

AN ENERGY STORAGE COMPANY

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### MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CIRCULAR

containing information as at May 31, 2016 unless otherwise noted

#### SOLICITATION OF PROXIES

# **Solicitation of Proxies by Management**

This Management Information Circular ("Circular") is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies ("Proxies") by the management of American Vanadium Corp. ("Corporation") for use at the annual meeting ("Meeting") of the common shareholders of the Corporation to be held at the time and place and for the purposes set out in the Notice of Meeting and any adjournment or postponement thereof.

### **Cost and Manner of Solicitation**

The Corporation is sending proxy solicitation materials to registered and beneficial shareholders pursuant to the 'Notice and Access' procedures of National Instrument 54-101 *Communication with Beneficial Owners of Securities of a Reporting Issuer* ("NI-54-101"). Accordingly, the Corporation has sent the Notice of Meeting and a Proxy or voting information form ("VIF"), but not this Circular, directly to its registered shareholders and those non-registered (beneficial) shareholders that have consented to allow their addresses to be provided to the Corporation ("NOBOs"). The Corporation does not intend to pay for intermediaries such as stockbrokers, securities dealers, banks, trust companies, trustees and their agents and nominees ("Intermediaries") to forward the Notice of Meeting and VIF to those beneficial shareholders that have refused to allow their address to be provided to the Corporation ("OBOs"). Accordingly, OBOs will not receive the Notice of Meeting and VIF unless their respective Intermediaries assume the cost of forwarding such documents to them.

Instead of mailing this Circular to shareholders, the Corporation has posted the Circular on its website pursuant to the 'Notice and Access' procedures of NI 54-101. Shareholders may request a paper copy of this Circular be sent to them by contacting the Corporation as set out under 'Additional Information' at the end of this Circular.

While it is expected that the solicitation will be primarily by mail, Proxies and VIFs may be solicited personally or by telephone, facsimile or electronically by the directors and regular employees of the Corporation or other proxy solicitation services. In accordance with NI 54-101, arrangements have been made to forward proxy solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of common shares of the Corporation (the "Common shares"). All costs of solicitation will be borne by the Corporation.

# APPOINTMENT AND REVOCATION OF PROXYHOLDERS

### **Appointment of Proxyholders**

A shareholder entitled to vote at the Meeting may, by means of a properly executed and deposited Proxy or VIF, appoint a proxyholder or one or more alternate proxyholders, who need not be shareholders of the Corporation to attend and act at the Meeting for the shareholder and vote on the shareholder's behalf.

The individuals named in the Proxy and VIF are William J. Radvak, President and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"), or failing him, Sandra Lee, Corporate Secretary of the Corporation (together, the "Management Designees"). A SHAREHOLDER WISHING TO APPOINT SOME OTHER PERSON (WHO NEED NOT BE A SHAREHOLDER) TO REPRESENT HIM OR HER AT THE MEETING MAY DO SO BY INSERTING SUCH PERSON'S NAME IN THE BLANK SPACE PROVIDED IN THE PROXY OR VIF OR BY COMPLETING ANOTHER PROXY.

A Proxy will not be valid unless the completed, dated and signed Proxy is deposited (or voted online) with Computershare Investor Services Inc., not less than 48 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays) before the time for holding the Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof. **Proxies may be deposited with Computershare Investor Services Inc. using one of the following methods:** 

BY MAIL:	Computershare Investor Services Inc. 9th Floor, 100 University Avenue Toronto, Ontario M5J 2Y1				
OR IF YOU HAVE A CONTROL NUMBER, A HOLDER ACCOUNT NUMBER AND AN ACCESS NUMBER ON THE FACE OF THE PROXY, YOU ARE ABLE TO VOTE BY THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES:					
BY INTERNET:	www.investorvote.com				

# **Revocation of Proxy**

A shareholder who has given a Proxy may revoke it by an instrument in writing duly executed by the shareholder or by the shareholder's attorney authorized in writing or, where the shareholder is a company, by a duly authorized officer or attorney of the company, and delivered either to the registered office of the Corporation, (Northwest Law Group (Attn: Michael F. Provenzano) at Suite 704, 595 Howe Street, Box 35, Vancouver, BC V6C 2T5, Canada or by fax to (+1) 604-687-6650), at any time up to and including the last business day preceding the day of the Meeting, or if adjourned or postponed, any reconvening thereof, or to the chair of the Meeting on the day of the Meeting or, if adjourned or postponed, any reconvening thereof or in any other manner provided by law. A revocation of a Proxy does not affect any matter on which a vote has been taken prior to the revocation.

In addition, a Proxy may be revoked by a shareholder properly executing another Proxy bearing a later date and depositing the same at the offices of **Computershare Investor Services Inc.** within the time period and in the manner set out under the heading "**Appointment of Proxyholder**" above or by the shareholder personally attending the Meeting, withdrawing his or her Proxy and voting the shares.

# Voting of Proxies and VIFs and Exercise of Discretion by Proxyholders

Unless a ballot is called for or required by law, voting at the Meeting will be by way of show of hands. Common shares represented by a properly completed, executed and deposited Proxy or VIF are only entitled to be voted on any ballot, and where a choice with respect to any matter to be acted upon has been specified in the Proxy or VIF, the shares will, on a ballot, be voted or withheld from voting in accordance with the specification so made.

IF A CHOICE WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER IS NOT CLEARLY SPECIFIED IN THE PROXY OR VIF, THE MANAGEMENT DESIGNEES WILL VOTE THE COMMON SHARES REPRESENTED BY THE PROXY "FOR" EACH SUCH MATTER.

The Proxy and VIF, when properly executed and deposited and not revoked, confers discretionary authority upon the person appointed proxyholder thereunder to vote with respect to amendments or variations of matters identified in the Notice of Meeting, and with respect to other matters which may properly come before the Meeting. If amendments or variations to matters identified in the Notice of Meeting are properly brought before the Meeting or any further or other business is properly brought before the Meeting, it is the intention of the Management Designees to vote in accordance with their best judgment on such matters or business. At the date of

this Circular, management knows of no such amendment, variation or other matter which may be presented to the Meeting.

To pass an ordinary resolution requires a simple majority (50% + 1) of the votes cast at the Meeting by the holders of Common shares. A special resolution requires a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

### Advice to Beneficial Holders of Common Shares

Only registered holders of Common shares or the persons they validly appoint as their proxyholders are permitted to vote at the Meeting. However, in many cases, Common shares beneficially owned by a person ("Non-Registered Holder") are registered either in the name of an Intermediary, or a clearing agency (such as the Canadian Depository for Securities Limited) of which the Intermediary is a participant.

Distribution to "Non-Objecting Beneficial Owners" ("NOBOs")

In accordance with the requirements of the Canadian Securities Administrators and NI 54-101, the Corporation caused its transfer agent to distribute the Notice of Meeting and a VIF directly to those Non-Registered Holders who have provided instructions to an Intermediary that such Non-Registered Holder does not object to the Intermediary disclosing ownership information about the beneficial owner. Please carefully review the instructions on the Voting Instruction Form for completion and deposit.

Distribution to "Objecting Beneficial Owner" ("OBOs")

The Corporation also caused its transfer agent to deliver the Notice of Meeting and VIF to the clearing agencies and Intermediaries for onward distribution to those Non-Registered Holders who have provided instructions to an Intermediary that the beneficial owner objects to the Intermediary disclosing ownership information about the beneficial owner.

Intermediaries are required to forward the meeting materials to OBOs unless an OBO has waived his or her right to receive them. Intermediaries often use service companies such as Broadridge to forward the meeting materials to OBOs. Management of the Corporation does not intend to pay for Intermediaries to forward the meeting materials to OBOs.

Should a Non-Registered Holder who receives a VIF wish to vote at the Meeting in person, the Non-Registered Holder should insert the Non-Registered Holder's name in the blank space provided and carefully follow the instructions, including those regarding when and where the VIF is to be delivered.

# VOTING SECURITIES AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS THEREOF

# **Voting Securities**

The Corporation's authorized share structure consists of an unlimited number of Common shares without par value. As at the Record Date (as defined below), the Corporation has issued and outstanding 69,251,445 fully paid and non-assessable Common shares, each Common share carrying the right to one vote. **The Corporation has no other classes of securities.** 

The Common shares have attached thereto the following preferences, rights, conditions, restrictions, limitations, or prohibitions:

Voting

The holders of Common shares shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend any meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation and shall, in respect of each Common share held, be entitled to vote at any meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation and have one vote in respect of each Common share held by them.

### Dividends

The holders of Common shares shall be entitled to receive dividends and the Corporation shall pay dividends thereon, as and when declared by the board of directors of the Corporation (the "Board" or "Board of Directors") out of funds or assets properly applicable to the payment of dividends, in such amount and in such form as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine.

### **Record Date**

The record date for the determination of shareholders entitled to receive notice of the Meeting has been fixed at the close of business on May 31, 2016 ("Record Date").

Every shareholder of record at the Record Date who either personally attends the Meeting or who has submitted a properly executed and deposited Proxy or VIF in the manner and subject to the provisions described above and which has not been revoked shall be entitled to vote or to have his or her Common shares at the Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

# **Principal Holders**

To the knowledge of the directors and executive officers of the Corporation, as at the Record Date, the only persons or companies who beneficially own, or control or direct, directly or indirectly, Common shares carrying 10% or more of the voting rights attached to all outstanding shares of the Corporation are:

<u>Name</u>	No. of Shares	<b>Percentage</b>
Dundee Corporation <sup>(1)</sup>	16,000,000	23.10%
Regberg Ltd. <sup>(2)</sup>	8,136,439	11.75%

<sup>(1)</sup> Dundee Corporation is a holding company that owns and manages a portfolio of publicly listed and privately held businesses.

# INTEREST OF CERTAIN PERSONS OR COMPANIES IN MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON

None of the directors or executive officers of the Corporation, no proposed nominee for election as a director of the Corporation, none of the persons who have been directors or executive officers of the Corporation since the commencement of the Corporation's last completed financial year and no associate or affiliate of any of the foregoing persons has any material interest, direct or indirect, by way of beneficial ownership of securities or otherwise, in any matter to be acted upon at the Meeting other than the election of directors or the appointment of auditors except for the current directors and executive officers of the Corporation and the nominees for election as directors, inasmuch as in the following year they may be granted options to purchase Common shares pursuant to the Corporation's stock option plan, ratification of which will be sought at the Meeting.

# **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors presently consists of five directors. It is intended that four directors be elected for the ensuing year. The change in the number of directors must be approved by an ordinary resolution.

The term of office of each of the present directors expires at the Meeting. The persons named below will be presented for election at the Meeting as management's nominees and unless such authority is withheld, the Management Designees intend to vote for the election of these nominees. Management does not contemplate that any of these nominees will be unable to serve as a director. However, if it shall occur for any reason prior to the Meeting, the Management Designees reserve the right to vote for another nominee or nominees at his discretion. Each director elected will hold office until the next annual meeting of the Corporation or until his successor is duly elected or appointed, unless his office is earlier vacated in accordance with the Bylaws of the Corporation, or with

<sup>(2)</sup> Regberg Ltd. is a private company, arm's length to the Corporation.

the provisions of the *Canada Business Corporations Act*. No class of shareholders of the Corporation has the right to elect a specified number of directors or to cumulate their votes for directors.

The members of the Corporation's audit committee (the "Audit Committee") as at the date hereof are Brian E. Bayley (Chair), Oleg Popovsky and Robert Catell.

