice President (from 1986 to 2001) and Director (from 1986 to 2000), Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc.; Joint Managing Director, Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited (from 1986 to 2001); Director, EquitiLink Limited (holding company) (from 1986 to 2000); Director, EquitiLink Holdings Limited (holding company) (since 1998); Chairman (since 1987) and Joint Managing Director (from 1987 to 2000), Aberdeen Leaders Limited (investment company); Joint Managing Director (from 1994 to 2000) and Director (since 1994), EquitiLink eLink Limited (investment company); Director, Ten Network Holdings Limited (television network) (since 1998); Director, EIML Australia Pty. Limited (investment company).

Sir David Rowe-Ham
140 Piccadilly
London
United Kingdom W1J7NS

Sir David Rowe-Ham has been Chairman and Director of 66 2001
Brewin Dolphin Holdings PLC, a fund manager and
stockbroker listed on the L.S.E., since 1992.

Director, Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc.
(since 2001); Chairman and Director, Roam
Investments Ltd. (investment company) (since 1984);
Chairman and Director, Olayan Europe Ltd.
(international trading and investment) (since
1989); Chairman and Director, Coral Products PLC
(plastics manufacturer) (since 1995); Chairman and
Director, BNP Paribas South Asia Investment Co.
Ltd. (trust management company) (since 1995);
President, The Crown Agents Foundation (Crown
agents) (since 1996); Director, St. David's
Investment Trust PLC (investment trust) (since
1996); Chairman and Director, Aspect Internet
Holdings Ltd. (solutions, design,
consultancy) (since 2000); Director, Chubb plc
(security company) (since 2000).

E. Duff Scott+
8 Sunnydene Crescent
Toronto, Ontario M4N 3J6
Canada

Mr. Scott is currently President of Multibanc 65 1992
Financial Corporation and Multibanc NT Financial
Corporation, investment holding companies. He also
serves as Chairman of QLT Phototherapeutics, a
biopharmaceutical company. Previously, he was
Chairman of Peoples Jewelers Corporation (retail
jeweler).

Name and Address	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships	Age	Director Since	Outstanding	Share Beneficially Owned % of Total
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Director, Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited (since 1989); President, Multibanc Financial Corporation and Multibanc NT Financial Corporation (investment holding companies) (since 1990); Chairman, QLT Phototherapeutics (biopharmaceuticals) (since 1991); Director, Perle Systems, Inc. (computers) (since 1997); Director, Lions Gate Entertainment (media) (since 2001); Director, Becker Milk Company (real estate); Director, Pene Falls Paper; Director, B Split Corporation (split share company); Director, Telco Split Co. (split share company); Director, Simmons Income Trust.

Class II

(Term Expiring at the Annual Meeting to be held in 2003)

<p>William J. Potter+++ (degrees) 236 West 27th Street New York, NY 10001</p>	<p>Mr. Potter has extensive experience in investment banking and fund management, including senior positions with Toronto Dominion Bank, Barclays Bank PLC and Prudential Securities, Inc. as well as board of director positions with investment funds involving over \$20 billion in assets beginning in 1983. Mr. Potter has been involved in the Australia capital markets since 1974, including management and board of director positions with a noted Australian brokerage house. Mr. Potter is President of a U.S. investment bank and has securities licenses in the U.S. and Canada. Mr. Potter also has securities underwriting experience in various capital markets with an emphasis on natural resources.</p>	<p>53</p>	<p>1992</p>
<p>Director, Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. (since 1985), Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc. (since 1986) and Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited (since 1986); President, Ridgewood Group International Ltd. (international consulting and merchant banking company) (since 1989); President, Ridgewood Capital Funding, Inc. (private placement securities firm) (since 1989); Director, International Panorama, Inc. (mining) (since 1994); Director, National Foreign Trade Counsel (trade association) (since 1985); Director, Alexandria Bancorp (banking group in Cayman Islands) (since 1991); Director, Vanstone Investments (software) (since 1990); Director, E.C. Power, Inc. (energy company) (since 1996); Director, Serapec S.A. (energy company) (since 1996).</p>			

