

Notice of Annual and Special Meeting of Shareholders Friday, April 29, 2016

**Management Information Circular** 

## AGNICO EAGLE MINES LIMITED

Suite 400 145 King Street East Toronto, Ontario M5C 2Y7

## NOTICE OF 2016 ANNUAL AND SPECIAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Date:	Friday, April 29, 2016
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*Time:* 11:00 a.m. (Toronto time)

*Place:* Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel, Dominion Ballroom, 123 Queen St. West, Toronto, Ontario

**Business of the Meeting:** 1. Receipt of the financial statements of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited ("the Company") for the year ended December 31, 2015 and the auditors' report on the statements;

- 2. Election of directors;
- 3. Appointment of auditors;
- 4. Consideration of and, if deemed advisable, the passing of an ordinary resolution approving an amendment to the Company's Stock Option Plan;
- 5. Consideration of and, if deemed advisable, the passing of a non-binding, advisory resolution accepting the Company's approach to executive compensation; and
- 6. Consideration of any other business which may be properly brought before the Annual and Special Meeting of Shareholders.

By order of the Board of Directors

R. GREGORY LAING General Counsel, Senior Vice-President, Legal and Corporate Secretary March 11, 2016

## MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CIRCULAR

This Management Information Circular (the "Circular") is provided in connection with the solicitation by the management of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited ("Agnico" or the "Company") of proxies for use at the Annual and Special Meeting of Shareholders. Unless otherwise stated, all information in this Circular is given as at March 11, 2016 and all dollar amounts are stated in Canadian dollars.

For purposes of the meeting, the Company is not: (a) relying on "notice and access" to make proxy-related materials electronically available under applicable securities laws or (b) directly mailing proxy materials to non-registered shareholders. Rather, the Company will rely on the intermediaries to deliver proxy-related materials by mail to non-registered shareholders who have not waived the right to receive them.

For information about certain measures used in this Circular such as "total cash costs per ounce", "all-in sustaining costs per ounce" and "minesite costs per tonne", please refer to the Company's management's discussion and analysis for the year ended December 31, 2015. For scientific and technical information about the Company's mines and projects, please refer to the Company's annual information form dated as of March 11, 2016.

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## **SECTION 1: VOTING INFORMATION**

## Who is soliciting my proxy?

The management of the Company is soliciting your proxy for use at the Annual and Special Meeting of Shareholders.

#### What will I be voting on?

You will be voting on:

- the election of each of the directors (page 4);
- the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's auditors (page 17);
- an amendment to the Company's Stock Option Plan (the "Stock Option Plan") (page 18);
- a non-binding, advisory basis, accepting the Company's approach to executive compensation (page 19); and
- other business brought before the meeting if any other matter is put to a vote.

#### What else will happen at the meeting?

The financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015 together with the auditors' report on these statements will be presented at the meeting.

### How will these matters be decided at the meeting?

A majority of votes cast, by proxy or in person, will constitute approval of each of the matters specified in this Circular.

### How many votes do I have?

You will have one vote for each common share of the Company you own at the close of business on March 11, 2016, the record date for the meeting. To vote common shares that you acquired after the record date, you must, no later than the commencement of the meeting:

- request that the Company add your name to the list of voters; and
- properly establish ownership of the common shares or produce properly endorsed share certificates evidencing that the common shares have been transferred.

#### How many shares are eligible to vote?

At the close of business on March 11, 2016 there were 220,906,030 common shares of the Company outstanding. Each common share held at that date entitles you to one vote. To the knowledge of the directors and officers of the Company, no person or corporation owns or exercises control or direction over 10% or more of the outstanding common shares.

## How do I vote?

If you are eligible to vote and your common shares are registered in your name, you can vote your common shares in person at the meeting or by proxy, as explained below. If your common shares are registered in the name of an intermediary, such as a bank, trust company, securities broker or other financial institution, please see the instructions below under the heading "How can a non-registered shareholder vote?"

#### How can a registered shareholder vote by proxy?

In addition to voting in person at the meeting, you may vote by mail by completing the form of proxy and returning it in the enclosed envelope to Computershare Trust Company of Canada (the "Depositary"). You may also appoint a person (who need not be a shareholder), other than one of the directors or officers named in the proxy, to represent you at the meeting by inserting the person's name in the blank space provided in the proxy and returning the proxy to the Depositary no later than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting.

You may also vote by phone or via the Internet. To vote by phone, in Canada and the United States only, call the toll-free number listed on the proxy from a touch tone phone. When prompted, enter your Holder Account Number and Proxy Access Number listed on the proxy and follow the voting instructions. To vote via the Internet, go to the website specified on the proxy and enter your Holder Account Number and Proxy Access Number listed on the proxy and enter your Holder Account Number and Proxy Access Number listed on the proxy and enter your Holder Account Number and Proxy Access Number listed on the proxy and enter your Holder Account Number and Proxy Access Number listed on the proxy and follow the voting instructions on the screen. If you vote by telephone or via the Internet, do not complete or return the proxy form.

#### How will my proxy be voted?

On the form of proxy, you can indicate how you would like your proxyholder to vote your common shares for any matter put to a vote at the meeting and on any ballot, and your common shares will be voted accordingly. If you do not indicate how you want your common shares to be voted, the persons named in the proxy intend to vote your common shares in the following manner:

- (i) for the election of each of management's nominees as directors;
- (ii) for the appointment of management's nominee, Ernst & Young LLP, as the auditors and the authorization of the directors to fix the remuneration of the auditors;
- (iii) for the proposed amendment to the Stock Option Plan;
- (iv) for the acceptance of the Company's approach to executive compensation; and
- (v) for management's proposals generally.

## What if I want to revoke my proxy?

You can revoke your proxy at any time prior to its use. If you are a registered shareholder you may revoke your proxy by requesting, or having your authorized attorney request, in writing to revoke your proxy. This request must be delivered to the Company's address (as listed in this Circular) before the last business day preceding the day of the meeting or to the Chairman of the meeting on the day of the meeting or any adjournment. If your common shares are not registered in your name and you are therefore a non-registered shareholder, you must arrange for the intermediary in whose name your shares are registered to revoke the proxy on your behalf in accordance with the intermediary's instructions.

#### How are proxies solicited?

The solicitation of proxies will be primarily by mail; however, proxies may be solicited personally, by telephone, by e-mail, internet, facsimile or other means of communication by directors, officers, regular employees and agents of the Company. The cost of this solicitation will be paid by the Company.

#### How can a non-registered shareholder vote?

If your common shares are not registered in your name, they will be held by an intermediary such as a bank, trust company, securities broker or other financial institution. Each intermediary has its own procedures that should be carefully followed by non-registered shareholders to ensure that their common shares are voted at the meeting, including when and where the proxy or voting instruction form is to be delivered. If you are a non-registered shareholder, you should have received this Circular, together with either (a) the voting instruction form from your intermediary to be completed and signed by you and returned to the intermediary in accordance with the instructions provided by the intermediary, or (b) a form of proxy, which has already been signed by the intermediary and is restricted as to the number of common shares beneficially owned by you, to be completed by you and returned to the Depositary no later than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting. To vote in person at the meeting, a non-registered shareholder should, in the case of a voting instruction form, follow the instructions set out on the voting instruction form and, in the case of a form of proxy, insert his or her name in the blank space provided and return the form of proxy to the Depositary no later than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting.

## **SECTION 2: BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

#### **Election of Directors**

The articles of the Company provide for a minimum of five and a maximum of fifteen directors. By special resolution of the shareholders of the Company approved at the annual and special meeting of the Company held on June 27, 1996, the shareholders authorized the board of directors of the Company (the "Board of Directors" or the "Board") to determine the number of directors within the minimum and maximum. The number of directors to be elected at the meeting is twelve, as determined by the Board of Directors by resolution passed on March 5, 2015. The names of the proposed nominees for election as directors are set out below. Each director nominee is presently a member of the Board of Directors, and has consented to serve as a director if elected and will hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders of the Company does not currently know of any reason why any director nominee will be unable to serve as a director but, if any nominee should be unable to serve for any reason prior to the meeting, the persons named on the enclosed form of proxy reserve the right to vote in their discretion for other nominees as directors.

The Board of Directors does not have a mandatory retirement policy for directors based solely on age nor does it have any term limits or similar mechanisms in place for forcing the renewal or replacement of directors. Rather, while there are benefits to adding new perspectives to the Board of Directors from time to time, which the Company believes can happen naturally without forcing the issue through term limits, there are also benefits that result from continuity and the experience and knowledge that comes from longer service on a board. Due in part to the Company's practice of conducting annual evaluations of the Board of Directors, committees and individual directors, the Board of Directors approved and adopted a resignation policy primarily based on the directors' performance, commitment, skills and experience. As set out in greater detail under "Board of Directors' below, each of the directors' performances will continue to be evaluated annually and the Company will use a rigorous identification and selection process for any new director nominees, and consider a variety of factors, including diversity and the desired skills, competencies and qualifications needed for potential nominees having regard to the strategies, needs and best interests of the Company and its Board of Directors and Committees.

#### **Majority Voting Policy**

As part of its ongoing review of corporate governance practices, on February 20, 2008 the Board of Directors adopted a policy providing that in an uncontested election of directors, any nominee who receives a greater number of votes "withheld" than votes "for" will tender his or her resignation to the Chairman of the Board of Directors promptly following the shareholders' meeting. This policy was updated by the Board of Directors on February 11, 2015. Under the updated policy, the Corporate Governance Committee will consider the offer of resignation and will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors on whether to accept it. The Board of Directors will accept the resignation absent exceptional circumstances that would warrant the director continuing to serve on the Board of Directors, as determined by the Board of Directors in accordance with its fiduciary duties to the Company. The Board of Directors will make its final decision and announce it in a press release within 90 days following the shareholders' meeting. A director who tenders his or her resignation pursuant to this policy will not participate in any meeting of the Board of Directors or the Corporate Governance Committee at which the resignation is considered.

The persons named on the enclosed form of proxy intend to VOTE FOR the election of each of the proposed nominees whose names are set out below and who are all currently directors of the Company unless a shareholder has specified in his or her proxy that his or her common shares are to be withheld from voting for the election of a proposed nominee. The security ownership amounts presented in the table reflect ownership of common shares and Restricted Share Units ("RSUs") under the Company's Restricted Share Unit Plan (the "RSU Plan") (as described below), as at March 11, 2016. The common share ownership amounts set out below do not include common shares underlying unvested RSUs.

# NOMINEES FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

	Dr. Leanne M. Baker	Age: 63	Independent
	Sebastopol, California	2015 Voting Results: 96.99%	Director since 2003
	and she was the President at November 2011 — June 2013. where she was one of the to	nd board member in, the metals and mir nd Chief Executive Officer of Sutter ( Previously, Dr. Baker was employed by p-ranked mining sector equity analysts the Colorado School of Mines (M.S.	Gold Mining Inc. from Salomon Smith Barney s in the United States.
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$560,740	Board/Committee Membershi	ps Attendance at Meetin	ngs during 2015
8,864 Common Shares	Board of Directors		100%)
3,001 RSUs Meets Director shareholding requirements	Audit Committee (Chair)	5/5 (	100%)
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directors	Other Public Board ( hips Memberships	Committee
Corporate Finance and Mineral Economics	Sutter Gold Mining Inc.	—	
	Reunion Gold Corporation	Audit Committee Compensation and Co Committee	orporate Governance
	McEwen Mining Inc.	Audit Committee Nominating and Corp Committee	porate Governance

	Sean Boyd, CPA, CA	Age: 57	Non-Independent
$\cap$	Toronto, Ontario	2015 Voting Results: 99.67%	Director since 1998
	<i>Mr. Boyd</i> is the Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company. Mr. Boyd has been with the Company since 1985. Prior to his appointment as Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in April, 2015, he served as Vice-Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer since February 2012; Mr. Boyd served as Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer from 2005 to 2012 and as President and Chief Executive Officer from 1998 to 2005, Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer from 1996 to 1998, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer from 1990 to 1996, Secretary Treasurer during a portion of 1990 and Comptroller from 1985 to 1990. Prior to joining the Company in 1985, he was a staff accountant with Clarkson Gordon (Ernst & Young). Mr. Boyd is a Chartered Accountant and a graduate of the University of Toronto (B.Comm.).		
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$15,889,332	Board/Committee Membershi	ps Attendance at Meetin	ngs during 2015
86,210 Common Shares 162,500 Options 250,001 RSUs Meets CEO shareholding requirements	Board of Directors	7/7 (	(100%)
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directors	Other Public Board ( hips Memberships	Committee
Executive Management and Finance		_	

	Martine A. Celej	Age: 50	Independent
	Toronto, Ontario	2015 Voting Results: 98.79%	Director since 2011
		nvestment Advisor with RBC Don ce 1989. She is a graduate of Vict	
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$670,572	Board/Committee Membersh	ips Attendance at 1	Meetings during 2015
5,189 Common Shares	Board of Directors		7/7 (100%)
9,000 RSUs Meets Director shareholding requirements	Compensation Committee		6/6 (100%)
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Director		oard Committee
Investment Management	—		

-	Robert J. Gemmell	Age: 59	Independent
	Toronto, Ontario	2015 Voting Results: 98.81%	Director since 2011
	<i>Mr. Gemmell</i> , now retired, spent 25 years as an investment banker in the United States and in Canada. Most recently, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of Citigroup Global Markets Canada and its predecessor companies (Salomon Brothers Canada and Salomon Smith Barney Canada) from 1996 to 2008. In addition, he was a member of the Global Operating Committee of Citigroup Global Markets from 2006 to 2008. Mr. Gemmell is a graduate of Cornell University (B.A.), Osgoode Hall Law School (LL.B) and the Schulich School of Business (MBA).		
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$1,047,707	Board/Committee Membership	ps Attendance at	Meetings during 2015
13,169 Common Shares 9,000 RSUs Meets Director shareholding requirements	Board of Directors Compensation Committee (Cl	nair)	7/7 (100%) 6/6 (100%)
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directors		Board Committee
Corporate Finance and Business Strategy	Newalta Corporation	Audit Commit Compensation	

$\bigcirc$	Mel Leiderman, FCPA, FCA, TEP, ICD.D	Age: 63	Independent
125	Toronto, Ontario	2015 Voting Results: 99.48%	Director since 2003
		artner of the Toronto accounting of the University of Windsor (B. Directors (ICD.D).	
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$575,107	Board/Committee Membershij	ps Attendance at 1	Meetings during 2015
9,169 Common Shares 3,000 RSUs	Board of Directors Audit Committee		7/7 (100%) 5/5 (100%)
Meets Director shareholding requirements	Audit Committee		5/5 (10070)
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directors		oard Committee
Audit and Accounting	Morguard North American Re REIT	esidential Audit Committ	ee

	Deborah McCombe, P. Geo.	Age: 63	Independent
	Toronto, Ontario	2015 Voting Results: 97.92%	Director since 2014
	<i>Ms. McCombe, P. Geo.</i> , is the Presiden has over 30 years' international exp studies, reserve estimation, due dilig Ms. McCombe was Chief Mining Co involved in the development and imp of Disclosure for Mineral Projects associations as a member of Corr Standards — (Canadian Institute of of the Association of Professional G Prospectors and Developers Associ Lecturer on NI 43-101; a member o and is a member of the Canadian S Monitoring Committee and is a Gue Global Mine Management at York University of Western Ontario (Geo	berience in exploration project mence studies and valuation studies nsultant for the Ontario Securities belementation of National Instrume ("NI 43-101"). She is actively mittee for Mineral Reserves In Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleur eoscientists of Ontario (2010 – 20 ation of Canada (1999 – 2011); f the CIM Standing Committee of ecurities Administrators Mining T st Lecturer at the Schulich Schoo University. Ms. McCombe hold	anagement, feasibility Prior to joining RPA, S Commission and was nt 43-101 — <i>Standards</i> involved in industry ternational Reporting n ("CIM")), President D11); a Director of the a CIM Distinguished n Reserve Definitions; echnical Advisory and l of Business, MBA in
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$470,946	<b>Board/Committee Memberships</b>	Attendance at Meeting	s during 2015
965 Common Shares 9,000 RSUs Has until February 12, 2019 (five years from joining the Board of Directors) to meet Director shareholding requirements	Board of Directors Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development (Chair)	7/7 (1 4/4 (1	
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directorships	Other Public Board C Memberships	ommittee
Executive Management and Mining	_	_	

	James D. Nasso, ICD.D	Age: 82	Independent
	Toronto, Ontario	2015 Voting Results: 97.85%	Director since 1986
Mr. Nasso is now retired and is a graduate of St. Francis Xavier University (B.Co			er University (B.Comm.).
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$1,215,622	Board/Committee Membership	os Attendance at	Meetings during 2015
12,722 Common Shares 13,000 RSUs Meets Director shareholding requirements	Chairman of the Board of Dir Corporate Governance Comm Health, Safety, Environment a Sustainable Development Com	ittee nd	7/7 (100%) 4/4 (100%) 4/4 (100%)
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directors		Board Committee
Management and Business Strategy		_	

	Dr. Sean Riley	Age: 62	Independent
	Antigonish, Nova Scotia	2015 Voting Results: 99.59%	Director since 2011
	Prior to 1996, his career was in manufacturing. Dr. Riley i	as President of St. Francis Xavier in finance and management, first is a graduate of St. Francis Xavie . Phil, D. Phil, International Rela	in corporate banking and later r University (B.A. (Honours))
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$653,370	Board/Committee Membersh	ips Attendance at	Meetings during 2015
4,825 Common Shares 9,000 RSUs Meets Director shareholding requirements	Board of Directors Audit Committee		7/7 (100%) 5/5 (100%)
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Director		Board Committee
Management and Business Strategy		_	

	J. Merfyn Roberts, CA	Age: 65		Independent
	London, England	2015 Voting Resi	ılts: 98.63%	Director since 2008
	<i>Mr. Roberts</i> was a fund manag closely associated with the mi senior fund manager with CC Liverpool University (B.Sc., C member of the Institute of Cl	ning industry. Fro 28 Management I Geology) and Oxfo	m 2007 until his retiren .td. in London. Mr. Ro .rd University (M.Sc., G	nent in 2011, he was a berts is a graduate of Geochemistry) and is a
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$916,277	Board/Committee Membershi	ps	Attendance at Meeting	s during 2015
11,388 Common Shares	Board of Directors	_	7/7 (10	/
8,000 RSUs Meets Director shareholding	Corporate Governance Comn Compensation Committee	nittee	4/4 (10 6/6 (10	
requirements	compensation committee		0,0 (1	
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directors	ships	Other Public Board Co Memberships	ommittee
Investment Management	Eastern Platinum Limited		Audit Committee	
	Blackheath Resources Inc.		_	
	Newport Exploration Limited		Audit Committee	

	Jamie C. Sokalsky, CPA, CA	Age: 58	Independent
26	Toronto, Ontario	2015 Voting Results: N/A	Director since 2015
	<i>Mr. Sokalsky</i> served as the Chief Executive from June 2012 to September 2014. He s from 1999 to June 2012, and its Executive has over 20 years of experience as a s positions of increasing responsibility at H project development and mergers, acquis George Weston Limited and he began his Accountants, a predecessor of KPMG. M his B. Comm is from Lakehead Universit	erved as the Chief Financial ve Vice President from April enior executive in the minin Barrick Gold), including finan- itions and divestitures. He also s Professional career at Ernst Ir. Sokalsky received his CA	Officer of Barrick Gold 2004 to June 2012. He ng industry (in various nce, corporate strategy, to served for 10 years at t & Whinney Chartered
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$283,560	Board/Committee Memberships	Attendance at Meetin	gs during 2015
nil — Common Shares 6,000 RSUs Has until June 2, 2020 (five years from joining the Board of Directors) to meet Director shareholding requirements	Board of Directors Audit Committee (was appointed to the Board and Audit Committee on June 2, 2015)	2/2 ( (was appointed to	100%) 100%) the Board and Audit n June 2, 2015)
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directorships	Other Public Board ( Memberships	Committee
Executive Management, Finance and Accounting	Probe Metals Inc.	Audit Committee Nominating and Corp Committee (Chair)	porate Governance
	Pengrowth Energy Corporation	Audit Committee Reserves, Health, Saf	ety & Environment
	Royal Gold Inc.	Audit Committee	

