# NOVO RESOURCES CORP.

***(TSX: NVO; OTCQX: NSRPF)***

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

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## FOR THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2021

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## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis ("**MD&A**") of the results of operations and financial condition of Novo Resources Corp. (the "**Company**" or "**Novo**"), prepared as of August 10, 2021, should be read in conjunction with the condensed consolidated interim financial statements of Novo for the six months ended June 30, 2021 and 2020 (the "**Q2 Financial Statements**") and accompanying notes thereto. The Q2 Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with IAS 34 *International Financial Reporting* ("**IAS 34**") as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("**IASB**") and this MD&A includes the results of the Company's subsidiaries, Novo Resources (USA) Corp., Conglomerate Gold Exploration (B.V.I.) Ltd., Karratha Gold Exploration (B.V.I.) Ltd., Conglomerate Gold Exploration Pty. Ltd., Nullagine Gold Pty. Ltd., Beatons Creek Gold Pty. Ltd., Grant's Hill Gold Pty. Ltd., Karratha Gold Pty. Ltd., Rocklea Gold Pty. Ltd., Meentheena Gold Pty. Ltd., Farno-McMahon Pty. Ltd., and Millennium Minerals Pty. Ltd. ("**Millennium**"). All figures in this MD&A are in Canadian dollars unless stated otherwise.

In this MD&A:

"**Q1 2021**" means the three months ended March 31, 2021;

"**Q2 2021**" means the six months ended June 30, 2021; and

"**Fiscal 2020**" means the 11-month fiscal year ended December 31, 2020.

All amounts are expressed in Canadian dollars, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars ($'000), unless otherwise noted. Additional information relating to the Company, including the Company's annual information form for the eleven-month period ended December 31, 2020, is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

Certain non-IFRS financial performance measures are included in this MD&A. The Company believes that these measures, in addition to measures prepared in accordance with IFRS, provide readers with an improved ability to evaluate the Company's underlying performance and compare its results to other companies. These measures are intended to provide additional information and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with IFRS. These measures do not have any standardized meaning prescribed under IFRS, and therefore may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers. The non-IFRS financial performance measures included in this MD&A are average realized gold price and working capital. Refer to the *Non-IFRS Measures* section for further details and reconciliations of such non-IFRS measures.

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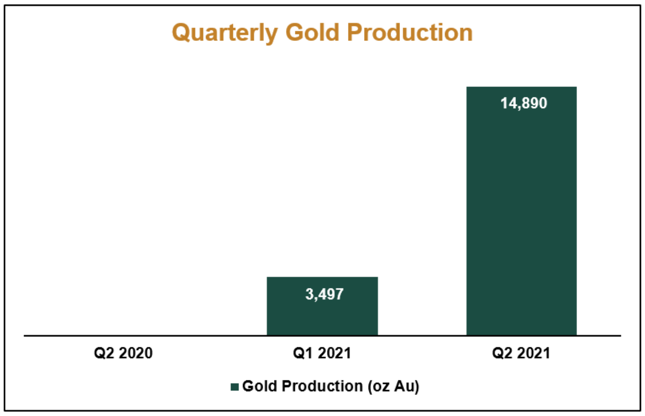


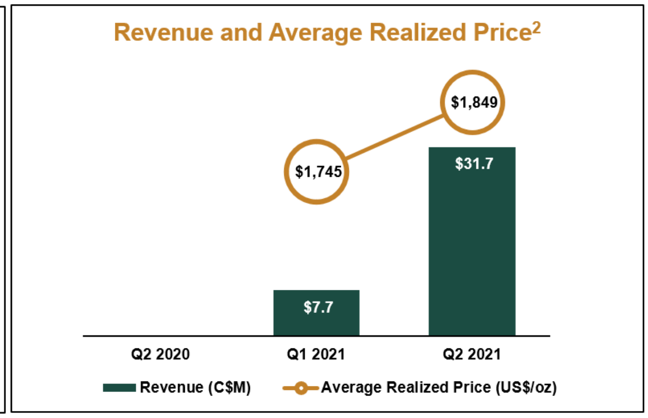


- **No lost time injuries at any of the Company's projects, including the Beatons Creek conglomerate gold project in the Nullagine region of Western Australia (the "Beatons Creek Project")**. The Company's employees worked 164,342 hours with no lost-time injuries during the second quarter 2021.
- **Minimal impact to operations and exploration from the novel coronavirus** ("**COVID-19**"). Pursuant to a flight sharing arrangement with Roy Hill Holdings Pty Ltd[1] ("**Roy Hill**"), additional protocols and procedures have been implemented to protect the health and safety of the Company's workforce and the Pilbara communities in which the Company's workforce operates.
- **Steadily increasing gold production of 14,890 ounces in the second quarter 2021**, compared to nil ounces in the second quarter 2020 when the Company was not yet in production. This also represents a 326% increase over gold production of 3,497 ounces in the first quarter 2021.
- **Record revenue of $31.7 million from the sale of 13,958 ounces of gold in the second quarter 2021**, compared to nil revenue in the second quarter 2020 when the Company was not yet in production. Revenue in the second quarter 2021 represents a 312% increase over the first quarter 2021, driven by the Company's continued ramp up of the Beatons Creek Project and a 6% increase in the average realized price[2] of gold to $2,270 (AUD $2,401 / USD $1,849) per ounce.
- **Cash and cash equivalents increased to $46.3 million as at June 30, 2021** from $21 million as at March 31, 2021. In addition to the Company's growing revenue, the Company amended its US$60 million credit facility (the "**Credit Facility**") with Sprott Resource Lending Corp. and Sprott Private Resources Lending II (Collector), LP (collectively, "**Sprott**") and drew down an additional US$5 million in early April 2021[3]. In addition, the Company closed a brokered private placement (the "**Offering**") of special warrants ("**Special Warrants**") in May 2021 to raise net proceeds of approximately $24.6 million by the issuance of 10,353,000 Special Warrants at a price of $2.55 per Special Warrant[4].

1 Refer to the Company's news release dated July 7, 2021.
2 Refer to *Non-IFRS Measures* below.
3 Refer to the Company's news release dated April 9, 2021.
4 Refer to the Company's news releases dated April 14, 2021 and May 4, 2021.

- **Exploration continues at the Company's Beatons Creek Extended and Skyfall conglomerate gold targets which potentially extend or directly overlay the Beatons Creek Project resource**[5]. The Company continues to ramp up its exploration efforts across the Pilbara region of Western Australia and the Bendigo region of Victoria after committing to an AUD $12 million exploration budget through 2021[6].

## OVERVIEW OF NOVO

The Company was incorporated on October 28, 2009 pursuant to the *Business Corporations Act* (British Columbia) as Galliard Resources Corp. On June 27, 2011, the Company changed its name from Galliard Resources Corp. to Novo Resources Corp. The Company's shares trade on the Toronto Stock Exchange (the "**TSX**") under the ticker symbol "NVO" and in the United States on the OTC market's OTCQX International Exchange under the symbol "NSRPF".

Novo is engaged primarily in the business of evaluating, acquiring, exploring, and developing natural resource properties with a focus on gold. On March 31, 2021, the Company formalized a decision to mine its flagship Beatons Creek Project. In addition, the Company is exploring and developing its 14,000 square kilometre tenure package across the Pilbara region of Western Australia, along with a number of joint ventures in the Bendigo region of Victoria. The Company's head office is located at Suite 880, 580 Hornby Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 3B6, Canada. The Company's operational office and corporate staff are located at Level 1, 46 Ventnor Avenue, West Perth, Western Australia, 6005, Australia.

## SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS DEVELOPMENTS

### Continued Ramp Up at Beatons Creek Project

The Company continues to advance its Beatons Creek Project towards commercial production subsequent to achieving its inaugural gold pour during Q1 2021. During Q2 2021, the Company continued to increase its mining, processing, and production rates which culminated in record production of 14,890 ounces of gold, of which 5,898 ounces were produced in June 2021. Head grade also continued to increase, with 134,191 tonnes of mineralized material processed in June 2021 at a grade of 1.45g/t gold[1].

Gold production continued to increase to the date of this MD&A, with 8,589 ounces of gold produced and 148,000 tonnes of mineralized material processed at a grade of 1.94g/t gold in July 2021. Gold recovery was 95.2% and is stabilizing around expected levels of approximately 95%. Mining rates

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5 Refer to the technical report prepared pursuant to National Instrument 43-101 *Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects* ("**NI 43-101**"). The independent technical report, entitled "Preliminary Economic Assessment on the Beatons Creek Gold Project, Western Australia" (the "**2021 Technical Report**"), with an effective date of February 5, 2021 and an issue date of April 30, 2021, was prepared for Novo by Jason Froud (BSc Hons, Grad Dip (Fin Mkts), MAIG), Andrew Grubb (BE (Mining), FAusIMM), and Ian Glacken (BSc Hons, MSc (Mining Geology), MSc (Geostatistics) PGCert (comp), DIC, FAusIMM(CP), FAIG, CEng, MIMMM) of Optiro Pty Ltd of Perth, Australia, and William George Gosling (BE (Extractive Metallurgy), FAusIMM) of GR Engineering Services, also of Perth, Australia (collectively, the "**QPs**"). The QP's are qualified persons as defined under NI 43-101. The 2021 Technical Report is available under the Company's profile on the SEDAR website at www.sedar.com (filing date: April 30, 2021) and on the Company's website at www.novoresources.com.

6 Refer to the Company's news release dated June 3, 2021.

decreased in July 2021 because some of the Company's contract mining fleet was reallocated to assist with initial preparatory works for an upcoming tailings storage facility expansion[7].

Intertek Testing Services (Australia) Pty Ltd ("**Intertek**") has now fully commissioned two Chrysos PhotonAssay machines at its Maddington (Perth) facility[8] and processed a total of 68,235 PhotonAssays (including QA/QC samples) in July 2021[7]. This compares favourably against average sample returns per month over the past six months. Assuming that July's processing rates continue, the Company expects that its backlog of grade control samples will be cleared by the end of October 2021 which will significantly improve the Company's ability to optimize recovery of mineralized material at the Beatons Creek Project.

Intertek have also been selected to design and manage a site-based sample preparation laboratory at the Beatons Creek Project. The lab setup is proceeding rapidly, with commissioning expected to be completed by mid-August. To date the crusher/dryer facility, ducting refurbishment, and pad extensions have all been completed, with lab personnel expected to arrive on site by mid-August.

The Company most recently announced an updated mineral resource estimate in March 2021[5] outlining indicated mineral resources comprising 6.6 million tonnes at 2.1 g/t Au for 457,000 oz contained gold, with additional inferred mineral resources of 4.3 million tonnes at 3.2 g/t Au for 446,000 oz contained gold (the "**Beatons Creek Resource**"). Reference should be made to the 2021 Technical Report which is available under the Company's profile on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

The Beatons Creek Resource is as follows, excluding any Beatons Creek Resource material depletion in 2021:

**Open Pit Mineral Resources (oxide and fresh mineralization)**

| Classification | Cut-off Grade Au g/t | Tonnes (x1000) | Grade Au g/t | Ounces Troy Au (x1000) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indicated | 0.5 | 6,645 | 2.1 | 457 |
| Inferred | 0.5 | 3,410 | 2.7 | 294 |

7 Refer to the Company's news release dated August 5, 2021.
8 Refer to the Company's news release dated May 18, 2021.

**Open Pit Mineral Resources (oxide mineralization)**

| Classification | Cut-off Grade Au g/t | Tonnes (x1000) | Grade Au g/t | Ounces Troy Au (x1000) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indicated | 0.5 | 4,500 | 1.9 | 272 |
| Inferred | 0.5 | 765 | 1.8 | 44 |

**Open Pit Mineral Resources (fresh mineralization)**

| Classification | Cut-off Grade Au g/t | Tonnes (x1000) | Grade Au g/t | Ounces Troy Au (x1000) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indicated | 0.5 | 2,145 | 2.7 | 185 |
| Inferred | 0.5 | 2,645 | 2.9 | 250 |

**Underground Mineral Resources (fresh mineralization)**

| Classification | Cut-off Grade Au g/t | Tonnes (x1000) | Grade Au g/t | Ounces Troy Au (x1000) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inferred | 3.5 | 885 | 5.3 | 152 |

**Total Mineral Resources (oxide and fresh mineralization; open pit and underground)**

| Classification | Cut-off Grade Au g/t | Tonnes (x1000) | Grade Au g/t | Ounces Troy Au (x1000) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indicated | 0.5 | 6,645 | 2.1 | 457 |
| Inferred | 0.5, 3.5 | 4,295 | 3.2 | 446 |

Notes:
1. Open pit mineral resources contain oxide and fresh mineralization within an optimized shell and constrained within a mineralized wireframe.
2. An optimized Whittle pit shell was estimated with the following indicative parameters:
    (a) USD $1,311 (AUD $1,850) / troy ounce;
    (b) Metallurgical recoveries of 95% oxide and 90% fresh;

(c) SGs applied: Oxide 2.40 t/m$^3$ and fresh 2.85 t/m$^3$ based on measurements taken on drill core;
(d) USD $2.40 / tonne mining cost for oxide and USD $3.68 / tonne for fresh;
(e) USD $17.00 / tonne oxide and USD $19.00 / tonne fresh processing cost; and
(f) USD $3.00 / tonne general and administrative costs.

3. Underground mineral resources contain fresh mineralization outside the optimized shell. Underground resources are constrained to discrete areas of contiguous mineralization. NB: cut-off grade for underground resource has been increased from 2.0 g/t Au to 3.5 g/t Au for the Beatons Creek Technical Report.
4. Columns may not total due to rounding.
5. One troy ounce is equal to 31.1034768 grams.

***Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability.***

As at the date of this MD&A, the Beatons Creek Project had not achieved commercial production. The decision by Novo to produce at the Beatons Creek Project was not based on a feasibility study to define mineral reserves demonstrating economic and technical viability and, as a result, there is an increased uncertainty of achieving any particular level of recovery of minerals or the cost of such recovery, including increased risks associated with developing a commercially mineable deposit. Historically, such projects have a much higher risk of economic and technical failure. There is no guarantee that anticipated production costs will be achieved. Failure to achieve the anticipated production costs would have a material adverse impact on Novo's cash flow and future profitability.