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Name and Address	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships	Age	Director Since	Out on 1
<p>Peter D. Sacks+++ 445 King Street West, 4th Floor Toronto, Ontario M5V 1K4 Canada</p>	<p>Mr. Sacks' career has spanned 20 years in executive positions in treasury management with CIBC, Chase Manhattan Bank and Midland Bank. He is currently President and Director of Toron Capital Markets, Inc., a company which he established in 1988 to design and manage customized hedging solutions for institutional clients with commodity risks and currency and interest rate exposures.</p> <p>Director, Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. (since 1999), Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc. (since 1993) and Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited (since December 1998).</p>	56	1992	
<p>Hugh Young* 21 Church Street #01-01 Capital Square Two Singapore 049480</p>	<p>Mr. Young has been in the financial services business since 1979. He has been an Executive Director of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC (parent company of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser) since 1991. He has also been Managing Director of Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited (affiliate of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser) since 1991 and Managing Director of Aberdeen International Fund Managers Limited (affiliate of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser) since 2000. He has been President of the Fund, of Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc., and of Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc. since 2001. He has been a Director of Aberdeen Asset Management Limited (the Fund's Investment Adviser) and Aberdeen Asset Managers (C.I.) Limited (the Fund's Investment Manager) since 2001.</p> <p>Director, Aberdeen Asset Management Holdings Limited (since 2000); Director, Aberdeen Asia Total Return (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen Asian Smaller Companies Investment Trust PLC (since 1995); Director, Aberdeen Emerging Asia Investment Trust Limited (since 1990); Director, Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited (since 1991); Director, Aberdeen India Fund Limited (since 1996); Director, Aberdeen Islamic Fund Managers Limited (since 2000); Director, Aberdeen New Dawn Investment Trust PLC (since 1989); Director, Aberdeen New Thai Investment Trust PLC (since 1989); Director, Aberdeen International Fund Managers Limited (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen International Management Ireland Limited (since 2000); Director, Apollo Europe Fund Limited (since 1996); Director,</p>	43	2001	

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Name and Address	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships	Director Since	Age on 10/31/01
<p>Martin J. Gilbert* One Bow Churchyard London, United Kingdom EC4M 9HH</p>	<p>Apollo Investment Management Limited (since 1994); Director, Apollo Hedge Fund Limited (since 1996); Director, Apollo Japan Fund Limited (since 1995); Director, Apollo Tiger Fund Limited (since 1994); Director, Apollo Californian Fund Limited (since 1997); Director, JF Philippine Fund Limited (since 1991); Director, Phoenix Aberdeen International Advisors LLC (since 1996); Director, Apollo Protector Fund Limited (since 1994); Director, Aberdeen Global (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen PCC Limited (since 2000); Director, Aberdeen Guernsey Limited (since 1999); Director, The London Market Fund PLC (since 1999); Director, Murray Goh Equity Private PTE Limited (since 2001); Director, Murray Johnstone Asia Limited (since 2000); Senior Vice President, Phoenix-Aberdeen Series Fund.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class III (Term Expiring at the Annual Meeting to be held in 2004)</p> <p>Mr. Gilbert is the Chief Executive and an Executive Director of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC, which was established in 1983 and is the parent company of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser. He is one of the founding directors of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC and has been involved in the investment management industry since 1982 after he qualified as a chartered accountant. He has been Chairman of the Board of the Fund and of Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc. since 2001. He has been a Director of Aberdeen Asset Management Limited (the Fund's Investment Adviser) and Aberdeen Asset Managers (C.I.) Limited (the Fund's Investment Manager) since 2001.</p> <p>Director, Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited (since 2000); Director, Aberdeen Asset Management Holdings Limited (since 2000); Director, Aberdeen Asian Smaller Companies Investment Trust PLC (since 1995); Director, Aberdeen Asset Management Asia Limited (since 1991); Director, Aberdeen Asset Management Ireland Limited (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen Asset Managers Jersey Limited (since 1999); Director, Aberdeen Asset Managers Limited (since 1987); Director, Aberdeen Celexa Property Investors UK & Ireland Limited (since 2000); Director, Aberdeen Convertible Income Trust PLC (since 1995); Director, Aberdeen Development Capital PLC (since 1986); Director, Aberdeen Emerging Asia Investment Trust Limited (since 1990); Director, Aberdeen Emerging Economies</p>	46	2001

Name and Address	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships	Age	Director Since	Shares Beneficially Owned and % of Total Outstanding on 10/31/01
	<p>Investment Trust PLC (since 1993); Director, Aberdeen Football Club PLC (since 1997); Director, Aberdeen Fund Managers Inc. (since 1995); Director, Aberdeen Global Fund (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen Graham Asset Management Limited (since 1999); Director, Aberdeen Growth VCT I PLC (since 2001); Director, Aberdeen International Fund Managers Limited (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen International Fund PLC (since 1997); Director, Aberdeen Private Investors Limited (since 2001); Director, Aberdeen Property Asset Managers Limited (since 2001); Director, Aberdeen Property Investors International Limited (since 2001); Director, Aberdeen Umbrella Cash Fund PLC (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen Unit Trust Managers Limited (since 1987); Director, Aberdeen Fund Managers Ireland Limited (since 2000); Director, APFM Wind-Up Limited (since 1994); Director, Argosy Asset Management Luxembourg SA (since 1991); Director, Asset Value Investors Limited (since 2001); Director, Balgranach Properties Limited (since 1998); Director, Bogey One Limited (since 1998); Director, Broadgate Investment Trust PLC (since 1995); Director, Chaucer Holdings PLC (since 1993); Director, FirstGroup PLC (since 1995); Director, Grampian Country Food Group Limited (since 1996); Director, Healthcare Reform Investment Trust PLC (since 1996); Director, Inner Workings Group PLC (since 1999); Director, Jersey Phoenix Trust Limited (since 1999); Director, Lombard International Assurance SA (since 1991); Director, Murray Johnstone Holdings Limited (since 2001); Director, Murray Johnstone International Limited (since 2001); Director, Murray Johnstone Limited (since 2001); Director, Murray Johnstone Unit Trust Management Limited (since 2001); Director, New Asia (Isle of Man) Limited (since 1996); Director, Phoenix Aberdeen International Advisors LLC (since 1996); Director, Primary Health Properties PLC (since 1996); Director, Property Management Employment Services Limited (since 2000); Director, Property Partners (Two Rivers) Limited (since 2001); Director, Property Partners (Whitgift) Limited (since 2000); Director, Regent Property Partners (Residential) Limited (since 2000); Director, Regent Property Partners (Retail</p>			