The following table sets out the names of the nominees for election as directors, the province and country in which each is ordinarily resident, all offices of the Corporation now held by each of them, their principal occupation, business or employment, the period of time for which each has been a director of the Corporation, and the number of Common shares beneficially owned, or controlled or directed, directly or indirectly, by any proposed director, as at the date of this Circular:

Name, Present Office and Province and Country of <u>Residence</u> <sup>(1)</sup>	Present Principal Occupation, <u>Business or Employment<sup>(1)</sup></u>	Date First Appointed as a <u>Director</u>	No. of Common Shares Beneficially Held or Controlled <sup>(1)</sup>
BRIAN E. BAYLEY Director British Columbia, Canada	President (since December 1996) of Earlston Management Corp., a private management company providing management services to publicly traded companies;	March 28, 2006	400,000
	Director and/or officer of several other public companies.		
<b>DONN BURCHILL</b> Nominee British Columbia. Canada	Chartered Professional Accountant and self- employed accountant;	Nominee	Nil
2.ms/ common, cumuu	Director and/or officer of several other public companies.		
WILLIAM J. RADVAK Director, President & CEO	President & CEO of the Corporation;	January 21, 2010	1,016,820
British Columbia, Canada	President, Chief Executive Officer and a director of Regency Gold Corp. (TSX-V NEX Board) and a director of Westridge Resources Inc.		
BRETT A. WHALEN Chairman Ontario, Canada	Vice President (since September 2000) of Dundee Corporation, a private holding company.	September 30, 2013	500,000

### Notes:

(1) The information as to residence, present principal occupation, business or employment, and the number of Common shares beneficially owned or controlled is not within the knowledge of the management of the Corporation and has been furnished by the respective nominees. The participation of the directors in other reporting issuers is described in Appendix 1 to this Circular.

# **Cease Trade Orders or Bankruptcies**

To the Corporation's knowledge except as disclosed below, no proposed director of the Corporation:

(a) is, as at the date of the Circular, or has been within 10 years before the date of the Circular, a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer of any company (including the Corporation and any personal holding companies) that,

- (i) was subject to a cease trade or similar order or an order that denied the relevant company access to an exemption under securities legislation, that was in effect for a period of more than 30 consecutive days (an "Order") and was issued while the proposed director was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer; or
- (ii) was subject to an Order that was issued after the proposed director ceased to be a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer and which resulted from an event that occurred while that person was acting in the capacity as director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer; or
- (b) is, as at the date of the Circular, or has been within 10 years before the date of the Circular, a director or executive officer of any company (including the Corporation and any personal holding companies) that, while that person was acting in that capacity, or within a year of that person ceasing to act in that capacity, became bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency or was subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold its assets; or
- (c) has, within the 10 years before the date of the Circular, become bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency, or become subject to or instituted any proceedings, arrangement or compromise with creditors, or had a receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold the assets of the proposed director.

Brian E. Bayley was a director from June 15, 2001 to November 2010 of American Natural Energy Corp. ("American") (TSX-V listed;): During the period between May 2007 and March 2008, each of the British Columbia Securities Commission, Manitoba Securities Commission, Ontario Securities Commission, Alberta Securities Commission and l'Autorité des marchés Financiers issued Orders against American for failure to file its financial statements within the prescribed times. The Orders were rescinded in October 2008.

### **Sanctions and Penalties**

To the Corporation's knowledge except as disclosed in this Circular, no proposed director or personal holding companies of any proposed director of the Corporation has been subject to:

- (a) any penalties or sanctions imposed by a court relating to securities legislation or by a securities regulatory authority or has entered into a settlement agreement with a securities regulatory authority; or
- (b) any other penalties or sanctions imposed by a court or regulatory body that would likely be considered important to a reasonable securityholder in deciding whether to vote for a proposed director.

### STATEMENT OF CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

National Policy 58-201 Corporate Governance Guidelines and National Instrument 58-101 Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices ("NI 58-101") set out a series of guidelines for effective corporate governance. The Corporation has reviewed its own corporate governance practices in light of these guidelines. In certain cases, the Corporation's practices comply with the guidelines; however, the Board considers that some of the guidelines are not suitable for the Corporation at its current stage of development and therefore these guidelines have not been adopted. NI 58-101 mandates disclosure of corporate governance practices which disclosure is set out below.

# **Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors is currently composed of five directors and it is proposed that the Board be reduced to four directors at the Meeting. The Board believes that a membership of four or five is an appropriate number for the Corporation, in that it is small enough to facilitate effective decision-making and large enough to provide the necessary breadth of experience.

The Board has determined that Brian E. Bayley, Robert Catell and Oleg Popovsky are and Donn Burchill will be independent based on the test for independence set out in National Instrument 52-110 *Audit Committees* ("NI 52-110"). William J. Radvak is not independent as he is a senior officer of the Corporation. Brett A. Whalen is not independent as he was appointed under a contractual right of appointment held by Dundee Corporation, a control person of the Corporation and therefore has a material relationship with the Corporation.

# Management Supervision by Board

Independent supervision of management is accomplished through choosing management who demonstrate a high level of integrity and ability and having strong independent Board members. The independent directors are however able to meet at any time without any members of management including the non-independent directors being present.

Further supervision is performed through the Audit Committee, which is composed of a majority of independent directors who meet with the Corporation's auditors without management being in attendance, as needed.

# Participation of Directors in Other Reporting Issuers

The participation of the directors in other reporting issuers (public companies) is described in Appendix 1 to this Circular.

# **Orientation and Continuing Education**

While the Corporation does not have formal orientation and training programs, new Board members are provided with access to publicly filed documents of the Corporation, technical reports, if applicable, internal financial information, management and technical experts and consultants, and a summary of significant securities disclosure obligations.

Board members are encouraged to communicate with management, auditors and technical consultants, to keep themselves current with industry trends and developments and changes in legislation with management's assistance and to attend related industry seminars and visit the Corporation's operations.

Board members have full access to the Corporation's records.

### **Ethical Business Conduct**

Corporate governance is the structure and process used to direct and manage the business and affairs of a company with the objective of enhancing shareholder value. The Board of Directors believes that the Corporation has in place corporate governance practices that are both effective and appropriate to the Corporation's size and its relatively uncomplicated business operations. Because of its size and composition, the Board does not find it necessary to appoint many committees or to have in place many formal processes in order to ensure effective corporate governance.

For these reasons the Board has not adopted a formal Code of Conduct.

# **Nomination of Directors**

The Board has responsibility for identifying potential Board candidates. The Board assesses potential Board candidates to fill perceived needs on the Board for required skills, expertise, independence and other factors.

# **Compensation of Directors and Chief Executive Officer**

The independent directors are Brian E. Bayley, Robert Catell and Oleg Popovsky. Directors have the responsibility for determining compensation for the directors and senior management. See "Executive Compensation - Compensation Governance" below regarding the process for determining compensation.

#### **Other Board Committees**

The Board of Directors has an Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing the Corporation's financial reporting procedures, internal control and management information systems and external auditors. The Audit Committee also reviews the annual financial statements and interim unaudited financial statements before those statements are approved by the Board. See "Audit Committee" below for the composition of and further particulars of the Audit Committee.

As of the date of this Circular, the Board has five members and is well able to assess the effectiveness of the Board as a whole and the contributions made by the individual directors without instituting any formal process for that purpose. In addition, as the directors are actively involved in the operations of the Corporation and the size of the Corporation's operations does not warrant a larger board of directors, the Board has determined that additional committees are not necessary at this stage of the Corporation's development.

#### Assessments

The Board conducts informal annual assessments of the Board's effectiveness, the individual directors and of its Audit Committee.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

# Overview

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is principally responsible for:

- recommending to the Board of Directors the external auditor to be nominated for election by the Corporation's shareholders at each annual meeting and negotiating the compensation of such external auditor;
- overseeing the work of the external auditor;
- reviewing the Corporation's annual and interim financial statements, Management Discussion & Analysis (MD&A) and press releases regarding earnings before they are reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors and publicly disseminated by the Corporation; and
- reviewing the Corporation's financial reporting procedures and disclosure controls to ensure adequate
  procedures are in place for the Corporation's public disclosure of financial information extracted or derived
  from its financial statements, other than disclosure described in the previous paragraph, and periodically
  assessing the adequacy of those procedures.

# The Audit Committee's Charter

As of the date of this Circular, the Board of Directors has adopted a Charter for the Audit Committee ("Audit Committee Charter"), which sets out the Audit Committee's mandate, organization, powers and responsibilities, a copy of which is attached as Appendix 2 to this Circular and is available online at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>.

# **Composition of the Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee currently consists of three directors: Brian E. Bayley, Robert Catell and Oleg Popovsky. Following the Meeting, it is anticipated that the members of the Corporation's Audit Committee will be Brian E. Bayley, Donn Burchill and Brett A. Whalen.

The following table sets out their names and whether they are "independent" and "financially literate".

Name of Member	<u>Independent<sup>(1)</sup></u>	Financially Literate <sup>(2)</sup>
Brian E. Bayley	Yes	Yes
Robert Catell	Yes	Yes
Oleg Popovsky	Yes	Yes

#### Notes:

- (1) To be considered to be independent, a member of the Audit Committee must not have any direct or indirect 'material relationship' with the Corporation. A material relationship is a relationship which could, in the view of the Board of Directors, reasonably interfere with the exercise of a member's independent judgment. NI 52-110 exempts the members of the Corporation's Audit Committee from being independent and financially literate since the Corporation is a "venture issuer" as defined therein.
- (2) To be considered financially literate, a member of the Audit Committee must have the ability to read and understand a set of financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of the issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Corporation's financial statements.

# **Relevant Education and Experience**

The education and experience of each Audit Committee member that is relevant to the performance of his responsibilities as an Audit Committee member are set out below:

Brian E. Bayley

Mr. Bayley graduated in 1977 from the University of Victoria with a B.A. (Hon). He received his MBA from Queen's University in 1979 and is currently an officer and director and audit committee member of several public companies.

Robert Catell

Mr. Catell graduated in 1964 from City College of NY with an MME and in 1958 with a BME. He has gained financial literacy through his many years of experience serving as a CEO to a major public company and serving on the board of several businesses, not for profits and advisory boards.

Oleg Popovsky

Mr. Popovsky received a Bachelor of Science (Summa Cum Laude) from Bentley University in marketing and international studies in 2005 and Bachelor of Science from NSCC in business administration in 2003. Mr. Popovsky has had experience in business management, development, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic planning where he has gained financial literacy through the years.

# **Audit Committee Oversight**

Since the commencement of the Corporation's most recently completed financial year, there has not been a recommendation of the Audit Committee to nominate or compensate an external auditor which was not adopted by the Board of Directors.

# **Reliance on Certain Exemptions**

At no time since the commencement of the Corporation's most recently completed financial year has the Corporation relied on: (a) the exemption in section 2.4 (De Minimis Non-audit Services), or (b) an exemption from NI 52-110, in whole or in part, granted under Part 8 (Exemptions).

# **Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

The Audit Committee has adopted specific policies and procedures for the engagement of non-audit services as described in section (aa) in "Accounting Systems, Internal Controls and Procedures" of the Audit Committee Charter.

# **External Auditor Service Fees (By Category)**

The fees paid by the Corporation to its auditors in each of the last two financial years, by category, are as follows:

Financial Period Ending	Audit Fees(1)	Audit Related Fees(2)	Tax Fees <sup>(3)</sup>	All Other Fees
December 31, 2015	\$34,170	Nil	Nil	Nil
December 31, 2014	\$35,700	Nil	\$6,357	Nil

#### Notes:

- (1) The aggregate fees billed by the Corporation's auditors for audit fees.
- (2) The aggregate fees billed for assurance and related services by the Corporation's auditor that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the Corporation's financial statements and are not disclosed in the 'Audit Fees' column.
- (3) The aggregate fees billed for professional services rendered by the Corporation's auditor for tax compliance, tax advice, and tax planning.