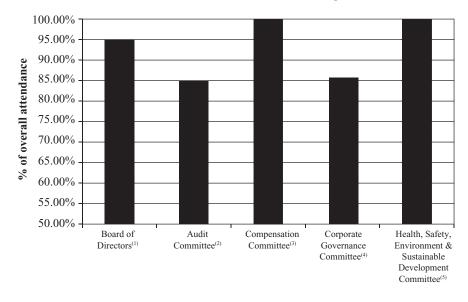
	Howard R. Stockford, P. Eng.	Age: 74	Independent			
	Toronto, Ontario	2015 Voting Results: 98.73%	Director since 2005			
	<i>Mr. Stockford</i> is a retired mining executive with over 50 years of experience in the industry. Most recently, he was Executive Vice-President of Aur Resources Inc. ("Aur") and a director of Aur from 1984 until August 2007, when it was taken over by Teck Cominco Limited. Mr. Stockford has previously served as President of the CIM and is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario, the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada and the Society of Economic Geologists. Mr. Stockford is a graduate of the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College, London University, U.K. (B.Sc., Mining Geology).					
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$669,911	Board/Committee Memberships	Attendance at Meetin	ngs during 2015			
9,175 Common Shares	Board of Directors	7/7 (	(100%)			
5,000 RSUs	Compensation Committee		(100%)			
Meets Director shareholding requirements	Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committ		(100%)			
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directorships	Other Public Board Memberships	Committee			
Executive Management and Mining	_	_				

	Pertti Voutilainen, M.Sc., M. Eng.	Age: 75	Independent
5	Espoo, Finland	2015 Voting Results: 97.62%	Director since 2005
	<i>Mr. Voutilainen</i> is a mining industry vetera directors of Riddarhyttan Resources AB. board of directors and Chief Executive after its merger with Union Bank of H employed by Outokumpu Corp., Finland including as Chief Executive Officer for Mining Counselor ( <i>Bergsrad</i> ), which was Finland in 2003. Mr. Voutilainen is a gra Helsinki University of Business Admini (M. Eng.).	Previously, Mr. Voutilainen wa Officer of Kansallis Banking Finland until his retirement i 's largest mining and metals c 11 years. Mr. Voutilainen hold awarded to him by the Preside duate of Helsinki University c	as the Chairman of the Group and President n 2000. He was also ompany, for 26 years, s the honorary title of ent of the Republic of of Technology (M.Sc.),
Value of At-Risk Investment <sup>(1)</sup> \$756,160	Board/Committee Memberships	Attendance at Meeting	s during 2015
10,000 Common Shares 6,000 RSUs Meets Director shareholding requirements	Board of Directors Corporate Governance Committee (Cha	ir) 7/7 (10 4/4 (10	/
Area of Expertise	Other Public Board Directorships	Other Public Board Co Memberships	ommittee
Mining and Finance	—	_	

(1) Indicates the total market value of common shares and RSUs held by a director based on the closing price of the Company's common shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange (the "TSX") of \$47.26 on March 11, 2016, the record date for the Meeting.

## **Overall Meeting Attendance**

The attendance by each nominee for election as director at Board of Directors and Committee meetings in 2015 is indicated in the biography of each individual director. The overall meeting attendance in 2015 is set out below.



## 2015 Board and Committee Meetings

(1) Board of Directors: 12 members for 7 meetings (95% attendance)\*

- (2) Audit Committee: 4 members for 5 meetings (85% attendance)\*
- (3) Compensation Committee: 4 members for 6 meetings (100% attendance)
- (4) Corporate Governance Committee: 4 members for 2 meetings; 3 members for 2 meetings (86% attendance)\*
- (5) Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee: 3 members for 4 meetings (100% attendance)
  - \* Mr. Bernard Kraft, a member of the Board of Directors and Audit and Corporate Governance Committees, resigned due to health reasons in June 2015 and was the only Director to miss any Board or Committee meetings in 2015. Mr. Jamie Sokalsky was appointed to the Board of Directors and the Audit Committee on June 2, 2015.

#### **Compensation of Directors and Other Information**

Mr. Boyd, who is a director and the Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, does not receive any remuneration for his services as director of the Company.

The table below sets out the annual retainers (annual retainers for the Chairs of the Board of Directors and other Committees are in addition to the base annual retainer) paid to the directors during the year ended December 31, 2015. Directors do not receive meeting attendance fees.

	Compensation during the year ending December 31, 2015
Annual Board of Directors retainer (base)	\$120,000
Additional Annual retainer for Chairman of the Board of Directors	\$120,000
Additional Annual retainer for Chairman of the Audit Committee	\$ 25,000
Additional Annual retainer for Chairs of other Board Committees	\$ 10,000

Effective as of July 1, 2011, director compensation was amended to more closely align the equity component of director compensation with shareholder interests by discontinuing the former practice of granting Options to non-executive directors and replacing such Option grants with grants of RSUs. As the value of RSUs tracks the

value of the Company's common shares, the equity value of director compensation now corresponds directly with share price movements, thereby more closely aligning director and shareholder interests.

In January of each year since 2012, each non-executive director was entitled to receive an annual grant of 3,000 RSUs (the Chairman of the Board of Directors was entitled to receive 5,000 RSUs; increased to 6,000 RSUs effective January, 2015). However, if a director meets the minimum common share ownership requirement (as described under "Director Shareholding Guidelines" below), he or she can elect to receive cash in lieu of a portion of the RSUs to be granted, subject to receipt of a minimum annual grant of 1,000 RSUs.

#### **Director Shareholding Guidelines**

To more closely align the interests of directors with those of shareholders, directors (other than Mr. Boyd, who is subject to the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") shareholding requirements set out under "Share Ownership" on page 32 of this Circular) are required to own a minimum of 10,000 common shares of the Company and/or RSUs. Directors have a period of the later of: (i) two years from the date of adoption of this policy (that is, a compliance date of August 24, 2015) or (ii) five years from the date of joining the Board of Directors, to achieve this ownership level through open market purchases of common shares or grants of RSUs.

As of March 11, 2016, all of the directors have satisfied the minimum common share ownership requirement, other than Ms. McCombe, who has until February 12, 2019 and Mr. Sokalsky, who has until June 2, 2020 (being five years from the date of each respectively becoming a director), to satisfy the minimum common share ownership requirement.

The following table sets out the number and the value of common shares and RSUs held by each director of the Company.

#### **Director Shareholdings Table**

	Aggregate common shares and RSUs owned by each director and aggregate value thereof as of March 11, 2016					
Name	Aggregate Number of Common Shares	Aggregate Value of Common Shares <sup>(1)</sup>	Aggregate Number of RSUs	Aggregate Value of RSUs <sup>(1)</sup>	Deadline to meet Guideline	
	(#)	(\$)	(#)	(\$)		
Leanne M. Baker	8,864	418,913	3,001	141,827	Meets Guideline	
Sean Boyd	86,210	4,074,285	250,001	11,815,047	Meets CEO Guideline <sup>(2)</sup>	
Martine A. Celej	5,189	245,232	9,000	425,340	Meets Guideline	
Robert J. Gemmell	13,169	622,367	9,000	425,340	Meets Guideline	
Mel Leiderman	9,169	433,327	3,000	141,780	Meets Guideline	
Deborah McCombe <sup>(3)</sup>	965	45,606	9,000	425,340	February 12, 2019	
James D. Nasso	12,722	601,242	13,000	614,380	Meets Guideline	
Sean Riley	4,825	228,030	9,000	425,340	Meets Guideline	
John Merfyn Roberts	11,388	538,197	8,000	378,080	Meets Guideline	
Jamie C. Sokalsky <sup>(4)</sup>	nil	nil	6,000	283,560	June 2, 2020	
Howard R. Stockford	9,175	433,611	5,000	236,300	Meets Guideline	
Pertti Voutilainen	10,000	472,600	6,000	283,560	Meets Guideline	

(1) The valuation is calculated based on the closing price of the Company's common shares on the TSX of \$47.26 on March 11, 2016.

(2) Mr. Boyd is subject to the CEO shareholding requirements set out under "Share Ownership" on page 32 of this Circular.

(3) Ms. McCombe joined the Board of Directors on February 12, 2014.

(4) Mr. Sokalsky joined the Board of Directors on June 2, 2015

The following table sets out the compensation provided to the members of the Board of Directors, other than Mr. Boyd, for the Company's most recently completed financial year.

Name	Fees Earned	Share-Based Awards <sup>(1)</sup>	Option-Based Awards <sup>(2)</sup>	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation <sup>(3)</sup>	Pension Value	All Other Compensation	Total <sup>(4)</sup>
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Leanne M. Baker	145,000	27,910	n/a	55,820	n/a	n/a	228,730
Martine A. Celej	120,000	83,730	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	203,730
Robert Gemmell	130,000	83,730	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	213,730
Bernard Kraft <sup>(5)</sup>	120,000	27,910	n/a	55,820	n/a	n/a	203,730
Mel Leiderman	120,000	27,910	n/a	55,820	n/a	n/a	203,730
Deborah McCombe	130,000	83,730	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	213,730
James D. Nasso	240,000	167,460	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	407,460
Sean Riley	120,000	83,730	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	203,730
John Merfyn Roberts	120,000	83,730	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	203,730
Jamie C. Sokalsky <sup>(6)</sup>	70,000	114,840	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	184,840
Howard R. Stockford	120,000	83,730	n/a	nil	n/a	n/a	203,730
Pertti Voutilainen	130,000	55,820	n/a	27,910	n/a	n/a	213,730

#### **Director Compensation Table — 2015**

(1) The valuation of the grants of RSUs was calculated based on the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the Company's common shares on the TSX for the 5 day trading period immediately prior to the grant date. For each director other than Mr. Sokalsky, RSUs were granted on January 4, 2015 with a valuation of \$27.91 per RSU. For Mr. Sokalsky, RSUs were granted on June 15, 2015 with a valuation of \$38.28 per RSU.

(2) Option-based awards are no longer granted to non-executive directors.

(3) A director who satisfies the minimum shareholding requirement may elect to receive cash in lieu of a portion of his or her grant of RSUs.

(4) Set out in Canadian dollars. On December 31, 2015 the noon buying rate as reported by the Bank of Canada (the "Noon Buying Rate") was C\$1.00 equals US\$1.3840.

(5) Mr. Kraft resigned in June, 2015.

(6) Mr. Sokalsky did not become a Director until June 2, 2015.

The following table sets out the value vested during the most recently completed financial year of the Company of incentive plan awards granted to the directors of the Company, other than Mr. Boyd.

## Incentive Plan Awards Table — Value Vested During Fiscal Year 2015

Name	Option-Based Awards — Value Vested During the Year	Share-Based Awards — Value Vested During the Year	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation — Value Earned During the Year	
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	
Leanne M. Baker	nil	75,292	55,820	
Martine A. Celej	nil	109,692	nil	
Robert Gemmell	nil	109,692	nil	
Bernard Kraft <sup>(1)</sup>	nil	109,291	55,820	
Mel Leiderman	nil	109,692	55,820	
Deborah McCombe <sup>(2)</sup>	nil	nil	nil	
James D. Nasso	nil	36,552	nil	
Sean Riley	nil	109,692	nil	
John Merfyn Roberts	nil	109,692	nil	
Jamie Sokalsky <sup>(3)</sup>	nil	nil	nil	
Howard R. Stockford	nil	36,552	nil	
Pertti Voutilainen	nil	36,552	27,910	

(1) Mr. Kraft resigned in June, 2015. In accordance with the provisions of the RSU Plan, all RSUs held by Mr. Kraft vested upon his resignation.

(2) Ms. McCombe joined the Board of Directors on February 12, 2014 and did not hold any RSUs which vested in 2015.

(3) Mr. Sokalsky did not become a Director until June 2, 2015 and did not hold any RSUs which vested in 2015.

The following table sets out the outstanding Option awards and RSUs of the directors of the Company, other than Mr. Boyd, as at December 31, 2015.

		Option-	Based Awards		Share-Ba	sed Awards
Name	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options	Option Exercise Price	Option Expiration Date	Value of Unexercised In-The-Money Options <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Shares or Units of Shares that have not Vested	Market or Payout Value of Share-Based Awards that have not Vested <sup>(1)</sup>
	(#)	(\$)		(\$)	(#)	(\$)
Leanne M. Baker <sup>(2)</sup>	5,824	76.70	1/4/2016	nil	2,000	52,560
Martine A. Celej	4,721	70.26	2/21/2016	nil	6,000	218,220
Robert Gemmell	5,824	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	6,000	218,220
Bernard Kraft <sup>(3)</sup>	5,824	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	nil	nil
Mel Leiderman	5,824	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	2,000	72,740
Deborah McCombe	nil	nil	nil	nil	6,000	218,220
James D. Nasso	5,824	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	7,000	254,590
Sean Riley	5,824	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	6,000	218,220
John Merfyn Roberts	5,824	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	6,000	218,220
Jamie Sokalsky	nil	nil	nil	nil	3,000	109,110
Howard R. Stockford	5,824	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	4,000	145,480
Pertti Voutilainen	5,824	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	5,000	181,850

## Outstanding Incentive Plan Awards Table — 2015

 Based on a closing price of the Company's common shares on the TSX of \$36.37 on December 31, 2015. On December 31, 2015 the noon buying rate was C\$1.00 equals to US\$1.3840.

(2) The value of Dr. Baker's awards is in United States dollars and based on a closing price of the Company's common shares on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") of US\$26.28 on December 31, 2015.

(3) Mr. Kraft resigned in June, 2015.

In 2009, shareholders of the Company approved an amendment to the Incentive Share Purchase Plan to prohibit participation by non-executive directors. In 2015, shareholders of the Company approved an amendment to the Stock Option Plan providing that non-executive directors would no longer be eligible to receive Options. No Options have been granted to non-executive directors since 2011.

The following table sets out the attendance of each of the directors to the Board of Directors meetings and the Board Committee meetings held in 2015.

## Director Attendance — 2015

Director	Board Meetings Attended	Committee Meetings Attended
Leanne M. Baker	7 of 7	5 of 5
Sean Boyd	7 of 7	n/a
Martine A. Celej	7 of 7	6 of 6
Robert Gemmell	7 of 7	6 of 6
Bernard Kraft <sup>(1)</sup>	0 of 3	0 of 5
Mel Leiderman	7 of 7	5 of 5
Deborah McCombe	7 of 7	4 of 4
James D. Nasso	7 of 7	8 of 8
John Merfyn Roberts	7 of 7	4 of 4
Sean Riley	7 of 7	5 of 5
Jamie Sokalsky <sup>(2)</sup>	3 of 3	2 of 2
Howard R. Stockford	7 of 7	10 of 10
Pertti Voutilainen	7 of 7	4 of 4

(1) Mr. Kraft resigned due to health reasons in June, 2015.

(2) Mr. Sokalsky became a Director and a Member of the Audit Committee on June 2, 2015.

## Cease Trade Orders and Bankruptcies

To the Company's knowledge, as at March 11, 2016 or within the last ten years, no proposed director of the Company is or has been:

- (a) a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer of any company (including the Company):
  - (i) subject to an order (including a cease trade order, an order similar to a cease a trade order or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation) for a period of more than 30 consecutive days, that was issued while the proposed director was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer; or
  - (ii) subject to an order (including a cease trade order, an order similar to a cease trade order or an order that denied the relevant company access to any exemption under securities legislation) for a period of more than 30 consecutive days, that was issued after the proposed director ceased to be a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer and which resulted from an event that occurred while that person was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer; or
- (b) a director or executive officer of any company (including the Company), that while that person was acting in that capacity or within a year of the person ceasing to act in that capacity, became bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency or was subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold its assets,

except as follows:

Mr. Leiderman, a director of the Company, was a director of Colossus Minerals Inc. ("Colossus") from August 1, 2011 until his resignation on November 13, 2013. On February 7, 2014, Colossus filed a proposal to its creditors under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Canada). On April 30, 2014, Colossus Minerals Inc. announced that it had completed the implementation of the previously announced court-approved proposal and plan of reorganization filed under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* (Canada).

#### Diversity

The Board of Directors recognizes that diversity is important to ensuring that the Board as a whole possesses the qualities, attributes, experience and skills to effectively oversee the strategic direction and management of the Company. The Board recognizes and embraces the benefits of being diverse, and has identified diversity within the Board as an essential element in attracting high caliber directors and maintaining a high functioning Board. The Board considers diversity to include different genders, ages, cultural backgrounds, race/ethnicity, geographic areas and other characteristics of its stakeholders and the communities in which the Company is present and conducts its business. To that end, in February 2015, the Board considered and, on the recommendation of the Corporate Governance Committee, adopted a Board of Directors Diversity Policy, setting out various diversity criteria the Board and Corporate Governance Committee will consider in identifying, assessing and selecting potential nominees for the Board. Pursuant to the Policy, "diversity" includes gender and the other characteristics outlined above, and provides a framework and criteria for the Corporate Governance Committee and the Board to review and assess the composition of the Board and its Committees and to identify, evaluate and recommend potential new directors. In new director appointments and ongoing evaluations of the effectiveness of the Board, its Committees and each director, the Corporate Governance Committee and the Board will take into consideration diversity as one of many factors in order to maintain an appropriate mix and balance of diversity, attributes, skills, experience and background on the Board of Directors and its Committees. Ultimately, Board appointments are based on merit against objective criteria and with due regard to the benefits of diversity in board composition and the desire to maximize the effectiveness of corporate decision-making, having regard to the best interests of the Company and its strategies and objectives, including the interests of its shareholders and other stakeholders. The Corporate Governance Committee is charged with overseeing the implementation of the Policy and monitoring and annually reporting to the Board of Directors on the diversity of the Board and its Committees to determine the Policy's effectiveness and the Company's progress is fostering diversity at the board level.

The Board has not set any fixed percentages for any specific selection criteria as it believes that quotas or strict rules do not necessarily result in the identification or selection of the best candidates but, rather, all factors should be considered when assessing and determining the merits of an individual director and the composition of a high functioning Board. The proportion of women on the Board is currently 27% (3 of 11) of the non-executive directors, the proportion of non-resident Canadians is currently 27% (3 of 11) of the non-executive directors, the proportion of women on the entire Board of Directors is currently 25% (3 of 12) of all directors and the proportion of women committee chairs is currently 50% (2 of 4). The Board believes that the diversity represented by the directors seeking election at the meeting in terms of gender, age, education, skills, geographic representation and competencies supports an efficient and effective Board and best complement the Company's strategies and objectives.