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Parks) Limited (since 2000); Director, Regent Retail Parks (St. John's Wolverhampton) Limited (since 2001); Director, Scottish Medicine PLC (since 1998); Director, Templar Hotels LTD (from 1985 to 1989, reappointed 1990); Director, Tenon Nominees Limited (since 1987); Director, The London Market Fund PLC (since 1999); Director, The Taverners Trust PLC

8

Name and Address	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships	Age	Director Since
Neville J. Miles (degrees) 2 Paddington Street Paddington, N.S.W. 2021 Australia	<p>(alternate) (since 2000); Director, Themis Investment Management Limited (since 2000).</p> <p>Mr. Miles has over 20 years of international investment banking experience. He was formerly head of Corporate Treasury at Westpac Banking Corporation and Managing Director of Ord Minnett Securities Limited (stockbrokers). Mr. Miles has extensive experience in the areas of corporate acquisitions and equity offerings. He is currently an investor and real estate developer.</p> <p>Director, Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. (since 1996) and Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc. (since 1996); Director, Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited; Chairman and Director, MTM Funds Management Limited (property trust) (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen Leaders Limited (investment company) and EquitiLink eLink Limited (investment company); Executive Director, EL&C Ballieu Limited (stockbroker) (from 1994 to 1997).</p>	55	1999
Warren C. Smith 1002 Sherbrooke St. West Suite 1600 Montreal, Quebec H3A 3L6 Canada	<p>Mr. Smith is a Managing Editor with The Bank Credit Analyst Research Group, independent publishers of financial market research. Since 1982, he has helped direct the firm's investment strategy, and has been editor of several U.S. and international publications. He also has developed and edited new institutional research products since 1989. Mr. Smith lectures to investment groups around the globe.</p> <p>Managing Editor, BCA Publications Ltd. (financial publications, including The Bank Credit Analyst) (since 1982); Director, Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited (since 1993).</p>	46	1992

- * Directors considered by the Fund and its counsel to be persons who are "interested persons" (which as used in this Proxy Statement is as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act")) of the Fund or of the Fund's Investment Manager or Investment Adviser. Mr. Freedman is deemed to be an interested person because of his ownership of securities of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC, the parent company of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser. Messrs. Gilbert and Young are deemed to be interested persons because of their affiliation with the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser. See "Further Information Regarding Directors and Officers--Relationship of Directors or Nominees with the Investment Adviser and the Investment Manager."
- + Messrs. Potter, Sacks and Scott are members of the Audit and Valuation Committee.
- ++ Messrs. Elsum, Potter and Sacks are members of the Contract Review Committee.
- (degrees) Messrs. Miles and Potter are members of the Nominating Committee.
- (1) The information as to beneficial ownership as of October 31, 2001 is based on statements furnished to the Fund by the Directors and nominees. All shares listed in this table were owned with sole voting and investment power. The Directors of the Fund representing the common stock, as a group, owned less than one percent of the total shares of common stock outstanding as of October 31, 2001 and no shares of the Fund's preferred stock.

9

Please also see the information contained below under the heading "Further Information Regarding Officers and Directors."

The Board of Directors recommends that holders of common stock vote FOR the election of the four nominees to the Fund's Board of Directors.

PROPOSAL 2: ELECTION OF PREFERRED DIRECTORS

The Fund has outstanding 1,200 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series W-7, with an aggregate liquidation preference of \$30,000,000.

Section 18 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") requires that the holders of any preferred shares, voting separately as a single class without regard to series, have the right to elect at least two Directors at all times. The Board of Directors of the Fund, including the Directors who are not interested persons of the Fund, upon the recommendation of the Fund's Nominating Committee which is composed entirely of Directors who are not interested persons of the Fund, has nominated Dr. Anton E. Schrafl and John T. Sheehy to serve as Preferred Directors, representing exclusively the holders of all series of the Fund's preferred stock until the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held in 2003. The nominees have indicated an intention to continue to serve if elected and have consented to be named in this Proxy Statement.

It is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed proxy to vote for the election of the persons listed below. The Board of Directors of the Fund knows of no reason why either of these nominees will be unable to serve, but in the event of any such inability, the proxies received will be voted for such substituted nominees as the holders of preferred stock shall recommend, and if no such recommendations are made, such substituted nominees as the Board of Directors shall recommend.