# **Exemption for Venture Issuers**

As a venture issuer, the Corporation is exempt from the provisions of NI 52-110 that would otherwise require its audit committee to be constituted in accordance with Part 3 of NI 52-110, and the Corporation to provide comprehensive disclosure about the members of its Audit Committee.

#### STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

For the purposes of this Circular:

- (a) "Chief Executive Officer" or "CEO" of the Corporation means each individual who served as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, or acted in a similar capacity, for any part of the most recently completed financial year.
- (b) "Chief Financial Officer" or "CFO" of the Corporation means each individual who served as Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation, or acted in a similar capacity, for any part of the most recently completed financial year.
- (c) "equity incentive plan" means an incentive plan, or portion of an incentive plan, under which awards are granted and that falls within the scope of International Financial Reporting Standards 2 Share-based Payment;

- (d) "Named Executive Officer" or "NEO" means:
  - (i) a CEO;
  - (ii) a CFO;
  - (iii) each of the three most highly compensated executive officers of the Corporation, including any of its subsidiaries, or the three most highly compensated individuals acting in a similar capacity, other than the CEO and CFO, at the end of the most recently completed financial year whose total compensation was, individually, more than \$150,000, as determined in accordance with subsection 1.3(6) of Form 51-102F6 Statement of Executive Compensation, for that financial year; and
  - (iv) any individuals who would be an NEO under paragraph (iii) but for the fact that the individual was neither serving as an executive officer of the Corporation or its subsidiaries, nor acting in a similar capacity, at the end of the most recently completed financial year.
- (e) "**non-equity incentive plan**" means an incentive plan or portion of an incentive plan that is not an equity incentive plan.
- (f) "option-based award" means an award under an equity incentive plan of options, including for avoidance of doubt, share options, share appreciation rights, and similar instruments that have option-like features.
- (g) "share-based award" means an award under an equity incentive plan of equity-based instruments that do not have option-like features, including, for avoidance of doubt, common shares, restricted share units, deferred share units, phantom shares, phantom share units, common share equivalent units, and stock.

# **Compensation Discussion and Analysis**

Compensation Philosophy

All employees of the Corporation receive compensation based on market value for the type of role they perform. Additional consideration is given to internal pay equity and performance.

The compensation payable to employees consists of the following elements: base salary and long-term incentive by way of the grant of:

- stock options under the Corporation's Stock Option Plan (the "Stock Option Plan");
- restricted share units under the Corporation's Restricted Share Unit Plan (the "RSU Plan"); and
- Common shares ("compensation shares").

# Base Salary

In setting salaries, the Board of Directors does not rely solely upon benchmarking, mathematical formulas or hierarchy. Salary levels for NEOs are based on the executive's qualifications, experience and responsibilities within the Corporation, and are intended to be competitive with salaries paid to others in comparable positions within the same industry.

In reviewing comparative data, the directors do not engage in benchmarking for the purpose of establishing compensation levels relative to any predetermined level and does not compare its compensation to a specific peer group of companies.

The Corporation is a mineral exploration company and will not be generating revenues from operations for a significant period of time. As a result, the use of traditional performance standards, such as corporate profitability and earnings per share, are not considered by the directors to be relevant in the evaluation of corporate or NEO performance. The Company did not have sufficient working capital to consistently pay its NEO during 2015, however, the salary element of compensation is designed to ensure the Corporation's access to skilled employees necessary to achieve its corporate objectives.

# Long-Term Incentive

The Corporation provides a long-term incentive by granting stock options to executive officers in accordance with the Option Plan established in accordance with the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange ("TSX-V"). See the "Stock Option Plan" section. The objective of granting options is to encourage executive officers to acquire an ownership interest in the Corporation over a period of time, which acts as a financial incentive for such executive officer to consider the long-term interests of the Corporation and its shareholders.

When determining the number of Common shares issuable under stock options to be granted to an executive officer, the Board of Directors takes into account the number and terms of outstanding stock options, including vesting provisions, to determine whether or not new stock option grants should be made to such executive officer. In addition, the Board seeks the views of the Corporation's CEO when reviewing compensation for other executive officers because of his day-to-day involvement with these officers. The Board of Directors believes that the CEO is in the best position to assess the performance of such individuals and to provide valuable input regarding salary adjustments, level of payment of short-term incentives, as well as levels of grants of long-term incentives, when applicable. The Board of Directors also asks, and expects the CEO to provide comments, based on his judgment and deep knowledge of the strategic goals of the Corporation, on the design of any new compensation program that is implemented. The Board of Directors takes into consideration information it receives from management, but makes independent recommendations to the Board on all executive compensation matters.

The Corporation has also adopted a RSU Plan in accordance with the policies of the TSX-V as a way of providing a long-term incentive. See the "RSU Plan" section. This allows for more flexibility in granting certain equity incentive awards in addition to stock options. The RSU Plan allows employees, consultants and directors of the Corporation to participate in the long-term success of the Corporation and to promote a greater alignment of interests between employees, consultants, directors and the Corporation's shareholders.

The Corporation also grants compensation shares as an additional way of providing a long-term incentive. The Corporation does not have a formal policy for the granting of compensation shares and each grant is reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. The issuance of compensation shares is subject to the approval of the TSX-V.

The Board of Directors considers the implications and risks of the Corporation's compensation policies and practices as factors in assisting the Board in approving and monitoring guidelines and practices regarding the compensation and benefits of officers, as well as administering the Stock Option Plan and RSU Plan. The Corporation's compensation policies and practices give greater weight toward long-term incentives to mitigate the risk of encouraging short-term goals at the expense of long-term sustainability.

The Corporation does not have a formal policy prohibiting a NEO or director from purchasing financial instruments that are designed to hedge or offset a decrease in market value of equity securities granted as compensation and held, directly or indirectly, by the NEO or director. However, there is an understanding that the NEOs and directors will not purchase such financial instruments, and the Corporation is not aware of any NEO or director having entered into this type of transaction as at the date of this Circular.

# **Share-based and Option-based Awards**

The process the Corporation uses to grant share-based and option-based awards to executive officers is described under "Statement of Executive Compensation - Compensation Discussion and Analysis - Long-Term Incentive".

During the financial year ended December 31, 2015, the Corporation approved the issuance of up to 200,000 Common shares to Revelation Business Solutions Ltd. ("**Revelation**") pursuant to a Consulting Agreement dated August 8, 2014 (the "Consulting Agreement"). The Consulting Agreement was terminated on April 17, 2015 and none of the Common shares approved were issued to Revelation.

# **Compensation Governance**

To determine compensation payable, the independent directors review compensation paid for directors and Chief Executive Officers of companies of similar size and stage of development and determine an appropriate compensation reflecting the need to provide incentive and compensation for the time and effort expended by the directors and senior management while taking into account the financial and other resources of the Corporation. During the financial year ended December 31, 2015, the Board of Directors did not hire an independent consulting firm to determine the remuneration of Named Executive Officers.

The Board of Directors is responsible for reviewing compensation of the Corporation's executive officers and directors, executive compensation disclosure and oversight of the compensation structure and benefit plans and programs of the Corporation. The Board of Directors also establishes and administers the Corporation's policies, programs and procedures for compensating and incentivizing its executive officers.

### **Summary Compensation Table**

The table below sets out all compensation paid by the Corporation and/or its subsidiaries for each NEO for each of the Corporation's three most recently completed financial years. There were no other persons serving as NEOs of the Corporation as at December 31, 2015 whose total salary and bonus exceeded \$150,000.

			Share-	Option-	plan con	ty incentive npensation (\$)			
Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)	based awards (\$)	based awards <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	Annual incentive plans	Long-term incentive plans	Pension value (\$)	All other compensation <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	Total compensation (\$)
WILLIAM J. RADVAK President & CEO	2015 2014 2013	176,667 <sup>(3)</sup> 202,212 172,224	Nil 115,939 96,250	27,982 Nil 13,492	N/A N/A N/A	N/A N/A N/A	N/A N/A N/A	Nil Nil 30,000	204,649 318,151 311,966
JOHN G. DOWNES CFO	2015 2014 2013	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	2,758 Nil 20,236	N/A N/A N/A	N/A N/A N/A	NA N/A N/A	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil

#### Notes

- (1) Options were granted pursuant to the Stock Option Plan. For compensation purposes, the Black-Scholes option valuation model has been used to determine the fair value on the date of grant. The Black-Scholes option valuation is determined using the expected life of the stock option, expected volatility of the Common share price, expected dividend yield and risk free interest rate. The amount presented in the table represents the value of the vested and unvested portion of the options issued during the year. For accounting purposes, the fair value of the award is amortized over the applicable vesting period and recognized as a compensation expense.
- (2) "All Other Compensation" includes consulting fees, bonuses, termination and sundry benefits paid to executives, and director's fees paid to those executives also serving as directors of the Corporation.
- (3) Payment of Mr. Radvak's salary in the Corporation's 2015 financial year (and the 2016 financial year to the date of this Circular) has been deferred until the Corporation has adequate financial resources to make such payment.

# **Incentive Plan Awards**

The following table sets out all awards outstanding for each NEO at the end of the financial year ending December 31, 2015 (including awards granted before the most recently completed financial year):

# **Outstanding Share-Based Awards and Option-Based Awards**

		Option-b	pased Awards <sup>(1)</sup>	Share-based Awards (2)			
Name	Number of securities underlying unexercised options (3) (#)	Option exercise price (\$)	Option expiration date	Value of unexercised in-the-money options (4) (\$)	Number of shares or units of shares that have not vested (#)	Market or payout value of share-based awards that have not vested (5)	Market or payout value of vested share-based awards not paid out or distributed (\$)
WILLIAM J. RADVAK President & CEO	50,000 50,000 1,000,000	\$0.74 \$0.60 \$0.10	June 15, 2017 November 4, 2018 April 16, 2020	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	N/A N/A N/A	N/A N/A N/A
JOHN G. DOWNES CFO	40,000 75,000 115,000	\$0.77 \$0.60 \$0.10	February 6, 2017 November 4, 2018 April 16, 2020	Nil Nil Nil	Nil Nil Nil	N/A N/A N/A	N/A N/A N/A

#### Notes

- (1) The Stock Option Plan is a "rolling" plan whereby the maximum number of Common shares that may be reserved for issuance pursuant to the Stock Option Plan, when aggregated with all Common shares reserved for issuance under any other share compensation arrangement (including the RSU Plan and compensation shares), will not exceed 10% of the issued shares of the Corporation at the time of the stock option grant.
- (2) Under the RSU Plan the maximum number of Common shares that may be reserved for issuance pursuant to the RSU Plan, when aggregated with all Common shares reserved for issuance under any other share compensation arrangement (including the Stock Option Plan and compensation shares), will not exceed 10% of the issued shares of the Corporation at the time of the restricted share unit grant.
- (3) All stock options granted to the NEOs are fully vested.
- (4) The value of unexercised "in-the-money" options refers to the aggregate of the difference between the market value of the Common shares as at December 31, 2015 (being the last day the Common shares traded in the most recently completed financial year, being \$0.09) and the exercise price of the options granted (including vested and unvested).
- (5) Market or payout value of share-based awards that have not vested is based on the closing price of the Common shares as at December 31, 2015, being \$0.09 each.

# Incentive Plan Awards - Value Vested or Earned During the Year

The following table sets out for each NEO the value of option-based awards and share-based awards which vested or were earned during the most recently completed financial year ended December 31, 2015:

Name	Option-based awards - Value vested during the year (\$)	Share-based awards - Value vested during the year (\$)	Non-equity incentive plan compensation - Value earned during the year (\$)
WILLIAM J. RADVAK President & CEO	Nil	20,272	Nil
JOHN G. DOWNES CFO	Nil	2,758	Nil

The Corporation has no form of compensation plan under which equity securities of the Corporation are authorized for issuance to employees or non-employees in exchange for consideration in the form of goods or services other than the Stock Option Plan and RSU Plan.