Management considers several factors (the "**Commercial Production Factors**") in determining when a mining property has reached levels of intended operating capacity, including:

(a) when the mine is substantially complete and ready for its intended use;
(b) the mine has the ability to sustain ongoing production at a steady or increasing level;
(c) the mine has reached a level of pre-determined percentage of design capacity;
(d) mineral recoveries are at or near the expected production level; and
(e) a reasonable period of testing of the mine, plant and equipment has been completed.

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognized when control of the goods or services is transferred to the customer at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The Company has concluded that it is the principal in its revenue contracts because it typically controls the goods before transferring them to the customer.

Sales of gold and silver are recorded at the spot price on the date of sale.

Revenue from the sale of gold and silver during mine development is recognised in the condensed interim consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income or loss.

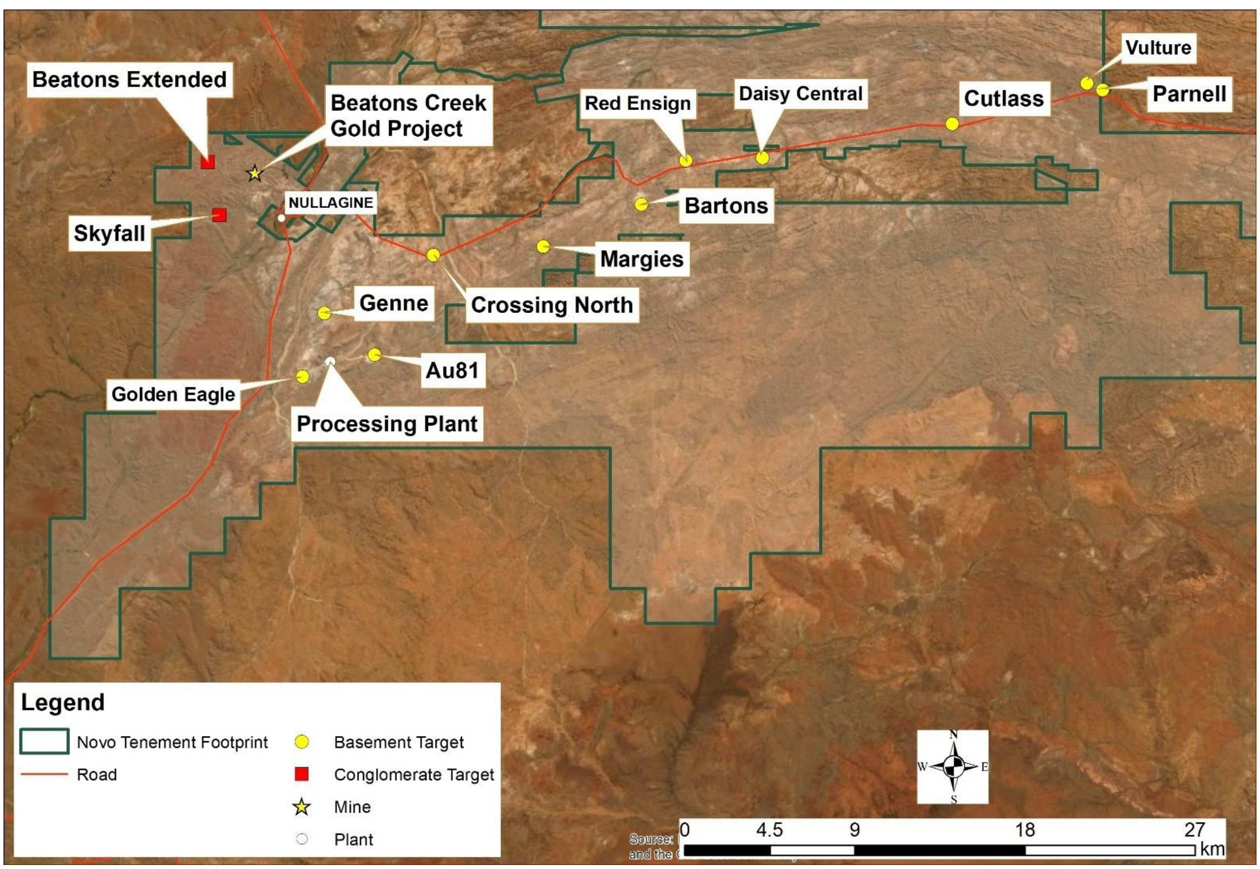
As expenditures incurred during the development phase of the mine relate to both commissioning the mine and the production of inventory, there is significant judgement involved in allocating expenditures between mine development expenditures and the cost of inventory. In determining the costs to be allocated to inventory sold during the period, consideration is given to the estimated mining and processing costs per tonne expected to be achieved when the mine is operating in a manner as intended by management.

Once in commercial production (if at all), the capitalization of certain mine development and construction costs ceases. Subsequent costs are either regarded as forming part of the cost of inventory or expensed. However, any costs relating to mining asset additions or improvements, or mineable reserve development, are assessed to determine whether capitalization is appropriate. As at June 30, 2021, the Beatons Creek Project had not achieved commercial production.

**Commencement of 2021 Exploration Program**

In June 2021, the Company announced that it had committed AUD $12 million to exploration efforts throughout 2021. Exploration targeting programs were refined early in Q2 2021 and have ramped up across all Novo Pilbara projects, with drill testing of several new conglomerate and/or basement (orogenic) targets underway.

An immediate focus for reverse circulation ("**RC**") drilling programs has seen discovery of potential additional oxide mineralized material for the Beatons Creek Project and greater Nullagine gold project ("**NGP**") from near-mine targets. Exploration programs accelerated during June 2021 on both conglomerate targets at Beatons Extended and Skyfall, and orogenic basement targets at Margies, Cutlass and AU81 north where drilling continues, but assays are still awaited. Several additional high priority targets more recently delineated within the NGP by detailed mapping, rock chip sampling and soil sampling are scheduled for drill testing in the latter half of 2021, including Daisy Central, Red Ensign, GENNE, Parnell, Vulture.



Regionally, RC drilling commenced in June 2021 at one of Novo's high priority orogenic vein targets at the Talga project, testing strike, depth potential, and grade continuity of the mineralized lode systems at McPhees and NW Australian. Rock samples collected by Novo combined with detailed mapping define a mineralized corridor approximately three kilometres long and include assay results with best grades of 81.4 g/t Au, 46.9 g/t Au, 35.1 g/t Au and 30.0 g/t Au[6].

A series of additional greenfields targets are also under development across Novo's Pilbara projects. The Company is working towards either drill targeting and/or mechanical sorting these targets in 2021.

The program for the remainder of 2021 will include mechanical sorting test work from multiple projects including Novo's Talga, Egina and Karratha gold projects. Novo's Steinert mechanical sorter will be established at the NGP in the September quarter 2021 in preparation for testing of mineralized material from the regional targets deemed appropriate for mechanical sorting.

Exploration programs in Victoria commenced in the January quarter 2021 focusing on the Malmsbury Project ("**Malmsbury**") via the Company's joint venture with ASX-listed GBM Resources Ltd. (ASX: GBZ) ("**GBM**"). Development of a 3D model incorporating all data generated to date is almost complete and will be used to design drill targets for testing in the latter half of 2021. Preliminary images have been received from a Falcon airborne gravity survey undertaken in Q2 2021.

## Corporate Update

Ms. Amy Jo Stefonick was elected to the Company's board of directors at the Company's annual general meeting (the "**AGM**") held in June 2021. Ms. Stefonick has nearly 20 years of experience as a corporate and securities attorney across multiple industries where she advises public companies and their boards of directors on multi-jurisdictional corporate governance matters, U.S. securities laws, and complex M&A transactions. Ms. Stefonick holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Jamestown College (now University of Jamestown) and received her law degree from the University of Denver College of Law.

Mr. Yoshikazu Ishikawa and Ms. Akiko Levinson did not stand for re-election at the AGM. The Company would like to thank Mr. Ishikawa and Ms. Levinson for their years of dedication and wishes them the best in their future endeavours.

On August 5, 2021, the Company announced that Mr. Michael Spreadborough had been appointed to the role of executive co-chairman of the Company, and that Dr. Quinton Hennigh had transitioned to non-executive co-chairman.

## Offering

Subsequent to closing of the Offering, the Company listed 5,176,500 common share purchase warrants (the "**Warrants**") on the TSX under the symbol "NVO.WT.A". Each Warrant is exercisable for one common share of the Company at an exercise price of C$3.00 until May 4, 2024.

**Investment in New Found Gold Corp.**

The Company holds 15,000,000 common shares of New Found Gold Corp. (TSX-V: NFG) ("**New Found**"). Pursuant to IAS 28 *Investment in Associates and Joint ventures*, Novo is deemed to exercise significant influence over New Found because its position represents a 9.83% undiluted interest in New Found as at June 30, 2021 and the Company's non-executive co-chairman and director, Dr. Quinton Hennigh, holds a position as a Novo-nominated director on New Found's board of directors. This investment is therefore currently treated as an equity-accounted investment and is recognized as an investment in associate in the Q2 Financial Statements. Refer to notes 5 and 11 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

Pursuant to the subscription agreement between Novo and New Found dated March 2, 2020, for so long as Novo's investment in New Found exceeds 10% on an undiluted basis, Novo has the right to nominate a director to New Found's board of directors for a term expiring not earlier than New Found's next annual meeting of shareholders. On April 8, 2021, New Found closed a non-brokered private placement and issued 2,857,000 common shares[9] which diluted Novo's holdings in New Found below 10%. As a result, and assuming Novo's interest in New Found remains below 10% as at the date of New Found's next annual meeting of shareholders, Novo's right to nominate a director to New Found's board of directors will expire. At this point, Novo expects to no longer exercise significant influence over New Found. At such time, Novo expects to derecognize New Found as an associate and account for its holdings in New Found as a marketable security held at fair value through other comprehensive income or loss.

The fair value of Novo's investment in New Found was $180,150,000 based on New Found's closing price of $12.10 on June 30, 2021 ($126,150,000 as at the date of this MD&A).

## HEALTH AND SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT, AND COMMUNITY

The Company has committed to releasing an inaugural sustainability report in Q1 2022 which will outline the Company's performance to date and plans to continue to operate in a safe and environmentally and socially responsible manner.

**Health and Safety**

The health and safety of the Company's employees, contractors, and communities in which Novo operates is paramount. The Company has recorded no lost-time injuries at any of its projects, including the Beatons Creek Project, and continues to enhance its health and safety protocols. The Company recently executed memorandums of understanding and mutual aid agreements with nearby operations and the West Australian Department of Fire and Emergency Services and continues to grow its internal emergency response capabilities.

COVID-19 has not caused any significant operational delays in Western Australia to date. While the state has experienced a number of short-term lockdowns, government policies have enabled

9 Refer to New Found's news release dated April 8, 2021.

the Company to continue operating and ensure safe and efficient transport of employee and contractor workforces to and from the Beatons Creek Project and other Pilbara exploration projects. The Company also recently executed a flight sharing arrangement with Roy Hill[1] which includes strict testing protocols prior to travel.

### Environment

The Company works closely with the West Australian regulatory bodies, particularly the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety ("**DMIRS**") and the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation ("**DWER**"), in order to ensure strict compliance with requisite regulations. Subsequent to the acquisition of Millennium, the Company expended significant effort interfacing with DMIRS and DWER in an effort to re-establish lasting and constructive relationships with these departments. The Company recognizes the importance of environmental stewardship, particularly given the Beatons Creek Project's proximity to the township of Nullagine and Millennium's historical rehabilitation liabilities, and plans to prioritize environmental endeavours as it continues to develop the Beatons Creek Project.

### Community

The Beatons Creek Project is located 1km away from the small town of Nullagine. The Company remains committed to ensuring a safe and orderly operation and has implemented policies to ensure any impact to the town of Nullagine is minimized, including noise and air quality monitoring. The Company is also actively pursuing opportunities to construct a haulage bypass to detour Nullagine and divert its haulage fleet from driving though Nullagine.

As a committed corporate citizen of the Pilbara region of Western Australia, the Company values its relationships with the aboriginal communities and local residents, and communities surrounding the Company's projects. Novo has entered into agreements with Aboriginal Groups who have title to the ground comprising the Beatons Creek Project which include commitments to local employment, community support, and royalties.

The Company also endeavours to invest in its communities outside the parameters of its contractual obligations, including providing support to community, cultural, education, and sport initiatives.

## OPERATING RESULTS

| | | For the three months ended | | For the six months ended | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | June 30, 2021 | June 30, 2020 | June 30, 2021 | June 30, 2020 |
| Mineralized Material Milled | ***t*** | **366,304** | - | **515,881** | - |
| Grade | ***g/t Au*** | **1.30** | - | **1.24** | - |
| Recovery | ***%*** | **93.65%** | - | **93.38%** | - |
| Gold Produced | ***Oz Au*** | **14,890** | - | **18,387** | - |

The Company began developing its Beatons Creek Project subsequent to the acquisition of Millennium in September 2020 and was not producing during the three months ended June 30, 2020. As a result, the comparable 2020 periods are not referenced throughout this section. Where relevant, results are compared to the three months ended March 31, 2021.

**Mining and Processing**

Mining during the three months ended June 30, 2021 focused on the Central and Grant's Hill areas of the Beatons Creek Project. A total of 476,957 tonnes of mineralized material was mined, a significant increase over 174,403 tonnes of mineralized material mined during the three months ended March 31, 2021. Total material movement for the three months ended June 30, 2021 was 2,670,245 tonnes. 6,920 m of grade control drilling was also completed, targeting the Golden Crown and Edwards areas of the Beatons Creek Project which are planned to be mined during the second half of 2021.