The following table sets forth certain biographical information concerning each of the nominees as a Preferred Director of the Fund.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Name and Address	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships	Age	Director Since	Shares Common Beneficially Owned and Held by Director on 10/31/01
Dr. Anton E. Schrafl Talstrasse 83 CH-8001 Zurich Switzerland	Dr. Schrafl is currently Deputy Chairman of Holcim Limited, a global manufacturer and distributor of cement and allied products. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Organogenesis, Inc., a medical products company involved in biotechnological tissue engineering, and Apogee Technology, Inc., a manufacturer of digital amplifiers. Director, Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc. (since 1998); Director, Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited.	70	1993	0

10

Name and Address	Principal Occupations and Employment for Past Five Years and Other Directorships	Age	Director Since	Shares Common Beneficially Owned and Held by Director on 10/31/01
John T. Sheehy++(degrees) 560 Sylvan Avenue Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632	Mr. Sheehy has over 30 years' experience in investment banking with companies such as J. P. Morgan & Company and Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. His specialty areas include securities valuation, public offerings and private placements of debt and equity securities, mergers and acquisitions and management buyout transactions. He has been Senior Managing Director of B.V. Murray and Company (investment banking) since 2001. Director, Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. (since 1985), Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc. (since 1986) and Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Investment Company Limited (since 1986); Member, The Value Group LLC (private equity) (since 1997); Director, Video City, Inc. (video retail merchandising) (since 1997).	59	1992	

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

++ Mr. Sheehy is a member of the Contract Review Committee.

(degrees) Mr. Sheehy is a member of the Nominating Committee.

(1) As of October 31, 2001, the Preferred Directors of the Fund as a group owned no shares of the Fund's common or preferred stock.

Please also see the information contained below under the heading "Further Information Regarding Directors and Officers."

The Board of Directors recommends that holders of preferred stock vote FOR the election of the two nominees as Preferred Directors to the Fund's Board of Directors.

FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance. Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and Section 30(h) of the 1940 Act, as applied to the Fund, require the Fund's officers, Directors, the Investment Manager and Investment Adviser, affiliates of the Investment Manager or Investment Adviser, and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of a registered class of the Fund's outstanding securities ("Reporting Persons") to file reports of ownership of the Fund's securities and changes in such ownership with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and the New York Stock Exchange. Such persons are required by SEC regulations to furnish the Fund with copies of all such filings.

Based solely on its review of the copies of such forms received by it and written representations from certain Reporting Persons that no year-end reports were required for those persons, and except as provided in the following sentences, the Fund believes that during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2001, its Reporting Persons complied with all applicable filing requirements. Following the acquisition of the Investment Adviser and the Investment Manager by Aberdeen Asset Management PLC, Messrs. Martin Gilbert, Hugh Young, Chris Fishwick, Christian Pittard, Richard Fabricius, Vincent Parrott, and Ms. Ouma Sananikone, who became "affiliated persons" of the Investment Manager and the Investment Adviser, filed

11

Form 3 Initial Statements of Beneficial Ownership of the Fund's securities subsequent to 10 day period specified in the Form. Messrs. James Blair, Joe Tham, Chong Yoon-Chou and Charles Macrae, and Ms. Melissa Hall, who subsequently became "affiliated persons" of the Investment Adviser, filed Form 3 Initial Statements of Beneficial Ownership of the Fund's securities subsequent to the 10 day period specified in the Form. Mr. Neville Miles filed a Form 5 Annual Statement of Beneficial Ownership of Securities subsequent to the 45 day period specified in the Form.

Committees and Board of Directors Meetings. The Board of Directors has a standing Audit and Valuation Committee, composed entirely of Directors who are not "interested persons" of the Fund or the Fund's Investment Manager or Investment Adviser, within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and who are "independent" as defined in the New York Stock Exchange listing standards. The Audit and Valuation Committee reviews both the audit and non-audit work of the Fund's independent public accountants, submits recommendations to the Board of Directors as to the selection of independent public accountants, and reviews compliance of the Fund with regulations of the SEC and the Internal Revenue Service, and other related matters.

The Fund adopted an Audit Committee Charter on March 16, 2000, and on

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

December 11, 2001 amended this charter to be an Audit and Valuation Committee Charter. The Audit and Valuation Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 from PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP ("PwC"), the Fund's independent accountants, and has discussed with PwC its independence. The Audit and Valuation Committee has also reviewed and discussed the audited financial statements with Fund management and PwC, and discussed certain matters with PwC required to be discussed by Statements on Auditing Standards No. 61. Based on the foregoing, the Audit and Valuation Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the Fund's audited financial statements be included in the Fund's Annual Report to Shareholders for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2001. The members of the Fund's Audit and Valuation Committee are Messrs. William J. Potter, E. Duff Scott and Peter D. Sacks.

The Board of Directors also has a standing Contract Review Committee, composed entirely of Directors who are not "interested persons" of the Fund or the Fund's Investment Manager or Investment Adviser within the meaning of the 1940 Act. The Contract Review Committee reviews and makes recommendations to the Board with respect to entering into, renewal or amendment of the Management Agreement, the Advisory Agreement, the Administration Agreement, the Investor Relations Services Agreement and other agreements. The members of the Fund's Contract Review Committee are Messrs. David L. Elsum, William J. Potter, Peter D. Sacks and John T. Sheehy.