Under the terms of the Stock Option Plan, any options will terminate 90 days after the optionee ceases to be a director, senior officer, employee or consultant of the Corporation or a subsidiary (except for persons providing investor relations services which terminate 30 days after cessation), except by reason of the death of the optionee, in which case the optionee's personal representative may exercise the options by the earlier of one year following the date of death or the expiry date of the stock option. See "Stock Option Plan" below.

Under the terms of the RSU Plan, if any performance-based criteria or other conditions specified in an award of restricted share units ("RSUs") have not been satisfied on or prior to the last day of the vesting period, those RSUs will expire and the holder will not be entitled to be issued any Common shares in respect of those RSUs. Additionally, all RSUs awarded to that participant under the RSU Plan will expire, and the participant will no longer be entitled to receive any Common shares upon conversion of those RSUs, on the day on which the participant ceases to be an employee, officer or director of or consultant to the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries (except that in the event of the participant's death or total disability, the performance-based criteria and conditions specified in the participant's award of RSUs will, unless otherwise specified in the award, be deemed satisfied and the RSUs will be converted into Common shares). See "RSU Plan" below.

# **Pension Plan Benefits**

The Corporation does not have in place any deferred compensation plan or pension plan that provides for payments or benefits at, following or in connection with retirement.

# **Termination and Change of Control Benefits**

# **Chief Executive Officer**

Under an executive employment agreement dated December 17, 2013 and effective January 1, 2014 between the Corporation and William Radvak, the Corporation employs Mr. Radvak as President and Chief Executive Officer at an annual salary of \$200,000 ("Base Salary"). Payment of the Base Salary was deferred in the Corporation's 2015 financial year and to the date of this Circular until the Corporation has sufficient financial resources to make such payments. Pursuant to the agreement Mr. Radvak was paid a one-time lump sum of \$30,000 and received 250,000 Common shares as an equity signing bonus in 2013 and 250,000 Common shares in 2014 as an equity financing bonus.

The Corporation may terminate the agreement and Mr. Radvak's employment at any time for just cause without notice and without liability for damages or loss sustained by Mr. Radvak. The Corporation may in its absolute discretion, terminate Mr. Radvak's employment at any time without just cause by paying Mr. Radvak a lump sum payment of the Base Salary Mr. Radvak would have earned in six months (i.e. \$100,000).

# **Director Compensation**

The following table sets out details of all amounts of compensation provided to the directors of the Corporation other than the NEOs ("Other Directors") for the financial year ended December 31, 2015:

### **Director Compensation Table**

Name	Fees earned (\$)	Share- based awards (\$)	Option- based awards <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	Non-equity incentive plan compensation (\$)	Pension value (\$)	All other compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
BRIAN E. BAYLEY	Nil	Nil	7,194	N/A	N/A	Nil	7,194
BRETT A. WHALEN	Nil	Nil	4,796	N/A	N/A	Nil	4,796
ROBERT CATTELL	Nil	Nil	4,796	N/A	N/A	Nil	4,796
OLEG POPOVSKY	Nil	Nil	4,796	N/A	N/A	Nil	4,796

#### Notes

<sup>(1)</sup> The options were granted pursuant to the Stock Option Plan. For compensation purposes, the Black-Scholes option valuation model has been used to determine the fair value on the date of grant. The Black-Scholes option valuation is determined using the expected life of the stock option, expected volatility of the Common share price, expected dividend yield and risk free interest rate. The amounts presented in the table represent the value of the vested and unvested portion of the options issued during the applicable financial year. For accounting purposes, the fair value of the award is amortized over the applicable vesting period and recognized as a compensation expense.

# Share-Based Awards, Option-Based Awards and Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation

The following table sets out all awards outstanding for each Other Director at the end of the financial year ending December 31, 2015 (including awards granted before the most recently completed financial year):

# **Outstanding Share-Based Awards and Option-Based Awards**

	Option-based Awards <sup>(1)</sup>				Share-based Awards		
Name	Number of securities underlying unexercised options (#)	Option exercise price (\$)	Option expiration date	Value of unexercised in-the- money options <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	Number of shares or units of shares that have not vested (#)	Market or payout value of share- based awards that have not vested (\$)	Market or payout value of vested share-based awards not paid out or distributed (\$)
BRIAN E. BAYLEY	50,000	\$0.74	June 15, 2017	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A
	50,000	\$0.60	Nov. 4, 2018	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A
	300,000	\$0.10	April 16, 2020	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A
BRETT A. WHALEN	200,000	\$0.60	Nov. 4, 2018	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A
	200,000	\$0.10	April 16, 2020	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A
ROBERT CATELL	250,000	\$0.60	May 30, 2019	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A
	200,000	\$0.10	April 16, 2020	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A
OLEG POPOVSKY	200,000	\$0.60	July 10, 2019	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A
	200,000	\$0.10	April 16, 2020	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A

#### Notes:

- (1) The Corporation has in place a "rolling" Stock Option Plan whereby the maximum number of Common shares that may be reserved for issuance pursuant to the Stock Option Plan, when aggregated with all Common shares reserved for issuance under any other share compensation arrangement (including the RSU Plan and compensation shares), will not exceed 10% of the issued shares of the Corporation at the time of the stock option grant.
- (2) The value of unexercised "in-the-money" options refers to the aggregate of the difference between the market value of the Common shares as at December 31, 2015 (being the last day the Common shares traded in the most recently completed financial year, being \$0.09) and the exercise price of the options granted (including vested and unvested).

The following table sets out the value of option-based awards and share-based awards which vested or were earned during the most completed financial year ended December 31, 2015 for each Other Director:

# Incentive Plan Awards - Value Vested or Earned During the Year

Name	Option-based awards - Value vested during the year (\$)	Share-based awards - Value vested during the year (\$)	Non-equity incentive plan compensation - Value earned during the year (\$)
BRIAN E. BAYLEY	7,194	Nil	N/A
BRETT A. WHALEN	4,796	Nil	N/A
ROBERT CATELL	4,796	Nil	N/A
OLEG POPOVSKY	4,796	Nil	N/A

# SECURITIES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS

# **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

The following table sets out details of the Corporation's compensation plans under which equity securities of the Corporation are authorized for issuance as at December 31, 2015:

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in first column) (1)
Equity compensation plans approved by securityholders	3,755,000	\$0.24	3,069,611
Equity compensation plans not approved by securityholders	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	3,755,000	\$0.24	3,069,611

#### Note:

(1) Any share compensation arrangement, which includes the Stock Option Plan, RSU Plan and compensation shares has a limitation, when aggregated, of 10% of the issued and outstanding Common shares as at December 31, 2015 less issued stock options, restricted share units and compensation shares. As at December 31, 2015, the issued and outstanding Common shares was 68,246,113 Common shares.

# STOCK OPTION PLAN

# Purpose of the Plan

The purpose of the Stock Option Plan is to provide an incentive to the Corporation's directors, officers, employees and consultants and to management company employees to continue their involvement with the Corporation, to increase their efforts on the Corporation's behalf and to attract qualified new personnel. The Corporation decided to implement the Stock Option Plan to provide additional incentive in attracting, retaining and motivating directors, officers, employees and consultants of the Corporation and of its affiliates.

# General Description/TSX-V Policies

The Stock Option Plan is administered by the Board of Directors. A copy of the Stock Option Plan is attached as Appendix 3 to this Circular.

The Stock Option Plan provides that, subject to the requirements of the TSX-V, the aggregate number of securities reserved for issuance under the Stock Option Plan and any other share compensation arrangement of the Corporation will be 10% of the number of the Common shares issued and outstanding from time to time. The Stock Option Plan will be administered by the Board of Directors, which will have full and final authority with respect to the granting of all options thereunder.

The Stock Option Plan has been prepared so as to meet TSX-V requirements. Options may be granted under the Stock Option Plan to such service providers of the Corporation and its affiliates, if any, as the Board of Directors may from time to time designate. The exercise price of option grants will be determined by the Board of Directors, but will not be less than the closing market price of the Common shares on the TSX-V less allowable discounts at the time of grant. The Stock Option Plan provides that the number of Common shares that may be reserved for

issuance to any one individual upon exercise of all stock options held by such individual, when aggregated with the Common shares reserved for issuance to such individual under any other share compensation arrangement of the Corporation, may not exceed 5% of the issued Common shares on a yearly basis. Subject to earlier termination and in the event of dismissal for cause, termination other than for cause or in the event of death, all options granted under the Stock Option Plan will expire not later than the date that is five years from the date that such options are granted. Options granted under the Stock Option Plan are not transferable or assignable other than by will or other testamentary instrument or pursuant to the laws of succession.

# RESTRICTED SHARE UNIT PLAN

The purpose of the RSU Plan is to recognize the contributions made by employees, officers, directors and consultants of the Corporation and to provide an incentive which aligns their interests with those of the Corporation's shareholders. The RSU Plan provides the Corporation with more flexibility in granting certain equity incentive awards in addition to stock options. The RSU Plan is administered by the Board of Directors.

The following is a summary of certain provisions of the RSU Plan. It is not a comprehensive discussion of all of the terms and conditions of the RSU Plan. Readers are advised to review the full text of the RSU Plan to fully understand all terms and conditions of the RSU Plan. A copy of the RSU Plan is attached to the Management Information Circular of the Corporation dated June 5, 2013.

<u>Awards.</u> The Board, at any time and from time to time, may in its sole discretion select employees, officers, directors and consultants of the Corporation to whom awards are made under the RSU Plan and will specify the number of RSUs awarded to each such participant under the RSU Plan, the vesting period in respect of such RSU and any performance-based criteria or other conditions relating to an award that are consistent with the RSU Plan.

The vesting of RSUs issued under the RSU Plan occurs up to three years from the date of award, subject to the achievement of any performance-based criteria which may be set by the Board and to earlier vesting upon the occurrence of a change of control of the Corporation.

Maximum Participation. Notwithstanding any other provision of the RSU Plan:

- (a) the maximum number of RSUs that may be granted shall be limited to 3,500,000, provided that, notwithstanding the foregoing, the maximum number of Common shares issuable pursuant to outstanding RSUs and all other share compensation arrangements of the Corporation, shall not exceed 10% of the Common shares outstanding from time to time;
- (b) the maximum number of Common shares issuable pursuant to outstanding RSUs to any one participant, within a 12 month period, shall not exceed 1% of the Common shares outstanding from time to time and 2% in the aggregate for all participants;
- (c) the Corporation must obtain disinterested shareholder approval prior to the grant of RSUs to insiders, however, the Corporation may seek from any applicable stock exchange a waiver from having to obtain disinterested shareholder approval provided the number of Common shares issuable pursuant to RSUs granted to any one insider, within a 12 month period, does not exceed 1% of the Common shares outstanding from time to time and 2% in the aggregate for all insiders;
- (d) the maximum number of Common shares issuable pursuant to outstanding RSUs to any one non-insider, employee or consultant, within a 12 month period, shall not exceed 1% of the Common shares outstanding from time to time and 2% in the aggregate for all such participants, unless the Corporation has obtained shareholder approval;

- (e) the maximum number of Common shares issuable pursuant to outstanding RSUs and all other share compensation arrangements of the Corporation to any one participant, within a 12 month period, shall not exceed 5% of the Common shares outstanding from time to time, unless the Corporation has obtained disinterested shareholder approval;
- (f) the maximum number of Common shares issuable pursuant to outstanding RSUs and all other share compensation arrangements of the Corporation to participants that provide investor relations activities, within a 12 month period, shall not exceed 2% of the Common shares outstanding from time to time; and
- (g) the maximum number of Common shares issuable pursuant to outstanding RSUs and all other share compensation arrangements of the Corporation to any one consultant, within a 12 month period, shall not exceed 2% of the Common shares outstanding from time to time.