During the three months ended June 30, 2021, 366,304 tonnes of mineralized material, equivalent to a throughput rate of approximately 4,070 tonnes per day, was processed. This equates to a 142% increase over the three months ended March 31, 2021 during which a total of 149,577 tonnes of mineralized material, equivalent to a throughput rate of 1,681 tonnes per day, was processed. During the six months ended June 30, 2021, 515,881 tonnes of mineralized material, equivalent to a throughput rate of approximately 2,866 tonnes per day, was processed. The increase in mineralized material milled between the first and second quarters 2021 was due to the Company's continued operational ramp-up at the Beatons Creek Project.

Mill feed grade averaged 1.30g/t gold during the three months ended June 30, 2021 compared to 1.09g/t gold for the three months ended March 31, 2021. Mill feed grade averaged 1.24 g/t gold during the six months ended June 30, 2021. The general increase in grade through June 30, 2021 is due to the Company's continued advancement of mining and geological processes at the Beatons Creek Project. Novo geologists have compensated for delays in the receipt of assay results by continuing to develop visual techniques to guide selective mining operations. The receipt of critical assay information pursuant to a PhotonAssay arrangement with Intertek[8] is ongoing and should improve the Company's ability to selectively mine higher grade sections of the Beatons Creek Project.

Gold recovery for the three months ended June 30, 2021 was 93.65% compared to 93.11% for the three months ended March 31, 2021. Gold recovery for the six months ended June 30, 2021 was 93.38%. Gold recovery improved with higher head grade between the first and second quarters 2021. The Company is still commissioning the Golden Eagle mill and expects to achieve higher recovery rates in the third and fourth quarters of 2021, as evidenced by gold recovery in May, June, and July 2021 which was 94.35%, 96.39%, and 95.20%[7] respectively.

**Gold and Silver Production**

During the three months ended June 30, 2021, the Beatons Creek Project produced 14,890 ounces of gold and 2,112 ounces of silver as compared to 3,497 ounces of gold and 561 ounces of silver during the three months ended March 31, 2021. During the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Beatons Creek Project produced

18,387 ounces of gold and 2,673 ounces of silver. The increase in production between the first and second quarters 2021 was due to the Company's continued advancement and development of the Beatons Creek Project along with higher head grade and higher throughput.

## FINANCIAL RESULTS

The following table contains quarterly information derived from the Q2 Financial Statements. The Company began developing its Beatons Creek Project subsequent to the acquisition of Millennium in September 2020 and was not producing during the period ended June 30, 2020. As a result, the comparable 2020 periods are not always referenced throughout this section. Where relevant, results are compared to the three month period ended March 31, 2021.

| *In thousands of CAD,* | | **For the three months ended** | | **For the six months ended** | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *except where noted* | | **June 30, 2021** | **June 30, 2020** | **June 30, 2021** | **June 30, 2020** |
| Gold sold | ***Oz Au*** | **13,958** | - | **17,456** | - |
| Average realized sales price[2] | ***$/oz*** | **2,270** | - | **2,259** | - |
| Average realized sales price[2] | ***AUD$/oz*** | **2,401** | - | **2,348** | - |
| Average realized sales price[2] | ***USD$/oz*** | **1,849** | - | **1,811** | - |
| Total revenue | ***$*** | **31,704** | - | **39,422** | - |
| Loss from operations | ***$*** | **(8,759)** | (4,463) | **(3,700)** | (11,362) |
| Other expenses/income, net | ***$*** | **2,915** | 2,646 | **1,006** | 3,502 |
| Loss after tax | ***$*** | **(15,582)** | (1,930) | **(13,858)** | (8,233) |
| Comprehensive (loss) / profit | ***$*** | **(24,114)** | 9,496 | **(34,078)** | 7,773 |
| Basic and diluted loss | ***$/share*** | **(0.07)** | (0.01) | **(0.06)** | (0.04) |

### Three Months Ended June 30, 2021 Compared to Three Months Ended June 30, 2020

Net loss after tax for the three months ended June 30, 2021 was $15,582,000 (June 30, 2020 - $1,930,000). The Company was not in production during the three months ended June 30, 2020 and did not generate any revenue as a result.

*Gold and Sales Revenue*

For the three months ended June 30, 2021, the Company generated revenue of $31,704,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil) which represents a significant increase over revenue of $7,718,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2021. The increase was primarily due to increased gold sales as the Company ramps up production at the Beatons Creek Project.

For the three months ended June 30, 2021, the Company sold 13,958 ounces of gold (June 30, 2020 – nil) at an average realized price of $2,270 (AUD $2,401 / USD $1,849) per ounce generating $31,634,000 in revenue from contracts with customers (June 30, 2020 - $nil). For the three months ended March 31, 2021, the Company sold 3,497 ounces of gold at an average realized price of $2,210 (AUD $2,161 / USD $1,745) per ounce generating $7,699,000 in revenue from contracts with customers. The average gold price over the three months ended June 30, 2021 according to the World Gold Council was $2,229 per ounce (AUD $2,358 / USD $1,817) (June 30, 2020 – $2,369 (AUD $2,601 / USD $1,711)) (March 31, 2021 – $2,129 (AUD $2,413 / USD $1,583)).

During the three months ended June 30, 2021, the Company sold 2,112 ounces of silver (June 30, 2020 – nil) generating $70,000 in revenue (June 30, 2020 - $nil). For the three months ended March 31, 2020, the Company sold 561 ounces of silver generating $19,000 in revenue.

*Cost of Sales*

Total cost of sales for the three months ended June 30, 2021 was $31,704,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil) compared to $7,718,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2021. As expenditures incurred during the development phase of the Beatons Creek Project relate to both commissioning the mine and the production of inventory, there is significant judgement involved in allocating expenditures between mine development expenditures and the cost of inventory. In determining the costs to be allocated to inventory sold during the period, consideration is given to the estimated mining and processing costs per tonne expected to be achieved when the mine is operating in a manner as intended by management. In practice, this means that little to no income from mine operations is recognized while a property is not yet in commercial production.

Cost of sales includes production costs, royalties and selling costs, and changes in inventories, reflecting the difference between produced and sold ounces. Depreciation and depletion of the Beatons Creek Project will not be charged until the Beatons Creek Project enters commercial production (if at all).

Royalties for the three months ended June 30, 2021 were $2,298,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil), representing a 352% increase over royalties for the three months ended March 31, 2021 of $509,000. The increase in royalty expense was due to increased revenues from the Beatons Creek Project as the Company continues to ramp up production.

All production costs were incurred in Australian dollars. The average foreign exchange rate was AUD $0.9548 to CAD $1.00 during the three months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 – AUD $0.9110 to CAD $1.00).

*Other Expenses*

General administration costs for the three months ended June 30, 2021 were $7,409,000 (June 30, 2020 - $4,088,000) and $7,645,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2021. The increase over the comparable period in 2020 was primarily due to share based payment expenses of $2,660,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2021. A number of the Company’s stock options were scheduled to vest once the Company produced 10,000 ounces of gold, which occurred during Q2 2021 and resulted in an accelerated expense recognition profile. A separate batch of stock options will vest once the Company produces 60,000 ounces of gold. Wages and salaries expenses totalled $1,520,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $806,000). The Company has experienced an expected modest increase in general administration costs as it ramps up production at the Beatons Creek Project.

The Company recognized impairment expenses of $1,173,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $375,000). The Company continues to rationalize its tenure and employs a strategy of divesting tenure which does not warrant further exploration or is expiring in line with relevant legislation and regulations.

Profit on disposal of exploration assets was $177,000 for the three months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $nil). The Company completed the sale of certain Blue Spec assets to Calidus Resources Limited in Q2 2021. Refer to note 6 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

*Other Income*

Other income recognized during the three months ended June 30, 2021 totalled $2,915,000 (June 30, 2020 - $2,646,000) and relates primarily to the share of profit from the Company's investment in New Found. Refer to notes 11 and 19 of the Q2 Financial Statements. Movements in the comparative period relate primarily to the movement in the value of the warrants held in GBM and Kalamazoo Resources Limited (the "**Warrants**"). These Warrants qualify as derivative instruments and are therefore recognized at fair value and remeasured at fair value through profit or loss pursuant to IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments*.

*Finance Items*

The Company incurred interest and finance costs of $9,750,000 during the three months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $909,000), including $6,147,000 of non-cash charges relating to IFRS 16 *Leases* ("**IFRS 16**") and the accounting treatment of the Offering. The Company incurred $1,796,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil) of interest and accreted interest related to the Credit Facility and $1,646,000 during the three months ended March 31, 2021. The Credit Facility was executed, and the initial draw-down thereunder occurred, in September 2020, concurrently with the acquisition of Millennium. The Credit Facility was amended in April 2021[3], which led to an increased monthly interest expense because the Company drew down an additional USD $5,000,000 as part of the April 2021 amendment. Interest is paid monthly at a rate of 8% plus the greater of (i) US three month London Inter-Bank Offered Rate ("**LIBOR**"), or (ii) 1%. Since execution of the Credit Facility, the Company has been paying cash interest at a rate of 9% on a monthly basis.

The Company incurred one-time finance costs of $6,386,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil) related to the Offering[4]. The Special Warrants were initially recognized as financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss pursuant to IAS 32 *Financial Instruments*, and associated transaction costs were also expensed through profit and loss pursuant to IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments*. $1,759,000 represents cash transaction costs incurred for the three months ended June 30, 2021, including the lead agent's 6% financing fee, and the remaining $4,627,000 represents the non-cash movement in fair value of the Special Warrants between the date of issuance on May 4, 2021 and the date of conversion into units of the Company on May 31, 2021.

The Company incurred interest expenses of $1,520,000 (June 30, 2020 - $46,000) related to leases recognized pursuant to IFRS 16. The Company recognizes lease liabilities and corresponding right-of-use assets pursuant to IFRS 16 where the Company has the right to use assets underlying certain arrangements, including the Company's open pit mining contract and PhotonAssay arrangement with Intertek.

*Other Comprehensive Income/Loss*

During the three months ended June 30, 2021, gains of $704,000 (June 30, 2020 - $1,761,000) represent movement in the Company's marketable securities. Refer to note 5 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

During the three months ended June 30, 2021, the Company also recognized losses of $9,236,000 (June 30, 2020 – gains of $9,665,000) pertaining to the foreign exchange impact of the translation of subsidiary financial information. The Company's Australian subsidiaries, which incur most of the Company's operational expenditure, have an Australian dollar functional currency. Gains or losses are recognized upon translation of income and expenses denominated by the Company's Australian subsidiaries in Australian dollars into the Company's Canadian dollar presentation currency. Refer to *Cost of Sales* above for foreign exchange rate movement across the relevant periods.

**Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 Compared to Six Months Ended June 30, 2020**

Net loss after tax for the six months ended June 30, 2021 was $13,858,000 (June 30, 2020 - $8,233,000). The Company was not in production during the three months ended June 30, 2020 and did not generate any revenue as a result.

*Gold and Sales Revenue*

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Company generated revenue of $39,422,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil).

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Company sold 17,456 ounces of gold at an average realized price of $ 2,259 (AUD $2,348 / USD $1,811) per ounce generating $39,333,000 in revenue from contracts with customers (June 30, 2020 - $nil). The average gold price over the six months ended June 30, 2021 according to the World Gold Council was $2,250 (AUD $2,340 / USD $1,805) per ounce (June 30, 2020 – $2,249 (AUD $2,507 / USD $1,647)).

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Company sold 2,673 ounces of silver generating $89,000 in revenue (June 30, 2020 - $nil).

*Cost of Sales*

Total cost of sales for the six months ended June 30, 2021 was $39,422,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil). Refer to *Financial Results - Three months ended June 30, 2021 compared to three months ended June 30, 2020 – Cost of Sales* regarding recognition and classification of cost of sales prior to the declaration of commercial production.

Royalties for the six months ended June 30, 2021 were $2,566,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil).

All production costs were incurred in Australian dollars. The average foreign exchange rate was AUD $0.9619 to CAD $1.00 during the six months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 – AUD $0.8970 to CAD $1.00).

*Other Expenses*

General administration costs for the six months ended June 30, 2021 were $15,052,000 (June 30, 2020 - $6,994,000). The increase over the comparable period in 2020 was primarily due to share based payment expenses of $6,987,000 (June 30, 2020 - $3,564,000). Refer to *Financial Results – Three months ended June 30, 2021 compared to three months ended June 30, 2020 –Other Expenses* regarding the vesting of stock options and associated expenses. Wages and salaries expenses also increased to $3,184,000 (June 30, 2020 - $1,087,000) due to the Company's ramp up in operations at the Beatons Creek Project and the need for requisite corporate support.

The Company recognized impairment expenses of $2,544,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $4,368,000). The Company continues to rationalize its tenure and employs a strategy of divesting tenure which does not warrant further exploration or is expiring in line with relevant legislation and regulations. The increased impairment cost in the comparable period 2020 is primarily due to the Company's dissolution of its joint operation with Artemis Resources. Refer to note 6 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

Profit on disposal of exploration assets was $13,896,000 for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $nil). The Company completed the sale of certain Blue Spec assets to Calidus Resources Limited in Q2 2021. Refer to note 6 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

*Other Income*

Other income recognized during the six months ended June 30, 2021 is $1,006,000 (June 30, 2020 - $3,502,000), which includes a loss of $1,374,000 (June 30, 2020 – gain of $3,499,000) pertaining to movement in the fair value of the Warrants and a share of New Found's profit of $1,579,000 (June 30, 2021 – loss of $69,000) pertaining to the Company's investment in New Found and associated accounting treatment. Refer to *Significant Business Developments – Investment in New Found Gold Corp.* and notes 5 and 11 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

*Finance Items*

The Company incurred interest and finance costs of $11,184,000 during the six months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $1,278,000) including $6,177,000 of non-cash charges relating to IFRS 16 *Leases* ("**IFRS 16**") and the accounting treatment of the Offering. The Company incurred $3,442,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil) of interest and accreted interest related to the Credit Facility. The Company also incurred non-cash interest expenses of $1,550,000 (June 30, 2020 - $85,000) related to leases recognized pursuant to IFRS 16 *Leases*, and one-time finance costs of $6,386,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil) related to the Offering[4].

Refer to *Financial Results - Three months ended June 30, 2021 compared to three months ended June 30, 2020 – Finance Items* regarding the breakdown and treatment of these costs.