The Board of Directors also has a standing Nominating Committee, composed entirely of Directors who are not "interested persons" of the Fund or the Fund's Investment Manager or Investment Adviser within the meaning of the 1940 Act. The Nominating Committee considers candidates for service as Fund directors and remuneration to be paid to Fund directors. The Nominating Committee will not consider nominees recommended by security holders. The members of the Fund's Nominating Committee are Messrs. Neville J. Miles, William J. Potter and John T. Sheehy.

During the Fund's fiscal year ended October 31, 2001, the Board of Directors held four regularly scheduled meetings and one special meeting, the Audit Committee held two meetings, the Contract Review Committee held one meeting, and the Nominating Committee held one meeting. Each of the Directors then in office (except Dr. Schrafl) attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board of Directors and of all the Committees of the Board on which he served.

Officers of the Fund. The officers of the Fund, all of whom serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors are as follows: Hugh Young (age 43), President (since 2001); Christian Pittard (age 28), Treasurer and Assistant Secretary (since 2001); Michael Karagianis (age 38), Assistant Vice President (since 2001); Beverley Hendry (age 48), Assistant Treasurer (since 2001); Simon Bignell (age 40), Assistant Treasurer (since 2001); Timothy Sullivan (age 40), Assistant Treasurer (since 2001); Roy M. Randall (age 65), Secretary (since inception); Allan S. Mostoff (age 69), Assistant Secretary (since inception); Sander M. Bieber (age 51), Assistant Secretary (since 1999); and Margaret A. Bancroft (age 63), Assistant Secretary (since inception).

12

The respective principal occupations and employment during the past five years of the Fund's officers are as follows: Hugh Young, as set forth above under "Proposal 1: Election of Class I Directors;" Christian Pittard, Managing Director (since 2001) of the Fund's Investment Manager, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary (since 2001) of Aberdeen Commonwealth Income Fund, Inc., Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc. and Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc., Managing Director (since 1998) of Aberdeen Graham Asset Management Ltd.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

(affiliate of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser), Chartered Accountant (1994-1998), KPMG; Michael Karagianis, Assistant Vice President (since 2001) of Aberdeen Commonwealth Income Fund, Inc., Aberdeen Australia Equity Fund, Inc., and Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc., Director of Economics and Investment Strategy (since 1999) of the Fund's Investment Adviser, Director of Portfolio Investment (1995-1999) of County Investment Management; Beverley Hendry, Executive Director (since 1991) of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC (parent company of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser), Director (since 2001) of the Fund's Investment Manager, Chief Executive Director (since 1995) of Aberdeen Fund Managers, Inc. (affiliate of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser), Director (since 2001) of Aberdeen Asia-Pacific Income Fund, Inc.; Simon Bignell, Director (since 2001) of the Fund's Investment Manager, Director (1995-2001) of Kleinwort Benson (Jersey) Fund Managers Limited (fund administration); Timothy Sullivan, Managing Director (since 1999) of EquitiLink USA, Inc. (doing business under the name Aberdeen Asset Management) (investor relations service provider and affiliate of the Fund's Investment Manager), Vice President (1997-1999) of the Bank of New York; Roy M. Randall, Partner of Stikeman, Elliott (law firm); Allan S. Mostoff, Sander M. Bieber and Margaret A. Bancroft, Partners of Dechert (law firm).

Messrs. Hugh Young and Christian Pittard serve as executive officers of the Fund. As of October 31, 2001, the executive officers of the Fund owned no shares of the Fund's common or preferred stock.

Relationship of Directors or Nominees with the Investment Adviser and the Investment Manager. Aberdeen Asset Managers (C.I.) Limited serves as investment manager to the Fund (the "Investment Manager") and Aberdeen Asset Management Limited serves as investment adviser to the Fund (the "Investment Adviser") pursuant to a management agreement dated December 22, 2000 and an advisory agreement dated December 22, 2000, respectively. The Investment Manager is a Jersey, Channel Islands corporation organized in October 1985 with its registered office located at 17 Bond Street, St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands. The Investment Adviser is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aberdeen Asset Management Holdings Limited ("AAMHL"), an Australian corporation. The registered offices of the Investment Adviser and AAMHL are located at Level 6, 201 Kent Street, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia. Both the Investment Manager and AAMHL are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC, a United Kingdom corporation. The registered offices of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC are located at One Albyn Place, Aberdeen, Scotland AB10 1YG.

Mr. Martin Gilbert, a Director of the Fund, also serves as a director of the Investment Manager and the Investment Adviser, and as the Chief Executive and an Executive Director of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC, the parent of the Investment Manager and the Investment Adviser. Mr. Gilbert is a shareholder of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC. Mr. Hugh Young, a Director and President of the Fund, also serves as a director of the Investment Manager and the Investment Adviser, and as an Executive Director of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC. Mr. Young is a shareholder of Aberdeen Asset Management PLC.