Expiration of RSUs. If any performance-based criteria or other conditions specified in an award of RSUs has not been satisfied on or prior to the last day of the vesting period, those RSUs will expire and the participant under the RSU Plan will not be entitled to be issued any Common shares in respect of those RSUs. Additionally, all RSUs awarded to a participant under the RSU Plan will expire, and the participant will no longer be entitled to receive any Common shares upon conversion of those RSUs, on the day on which the participant ceases to be an employee, officer, director or consultant of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries (except that in the event of the participant's death or total disability, the performance-based criteria and conditions specified in the participant's award of RSUs will, unless otherwise specified in the award, be deemed satisfied and the RSUs will be converted into Common shares). Rights respecting RSUs are not transferable or assignable other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution.

<u>Adjustment.</u> In the event of any stock dividend, stock split, combination or exchange of shares, merger, consolidation, spin-off or other distribution (other than normal cash dividends) of the Corporation's assets to shareholders, or any other change in the capital of the Corporation affecting the Common shares, such proportionate adjustment, if any, as the Board in its sole discretion may deem appropriate to reflect such change, will be made to the number of outstanding RSUs awarded under the RSU Plan.

<u>Amendments.</u> Unless specifically required by the TSX-V or regulatory authority, the Board may make amendments to any provisions relating to the granting of RSUs, including but not limited to provisions relating to the number of RSUs to be awarded, the vesting period of such RSUs and the performance-based criteria, and may make amendments to correct or rectify any ambiguity, defective provision, error or omission in the RSU Plan. The Board, however, must first seek shareholder approval to amend provisions with respect to, for example, the persons eligible to participate in the RSU Plan, the maximum number or percentage of Common shares reserved for issuance under the RSU Plan, the limitations under the RSU Plan on the percentage of RSUs that may be granted to any one person or category of persons and the expiry and termination of RSUs.

# Disinterested shareholder approval

In addition to shareholder approval of the RSU Plan obtained at the annual and special meeting of shareholders held on July 15, 2013, management of the Corporation also obtained disinterested shareholder approval of the RSU Plan for the purposes of the grant of RSUs under paragraphs (c) and (e) above.

Under paragraph (c) above, the RSU Plan provides that disinterested shareholder approval is required prior to the grant of RSUs to insiders, however, the Corporation may seek from any applicable stock exchange a waiver from having to obtain disinterested shareholder approval provided the number of Common shares issuable pursuant to RSUs granted to any one insider, within a 12 month period, does not exceed 1% of the Common shares outstanding from time to time and 2% in the aggregate for all insiders. Pursuant to the RSU Plan, an "insider" includes a director or an officer of the Corporation, a director or an officer of a person that is itself an insider of the Corporation and a person that has beneficial ownership of, or control or direction over, directly or indirectly, or a combination of beneficial ownership of, and control and direction over, directly or indirectly, more than 10% of the Common shares.

Under paragraph (e) above, the RSU Plan provides that disinterested shareholder approval is required if the Corporation proposes to grant to any one participant, within a 12 month period, such number of RSUs, when aggregated with the number of Common shares issuable pursuant to all other share compensation arrangements of the Corporation, exceeding 5% of the Common shares outstanding.

The approval of the disinterested shareholders provides the Board the ability, in its sole discretion, to grant RSUs to insiders and participants, within a 12 month period, in amounts that may exceed the thresholds set out under paragraphs (c) and (e) above.

### INDEBTEDNESS OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

No executive officer, director, employee or former executive officer, director or employee or any of their respective associates or affiliates is or has been at any time since the beginning of the last completed financial year, indebted to the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries nor has any such person been indebted to any other entity where such indebtedness is the subject of a guarantee, support agreement, letter of credit or similar arrangement or understanding, provided by the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries.

# INTEREST OF INFORMED PERSONS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS

Other than as disclosed in this Circular, no director or executive officer of the Corporation, proposed nominee for election as a director, person beneficially owning, directly or indirectly, more than 10% of the outstanding Common shares or any associate or affiliate of the foregoing, has any material interest, direct or indirect, in any transaction since the commencement of the Corporation's most recently completed financial year or in any proposed transaction, which has materially affected or would materially affect the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries.

### APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The shareholders of the Corporation will be asked to vote for the re-appointment of Davidson & Company LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, as auditors of the Corporation for the ensuing year to hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until the firm of Davidson & Company LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants is removed from office or resigns. The shareholders will also be asked to approve and adopt an ordinary resolution authorizing the Board of Directors to approve the compensation of the auditors for the ensuing year.

# MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS

The Corporation has retained the services of Earlston Management Corp. ("Earlston") to provide various consulting, administrative, management and related corporate services in consideration for a monthly fee of \$6,500 commencing November 2011 (prior to this date, a fee of \$4,000 was charged), plus reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of its services. Earlston's head office is located at Suite 1703 - 595 Burrard Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V7X 1J1. Earlston is a private company. Brian E. Bayley, a director of the Corporation, is President and a director of Earlston.

Earlston's informed persons, as defined by National Instrument 51-102 *Continuous Disclosure Obligations* and their provinces of residences are: Brian E. Bayley (British Columbia), Sandra Lee (British Columbia) and John G. Downes (British Columbia) (together, the "**Earlston Informed Persons**").

Neither Earlston nor any of the Earlston Informed Persons, or their associates or affiliates, is or was since the start of the Corporation's most recently completed financial year indebted to the Corporation or its subsidiaries or entered into any transactions or arrangements with the Corporation or its subsidiaries.

# PARTICULARS OF MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON

# **Continuance of Stock Option Plan**

The Stock Option Plan provides for the issuance of stock options to acquire, when aggregated with the number of Common shares reserved for issuance under every other share compensation arrangement of the Corporation, up to 10% of the Corporation's issued and outstanding capital as at the date of grant. This is a "rolling" plan as the number of shares reserved for issuance pursuant to the grant of stock options will increase as the Corporation's issued and outstanding share capital increases.

The TSX-V recently required the Corporation suspend its Stock Option Plan until the filing of the Stock Option Plan with and payment of applicable fees to the TSX-V. The Corporation intends to make such filing and payment of fees as soon as it has sufficient financial resources.

The TSX-V policy requires that "rolling" plans be approved by shareholders annually, at the Corporation's annual meeting. Continuation of the Stock Option Plan is subject to the approval of the shareholders of the Corporation and acceptance by the TSX-V. Accordingly, despite the Stock Option Plan currently being suspended, shareholders will be requested at the Meeting to pass an ordinary resolution ("Stock Option Plan Renewal Resolution") in the following terms:

# "RESOLVED that:

- (1) the Corporation's stock option plan ("Plan"), as described in and attached as Appendix 3 to the Management Information Circular of the Corporation dated May 31, 2016, be and is hereby ratified, confirmed and approved, subject to acceptance by the TSX Venture Exchange;
- (2) the Corporation be authorized to grant stock options pursuant and subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, entitling the option holders to purchase, when aggregated with the number of Common shares reserved for issuance under every other share compensation arrangement of the Corporation, up to that number of Common shares that is equal to 10% of the issued and outstanding capital of the Corporation at the time of the grant;
- (3) the outstanding stock options which have been granted prior to the renewal of the Plan shall, for the purpose of calculating the number of stock options that may be granted under the Plan, be treated as options granted under the Plan; and
- (4) any one director or officer of the Corporation be and is hereby authorized and directed to do all such acts and things and to execute and deliver under the corporate seal or otherwise all such deeds, documents, instruments and assurances as may be necessary or desirable to give effect to the foregoing resolutions and to complete all transactions in connection with the continuation of the Plan."

Unless otherwise directed, it is the intention of the Management Designees to vote Proxies in favour of the resolution approving the Stock Option Plan Renewal Resolution. To be effective, an ordinary resolution requires approval of a majority of the votes cast by shareholders who vote in respect of the Stock Option Plan Renewal Resolution.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Management of the Corporation knows of no matters to come before the Meeting other than those referred to in the Notice of Meeting. However, if any other matters properly come before the Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the Proxy or VIF as management nominees to vote the same in accordance with their best judgment of such matters.

# SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS

Pursuant to Section 137 of the *Canada Business Corporations Act*, any notice of a shareholder proposal intended to be raised at the 2015 annual and special meeting of the Corporation must be submitted to the Corporation at its registered office, to the attention of the Corporate Secretary, at least 90 days before the anniversary date of the notice of meeting sent to the shareholders in connection with the Meeting.

It is the position of the Corporation that shareholder proposals need be recognized only if made in accordance with the procedures set out in the *Canada Business Corporations Act*.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information concerning the Corporation is available online at <a href="www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>. Financial information concerning the Corporation is provided in the Corporation's Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for the financial period ended December 31, 2015.

Shareholders wishing to obtain a copy of the Corporation's Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis may contact the Corporation as follows:

American Vanadium Corp.
Suite 1703, Three Bentall Centre
595 Burrard Street
P.O. Box 49131
Vancouver, British Columbia V7X 1J1
Canada

Telephone: (604) 689-1428 Facsimile: (604) 681-4692

Website: www.americanvandium.com

# **DIRECTORS' APPROVAL**

The contents and sending of this Circular have been approved by the Directors of the Corporation.

# BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

(signed)"William J. Radvak"
William J. Radvak,
President and Chief Executive Officer and Director

Vancouver, British Columbia May 31, 2016

# Appendix 1

The participation of each of the current directors and nominees for election as directors in other reporting issuers (public companies) is set out below.

Name of Director or Proposed Director	Directorship(s) held in other Reporting Issuers				
Brian E. Bayley	Cypress Hills Resource Corp. Kramer Capital Corp. TransAtlantic Petroleum Corp.	Eurasian Minerals Inc. Legend Gold Corp.			
Donn Burchill (1)	Carolina Capital Corp. Marchwell Ventures Ltd.	Colombian Mines Corporation			
Robert Catell (2)	Nil				
Oleg Popovsky (2)	Nil				
William J. Radvak	Regency Gold Corp.	Westridge Resources Inc.			
Brett A. Whalen	Dundee Corporation				

- (1) Nominee for election as a director.
- (2) Not standing for re-lection as a director.

# Appendix 2

# AMERICAN VANADIUM CORP. (the "Company")

# **Audit Committee Charter**

# Composition and Process

- (b) The Audit Committee shall be composed of a minimum of three members of the Board of Directors, a majority of whom are independent. An independent director, as defined in National Instrument 52-110 *Audit Committees* ("NI 52-110") is a director who has no direct or indirect material relationship which could, in the view of the Company's Board of Directors, be reasonably expected to interfere with the exercise of a members independent judgment or as otherwise determined to be independent in accordance with NI 52-110.
- (c) Members shall serve one-year terms and may serve consecutive terms, which are encouraged to ensure continuity of experience.
- (d) The Chairperson shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for a one-year term, and may serve any number of consecutive terms.
- (e) All members of the Audit Committee shall be financially literate. Financial literacy is the ability to read and understand a balance sheet, income statement and cash flow statement that present a breadth and level of complexity comparable to the Company's financial statements.
- (f) The Chairperson shall, in consultation with management and the external auditor and internal auditor (if any), establish the agenda for the meetings and ensure that properly prepared agenda materials are circulated to the members with sufficient time for study prior to the meeting. The external auditor will also receive notice of all meetings of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee may employ a list of prepared questions and considerations as a portion of its review and assessment process.
- (g) The Audit Committee shall meet at least once per year and may call special meetings as required. A quorum at meetings of the Audit Committee shall be its Chairperson and one of its other members or the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee may hold its meetings, and members of the Audit Committee may attend meetings, by telephone conference if this is deemed appropriate.
- (h) The minutes of the Audit Committee meetings shall accurately record the decisions reached and shall be distributed to Audit Committee members with copies to the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer and the external auditor.
- (i) The Audit Committee reviews, prior to their presentation to the Board of Directors and their release, all material financial information required by securities legislation and policies.