The Board does not currently have a director term limit policy or similar mechanisms in place for forcing the renewal or replacement of its directors. Rather, it has determined that the best means of ensuring director effectiveness is through rigorous annual performance evaluations. The Corporate Governance Committee will continue to monitor, evaluate and assess best corporate governance practices and proposals with respect to board renewal mechanisms having regard to, among other things, the performance of individual directors, the Board and to the best interests of the Company. As discussed in greater detail under "Appendix A: Statement of Corporate Governance Practices — Assessment of Directors", the Board has adopted a resignation policy primarily based on the directors' performance, commitment, skills and experience in order to foster an appropriate level of renewal and diversity of perspectives at the board level.

#### Women in Leadership

The Board and executive management view diversity and inclusion as essential to the growth and success of the Company. In support of this view, we have included a clear statement on the value of diversity in our sustainable development policy. Creating an inclusive environment where the diversity of perspectives, experiences, cultures, genders, age and skills of employees can be leveraged at every level is critical and the Company believes that one of its strengths lies in its ability to leverage the diversity of its employees to drive innovation and to quickly adapt to the ongoing changes in the global market and the gold mining industry. With this in mind, executive management has identified increasing the number of women in leadership positions within the Company as a priority to be achieved by focusing on the preparation and support of women in leadership positions, rather than the attainment of quotas.

In 2015, we participated in a number of industry forums on the subject of women in mining, providing us with insight into the challenges faced by the industry and some best practices in addressing these challenges.

We have since partnered with the Mining Industry Human Resources Council on a Gender Equity in Mining (GEM) Project that will identify and work to mitigate the systemic barriers to the participation and advancement of women in the mining industry in Canada. Agnico has acted as an advisory partner in developing the toolkit and training that will be used to assess and address these barriers, and we have identified an internal Gender Equity Change Agent that will pilot this project in our Northern Operations.

We have also continued our efforts to increase the number of women entering our workforce particularly in our professional technical roles. In 2015, women represented 30% of our hires in this category globally as compared to 19% in 2014 and 9% in 2013. In Finland, we participated in a project with Lapland Vocational College which was executed under the authority of Lapland's Centre of Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, where women were specifically trained for positions typically occupied by men. Agnico participated by providing internship opportunities for women in the program, and subsequently hired four participants to work in our underground operations.

Over the short term, we will take what we have learned from the pilot Gender Equity in Mining (GEM) Project for application in other parts of our business. We will also begin to raise awareness, particularly at our management level on the subject of diversity and gender equity and what we can do internally to promote a more inclusive work experience for everyone.

## Appointment of Auditors

The persons named in the enclosed form of proxy intend to VOTE FOR the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's auditors, and for the directors to fix the remuneration of the auditors unless a shareholder has specified in his or her proxy that his or her common shares are to be withheld from voting for the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as the Company's auditors. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP are expected to be present at the meeting to respond to appropriate questions and make a statement if they wish to do so. Ernst & Young LLP became the Company's auditors in 1983. Fees paid to Ernst & Young LLP for 2015 and 2014 are set out below.

	Year ended December 31, 2015	Year ended December 31, 2014
	(\$ thousands)	(\$ thousands)
Audit fees	2,305	2,489
Audit related fees	222	23
Tax consulting fees	308	1,475
All other fees	214	752
Total	3,049	4,739

Audit fees were paid for professional services rendered by the auditors for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements and related statutory and regulatory filings and for the quarterly review of the Company's interim financial statements. Audit fees also include prospectus- related fees for professional services rendered by the auditors in connection with corporate financing activities. These services consisted of the audit or review, as required, of financial statements included in the prospectuses, the review of documents filed with

securities regulatory authorities, correspondence with securities regulatory authorities and all other services required by regulatory authorities in connection with the filing of these documents.

Audit-related fees consist of fees paid for assurance and related services performed by the auditors that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit of the Company's financial statements. This includes consultation with respect to financial reporting, accounting standards and compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 ("SOX").

Tax fees were paid for professional services relating to tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning. These services included the review of tax returns and tax planning and advisory services in connection with international and domestic taxation issues.

All other fees were paid for services other than the services described above and include fees for professional services rendered by the auditors in connection with the conversion to IFRS and for the translation of securities regulatory filings required to comply with securities laws in certain Canadian jurisdictions.

No other fees were paid to auditors in the previous two years.

The Audit Committee has adopted a policy that requires the pre-approval of all fees paid to Ernst & Young LLP prior to the commencement of the specific engagement, and all fees referred to above were pre-approved in accordance with such policy.

**Financial Statements** 

The audited annual financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015 have been mailed to the Company's shareholders with this Circular.

#### Amendments to the Stock Option Plan

The Stock Option Plan provides participants with an incentive to enhance shareholder value by providing a form of compensation that is tied to increases in the market value of the Company's common shares. Details on the Stock Option Plan can be found on page 37 of this Circular.

Currently, the Company has reserved 27,800,000 common shares for issuance under the Stock Option Plan. As at March 11, 2016, 25,103,979 Options have been granted under the Stock Option Plan (not including Options that were granted but subsequently cancelled or expired), with 2,696,021 Options available for future grants, representing 11.4% and 1.2%, respectively, of the 220,906,030 common shares issued and outstanding as at March 11, 2016. As at March 11, 2016, 9,561,989 Options granted under the Stock Option Plan were unexercised and 15,541,990 Options granted under the Stock Option Plan had been exercised, representing 4.3% and 7.1%, respectively, of the 220,906,030 common shares issued and outstanding as at such date.

The need to attract and retain skilled employees remains particularly important at this time, as the Company continues to optimize and attempts to expand its multi-mine platform. The Company considers grants of Options under the Stock Option Plan to be a key factor in its ability to attract and retain skilled and experienced personnel at many levels. This is reflected by the granting of Options not only to officers, but also to a large number of other employees to enhance their incentive to continue to grow per share value. In 2015, 192 employees were granted Options (162 in 2014; 164 in 2013).

The Company's practice of granting Options to employees even at a mid-level of management is a fundamental compensation tenet and it is important that the number of Options available to be granted under the Stock Option Plan be increased to maintain this practice and thereby fostering the growth and performance of the Company.

The aggregate number of outstanding Options as at December 31, 2015 was 12,082,212, representing 5.6% of the common shares issued and outstanding as at December 31, 2015, and 3,068,080 Options were granted in 2015 representing 1.4% of all common shares issued and outstanding as at December 31, 2015.

The Compensation Committee is recommending to increase the number of common shares reserved for issuance under the Stock Option Plan by 3,500,000 common shares from 27,800,000 common shares to

31,300,000 common shares, representing 1.6%, 12.6% and 14.2%, respectively, of the 220,906,030 common shares issued and outstanding as at March 11, 2016. At the meeting, shareholders will be asked to consider an ordinary resolution (attached to this Circular as Appendix B) to approve this proposed amendment to the Stock Option Plan. If the resolution is approved, the number of common shares available for future Option grants will be 6,196,021, representing 2.8% of the 220,906,030 common shares issued and outstanding as at March 11, 2016.

The TSX requires that the resolution amending the Stock Option Plan be passed by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the votes cast, by proxy or in person. In addition to shareholder approval, the proposed amendments are subject to regulatory approval. If you do not indicate how you want your common shares to be voted, the persons named in the enclosed form of proxy intend to vote your common shares FOR the proposed amendments to the Stock Option Plan.

The Company has two security based compensation arrangements pursuant to which common shares may be issued from treasury:

- 1. the Stock Option Plan pursuant to which 15,758,010 common shares are issuable, if the resolution is approved, representing 7.1% of the Company's issued and outstanding common shares as of March 11, 2016; and
- 2. the Incentive Share Purchase Plan pursuant to which 1,899,748 common shares are issuable, representing 0.9% of the Company's issued and outstanding common shares as of March 11, 2016.

Accordingly, if the resolution is approved, an aggregate number of 17,657,758 common shares will be issuable under all security based compensation arrangements of the Company, representing 8.0% of the Company's issued and outstanding common shares as of March 11, 2016.

## Advisory Vote on Approach to Executive Compensation

The Board of Directors believes that the Company's compensation program must be competitive with companies in its peer group, provide a strong incentive to its executives to achieve the Company's goals and align the interests of management with the interests of the Company's shareholders. A detailed discussion of the Company's executive compensation program is provided under "Compensation Discussion & Analysis" starting on page 22 of this Circular. In line with recent developments and emerging governance trends in respect of executive compensation, commonly known as "Say on Pay", the Board of Directors has determined to provide shareholders with a "Say on Pay" advisory vote at the meeting to endorse or not endorse the Company's approach to executive compensation. At the Company's last annual and special meeting of shareholders held on May 1, 2015, 77.16% of shareholders voted in favour of the Company's non-binding resolution on executive compensation (up from 76.86% at the May 1, 2014 meeting), indicating a slight increase in support for the Company's approach to executive compensation. The Company has made adjustments to its compensation program (most notably, the adoption of performance share units and the reduction of the severance multiple from 2.5 times to 2.0 times relating to severance payments in executive employment agreements) based on the feedback it has received and believes the compensation program adopted properly incorporates the concept of reward for performance and the objective of more directly aligning the interests of management with the interests of shareholders. The Company will endeavor to assess and refine this approach in an effort to continue to make the executive compensation practices of the Company acceptable to shareholders.

At the meeting, shareholders will be asked to consider the following resolution, which is also attached to this Circular as Appendix D:

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** on an advisory basis and not to diminish the role and responsibilities of the Board of Directors of the Company, the shareholders accept the approach to executive compensation disclosed in this Circular.

Because this vote is advisory, it will not be binding upon the Board of Directors. However, the Board of Directors and the Compensation Committee will take the outcome of the vote into account in their ongoing review of executive compensation.

## **SECTION 3: COMPENSATION AND OTHER INFORMATION**

#### Letter from the Compensation Committee

March 11, 2016

#### Dear Fellow Shareholders

"Pay-for-performance" and "alignment with shareholders" are two philosophies which traditionally have formed the foundation of our executive compensation practices. While our performance in 2015 compared to our peer group was strong (and has been for many years), we continue to take a measured approach to compensation to reflect not only our absolute and relative performance but the realities of prevailing market conditions.

This letter describes the performance of the Company in 2015, how the Compensation Committee assesses performance and compensation and what steps the Compensation Committee and Board have taken to more fully align the Company's compensation programs with best market practices and shareholder interests.

#### 2015 Performance

While the gold market in general suffered a difficult year in 2015, the Company outperformed its peers. Record gold production of 1,671,340 ounces was achieved with total cash costs per ounce and all-in sustaining costs per ounce below guidance. In addition to record gold production, record safety performance was also achieved, demonstrating that the mines were well managed and met expectations while still maintaining a focus on the safety of our people. Net debt was reduced by US\$190 million and the pipeline of potential future production was strengthened, including a 119% increase in inferred mineral resources at Amaruq and the discovery of the Sisar Zone at Kittila. This performance contributed to the Company having a Total Shareholder Return in 2015 of 27%, compared to the average of -24% for our peer group.

#### 2015 Compensation

While the Company performed very well in 2015, we are conscious of the difficulties generally being experienced by shareholders in the gold industry. Accordingly, we have strived to achieve a measured approach in rewarding management performance in such a challenging environment. We think that the total compensation awarded to the Named Executive Officers ("NEOs") in 2015 is supported by the performance in a year in which Total Shareholder Return exceeded the peer group average by 51% (27% compared to -24%) and the market capitalization of the Company increased by more than \$1.7 billion.

#### 2016 Compensation Adjustments

Several years ago, we began a phased program of replacing the granting of options with the granting of restricted share units to more closely align executive interests with shareholder interests. While the quantum of the Company's compensation had not been an issue, the lack of performance hurdles in long term incentive awards was a source of concern for certain of our shareholders and we have now addressed this. After discussions with certain of our shareholders and upon review of the preferred policies of certain corporate governance groups, we have now introduced performance share units ("PSUs") to increase the "at risk" element in long term incentive awards. In 2016, the long term incentive awards granted to the Chief Executive Officer were allocated fifty percent to PSUs and fifty percent to RSUs.

We believe our approach in setting the performance hurdles and metrics of the PSUs is a good balance between market performance (75% allocation) and achieving internal objectives (25% allocation). 2016 is our first year of granting PSUs and we will monitor and assess the allocation balance and hurdle metrics to ensure that appropriate criteria are being applied.

Certain corporate governance groups have also advocated that severance multiples should not exceed 2.0 times. Notwithstanding that the severance multiple of 2.5 times had been set out in the employment

agreements of our NEOs for, in some cases, more than 20 years, we have amended the executive employment agreements to reduce the multiple to 2.0 times.

## Conclusion

The Board and Compensation Committee believe that the compensation practices of the Company achieve the objectives of "pay-for-performance" and "alignment with shareholders". The Board and management remains committed to delivering superior performance in a challenging environment, for the benefit of you, our owners.

We trust that you agree with our approach and we look forward to continuing to deliver value to you.

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Matine S.

Autoperts

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Robert Gemmell (Chair)

Martine Celej

J. Merfyn Roberts

Howard Stockford

A key compensation objective of the Company is that compensation should be aligned with performance. In 2015, the Company, among other things,:

- produced a record number of gold ounces (1,671,340) the fourth consecutive year in which gold production exceeded the original guidance for the year;
- produced these ounces at total cash costs per ounce of US\$567 (below original guidance of total cash costs per ounce of US\$620 and the operating budget);
- increased gold reserve grades at LaRonde, Canadian Malartic, Goldex and La India; inferred mineral resources increased by 23%;
- inferred mineral resources increased by 119% at Amaruq (Nunavut);
- initial inferred gold resources declared at El Barqueño (Mexico) and at the Sisar Zone at Kittila (Finland);
- acquisitions and investments made and a joint venture entered into to strengthen the project pipeline;
- reduced net debt by US\$190 million; and
- achieved record safety performance.

The Compensation Committee begins to review corporate and management performance in October of each year and, after several meetings over the succeeding months, finalizes its review and analyses in early December and submits its compensation adjustment recommendations to the Board of Directors in mid-December. The Board of Directors considers the recommendations and, traditionally, compensation adjustments are made as follows: (i) base salary — any adjustment becomes effective on January 1 of the next calendar year; (ii) bonus — any bonus payment is made within that calendar year (which reflects performance relating to that year); and (iii) any long term incentive grants (RSUs, PSUs or options) relating to performance in the current year are awarded early in January of the next calendar year.

## Compensation Program Philosophy

The executives of the Company have a significant influence on corporate performance and creating shareholder value. With this in mind, the Company's philosophy regarding compensation is that it must:

- align the interests of management with the interests of the Company's shareholders;
- be competitive in order to attract and retain employees with the skills and commitment needed to lead and grow the Company's business; and
- provide a strong incentive to achieve the Company's goals.

## Elements of Compensation

The compensation paid to the Company's executives has four components:

- base salary and benefits;
- annual incentive compensation (bonuses);
- long-term incentive compensation through the grant of RSUs, PSUs and Options and participation in the Incentive Share Purchase Plan; and
- career compensation in the form of retirement benefits.

The Compensation Committee reviews each component of compensation for each officer and makes compensation recommendations to the Board of Directors. In its evaluation of each officer, the Compensation Committee considers, among other things, executive compensation surveys, recommendations by any executive compensation consultant retained by the Compensation Committee, evaluations prepared by the Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, as applicable, for each officer other than the Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and an evaluation prepared by the Chairman for the Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. The Board of Directors reviews the recommendations and gives final approval on the compensation of the Company's officers. The Board of Directors has complete discretion over the amount and composition of each officer's compensation.

In 2015, the Company's Human Resources department conducted an internal market analysis using publicly available information from the Company's peer group and surveys provided by different compensation firms, notably the 2015 Mercer Mining Industry Compensation Survey "Mining Industry Salary Survey — Corporate Report" (the "Mercer Mining Survey"). The information was used by the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors in recommending and approving the salary adjustments to market and the bonus targets for the Company's officers.

The Compensation Committee has retained Meridian Compensation Partners ("Meridian") as its independent executive compensation consultant. The engagement began in 2012. The mandate of the executive compensation consultant is to serve the Company and to work for the Compensation Committee in its review of executive and director compensation and related governance matters. The nature and scope of services provided by Meridian to the Compensation Committee in 2015 included advice in connection with the creation of a Performance Share Unit Plan and related technical, administrative, and governance matters, review of directors compensation, and review of the compensation benchmarking peer group.

The Compensation Committee does not direct Meridian to perform the above services in any particular manner or under any particular method. It approves all invoices for executive compensation work performed by Meridian. The Compensation Committee has the final authority to hire and terminate Meridian as its executive compensation consultant. Meridian has not provided any other services to the Company other than executive and director compensation services. The aggregate fees related to the executive and directors compensation services paid to Meridian for the past two years were:

#### **Executive Compensation-Related Fees**

Type of Work	2015	2014
Services related to executive and director compensation	\$23,251	\$2,715
All other fees	nil \$23.251	nil \$2,715

The Company's total compensation plan is designed to drive long-term increases in shareholder value. The creation of an appropriate plan requires an understanding of the Company's objectives and the individuals charged with delivering the expected results. The Company strives to design its total compensation plan so that the plan does not result in behavior that is inconsistent with the goals and objectives of the Company.

During 2015, the Compensation Committee considered the implications of the risks (with specific regard to retention) associated with the Company's compensation policies and practices and looked at the long-term incentive structure for the Company's executives and determined that PSUs should be added as a significant element in the long-term incentive component of executive compensation going forward.

All directors and executives of the Company are prohibited from hedging, short-selling and trading in derivatives of the Company's securities.

A description of the retirement benefits made available to the Company's executives is set out under "Pension Plan Benefits" beginning on page 41 of this Circular.

#### Industry Positioning and Competitive Environment

The Company is continuing to experience changes in production, mineral reserves, operations, employees and the international scope of its business. The success of the Company in delivering value for shareholders is largely determined by the quality and consistency of its strategy and the execution thereof. In this regard, it is very important to ensure that compensation programs are designed to attract, motivate and retain key employees in order to achieve or exceed the strategic objectives of the Company.

The Company continues to work strategically to upgrade its physical asset base and its human resources. One of the clear competitive advantages the Company needs to maintain in the gold mining industry is a high quality, experienced executive management team that works together to create value for its shareholders.

With the current volatility in the gold industry, the competition for high quality executive talent remains intense. The Company competes for executive talent primarily with other North American gold mining companies. In response, the Company has strived to, and needs to continue to, create an environment where employees want to work and take on increasing responsibility. Retaining certain key executives of the Company, who may have otherwise been receptive to other employment opportunities, has been particularly important in the context of the Company's execution of it strategic plans.

To continue its record of success in a very tight and competitive labour market, it is important that the executive management group has the proper incentives to remain focused on achieving corporate objectives. In this regard, the compensation policy aims to target competitive base salaries paid to executives having comparable responsibilities and experience at other North American companies engaged in the same or similar lines of business as the Company.

#### **Base Salary**

To retain a competent, strong and effective executive management group, the salaries paid by the Company must be competitive with others in the industry generally, as well as within the regional markets in which the executive is located. Base salary levels take into account the executives' individual responsibilities, experience, performance and contribution to enhancing shareholder value.

The base salary policy is structured to provide a solid base compensation level for executives to encourage achievement of the Company's goals while aligning the interests of management with the interests of the Company's shareholders.

Annual base salaries are established using internal and external surveys of average base salaries paid to officers of other mining companies of similar size as the Company. In its internal survey, the Company reviewed the 2015 publicly available information of nine gold mining companies: Barrick Gold Corporation, Centerra Gold Inc., Eldorado Gold Corporation, Goldcorp Inc., IAMGOLD Corporation, Kinross Gold Corporation, New Gold Inc., Newmont Mining Corporation and Yamana Gold Inc. The information reviewed reflected actual compensation paid in 2014.

The factors for consideration for the companies in the internal survey generally included: (i) the company operates primarily in the gold mining sector with a focus on exploration, development and production; (ii) the company is listed on a U.S. stock exchange; (iii) the company has operations in countries in addition to its home country; and (iv) the company's market capitalization is between approximately one-eighth to two times that of the Company (the Company's market capitalization ranked fourth out of the nine companies in the peer group survey as at December 31, 2015). The Company competes with these peer group companies and other gold and mining companies for shareholders, capital, personnel and mining properties and, accordingly, the Company believes that this survey is a good representation of gold mining industry salaries and an appropriate basis for comparisons to the Company and reflects the companies with which the Company actively competes.

The external survey used was the Mercer Mining Survey. The Mercer Mining Survey reflected executive base salary remuneration at 62 Canadian mining companies as at April 1, 2015. Of these 62 companies, only a minority had NYSE listings and only 6 were larger than the Company, as measured by market capitalization.

The information from the Company's internal survey was used to test and validate the position for the Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, the Senior Vice-President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer and the three other most highly compensated officers of the Company (the "Named Executive Officers") in 2014 and was adapted to reflect the compensation of the executive officers of the Company, while the information from the external survey was used to verify that the results of the internal survey are consistent with Canadian industry standards.

#### Annual Incentive Compensation

Annual incentive compensation for the Company's Named Executive Officers is based on the Company's performance. The evaluation of the Company's performance is based on its achievements of various specific targets such as return on equity, profitability, production goals and meeting capital expenditure budgets. Target incentive levels are defined as percentages of base salary. These percentages vary by role in the Company and the final result may equal 0% to 250% of the target incentive based on the Named Executive Officer's achievement of his or her individual objectives.

For 2015, based on the level of achievement of the Company's goals established for the year, the Compensation Committee rated the Company's performance at 93%.

The determination that the rating would be 93% reflected the performance at the corporate level based on results with respect to the accomplishment of the following short-term operational targets in 2015: the record safety performance at all of the Company's operations; record gold production of 1,671,340 million ounces at lower than forecast total cash costs per ounce, despite the decrease in byproduct metal prices; reduced net debt by US\$190 million; increased gold reserve grades (better quality ounces) at LaRonde, Canadian Malartic, Goldex and La India; increased inferred mineral resources by 23%; increased Amaruq inferred mineral resources by 119%; purchased Soltoro Ltd. to strengthen the land package around El Barqueño; and discovered promising Sisar Zone at Kittila.

All of the recommended entitlements are consistent with the short-term incentive policy and, in turn, the Company's compensation policy.

#### 2015 CORPORATE OBJECTIVES AND RESULTS

The following sections summarize the Company's 2015 performance relative to its key objectives in four major areas. A performance score was calculated for each of the areas to arrive at an overall score for corporate performance that was used in the annual incentive calculations.

Although 2015 remained challenging because of the weak gold price, the Company met or exceeded many of its operational and corporate objectives. More importantly, not only did the Company produce record amounts of gold, it did so while achieving record safety performance. This demonstrated that the mines were well managed and met expectations while employees made safety a top priority. In addition, total cash costs per ounce of gold and all-in sustaining costs per ounce were below guidance, net debt was reduced by US\$190 million, inferred mineral resources increased by 23%; gold reserve grades at LaRonde, Canadian Malartic, Goldex and La India increased, an acquisition was made in Mexico to enhance the El Barqueño land position and inferred mineral resources increased by 119% at Amaruq. As a result, the Company is positioned for steady gold production and costs over the next few years while new projects are advanced. This strong position will allow the Company to move the business forward even in this challenging gold price environment.

#### SAFETY PERFORMANCE

# Improve Combined Lost Time Injury Frequency below 1.5 and continue to enhance the Company's safety culture.

This objective was met.

- The Lost Time Injury Frequency was 1.23, well below the target rate of 1.5.
- This is an improvement over the prior year's injury frequency rate of 1.48 and historically is the Company's best performance. It is the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row that we improved our frequency.
- The number of combined accidents (lost time accident and light duty assignment) was 92, the best performance historically since the Company started compiling global statistics in health and safety in 2007. The Company (including operations at the Canadian Malartic mine) currently has 7,588 employees reflecting permanent, temporary, and contract status.
- For the first time since the Company started compiling global statistics in health and safety in 2007, it achieved less than 40 lost time accidents in a year (33 in 2015).

• The Company recorded sixteen weeks without any accident (lost time accident or light duty assignment) in 2015, nine more weeks than the previous best performance of seven weeks for the entire year in 2014.

This record safety performance was achieved while increasing the mining and processing rate at many of the Company's mines and producing a record amount of gold. This demonstrated that even with the increased activity level, the Company's employees made it a priority to create a safe working environment for themselves and their coworkers.

Performance score was 15 out of 15.

## **OPERATING/FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (US\$ except where noted)**

Record gold production was achieved and exceeded guidance (guidance was raised once during 2015) and total cash costs per ounce of gold and all-in sustaining costs per ounce were below guidance due to solid operating performance, strong cost controls initiatives at all mines and a positive impact from foreign exchange rates.

A performance score for operating/financial performance was 46 out of 50 for 2015.

	2015 Actual	2015 Guidance <sup>(1)</sup>
Payable production <sup>(2)</sup>		
Gold (ounces)	1,671,340	1,600,000
Silver (thousands of ounces)	4,258	n/a <sup>(3)</sup>
Zinc (tonnes)	3,501	n/a <sup>(3)</sup>
Copper (tonnes)	4,941	n/a <sup>(3)</sup>
Minesite costs per tonne <sup>(2)</sup>		
LaRonde mine (C\$)	99	102
Lapa mine (C\$)	117	118
Goldex mine (C\$)	33	34
Meadowbank mine (C\$)	70	77
Canadian Malartic mine (C\$)	20(4)	20(4)
Kittila mine (Euros)	76	72
Pinos Altos mine	45	54
Creston Mascota deposit at Pinos Altos	12	14
La India mine	9	9
Total cash costs per ounce of gold produced on a by-product basis <sup>(2)</sup> :		
LaRonde mine	590	576
Lapa mine	590	769
Goldex mine	538	618
Meadowbank mine	613	656
Canadian Malartic mine	596	609
Kittila mine	709	711
Pinos Altos mine	387	526
Creston Mascota deposit at Pinos Altos	430	559
La India mine	436	491

# • Achievement of the 2015 Business Plan (Guidance)

(1) From the Company's February 15, 2015 press release

(2) As defined in the Company's 2015 Annual Report

(3) Guidance not provided

(4) Does not include the 5% NSR

## Performance score 24 out of 25.

#### • Achieve Capital Expenditures Budget for all Projects

Capital expenditures ("CapEx") amounted to \$449.8 million in 2015, compared with an approved budget of \$522.0 million, reconciled as follows:

Budgeted 2015 CapEx	\$522.0 million
Northern Business — Sustaining Capital	\$(10.0) million
Northern Business — Growth Capital	\$(21.6) million
Southern Business — Sustaining Capital	\$(27.7) million
Southern Business — Growth Capital	\$(12.9) million
Actual 2015 CapEx	\$449.8 million

Actual capital expenditures were lower than budgeted in 2015 due to a weaker than budgeted Canadian dollar, Mexican peso and Euro relative to the US dollar. In the Company's Northern Business, 2015 capital expenditures were lower than budgeted due primarily to lower than expected growth capital expenditures at the Canadian Malartic mine and lower than expected sustaining capital expenditures at the Kittila and LaRonde mines, partially offset by higher than expected sustaining capital expenditures at the Meadowbank mine. In the Company's Southern Business, 2015 capital expenditures were lower than budgeted due primarily to lower than budgeted due primarily to lower than budgeted due primarily to lower than budgeted growth and sustaining capital expenditures at the Pinos Altos mine.

Performance score 10 out of 10.

#### • Balance Sheet Management

In 2015, the Company's balance sheet was improved by a net decrease in total debt of \$242.0 million. On September 30, 2015, the Company amended its \$1.2 billion Credit Facility, extending the maturity date to June 22, 2020 and amending pricing terms. As at December 31, 2015, the Company's outstanding balance under the Credit Facility was \$265.0 million, a decrease of \$235.0 million compared with the December 31, 2014 outstanding balance of \$500.0 million. Also on September 30, 2015, the Company closed a private placement consisting of a \$50.0 million guaranteed senior unsecured note with a September 30, 2025 maturity date and a yield of 4.15%. 2015 operating cash flow of \$661.4 million was \$32.3 million higher than budgeted due primarily to the impact on costs of a weaker than budgeted Canadian dollar, Mexican peso and Euro relative to the US dollar. Actual weighted average total cash costs per ounce of gold produced on a by-product basis of \$567 in 2015 was 12.5% lower than the budgeted amount of \$648.

Performance score 5 out of 5.

### • Return on Equity

The Company's 2015 return on equity (net income/total equity) was 0.6% compared with an anticipated 2015 return on equity of 1.4% due primarily to a lower than expected realized gold price and lower than expected payable gold production for the year, partially offset by the impact on costs of a weaker than expected Canadian dollar, Mexican peso and Euro relative to the US dollar.

Performance score 7 out of 10.

## **GOLD RESERVE GROWTH**

Maintain gold reserves at approximately 10-15 times annual gold production rate. Convert mineral resources to mineral reserves. Increase mineral resources.

The Company has one of the highest reserve grades among its North American peers, with 2015 year-end proven and probable mineral reserves of approximately 19.1 million ounces of gold (251 million tonnes of ore grading 2.37 grams per tonne ("g/t") of gold).

The exploration group continued to deliver significant value with a 119% increase in inferred mineral resources (16.9 million tonnes grading 6.05 g/t) at Amaruq, which is expected to be developed as a satellite deposit to the Meadowbank mine and could extend Meadowbank's mine life and the discovery of the Sisar Zone at Kittila.

## Highlights:

- only a slight decrease in proven and probable mineral reserves in 2015, despite producing more than 1.6 million ounces of gold;
- increase in average reserve grades at LaRonde (5.20 g/t to 5.31 g/t), Canadian Malartic (1.06 g/t to 1.08 g/t), Goldex (1.49 g/t to 1.61 g/t) and La India (0.85 g/t to 0.90 g/t) demonstrating the quality of these reserves;
- 1% increase in measured and indicated mineral resources in 2015;
- 23% increase in inferred mineral resources in 2015; and
- a maiden inferred mineral resource at El Barqueño (Mexico) of 0.61 million ounces (19.7 million tonnes grading 0.96 g/t gold).

Performance score 15 out of 15.

## **CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT**

• Complete or position the Company to complete one large accretive acquisition and to continue to build the capacity and skill set of the project evaluation group.

Overall, the Company's Corporate Development and Project Evaluation groups were successful in attaining the key objectives that were set in 2015. In addition to continuing to increase the number of projects reviewed compared to 2014, there was an improvement in the number and quality of detailed evaluations in progress or completed by the end of 2015.

In real terms, this work supported the acquisition of 100% of Soltoro Ltd. (to enhance the land position around the El Barqueño project in Mexico) and investment positions in Belo Sun Mining Corp. (17.38%) and Pershimco Resources Inc. (19.93%), companies with interesting projects in Brazil and Panama, respectively. The Company also entered into a joint venture on the Barsele gold project in Sweden (initial 55% interest, with the ability to increase interest to 70%) with Barsele Minerals Corp.

Performance score of 20 out of 20.

A summary of the calculation of the corporate performance score is outlined in the table below.

Key Performance Measures	Weighting	2014 Score	2015 Score	Comments
Safety	15	15	15	Record performance
Operating/Financial Performance	50	48	46	Operations exceeded guidance
Gold Reserve/Resource Growth	15	15	15	Resource base continues to expand
Corporate Development	20	20	17	Increase in evaluation and opportunity assessments
Total Score Corporate Performance	100	98	93	Strong Performance

## 2015 Individual Performance Measures for Named Executive Officers

## Sean Boyd — Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

In 2015, Mr. Boyd's responsibilities and objectives included delivering first quartile share price performance, achieving operating targets for production, costs and major project completion, developing and

executing on corporate strategic goals and objectives, oversight of acquisition/divestiture initiatives and representing the Company before stakeholders.

Mr. Boyd's accomplishments in 2015 included:

- achieved record annual gold production of 1,671,340 ounces that exceeded budget and guidance (guidance increased during the year);
- achieved record safety performance (Lost Time Injury Frequency of 1.23, below target rate of 1.5) during a year of record production;
- several small scale investments, acquisitions and entering into a joint venture to enhance the Company's pipeline of future growth opportunities;
- total cash costs per ounce of US\$567 and all-in sustaining costs per ounce of US\$810 were below guidance;
- continued application of strict cost control initiatives; and
- positioned the Company to take advantage of strategic opportunities.

## David Smith — Senior Vice-President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer

In 2015, Mr. Smith's objectives included overall responsibility for all financial aspects of the Company, including financial reporting, treasury, budgeting, internal audit and control and input on corporate strategy and acquisitions and representing the Company before stakeholders.

Mr. Smith's accomplishments in 2015 included:

- net debt reduced by US\$190 million;
- issued a 10 year, US\$50 million term note to Ressources Quebec, a subsidiary of Investissement Quebec;
- implemented efficiency and structural improvements in the budgeting process;
- renegotiated US\$1.2 billion credit facility (better pricing and terms); US\$300 million accordion feature;
- led strong, effective investor relations program; and
- no issues pertaining to the financial statements or SOX.

## Ammar Al-Joundi, President

Mr. Al-Joundi joined the Company on April 6, 2015 as President. In 2015, Mr. Al-Joundi's objectives included supporting the Chief Executive Officer and senior executives in designing and executing strategy, facilitating co-ordination and communication between the various business units to promote the effective execution of strategy and representing the Company before stakeholders.

Mr. Al-Joundi's accomplishments in 2015 included:

- facilitating overall co-ordination and communication between various business groups to move high level strategic priorities forward;
- working with the business strategy group to develop a practical, efficient and implementable capital allocation program;
- supporting the Chief Financial Officer and finance group with respect to capital markets matters and financing alternatives; and
- working with the advanced projects team to enhance project economics and ensure quality execution.

## Alain Blackburn — Senior Vice-President, Exploration

In 2015, Mr. Blackburn's objectives included increasing mineral reserves and mineral resources and assisting in evaluations of potential acquisitions and establishing a long-term exploration strategy with respect to geographical focus and mineral reserve and mineral resource growth.

Mr. Blackburn's accomplishments in 2015 included:

- inferred mineral resources increased by 119% (3.3 million ounces of gold comprised of 16.9 million tonnes grading 6.05 g/t) at the Amaruq deposit in Nunavut, which is expected to be developed as a satellite deposit to the Meadowbank mine and could extend Meadowbank's mine life;
- only a slight decrease in proven and probable mineral reserves despite producing more than 1.6 million ounces of gold;
- increase in average gold reserve grades at LaRonde, Canadian Malartic, Goldex and La India;
- initial inferred mineral resources declared at El Barqueño (Mexico) and the Sisar Zone (Kittila); and
- 23% increase in inferred mineral resources.

## Timothy Haldane — Senior Vice-President, Operations — U.S.A. and Latin America

In 2015, Mr. Haldane's objectives included overseeing the effective operation of the Southern Business Unit and executing the business plan establishing a cost reduction strategy and continuous improvement process, pursuing life-of-mine and budgeting process improvements and ensuring operation and optimization of each operation division.

Mr. Haldane's accomplishments in 2015 included:

- Southern Business Unit mines exceeded gold production guidance, at total cash costs per ounce below guidance;
- record gold and silver production in Mexico;
- implemented successful cost reduction programs; and
- expansion of mineral reserves at La India and advanced the planning for potential development of mineral resources at Pinos Altos, Creston Mascota and La India.

## **Executive Incentive Compensation Recoupment Policy**

The Company has adopted a recoupment policy (the "Recoupment Policy") to assist in the management of compensation related risk. Under the Recoupment Policy, the CEO and each executive that reports directly to the CEO (which includes the Chief Financial Officer, each an "Executive"), is subject to having their annual incentive compensation clawed back in circumstances where the financial statements of the Company are restated and the Executive has engaged in gross negligence, intentional misconduct or fraud which caused or contributed to such restatement.

## Long-Term Incentive Compensation - RSUs, PSUs and Options

RSUs, PSUs and, for officers other than the CEO and President, Options provide a link between officers' compensation and increases in the value of the Company's common shares, and therefore create an incentive to enhance shareholder value over the long term. Grants of RSUs, PSUs and Options are based on four factors:

- the employee's performance;
- the employee's level of responsibility within the Company;
- the number and value of RSUs and PSUs and the number and exercise price of Options previously issued to the employee; and
- the Company's past practices.

Long-term incentives for officers and key employees are provided through RSUs, PSUs and Options granted under the RSU Plan, the PSU Plan and the Stock Option Plan, respectively, and which vest as described in the paragraph below.

Long-term incentives are an integral part of the compensation strategy of the Company. The internal compensation survey, described above, compares the number of RSUs, PSUs and Options issued to the Company's executive officers relative to the companies surveyed. Based on these findings, the Company believes that the RSUs, PSUs and Options issued to the executives of the Company are generally in line with industry averages. Currently, there is no limit on the number of RSUs granted per year under the RSU Plan or PSUs granted per year under the PSU Plan. The maximum number of Options permitted to be granted per year under the terms of the Stock Option Plan is 2% of common shares outstanding (totaling 4,418,121 Options as at March 11, 2016). Absent other circumstances, the Compensation Committee's policy is to recommend to award RSUs and the PSUs that vest on December 31 or the last trading day of the third calendar year following the year in respect to which the RSUs and the PSUs were granted and Options that vest such that a maximum of 25% of the Options granted vest 30 days after the date granted with the remaining Options vesting equally on the next three anniversaries of the date of the Option grant.

In connection with the evaluation of management's performance conducted near the end of each fiscal year, the Compensation Committee makes a recommendation with respect to the number of RSUs and PSUs and the number of Options (if any) to be granted to officers of the Company. If such recommendation is deemed acceptable to the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors approves: (i) the grant of the RSUs and PSUs as soon as practicable at the beginning of the next calendar year; and (ii) the grant of Options on the first trading day in January, with such grant becoming effective immediately with an exercise price equal to the closing price of the immediately preceding trading day.

#### Share Ownership

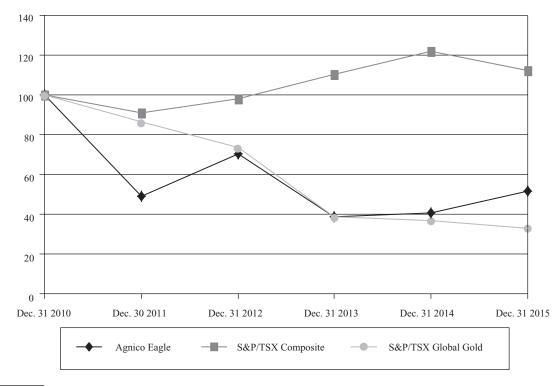
In order to align the interests of the Company and those of its officers and employees, the Company encourages ownership of common shares and facilitates this through its RSU Plan, RSU Plan, Stock Option Plan and Incentive Share Purchase Plan. Details of these plans can be found on pages 35 to 39 of this Circular. The Company has also adopted executive common share ownership policies: the CEO is required to have or own the equivalent of at least three years of his base salary in common shares or RSUs of the Company. Mr. Boyd, the current CEO of the Company, meets this common share ownership value requirement. A new CEO would have three years after being appointed to that position to comply with this provision. The President is required to have or own at least 90,000 common shares or RSUs of the Company and Vice-Presidents of the Company are required to have or own at least 15,000 common shares or RSUs of the Company and Vice-President, Senior Vice-Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Company have the later of five years from the date of implementation of this policy (that is, a compliance date of October 24, 2017) or five years from the date of appointment, to meet this common share ownership requirement.

The following list sets out each officer's holdings of common shares and RSUs of the Company as at March 11, 2016:

Sean Boyd, Director, Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	336,211
Ammar Al-Joundi, President	79,099
David Smith, Senior Vice-President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer	70,143
Donald G. Allan, Senior Vice-President, Corporate Development	64,257
Alain Blackburn, Senior Vice-President, Exploration	39,023
Picklu Datta, Senior Vice-President, Treasury and Finance	35,816
Louise Grondin, Senior Vice-President, Environment, Sustainable Development and People	56,629
Tim Haldane, Senior Vice-President, Operations – USA and Latin America	68,173
R. Gregory Laing, General Counsel, Senior Vice-President, Legal and Corporate Secretary	64,559
Marc Legault, Senior Vice-President, Project Evaluation	60,419
Jean Robitaille, Senior Vice-President, Business Strategy and Technical Services	90,957
Yvon Sylvestre, Senior Vice-President, Operations — Canada and Europe	40,327

#### Performance Graph

The following graph compares the total cumulative return of \$100 invested in the Company's common shares on December 31, 2010 with the cumulative total return for each of the S&P/TSX Composite Index and S&P/TSX Global Gold Index over the five-year period ended December 31, 2015 (in each case, assuming reinvestment of dividends). The graph below shows what a \$100 investment in each of the above mentioned indices and in the Company's common shares, made at December 31, 2010 would be worth during the five years following the initial investment.



Agnico Eagle Mines Limited Stock Price<sup>(1)</sup> vs. S&P/TSX Composite and S&P/TSX Global Gold Index

Note:

(1) Assumes reinvestment of dividends of US\$0.64 paid in 2011, US\$0.80 paid in 2012, US\$0.88 paid in 2013 and US\$0.32 paid in each of 2014 and 2015.

The price of the Company's common shares has underperformed the S&P/TSX Composite Index and slightly outperformed the performance of the S&P/TSX Gold Index during the five-year period ended December 31, 2015. The trend in compensation of the Named Executive Officers has generally been consistent with share price performance over this period. To illustrate, the total compensation of the Chief Executive Officer decreased with the decreased share price performance in 2011, increased with the increased share price performance in 2012, decreased with the decreased share price performance in 2013, decreased despite the increased share price performance in 2014 and increased with the increased share performance in 2015. A substantial element of Named Executive Officer compensation (40%) is comprised of long term incentives with the final value based on the future common share performance of the Company, directly aligning share price performance and compensation (see "Long-Term Incentive Compensation — RSUs, PSUs and Options").

#### **Compensation of Officers**

The officers of the Company are:

• Sean Boyd, Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

- Ammar Al-Joundi, President
- David Smith, Senior Vice-President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer
- Donald G. Allan, Senior Vice-President, Corporate Development
- Alain Blackburn, Senior Vice-President, Exploration
- Picklu Datta, Senior Vice-President, Treasury and Finance
- Louise Grondin, Senior Vice-President, Environment, Sustainable Development and People
- Tim Haldane, Senior Vice-President, Operations USA and Latin America
- R. Gregory Laing, General Counsel, Senior Vice-President, Legal and Corporate Secretary
- Marc Legault, Senior Vice-President, Project Evaluations
- Jean Robitaille, Senior Vice-President, Business Strategy and Technical Services
- Yvon Sylvestre, Senior Vice-President, Operations Canada and Europe

The following summary compensation table sets out compensation during the three most recently completed fiscal years for the Named Executive Officers of the Company measured by total compensation earned during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

#### **Summary Compensation Table**

						Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation <sup>(1)</sup>				
Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Share- Based Awards (ISPP) <sup>(2)</sup>	Share- Based Awards (RSUs) <sup>(3)</sup>	Option- Based Awards <sup>(4)</sup>	Annual Incentive Plans	Long- Term Incentive Plans	Pension Value	All Other Compensation <sup>(5)</sup>	Total Compensation <sup>(6)</sup>
		(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Sean Boyd	2015	1,500,000	_	2,791,000	_	3,850,000	n/a	440,170	51,250	8,632,420
Vice-Chairman and	2014	1,500,000	_	2,963,000	_	3,000,000	n/a	8,230	19,200	7,490,430
Chief Executive Officer	2013	1,500,000	_	5,093,000	_	2,700,000	n/a	82,970	20,200	9,396,170
David Smith	2015	560,000	26,000	502,380	603,750	488,000	n/a	157,200	39,525	2,376,855
Senior Vice-President,	2014	520,000	26,000	296,300	749,800	460,000	n/a	147,000	21,608	2,220,708
Finance and	2013	520,000	22,500	486,432	1,121,000	400,000	n/a	138,000	20,200	2,708,132
Chief Financial Officer										
Ammar Al-Joundi <sup>(7)</sup>	2015	548,077	27,404	923,250	—	680,000	n/a	184,212	21,077	2,384,020
President	2014	—	—	—	—	—	n/a	—	—	
	2013	—	—	—	—	—	n/a	—	—	
Alain Blackburn	2015	490,000	23,750	418,650	1,110,900	478,000	n/a	145,200	34,063	2,700,563
Senior Vice-President,	2014	475,000	23,750	296,300	586,800	490,000	n/a	144,750	21,086	2,037,686
Exploration	2013	475,000	23,000	486,432	840,750	380,000	n/a	128,250	21,326	2,354,758
Tim Haldane <sup>(8)</sup>	2015	641,700	31,050	412,420	799,848	538,200	n/a	177,498	43,262	2,643,978
Senior Vice-President,	2014	522,000	26,100	274,500	756,320	498,800	n/a	153,133	22,272	2,253,125
Operations - U.S.A and Latin										
America	2013	477,000	21,730	502,617	891,195	471,700	n/a	142,788	20,352	2,527,382

(1) All amounts earned on non-equity incentive plan compensation were paid during the financial year.

(2) This represents the Company's contribution to common shares purchased by the Named Executive Officers pursuant to the Incentive Share Purchase Plan.

- (3) These amounts represent the fair value of the RSUs granted to the respective Named Executive Officers. These amounts were calculated by multiplying the number of RSUs granted by \$27.91 (2014 \$29.63; 2013 \$50.93) being the "Market Price" of the Company's common shares as provided for in the RSU Plan, except for Mr. Al-Joundi. Mr. Al-Joundi's RSUs were granted on May 6, 2015 using the fair value of \$36.93 on that date.
- (4) The value of option-based awards, being a weighted average of \$8.05 per Option (2014 \$6.52; 2013 \$11.21), was determined using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. The Black-Scholes option pricing model is a commonly used pricing model that assumes the valued option can only be exercised at expiration. All Options were granted at an exercise price of \$28.92 (2014 \$28.03; 2013 \$52.13), which was the closing price for the common shares of the Company on the TSX on the day prior to the date of grant. Key additional assumptions used were: (i) the risk free interest rate, which was a weighted average of 1.51% (2014 1.53%; 2013 1.39%); (ii) current time to expiration of the Option which was assumed to be a weighted average of 2.7 years (2014 2.6 years;

2013 - 2.5 years); (iii) the volatility for the common shares of the Company on the TSX, which was a weighted average of 45.0% (2014 - 42.5%; 2013 - 35.8%); and (iv) the dividend yield for the common shares of the Company, which was 1.70% (2014 - 3.83%; 2013 - 1.70%).

- (5) Consists of premiums paid for term life and health insurance, automobile allowances, education and fitness benefits, extended health coverage and computer-related allowances.
- (6) The total compensation was paid in Canadian dollars. The Company reports its financial statements in United States dollars. On December 31, 2015 the Noon Buying Rate was C\$1.00 equals US\$1.3840.
- (7) Mr. Ammar Al-Joundi became President on April 6, 2015.
- (8) Mr. Haldane became Senior Vice-President, Operations U.S.A. and Latin America on February 15, 2014; prior to that, he was Senior Vice President, Latin America from January 1, 2009 to February 15, 2014; prior to that he was Vice-President, Latin America.

In 2015, the Named Executive Officers received, in aggregate, cash and non-cash compensation of \$18,737,836 or 3.04% of the cash provided by operating activities of the Company during the year (as compared to \$15,757,389, or 2.4%, in 2014).

# **RSU Plan**

The RSU Plan was established by the Company to assist in the retention of the Company's employees, officers and directors by providing non-dilutive common shares to reward the individual performance of participants. Grants of RSUs are determined by the Compensation Committee (for directors and officers) or the CEO (for employees). Where the grant of RSUs is given as a dollar value, the number of RSUs awarded to a participant is determined by dividing the dollar value by the "Market Price" on the grant date. For the purposes of the RSU Plan, the "Market Price" is the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the Company's common shares on the TSX for the 5-day trading period immediately prior to the grant date (or, if the common shares did not trade on the TSX, the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the common shares on the NYSE during such 5-day trading period, or if the common shares did not trade on the TSX or NYSE, the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the common shares on a stock exchange in Canada where the common shares are listed during such 5-day period, or if the common shares do not trade on any such stock exchange, the simple average of the bid and ask prices of the common shares on the TSX during such 5-day trading period). RSUs vest on the vesting dates specified in the RSU Plan. RSUs vest on (a) December 31 (or the last business day) of the third calendar year following the year in which the RSUs were granted (for (i) all RSUs granted to directors and officers, (ii) RSUs granted after January 1, 2014 to employees who commenced service with the Company before January 1, 2012, and (iii) all RSUs granted to employees who commenced service with the Company after January 1, 2012), or (b) December 31 (or the last business day) of the second calendar year following the year in respect of which certain RSUs were granted (for RSUs granted before January 1, 2014 to employees who commenced service with the Company prior to January 1, 2012). RSUs can vest on an earlier date than the vesting date as determined by the Compensation Committee in its sole discretion (for directors and officers) or the CEO in his sole discretion (for employees). The value of dividends declared after March 31, 2013 on non-vested RSUs are paid to the participant as a lump-sum bonus amount upon the vesting of the RSUs. For the quarter ended March 31, 2013, dividends declared on non-vested RSUs were used to allocate additional RSUs to the participant with the same vesting and expiry dates as the RSUs in respect of which the additional RSUs were allocated. Once vested, the common shares purchased by a third-party administrative agent on the open market underlying the RSUs are transferred to a participant's vested RSU account and may be sold at the request of the participant.

If a participant's employment with the Company terminates as a result of a change of control or within a 12-month period following a change of control, the participant's RSUs vest immediately. If a participant's employment is terminated for cause (as defined in the RSU Plan), the participant immediately forfeits all rights in respect of any non-vested RSUs. If a participant's employment is terminated without cause, or if the participant retires, dies while in the service of the Company or becomes disabled and is terminated by the Company due to such disability, or if the participant is a director who resigns from the Board of Directors, the participant's non-vested RSUs vest immediately. If a participant (who is not a director) resigns from the service of the Company, the participant immediately forfeits all rights in respect of any non-vested RSUs, unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee (for officers) or the CEO (for employees).

In the event of a change of control of the Company, the RSU Plan requires the acquiring or surviving entity to assume all outstanding RSUs or substitute similar share units for the outstanding RSUs. If the acquiring or surviving entity fails to do so or if the Compensation Committee otherwise determines in its sole discretion, the RSU Plan will terminate and all outstanding RSUs will be deemed to be vested.

Except as required by law or marriage breakdown orders or agreements, the rights of a participant under the RSU Plan are non-transferrable. The rights and obligations of the Company under the RSU Plan may be assigned by the Company to a successor in the business of the Company, to any corporation resulting from any amalgamation, reorganization, combination, merger or arrangement of the Company or to any corporation acquiring all or substantially all of the assets or business of the Company. In the event of a merger, consolidation, spin-off or other distribution other than normal distributions to the Company's shareholders, the Board of Directors may in its sole discretion adjust the number or type of shares on which the RSUs are based or the number of RSUs granted to participants.

## **PSU Plan**

The PSU Plan was established by the Company to assist in the retention of the Company's senior officers by providing non-dilutive common shares to reward the performance of senior officers and align the performance of senior officers with the Company's shareholders. Grants of PSUs are determined by the Compensation Committee. Where the grant of PSUs is given as a dollar value, the number of PSUs awarded to a participant is determined by dividing the dollar value by the "Market Price" on the grant date. For the purposes of the PSU Plan, the "Market Price" is the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the Company's common shares on the TSX for the 5-day trading period immediately prior to the grant date (or, if the common shares did not trade on the TSX, the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the Company's the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the TSX or NYSE, the simple average of the common shares on a stock exchange in Canada where the common shares are listed during such 5-day period, or if the common shares on a stock exchange in Canada where the common shares are listed during such 5-day period, or if the common shares on the TSX during such 5-day trading prices of the common shares are listed during such 5-day period, or if the common shares on a stock exchange in Canada where the common shares are listed during such 5-day period, or if the common shares on the TSX during such 5-day trading period). The value of dividends declared on non-vested PSUs are paid to the participant as a lump-sum bonus amount upon the vesting of the PSUs.

PSUs vest on December 31 (or the last business day) of the second calendar year following the year in which the PSUs were granted. After November 20 during the year of vesting, the Compensation Committee determines the "Performance Measurement" that will apply to the PSUs vesting on December 31 of such year. The "Performance Measurement" in respect of PSUs is determined by the Compensation Committee based on the following four factors: (1) "Relative Total Shareholder Return Rank", calculated by (a) adding (i) the volume weighted average trading price of the Company's common shares on the TSX (or, if the common shares did not trade on the TSX, such other public stock exchange on which the common shares are listed with the greatest volume of trading) for the 5-day trading period immediately preceding the last day before November 20 of the year of vesting and (ii) the total value of dividends paid by the Company per common share between January 1 of the year of grant and November 20 of the year of vesting, and (b) dividing the sum of (i) and (ii) by the volume weighted average trading price of the Company's common shares on the TSX (or, if the common shares did not trade on the TSX, such other public stock exchange on which the common shares are listed with the greatest volume of trading) for the 5-day trading period immediately preceding January 1 of the year of grant; (2) "Relative Multiple to NAV Rank", defined as the premium (or discount) at which a stock is valued in relation to its net asset value (calculated as the value of a company's assets less the value of its liabilities); (3) "Production", determined based on the Company's actual production for a calendar year as a percentage of the annual guidance for production published in the Company's February press release reporting its fourth quarter and year-end performance for the preceding year; and (4) "All-In Sustaining Costs", determined based on the Company's actual all-in sustaining costs for a calendar year as a percentage of the annual guidance for all-in sustaining costs published in the Company's February press release reporting its fourth quarter and year-end performance for the preceding year. The Relative Total Shareholder Return Rank and the Relative Multiple to NAV Rank are measured against a 19-company peer group, which may be modified by the Compensation Committee from time to time (currently, the 19-company peer group is comprised of Alacer Gold Corp., Alamos Gold Inc., Argonaut Gold Inc., Barrick Gold Corporation, B2Gold Corp., Centerra Gold Inc.,

Detour Gold Corporation, Eldorado Gold Corporation, Endeavour Mining Corporation, Goldcorp Inc., IAMGOLD Corporation, Kinross Gold Corporation, Kirkland Lake Gold Inc., New Gold Inc., Newmont Mining Corporation, OceanaGold Corporation, Primero Mining Corp., SEMAFO Inc. and Yamana Gold Inc. — these companies were selected as they are North American based, focused on gold production and, given their different degrees of size and growth potential, should provide a comprehensive spectrum for market performance comparison purposes). Each of the Relative Total Shareholder Return Rank and the Relative Multiple to NAV Rank account for 37.5% of the Performance Measurement, and each of the Production and All-In Sustaining Costs metrics account for 12.5% of the Performance Measurement. On the basis of the Performance Measurement, potential payout ranges from a minimum of 0% to a maximum of 200% of the initial PSU grant.

If a participant's employment with the Company terminates as a result of a change of control or within a 12-month period following a change of control, the participant's PSUs vest immediately. If a participant's employment is terminated for cause (as defined in the PSU Plan), the participant immediately forfeits all rights in respect of any non-vested PSUs. If a participant retires or dies while in the service of the Company, the participant's non-vested PSUs vest immediately based on target performance. If a participant becomes disabled and is terminated by the Company due to such disability, the participant's non-vested PSUs will continue to vest following the participant's termination date. If a participant's employment is terminated without cause or if a participant resigns from the service of the Company, the participant forfeits all rights in respect of any non-vested PSUs, unless otherwise determined by the Compensation Committee.

In the event of a change of control of the Company, the PSU Plan requires the acquiring or surviving entity to assume all outstanding PSUs or substitute similar share units for the outstanding PSUs. If the acquiring or surviving entity fails to do so or if the Compensation Committee otherwise determines in its sole discretion, the PSU Plan will terminate and all outstanding PSUs will be deemed to be vested.

Except as required by law or marriage breakdown orders or agreements, the rights of a participant under the PSU Plan are non-transferrable. The rights and obligations of the Company under the PSU Plan may be assigned by the Company to a successor in the business of the Company, to any corporation resulting from any amalgamation, reorganization, combination, merger or arrangement of the Company or to any corporation acquiring all or substantially all of the assets or business of the Company. In the event of a merger, consolidation, spin-off or other distribution other than normal distributions to the Company's shareholders, the Board of Directors may in its sole discretion adjust the number or type of shares on which the PSUs are based or the number of PSUs granted to participants.

## Stock Option Plan

Under the Stock Option Plan, Options to purchase common shares may be granted officers, employees and consultants of the Company. The exercise price of Options granted may be denominated in Canadian dollars or United States dollars, but generally may not be less than the closing market price for the common shares of the Company on the TSX (for Options with an exercise price denominated in Canadian dollars) or the NYSE (for Options with an exercise price denominated in United States dollars) on the trading day prior to the date of grant. The maximum term of Options granted under the Stock Option Plan is five years and the maximum number of Options that can be issued in any year is 2% of the Company's outstanding common shares. In addition, a maximum of 25% of the Options granted in an Option grant vest upon 30 days after the date granted with the remaining Options vesting equally on the next three anniversaries of the Option grant date. The number of common shares which may be reserved for issuance to any one person pursuant to Options (under the Stock Option Plan or otherwise), warrants, share purchase plans or other compensation arrangements may not exceed 5% of the outstanding common shares. Additionally, the number of common shares which may be issuable to insiders of the Company pursuant to Options (under the Stock Option Plan or otherwise), warrants, share purchase plans or other compensation arrangements, at any time, cannot exceed 10% of outstanding common shares and the number of common shares issued to insiders of the Company pursuant to Options (under the Stock Option Plan or otherwise), warrants, share purchase plans or other compensation arrangements, within any one year period, cannot exceed 10% of the outstanding common shares.

The Stock Option Plan provides for the termination of an Option held by an Option holder in the following circumstances:

- the Option expires (no later than five years after the Option was granted);
- 30 days after the Option holder ceases to be an employee, officer, or consultant to the Company or any subsidiary of the Company;
- twelve months after the death of the Option holder; and
- where such Option holder is a director, four years after the date he or she resigns or retires from the Board of Directors (provided that in no event will any Option expire later than five years after the Option was granted).

An Option granted under the Stock Option Plan may only be assigned to eligible assignees, including a spouse, a minor child, a minor grandchild, a trust governed by a registered retirement savings plan of such participant, a corporation controlled by such participant and of which all other shareholders are eligible assignees or a family trust of which such participant is a trustee and of which all beneficiaries are eligible assignees. Assignments must be approved by the Board of Directors and any stock exchange or other authority.

The Board of Directors may amend or revise the terms of the Stock Option Plan without the approval of shareholders as permitted by law and subject to any required approval by any stock exchange or other authority, including amendments of a "housekeeping" nature, amendments necessary to comply with applicable law (including, without limitation, the rules, regulations and policies of the TSX), amendments respecting administration of the Stock Option Plan (provided such amendment does not entail an extension beyond the original expiry date), any amendment to the vesting provisions of the Stock Option Plan or any Option, any amendment to the early termination provisions of the Stock Option Plan or any Option, whether or not such Option is held by an insider (provided such amendment does not entail an extension beyond the original expiry date), the addition or modification of a cashless exercise feature, amendments necessary to suspend or terminate the Stock Option Plan and any other amendment, whether fundamental or otherwise, not requiring shareholder approval under applicable law (including, without limitation, the rules, regulations and policies of the TSX). No amendment or revision to the Stock Option Plan which adversely affects the rights of any Option holder under any Option granted under the Stock Option Plan can be made without the consent of the Option holder whose rights are being affected.

In addition, no amendments to the Stock Option Plan to increase the maximum number of common shares reserved for issuance, to reduce the exercise price for any Option, to extend the term of an Option, to increase any limit on grants of Options to insiders of the Company, to amend the designation of who is an eligible participant or eligible assignee or to grant additional powers to the Board of Directors to amend the Stock Option Plan or entitlements can be made without first obtaining the approval of the Company's shareholders. In response to a TSX staff notice regarding amendments to security based compensation arrangements, the Stock Option Plan was amended in 2007 such that where the Company has imposed a blackout period that falls within ten trading days of the expiry of an Option, such Option's expiry date shall be the tenth day following the termination of the blackout period. The Stock Option Plan does not expressly entitle participants to convert an Option into a stock appreciation right.

Under the Stock Option Plan, only eligible persons who are not officers of the Company are entitled to receive loans (on a non-recourse or limited recourse basis or otherwise), guarantees or other support arrangements from the Company to facilitate Option exercises. During 2015, no loans, guarantees or other financial assistance were provided under the Stock Option Plan.

The total number of common shares available for issuance under the Stock Option Plan is 27,800,000 and 15,541,990 common shares have been issued in connection with the exercise of Options representing 7.1% of the Company's 220,906,030 common shares issued and outstanding as of March 11, 2016. At the meeting, shareholders will be asked to consider an ordinary resolution (attached to this Circular as Appendix B) to approve an increase of common shares reserved for issuance under the Stock Option Plan by 3,500,000 common shares. If the resolution is approved, the number of common shares available for future Option grants will be 6,196,021, representing 2.8% of the 220,906,030 common shares issued and outstanding as at March 11, 2016.

The number of common shares currently available for issuance under the Stock Option Plan is 12,258,010 common shares (comprised of 9,561,989 common shares relating to Options issued but unexercised and 2,696,021 common shares relating to Options available to be issued), representing 5.6% of the Company's 220,906,030 common shares issued and outstanding as at March 11, 2016.

In 2015, officers exercised Options to receive notional proceeds of, in aggregate, \$924,916 (6 people) (\$1,323,042 (7 people) in 2014; \$2,716,231.49 (3 people) in 2013). In 2015, the Company received proceeds from the exercise of Options in the amount of \$2,495,957.50 (\$3,912,608 in 2014; \$6,539,325 in 2013).

The following table sets out the value vested during the most recently completed financial year of the Company of incentive plan awards granted to the Named Executive Officers.

#### Incentive Plan Awards Table — Value Vested or Earned During Fiscal Year 2015

Name	Option-Based Awards — Value Vested During the Year	Share-Based Awards — Value Vested During the Year	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation — Value Earned During the Year	
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	
Sean Boyd	nil	3,632,564	3,850,000	
David Smith	139,687.50	346,946	488,000	
Ammar Al-Joundi	nil	nil	680,000	
Alain Blackburn	625,800	346,946	478,000	
Tim Haldane	25,020	251,613	538,200	

The following table sets out the outstanding Option awards of the Named Executive Officers as at December 31, 2015.

### **Outstanding Incentive Plan Awards Table**

	<b>Option-Based Awards</b>			Share-Based Awards			
Name	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options	Option Exercise Price	Option Expiration Date	Value of Unexercised In-The-Money Options <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Shares or Units of Shares that have not Vested	Market or Payout Value of Share Based Awards that have not Vested <sup>(1)</sup>	Market or Payout Value of Vested Share Based Awards not Paid Out or Distributed
	(#)	(\$)		(\$)	(#)	(\$)	(\$)
Sean Boyd	240,000	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	200,001	7,274,000	nil
-	162,500	37.05	1/3/2017	nil			
David Smith	60,000	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	28,000	1,018,360	nil
	75,000	37.05	1/7/2017	nil			
	100,000	52.13	1/3/2018	nil			
	81,250	28.03	1/3/2019	677,625			
	75,000	28.92	1/2/2020	558,750			
Ammar Al-Joundi	nil	nil		nil	25,000	909,250	nil
Alain Blackburn	60,000	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	25,000	909,250	nil
	75,000	37.05	1/3/2017	nil			
	75,000	52.13	1/3/2018	nil			
	90,000	28.03	1/3/2019	750,600			
	138,000	28.92	1/2/2020	1,028,100			
Tim Haldane <sup><math>(2)</math></sup>	60,000	76.60	1/4/2016	nil	27,000	709,560	nil
	75,000	36.32	1/3/2017	nil			
	75,000	52.46	1/3/2018	nil			
	100,000	26.38	1/3/2019	nil			
	72,000	24.89	1/2/2020	100,080			

(1) Based on a closing price of the Company's common shares on the TSX of \$36.37 on December 31, 2015. On December 31, 2015, the Noon Buying Rate was C\$1.00 equals US\$1.3840.

<sup>(2)</sup> The value of Mr. Haldane's awards is in United States dollars and based on a closing price of the Company's common shares on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") of US\$26.28 on December 31, 2015.

The following table sets out, as at March 11, 2016, compensation plans under which equity securities of the Company are authorized for issuance from treasury. The information has been aggregated by plans approved by shareholders and plans not approved by shareholders (of which there are none).

#### **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued on exercise of outstanding options	Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options	Weighted average remaining term of outstanding options	Number of securities remaining available for future issuances under equity compensation plans	Number of equity awards outstanding other than stock options
Equity compensation plans approved by shareholders Equity compensation plans not	9,561,989 <sup>(1)]</sup>	\$37.53 <sup>(2)]</sup>	3.03 years <sup>(3)]</sup>	4,595,769 <sup>(4)]</sup>	nil <sup>(5)</sup>
approved by shareholders	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

(1) As at December 31, 2015, the number of securities to be issued on exercise of outstanding options was 12,082,212.

(2) As at December 31, 2015, the weighted average exercise price of outstanding options was \$43.65.

(3) As at December 31, 2015, the weighted average remaining term of outstanding options was 2.15 years.

- (4) This number includes the common shares available for issuance under the Stock Option Plan (2,696,021) and the Incentive Share Purchase Plan (1,894,748). As at December 31, 2015, the number of securities remaining available for future issuances under all equity compensation plans was (4,578,339) which includes the common shares available for issuance under the Stock Option Plan (2,678,591) and the Incentive Share Purchase Plan (1,899,748).
- (5) As at December 31, 2015, there were no outstanding equity awards other than stock options.

#### Incentive Share Purchase Plan

In 1997, the shareholders of the Company approved the Incentive Share Purchase Plan to encourage directors, officers and full-time employees of the Company to purchase common shares of the Company. In 2009, the Incentive Share Purchase Plan was amended to prohibit non-executive directors from participating in the plan. Full-time employees who have been continuously employed by the Company or its subsidiaries for at least twelve months are eligible at the beginning of each fiscal year to elect to participate in the Incentive Share Purchase Plan. Eligible employees may contribute up to 10% of their base annual salary through monthly payroll deductions or quarterly payments by cheque. The Company makes a matching contribution equal to no more than 50% of the participant's contributions to the Incentive Share Purchase Plan. On March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31 of each year (or if such day is not a business day, on the immediately following business day), the Company issues common shares to each participant equal in value to the total contributions on the participant's behalf under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan (i.e., participant and Company contributions) converted into common shares at the "Market Price" on the date of issuance (rounded down to the lowest number of whole common shares). For the purposes of the Incentive Share Purchase Plan, the "Market Price" is the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the Company's common shares on the TSX for the 5-day trading period immediately prior to the issuance date (or, if the common shares did not trade on the TSX, the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the common shares on the NYSE during such 5-day trading period, or if the common shares did not trade on the TSX or NYSE, the simple average of the high and low trading prices of the common shares on a stock exchange in Canada where the common shares are listed during such 5-day period, or if the common shares do not trade on any such stock exchange, the simple average of the bid and ask prices of the common shares on the TSX during such 5-day trading period).

There is a one-year restricted period during which the participant is not permitted to sell, transfer or otherwise dispose of the common shares acquired through the Incentive Share Purchase Plan. During the one-year restricted period participants will have the right to (i) exercise the votes attached to the participant's common shares, (ii) all cash dividends declared and paid in respect of the participant's common shares and (iii) transfer, sell or tender any or all of the participant's common shares pursuant to a *bona fide* third party

take-over bid. The one-year restricted period will commence on the date the common shares are issued to the participant under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan. The CEO will have discretion to waive the one-year restricted period in respect of the common shares issued under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan held by all participants other than the CEO. The Compensation Committee will have discretion to waive the one-year restricted period in respect of the common shares issued under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan held by the CEO. All restrictions on the sale, transfer or other disposal of common shares issued under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan held by the CEO. All restrictions on the sale, transfer or other disposal of common shares issued under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan immediately lapse on termination of employment or death. The one-year restricted period for common shares acquired through the Incentive Share Purchase Plan will not be applicable to U.S. participants.

A participant's participation in the Incentive Share Purchase Plan ceases on termination of employment (whether voluntary or involuntary) or in the event of the death of the participant. The Incentive Share Purchase Plan permits the CEO to grant permission to participants (other than the CEO) to withdraw from the Incentive Share Purchase Plan during a plan year for which the participant has elected to participate. The Compensation Committee will have the ability to grant permission to the CEO to withdraw from the Incentive Share Purchase Plan in a plan year for which the CEO has elected to participate. In the event of a subdivision, consolidation or reclassification of the Company's common shares or other capital adjustment, the number of common shares reserved for issuance under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan may be adjusted accordingly and any other adjustments may be made as deemed necessary or reasonable by the Compensation Committee.

Examples of amendments to the Incentive Share Purchase Plan that will require shareholder approval include: (i) amendments to the amending provisions, (ii) amendments to increase the maximum number of common shares reserved for issuance under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan, (iii) amendments to the contribution limits for participants, and (iv) amendments to the contribution limits for the Company. Examples of amendments that may be made by the Compensation Committee without shareholder approval will include, but are not limited to: (i) amendments to ensure continuing compliance with applicable laws and regulations, (ii) amendments of a housekeeping nature, (iii) amendments to change the class of participants eligible to participate in the Incentive Share Purchase Plan, (iv) amendments to change the terms of any financial assistance provided to participants, and (v) amendments to change the restrictions on the sale, transfer or other disposal of common shares.

The Company provides loans to participants (excluding directors and officers of the Company) to facilitate the purchase of common shares by the participant under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan. Each loan is evidenced by a promissory note with a maximum term of ten years. Each loan will become due and payable on the earliest of: (i) the maturity date of the loan; (ii) the second anniversary of the participant's termination of employment; and (iii) the date the participant becomes a director or officer of the Company. The common shares purchased by the participant under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan are pledged as security for the amounts loaned by the Company to the participant.

In 2015, the shareholders of the Company approved an amendment to the Incentive Share Purchase Plan to increase the number of common shares available under such plan to 7,100,000 common shares. Of the 7,100,000 common shares approved, the Company has, as at March 11, 2016, 1,899,748 common shares remaining for issuance under the Incentive Share Purchase Plan, representing 0.9% of the common shares issued and outstanding as of March 11, 2016.

#### Pension Plan Benefits

The Company's basic defined contribution pension plan (the "Basic Plan") provides pension benefits to employees of the Company generally, including the Named Executive Officers. Under the Basic Plan, the Company contributes an amount equal to 5% of each employee's pensionable earnings (including salary and annual incentive compensation) to the Basic Plan. The Company's contributions cannot exceed the money purchase limit, as defined in the *Income Tax Act* (Canada). Upon termination of employment, the Company's contribution to the Basic Plan ceases and the participant is entitled to a pension benefit in the amount of the account balance under the Basic Plan. Contributions to the Basic Plan are invested in a variety of funds offered by the plan administrator, at the direction of the participant.

In addition to the Basic Plan, effective January 1, 2008, in line with the Company's compensation policy that compensation must be competitive in order to help attract and retain the executives needed to lead and grow the

Company's business and to address the weakness of the Company's retirement benefits when compared to its peers in the gold production industry, the Company adopted a supplemental defined contribution plan (the "Supplemental Plan") for executives at the level of Vice-President or above. On December 31 of each year, the Company credits each executive's account an amount equal to 15% of the executive's pensionable earnings for the year (including salary and annual incentive compensation), less the Company's contribution to the Basic Plan. In addition, on December 31 of each year, the Company will credit each executive's account a notional investment return equal to the balance of such executive's account at the beginning of the year multiplied by the yield rate for Government of Canada marketable bonds with average yields over ten years. Upon retirement, after attaining the minimum age of 55, the executive's account will be paid out in either (a) five annual installments subsequent to the date of retirement, or (b) by way of lump sum payment, at the executive's option. If the executive's employment is terminated prior to reaching the age of 55, such executive will receive, by way of lump sum payment, the total amount credited to his or her account.

The individual Retirement Compensation Arrangement Plan (the "Executives Plan") for Mr. Boyd provides pension benefits which are generally equal (on an after-tax basis) to what the pension benefits would be if they were provided directly from a registered pension plan. There are no pension benefit limits under the Executives Plan. The Executives Plan provides an annual pension at age 60 equal to 2% of Mr. Boyd's final three-year average pensionable earnings for each year of continuous service with the Company, less the annual pension payable under the Basic Plan. The pensionable earnings for the purposes of the Executives Plan consists of all basic remuneration and do not include benefits, bonuses, automobile or other allowances, or unusual payments. Payments under the Executives Plan are secured by a letter of credit from a Canadian chartered bank. Mr. Boyd may retire early, any time after reaching age 55, with a benefit based on service and final average earnings at the date of retirement, with no early retirement reduction. The Company does not have a policy to grant extra years of service under its pension plans.

The following table sets out the benefits to Mr. Boyd and the associated costs to the Company in excess of the costs under the Company's Basic Plan.

#### **Defined Benefit Plan Table**

	Number of		l Benefits crued	Accrued Obligation		Non-	Accrued
Name	Years of Service <sup>(1)</sup>	At Year End <sup>(1)</sup>	At age 60	at the Start of the Year <sup>(2)</sup>	Compensatory Change <sup>(3)</sup>	Compensatory Change <sup>(4)</sup>	Obligation at Year End <sup>(5)</sup>
	(#)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Sean Boyd	30	871,900	1,015,600	12,179,700	414,800	556,300	13,150,800

(1) As at December 31, 2015.

(2) The actuarial valuation methods and assumptions that the Company applied in quantifying the accrued obligation at the start of the year are the same as those set out in note 16 to the Company's annual audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015.

(3) Includes the value of the pension earned during the year, the impact of any plan amendments and of any differences between actual and assumed compensation.

- (4) Includes the impact of interest accruing on the beginning-of year obligation and changes in the actuarial assumptions and other experience gains and losses.
- (5) The actuarial valuation methods and assumptions that the Company applied in quantifying the accrued obligation at year end are the same as those set out in note 16 to the Company's annual audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015.

The following tables set out summary information about the Basic Plan and the Supplemental Plan for each of the Named Executive Officers as at December 31, 2015.

## Defined Contribution Plan Table — Basic Plan

Name	Accumulated Value at Start of Year (\$)	Compensatory <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	$\frac{\underset{(\$)}{\text{Non-Compensatory}^{(2)}}}{(\$)}$	Accumulated Value at Year End (\$)
Sean Boyd	615,153	25,370	10,374	650,897
David Smith	246,734	25,370	11,964	284,069
Ammar Al-Joundi	nil	25,370	(78)	25,292
Alain Blackburn	498,191	25,370	10,340	533,900
Tim Haldane	440,194	18,338	121,589	580,122

(1) Includes the total amount contributed by the Company to the member's account during 2015.

(2) Includes all investment income earned on the member's account balances during 2015.

#### Defined Contribution Plan Table — Supplemental Plan

Name	Accumulated Value at Start of Year (\$)	Compensatory <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	$\frac{\text{Non-}}{\text{Compensatory}^{(2)}}{(\$)}$	Accumulated Value at Year End (\$)
Sean Boyd <sup>(3)</sup>	nil	nil	nil	nil
David Smith	580,452	131,830	11,841	724,123
Ammar Al-Joundi	nil	158,842	nil	158,842
Alain Blackburn	676,033	119,830	13,791	809,654
Tim Haldane	785,610	159,160	179,834	1,124,604

(1) Includes the total amount notionally credited by the Company to the member's account during 2015. There was no above market investment income credited under the Supplemental Plan.

(2) Includes all investment income earned on the member's notional account balances during 2015.

(3) Mr. Boyd does not participate in the Supplemental Plan.

#### **Employment Contracts/Termination Arrangements**

The Company has employment agreements with all of its executives that provide for an annual base salary, bonus and certain pension, health, dental and other insurance and automobile benefits. These amounts may be increased at the discretion of the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the Compensation Committee. For the 2015 base salary for each Named Executive Officer, see "Summary Compensation Table" above. Prior to January 1, 2016, the employment agreements provided for a severance multiple of 2.5 times. These employment agreements, including the termination provisions, had been in place for many years. However, in consideration of current governance best practices, the employment agreements were amended as of January 1, 2016 to reduce the severance multiple to 2.0 times. If the individual agreements are terminated other than for cause, death or disability, or upon their resignation following certain events, all of the Named Executive Officers would be entitled to a payment equal to two times their annual base salary at the date of termination plus an amount equal to two times their annual incentive compensation (averaged over the preceding two years but not including Options) and a continuation of benefits for up to two years (or, at the election of the employee, the amount equal to the Company's cost in providing such benefits) or until the individual commences new employment. Certain events that would trigger a severance payment are:

- termination of employment without cause;
- substantial alteration of responsibilities;
- · reduction of base salary or benefits;

- office relocation of greater than 100 kilometres;
- failure to obtain a satisfactory agreement from any successor to assume the individual's employment agreement or provide the individual with a comparable position, duties, salary and benefits; or
- any change in control of the Company.

If a severance payment triggering event had occurred on December 31, 2015, the severance payments that would be payable to each of the Named Executive Officers, would be approximately as follows: Mr. Boyd — \$12,521,462; Mr. Smith — \$2,661,020; Mr. Al-Joundi — \$2,817,063; and Mr. Blackburn — \$2,498,184 and Mr. Haldane — \$3,028,458. These severance payments due not take into account the reduction of the severance multiple to 2.0 times which was made effective as of January 1, 2016.