Under the terms of an Investor Relations Services Agreement, EquitiLink USA, Inc. (doing business under the name Aberdeen Asset Management), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Investment Manager, provides investor relations services to the Fund for a monthly retainer of \$4,000.

On December 22, 2000, all of the shares of the Investment Manager, of the parent of the Investment Adviser, and of EquitiLink International (Channel Islands) Limited ("EICIL") were transferred to Aberdeen Asset Management PLC, pursuant to a Share Sale Agreement between Aberdeen on the one side, and entities of which Messrs. Laurence S. Freedman and Brian M. Sherman are the principal shareholders, and the shareholders of EICIL, on the other side.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Total consideration for the sale was US \$80 million, subject to certain adjustments. The consideration was paid in a combination of cash and

13

preference shares issued by Aberdeen. At the time of the execution of the Share Sale Agreement, Messrs. Freedman and Sherman were directors and the principal shareholders of the Investment Manager, and also served as, respectively, Joint Managing Director, and Joint Managing Director and Chairman, of the Investment Adviser. In connection with this sale, Messrs. Freedman and Sherman resigned as Joint Managing Directors of the Investment Adviser and as directors of the Investment Manager.

In 2001, entities of which Messrs. Freedman and Sherman are the principal shareholders sold (i) 275,000 shares of the Fund's Common Stock to Real Estate Opportunities Fund, a fund managed by an affiliate of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser, for \$2,447,500, and (ii) 130,897 shares of the Fund's Common Stock to American Monthly Income Trust Limited, a fund managed by an affiliate of the Fund's Investment Manager and Investment Adviser, for \$1,164,983.

Compensation of Directors and Certain Officers. The following table sets forth information regarding compensation of Directors by the Fund and by the fund complex of which the Fund is a part for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2001. Officers of the Fund and Directors who are interested persons of the Fund do not receive any compensation from the Fund or any other fund in the fund complex. In the column headed "Total Compensation From Fund and Associated Funds Paid to Directors," the number in parentheses indicates the total number of boards in the fund complex on which the Director serves or served at any time during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2001. In June 2001, the Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Fund's Nominating Committee, approved an increase in the fees payable to each non-interested director of the Fund from a \$8,000 per year retainer fee, a fee of \$1,000 per meeting for attendance at in-person Board meetings, and a fee of \$1,000 per meeting for attendance at telephonic Board meetings, to an aggregate fee of \$16,000 per year. Members of the Fund's Audit Committee, Contract Review Committee, and Nominating Committee receive a fee of \$500 per committee meeting attended, and the Chairman of each of these Committees receives an additional fee of \$500 per committee meeting attended.

Compensation Table
Fiscal Year Ended 10/31/01

Name of Director	Aggregate Compensation From Fund	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued As Part of Fund Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation From Fund and Associated Funds Paid to Directors
David Lindsay Elsum.....	\$15,500	N/A	N/A	\$53,625 (3)
Laurence S. Freedman+..	0	N/A	N/A	0 (3)
Martin J. Gilbert.....	0	N/A	N/A	0 (2)
Michael Gleeson-White*..	\$ 2,110	N/A	N/A	\$ 2,110 (1)
Neville J. Miles.....	\$15,000	N/A	N/A	\$54,125 (3)
William J. Potter.....	\$17,500	N/A	N/A	\$55,625 (3)
Sir David Rowe-Ham.....	\$11,333	N/A	N/A	\$24,208 (2)
Peter D. Sacks.....	\$16,500	N/A	N/A	\$55,125 (3)
E. Duff Scott.....	\$16,000	N/A	N/A	\$16,000 (1)

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

Brian M. Sherman*.....	0	N/A	N/A	0(3)
Warren C. Smith.....	\$15,000	N/A	N/A	\$15,000(1)
Hugh Young.....	0	N/A	N/A	0(2)
Preferred Directors:				
Dr. Anton E. Schrafl....	\$14,000	N/A	N/A	\$32,375(2)
John T. Sheehy.....	\$16,000	N/A	N/A	\$57,125(3)

 ++ Mr. Freedman is paid consulting fees by the Fund's Investment Manager equal to the fees paid to independent directors of funds of which Mr. Freedman is a director in the fund complex. For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2001, the amount of the consulting fees paid to Mr. Freedman was an aggregate of \$23,560 with respect to the two funds of which Mr. Freedman is a director in the fund complex, of which \$11,870 was paid with respect to the Fund.

* Messrs. Gleeson-White and Sherman resigned from the Board of Directors effective December 2000.

14

INFORMATION REGARDING INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

The Board of Directors of the Fund, upon recommendation of the Audit and Valuation Committee, has selected PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP independent accountants, to audit the financial statements of the Fund for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2002.