- (j) The Audit Committee enquires about potential claims, assessments and other contingent liabilities
- (k) The Audit Committee periodically reviews with management, depreciation and amortization policies, loss provisions and other accounting policies for appropriateness and consistency.
- (l) The Charter of the Audit Committee shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors on an annual basis.

# Authority

- (m) Appointed by the Board of Directors pursuant to the provisions of the *Canada Business Corporations Act* and the by-laws of the Company.
- (n) Primary responsibility for the Corporation's financial reporting, accounting systems and internal controls is vested in senior management and is overseen by the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee is a standing committee of the Board of Directors established to assist it in fulfilling its responsibilities in this regard. The Audit Committee shall have responsibility for overseeing management reporting on internal controls. While it is management's responsibility to design and implement an effective system of internal control, it is the responsibility of the Audit Committee to ensure that management has done so.
- (o) In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Audit Committee shall have unrestricted access to the Company's personnel and documents and will be provided with the resources necessary to carry out its responsibilities.
- (p) The Audit Committee shall have direct communication channels with the internal auditor (if any) and the external auditor to discuss and review specific issues, as appropriate.
- (q) The Audit Committee shall have the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisors as it determines necessary to carry out its duties.
- (r) The Audit Committee shall establish the compensation to be paid to any advisors employed by the Audit Committee and such compensation shall be paid by the Company as directed by the Audit Committee.

# Relationship with External Auditors

- (s) An external auditor must report directly to the Audit Committee.
- (t) The Audit Committee is directly responsible for overseeing the work of the external auditor including the resolution of disagreements between management and the external auditor regarding financial reporting.
- (u) The Audit Committee shall implement structures and procedures to ensure that it meets with the external auditor on at least annually in the absence of management.

# Accounting Systems, Internal Controls and Procedures

- (v) Obtain reasonable assurance from discussions with and/or reports from management, and reports from external auditors that accounting systems are reliable and that the prescribed internal controls are operating effectively for the Company and its subsidiaries and affiliates.
- (w) The Audit Committee shall review to ensure to its satisfaction that adequate procedures are in place for the review of the Company's disclosure of financial information extracted or derived from the Company's financial statements and will periodically assess the adequacy of those procedures.
- (x) Direct the external auditor's examinations to particular areas.
- (y) Review control weaknesses identified by the external auditor, together with management's response.
- (z) Review with the external auditor its view of the qualifications and performance of the key financial and accounting executives.
- (aa) In order to preserve the independence of the external auditor the Audit Committee will:
  - (i) recommend to the Board of Directors the external auditor to be nominated; and
  - (ii) recommend to the Board of Directors the compensation of the external auditor's engagement;
- (bb) The Audit Committee shall review and pre-approve any engagements for non-audit services to be provided by the external auditor or its affiliates, together with estimated fees, and consider the impact on the independence of the external auditor.
- (cc) Review with management and with the external auditor any proposed changes in major accounting policies, the presentation and impact of significant risks and uncertainties, and key estimates and judgments of management that may be material to financial reporting.
- (dd) The Audit Committee shall review and approve the Company's hiring policies regarding partners, employees and former partners and employees of the present and most recent former external auditor of the Company.
- (ee) The Audit Committee shall establish procedures for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and the confidential anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
- (ff) The Audit Committee shall on an annual basis, prior to public disclosure of its annual financial statements, ensure that the external auditor has entered into a participation agreement and has not had its participant status terminated, or, if its participant status was terminated, has been reinstated in accordance with the Canadian Public Accountability Board ("CPAB") bylaws and is in compliance with any restriction or sanction imposed by the CPAB.

# Statutory and Regulatory Responsibilities

- (gg) Annual Financial Information review the annual audited financial statements and related management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A"), including any letter to shareholders and related press releases, and recommend their approval to the Board of Directors, after discussing matters such as the selection of accounting policies (and changes thereto), major accounting judgments, accruals and estimates with management and the external auditor.
- (hh) Annual Report review the management MD&A section and all other relevant sections of the annual report, if prepared, to ensure consistency of all financial information included in the annual report.
- (ii) Interim Financial Statements review the quarterly interim financial statements and related MD&A, including any letter to shareholders and related press releases and recommend their approval to the Board of Directors.
- (jj) Earnings Guidance/Forecasts review forecasted financial information and forward looking statements.
- (kk) Review the Company's financial statements, MD&A and earnings press releases before the Company publicly discloses this information.

# Reporting

- (ll) Report, through the Chairperson of the Audit Committee, to the Board of Directors following each meeting on the major discussions and decisions made by the Audit Committee.
- (mm) Report annually to the Board of Directors on the Audit Committee's responsibilities and how it has discharged them.
- (nn) Review the Audit Committee's Charter annually and recommend the approval of any proposed amendments to the Board of Directors.

# Other Responsibilities

- (oo) Investigating fraud, illegal acts or conflicts of interest.
- (pp) Discussing selected issues with corporate counsel or the external auditor or management.

Approved and adopted by the Board effective April 24, 2008.

### **Appendix 3**

# AMERICAN VANADIUM CORP. (the "Corporation")

# STOCK OPTION PLAN

# (2) INTERPRETATION

- **1.1** <u>Defined Terms</u> For the purposes of this Stock Option Plan, the following terms shall have the following meanings:
  - (a) "Associate" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in the British Columbia Securities Act, as amended from time to time;
  - (b) "Board" means the Board of Directors of the Corporation;
  - (c) "Change in Control" means:
    - (i) a takeover bid (as defined in the British Columbia *Securities Act*, which is successful in acquiring Shares of the Corporation;
    - (ii) the change of control of the Board resulting from the election by the members of the Corporation of less than a majority of the persons nominated for election by management of the Corporation;
    - (iii) the sale of all or substantially all the assets of the Corporation;
    - (iv) the sale, exchange or other disposition of a majority of the outstanding Shares of the Corporation in a single or series of related transactions;
    - (v) the dissolution of the Corporation's business or the liquidation of its assets;
    - (vi) a merger, amalgamation or arrangement of the Corporation in a transaction or series of transactions in which the Corporation's shareholders receive less than 51% of the outstanding shares of the new or continuing Corporation; or
    - (vii) the acquisition, directly or indirectly, through one transaction or a series of transactions, by any Person, of an aggregate of more than 50% of the outstanding Shares;
  - (d) "Committee" means the Compensation Committee appointed by the Board, or if no such committee is appointed, the Board itself;
  - (e) "Consultant" has the meaning ascribed in NI 45-106;
  - (f) "Corporation" means American Vanadium Corp., a company incorporated under the laws of Canada;
  - (g) "Date of Grant" means the date on which a grant of an Option is effective;
  - (h) **"Disability"** means a medically determinable physical or mental impairment expected to result in death or to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months which causes an individual to be unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity;

- (i) "Disinterested Shareholder Approval" means an ordinary resolution approved by a majority of the votes cast by the shareholders of the Corporation at a shareholders' meeting, excluding votes attaching to the Shares beneficially owned by Insiders to whom Options may be issued and Associates of those persons;
- (j) "Effective Date" means the effective date of this Plan;
- (k) "Eligible Persons" means:
  - (i) an employee, Executive Officer, director or Consultant of the Corporation or of any Related Entity, or
  - (iii) a Management Company Employee;
- (1) "Executive Officer" has the meaning ascribed in NI 45-106;
- (m) "Fair Market Value" means where the Shares are listed for trading on a stock exchange or over the counter market, the last closing price of the Shares before the Date of Grant on the stock exchange or over the counter market which is the principal trading market for the Shares, as may be determined for such purpose by the Committee, provided that, so long as the Shares are listed only on the TSX Venture Exchange the "fair market value" shall not be lower than the last closing price of the Shares before the Date of Grant less the maximum discount permitted under the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange;
- (n) "Guardian" means the guardian, if any, appointed for an Optionee;
- (o) "Exchange Hold Period" means a four month resale restriction imposed by the TSX Venture Exchange;
- (p) "Insider" shall have the meaning ascribed to such term in the British Columbia Securities Act, as amended from time to time:
- (q) "Investor Relations Activities" has the meaning ascribed in NI 45-106;
- (r) "Management Company Employee" means an individual employed by a corporation or a Person providing management services to the Corporation, which management services are limited to administrative or operational services required for the ongoing successful operation of the business enterprise of the Corporation but excluding a Person engaged in Investor Relations Activities;
- (s) "NI 45-106" means National Instrument 45-106, "Prospectus and Registration Exemptions" and all amendments thereto from time to time and any instrument which subsequently amends, replaces or supersedes NI 45-106;
- (t) "**Option**" means an option to purchase Shares granted pursuant to the terms of this Plan;
- (u) "Option Certificate" means the certificate issued by the Corporation specifying the terms of the Option being granted to the Optionee under the Plan;
- (v) "Option Price" means the exercise price per Share for an Option which shall be expressed in Canadian funds or in the United States dollar equivalent thereof. A minimum exercise price cannot be established unless the Option is allocated to a particular Person (defined below);
- (w) "Optionee" means a Person to whom an Option has been granted;
- (x) "**Permitted Assign**" has the meaning ascribed in NI 45-106;

- (y) "**Person**" has the meaning ascribed in NI 45-106;
- (z) "Plan" means this Stock Option Plan of the Corporation;
- (aa) "Qualified Successor" means a person who is entitled to ownership of an Option upon the death of an Optionee, pursuant to a will or the applicable laws of descent and distribution upon death;
- (bb) "Related Entity" means, for an issuer, a Person that controls or is controlled by the issuer or that is controlled by the same Person that controls the issuer;
- (cc) "Share Compensation Arrangement" means any stock option, stock option plan, employee stock purchase plan, share distribution plan or any other compensation or incentive mechanism involving the issuance or potential issuance of Shares to any director, officer, Consultant or employee of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries, including a share purchase from treasury which is financially assisted by the Corporation by way of a loan, guaranty or otherwise;
- (dd) "Shares" means the common shares in the capital of the Corporation; and
- (ee) "Term" means the period of time during which an Option may be exercised.

### 2. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

- **2.1 Principal Purposes** The principal purposes of the Plan are to provide the Corporation with the advantages of the incentive inherent in share ownership on the part of those responsible for the continued success of the Corporation; to create in those persons a proprietary interest in, and a greater concern for, the welfare and success of the Corporation; to encourage such persons to remain with the Corporation; and to attract new talent to the Corporation.
- **2.2 Benefit to Shareholders** The Plan is expected to benefit shareholders by enabling the Corporation to attract and retain personnel of the highest caliber by offering such personnel an opportunity to share in any increase in value of the Shares resulting from their efforts.

# 3. ADMINISTRATION

- **3.1** Board or Committee Subject to the direction of the Board, the Plan shall be administered by the Committee.
- **3.2** Appointment of Committee The Committee shall administer the Plan on behalf of the Board in accordance with such terms and conditions as the Board may prescribe, consistent with this Plan. The Committee shall continue to administer the Plan until otherwise directed by the Board.
- **Quorum and Voting** A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum, and, subject to the limitations in this Section 3, all actions of the Committee arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. No member of the Committee who is a director to whom an Option may be granted may participate in the decision to grant such Option (but any such member may be counted in determining the existence of a quorum at any meeting of the Committee in which action is taken with respect to the granting of an Option to him or her).
- **3.4** Powers of Committee The Committee shall have the following authority:
  - (a) to administer the Plan in accordance with its terms;
  - (b) to determine all questions arising in connection with the administration, interpretation, and application of the Plan, including all questions relating to the value of the Shares;

- (c) to correct any defect, supply any information or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan in such manner and to such extent as shall be deemed necessary or advisable to carry out the purposes of the Plan;
- (d) to prescribe, amend and rescind the rules and regulations relating to the administration of the Plan;
- (e) to determine the duration and purpose of leaves of absence from employment which may be granted to Optionees without constituting a termination of employment for purposes of the Plan;
- (f) with respect to the granting of Options, to make recommendations to the Board as to:
  - (i) the Eligible Persons to whom Options shall be granted, based on the eligibility criteria set out in this Plan,
  - (ii) the terms and provisions of the Option Certificate which shall be entered into with each Optionee (which need not be identical with the terms of any other Option Certificate),
  - (iii) amending the terms and provisions of an Option Certificate, provided it obtains:
    - (A) the consent of the Optionee; and
    - (B) the approval of any stock exchange on which the Corporation is listed, where required,
  - (iv) when Options shall be granted,
  - (v) the number of Shares subject to each Option, and, where applicable, whether or not to grant Options for the issuance of flow-through Shares, and
  - (vi) the vesting schedule, if any, for the exercise of such Option, and
- (g) to make other determinations necessary or advisable for administration of the Plan.
- **3.5** Approvals The Corporation will use its best efforts to obtain any regulatory or shareholder approvals which may be required pursuant to applicable securities laws or the rules of any stock exchange or over the counter market on which the Shares are listed.
- **3.6** Administration by Committee All determinations made by the Committee in good faith with respect to matters referred to in Section 3.4 shall be final, conclusive and binding upon all Eligible Persons. The Committee shall have all powers necessary or appropriate to accomplish its duties under this Plan. In addition, the Committee's administration of the Plan shall in all respects be consistent with the policies and rules of any stock exchange or over the counter market on which the Shares are listed.

# 4. ELIGIBILITY

- **4.1 Eligibility for Options** Options may be granted to any Eligible Person.
- **Limitations** The grant of Options under the Plan is subject to the following limitations:
  - (a) the number of Shares reserved for issuance to any one Optionee pursuant to Options, when aggregated with all Shares reserved for issuance to such Optionee under every other Share Compensation Arrangement of the Corporation, shall not exceed 5% of the outstanding Shares on a yearly basis unless the Corporation is a Tier 1 issuer under the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange and the Corporation has obtained Disinterested Shareholder Approval;

- (b) the aggregate number of Shares reserved for issuance to any one Consultant pursuant to Options in any 12 month period, when aggregated with all Shares reserved for issuance to such Consultant under every other Share Compensation Arrangement of the Corporation, shall not exceed 2% of the outstanding Shares at the Date of Grant;
- the aggregate number of Shares reserved for issuance to persons employed in Investor Relations Activities pursuant to Options, when aggregated with all Shares reserved for issuance to such persons under every other Share Compensation Arrangement of the Corporation, shall not exceed 2% of the outstanding Shares in any 12 month period calculated at the Date of Grant unless the TSX Venture Exchange permits otherwise and Options granted to Consultants performing Investor Relations Activities must contain vesting provisions such that the vesting occurs no earlier than over at least 12 months with no more than one quarter of the Options vesting in any three month period;
- (d) Disinterested Shareholder Approval will be required if there is a grant of Options to Insiders within a 12 month period, of a number of Options, when aggregated with all Shares reserved for issuance to Insiders under every other Share Compensation Arrangement of the Corporation, exceeding 10% of the issued Shares; and
- (e) A press release is required at the time of grant of Options to Insiders and to persons employed in Investor Relations Activities
- **4.3 No Violation of Securities Laws** No Option shall be granted to any Optionee unless the Committee has determined that the grant of such Option will not violate the securities law of the jurisdiction in which the Corporation and the Optionee reside.

# 5. SHARES SUBJECT TO THE PLAN

- **Number of Shares** The Board, based on recommendations by the Committee, may grant Options under the Plan from time to time to purchase, when aggregated with all Shares reserved for issuance under every other Share Compensation Arrangement of the Corporation, an aggregate of up to a maximum of 10% of the number of Shares which are issued and outstanding on a rolling basis as at the Date of Grant of any Option. Such maximum number of Shares issuable under the Plan shall be made available from authorized, but unissued, Shares. The maximum number of Shares issuable under the Plan shall be adjusted, where necessary, to take account of the events referred to in Section 10 hereof.
- **5.2** Expiry of Option If an Option expires or terminates for any reason without having been exercised in full, the unpurchased Shares subject thereto shall again be available for the purposes of the Plan.
- **S.3** Reservation of Shares The Corporation will at all times reserve for issuance and keep available such number of Shares as shall be sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the Plan.
- **5.4** Other Stock Option Grants Neither the existence of this Plan nor any provision contained in it shall be interpreted as restricting the powers of the Board to, in its discretion, grant options to purchase Shares outside of the Plan for purposes other than as set out in the Plan.

# 6. OPTION TERMS

- **6.1** Option Certificate With respect to each Option granted to an Optionee, the following terms shall be specified in the Option Certificate between the Corporation and the Optionee:
  - (f) the number of Shares subject to purchase pursuant to such Option;
  - (g) the Date of Grant;

- (h) the Term, provided that the length of the Term shall in no event be greater than five years following the Date of Grant, except, if the Corporation is designated as "Tier 1" listed company by the TSX Venture Exchange, then the Term shall be no greater than ten years following the Date of Grant for all Optionees;
- (i) the Option Price, provided that the Option Price shall not be less than the Fair Market Value of the Shares on the Date of Grant;
- (j) subject to Section 6.2 below, any vesting schedule upon which the exercise of an Option is contingent;
- (k) if the Optionee is an employee, Consultant or Management Company Employee, a representation by the corporation and the Optionee that the Optionee is a bona fide employee, Consultant or Management Company Employee, as the case may be, of the Corporation or a Related Entity; and
- (l) such other terms and conditions as the Committee deems advisable and are consistent with the purposes of this Plan.
- **6.2** <u>Hold Period</u> An Exchange Hold Period is required, commencing on the date of grant of the Options, for Options granted to Insiders or Options granted at any discount to Fair Market Value.
- **6.3** <u>Vesting Schedule</u> The Board, taking into account the recommendations of the Committee, shall have complete discretion to set the terms of any vesting schedule for each Option granted, including, without limitation, discretion to:
  - (a) permit partial vesting in stated percentage amounts based on the Term of such Option; and
  - (b) permit full vesting after a stated period of time has passed from the Date of Grant;

provided that the vesting period for an Option shall be in accordance with the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange at the Date of Grant.

- **Amendments to Options** Amendments to the terms of previously granted Options are subject to regulatory approval, if required. If required by the TSX Venture Exchange, Disinterested Shareholder Approval shall be required for any reduction in the Option Price of a previously granted Option if the Optionee is an Insider of the Corporation at the time of the proposed reduction in the Option Price.
- **6.4** Amendment of Expiration of Term of Option During Blackout Period Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection 6.1(c) or the date of expiration of the Term of an Option determined in accordance with this Plan ("Fixed Term"), the date of expiration of the Term of an Option will be adjusted, without being subject to Board or Committee discretion, to take into account any black out period imposed on the Optionee by the Corporation as follows:
  - (i) if the Fixed Term expiration date falls within a black out period imposed on the Optionee by the Corporation, then the Fixed Term expiration date is extended to the close of business on the 10th business day after the end of such black out period by the Corporation (the "Black Out Expiration Term"); or
  - (ii) if the Fixed Term expiration date falls within two business days after the end of a black out period imposed on the Optionee by the Corporation, then the Fixed Term expiration date is extended to the date which is the Black Out Expiration Term reduced by the number of business days between the Fixed Term expiration date and the end of such black out period (i.e. Options whose Fixed Term expires two business days after the end of the black out period will only have an additional eight business days to exercise).

**6.5** <u>Uniformity</u> - Except as expressly provided herein, nothing contained in this Plan shall require that the terms and conditions of Options granted under the Plan be uniform.

### 7. EXERCISE OF OPTION

- **7.1** Method of Exercise Subject to any limitations or conditions imposed upon an Optionee pursuant to the Option Certificate or Section 6 hereof, an Optionee may exercise an Option by giving written notice thereof to the Corporation at its principal place of business.
- 7.2 Compliance with U.S. Securities Laws As a condition to the exercise of an Option, the Committee may require the Optionee to represent and warrant in writing at the time of such exercise that the Shares are being purchased only for investment and without any then-present intention to sell or distribute such Shares. A stop-transfer order against such Shares may be placed on the stock books and records of the Corporation, and a legend indicating that the stock may not be pledged, sold or otherwise transferred unless an opinion of counsel is provided stating that such transfer is not in violation of any applicable United States' federal and state securities laws may be endorsed on the certificates representing such Shares in order to assure an exemption from registration. The Committee also may require such other documentation as may from time to time be necessary to comply with United States' federal and state securities laws. The Corporation has no obligation to undertake registration of Options or the Shares issuable upon the exercise of the Options.
- **7.3** Payment of Option Price The notice described in Section 7.1 shall be accompanied by full payment of the aggregate Option Price to the extent the Option is so exercised. Such payment shall be in lawful money (Canadian funds) by cheque, wire transfer or bank order.
- **1.3 Issuance of Certificates** As soon as practicable after exercise of an Option in accordance with Sections 7.1 and 7.3 hereof, the Corporation shall issue a certificate or certificates evidencing the Shares with respect to which the Option has been exercised. Until the issuance of such certificate or certificates, no right to vote or receive dividends or any other rights as a shareholder shall exist with respect to such Shares, notwithstanding the exercise of the Option. No adjustment will be made for a dividend or other right for which the record date is prior to the date the certificate is issued, except as provided by Section 10 hereof.

# 8. TRANSFERABILITY OF OPTIONS

- **8.1** Non-Transferable Except as provided otherwise in this Section 8, or by applicable securities laws, Options are non-assignable and non-transferable.
- **8.2** <u>Death of Optionee</u> If an Optionee dies, any Options held by such Optionee shall pass to the Qualified Successor of the Optionee, and shall be exercisable by the Qualified Successor until the earlier of a period of one year following the date of such death and the expiry of the Term of the Option.
- **8.3 Disability of Optionee** If the employment of an Optionee as an employee or Consultant of the Corporation or any Related Entity, or the employment of an Optionee as a Management Company Employee, or the position of an Optionee as a director or Executive Officer of the Corporation or any Related Entity, is terminated by reason of such Optionee's Disability, any Option held by such Optionee that could have been exercised immediately prior to such termination of service shall be exercisable by such Optionee, or by his Guardian, for a period of 90 days following the termination of service of such Optionee. If such Optionee dies within that 90 day period, any Option held by such Optionee that could have been exercised immediately prior to his or her death shall pass to the Qualified Successor of such Optionee, and shall be exercisable by the Qualified Successor until the earlier of a period of one year following the death of such Optionee and the expiry of the Term of the Option.
- **8.4** <u>Vesting</u> Options held by a Qualified Successor or exercisable by a Guardian shall, during the period prior to their termination, continue to vest in accordance with any vesting schedule to which such Options are subject.

- **8.5** <u>Unanimous Agreement</u> If two or more persons constitute the Qualified Successor or the Guardian of an Optionee, the rights of such Qualified Successor or such Guardian shall be exercisable only upon the unanimous agreement of such persons
- **8.6 Deemed Non-Interruption of Employment** Employment shall be deemed to continue intact during any military or sick leave or other bona fide leave of absence if the period of such leave does not exceed 90 days or, if longer, for so long as the Optionee's right to reemployment with the Corporation or any Related Entity is guaranteed either by statute or has been agreed upon by contract. If the period of such leave exceeds 90 days and the Optionee's reemployment is not so guaranteed or agreed upon by contract, then his or her employment shall be deemed to have terminated on the ninety-first day of such leave.

# 9. TERMINATION OF OPTIONS

- **9.1** <u>Termination of Options</u> To the extent not earlier exercised or terminated in accordance with section 8 above, an Option shall terminate at the earliest of the following dates:
  - (a) the expiry date specified for such Option in the Option Certificate;
  - (b) where the Optionee's position as an employee, a Consultant, a director or an Executive Officer of the Corporation or any Related Entity or a Management Company Employee is terminated for just cause, the date of such termination for just cause;
  - (c) where the Optionee's position as an employee, a Consultant, a director or an Executive Officer of the Corporation or any Related Entity or a Management Company Employee (other than a person employed to provide Investor Relations Activities), terminates for a reason other than the Optionee's Disability, death, or termination for just cause, 90 days after such date of termination, or in the case of a person employed to provide Investor Relations Activities, 30 days after such termination; PROVIDED that:
    - (iii) if an Optionee's position changes from one of the said categories to another category, such change shall not constitute termination for the purpose of this subsection 9.1(c);
    - (iv) if the Corporation is designated as a "Tier 1" listed company by the TSX Venture Exchange, then upon the Optionee making written application to the Board or the Committee and receiving the written consent of the Board or the Committee, which consent may be given at the discretion of the Board or the Committee, at such later date as determined by the Board or the Committee which must be no later than the original expiry date of such Option when it was granted; and
  - (d) the date of any sale, transfer, assignment or hypothecation, or any attempted sale, transfer, assignment or hypothecation, of such Option in violation of Section 8.1 above.
- **9.2 Vesting** Subject to the Board's right under Section 10.4, in the event an Optionee is terminated in circumstances described in subsection 9.1(c), then such Optionee's Option shall, during the 90 day or 30 day period (as applicable) prior to the termination of the Option, continue to vest in accordance with any vesting schedule to which such Option is subject.
- **9.3** <u>Lapsed Options</u> If Options expire or are surrendered or otherwise terminated without being exercised in whole or in part, new Options may be granted covering the Shares not purchased under such Options. If an Option has been surrendered and a new Option has been granted to the same Optionee on different terms than the surrendered Option, then the new Option is subject to acceptance by the TSX Venture Exchange.

# 10. ADJUSTMENTS TO OPTIONS

- Alteration in Capital Structure If there is a material alteration in the capital structure of the Corporation resulting from a recapitalization, stock split, reverse stock split, stock dividend, or otherwise, the Committee shall make such adjustments to this Plan and to the Options then outstanding under this Plan as the Committee determines to be appropriate and equitable under the circumstances, so that the proportionate interest of the holder of each such Option shall, to the extent practicable, be maintained as before the occurrence of such event. Such adjustments may include, without limitation (a) a change in the number or kind of shares of the Corporation covered by such Options, and (b) a change in the Option Price payable per share; provided, however, that the aggregate Option Price applicable to the unexercised portion of existing Options shall not be altered, it being intended that any adjustments made with respect to such Options shall apply only to the price per share and the number of shares subject thereto. For purposes of this Section 10.1, neither (i) the issuance of additional shares of stock of the Corporation in exchange for adequate consideration (including services), nor (ii) the conversion of outstanding preferred shares of the Corporation into Shares shall be deemed to be material alterations of the capital structure of the Corporation.
- Corporate Reorganization In the event of a reorganization as defined in this Section 10.2 in which the Corporation is not the surviving or acquiring corporation, or in which the Corporation is or becomes a whollyowned subsidiary of another corporation after the effective date of the reorganization, any Shares receivable on the exercise of an Option shall be converted into the securities, property or cash which the Optionee would have received upon such reorganization if the Optionee had exercised his Option immediately prior to the record date applicable to such reorganization, and the exercise price shall be adjusted proportionately by the Board and such adjustment shall be binding for all purposes of the Plan. For purposes of this Section 10.2, reorganization shall mean any statutory merger, plan of arrangement, statutory consolidation, sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Corporation, or sale, pursuant to an agreement with the Corporation, of securities of the Corporation pursuant to which the Corporation is or becomes a wholly-owned subsidiary of another corporation after the effective date of the reorganization.
- **Acceleration on Change of Control** Upon a Change in Control, all Options shall become immediately exercisable, subject to prior written approval of the TSX Venture Exchange, notwithstanding any contingent vesting provisions to which such Options may have otherwise been subject. To the extent possible, the Committee shall give not less than 30 days' notice to Optionees of a Change in Control.
- **10.4** <u>Acceleration of Date of Exercise</u> The Board, on the recommendation of the Committee, subject to prior written approval of the TSX Venture Exchange, shall have the right to accelerate the date of vesting of any installment of any Option which remains unvested.
- **10.5** <u>Determinations to be Made</u> Adjustments and determinations under this Section 10 shall be made by the Board, on the recommendation of the Committee, and the Board's decisions as to the adjustments or determinations which shall be made, and the extent thereof, shall be final, binding, and conclusive.
- 10.6 <u>Effect of a Take-over</u> If a *bona fide* offer (the "Offer") for Shares is made to an Optionee or to shareholders generally or to a class of shareholders which includes the Optionee, which Offer constitutes a take-over bid within the meaning of section 92 of the British Columbia *Securities Act*, as amended from time to time, the Corporation shall, immediately upon receipt of notice of the Offer, notify each Optionee of full particulars of the Offer, whereupon any Option held by an Optionee may be exercised in whole or in part by the Optionee so as to permit the Optionee to tender the Shares received upon such exercise (the "Optioned Shares") to the Offer. If:
  - (a) the Offer is not completed within the time specified therein; or
  - (b) all of the Optioned Shares tendered by the Optionee pursuant to the Offer are not taken up and paid for by the offeror pursuant thereto;

the Optioned Shares or, in the case of clause (b) above, the Optioned Shares that are not taken up and paid for, may be returned by the Optionee to the Corporation and reinstated as authorized but unissued shares and with respect to

such returned Optioned Shares, the Option shall be reinstated as if it had not been exercised. If any Optioned Shares are returned to the Corporation under this Section, the Corporation shall refund the exercise price to the Optionee for such Optioned Shares.

### 11. APPROVALS, TERMINATION AND AMENDMENT OF PLAN

**11.1** Shareholder Approval of Plan - This Plan is subject to annual approval by the TSX Venture Exchange and the shareholders of the Corporation.

The Corporation will obtain Disinterested Shareholder Approval of Options if the Plan, together with all of the Corporation's previously established and outstanding stock option plans or grants, could result at any time in the grant to insiders, within a 12 month period, of a number of Options exceeding 10% of the issued shares of the Company.

If required by a Regulatory Authority or by the Committee, this Plan may be made subject to the approval of a majority of the votes cast at a meeting of the shareholders of the Corporation or by a majority of votes cast by disinterested shareholders at a meeting of shareholders of the Corporation. Any Options granted under this Plan prior to such time will not be exercisable or binding on the Corporation unless and until such shareholder approval is obtained.

- 11.2 Power to Terminate or Amend Plan Subject to the approval of any stock exchange on which the Corporation's securities are listed, the Board may terminate, suspend or amend the terms of the Plan; provided, however, that, except as provided in Section 10 above, and as long as the Corporation is a "reporting issuer" under the securities laws of any jurisdiction in Canada, the Board may not do any of the following without obtaining, within 12 months either before or after the Board's adoption of a resolution authorizing such action, approval ("Shareholder Approval") by the affirmative votes of the holders of a majority of the voting securities of the Corporation present, or represented, and entitled to vote at a meeting duly held in accordance with the applicable corporate laws, and, where required, by way of Disinterested Shareholder Approval:
  - (a) increase the aggregate number of Shares which may be issued under the Plan;
  - (b) materially modify the requirements as to eligibility for participation in the Plan; or
  - (c) materially increase the benefits accruing to participants under the Plan.

However, the Board may amend the terms of the Plan or of an Option granted under the Plan where permitted under the rules of any applicable regulatory authority without obtaining Shareholder Approval to such amendment in circumstances other than as set forth above, including but not limited to:

- (m) amendments of a housekeeping nature to the Plan;
- (n) a change to the vesting provisions of an Option or the Plan, subject to prior written approval of the TSX Venture Exchange; and
- (o) a change to the termination provisions of an Option which does not entail an extension beyond the original expiry date of the Option.
- **11.2** No Grant During Suspension of Plan No Option may be granted during any suspension, or after termination, of the Plan. Amendment, suspension or termination of the Plan shall not, without the consent of the Optionee, alter or impair any rights or obligations under any Option previously granted.

# 12. CONDITIONS PRECEDENT TO ISSUANCE OF SHARES

- 12.1 <u>Compliance with Laws</u> Shares shall not be issued pursuant to the exercise of an Option unless the Shares are fully paid and non-assessable and the exercise of such Option and the issuance and delivery of such Shares shall comply with all relevant provisions of law, including, without limitation, the United States *Securities Act of 1933*, as amended, any applicable provincial or state securities or corporate laws, the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder and the requirements of any stock exchange upon which such Shares may then be listed or otherwise traded.
- **Regulatory Approval to Issuance of Shares** The Corporation's inability to obtain authority from any regulatory body having jurisdiction, which authority is deemed by the Corporation's counsel to be necessary to the lawful issuance and sale of any Shares issued under this Plan, shall relieve the Corporation of any liability with respect to the failure to issue or sell such Shares.

#### 13. USE OF PROCEEDS

**13.1** <u>Use of Proceeds</u> - Proceeds from the sale of Shares pursuant to the Options granted and exercised under the Plan shall constitute general funds of the Corporation and shall be used for general corporate purposes.

### 14. NOTICES

Notices - All notices, requests, demands and other communications required or permitted to be given under this Plan and the Options granted under this Plan shall be in writing and shall be either served personally on the party to whom notice is to be given, in which case notice shall be deemed to have been duly given on the date of such service; faxed or electronically transmitted, in which case notice shall be deemed to have been duly given on the date the facsimile or electronic transmission is sent; or mailed to the party to whom notice is to be given, by first class mail, registered or certified, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, and addressed to the party at his or its most recent known address, in which case such notice shall be deemed to have been duly given on the tenth postal delivery day following the date of such mailing.

# 15. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- **15.1** No Obligation to Exercise Optionees shall be under no obligation to exercise Options granted under this Plan.
- **15.2** No Obligation to Retain Optionee Nothing contained in this Plan shall obligate the Corporation or any Related Entity to retain an Optionee as an employee, officer, director, or consultant for any period, nor shall this Plan interfere in any way with the right of the Corporation or any Related Entity to reduce such Optionee's compensation.
- **15.3 Binding Agreement** The provisions of this Plan and the terms set out in each Option Certificate with an Optionee shall be binding upon such Optionee and the Qualified Successor or Guardian of such Optionee.
- **15.4** <u>Use of Terms</u> Where the context so requires, references herein to the singular shall include the plural, and vice versa, and references to a particular gender shall include either or both genders.
- **15.5 Headings** The headings used in this Plan are for convenience of reference only and shall not in any way affect or be used in interpreting any of the provisions of this Plan.
- **15.6 No Representation or Warranty** The Corporation makes no representation or warranty as to the future market value of any Shares issued or issuable in accordance with the provisions of this Plan.
- **15.7** Governing Law This Plan shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of British Columbia.

16.	EFFECTIVE	DATE OF PLA	AN AND A	MENDMENTS
10.	EFFECTIVE	17/3 1 12 371 1 17/	311 /311 <i>/</i> /3	

**16.1** <u>Effective Date of Plan</u> - This Plan shall become effective on the date of its acceptance by the TSX Venture Exchange.

"William Radvak"
William Radvak President & CEO