## Succession Planning

The Company continually evaluates succession plans for its executive management team and takes pro-active steps to ensure potential succession candidates have the requisite skills and experience to transition to new roles. This includes inviting potential successors to formal Board of Directors or Committee meetings where they make presentations and engage in discussions with directors and encouraging them to attend informal social functions where they may interact with directors in a more relaxed setting. This allows directors to make a comprehensive assessment of such candidates.

The CEO prepares succession planning reports on executive management team members and discusses succession matters in *in camera* sessions with the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is responsible for:

- (a) ensuring there is an orderly succession plan for the position of the CEO;
- (b) reviewing and approving the CEO's succession planning report for each of his direct reports and the executive management team;
- (c) ensuring the succession plan includes a process that would respond to an emergency situation which required an immediate replacement of the incumbent CEO or any of his direct reports; and
- (d) ensuring that the CEO has a succession planning process in place for other members of executives in key positions.

## Indebtedness of Directors and Officers

There is no outstanding indebtedness to the Company by any of its officers or directors. The Company's policy is not to make any loans to directors or officers.

## Additional Items

#### **Corporate Governance**

Under the rules of the Canadian Securities Administrators (the "CSA"), the Company is required to disclose information relating to its system of corporate governance. The Company's corporate governance disclosure is set out in Appendix A to this Circular. In addition to describing the Company's governance practices with reference to the CSA rules, Appendix A to this Circular indicates how these governance practices align with the requirements and U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission regulations under SOX and the standards of the NYSE.

## Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance

The Company has purchased, at its expense, directors' and officers' liability insurance policies to provide insurance against possible liabilities incurred by its directors and officers in their capacity as directors and officers of the Company. The premium for these policies for the period from December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2016 is \$1,059,238. The policies provide coverage of up to \$160 million per occurrence to a

maximum of \$160 million per annum. The policies provide for a corporate deductible of \$2,500,000 for losses in which the Company indemnifies such directors and officers. If the Company is unable to indemnify individual directors and officers, there is no deductible. The insurance applies in circumstances where the Company may not indemnify its directors and officers for their acts or omissions.

## Additional Information

The Company is a reporting issuer under the securities acts of each of the provinces of Canada and a registrant under the United States Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and is therefore required to file certain documents with various securities commissions. Additional financial information for the Company's most recently completed financial year is provided in the Audited Annual Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis referred to below. To obtain a copy of any of the following documents, please contact the Vice-President, Investor Relations:

- the Company's most recent Annual Information Form;
- the Company's Audited Annual Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2015;
- any interim financial statements of the Company subsequent to the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015; and
- this Management Information Circular.

Alternatively, these documents may be viewed at the Company's website at <u>www.agnicoeagle.com</u>, on the SEDAR website at <u>www.sedar.com</u> or on the EDGAR website at <u>www.sec.gov</u>.

Information concerning the Company's Audit Committee, required to be provided by National Instrument 51-110F1, can be found in the Company's Annual Information Form which may be obtained as described above.

## General

Management knows of no matters to come before the meeting other than matters referred to in this Circular. However, if any other matters which are not now known to management should properly come before the meeting, the proxy will be voted on such matters in accordance with the best judgment of the person or persons voting the proxy.

# Directors' Approval

The Board of Directors of the Company has approved the content and sending of this Management Information Circular.

March 11, 2016

R. GREGORY LAING General Counsel, Senior Vice-President, Legal and Corporate Secretary

## **APPENDIX A**

## STATEMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Board and management have been following the developments in corporate governance requirements and best practices standards in both Canada and the United States. As these requirements and practices have evolved, the Company has responded in a positive and proactive way by assessing its practices against these requirements and modifying, or targeting for modification, practices to bring them into compliance with these corporate governance requirements and best practices standards. The Company revises, from time to time, the Board Mandate and the charters for the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Corporate Governance Committee and the Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee to reflect the new and evolving corporate governance requirements and what it believes to be best practices standards in Canada and the United States.

The Board believes that effective corporate governance contributes to improved corporate performance and enhanced shareholder value. The Company's governance practices reflect the Board's assessment of the governance structure and process which can best serve to realize these objectives in the Company's particular circumstance. The Company's governance practices are subject to review and evaluation through the Board's Corporate Governance Committee to ensure that, as the Company's business evolves, changes in structure and process necessary to ensure continued good governance are identified and implemented.

The Company is required under the rules of the Canadian Securities Administrators (the "CSA") to disclose its corporate governance practices and provide a description of the Company's system of corporate governance. This Statement of Corporate Governance Practices has been prepared by the Board's Corporate Governance Committee and approved by the Board.

#### **Board of Directors**

#### Director Independence

The Board consists of twelve directors. The Board has made an affirmative determination that eleven of its twelve current members are "independent" within the meaning of the CSA rules and the standards of the New York Stock Exchange. With the exception of Mr. Boyd, all directors are independent of management. All directors are free from any interest or any business that could materially interfere with their ability to act as a director with a view to the best interests of the Company. In reaching this determination, the Board considered the circumstances and relationships with the Company and its affiliates of each of its directors. In determining that all directors is an officer or employee of the Company or party to any material contract with the Company and that none receives remuneration from the Company other than directors' fees and RSU grants for service on the Board. Mr. Boyd is considered related because he is an officer of the Company.

The Board may meet independently of management at the request of any director or may excuse members of management from all or a portion of any meeting where a potential conflict of interest arises or where otherwise appropriate. The Board also meets without management before or after each Board meeting, including after each Board meeting held to consider interim and annual financial statements. In 2015, the Board meeting, being seven separate occasions, including the four regularly scheduled quarterly meetings.

To promote the exercise of independent judgment by directors in considering transactions and agreements, any director or officer who has a material interest in the matter being considered may not be present for discussions relating to the matter and any such director may not participate in any vote on the matter.

Additional information on each director standing for election, including other public company boards on which they serve and their attendance record for all Board and Committee meetings during 2015, can be found on pages 5 to 10 of the Circular.

#### Chairman

Mr. Nasso is the Chairman of the Board and Mr. Boyd is the Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr. Nasso is not a member of management. The Board believes that the separation of the offices of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer enhances the ability of the Board to function independently of management and does not foresee that the offices of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer will be held by the same person.

The Board has adopted a position description for the Chairman of the Board. The Chairman's role is to provide leadership to directors in discharging their duties and obligations as set out in the mandate of the Board. The specific responsibilities of the Chairman include providing advice, counsel and mentorship to the Chief Executive Officer, appointing the Chair of each of the Board's committees and promoting the delivery of information to the members of the Board on a timely basis to keep them fully apprised of all matters which are material to them at all times. The Chairman's responsibilities also include scheduling, overseeing and presiding over meetings of the Board and presiding over meetings of the Company's shareholders.

### Board Mandate

The Board's mandate is to provide stewardship of the Company, to oversee the management of the Company's business and affairs, to maintain its strength and integrity, to oversee the Company's strategic direction, its organization structure and succession planning of senior management and to perform any other duties required by law. The Board's strategic planning process consists of an annual review of the Company's future business plans and, from time to time (and at least annually), a meeting focused on strategic planning matters. As part of this process, the Board reviews and approves the corporate objectives proposed by the Chief Executive Officer and advises management on the development of a corporate strategy to achieve those objectives. The Board also reviews the principal risks inherent in the Company's business, including environmental, industrial and financial risks, and assesses the systems to manage these risks. The Board also monitors the performance of senior management against the business plan through a periodic review process (at least every quarter) and reviews and approves promotion and succession matters.

The Board holds management responsible for the development of long-term strategies for the Company. The role of the Board is to review, question, validate and ultimately approve the strategies and policies proposed by management. The Board relies on management to perform the data gathering, analysis and reporting functions which are critical to the Board for effective corporate governance. In addition, the Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, the Senior Vice-President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer, the Senior Vice-President, Exploration and the Senior Vice-Presidents responsible for operational matters report to the Board at least every quarter on the Company's progress in the preceding quarter and on the strategic, operational and financial issues facing the Company.

Management is authorized to act, without Board approval, on all ordinary course matters relating to the Company's business. Management seeks the Board's prior approval for significant changes in the Company's affairs such as major capital expenditures, financing arrangements and significant acquisitions and divestitures. Board approval is required for any venture outside of the Company's existing businesses and for any change in senior management. Recommendations of committees of the Board require the approval of the full Board before being implemented. In addition, the Board oversees and reviews significant corporate plans and initiatives, including the annual business plans and budget and significant matters of corporate strategy or policy. The Company's authorization policy and risk management policy ensure compliance with good corporate governance practices. Both policies formalize controls over the management or other employees of the Company by stipulating internal approval processes for transactions, investments, commitments and expenditures and, in the case of the risk management policy, establishing objectives and guidelines for metal price hedging, foreign exchange and short-term investment risk management and insurance. The Board, directly and through its Audit Committee, also assesses the integrity of the Company's internal control and management information systems.

The Board oversees the Company's approach to communications with shareholders and other stakeholders and approves specific communications initiatives from time to time. The Company conducts an active investor relations program. The program involves responding to shareholder inquiries, briefing analysts and fund managers with respect to reported financial results and other announcements by the Company and meeting with individual investors and other stakeholders. Senior management reports regularly to the Board on these matters. The Board reviews and approves the Company's major communications with shareholders and the public, including quarterly and annual financial results, the annual report and the management information circular. The Board has approved a Disclosure Policy which establishes standards and procedures relating to contacts with analysts and investors, news releases, conference calls, disclosure of material information, trading restrictions and blackout periods.

The Board's mandate is posted on the Company's website at www.agnicoeagle.com.

# **Position Descriptions**

# Chief Executive Officer

The Board has adopted a position description for the Chief Executive Officer, who has full responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Company's business in accordance with the Company's strategic plan and current year operating and capital expenditure budgets as approved by the Board. In discharging his responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Company's business, subject to the oversight by the Board, the Chief Executive Officer's specific responsibilities include:

- providing leadership and direction to the other members of the Company's senior management team;
- fostering a corporate culture that promotes ethical practices and encourages individual integrity;
- maintaining a positive and ethical work climate that is conducive to attracting, retaining and motivating top-quality employees at all levels;
- working with the Chairman in determining the matters and materials that should be presented to the Board;
- together with the Chairman, developing and recommending to the Board a long-term strategy and vision for the Company that leads to enhancement of shareholder value;
- developing and recommending to the Board annual business plans and budgets that support the Company's long-term strategy;
- ensuring that the day-to-day business affairs of the Company are appropriately managed;
- consistently striving to achieve the Company's financial and operating goals and objectives;
- designing or supervising the design and implementation of effective disclosure and internal controls;
- maintaining responsibility for the integrity of the financial reporting process;
- seeking to secure for the Company a satisfactory competitive position within its industry;
- ensuring that the Company has an effective management team below the level of the Chief Executive Officer and has an active plan for management development and succession;
- ensuring, in cooperation with the Chairman and the Board, that there is an effective succession plan in place for the position of Chief Executive Officer; and
- serving as the primary spokesperson for the Company.

The Chief Executive Officer is to consult with the Chairman on matters of strategic significance to the Company and alert the Chairman on a timely basis of any material changes or events that may impact upon the risk profile, financial affairs or performance of the Company.

# Chairs of Board Committees

The Board has adopted written position descriptions for each of the Chairs of the Board's committees, which include the Audit Committee, the Corporate Governance Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee. The role of each of the Chairs is to

ensure the effective functioning of his or her committee and provide leadership to its members in discharging the mandate as set out in the committee's charter. The responsibilities of each Chair include, among others:

- establishing procedures to govern his or her committee's work and ensure the full discharge of its duties;
- chairing every meeting of his or her committee and encouraging free and open discussion at such meetings;
- · reporting to the Board on behalf of his or her committee; and
- attending every meeting of shareholders and responding to such questions from shareholders as may be put to the Chair of his or her committee.

Each of the Chairs is also responsible for carrying out other duties as requested by the Board, depending on need and circumstances.

## **Orientation and Continuing Education**

The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of orientation programs for new directors and continuing education for all directors.

The Company maintains a collection of director orientation materials, which include the Board Mandate, the charters of the Board's committees, a memorandum on the duties of a director of a public company and a glossary of mining and accounting terms, as well as copies of the Company's other corporate governance policies, strategic and financial plans, and the Company's most recent continuous disclosure filings. A copy of such materials is given to each director and updated periodically.

The Company holds periodic educational sessions with its directors and legal counsel to review and assess the Board's corporate governance policies. This allows new directors to become familiar with the corporate governance policies of the Company as they relate to its business. In addition, the Company provides extensive reports on relevant industry and market matters and on all operations to the directors at each quarterly Board meeting and endeavors to conduct yearly site tours for the directors at a different mine or project site each year.

For instance, during 2015, in addition to the quarterly Board and Committee meetings where comprehensive updates are provided, the Board attended a site visit (October 26 to 28) to the Kittila Mine in Finland (tours of the mine site and tailings facilities and presentations by mine management), attended an educational update session during the afternoon of July 28 (a presentation by a bank gold analyst on the industry, the gold equity markets and the positioning of the Company within the gold industry; and a comprehensive overview from the senior members of the Company's exploration group on the Amaruq project including mineral structures, work done to date and future potential) and attended a full day of management presentations on operational, development and exploration updates as well as financial and legal matters on December 16. Periodic briefings, site visits and development sessions also underpin and support the Board of Directors' work in monitoring and overseeing progress towards the Company's objectives and strategies and assist in continuously building directors' knowledge to ensure the Board of Directors and its Committees remain up to date with developments and trends within our business and operating segments, as well as developments within the markets and mining industry within which we operate.

Under the supervision of the Corporate Governance Committee, an annual review and assessment with each individual director is conducted that addresses the performance of the Board, the Board's committees and each of the directors. See "Assessment of Directors" below. These assessments help identify opportunities for continuing Board and director development. In addition, it is open to any director to take a continuing education course related to the skill and knowledge necessary to meet his or her obligations as a director at the expense of the Company.

## **Ethical Business Conduct**

The Board has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics and an Anti- Corruption and Anti-Bribery Policy, which provide a framework for directors, officers and employees on the conduct and ethical decision making integral to their work. In addition, the Board has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics for Consultants and Contractors. The Audit Committee is responsible for monitoring compliance with these codes of ethics and policy and any waivers or amendments thereto can only be made by the Board or a Board committee. These codes and the policy are available on www.sedar.com.

The Board has also adopted a Confidential Anonymous Complaint Reporting Policy, which provides procedures for officers and employees who believe that a violation of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics or Anti-Corruption and Anti-Bribery Policy has occurred to report this violation on a confidential and anonymous basis. Complaints can be made internally to the General Counsel, Senior Vice-President, Legal and Corporate Secretary or the Senior Vice- President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer. Complaints can also be made anonymously by telephone, e-mail or postal letter through a hotline provided by an independent third party service provider. The General Counsel, Senior Vice-President, Legal and Corporate Secretary periodically submits a report to the Audit Committee regarding the complaints, if any, received through these procedures.

The Board believes that providing a procedure for employees and officers to raise concerns about ethical conduct on an anonymous and confidential basis fosters a culture of ethical conduct within the Company.

#### **Nomination of Directors**

The Corporate Governance Committee, which is comprised entirely of independent directors, is responsible for participating in the recruitment and recommendation of new nominees for appointment or election to the Board. When considering a potential candidate, the Corporate Governance Committee considers the diversity, qualities and skills that the Board, as a whole, should have and assesses the competencies and skills of the current members of the Board, including diversity criteria established under the Board of Directors Diversity Policy as discussed in greater detail in the Circular under "Board of Directors Governance Matters". Based on the talent already represented on the Board, the Corporate Governance Committee then identifies the specific skills, personal qualities or experiences that a candidate should possess in light of the opportunities and risks facing the Company. The Corporate Governance Committee may maintain a list of potential director candidates for its future consideration and may engage outside advisors to assist in identifying potential candidates. Potential candidates are screened to ensure that they possess the requisite qualities, including integrity, business judgment and experience, business or professional expertise, independence from management, international experience, financial literacy, excellent communications skills, diversity and the ability to work well in a team situation. The Corporate Governance Committee also considers the existing commitments of a potential candidate to ensure that such candidate will be able to fulfill his or her duties as a Board member.

## Compensation

Remuneration is paid to the Company's directors based on several factors, including time commitments, risk, workload and responsibility demanded by their positions. The Compensation Committee periodically reviews and fixes the amount and composition of the compensation of directors. For a summary of remuneration paid to directors, please see "Section 2: Business of the Meeting — Compensation of Directors and Other Information" in the Circular and the description of the Compensation Committee below.

### **Board Committees**

The Board has four Committees: the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee, the Corporate Governance Committee and the Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee.

#### Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is composed entirely of directors who are unrelated to and independent from the Company (currently, Dr. Baker (Chair), Mr. Leiderman, Dr. Riley and Mr. Sokalsky), each of whom is financially literate, as the term is used in the CSA's Multilateral Instrument 52-110 — Audit Committees. In addition, Mr. Leiderman and Mr. Sokalsky are Chartered Accountants; Mr. Leiderman is currently in private practice and Mr. Sokalsky, while retired, was formerly the Chief Financial Officer of Barrick Gold Corporation and the Board has determined that both of them qualify as audit committee financial experts, as the term is defined in the rules of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). The education and experience of each member of the Audit Committee is set out under "Section 2: Business of the Meeting —

Nominees for Election to the Board of Directors" in the Circular. Fees paid to the Company's auditors, Ernst & Young LLP, are set out under "Section 2: Business of the Meeting — Appointment of Auditors" in the Circular. The Audit Committee met five times in 2015.

The Audit Committee has two primary objectives. The first is to advise the Board of Directors in its oversight responsibilities regarding:

- the quality and integrity of the Company's financial reports and information;
- the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- the effectiveness of the Company's internal controls for finance, accounting, internal audit, ethics and legal and regulatory compliance;
- the performance of the Company's auditing, accounting and financial reporting functions;
- the fairness of related party agreements and arrangements between the Company and related parties; and
- the independent auditors' performance, qualifications and independence.

The second primary objective of the Audit Committee is to prepare the reports required to be included in the management information circular in accordance with applicable laws or the rules of applicable securities regulatory authorities.

The Board has adopted an Audit Committee charter, which provides that each member of the Audit Committee must be unrelated to and independent from the Company as determined by the Board in accordance with the applicable requirements of the laws governing the Company, the stock exchanges on which the Company's securities are listed and applicable securities regulatory authorities. In addition, each member must be financially literate and at least one member of the Audit Committee must be an audit committee financial expert, as the term is defined in the rules of the SEC. The Audit Committee must pre-approve all audit and permitted non-audit services to be provided by the external auditors to the Company.

The Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing all financial statements prior to approval by the Board, all other disclosure containing financial information and all management reports which accompany any financial statements. The Audit Committee is also responsible for all internal and external audit plans, any recommendation affecting the Company's internal controls, the results of internal and external audits and any changes in accounting practices or policies. The Audit Committee reviews any accruals, provisions, estimates or related party transactions that have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements and any litigation, claim or other contingency that could have a material effect upon the Company's financial statements. In addition, the Audit Committee is responsible for assessing management's programs and policies relating to the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls over the Company's accounting and financial systems. The Audit Committee reviews and discusses with the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer the procedures undertaken in connection with their certifications for annual filings in accordance with the requirements of applicable securities regulatory authorities. The Audit Committee is also responsible for recommending to the Board the external auditor to be nominated for shareholder approval who will be responsible for preparing audited financial statements and completing other audit, review or attest services. The Audit Committee also recommends to the Board the compensation to be paid to the external auditor and directly oversees its work. The Company's external auditor reports directly to the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reports directly to the Board of Directors.

The Audit Committee is entitled to retain (at the Company's expense) and determine the compensation of any independent counsel, accountants or other advisors to assist the Audit Committee in its oversight responsibilities.

## **Compensation** Committee

The Compensation Committee is composed entirely of directors who are unrelated to and independent from the Company (currently, Mr. Gemmell (Chair), Ms. Celej, Mr. Roberts and Mr. Stockford). The Compensation Committee met six times in 2015.

The Compensation Committee is responsible for, among other things:

- recommending to the Board policies relating to compensation of the Company's executive officers;
- recommending to the Board the amount and composition of annual compensation to be paid to the Company's executive officers;
- matters relating to pension, option, restricted share unit ("RSU"), performance share unit ("PSU") and other incentive plans for the benefit of executive officers;
- administering the Stock Option Plan, RSU Plan and PSU Plan;
- reviewing and fixing the amount and composition of annual compensation to be paid to members of the Board and committees; and
- reviewing and assessing the design and competitiveness of the Company's compensation and benefits programs generally.

The Compensation Committee reports directly to the Board. The charter of the Compensation Committee provides that each member of the Compensation Committee must be unrelated and independent.

The Board considers Messrs. Gemmell and Stockford particularly well- qualified to serve on the Compensation Committee given the expertise they have accrued during their business careers: Mr. Gemmell as a senior manager of divisions of a major financial services company (where part of his duties included assessing personnel and setting compensation rates) and Mr. Stockford as a former senior executive of an international mining company (where part of his duties included input on the establishment of appropriate compensation structures for the organization).

#### **Corporate Governance Committee**

The Corporate Governance Committee is composed entirely of directors who are unrelated to and independent from the Company (currently, Mr. Voutilainen (Chair), Mr. Nasso and Mr. Roberts). The Corporate Governance Committee met four times in 2015.

The Corporate Governance Committee is responsible for, among other things:

- evaluating the Company's governance practices;
- developing its response to the Company's Statement of Corporate Governance and recommending changes to the Company's governance structures or processes as it may from time to time consider necessary or desirable;
- reviewing on an annual basis the charters of the Board and of each committee of the Board and recommending any changes;
- assessing annually the effectiveness of the Board as a whole and recommending any changes;
- reviewing on a periodic basis the composition of the Board to ensure that there remain an appropriate number of independent directors; and
- participating in the recruitment and recommendation of new nominees for appointment or election to the Board.

The Corporate Governance Committee also provides a forum for a discussion of matters not readily discussed in a full Board meeting. The charter of the Corporate Governance Committee provides that each member of the Corporate Governance Committee must be independent, as such term is defined in the CSA rules.

## Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee

The Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee is comprised of three directors who are unrelated to and independent from the Company (currently Ms. McCombe (Chair), Mr. Nasso and

Mr. Stockford). The Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee met four times in 2015.

The Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee is responsible for, among other things:

- monitoring and reviewing sustainable development, health, safety and environmental policies, principles, practices and processes;
- overseeing sustainable development, health, safety and environmental performance; and
- monitoring and reviewing current and future regulatory issues relating to sustainable development, health, safety and the environment.

The Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee reports directly to the Board and provides a forum to review sustainable development, health, safety and environmental issues in a more thorough and detailed manner than could be adopted by the full Board. The Health, Safety, Environment and Sustainable Development Committee charter provides that a majority of the members of the Committee be unrelated and independent.

## Assessment of Directors

The Company's Corporate Governance Committee (see description of the Corporate Governance Committee above) is responsible for the assessment of the effectiveness of the Board as a whole and participates in the recruitment and recommendation of new nominees for appointment or election to the Board of Directors.

Each of the directors participates in a detailed annual assessment of the Board and Board committees. The assessment addresses performance of the Board, each Board committee and individual directors, including through a peer to peer evaluation. A broad range of topics is covered such as Board and Board committee structure and composition, succession planning, risk management, director competencies and Board processes and effectiveness. The assessment helps identify opportunities for continuing Board and director development and also forms the basis of continuing Board participation. In the event that the assessment of an individual director determines that such director is not contributing to the effectiveness of the Board, the Company would utilize the appropriate provisions of the resignation policy (adopted in 2007) which would be applicable in such circumstances.

# **APPENDIX B:**

# STOCK OPTION PLAN RESOLUTION

# BE IT RESOLVED AS AN ORDINARY RESOLUTION THAT:

- 1. the Stock Option Plan of the Company is hereby amended to increase the maximum number of common shares issuable upon exercise of options by 3,500,000 from 27,800,000 to 31,300,000;
- 2. the Stock Option Plan of the Company is hereby amended; and
- 3. any officer or director of the Company is authorized and directed on behalf of the Company to execute and deliver all such documents and to do all such acts as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to this resolution.

## **APPENDIX C:**

## AMENDED AND RESTATED STOCK OPTION PLAN

## 1. Purpose

The Purpose of this stock option plan ("Plan") is to encourage ownership of common shares (the "Shares") of Agnico Eagle Mines Limited (the "Corporation") by officers, employees and service providers being those persons who are primarily responsible for the management and profitable growth of the Corporation's business, by providing additional incentive for superior performance by such persons and to enable the Corporation to attract and retain valued officers, employees and service providers.

# 2. Interpretation

For the purpose of this Plan, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

"Black Out Period" means any period during which a policy of the Corporation prevents an insider of the Corporation from trading in the Shares;

"Committee" means the Compensation Committee appointed by the Board of Directors of the Corporation;

"Consultant" means an individual (including an individual whose services are contracted through a personal holding corporation) engaged to provide ongoing management or consulting services for the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation;

"Eligible Assignee" means, in respect of any Eligible Person, such person's Spouse, minor children and minor grandchildren, a trust governed by a registered retirement savings plan of an Eligible Person, an Eligible Corporation or an Eligible Family Trust;

"Eligible Corporation" means a corporation controlled by an Eligible Person and of which all other shareholders are Eligible Assignees;

"Eligible Family Trust" means a trust of which the Eligible Person is a trustee and of which all beneficiaries are Eligible Assignees;

"Eligible Person" means, subject to all applicable laws, any employee or officer of or Consultant to the Corporation or any subsidiary of the Corporation or a Grandfathered Director;

"Grandfathered Director" means any director of the Corporation who is not otherwise an employee or officer of the Corporation and who holds unexercised options granted to the director under the Plan prior to July 1, 2011;

"Market Price" shall have the following meaning:

- (a) "Market Price", in respect of options to be granted with an Exercise Price denominated in Canadian dollars, shall mean, at any date, the closing sale price for board lots of the Shares on the TSX on such day. If the Shares did not trade on the TSX on such day, Market Price shall be the closing sale price for board lots of the Shares on the NYSE on such day converted into Canadian dollars at the rate at which United States dollars may be exchanged into Canadian dollars using the inverse Noon Buying Rate. If the Shares did not trade on the TSX or NYSE on such day, Market Price shall be the closing sale price for board lots of the Shares on such stock exchange in Canada on which the Shares are listed on such day as may be selected by the Committee for such purpose. If the Shares do not trade on such day on any such stock exchange, the Market Price shall be the average of the bid and ask prices for board lots of the Shares at the close of trading on the TSX on such date; or
- (b) "Market Price", in respect of options to be granted with an Exercise Price denominated in United States dollars, shall mean, at any date, the closing sale price for board lots of the Shares on the NYSE on such day. If the Shares did not trade on the NYSE on such day, Market Price shall be the closing sale price for board lots of the Shares on the TSX on such day converted into United States dollars at the rate at which Canadian dollars may be exchanged into United States dollars using the Noon Buying Rate. If

the Shares do not trade on such day on either such stock exchange, the Market Price shall be the average of the bid and ask prices for board lots of the Shares at the close of trading on the NYSE on such day.

If such Shares are not listed and posted for trading on any stock exchange, the Market Price in respect thereof shall be the fair market value of such Shares as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion;

"Non-Management Eligible Person" shall have the meaning ascribed thereto in section 8;

"Noon Buying Rate" means the noon buying rate in the City of New York for cable transfers in Canadian dollars as certified for customs purposes by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, or, in the event such rate is not quoted or published by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, shall be the exchange rate determined by reference to such other publicly available service for displaying exchange rates as may be determined by the Committee;

"NYSE" means the New York Stock Exchange;

"OBCA" means the Business Corporations Act (Ontario), as amended from time to time;

"Outstanding Issue" means the number of Shares outstanding on a non-diluted basis;

"Spouse" shall have the meaning given to it in the Income Tax Act (Canada);

"subsidiary" shall have the meaning given to it in the Securities Act (Ontario); and

"TSX" means The Toronto Stock Exchange.

# 3. Administration

The Plan shall be administered by the Committee, which shall consist of not fewer than three directors of the Corporation. Vacancies on the Committee, howsoever caused, shall be filed by the Board of Directors of the Corporation. The Committee shall have full authority to interpret the Plan and to make any such rules and regulations and establish such procedures as it deems appropriate for the administration of the Plan, taking into consideration the recommendations of management. The decisions of the Committee shall be binding and conclusive for all purposes and upon all persons.

# 4. Number of Shares Reserved

The maximum number of Shares which may be reserved for issuance under the Plan shall be 31,300,000 Shares, subject to adjustment in accordance with section 10 which number may only be increased with the approval of the shareholders of the Corporation. The maximum number of Shares which may be reserved for issuance to any one person pursuant to options (under the Plan or otherwise), warrants, share purchase plans or other compensation arrangements shall:

- (a) not exceed 5% of the Outstanding Issue. Any Shares subject to an option granted under the Plan which for any reason is cancelled or terminated without having been exercised shall again be available to be granted under the Plan. All Shares issued pursuant to the exercise of options granted under the Plan will be so issued as fully paid common shares of the Corporation; and
- (b) notwithstanding section 4(a),
  - (i) the number of Shares which may be issuable to insiders of the Corporation pursuant to options (under the Plan or otherwise), warrants, share purchase plans or other compensation arrangements, at any time, cannot exceed 10% of Outstanding Issue; and
  - (ii) the number of Shares issued to insiders of the Corporation pursuant to options (under the Plan or otherwise), warrants, share purchase plans or other compensation arrangements, within any one year period, cannot exceed 10% of the Outstanding Issue.

# 5. Expiry Date

Options granted under the Plan must expire not later than five years after the date the option was granted. Each option shall be subject to earlier termination as provided in paragraph 7(d) of the Plan.

# 6. Participation

Options shall be granted under the Plan to Eligible Persons (other than Grandfathered Directors) as shall be designated from time to time by the Committee, Eligible Corporations and Eligible Family Trusts and shall be subject to the rules and regulations of any stock exchange upon which the Shares are listed for trading. For certainty, no options can be granted under the Plan to any director of the Corporation who is not otherwise an employee or officer of the Corporation and all Grandfathered Directors shall cease to participate in the Plan effective immediately on the exercise or expiry of all outstanding options held by the Grandfathered Director.

# 7. Terms and Conditions of Options

The terms and conditions of options granted under the Plan shall be set forth in written option agreements between the Corporation and the optionees. Such terms and conditions shall include the following and such other provisions, not inconsistent with the Plan, as may be deemed advisable by the Committee:

- (a) **Exercise Price:** The exercise price of an option granted under the Plan shall be fixed by the Committee which price shall not be less than the Market Price of the Shares on the trading day immediately preceding the date of the grant. The Committee may also determine that the exercise price per Share may escalate at a specified rate dependent upon the year in which any option to purchase Shares may be exercised by the optionee.
- (b) **Payment:** The full purchase price of Shares purchased under the option shall be paid in cash upon the exercise thereof in the currency in which the Exercise Price is denominated. A holder of an option shall have none of the rights of a shareholder until the Shares are issued to him or her.
- (c) **Exercise of Options:** The Committee may determine when an option will become exercisable and may determine that the option shall be exercisable in installments on such terms as to timing of vesting or otherwise as the Committee deems advisable provided that options granted under the Plan shall vest not more quickly than, in equal installments (computed in each case to the nearest full share), on each of the date of grant of the Option and each anniversary of the date of grant of the Option up to and including the second last anniversary date of the grant. Except as provided in paragraph 7(d) hereof, no option may be exercised unless that optionee is then an Eligible Person. The Plan shall not confer upon the optionee any right with respect to continuation of employment by the Corporation.
- (d) **Termination of Options:** Any option granted pursuant hereto, to the extent not validly exercised, will terminate on the earliest of the following dates:
  - (i) the date of expiration specified in the option agreement, being not later than five years after the date the option was granted;
  - (ii) subject to subparagraph (d)(iv) below, 30 days after the date an optionee ceases to be an Eligible Person for any reason whatsoever other than death;
  - (iii) twelve months after the date of the optionee's death during which period the option may be exercised only by the optionee's legal representative or the person or persons to whom the deceased optionee's rights under the option shall pass by will or the applicable laws of descent and distribution, and only to the extent that the optionee would have been entitled to exercise it at the time of his death; and
  - (iv) where the optionee is a Grandfathered Director, four years from the date of the Grandfather Director's retirement or resignation, subject to any resolution that may be passed by the Board of Directors of the Corporation on the recommendation of the Committee shortening such term, and provided that in no event shall any option granted pursuant hereto expire later than five years after the date the option was granted.

- (e) Assignment to Eligible Assignees: Subject to obtaining approval in advance from the Corporation and from each stock exchange on which shares of the Corporation are listed and which reserves the right to approve such assignments, Eligible Persons may assign options granted to them under the Plan to Eligible Assignees and Eligible Assignees may, in turn, assign such options to other Eligible Assignees or the original optionee. The original optionee under the Plan must be an Eligible Person at the time of the assignment. Notwithstanding any such assignment, all options granted under the Plan shall be deemed to be the option of the original optionee for the purposes of applying the rules and policies of the stock exchanges on which shares of the Corporation are listed. No consideration may be given to any assignee in connection with any assignment of options granted under the Plan. Subject to the foregoing, no options shall be transferable by the optionee other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution and shall be exercisable during the optionee's lifetime only by him or her.
- (f) **Applicable Laws or Regulations:** The Corporation's obligation to sell and deliver Shares under each option is subject to the compliance by the Corporation and any optionee with applicable securities laws and the requirements of regulatory authorities having jurisdiction and is also subject to the acceptance for listing of the Shares which may be issued in exercise thereof by each stock exchange upon which Shares of the Corporation are listed for trading.
- (g) Maximum Number of Options Granted Per Fiscal Year: The maximum number of options which may be granted under the Plan in any fiscal year of the Corporation may not exceed 2% of the Outstanding Issue immediately prior to the grant of such options.

# 8. Loans to Non-Management Eligible Persons

Subject to Section 20 of the OBCA or any successor or similar legislation and other applicable laws, the Corporation may, at any time and from time to time, lend money (on a non-recourse or limited recourse basis or otherwise) or provide guarantees or other support arrangements to assist an Eligible Person who is not a Grandfathered Director or officer of the Corporation (a "Non-Management Eligible Person") to fund all or a part of the purchase price for Shares being purchased pursuant to an option granted to a Non-Management Eligible Person under the Plan on such terms and conditions as the Corporation may determine, provided that each loan made to such Non-Management Eligible Person shall become due and payable in full on the date a Non-Management Eligible Person becomes a director or officer of the Corporation.

# 9. Compulsory Acquisition or Going Private Transaction

If and whenever there shall be a compulsory acquisition of the Shares of the Corporation following a takeover bid or issuer bid pursuant to Part XV of the OBCA or any successor or similar legislation, then following the date upon which the takeover bid or issuer bid expires, an optionee shall be entitled to receive, and shall accept, for the same exercise price, in lieu of the number of Shares to which such optionee was theretofore entitled to purchase upon the exercise of his or her options, the aggregate amount of cash, shares, other securities or other property which such optionee would have been entitled to receive as a result of such bid if he or she had tendered such number of Shares to this bidder.

# **10.** Certain Adjustments

In the event:

- (a) of any change in the Shares through subdivision, consolidation, reclassification, amalgamation, merger or otherwise;
- (b) of any stock dividend to holders of Shares;
- (c) that any rights are granted to all holders of Shares to purchase Shares at prices substantially below fair market value;
- (d) of any distribution of evidences of indebtedness or assets of the Corporation (excluding dividends paid in the ordinary course) to all holders of Shares; or

(e) that as a result of any recapitalization, merger, consolidation or otherwise, the Shares are converted into or exchangeable for any other securities;

then in any such case, subject to prior approval of the relevant stock exchanges, the number or kind of shares reserved for issuance and available for options under the Plan, the number or kind of shares subject to outstanding options and the exercise price per option shall be proportionally adjusted by the Committee to prevent substantial dilution or enlargement of the rights granted to, or available for, holders of options as compared to holders of Shares.

## 11. Black Out Period

Notwithstanding anything contained in the Plan or any option issued under the Plan, if the date on which an option expires occurs during, or within 10 days after the last day of a Black Out Period or other trading restriction imposed by the Corporation, in each case, that is applicable to the holder of the option, the date of termination or expiry of such option will be the last day of that 10-day period.

## 12. Amendment and Discontinuance of Plan

- (a) The Board of Directors of the Corporation may, insofar as permitted by law and subject to any required approval of any stock exchange or other authority, from time to time, without notice to or approval of the shareholders, amend or revise the terms of the Plan or discontinue the Plan at any time; provided, however, that no amendment or revisions may, without the consent of the optionee, in any manner adversely affect the rights of the optionee under any option theretofore granted under the Plan. Examples of the types of amendments that the Board of Directors of the Corporation may make without shareholder approval include, with limitation, the following:
  - (i) amendments of a "housekeeping" nature, including any amendment for the purpose of curing any ambiguity, error or omission in the Plan or to correct or supplement any provision of the Plan that is inconsistent with any other provision hereof;
  - (ii) amendments necessary to comply with applicable law, including, without limitation, the rules, regulations and policies of the TSX;
  - (iii) amendments respecting administration of the Plan;
  - (iv) any amendment to the vesting provisions of the Plan or any option issued under the Plan which does not entail an extension beyond the originally scheduled expiry date for any such option;
  - (v) any amendment to the early termination provisions of the Plan or any option issued under the plan, whether or not such option is held by an insider, provided such amendment does not entail an extension beyond the originally scheduled expiry date for any such option;
  - (vi) the addition or modification of a cashless exercise feature, payable in cash or common shares of the Corporation, which provides for a full deduction of the number of underlying common shares from the Plan reserve;
  - (vii) amendments necessary to suspend or terminate the Plan; or
  - (viii) any other amendment, whether fundamental or otherwise, not described in this subsection
- (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), without approval of the shareholders, no amendment or revision shall:
  - (i) increase the maximum number of Shares reserved for issuance under the Plan;
  - (ii) reduce the exercise price for any option;
  - (iii) extend the term of an option;
  - (iv) increase any limit on grants of options to insiders of the Corporation set out in the Plan;
  - (v) amend section 7(e) or the definitions of "Eligible Assignee", "Eligible Corporation", "Eligible Family Trust" or "Eligible Person";

- (vi) permit the granting of options under the Plan to any director of the Corporation who is not otherwise an employee or officer of the Corporation; or
- (vii) grant additional powers to the Board of Directors of the Corporation to amend the Plan or entitlements without the approval of shareholders.

# APPENDIX D

# ADVISORY RESOLUTION ON APPROACH TO EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

# BE IT RESOLVED AS AN ADVISORY RESOLUTION THAT:

1. on an advisory basis and not to diminish the role and responsibilities of the Board of Directors of the Company, the approach to executive compensation disclosed in this Circular is hereby accepted.