During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2001, the fees for services rendered by PwC were:

Audit Fees	Financial Information Systems Design and Implementation Fees	All Other Fees*
-----	-----	-----
\$76,585	\$ None	\$41,500

* This amount includes fees for services rendered by PwC to the Fund, the Investment Manager and Investment Adviser, and entities controlling, controlled by, or under common control with, the Investment Manager and Investment Adviser that provide services to the Fund.

The Audit and Valuation Committee of the Fund has reviewed information presented by the Fund's independent accountants that addressed the matters set forth in Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1, Independence Discussions with Audit Committees, and considered whether the provision of non-audit services to the Fund and of professional services to the Fund's adviser and to entities controlling, controlled by, and under common control with, the Fund's adviser that provide services to the Fund is compatible with maintaining the independence of the Fund's independent accountants.

Representatives from PwC are expected to be present at the Meeting and will have the opportunity to respond to questions from shareholders and to make a statement if they so desire.

The Fund knows of no direct or indirect interest of PwC in the Fund.

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Administrator. The Fund's administrator is Princeton Administrators, L.P., Box 9095, Princeton, NJ 08543.

Expenses. The expense of preparation, printing and mailing of the enclosed proxy card and accompanying Notice and Proxy Statement will be borne by the Fund. The Fund will reimburse banks, brokers and others for their reasonable expenses in forwarding proxy solicitation material to the beneficial owners of the shares of the Fund. In order to obtain the necessary quorum at the Meeting, supplementary solicitation may be made by mail, telephone, telegraph or personal interview. Such solicitation may be conducted by, among others, officers, Directors and employees of the Fund, the Investment Manager, the Investment Adviser or State Street Bank and Trust Company, the Transfer Agent of the Fund. Georgeson Shareholder Communications, Inc. ("Georgeson") may be retained to assist in the solicitation of proxies. If retained, Georgeson will be paid approximately \$3,500 by the Fund and the Fund will reimburse Georgeson for its related expenses.

Solicitation and Voting of Proxies. Solicitation of proxies is being made primarily by the mailing of this Proxy Statement with its enclosures on or about January 30, 2002. As mentioned above, Georgeson may be engaged to assist in the solicitation of proxies. As the meeting date approaches, certain shareholders of the Fund may receive a call from a representative of Georgeson if the Fund has not yet received their vote. Authorization to permit Georgeson to execute proxies may be obtained by telephonic or electronically transmitted instructions from shareholders of the Fund. Proxies that are obtained telephonically will be recorded in accordance with the procedures set forth below. Management of the Fund believes that these procedures are reasonably designed to ensure that the identity of the shareholder casting the vote is accurately determined and that the voting instructions of the shareholder are accurately determined.

In all cases where a telephonic proxy is solicited, the Georgeson representative is required to ask the shareholder for such shareholder's full name, address, social security number or employer identification number, title (if the person giving

15

the proxy is authorized to act on behalf of an entity, such as a corporation), the number of shares owned, and to confirm that the shareholder has received the Proxy Statement in the mail. If the information solicited agrees with the information provided to Georgeson by the Fund, then the Georgeson representative has the responsibility to explain the process, read the proposals listed on the proxy card, and ask for the shareholder's instructions on each proposal. The Georgeson representative, although he or she is permitted to answer questions about the process, is not permitted to recommend to the shareholder how to vote, other than to read any recommendation set forth in the Proxy Statement. Georgeson will record the shareholder's instructions on the card. Within 72 hours, Georgeson will send the shareholder a letter or mailgram to confirm the shareholder's vote and asking the shareholder to call Georgeson immediately if the shareholder's instructions are not correctly reflected in the confirmation.

If a shareholder wishes to participate in the Meeting of shareholders, but does not wish to give a proxy by telephone, such shareholder may still submit the proxy card originally sent with the Proxy Statement or attend in person. Any proxy given by a shareholder, whether in writing, by telephone or via the internet, is revocable. A shareholder may revoke the accompanying proxy or a proxy given telephonically or via the internet at any time prior to its use by

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

filing with the Fund a written revocation or duly executed proxy bearing a later date. In addition, any shareholder who attends the Meeting in person may vote by ballot at the Meeting, thereby canceling any proxy previously given.

Beneficial Ownership. To the best of the Fund's knowledge, based upon filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission as of July 18, 2001, the only beneficial owner of more than five percent of the voting securities of the Fund is:

Title of Class	Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Number of Shares Beneficially Owned	Percent of Class
Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share	First Union Corporation One First Union Center Charlotte, NC 28228-0137	1,324,220	14.3%

Shareholder Proposals. If a shareholder intends to present a proposal at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Fund to be held in 2003 and desires to have the proposal included in the Fund's proxy statement and form of proxy for that meeting, the shareholder must deliver the proposal to the Secretary of the Fund at the office of the Fund, 800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536, and such proposal must be received by the Secretary no later than October 2, 2002.