The Company also recognized a gain of $90,000 (June 30, 2020 – loss of $1,151,000) on the change in fair value of the Sumitomo Corporation ("**Sumitomo**") liability. The financial liability and embedded derivative associated with the Sumitomo joint operation arrangement are recognized at fair value through profit or loss, except to the extent that the change in fair value is attributable to changes in credit risk of that liability (in which case changes are presented in other comprehensive income). Refer to note 6 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

*Other Comprehensive Income/Loss*

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, losses of $1,981,000 (June 30, 2020 – gains of $7,518,000) represent the movement in the fair value of the Company's marketable securities. Refer to note 5 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

During the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Company also recognized losses of $18,239,000 (June 30, 2020 – gains of $8,488,000) pertaining to the foreign exchange impact of the translation of subsidiary financial information. Refer to *Financial Results - Three months ended June 30, 2021 compared to three months ended June 30, 2020 – Other Comprehensive Income/Loss* for further details and *Cost of Sales* for foreign exchange rate movement across the relevant periods.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

| *In thousands of CAD, except where noted* | June 30, 2021 $'000 | December 31, 2020 $'000 | January 31, 2020 $'000 | January 31, 2019 $'000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cash | **46,226** | 40,494 | 28,703 | 42,832 |
| Short-term investments | **109** | 195 | 88 | 93 |
| Working capital[A] | **32,661** | 14,071 | 26,051 | 39,789 |
| Credit Facility adjusted working capital (USD)[B] | **44,966** | 25,089 | - | - |
| Total assets | **480,233** | 456,408 | 158,049 | 156,665 |
| Current liabilities excluding current portion of financial liabilities[C] | **14,650** | 12,083 | 1,082 | 4,593 |
| Non-current liabilities excluding non-current portion of financial liabilities[C] | **30,592** | 28,615 | - | - |
| Financial liabilities (current and non-current)[C] | **95,472** | 86,271 | 8,565 | 2,825 |
| Total liabilities | **140,714** | 126,969 | 9,647 | 7,418 |
| Shareholders' equity | **339,519** | 329,439 | 148,402 | 149,247 |

***A.*** *Working capital is calculated as current assets (including cash and short-term investments) less current liabilities.*
***B.*** *Credit Facility adjusted working capital allows for the exclusion of IFRS 16 lease liabilities and liabilities associated with the Sumitomo joint venture over the Company's Egina project from the working capital calculation. The amount is converted into USD using the Bank of Canada's June 30, 2021 closing rate of 0.8068:1. The Credit Facility working capital covenant floor is USD $5 million.*
***C.*** *Financial liabilities include Sumitomo liabilities, deferred consideration on mineral properties, long-term debt, and lease obligations.*

The Company amended the Credit Facility with Sprott and drew down an additional USD $5 million in early April 2021. Refer to Note 14 of the Q2 Financial Statements for further details. An additional US$10 million remains available under the Credit Facility until September 30, 2021, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions precedent. The Company also closed the Offering in May 2021 to raise net proceeds of $24.6 million by the issuance of 10,353,000 Special Warrants at a price of $2.55 per Special Warrant. The Offering and the additional US$5 million Credit Facility drawdown should provide the Company with sufficient liquidity and working capital to continue developing the Beatons Creek Project while initiating Pilbara-wide exploration programs throughout 2021.

Although the Company intends to use funds from the Offering and the additional USD $5 million Credit Facility drawdown as indicated above, the actual allocation or expenditure of these funds may vary depending on several factors including market conditions, future developments and operating results or unforeseen events. Refer to *Risk Factors – Dependence on Future Financing*.

Pursuant to the terms of the Credit Facility and covenants therein, the Company must maintain minimum working capital and unrestricted cash balances. As at June 30, 2021 and the date of this MD&A, the Company was in compliance with these covenants.

The Company manages liquidity risk by monitoring actual and projected cash flows and matching the maturity profile of financial assets and liabilities. Cash flow forecasting is performed regularly. The Company monitors forecasts of liquidity in the form of cash and cash equivalents to ensure it has sufficient cash to meet operational needs.

Factors that can impact the Company's liquidity are monitored regularly and include gold market prices, foreign exchange rates, production levels, operating costs, and capital costs. In addition, any suspension of production as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic or otherwise will impact the Company's liquidity. The Company prepares annual expenditure budgets that are approved by its board of directors (the "**Board**").

| | For the six months ended | |
|---|---|---|
| | June 30, 2021<br>$'000 | June 30, 2020<br>$'000 |
| **Cash flow information** | | |
| Cash (used in) generated by operations | **(5,099)** | 2,403 |
| Cash used in investing activities | **(12,800)** | (7,505) |
| Cash generated by financing activities | **23,806** | 3,882 |
| Change in cash | **5,907** | (1,220) |

The Company used $5,099,000 in operating cash flows for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 – generated $2,403,000). The decrease in cash flows relates primarily to the Company's ramp up of operations at its Beatons Creek Project and movements within operating working capital items.

The Company invested $12,800,000 (June 30, 2020 - $7,505,000) in its assets, primarily its Beatons Creek Project which the Company began developing subsequent to the acquisition of Millennium in September 2020. Investing cash outflows were offset by cash proceeds of $9,432,000 (June 30, 2020 - $nil) received from the sale of a part of the Company's Blue Spec Project to Calidus Resources Limited. Refer to note 6 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

The Company generated $23,806,000 in financing cash flows for the six months ended June 30, 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $3,882,000). The increase in financing cash flows was primarily due to funds received from the Offering and the Credit Facility amendment in April 2021, and was partially offset by a one-time payment of the Comet Well deferred consideration totaling $2,946,000 (AUD $3,000,000). Refer to note 6 of the Q2 Financial Statements.

## SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Management is responsible for the Q2 Financial Statements referred to in this MD&A and provides officers' disclosure certifications filed with the Canadian provincial securities commissions. Although the Company's Audit Committee reviews the Q2 Financial Statements and MD&A and makes recommendations to the Board, the Board has final approval of the Q2 Financial Statements and MD&A.

The Q2 Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 and should be read in conjunction with Novo's audited financial statements for the 11-month fiscal year ended December 31, 2020 (the "**Annual Financial Statements**"), which have been prepared in accordance with IFRS as issued by the IASB.

## SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS

The following information is derived from and should be read in conjunction with the Annual Financial Statements and the interim condensed financial statements for each of the past eight quarters which have been prepared in accordance with IFRS applicable to interim financial reporting including IAS 34.

| | | 2nd Quarter 2021 June 30, 2021 | 1st Quarter 2021 March 31, 2021 | 4th Quarter 2020 December 31, 2020 | 3rd Quarter 2020 October 31, 2020 | 2nd Quarter 2020 July 31, 2020 | 1st Quarter 2020 April 30, 2020 | 4th Quarter 2020 January 31, 2020 | 3rd Quarter 2020 October 31, 2019 | 2nd Quarter 2020 July 31, 2019 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenue** | ***$'000*** | **31,704** | 7,718 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| **Net Profit (Loss)** | ***$'000*** | **(15,582)** | 1,723 | (1,514) | (8,159) | (3,826) | (3,927) | (5,952) | (2,249) | (934) |
| **Basic and Diluted Income (Loss)** | ***$/share*** | **(0.07)** | 0.01 | (0.09) | (0.04) | (0.02) | (0.02) | (0.03) | (0.01) | (0.01) |

The Company's financial results are primarily driven by gold production, the average realized price of gold, and foreign exchange rates. Significant changes in any of these factors directly impact the Company's revenue and earnings.

## CASH RESOURCES AND GOING CONCERN

The Q2 Financial Statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realization of assets and settlement of liabilities in the normal course of business.

For the six months ended June 30, 2021, the Company reported operating cash outflows of $5,099,000 (June 30, 2020: inflows of $2,403,000). The Company had cash on hand of $52,962,000 at August 10, 2021 and $46,226,000 at June 30, 2021.

Since December 31, 2020, the Company has continued to develop its Beatons Creek Project. The directors have prepared a cash flow forecast which indicates that the Company will have sufficient cash flows to meet all commitments and working capital requirements for the 12-month period from the date of signing the Q2 Financial Statements.

Based on the cash flow forecast and revenue and operating cost assumptions therein, along with forecast commodity prices and foreign exchange rates, the directors are satisfied that the going concern basis of preparation is appropriate. A critical element to achieving the forecast cash flows, and forecast covenant compliance under the Credit Facility, is the Company's ability to achieve forecast gold production in accordance with Board approved forecasts.

If the Company does not meet its cash flow forecast, it may need to rely on a number of options, including management of both operating cash flow and capital expenditure to align with available funds, obtaining waivers or rescheduling of repayments under the Credit Facility with Sprott, disposing of non-core assets, including marketable securities, to the extent permitted under the Credit Facility, securing additional funding which may include refinancing the Credit Facility with other parties, securing funds by raising further capital from equity markets, or a combination of these options.

The directors are confident of the Company's ability to manage its cash flow as required. Notwithstanding the above, these conditions indicate a material uncertainty that may cast doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern and, therefore, whether it will be able to realise its assets and extinguish its liabilities in the normal course of business and at the amounts stated in the Q2 Financial Statements. The Q2 Financial Statements do not include any adjustments relating to the recoverability and classification of asset carrying amounts or to the amount and classification of liabilities that might result should the Company be unable to continue as a going concern.

## CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

As at June 30, 2021, the Company had the following contractual obligations outstanding:

| As at June 30, 2021 | Within 1 year $'000 | Within 1-2 years $'000 | Within 2-3 years $'000 | Within 3+ years $'000 | Total $'000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Trade and other payables** | 14,650 | - | - | - | **14,650** |
| **Leases** | 18,057 | 18,320 | 18,331 | 5,140 | **59,848** |
| **Sumitomo funding liability** | 5,836 | - | - | - | **5,836** |
| **Credit facility** | 3,650 | 18,310 | 21,604 | 10,625 | **54,189** |

## OFF-BALANCE SHEET TRANSACTIONS

There are currently no off-balance sheet arrangements which have, or are reasonably likely to have, a current or future effect on the financial performance or the financial condition of the Company.

## CONTINGENCIES

From time to time, the Company is involved in various claims, litigation and other matters in the ordinary course and conduct of business. Some of these pending matters will take a number of years to resolve. While it is not possible to determine the ultimate outcome of such actions at this time, and inherent uncertainties exist in predicting such outcomes, it is the Company's belief that the ultimate resolution of any such current actions is not reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on its consolidated financial position or results of operations.

## RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During Q2 2021 and the three months ended June 30, 2021, the following amounts were incurred in the normal course of operations and were measured at the exchange value which represented the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties:

| Name | Nature of Compensation | Three Months Ended June 30, 2021 $'000 | Three Months Ended June 30, 2020 $'000 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2021 $'000 | Six Months Ended June 30, 2020 $'000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chairman, President & Director | Salary | 92 | 92 | 187 | 187 |
| CEO & Director | Salary | 106 | 67 | 216 | 137 |
| CFO & Corporate Secretary | Salary | 86 | 73 | 175 | 144 |
| VP, Corporate Communications | Consulting | 45 | 45 | 90 | 90 |
| Independent Directors | Director Fees | 90 | 29 | 184 | 57 |
| **Total** | | **419** | **306** | **852** | **615** |

Details of these compensation arrangements are outlined in the Company's Form 51-102F5 Information Circular (most recently filed on SEDAR on May 31, 2021). Dr. Quinton Hennigh, the Company's former Chairman, President, and a director, transitioned to the role of non-executive co-chairman and director subsequent to June 30, 2021.

From time to time, the Board incentivizes the Company's management, employees, and consultants by issuing incentive stock options. Amounts outlined in the table above represent such portion of the Company's share-based payment expenses which relate to incentive stock options granted to the Company's management and Board, namely the former Chairman/President/Director, two independent directors, the Chief Executive Officer/Director, the Chief Financial Officer/Corporate Secretary, and the VP, Corporate Communications. The Company's methodology for calculating the fair value of share-based payments is outlined in note 2 of the Annual Financial Statements. Share-based payments relating to these key management personnel and directors totaled $2,633,000 during Q2 2021 (June 30, 2020 - $1,419,000).

## CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

The accounting policies and methods of application applied by the Company in the Q2 Financial Statements (refer to note 2 Basis of Preparation and Significant Accounting Estimates) are the same as disclosed in the Annual Financial Statements.

### Accounting policies adopted during the period for new transactions and events

***Revenue – gold and silver sales***

Revenue from contracts with customers is recognized when control of the goods or services are transferred to the customer at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the Company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. The Company has concluded that it is the principal in its revenue contracts because it typically controls the goods or services before transferring them to the customer.

Sales of gold and silver are recorded at the spot price on the date of sale.

Revenue from the sale of gold and silver during mine development is recognized in the condensed interim consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income or loss.

***Significant accounting judgements and estimates***

The preparation of condensed interim consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity or where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are consistent with those described in the Annual Financial Statements, except as noted below.

***Judgements***

Information about additional critical judgements in applying accounting policies are discussed below:

*Commercial production*

Depletion of capitalized costs for mining properties begins when pre-determined levels of operating capacity intended by management have been reached. The determination of when a mine is in the condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management (referred to as "commercial production") is a matter of significant judgment. Management considers several factors in determining when a mining property has reached levels of operating capacity intended by management, including:

- When the mine is substantially complete and ready for its intended use;
- The mine has the ability to sustain ongoing production at a steady or increasing level;
- The mine has reached a level of pre-determined percentage of design capacity;
- Mineral recoveries are at or near the expected production level; and
- A reasonable period of testing of the mine, plant and equipment has been completed.

Once in commercial production, the capitalization of certain mine development and construction costs cease. Subsequent costs are either regarded as forming part of the cost of inventory or expensed. However, any costs relating to mining asset additions or improvements or mineable reserve development are assessed to determine whether capitalization is appropriate. As at June 30, 2021, the Beatons Creek Project had not achieved commercial production.

*Revenue – determining the timing of the transfer of control*

Revenue is recognized when a customer obtains control of the goods or services. Determining the timing of the transfer of control requires judgement. Revenue from bullion sales is recognized at a point in time when control passes to the buyer. This generally occurs when the bullion has been physically transferred to the refiner and the Company has instructed the refiner to purchase the gold. This is the point in time when all performance obligations are satisfied. The transaction price is determined at transaction date.

## FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### a) Fair value

The Company's financial instruments include cash, short-term investments, other receivables, marketable securities, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, the Sumitomo funding liability, the Credit Facility, the derivative liability, and the cash component of the deferred consideration for mineral property (December 31, 2020). The fair value hierarchy reflects the significance of inputs in making fair value measurements as follows:

- Level 1 - applies to assets or liabilities for which there are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

- Level 2 - applies to assets or liabilities for which there are inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets or indirectly such as quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in markets with insufficient volume or infrequent transactions.

- Level 3 - applies to assets or liabilities for which there is unobservable market data.

The recorded amounts of cash, short-term investments, other receivables and accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate their respective fair values due to their short-term nature. The cash component of the deferred consideration for mineral property was initially recognized at fair value and was subsequently measured at amortized cost with the carrying value approximating fair value at reporting date, December 31, 2020. The Sumitomo funding liability and its related embedded derivatives are measured in their entirety as at FVTPL, except to the extent that the change in fair value is attributable to changes in credit risk of the Sumitomo funding liability in which case it is presented in other comprehensive income. The Credit Facility was initially recognized at fair value and is subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method. The derivative liability was initially recognized at fair value and is subsequently measured in its entirety at FVTPL.

Financial Instruments carried at fair value:

- The marketable securities for listed shares are measured using Level 1 inputs. The fair value of marketable securities are measured at the closing market price obtained from the TSX Venture Exchange and the Australian Securities Exchange.

- The marketable securities balance for the Kalamazoo Warrants and the GBM Warrants is measured using Level 2 inputs. The fair values of the Kalamazoo Warrants and the GBM Warrants have been determined using a Black-Scholes option pricing model.

- The marketable securities balance held in E3D is measured using Level 3 inputs. The value of the shares held in E3D was determined using the fair value USD $2.50 used by E3D to raise funds for its operations. Changes to E3D's fair value per share can significantly affect the fair value estimates.

- The Sumitomo funding liability balance is measured using Level 3 inputs. At June 30, 2021, the fair value of the liability represented the contractual value that the Company would repay if Sumitomo were to exercise their Reimbursement Option (see note 6). The fair value of the liability at December 31, 2020 was determined using a Binomial Option Pricing Model and a Monte Carlo simulation including the Company's share price of $2.38 and accompanying volatility of 83.26%, various interest rates (including AUD risk-free rates of 0.075% and US 3MLIBOR of 0.1965%), and the Company's estimated credit rating.

- The embedded derivative associated with the Credit Facility was measured using Level 3 inputs. The fair value of the derivative was determined by using a Black 76 model including accretion due to the passage of time, agreed repayment schedules, required interest payments, changes in the applicable interest rate (US three-month LIBOR or 1%), and changes in the Company's credit spread.

Financial instruments carried at amortized cost:

- The Credit Facility is measured using Level 3 inputs. The carrying value of the Credit Facility was recognized using the effective interest rate method and was adjusted by the value of the derivative liability.

| | Fair Value Hierarchy | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Level 1<br>$'000 | Level 2<br>$'000 | Level 3<br>$'000 | Total<br>$'000 |
| **As at June 30, 2021** | | | | |
| **Financial assets at Fair Value** | | | | |
| Marketable Securities | 12,084 | 360 | 6,435 | 18,879 |
| **Financial Liabilities at Fair Value** | | | | |
| Sumitomo funding liability | - | - | 5,836 | 5,836 |
| Derivative liability | - | - | 787 | 787 |
| **Total June 30, 2021** | **12,084** | **360** | **13,058** | **25,502** |
| **As at December 31, 2020** | | | | |
| **Financial assets at Fair Value** | | | | |
| Marketable Securities | 10,373 | 1,787 | 6,610 | 18,770 |
| **Financial Liabilities at Fair Value** | | | | |
| Sumitomo funding liability | - | - | 6,071 | 6,071 |
| Derivative liability | - | - | 984 | 984 |
| **Total December 31, 2020** | **10,373** | **1,787** | **13,665** | **25,825** |

| | June 30, 2021<br>$'000 | December 31, 2020<br>$'000 |
|---|---|---|
| **Reconciliation of the fair value measurement of Level 3 unlisted investments** | | |
| Opening balance | 6,610 | 6,870 |
| Remeasurement recognised through other comprehensive income | (175) | (260) |
| **Closing balance** | **6,435** | **6,610** |
| | | |
| **Reconciliation of the fair value measurement of Level 3 financial liabilities** | | |
| Opening balance | 7,055 | 4,519 |
| Purchases | - | 2,074 |
| Remeasurement recognised through profit and loss | (288) | 124 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | (144) | 338 |
| **Closing balance** | **6,623** | **7,055** |

There were no transfers between levels or changes in the valuation techniques and processes or inputs for determining fair value for financial instruments during the period.

## b) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to a concentration of credit risk consist primarily of cash and short-term investments. The Company limits its exposure to credit loss by placing its cash and short-term investments with high credit quality financial institutions, however these amounts are subject to credit risk. The Company does not invest in asset-backed deposits or investments and does not expect any credit losses.

The Company's maximum exposure to credit risk for cash and short-term investments is their carrying amount as per the statement of financial position.

## c) Foreign exchange rate risk

The Company operates internationally and is exposed to foreign exchange risk, primarily United States and Australian dollars. Foreign exchange risk arises from future commercial transactions and recognized assets and liabilities denominated in a currency that is not the functional currency of the relevant company. The following table represents the impact of a +/- 5% change in the USD/CAD exchange rate on financial assets and liabilities denominated in US dollars for the period ended June 30, 2021:

| US net monetary assets | $'000 | 5% Fluctuation Impact (CAD)<br>$'000 |
|---|---|---|
| Credit facility at amortised cost | 41,246 | 2,556 |
| Derivative liability at fair value | 787 | 49 |
| Sumitomo funding liability | 5,000 | 310 |

The Company has not entered into any derivative instruments to manage foreign exchange fluctuations.

## Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company cannot meet its obligations as they fall due. Liquidity risk is managed by ensuring sufficient financial resources are available to meet obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Company's cash and cash equivalents are invested in business accounts and term deposits which are available on demand. The Company manages liquidity risk by preparing and maintaining cash forecasts, which illustrate cash spent to date and its cash needs over the short term and over repayment dates into the future as it pertains to the Credit Facility. At June 30, 2021, the Company had cash of $46,226,000 (December 31, 2020 - $40,494,000), short-term investments of $109,000 (December 31, 2020 - $195,000) and marketable securities of $7,478,000 (December 31, 2020 - $nil) to settle current liabilities of $37,723,000 (December 31, 2020 - $32,905,000). The Company has a practice of paying its outstanding payables within 30 days. The deferred consideration for mineral property was paid on February 4, 2021.The Sumitomo funding liability represents the contractual value that the Company would repay if Sumitomo were to exercise their Reimbursement Option. The Reimbursement Option is assumed to fall within one year considering Sumitomo can exercise the Reimbursement Option at any time (see note 6).

The table below summarizes the maturity profile of the Company's financial liabilities based on contractual undiscounted payments:

| As at June 30, 2021 | Within 1 year $'000 | Within 1-2 years $'000 | Within 2-3 years $'000 | Within 3+ years $'000 | Total $'000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trade and other payables | 14,650 | - | - | - | **14,650** |
| Leases | 18,057 | 18,320 | 18,331 | 5,140 | **59,848** |
| Sumitomo funding liability | 5,836 | - | - | - | **5,836** |
| Credit facility | 3,650 | 18,310 | 21,604 | 10,625 | **54,189** |

| As at December 31, 2020 | Within 1 year $'000 | Within 1-2 years $'000 | Within 2-3 years $'000 | Within 3+ years $'000 | Total $'000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Trade and other payables | 12,083 | - | - | - | **12,083** |
| Leases | 13,382 | 12,876 | 12,876 | 6,865 | **45,999** |
| Deferred consideration for mineral property | 2,949 | - | - | - | **2,949** |
| Sumitomo funding liability | 6,071 | - | - | - | **6,071** |
| Credit facility | 4,066 | 9,637 | 25,072 | 17,436 | **56,211** |

## d) Price Risk

The Company is exposed to price risk with respect to its marketable securities. The Company's ability to raise capital is subject to risks associated with fluctuations in the market, including commodity prices. The Company's ability to recognize gains on liquidation of its marketable securities is subject to risks associated with fluctuations in the market prices of its marketable securities. At June 30, 2021 a 5% movement in the market value of marketable securities would have resulted in a movement of $926,000 (December 31, 2020: $849,000). For the period ended June 30, 2021, the Company did not enter or hold any commodity derivatives (December 31, 2020: $nil).

## e) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Company has interest-bearing assets in relation to cash at bank and term deposits carried at floating interest rates with reference to the market. The Company also has some exposure to interest rate risk with respect to the Credit Facility and associated derivative liability. The Company's operating cash flows are generally unaffected by changes in market interest rates unless the US 3-month LIBOR increases above 1%. The Company has not used any financial instrument to hedge potential fluctuations in interest rates.

The Company is exposed to cash flow interest rate risk due to the floating rate interest on the Credit Facility. For the period ended June 30, 2021, US 3-month LIBOR rate would need to increase by approximately 81 basis points before any additional interest would become payable on the Credit Facility. The Company's Credit Facility (note 14) accrues interest at a floating rate equal to a base rate of 8% plus the greater of i) US 3-month LIBOR, and ii) 1% per annum, and has not yet transitioned to alternative benchmark rates at the end of the current reporting period. The Credit Facility includes mechanisms which enable the replacement of LIBOR with an alternative, appropriate rate.

## INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as at December 31, 2020. In making this assessment, management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in Internal Control – Integrated Framework ("**COSO 2013**").

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. The Company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with IFRS. Any system of internal control over financial reporting, no matter how well designed, has inherent limitations. Therefore, even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation.

There have been no significant changes in the Company's internal controls during the six months ended June 30, 2021 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

## OUTSTANDING SHARE DATA

The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited number of common shares without par value (the "**Common Shares**"). All issued Common Shares are fully paid and non-assessable. As of August 10, 2021 the following Common Shares, Common Share purchase warrants (the "**Warrants**"), and stock options were issued and outstanding:

| | Number of Shares | Exercise Price (C$) | Expiry Date |
|---|---|---|---|
| Common Shares | 245,289,504 | - | - |
| Stock Options | 650,000 | 0.94 | August 15, 2021 |
| Stock Options | 1,750,000 | 0.95 | June 5, 2022 |
| Stock Options | 1,775,000 | 1.57 | July 18, 2022 |
| Stock Options | 2,050,000 | 7.70 | October 20, 2022 |
| Stock Options | 800,000 | 3.47 | January 30, 2023 |
| Stock Options | 410,000 | 4.60 | June 5, 2023 |
| Stock Options | 5,800,000 | 3.57 | January 6, 2025 |
| Warrants | 8,596,184 | 4.40 | August 27, 2023 |
| Warrants | 8,853,427 | 4.40 | September 7, 2023 |
| Warrants | 726,812 | 4.40 | September 9, 2023 |
| Warrants | 1,328,295 | 4.40 | September 14, 2023 |
| Warrants | 5,176,500 | 3.00 | May 4, 2024 |
| **Fully Diluted** | **283,205,722** | | |

## NON-IFRS MEASURES

Certain non-IFRS measures have been included in this MD&A. The Company believes that these measures, in addition to measures prepared in accordance with IFRS, provide readers with an improved ability to evaluate its underlying performance and to compare it to information reported by other companies. The non-IFRS measures are intended to provide additional information and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for measures of performance prepared in accordance with IFRS. These measures do not have any standardized meaning prescribed under IFRS, and therefore may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other issuers.

*Average realized price*

The Company uses the average realized price per ounce of gold sold to better understand the gold price and, once applicable, cash margin realized throughout a period.

Average realized price is calculated as revenue from contracts with customers plus treatment and refinery charges included in dore revenue less silver revenue divided by gold ounces sold.

The following table reconciles this non-IFRS measure to the most directly comparable IFRS measure disclosed in the financial statements.

| *In thousands of CAD, except where noted* | | For the three months ended | | For the six months ended | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **June 30, 2021** | **June 30, 2020** | **June 30, 2021** | **June 30, 2020** |
| Revenue from contracts with customers | ***$*** | **31,704** | - | **39,422** | - |
| Treatment and refining charges | ***$*** | **51** | - | **98** | - |
| *Less:* Silver revenue | ***$*** | **(70)** | - | **(89)** | - |
| Gold revenue | ***$*** | **31,685** | - | **39,431** | - |
| Gold sold | ***oz*** | **13,958** | - | **17,456** | - |
| Average realized price | ***$/oz*** | **2,270** | - | **2,259** | - |
| Foreign exchange rate | ***CAD:AUD*** | **1.0575** | - | **1.0396** | - |
| Average realized price | ***AUD$/oz*** | **2,401** | - | **2,348** | - |
| Foreign exchange rate | ***CAD:USD*** | **0.8144** | - | **0.8019** | - |
| Average realized price | ***USD$/oz*** | **1,849** | - | **1,811** | - |

*Working capital*

Working capital is defined as current assets less current liabilities and is used to monitor the Company's liquidity.

The following table reconciles this non-IFRS measure to the most directly comparable IFRS measure disclosed in the financial statements.

| | June 30, 2021 $'000 | December 31, 2020 $'000 |
|---|---|---|
| Current assets | **70,384** | 46,976 |
| Current liabilities | **37,723** | 32,905 |
| Working capital | **32,661** | 14,071 |

## CAUTION ON FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This MD&A contains "forward-looking information" within the meaning of Canadian securities laws. Forward-looking information in this MD&A includes, but is not limited to, the Company's operations at its Beatons Creek Project; the Company achieving commercial production; the use of proceeds from the Offering and other available funds; the Company's ability to leverage recently increased PhotonAssay unit capacity in Western Australia to significantly improve assay turnaround times; the value of certain Company assets, in particular the fair value of marketable securities held by the Company; the Company's planned production from, and further potential of, the Company's mineral properties; the Company's ability to raise additional funds; the future price of minerals, particularly gold; the estimation of mineral resources; the realization of mineral resource estimates; capital expenditures; success of exploration activities; exploration and development issues; currency exchange rates; government regulation of exploration, development, and mining operations; and environmental risks. Estimates regarding the anticipated timing, amount and cost of exploration and development activities are based on numerous factors including but not limited to assumptions underlying mineral resource estimates and the realization of such estimates. Capital and development cost estimates are based on extensive research of the Company, purchase orders placed by the Company to date, recent estimates of development and operating costs and other factors. Forward-looking information is characterized by words such as "plan", "expect", "budget", "target", "schedule", "estimate", "forecast", "project", "intend", "believe", "anticipate" and other similar words or statements that certain events or conditions "may", "could", "would", "might", or "will" occur or be achieved. Forward-looking information is based on the opinions, assumptions and estimates of management considered reasonable at the date the statements are made, and are inherently subject to a variety of risks and uncertainties and other known and unknown factors that could cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking information.

Such factors include: the Commercial Production Factors; the fluctuating price of gold; reliance on third parties to provide technical services and information, particularly with respect to assay turnaround timeframes; success of exploration, development and operations activities; the ability to comply with and maintain the Credit Facility in good standing; health, safety and environmental risks; risks relating to foreign operations and expropriation or nationalization of operations; variations in the estimation of mineral resources; uncertainty relating to mineral resources; the potential of cost overruns; risks relating to government regulation; the impact of Australian laws regarding foreign investment; access to additional capital; volatility in the market price of the Company's securities; liquidity risk; risks relating to native title and Aboriginal heritage; risks relating to the construction and development of new operations; the availability of adequate infrastructure; the availability of adequate energy sources; seasonality and unanticipated weather conditions; limitations on insurance coverage; the prevalence of competition within the industry; currency exchange rates (such as the United States dollar and the Australian dollar versus the Canadian dollar); risks associated with foreign tax regimes; risks relating to potential litigation; risks relating to the dependence of the Company on outside parties and key management personnel; risks in the event of a potential conflict of interest; as well as those risk factors discussed or referred to herein and in the Company's annual management's discussion and analysis, which are incorporated herein by reference and are also available under the Company's profile on the SEDAR website at www.sedar.com. In the event of any inconsistency or discrepancy between the risk factors in the Company's annual management's discussion and analysis, and those discussed or referred to herein, the risk factors herein shall prevail.

If any of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or if assumptions underlying the forward looking statements prove incorrect, actual results might vary materially from those anticipated in those forward looking statements. The assumptions referred to above and described in greater detail under "Risk Factors" should be considered carefully by readers.

The Company's forward-looking statements are based on the reasonable beliefs, expectations and opinions of management on the date of this MD&A (or as of the date they are otherwise stated to be made). Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in forward looking statements, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended. There is no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate, as actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Accordingly, readers should not place undue reliance on forward looking statements. The

Company does not undertake to update or revise any forward-looking statements, except as, and to the extent required by, applicable securities laws in Canada. If the Company updates any forward-looking statement(s), no inference should be drawn that the Company will make additional updates with respect to those or other forward-looking statements.

## RISKS RELATED TO THE COMPANY

The operations of the Company are subject to significant uncertainty due to the high-risk nature of its business. The following risk factors could materially affect the Company's financial condition and/or future operating results and could cause actual events to differ materially from those described in forward-looking statements relating to the Company.

### *Construction, Development, and Operation of Mines*

The success of construction projects and the development and operation of any mines by the Company is subject to a number of factors including the availability and performance of engineering and construction contractors, mining contractors, suppliers and consultants, the receipt of required governmental approvals and permits in connection with the construction of mining and processing facilities, the timely receipt of assay results to guide selective mining operations, and the conduct of mining operations (including environmental permits), among other operational elements. Any delay in the performance of any one or more of the contractors, suppliers, consultants or other persons on which the Company is dependent in connection with its activities, a delay in or failure to receive the required governmental approvals and permits in a timely manner or on reasonable terms, or a delay in or failure in connection with the completion and successful operation of the operational elements of a mine could delay or prevent the planned construction, development, commissioning and continued operation of any mines. There can be no assurance that current or future construction, development and operational plans implemented by the Company will be successful, that the Company will be able to obtain sufficient funds to finance additional construction, development and operational activities, that personnel and equipment will be available in a timely manner or on reasonable terms to successfully complete such projects, that the Company will be able to obtain all necessary governmental approvals and permits or that the construction, development, commissioning and ongoing operating costs associated with the development of new mines will not be significantly higher than anticipated by the Company. Any of the foregoing factors could adversely impact the operations and financial condition of the Company.

The requirements for the production and processing of materials may be affected by, among other things, technological changes, equipment failure, the accuracy of assumptions regarding ground conditions, physical and metallurgical characteristics of mineralized materials, the accuracy of the estimated costs and rates of mining and processing, and capacity of the Company's tailings storage facility. Mining, processing and development activities depend on adequate infrastructure. Reliable roads, bridges and power and water supply are important determinants that affect capital, processing and operating costs. The processing plant which comprises part of the production infrastructure held by Millennium, was previously operational before being placed on care and maintenance in December 2019. As of the date of this MD&A, the Company has refurbished and restarted the processing plant, however there can be no assurance that nameplate capacity and treatment rates will be as anticipated or that overall gold recovery will be as expected. Ongoing operational success will also depend, among other things, on sufficient electricity and water supply, sufficient tailings storage facilities, compliance with existing permits, success in obtaining and complying with further additional environmental and other permitting requirements and on the timing of increased production at the Beatons Creek Project, none of which can be assured. Any of the foregoing risks may materially delay and adversely impact the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

The Company's properties have no operating history upon which to base estimates of future cash flow. The capital expenditures and time required to develop new mines or other projects are considerable and changes in costs or construction schedules can affect project economics. Thus, it is possible that actual costs may change significantly, and economic returns may differ materially from the Company's estimates.

Commercial viability of a new mine or development project is predicated on many factors. Mineral resources projected by technical assessments performed on the properties may not be realized, and the level of future metal prices needed to ensure commercial viability may not materialize. Consequently, there is a risk that the start-up of any mine and development project may be subject to write-down and/or closure as they may not be commercially viable.

Mining operations are inherently dangerous and generally involve a high degree of risk. The Compnay's operations are subject to all of the hazards and risks normally encountered in the exploration, development and production of precious or base metals, including, without limitation, unusual and unexpected geologic formations, seismic activity, rock bursts, cave-ins, flooding and other conditions involved in the drilling and removal of material, any of which could result in damage to, or destruction of, mines and other producing facilities, personal injury or loss of life and damage to tailings dams, property, and environmental damage, all of which may result in possible legal liability. Although the Company expects that adequate precautions to minimize risk will be taken, mining operations are subject to hazards such as fire, rock falls and other geomechanical issues, equipment failure or failure of retaining dams around tailings disposal areas which may result in environmental pollution and consequent liability. The occurrence of any of these events could result in a prolonged interruption of the Company's operations that would have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects. Further, the Company may be subject to liability or sustain losses in relation to certain risks and hazards against which it cannot insure or for which it may elect not to insure. The occurrence of operational risks and/or a shortfall or lack of insurance coverage could have a material adverse impact on the Company's future cash flows, earnings, results of operations and financial condition.

### *No Prefeasibility or Feasibility Study for the Beatons Creek Project*

The Board has ratified management's recommendation to mine the Beatons Creek Project. The Company is currently in the late stages of commissioning the Golden Eagle Mill and continues to increase mining and production. The decision by the Company to produce at the Beatons Creek Project was not based on a prefeasibility or feasibility study and no mineral reserves demonstrating economic and technical viability has been defined for the project. As a result, there is an increased uncertainty of achieving any particular level of recovery of minerals or the cost of such recovery, including increased risks associated with developing a commercially mineable deposit. Historically, such projects have a much higher risk of economic and technical failure. There is no guarantee that that anticipated production costs will be achieved. Failure to achieve the anticipated production costs would have a material adverse impact on the Company's cash flow and future profitability.

The Company has published the preliminary economic assessment in respect of the Beatons Creek Project (the "**PEA**"). The PEA is preliminary in nature, and is based on a mineral resource estimate that includes inferred mineral resources that are considered too speculative geologically to have the economic considerations applied to them that would enable them to be categorized as mineral reserves. There is no certainty that the PEA will be realized.

***Permitting and License Risks***

In the ordinary course of business, the Company will be required to obtain and renew governmental licences or permits for the operation and expansion of the Beatons Creek Project or for the development, construction and commencement of mining at any of the Company's mineral resource properties, including the Beatons Creek Project. Obtaining or renewing the necessary governmental licences or permits is a complex and time-consuming process involving numerous jurisdictions involving public hearings and costly permitting and other legal undertakings on the part of the Company.

In Australia, as with many jurisdictions, there are various federal, state and local laws governing land, power and water use, the protection of the environment, development, occupational health and safety, waste disposal and appropriate handling of toxic substances. Such operations and exploration activities are also subject to substantial regulation under these laws by governmental agencies and require the Company to obtain permits from various governmental agencies.

Exploration generally requires one form of permit while development and production operations require additional permits. There can be no assurance that all permits which the Company may require for future exploration or development will be obtainable at all or on reasonable terms. In addition, future changes in applicable laws or regulations could result in changes in legal requirements or in the terms of existing permits applicable to the Company or its properties. This could have a negative effect on the Company's exploration activities or the Company's ability to develop its properties.

The duration and success of the Company's efforts to obtain and renew licences or permits are contingent upon many variables not within the Company's control, including the interpretation of applicable requirements implemented by the licensing authority, delays in processing of the Company's permitting submissions, and a lack of available resources within regulatory departments to review the Company's permitting submissions in a timely manner. The Company may not be able (and no assurances can be given with respect to its ability) to obtain or renew licences or permits that are necessary to operations at the

Company's property interests, including, without limitation, an exploitation or operations licence, or the cost to obtain or renew licences or permits may exceed what the Company believes can be recovered from its property interests if they are put into production. Any unexpected refusals of required licences or permits or delays or costs associated with the licensing or permitting process could prevent or delay the development or impede the operation of a mine, which could adversely impact the Company's operations and profitability.

Failure to comply with applicable laws, regulations and permitting requirements may result in enforcement actions, including orders issued by regulatory or judicial authorities causing operations to cease or be curtailed, and may include corrective measures requiring capital expenditures, installation of additional equipment or other remedial actions.

While the Company can foresee no reason why it may not receive all necessary permits, there can be no assurance that all permits which the Company may require for future exploration or possible future development will be obtainable at all or on reasonable terms. The Company also cannot be certain what conditions will be attached to such permits and licences or whether the Company will be able to fulfil such conditions. Further, any additional future laws and regulations, changes to existing laws and regulations (including, but not restricted to, the imposition of higher licence fees, mining royalties or taxes) or more stringent enforcement or restrictive interpretation of current laws and regulations by governmental authorities, or of rulings or clearances obtained from such governmental authorities, could cause additional expenditures (including capital expenditure) to be incurred or impose restrictions on, or suspensions of, the Company's operations and cause delays in the development of its properties. Moreover, these laws and regulations may allow governmental authorities and private parties to bring lawsuits based upon damage to or destruction of properties and injury to persons resulting from the environmental, health and safety impacts of the Company's past and current operations, and could lead to the imposition of substantial fines, penalties or other civil or criminal sanctions. The occurrence of any of these factors may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, results of operations and financial condition and the price of the Common Shares.

***Dependence on Future Financing***

Although the Company believes that it currently has sufficient funding for its planned operations at its Beatons Creek Project and other properties, there can be no assurance that the Company will have the funds required to carry out all of its business plans or that those expenditures will prove profitable. Obtaining additional financing would be subject to a number of factors, including market prices for minerals and commodities, investor acceptance of the Company's properties and investor sentiment. These factors may make the timing, amount, terms or conditions of additional financing unavailable to the Company. The most likely source of future funds presently available to the Company is through equity or debt financings. Any sale of share capital will result in dilution to existing shareholders.

### *Dependence on Key Management Personnel*

The Company is dependent upon a number of key management personnel. The Company's ability to manage its operating, development, exploration and financing activities will depend in large part on the efforts of these individuals. As the Company's business grows, it will require additional key financial, administrative, mining, marketing and public relations personnel as well as additional staff for operations. The Company faces intense competition for qualified personnel, and there can be no assurance that the Company will be able to attract and retain such personnel, particularly considering the current demand for labour in Western Australia. The loss of the services of one or more key employees or consultants or the failure to attract and retain new personnel could have a material adverse effect on the Company's ability to manage and expand the Company's business.

### *COVID-19*

The COVID-19 outbreak was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020.

Other than an approximate six-week suspension of exploration activities, the Company has not experienced a significant impact on its business to date; however, there is no assurance that this will continue given the ongoing global situation. The outbreak and the response of various governments in dealing with the pandemic is interfering with general activity levels within the community, the economy and financial markets worldwide, including the Company's operations and the operations of the companies in which the Company has invested. Restrictions on travel and the limited ability to have meetings with personnel, vendors and service providers may have an adverse effect on the Company's operations. The scale and duration of these developments remain uncertain as at the date of this MD&A, but they may have an impact on the Company's future cash flows. The Company notes that the value of certain assets, in particular the fair value of marketable securities recorded in the statement of financial position in the Company's Annual Financial Statements, determined by reference to fair or market values at December 31, 2020, may have materially changed by the date of this MD&A.

The COVID-19 pandemic, including without limitation, the occurrence of new variants of the virus, has also caused, and is likely to continue to cause, severe economic, market and other disruptions worldwide. It is not possible to estimate the impact of the outbreak's near-term and longer-term effects or governments' varying efforts to combat the outbreak and support businesses. There can be no assurance that conditions in the global financial markets will not continue to deteriorate as a result of the pandemic, or that the Company's access to capital and other sources of funding will not become constrained, all of which could adversely affect the availability and terms of any future financings the Company undertakes.

### *Labour and Employment Matters*

Production at the Company's mining operations is dependent upon the efforts of its employees and the Company's operations would be adversely affected if it fails to maintain satisfactory labour relations. Factors such as work slowdowns or stoppages caused by the attempted unionization of operations and difficulties in recruiting qualified geologists and miners and hiring and training new geologists and miners could materially adversely affect the Company's business. This would have a negative effect on the Company's business and results of operations, which might result in the Company not meeting its business objectives.

Western Australia is currently experiencing a surge in mining activity and operations, which has created significant demand for trained geologic and mining staff. While the Company has sufficient skilled staff to carry on operations and there are currently no material labour shortages with the Company operating near its budgeted staffing levels, the Company may not be able to retain its staff. Loss of staff may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, results of operations and financial condition.

In addition, relations between the Company and its employees may be affected by changes in the scheme of labour relations that may be introduced by the relevant governmental authorities in whose jurisdictions the Company carries on business. Changes in such legislation or in the relationship between the Company and its employees may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, results of operations and financial condition.

***Risks Related to the amended Credit Facility and Indebtedness***

The amended Credit Facility has usual and customary covenants to keep the facility in good standing, including, but not limited to, repayment of the principal advanced thereunder and accrued interest, maintenance and provision of regular and up-to-date financial reports, compliance with all applicable laws and applicable securities legislation, obligation to provide notice of material events, and obligation to maintain secured assets and insurance thereon. The amended Credit Facility also contains restrictive covenants that will limit the Company's ability to engage in activities that may be in the Company's long-term best interest. If the Company defaults in respect of its obligations under the amended Credit Facility, full repayment of amounts funded under the Credit Facility may be demanded and the Company may lose the shares of certain of its international subsidiaries (which are pledged as collateral under the amended Credit Facility) and other property securing its obligations under the amended Credit Facility, all of which would have a material effect on the Company's operations. The Company has currently fully drawn down on the first tranche, and partially drawn down on the second tranche under the amended Credit Facility. To the extent the Company draws down the additional amounts under the second tranche or incurs other additional debt, the risks related to the Company's indebtedness could increase.

The Company's level of indebtedness and the terms thereof will have several important effects on its future operations, including, without limitation, that it:

- will require the Company to dedicate a portion of its cash flow from operations, if any, and under the terms of the amended Credit Facility other proceeds from divestitures, financings and insurance claims, to the payment of principal and interest on the Company's outstanding indebtedness, thereby reducing the funds available to it for operations and any future business opportunities;

- could increase the Company's vulnerability to adverse changes in general economic and industry conditions, as well as to competitive pressure;

- could decrease the Company's flexibility in planning for and reacting to changes in the industry in which it competes and place the Company at a disadvantage compared to other, less leveraged competitors; and

- depending on the levels of its outstanding debt, could increase the Company's cost of borrowing and/or limit the Company's ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, general corporate and other purposes or require the Company to make other divestitures.

The Company's ability to make payments of principal and interest on its indebtedness depends upon the Company's financial condition, operating performance and expected future revenues, will be subject to prevailing economic conditions, competitive conditions, changes in the applicable interest rate, industry cycles and financial, business, legislative, regulatory and other factors affecting its operations, many of which are beyond the Company's control. If the Company's revenues are insufficient to, or the Company cannot raise sufficient funds to, meet its debt service and other obligations in the future, the Company could face substantial liquidity problems and may be required, among other things, to:

- reduce or delay investments and other capital expenditures;
- obtain additional financing in the debt or equity markets;
- refinance or restructure all or a portion of its indebtedness; and/or
- sell selected assets.

The Company cannot provide assurance that such measures will be sufficient to enable the Company to service its debt. In addition, any such financing, refinancing or sale of assets might not be available on economically favourable terms or at all. Any of the foregoing may have a material and adverse effect on the Company's financial condition and results of operations.

***Obligations as a Public Company***

The Company's business is subject to evolving corporate governance and public disclosure regulations that may from time to time increase both the Company's compliance costs and the risk of non-compliance, which could adversely impact the price of the Common Shares.

The Company is subject to changing securities laws and to rules and regulations promulgated by a number of governmental and self-regulated organizations having jurisdiction over the Company, including, but not limited to, the TSX and the International Accounting Standards Board. These laws and regulations continue to evolve in scope and complexity creating many new requirements. The Company's efforts to comply with the same could result in increased general and administration expenses and a diversion of management time and attention from revenue-generating activities to compliance activities.

### *Acquisitions and Integration*

From time to time, the Company examines opportunities to acquire additional assets and businesses. Any acquisition that the Company may choose to complete may be of a significant size, may change the scale of the Company's business and operations, and may expose the Company to new geographic, political, operating, financial and geological risks. The Company's success in its acquisition activities depends on its ability to identify suitable acquisition candidates, negotiate acceptable terms for any such acquisition, and integrate the acquired operations successfully with those of the Company. Any acquisitions would be accompanied by risks. For example, there may be a significant change in commodity prices after the Company has committed to complete the transaction and established the purchase price or exchange ratio; a material ore body may prove to be below expectations; the Company may have difficulty integrating and assimilating the operations and personnel of any acquired companies, realizing anticipated synergies and maximizing the financial and strategic position of the combined enterprise, and maintaining uniform standards, policies and controls across the organization; the integration of the acquired business or assets may disrupt the Company's ongoing business and its relationships with employees, customers, suppliers and contractors; and the acquired business or assets may have unknown liabilities which may be significant. In the event that the Company chooses to raise debt capital to finance any such acquisition, the Company's leverage will be increased. If the Company chooses to use equity as consideration for such acquisition, existing shareholders may experience dilution. Alternatively, the Company may choose to finance any such acquisition with its existing resources. There can be no assurance that the Company would be successful in overcoming these risks or any other problems encountered in connection with such acquisitions.

### *Market Price of Securities*

Over the last several years, the securities of many junior resource companies have experienced a high level of price and volume volatility and wide fluctuations in market price that have not necessarily been related to the operating performance, underlying asset values or prospects of such companies. Factors unrelated to the financial performance or prospects of the Company include macroeconomic developments locally and globally and market perceptions of the attractiveness of particular industries. There can be no assurance that continued fluctuations in market prices will not occur.

As a result of any of these factors, the market price of the securities of the Company at any given point in time may not accurately reflect the Company's long-term value. In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a company's securities, shareholders have instituted class action securities litigation against those companies. Such litigation, if instituted, could result in substantial cost and diversion of management attention and resources, which could significantly harm profitability and the reputation of the Company.

### *The Speculative Nature of the Exploration of Natural Resource Properties*

While the discovery of a commercially viable ore body may result in substantial rewards, few mineral properties that are explored are ultimately developed into producing mines. There is no assurance that any of the claims the Company will explore or acquire will contain commercially exploitable reserves of minerals. Exploration for natural resources is a speculative venture involving substantial risk. Even a combination of careful evaluation, experience and knowledge may not eliminate such risk. Hazards such as unusual or unexpected geological formations, formation pressures, cyclones, fires, power outages, labour disruptions, flooding, cave-ins, landslides and the inability of the Company to obtain suitable machinery, equipment or labour due to industry disruptions or general shortages are all risks involved with the conduct of exploration programs and the operation of mines. While appropriate precautions to mitigate these risks have been taken or are planned to be taken, operations are subject to hazards such as equipment failure or failure of structures which may result in environmental pollution and consequent liability. Even though the Company intends to maintain liability insurance in an amount which it considers adequate, the nature of these risks is such that liabilities might exceed policy limits, the liabilities and hazards might not be insurable or the Company might not elect to insure itself against such liabilities due to high premium costs or other reasons, in which event the Company could incur significant costs that could have a material adverse effect upon its financial condition.

### *Reclamation Costs*

In the context of environmental permits, including the approval of reclamation plans, the Company must comply with standards, laws and regulations that may entail costs and delays depending on the nature of the activity to be permitted and how stringently the regulations are implemented by the regulatory authority. The reclamation liability on any of the Company's properties will be calculated based on current laws and regulations and the expected future costs to be incurred in reclaiming, restoring and closing its exploration or operating mine sites. The Company may incur costs associated with reclamation activities, which may materially exceed the provisions established by the Company for the activities. In addition, possible additional future regulatory requirements may require additional reclamation requirements creating uncertainties related to future reclamation costs. Should the Company be unable to post required financial assurance related to an environmental remediation obligation, the Company might be prohibited from starting planned operations or enter into interim compliance measures pending completion of the required remedy, which could have a material adverse effect. Furthermore, changes to the amount of financial assurance that the Company is required to post, as well as the nature of the collateral to be provided, could significantly increase the Company's costs, making the maintenance and development of new mines less economically feasible.

Although the Company has currently made provisions for certain of its reclamation obligations and is assessing provisions for the reclamation obligations from other properties, there is no assurance that these provisions will be adequate in the future. The provision required is expected to increase significantly through negotiation with regulatory authorities as the Beatons Creek Project is further operated and developed. There can be no guarantee that the Company will have sufficient capital resources to cover the costs of reclamation when they become due and payable. The Company is currently engaged in discussions with the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation, and Safety and the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, in Western Australia, with respect to its closure plan for the Beatons

Creek Project, to account for any future changes to the site through production. Only an initial amount has been determined as at the date hereof. Failure to provide regulatory authorities with the required information could potentially result in the closure of the Company's operations, which could result in a material adverse effect on its operating results and financial condition.

***Nature and Climatic Conditions***

The Company has properties located in Western Australia, Australia. Typically, the Western Australian's tropical wet season is from the end of November to the end of March. During the wet season, the properties may be subject to unpredictable weather conditions such as cyclones, heavy rains, strong winds and flash flooding. During the summer, the properties may be subject to unpredictable weather conditions such as bush firs. The Company has undertaken several steps to minimize the effects of the wet and dry seasons on its operations including planning exploration and mining activities around said seasons. Nonetheless, no assurance can be given that the unpredictable weather conditions will not adversely affect exploration activities.

Furthermore, the occurrence of physical climate change events may result in substantial costs to respond to the event and/or recover from the event, and to prevent recurrent damage, through either the modification of, or addition to, existing infrastructure at the Company's operations. The scientific community has predicted an increase, over time, in the frequency and severity of extraordinary or catastrophic natural phenomena as a result of climate change. The Company can provide no assurance that it will be able to predict, respond to, measure, monitor or manage the risks posed as a result.

The Company's mining and processing operations are, in some instances, energy intensive. The Company acknowledges climate change is an international and community concern. Legislation and regulations relating to emission levels and energy efficiency are becoming more rigorous and may result in increased costs at its operations. In addition, as climate change is increasingly perceived as an international and community concern, stakeholders may increase demands for emissions reductions and call-upon mining companies to better manage their consumption of climate-relevant resources. While the Company takes measures to manage the use of energy, such regulatory requirements may have an adverse impact on the Company.

Physical climate change events, and the trend toward more stringent regulations aimed at reducing the effects of climate change, could impact the Company's decisions to pursue future opportunities, or maintain existing operations, which could have an adverse effect on its business and future operations.

The Company can provide no assurance that efforts to mitigate the risks of climate changes will be effective and that the physical risks of climate change will not have an adverse effect on its operations and profitability.

### ***Information Technology***

The Company is reliant on the continuous and uninterrupted operations of its information technology ("**IT**") systems. User access and security of all IT systems are critical elements to the operations of the Company. The Company's operations depend, in part, on how well the Company and its suppliers protect networks, equipment, IT systems and software against damage from a number of threats, including, but not limited to, cable cuts, damage to physical plants, natural disasters, terrorism, fire, power loss, hacking, computer viruses, vandalism and theft. The Company's operations also depend on the timely maintenance, upgrade and replacement of networks, equipment, IT systems and software, as well as pre-emptive expenses to mitigate the risks of failures. Any IT failure pertaining to availability, access or system security could result in disruption for personnel and could adversely affect the reputation, operations or financial performance of the Company.

The Company's IT systems could be compromised by unauthorized parties attempting to extract business sensitive, confidential or personal information, corrupting information or disrupting business processes or by inadvertent or intentional actions on the part of the Company's employees or vendors. A cyber security incident resulting in a security breach or failure to identify a security threat, could disrupt business and could result in the loss of business sensitive, confidential or personal information or other assets, as well as litigation, regulatory enforcement, violation of privacy and security laws and regulations and remediation costs.

Although, to date, the Company has not experienced any material losses relating to cyber-attacks or other information security breaches, there can be no assurance that it will not incur such losses in the future. The Company's risk and exposure to these matters cannot be fully mitigated because of, among other things, the evolving nature of these threats. As a result, cyber security and the continued development and enhancement of controls, processes and practices designed to protect systems, computers, software, data and networks from attack, damage or unauthorized access remain a priority. As cyber threats continue to evolve, the Company may be required to expend additional resources to continue to modify or enhance protective measures or to investigate and remediate any security vulnerabilities.

### ***Insurance and Uninsured Risks***

The Company's business is subject to a number of risks and hazards generally, including: adverse environmental conditions; industrial accidents; unusual or unexpected geological conditions; ground failures; changes in the regulatory environment; and natural phenomena such as inclement weather conditions, floods and earthquakes. Such occurrences could result in damage to mineral properties, personal injury or death, environmental damage to the Company's properties or the properties of others, monetary losses and possible legal liability.

The businesses and properties of the Company are insured against loss or damage, subject to a number of limitations and qualifications. Such insurance will not cover all the potential risks associated with an exploration company's operations. The Company may also be unable to maintain insurance to cover these risks at economically feasible premiums. Insurance coverage may not continue to be available or may not be adequate to cover any resulting liability. Moreover, insurance against risks such as environmental pollution or other hazards as a result of exploration is not generally available to the Company or to other companies in the exploration industry on acceptable terms. The Company might also become subject to liability for pollution or other hazards that it may not be insured against or that the Company may elect not to insure against because of premium costs or other reasons. The Company may suffer a material adverse effect on its business, results of operations, and financial position if it incurs a material loss related to any significant event that is not covered, or adequately covered, by its insurance policies.

***Dependence on Principal Exploration Stage Projects***

The Company currently carries out exploration activities on several properties, but is focused on the Egina and Karratha properties. These properties may never develop into commercially viable deposits, which would have a material adverse effect on the Company's potential mineral resource production, profitability, financial performance and results of operation.

***Previous Work on the Egina, Beatons Creek, and Karratha Properties May Give Rise to Environmental Liabilities***

There can be no assurance that historic (prior to the Company's ownership) activities on the Egina, Beatons Creek, and Karratha Properties, as well as on tenements held by Millennium, were conducted in full compliance with the various government and environmental regulations required under the Australian mining regime. To the extent that any of the activities were not in compliance with applicable environmental laws, regulations and permitting requirements, enforcement actions thereunder, including orders of regulatory or judicial authorities, may be taken against the Company as a result of its interest in the Egina, Beatons Creek, and Karratha Properties, and on tenements held by Millennium. Any such actions or orders may cause increases in expenses, capital expenditures or production costs or reduction in levels of production, or require abandonment or delays.

***Negative Operating Cash Flow***

The Company has incurred losses since inception and expects to continue to incur losses as it proceeds with exploration and development of its mineral properties. The Company's efforts to date have been focused on acquiring and exploring its mineral properties. All but one of the Company's properties are in the exploration stage and none have mineral reserves.

The Company has only recently begun the production of gold and silver from its Beatons Creek Project (which has not yet reached commercial production) and has significant cash requirements to meet its exploration and development commitments and administrative overhead, and to maintain its mineral interests. The Company expects to continue to incur losses until the Beatons Creek Project enters into commercial production and generates sufficient revenue to fund continuing operations. There can be no assurance that the Beatons Creek Project will enter into commercial production or that once in commercial production, problems will not be encountered that result in mining operations not being profitable. If this occurs, additional funds will need to be raised.

### *Uncertainty in Global Markets and Economic Conditions*

There remains considerable volatility in global markets and economic conditions together with the volatility in the price of gold. This continues to generate uncertainty for the mining sector worldwide and there has been a decrease in access to capital for exploration and development activities.

As discussed above, the Company has and will continue to rely on the capital markets for necessary capital expenditures. As a result, the business, financial condition and operations of the Company could be adversely affected by: (i) continued disruption and volatility in financial markets; (ii) continued capital and liquidity concerns regarding financial institutions generally and hindering the Company's counterparties specifically; (iii) limitations resulting from governmental action in an effort to stabilize or provide additional regulation of the financial system; or (iv) recessionary conditions that are deeper or last longer than currently anticipated.

### *Price of Gold*

The Company's profitability and long-term viability depend, in large part, upon the market price of gold. Metal prices fluctuate widely and are affected by numerous factors beyond the Company's control, including global and regional supply and demand for industrial products containing metals generally; changes in global or regional investment or consumption patterns; increased production due to new mine developments and improved mining and production methods; decreased production due to mine closures; interest rates and interest rate expectation; expectations with respect to the rate of inflation or deflation; currency rate fluctuations; availability and costs of metal substitutes; global or regional political or economic conditions; and sales by central banks, holders, speculators and other producers of metals in response to any of the above factors.

There can be no assurance that metal prices will remain at current levels or that such prices will improve. A decrease in the market prices could adversely affect the profitability of the Company's existing mines and projects as well as its ability to finance the exploration and development of additional properties, which would have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flows and financial position. A decline in metal prices may require the Company to write-down mineral resource estimates (or mineral reserve estimates if ever established in the future), which could result in material write-downs of investments in mining properties. Further, if revenue from metal sales declines, the Company may experience liquidity difficulties. Its cash flow from mining operations may be insufficient to meet its operating needs, and as a result the Company could be forced to discontinue production and could lose its interest in, or be forced to sell, some or all of its properties.

### *Joint Ventures*

The Company is and will be subject to the risks normally associated with the conduct of joint ventures, which include disagreements as to how to develop, operate and finance a project, inequality of bargaining power, incompatible strategic and economic objectives and possible litigation between the participants regarding joint venture matters. These matters may have an adverse effect on the Company's ability to realize the full economic benefits of its interest in the property that is the subject of a joint venture, which could affect its results of operations and financial condition as well as the price of the Company's Common Shares.

***Danger of Exploration and Development Activities***

Exploration and development activities involve various types of risks and hazards, including:

- environmental hazards;
- industrial accidents;
- metallurgical and other processing problems;
- unusual or unexpected rock formations;
- structural cave-ins or slides;
- flooding and fires; and
- periodic interruptions due to inclement or hazardous weather conditions.

These risks could result in damage to, or destruction of, mineral properties or other properties; personal injury; environmental damage; delays in activities; monetary losses; and possible legal liability. The Company may not be able to obtain insurance to cover these risks at economically feasible premiums. Insurance against certain environmental risks, including potential liability for pollution or other hazards as a result of the disposal of waste products occurring from production, is not generally available to the Company or to other companies within the mining industry. The Company may suffer a material adverse impact on its business if it incurs losses related to any significant events that are not covered by its insurance policies.

***Exploration and Mining Tenements May be Subject to Forfeiture***

The Australian title registration system provides for application for forfeiture of exploration and mining licences where there is, or has been, non-compliance with the prescribed royalties, rents or expenditure conditions. Forfeiture may occur in one of a number of ways. A third party may file a plaint (an application for forfeiture) with the mining warden, who may (in the case of prospecting or miscellaneous licences) elect to forfeit the tenement or impose a fine not exceeding AUD $10,000 for non-compliance with expenditure conditions and not exceeding AUD $50,000 in any other case, or (in the case of exploration licences, mining and general purpose leases) make a recommendation to the Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Energy; Industrial Relations (the "**Minister**") for or against forfeiture.

In the latter case, the Minister may decide to forfeit the tenement, impose a fine not exceeding AUD $50,000 per tenement, or impose no penalty. A tenement may not be forfeited or recommended for forfeiture unless non-compliance is of sufficient gravity to justify forfeiture. Alternatively, the Minister may himself institute forfeiture measures where non-compliance has occurred (or impose a fine not exceeding AUD $50,000 per tenement which, if unpaid, results in deemed forfeiture).

***Uncertainty in the Estimation of Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves***

Mineral resources that are not mineral reserves do not have demonstrated economic viability. The Company's publicly disclosed mineral resource figures contained in this MD&A are estimates only and no assurance can be given that these will ever be upgraded to higher categories of mineral resources or to mineral reserves. Even if mineral reserves are established in the future, there is no assurance that the anticipated tonnages and grades will be achieved, that the indicated level of recovery will be realized or that mineral reserves will be mined or processed profitably. Actual mineral resources may not conform to geological, metallurgical or other expectations, and the volume and grade of mineralized material recovered may differ from estimated levels. There are numerous uncertainties inherent in estimating mineral resources and mineral reserves, including many factors beyond the Company's control. Such estimation is a subjective process, and the accuracy of any mineral resource or mineral reserve estimate is a function of the quantity and quality of available data and of the assumptions made and judgments used in engineering and geological interpretation. Short-term operating factors relating to the Company's mineral resources (and mineral reserves if ever established in the future), such as the need for orderly development of the mineralized material or the processing of new or different mineralized material grades, may cause the mining operation to be unprofitable in any particular accounting period. In addition, there can be no assurance that gold recoveries in small scale laboratory tests will be duplicated in larger scale tests under on-site conditions or during production. Lower market prices, increased production costs, reduced recovery rates and other factors may result in a revision of mineral resource estimates from time to time or may render the Company's mineral resource uneconomic to exploit. Mineral resource data is not indicative of future results of operations. If the Company's actual mineral resources (and mineral reserves if ever established in the future) are less than current estimates or if the Company fails to develop its mineral resource base through the realization of identified mineralized potential, its results of operations or financial condition may be materially and adversely affected. Evaluation of mineral resources occurs from time to time and estimates of mineral resources (and mineral reserves if ever established in the future) may change depending on further geological interpretation, drilling results and metal prices, which could have a negative effect on the Company's operations. The category of inferred mineral resource is the least reliable mineral resource category and is subject to the most variability. Due to the uncertainty which may attach to inferred mineral resources, there is no assurance that inferred mineral resources will be upgraded to an indicated or measured mineral resource category as a result of continued exploration. There is no certainty that any mineral resources (or mineral reserves, if any) identified on any of the Company's properties will in fact be realized or will ever qualify as a commercially mineable (or viable) deposit which can be legally and economically exploited. Until a deposit is actually mined and processed, the quantity of mineral resources (or mineral reserves, if any) and grade must be considered as estimates only and the Company may ultimately never realize production on any of its properties.

### *Government Regulation*

The Company's business, mining operations and exploration and development activities are subject to extensive federal, territorial and local laws and regulations governing exploration, development, production, exports, taxes, labour standards, waste disposal, protection of the environment, reclamation, historic and cultural resource preservation, mine safety and occupational health, control of toxic substances, reporting and other matters. Although the Company believes that its exploration activities are currently carried out in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations, new rules and regulations may be enacted and existing rules and regulations may be applied in a manner that could limit or curtail production or development of the Company's properties. Amendments to current laws and regulations governing the operations and activities of the Company or more stringent implementation thereof could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations.

### *Community Relations*

The Company's relationships with the communities in which it operates and other stakeholders are critical to ensure the future success of its existing operations and the construction and development of its projects. There is an increasing level of public concern relating to the perceived effect of exploration and mining activities on the environment and on communities impacted by such activities. Publicity adverse to the Company, its operations or extractive industries generally, could have an adverse effect on the Company and may impact relationships with the communities in which the Company operates and other stakeholders. While the Company is committed to operating in a socially responsible manner, there can be no assurance that its efforts in this respect will mitigate this potential risk. Further, damage to the Company's reputation can be the result of the perceived or actual occurrence of any number of events, and could include any negative publicity, whether true or not. The increased usage of social media and other web-based tools used to generate, publish and discuss user-generated content and to connect with other users has made it increasingly easy for individuals and groups to communicate and share opinions and views in regards to the Company and its activities, whether true or not. While the Company strives to uphold and maintain a positive image and reputation, the Company does not ultimately have control over how it is perceived by others. Reputation loss may lead to increased challenges in developing, maintaining community relations and advancing its projects and decreased investor confidence, all of which may have a material adverse impact on the financial performance and growth of the Company.

### *Native Title and Aboriginal Heritage*

Native title claims and Aboriginal heritage issues may affect the ability of the Company to pursue exploration, development and mining on Australian properties. Although to date the Company has been able to negotiate commercially reasonable and acceptable arrangements with Aboriginal title claimants, Aboriginal title holders, and land owners where the Company operates, including heritage agreements to access tenements for exploration efforts, there can be no assurance that claims will not be lodged in the future, including upon expiry of current mining leases, which may impact the Company's ability to effectively operate in relevant geographic areas. The resolution of native title and Aboriginal heritage issues is an integral part of exploration and mining operations in Australia and the Company is committed to managing any issues that may arise effectively. However, in view of the inherent legal and factual uncertainties relating to such issues, no assurance can be given that material adverse consequences will not arise.

***Competition***

The mining industry is intensely competitive in all of its phases and the Company competes with many companies possessing greater financial and technical resources than itself. Competition in the precious metals mining industry is primarily for mineral rich properties that can be developed and produced economically; the technical expertise to find, develop, and operate such properties; the labour to operate the properties; and the capital for the purpose of funding such properties. Many competitors not only explore for and mine precious metals, but also conduct refining and marketing operations on a global basis. Such competition may result in the Company being unable to acquire desired properties, to recruit or retain qualified employees or to acquire the capital necessary to fund its operations and develop its properties. Existing or future competition in the mining industry could materially adversely affect the Company's prospects for mineral exploration and success in the future.

***Currency Fluctuations***

Currency fluctuations may affect the Company's capital costs and the costs that the Company incurs at its operations. Gold is sold throughout the world based principally on a United States dollar price, but most of the Company's operating and capital expenses are incurred in Australian and Canadian dollars. Changes in these foreign currencies could materially and adversely affect the Company's profitability, results of operations and financial position.

***Litigation***

All industries, including the mining industry, are subject to legal claims, with and without merit. Legal proceedings arise from time to time in the course of the Company's business. Such litigation may be brought against the Company or one or more of its subsidiaries in the future from time to time or the Company or one or more of its subsidiaries may be subject to another form of litigation. Defense and settlement costs of legal claims can be substantial, even with respect to claims that have no merit. As of the date hereof, no claims have been brought against the Company, nor has the Company received an indication that any claims are forthcoming. However, due to the inherent uncertainty of the litigation process, should a claim be brought against the Company, the process of defending such claims could take away from management time and effort and the resolution of any particular legal proceeding to which the Company or one or more of its subsidiaries may become subject could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position and results of operations.

### *Enforcement of Civil Liabilities*

Substantially all of the Company's assets are located outside of Canada and certain of the directors and officers of the Company are or may be resident outside of Canada. As a result, it may be difficult or impossible to enforce judgments granted by a court in Canada against the assets of the Company or the Company's directors and officers residing outside of Canada.

### *No Cash Dividends on Common Shares*

Shareholders should not anticipate receiving cash dividends on the Common Shares. The Company has never declared or paid any cash dividends or distributions on the Common Shares. It is currently expected that the Company will retain future earnings, if any, to support operations and to finance explorations and therefore not pay any cash dividends on the Common Shares in the foreseeable future.

### *Conflicts of Interest*

Certain of the directors and officers of the Company also serve as directors and/or officers of other companies involved in natural resource exploration and development and, consequently, there exists the possibility for such directors and officers to be in a position of conflict. The Company expects that any decision made by any of such directors and officers involving the Company will be made in accordance with their duties and obligations to deal fairly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Company and its shareholders, but there can be no assurance in this regard. In addition, each of the Company's directors is required to declare and refrain from voting on any matter in which such directors may have a conflict of interest or which are governed by the procedures set forth in the *Business Corporations Act* (British Columbia) and any other applicable law.