Shareholders wishing to present proposals at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Fund to be held in 2003 which they do not wish to be included in the Fund's proxy materials must send written notice of such proposals to the Secretary of the Fund at the office of the Fund, 800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536, and such notice must be received by the Secretary no sooner than November 21, 2002 and no later than December 21, 2002 in the form prescribed in the Fund's By-Laws.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Board of Directors knows of no business to be brought before the Meeting other than as set forth above. If, however, any other matters properly come before the Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named on the enclosed proxy card to vote such proxies on such matters in accordance with their best judgment.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Roy M. Randall, Secretary

800 Scudders Mill Road
Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536
January 30, 2002

PROXY

PROXY

ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND, INC.

THIS PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Annual Meeting of Shareholders -- March 21, 2002

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

The undersigned hereby appoints Beverley Hendry, William J. Potter, and Timothy Sullivan, and each of them, the proxy holders of the undersigned, with power of substitution to each of them, to vote all shares of the common stock of Aberdeen Commonwealth Income Fund, Inc. which the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Aberdeen Commonwealth Income Fund, Inc. to be held at the offices of Prudential Securities Incorporated, One Seaport Plaza, New York, New York on March 21, 2002 at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern time), and at any adjournment or postponement thereof. By signing this proxy card on the reverse side, the undersigned authorizes the appointed proxy holders to vote in their discretion on any other business which may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

PLEASE VOTE, DATE AND SIGN ON REVERSE AND RETURN PROMPTLY
IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) on the books of the Fund. Joint owners should each sign personally. Trustees and other fiduciaries should indicate the capacity in which they sign, and where more than one name appears, a majority must sign. If a corporation, this signature should be that of an authorized officer who should state his or her title.

HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?

DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS?

[X] PLEASE MARK VOTES
AS IN THIS EXAMPLE

ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND, INC.

COMMON STOCK

Mark box at right if an address change or comment has been noted []
on the reverse side of this card.

Date

Please be sure to sign and date this Proxy.

Shareholder sign here _____ Co-owner sign here _____

This proxy, when properly executed, will be voted in the manner directed. If no direction is made, this proxy will be voted FOR Item 1.

- (1) The election of four Directors to serve as Class I Directors for a three-year term:

Edgar Filing: ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND INC - Form DEF 14A

	For All Nominees	Withhold	For All Except
David Lindsay Elsum	[]	[]	[]
Laurence S. Freedman	[]	[]	[]
E. Duff Scott	[]	[]	[]
Sir David Rowe-Ham	[]	[]	[]

NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT WISH YOUR SHARES VOTED "FOR" A PARTICULAR NOMINEE, MARK THE "FOR ALL EXCEPT" BOX AND STRIKE A LINE THROUGH THE NAME(S) OF THE NOMINEE(S). YOUR SHARES WILL BE VOTED FOR THE REMAINING NOMINEE(S).

The appointed proxy holders will vote in their discretion on any other business which may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

RECORD DATE SHARES:

PROXY

PROXY

ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND, INC.

THIS PROXY SOLICITED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Annual Meeting of Shareholders -- March 21, 2002

The undersigned hereby appoints Beverley Hendry, William J. Potter, and Timothy Sullivan, and each of them, the proxy holders of the undersigned, with power of substitution to each of them, to vote all shares of the Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series W-7 of Aberdeen Commonwealth Income Fund, Inc. which the undersigned is entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Aberdeen Commonwealth Income Fund, Inc. to be held at the offices of Prudential Securities Incorporated, One Seaport Plaza, New York, New York on March 21, 2002 at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern time), and at any adjournment or postponement thereof. By signing this proxy card on the reverse side, the undersigned authorizes the appointed proxy holders to vote in their discretion on any other business which may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

PLEASE VOTE, DATE AND SIGN ON REVERSE AND RETURN PROMPTLY
IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) on the books of the Fund. Joint owners should each sign personally. Trustees and other fiduciaries should indicate the capacity in which they sign, and where more than one name appears, a majority must sign. If a corporation, this signature should be that of an authorized officer who should state his or her title.

HAS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGED?

DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS?

[X] PLEASE MARK VOTES
AS IN THIS EXAMPLE

ABERDEEN COMMONWEALTH INCOME FUND, INC.

AUCTION MARKET PREFERRED STOCK, SERIES W-7

Mark box at right if an address change or comment has been noted []
on the reverse side of this card.

Date

Please be sure to sign and date this Proxy.

Shareholder sign here _____ Co-owner sign here _____

This proxy, when properly executed, will be voted in the manner directed. If no direction is made, this proxy will be voted FOR Item 2.

2. The election of two Directors to represent the interests of the holders of preferred stock for the ensuing year:

	For All Nominees	Withhold	For All Except
Dr. Anton E. Schrafl	[]	[]	[]
John T. Sheehy	[]	[]	[]

NOTE: IF YOU DO NOT WISH YOUR SHARES VOTED "FOR" A PARTICULAR NOMINEE, MARK THE "FOR ALL EXCEPT" BOX AND STRIKE A LINE THROUGH THE NAME OF THE NOMINEE. YOUR SHARES WILL BE VOTED FOR THE REMAINING NOMINEE.

The appointed proxy holders will vote in their discretion on any other business which may properly come before the meeting or any adjournments or postponements thereof.

RECORD DATE SHARES: