# NORTHERN FINANCIAL CORPORATION

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS FOR THE THREE AND NINE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2013

### MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

## February 18, 2014

This Management Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") of the financial condition and results of operations of the Company are the views of management and should be read in conjunction with the interim financial statements and related notes for the periods ended December 31, 2013 and 2012, which are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). All figures are expressed in Canadian dollars unless otherwise indicated.

# **Forward-Looking Statements**

The Company's Audit Committee and Board of Directors have reviewed and approved the MD&A.

This MD&A contains "forward-looking statements" that reflect Northern's current expectations and projections about its future results. When used in this MD&A, forward looking statements can be identified by the use of words such as "estimate", "consider", "expect", "anticipate", "objective" and similar expressions or variations of such words. Forward looking statements are, by their very nature, not guarantees of the Company's future operational or financial performance, and are subject to risks and uncertainties and other factors that could cause Northern's actual results, performance, prospects or opportunities to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward looking statements. No representation or warranty is intended with respect to anticipated future results, that estimates and projections will be sustained or that any project will otherwise prove to be economic.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this MD&A or as of the date otherwise specifically indicated herein. Due to risks and uncertainties, including the risks and uncertainties elsewhere in this MD&A, actual events may differ materially from current expectations. The Company disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

#### **Recent Events**

Northern Financial Corporation ("Northern" or the "Company") wholly owns Northern Securities Inc. ("NSI"), a suspended member firm of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada ("IIROC"). Prior to December 31, 2012 the Company carried on a traditional brokerage and investment banking business. Effective December 31, 2012, NSI ceased carrying on its brokerage business because it could not secure an alternative carrying broker when Penson Financial Services Canada Inc. ("Penson") terminated its carrying brokerage business in Canada. NSI reached arrangements to transfer its client accounts and investment advisors to other IIROC dealer members by December 31, 2012.

As a result of the termination of its brokerage business, NSI developed a capital deficiency which resulted in NSI being suspended as an IIROC dealer member on March 19, 2013. As a result of the suspension, the Company carried on the business of mergers and acquisitions ("M&A"), restructurings, proxy solicitations and merchant banking as and from March 19, 2013. Effective May 1, 2013, concurrently with the move to a new downsized Toronto office location, this business was carried on under the name Added Capital, a Division of the Company.

Added Capital also provides services to Jaguar Financial Corporation ("Jaguar"), a merchant bank in which Vic Alboini ("Alboini"), Chairman and CEO of the Company, is also the Chairman and CEO.

On March 28, 2012, the common shares of the Company commenced trading on the TSX Venture Exchange under its existing trading symbol "NFC". The Company is listed on the TSX Venture Exchange as a Tier 2 Industrial Issuer. Prior to this date the Company's shares were traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange.

On June 13, 2012, Doug Chornoboy, the Company's Chief Financial Officer resigned to pursue another opportunity. Mr. Chornoboy was subsequently engaged as a consultant by the Company to assist in the preparation of financial statements for fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2014. In addition, John Brathwaite, the former Vice President Finance of NSI, was engaged by the Company as a consultant to assist in the preparation of relevant financial information for NSI for fiscal 2013 and fiscal 2014.

On October 8, 2013 the TSX Venture Exchange accepted for filing documentation relating to a promissory note dated June 17, 2013, between Alboini and the Company. Pursuant to the agreement, the Company has transferred six million common shares of Jaguar Financial Corp. to Alboini (Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of both the Company and Jaguar), in satisfaction of a \$150,000 debt to Alboini.

On October 9, 2013 the Company announced that it had appointed Peter Reimer to the Board of Directors.

On December 30, 2013 Andrew Hilton was appointed Chief Financial Officer of the Company.

## The Need for a Financial Restructuring

Prior to December 31, 2012, the Company carried on a traditional brokerage and investment banking business through NSI providing financial advisory services to retail and institutional clients and investment banking services to small capitalization companies. This business generated revenue from commissions and advisory fees earned on investment banking activities, and commissions from institutional sales and trading and retail investment advisors. Currently, the Company carries on a merchant banking business as well as a mergers and acquisitions and restructuring advisory business and a proxy solicitation business.

NSI assigned its client accounts to other brokerage firms pursuant to a consent order, agreed upon by IIROC and NSI, issued by an IIROC Hearing Panel ("Order") on December 14, 2012. The Order was issued as a result of NSI being unable to obtain an alternative carrying broker or other alternative arrangement to replace Penson, which discontinued its carrying broker business as of December 31, 2012.

Penson is being liquidated pursuant to a court order. NSI has filed a claim in the liquidation proceeding against Penson for damages as a result of the failure of Penson to provide NSI with 180 days' notice of the termination of its carrying brokerage contract with NSI, which directly led to the loss of the NSI brokerage business and the suspension of NSI as an IIROC dealer member as noted below. The claim in damages by NSI also relates to conversion of the Penson back office system which led to client losses and loss of revenue to NSI. The NSI claim was also made to recover its security deposit of which \$155,000 was received by the Company in December, 2013.

As a result of the loss of its brokerage business effective December 31, 2012, NSI developed a capital deficiency. The capital deficiency led to NSI and IIROC entering into a settlement agreement to terminate NSI's IIROC membership effective March 19, 2013.

As a result of the settlement agreement with IIROC, the Company no longer carries on business through NSI. The Company has limited its activities to an M&A advisory business, a restructuring advisory business, proxy solicitation and merchant banking, which businesses are carried by a Division of the Company called Added Capital effective May 1, 2013. At the Company's annual meeting of shareholders held in September 2013, the Company obtained shareholder approval to change its name to Added Capital Inc. or such other name in the discretion of the directors. The most important change to the Company's business is the termination of its retail brokerage and institutional sales businesses. The termination of these businesses resulted in a substantial reduction in the Company's revenue. At the same time the retail brokerage and institutional sales businesses were unprofitable in recent quarterly periods. Despite the downsizing of its business, the Company believes it has better potential to be consistently profitable.

The Company has substantially reduced its general and administrative expenses, and with fewer employees has a sharply reduced annual payroll. Its new Toronto office location is substantially downsized from its previous Toronto location. The Company surrendered leases in Vancouver, Calgary and Brandon, Manitoba at no cash cost to the Company, although the Company transferred all of its property and equipment to the landlords at no cost. The Company's objective is to build profitable advisory and merchant banking businesses.

The Company obtained regulatory and shareholder approval for the restructuring of its debt. The Company provided certain primary lenders with the option of receiving a cash payment equal to 20% of the principal amount outstanding (the "cash offer") or a payment in common shares equal to the principal amount owing and the accrued interest (the "share offer"). The cash offer and share offer was extended to a judgment creditor who was owed \$504,000 and the judgment creditor accepted the cash offer. On August 28, 2013 the Company made a payment of \$100,800 to the judgment creditor which represented 20% of the debt. The settlement payment to the creditor was financed by a loan of \$100,800 provided to the Company by Alboini.

The Company also announced on August 28, 2013 changes to its \$200,000 secured loan. The maturity date of the \$200,000 secured loan was extended to April 9, 2014, the interest rate was reduced to 10% effective October 7, 2013, and the accrued interest owing is payable on October 6, 2014. The lender also agreed that once the principal amount is fully paid, no interest will be payable on the amount of the accrued interest outstanding as long as the accrued interest is paid by October 6, 2014. During the quarter ended December 31, 2013, the Company made payments to reduce the principal amount of the secured loan to \$180,000.

The Company owes three unsecured lenders approximately \$1,300,000, each of whom has agreed to waive all historical and future accrued interest so that the amounts owing are limited to their respective principal amounts. The lender of approximately \$603,000 is Alboini. During the nine months ended December 31, 2013, Jaguar, which was a creditor of the Company, accepted the cash offer and was paid approximately \$108,000 to settle an amount owing of \$541,000 plus accrued interest. Jaguar is a related party as Alboini is Chairman and CEO of Jaguar. The decision for Jaguar to accept the cash offer was made by the independent directors of Jaguar.

Given the above restructuring developments, the Company is not expected to proceed with a share consolidation of one new share for up to 20 old shares. The shareholders approved a share consolidation but also provided the directors with the discretion not to proceed with the share consolidation.

The financial restructuring of the Company is voluntary and informal. A voluntary or informal restructuring means that the Company has not made a filing under the *Companies Creditors Arrangement Act* or under the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*. Therefore the proposed restructuring is proposed to be completed on a voluntary basis without the involvement or supervision of a court or monitor. While the Company is pleased with the modest progress made to date in the financial restructuring described above, the Company has substantial debt and much more work is required to reduce the overall amount of its debt.

In addition to the primary creditors of the Company who have restructured their debt in the Company, the Company and NSI have unsecured debt owing to its vendors and suppliers. In the case of these creditors, the Company has offered those creditors that are owed less than \$1,000 full repayment over a two year period; those creditors that are owed up to \$20,000 are offered the greater of \$1,000 and \$0.20 on the dollar of debt payable over a two year period; and those creditors that are owed more than \$20,000 are offered the greater of \$4,000 and \$0.15 on the dollar of debt payable over a two year period. The amounts payable over a two year period are conditional upon the Company and NSI having available cash resources to make the required restructuring payments.

To date the Company has restructured accounts payable of \$286,710 resulting in a write-down of \$225,512. In addition, the Calgary office lease was surrendered without any cash payments made by NSI; however NSI transferred its ownership of the property and equipment to the landlord at no cost. The Toronto office lease expired on April 30, 2013 and has a current amount owing to the landlord of approximately \$118,000. The Brandon, Manitoba office was transferred to the brokerage firm that acquired the client accounts and investment advisors associated with the Brandon office.

## **Need for Profitable Operations**

Due to a lack of investor interest in small-cap stocks, numerous small cap companies are unable to execute on their growth plans in the manner they have in the past. Many of these companies are in need of assistance in areas such as finance, operations, investor relations, and governance. The Company has acted as an involved investor, assisting companies to improve their ability to meet their growth targets, carry out their capital markets objectives and implement appropriate value creation strategies.

The best example in the team's history of this involved ownership is Lakeside Steel Inc. ("Lakeside"), where an investor group led by the Company purchased shares of Lakeside, then a private company, the team arranged for turnaround management to be put in place and took an active role on the Board. Lakeside was taken public by NSI in a financing that strengthened Lakeside's balance sheet. After the turnaround, Lakeside subsequently hired a very good CEO with the substantial involvement of the Company, and raised \$45 million in two rounds of financing, led by a highly respected independent investment bank, which allowed Lakeside to pursue an aggressive growth plan in the United States. Subsequently, Lakeside was sold to a large steel company in the U.S.

The Company has substantial experience in M&A, restructurings and proxy solicitations. Traditional M&A includes acting as an advisor to any party to an M&A transaction or acting for the Board of Directors or

management or any shareholder. Any M&A service may also involve the preparation of a fairness opinion or valuation.

The team has considerable experience in financial restructurings. More and more companies will require this service if capital markets continue to remain unfavourable to small cap companies.

Proxy solicitation is a low margin business and labour intensive; however, from time to time this service can generate reasonable work and success fees. The Company has been active in providing this service to clients.

## The Company and Jaguar as Related Parties

The Company and Jaguar are related parties. Alboini owns or controls 11,958,386 shares of the Company and is entitled to an additional 1,920,927 shares under the Company's Employee Share Purchase Plan representing a combined 31.3% of the 44,320,134 issued shares as at February 18, 2014. The Company owns 100% of the issued shares of NSI. Alboini is CEO of NSI, but is no longer active in this role because NSI has been suspended as a Dealer Member at IIROC pursuant to a Settlement Agreement entered into between IIROC and NSI and approved by an IIROC Hearing Panel on March 19, 2013. Accordingly, NSI is no longer active in carrying on its former business as an investment bank and brokerage firm with the exception of the M&A advisory and restructuring businesses, the merchant banking and proxy solicitation businesses which are carried on by Added Capital, a Division of the Company.

Prior to the suspension of NSI, the Company contributed substantial capital to NSI in the form of equity and subordinated debt. Alboini has made substantial investments in equity and debt in Northern which were used to finance Northern and in turn to finance NSI. Therefore Alboini has played an historical role in providing capital through Northern to NSI. At the present time, Alboini has provided capital to the Company to assist in financing its businesses; however given the suspension of NSI the Company will not be providing any capital to NSI.

The Company has participated in investments such as the investment in Jaguar and Lakeside. Lakeside was sold in April 2012.

Alboini owns or controls 23,611,238 shares of Jaguar as at February 18, 2014. Northern owns 1,667,315 Jaguar shares. There are 109,103,830 issued Jaguar shares and accordingly Alboini and Northern own and control a total of 25,278,553 Jaguar shares, representing 23.2% of the total issued Jaguar shares. At the annual meeting of shareholders on September 27, 2013, the Company received approval from disinterested shareholders for the transfer of 6,000,000 Jaguar shares to Alboini to satisfy his \$150,000 loan made to the Company, as noted above. On October 10, 2013, the Company completed the transfer of 6,000,000 Jaguar shares to Alboini.

Alboini is Chairman and CEO of Jaguar and his responsibility and role is to carry out the business focus and mission of Jaguar. Jaguar is a Canadian merchant bank generally investing in undervalued, overlooked and underappreciated public companies where Jaguar determines that one or more changes could be made to create shareholder value. The approach taken by Jaguar is to work with the management team and Board of Directors of the company to create shareholder value, or to create additional shareholder value over and above the shareholder value created by a third party in an announced transaction. The changes could include, among many other possible alternatives, a change in strategy, a financial restructuring involving changes to the capital structure such as the retirement of debt or an equity financing, the declaration of a dividend, an issuer bid by the company, a sale of non-core assets, a sale of the company, the addition of one or more directors on the Board, a change in management, or a merger or acquisition transaction.

Jaguar has made friendly supportive investments in companies such as Lakeside, Royal Laser Corp. and WGI Heavy Minerals Inc. where Alboini was a director and participated in strategic changes made by the Boards of these companies that resulted in the creation of shareholder value. Most recently, Jaguar made an investment in Thallion Pharmaceuticals Inc. ("Thallion") and supported an offer made by BELLUS Health Inc. ('BELLUS") to acquire Thallion, and Alboini was appointed to the Thallion Board. The sale of Thallion to BELLUS was completed on August 21, 2013.

Jaguar was also instrumental in creating value for companies such as Century II Holdings Inc., HudBay Minerals Inc., Virtek Vision International Inc., Kinbauri Gold Corp. and Thallion Pharmaceuticals Inc. that were already the subject of transactions designed to create value for shareholders, and in this environment Jaguar assisted in creating additional shareholder value.

The Company has a reputation for creative client solutions, a familiarity with small cap issuers and their needs, a network of relationships with issuer companies and management teams, and high net worth and institutional investors. The Company's professionals have well rounded experience that consists of financial, capital markets and legal experience.

## **Governance Agreement Between Northern and Jaguar**

Northern and Jaguar entered into an agreement (the "Governance Agreement") dated October 12, 2007 to address potential or actual conflicts of interest between Jaguar and the Company in the course of Jaguar's merchant banking business. The Governance Agreement recognized that the Company may provide services from time to time to Jaguar in connection with Jaguar's merchant banking business. Any payments made to the Company require the approval of the Compensation and Governance Committee of Jaguar which consists solely of independent directors. This Committee must be satisfied that the proposed payments are reasonable for the services provided.

The Governance Agreement permits Jaguar to make an override payment to Northern in an amount of up to 25% of any realized gain from any investment by Jaguar. The Compensation and Governance Committee has the authority to make any such override payments.

Prior to the termination of its brokerage business, NSI acted as investment advisor to Jaguar in connection with its purchases and sales of securities on the facilities of the Toronto Stock Exchange and TSX Venture Exchange. NSI would receive commissions from Jaguar for the trading by Jaguar in securities. Jaguar, as a client of NSI, paid NSI commissions of \$331,263 in fiscal 2012 and \$84,498 in fiscal 2013 on the purchase and sales of securities. Effective December 31, 2012, NSI no longer acted as an investment advisor to Jaguar.

Jaguar paid NSI \$10,000 in fees for fiscal 2013 prior to the suspension of NSI as a Dealer Member of IIROC and \$523,633 for fiscal 2012. The fees for fiscal 2012 were comprised of \$10,000 for proxy solicitations for Jaguar's Annual General Meeting of shareholders, \$50,000 for a work fee relating to a Jaguar investment and \$463,633 relating to a success fee on Jaguar's sale of the investment. The fee represented 25% of Jaguar's net gain on the investment, less the \$50,000 work fee previously paid to NSI. Jaguar will not be making any fee payments to NSI in the future. Jaguar may however pay the Company work fees or performance fees on investment opportunities pursued by Jaguar. In the nine months ended December 31, 2013, Jaguar paid Northern \$4,000 for proxy solicitation services, which was paid for by \$2,000 in cash and \$2,000 in a credit against the amounts owed to Jaguar by the Company.

During the nine months ended December 31, 2013, Northern received advisory fees from Jaguar in the amount of \$66,286 and \$8,250 related to Jaguar's successful investment in Thallion and Midlands Minerals Corp. respectively.

Under Jaguar's Equity Incentive Plan, as a result of the substantial work undertaken by NSI on behalf of Jaguar in investment opportunities where NSI did not receive any compensation, the Jaguar independent directors approved the issuance of 5,300,000 shares to NSI in the following instalments: 2,000,000 on April 29, 2010, 2,000,000 on April 29, 2011, and 1,300,000 on April 29, 2012. No further Jaguar shares will be issued to the Company under the Equity Incentive Plan.

Jaguar shares premises with the Company at its new office location effective May 1, 2013 and the Company recovers a portion of its rent from Jaguar.

## Jaguar Investments in 2008 and Relationship with NSI

The Company was selected by staff of the Ontario Securities Commission ("OSC") for a full review of its continuous disclosure record. The Company provided responses to OSC staff on questions raised and comments made. As a result of the review by OSC staff, the Company included in this MD&A those responses requested by OSC staff. One of the matters raised by OSC staff related to the IIROC Hearing Panel decision which is referred to under "Regulatory Matters" in this MD&A. OSC staff stated the following: "The disciplinary decision of IIROC indicates that at the expense of NSI (and its capital) Jaguar was able to use capital that it did not otherwise have available to it. Please explain in detail the impact of these transactions on NSI. Were the transactions considered loans, pledges, guarantees or other? Please explain." The Company wished to indicate the reason

for the following disclosure of the Jaguar investments in 2008, namely a request by OSC staff which the Company fully supports for disclosure.

In September 2008, the full impact of the global financial crisis was realized with the failure to save Lehman Brothers. Share prices plummeted and there was a window of opportunity for Jaguar to invest in companies whose market capitalizations were less than their redundant cash resources or net asset values. Jaguar made various investments in substantially undervalued companies during the period from August 2008 to December 2008. Some of the investments were made solely by Jaguar and, for other investments where Jaguar required outside capital, Jaguar, through Alboini, solicited funds from accredited investors with whom Alboini had longstanding relationships.

For investments made by Jaguar in which capital was provided by accredited investors, Jaguar opened a separate investment account at NSI for administrative and reporting purposes. There were no investment transactions between Jaguar and NSI or between Jaguar and the Company. Three such investments with outside investors were Virtek Vision International, Tiomin Resources Inc., and HudBay Minerals Inc.

In the Virtek investment, Jaguar invested by borrowing funds from two accredited investors and other accredited investors invested in the equity of the investment. The lenders were entitled to an interest rate and a share of the investment gain. The equity investors were entitled to a share of the investment gain on a sale of the investment or a share of the net cash resources of Virtek if Jaguar acquired all of the outstanding shares of Virtek. As Virtek was already the subject of a take-over bid and therefore "in play", there was significantly less risk that this investment opportunity would be unprofitable. Ultimately, the investment in Virtek was profitable and the equity investors realized a 46% annualized investment return in accordance with the terms of their investor agreements.

After the investment in Virtek, Alboini determined that in future investments in which outside investors participated, the overriding priority was that investors would have no downside risk in the investments. Therefore, in the Tiomin investment, accredited investors made loans to Jaguar and were paid a nominal interest rate, and would receive a return of the principal amount of their loans and would share in any gain on the sale of the investment. If there was no gain on the investment, the lenders would receive a return of their principal and a nominal interest rate. There was no gain in the Tiomin investment and the lenders received a return of their principal and interest.

In the HudBay investment, the outside investors were lenders who realized a 117% annualized investment return.

In all of the Jaguar investments, there were no investments made by NSI or the Company. NSI acted as an investment advisor to Jaguar, Jaguar was a client of NSI and paid NSI brokerage commissions for the purchase of shares in Virtek, Tiomin and HudBay.

For the investments where accredited investors participated, Jaguar entered into an investor agreement with each outside investor which would disclose the risks to accredited investors and a summary of the investment opportunity was provided to each accredited investor based on a review of publicly disclosed information on SEDAR about the particular company. NSI was engaged by Jaguar to act as financial advisor on the investments in Virtek, Tiomin and HudBay. NSI followed normal investment banking practice to maintain confidentiality behind an ethical wall at NSI.

As an example of the risk disclosure, the Virtek Investor Agreement disclosed the following risks to investors:

- Jaguar cautioned investors that:
  - (1) the opportunity was speculative and its success was dependent on a large number of factors, which in many cases were beyond the control of Jaguar;
  - (2) as with all substantial reward opportunities there was also substantial risk investors could lose some or all of the amounts committed to this opportunity;
  - investors should only invest that portion of their cash resources that they could afford to lose in its entirety;
  - (4) investors should not borrow to invest in the opportunity; and

(5) there was no assurance that Jaguar would be able to realize a gain for the Investors.

The Tiomin and HudBay Investor Agreements had substantially the same disclosure of risks to the investors. The investor agreements also disclosed conflicts of interest between Jaguar and NSI. In IIROC Notice 10-0028 IIROC requested comments on draft "Requirements and Best Practices for distribution of non-arm's length investment products." Northern reviewed the draft Notice and noted that it was already following many of the recommendations. Northern pointed out the following to IIROC:

"We believe that in keeping with the concerns raised in the IIROC Notice that we should provide more complete disclosure of the conflicts of interest among, NSI, NFC and Jaguar despite the availability of such public disclosure on Sedar. Therefore while NSI believes that it has adequately managed any connected issuer conflicts, it is prepared to take additional steps to ensure that the relationships between NSI and Jaguar are also disclosed in any future Jaguar loan agreements for projects."

Each of the Jaguar investments were Jaguar investments or Jaguar sponsored investments, and were not investments by NSI or sponsored by NSI. NSI had no involvement in the financing of the investments and the investors in Virtek, Tiomin and HudBay were partnering with Jaguar, not NSI. NSI was not involved in soliciting funds from the Jaguar accredited investors, was not engaged by Jaguar to raise the funds and was not paid a commission for the funds that were raised by Jaguar. The investor agreements were executed between Jaguar and the various investors involved in the projects. NSI was not a party to the investor agreements.

For those investments by Jaguar where Jaguar turned to accredited investors to provide capital, at various times there was a timing difference between the dates Jaguar received funding commitments from its accredited investors and the date funds were required for regulatory margin purposes. This timing difference resulted on certain occasions in debits in some of the separate Jaguar accounts at NSI. However, at all times Jaguar through Alboini had received commitments for funds to be advanced by outside investors to meet the margin requirements. All the commitments made by the outside investors were carried out and the funds were advanced. If these commitments had not been carried out by a failure to provide the funds, then there would have been a risk of loss to NSI's capital or Penson's capital, but all the funds came in and there were no losses by NSI or Penson.

Therefore the capital Jaguar used to make investments was provided by the accredited investors. The capital Jaguar used was not provided by NSI or the Company. To the extent there were debits for investments in Virtek, Tiomin or HudBay, Penson as carrying broker for NSI provided the capital to cover the debits, and as noted above all of the debits were ultimately covered by the capital provided by outside investors.

The IIROC Hearing Panel decision in the IIROC Proceedings did not deal with the outside capital provided by accredited investors or the commitments made by accredited investors to provide Jaguar with capital to meet its obligations to provide all the necessary purchase funds for the investments made. The IIROC Hearing Panel decision also did not recognize that (i) the accredited investors made an investment return on each Jaguar investment, (ii) NSI generated commissions and fees from Jaguar and NSI did not incur any loss from the Jaguar investments because NSI was not an investor and all the funds came in from the commitments made to Jaguar by the accredited investors; and (iii) there was no loss realized by NSI, or the Company or by Penson as carrying broker. In fact everyone, including NSI, Penson, the accredited investors and Jaguar made money.

NSI was suspended as an IIROC Dealer Member on March 19, 2013 and is therefore no longer active. Jaguar can no longer engage NSI as its brokerage firm to buy and sell securities. Therefore there cannot be any ongoing potential or actual conflict of interest between NSI and Jaguar. Jaguar maintains an investment account at a large independent brokerage firm which did not acquire any former accounts from NSI, nor employ any former investment advisors at NSI and therefore the investment advisor at the independent firm is not a former investment advisor at NSI. The potential for conflicts of interest remains between the Company and Jaguar and is dealt with in part by the Governance Agreement and also by the decision-making process involving the independent directors of the Company and of Jaguar.

## **Business Environment and Opportunities**

The Company's corporate client base consists of small cap mining, technology and special situation companies. In the past few years the capital markets have not been receptive to small cap mining companies that do not have producing or near producing assets. Commodity prices have weakened and mining company share prices have plummeted.

The downturn has, however, created selective positive acquisition opportunities for the Company and its clients. Weaker capital markets for small cap mining companies also create opportunities for the Company to act as a financial advisor to restructure the invested capital of such companies. Declining small cap share prices present opportunities for increasing shareholder involvement or shareholder catalysts. The Company is involved in acting as a financial advisor either for companies in which shareholder catalysts have made an investment or for shareholder catalysts.

## **Quarterly Financial Information**

For the quarters ended	Dec 31/13	 Sep 30/13	Jun 30/13	Mar 31/13
Total revenue	\$ 70,708	\$ 768,644	\$ 478,755	\$ (2,108,321)
Net income (loss)	367,031	762,644	(8,116)	(2,677,708)
Net income (loss) per share	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.02	\$ (0.00)	\$ (0.06)
For the quarters ended	Dec 31/12	Sep 30/12	Jun 30/12	Mar 31/12
Total revenue	\$ 180,937	\$ 583,496	\$ 64,709	\$ 1,505,173
Net (loss) from discontinued operations	(793,476)	(875,928)	(773,703)	-
Net (loss) from continuing operations	(47,930)	(227,526)	(653,061)	-
Net income (loss)	(841,406)	(1,103,454)	(1,426,764)	(1,081,443)
Net income (loss) per share	\$ (0.02)	\$ (0.03)	\$ (0.04)	\$ (0.04)

### Results of Operations for the Nine Months Ended December 31, 2013

The Company reported net income from continuing operations of \$1,121,180 for the nine month period ended December 31, 2013, compared to a net loss from continuing operations of \$928,517 in the same period of fiscal 2013. The Company reported net income of \$1,121,180 as compared to a net loss of \$3,371,624 for the same period in fiscal 2013. Included in net income was a loss of \$147,887 representing the Company's share of the financial results of Jaguar, compared to a loss of \$59,988 in the same period in fiscal 2013. The Company recorded a gain on the sale of its investment in Jaguar in the amount of \$54,014 as compared to \$20,329 for the same period in fiscal 2013. Net income for the nine months ended December 31, 2013 also included other income of \$1,082,497 consisting primarily of a gain from the settlement of a \$504,000 liability by the payment of \$100,800 and the gain on settlement of \$541,181 in short-term loans payable to Jaguar by a payment of \$108,236.

## Revenue

Total revenue for the nine months ended December 31, 2013, was \$1,318,108, compared with revenue from continuing operations of \$829,142 in the same period of fiscal 2013.

Corporate finance and advisory revenue decreased to \$231,169 in the nine months ended December 31, 2013 from \$1,176,730 during the same period of fiscal 2013, as the Company generated fewer and smaller corporate finance and advisory engagements compared to the prior period. Broker warrant revenue was \$352 compared to a valuation loss of \$349,741 during the same period in fiscal 2013 as the non-cash, downward valuation of the portfolio was lower in the current year. The Company earned \$38,316 (December 31, 2012 - \$nil) in merchant banking fees and recorded a trading loss of \$34,226 (December 31, 2012 – gain of \$1,713). Other income for the nine months ended December 31, 2013 amounted to \$1,082,947 (December 31, 2012 - \$440) and consisted primarily of gains on the settlement of liabilities in the amount of \$851,152 and the recovery of its carrying broker deposit in the amount of \$155,000.

Revenue of the Company is dependent upon the strength of the commodities markets and the general condition of the financial markets. Fluctuations in the financial markets will have a significant adverse effect on the financial results of the Company.

### Expenses

General and administrative expenses are the operating expenses of the Company which includes compensation and general overhead. Salaries and benefits are directors' fees and applicable taxes and taxes paid on equity compensation. Shareholder costs are Toronto Stock Exchange and TSXV listing fees, annual general meeting costs and shareholder mailing costs. Equity compensation is the cost of equity based compensation in the Equity Incentive Plan and the Employee Share Purchase Plan. Professional fees are legal and audit fees. Occupancy costs are rent, operating expenses, and related expenses. Communication costs are telecommunication, news services, postage and related costs. Insurance costs are premiums for financial institution and tenant insurance policies.

Total expenses for the nine months ended December 31, 2013 were \$103,055 as compared to \$1,718,000 for the same period in fiscal 2013. Included in expenses is an interest expense credit of \$56,666 (December 31, 2012 – interest expense of \$341,548) which results mainly from the waiver of interest during the period by three unsecured lenders on total loans of approximately \$1,380,000. General and administrative expenses were \$159,721 as compared to \$1,275,319 for the same period in fiscal 2013. The decrease of \$1,115,598 is mainly a result of the Company's efforts to reduce its overhead as well as a \$450,000 recovery of expenses relating to the IIROC provision as detailed in "Regulatory Matters".

Depreciation and amortization expense was nil during the nine months ended December 31, 2013, compared to \$101,133 during the same period in fiscal 2013.

### Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended December 31, 2013

Net income for the quarter ended December 31, 2013 was \$367,031 (2012 – loss of \$841,406). Net income from continuing operations was \$367,031 (2012 – loss of \$47,930). Net income includes a loss of \$5,691 (2012 – gain of \$132,822) relating to the Company's share of losses in Jaguar and a gain of \$64,554 (2012 - \$nil) relating to the gain on disposition of Jaguar shares.

#### Revenue

Total revenue for the quarter ended December 31, 2013, was \$70,708, compared with revenue of \$180,937 in the same period of fiscal 2013.

Corporate finance and advisory revenue decreased to \$98,383 in the quarter ended December 31, 2013 from \$244,764 during the same period of fiscal 2013, as the Company generated fewer and smaller corporate finance and advisory engagements compared to the prior period. The gain on broker warrants was \$13,573 compared to a valuation loss of \$63,827 during the same period in fiscal 2013. The Company recorded a trading loss of \$34,226 (December 31, 2012 – \$nil). Other revenue for the quarter was negative \$7,022 for the quarter ended December 31, 2013 which included a revaluation of the Company's carrying broker deposit in the amount of \$7,614. The Company received a cash payment of \$155,000 during the quarter to bring the balance due to \$nil.

Revenue of the Company is dependent upon the strength of the commodities markets and the general condition of the financial markets. Fluctuations in the financial markets will have a significant adverse effect on the financial results of the Company.

## Expenses

General and administrative expenses are the operating expenses of the Company which includes compensation and general overhead. Salaries and benefits are directors' fees and applicable taxes and taxes paid on equity compensation. Shareholder costs are Toronto Stock Exchange and TSXV listing fees, annual general meeting costs and shareholder mailing costs. Equity compensation is the cost of equity based compensation in the Equity Incentive Plan and the Employee Share Purchase Plan. Professional fees are legal and audit fees. Occupancy costs are rent, operating expenses, and related expenses. Communication costs are telecommunication, news services, postage and related costs. Insurance costs are premiums for financial institution and tenant insurance policies.

Total expenses for the quarter ended December 31, 2013 were negative \$237,460 as compared to \$361,689 for the same period in fiscal 2013. Interest expense was \$15,738 (December 31, 2012 –\$141,096) which relates to accrued interest on a \$180,000 secured loan outstanding as well as the Company's credit facility with its financial institution. General and administrative expenses were negative \$253,198 as compared to \$186,102 for the same period in fiscal 2013. Included in general and administrative expenses is a \$450,000 recovery of expenses relating to the IIROC provision as detailed in "Regulatory Matters".

Depreciation and amortization expense was nil during the quarter ended December 31, 2013 as compared to \$34,491 during the same period in fiscal 2013.

## **Regulatory Matters**

As a result of an IIROC enforcement proceeding ("IIROC Proceeding") brought against NSI, Alboini, Fred Vance its former Chief Compliance Officer and Doug Chornoboy, its former Chief Financial Officer regarding alleged improper trading, failures to correct deficiencies and an incorrect recording of leasehold improvements, the IIROC Hearing Panel issued its decision without reasons on July 23, 2012, ruling against the Company and its senior executives on these matters. Two of the matters in the IIROC Proceeding were dropped by IIROC staff on the first day of the hearing. Subsequently the IIROC Hearing Panel issued its reasons for the decision and imposed a fine of \$300,000 and costs of \$150,000 against NSI. The IIROC Hearing Panel also imposed sanctions on Messrs. Alboini, Vance and Chornoboy. On application by NSI and the individual respondents, the OSC held a hearing and review of the IIROC Hearing Panel's decision in February 2013. The OSC stayed the IIROC Hearing Panel's sanctions and penalties until 30 days after the issuance of the OSC's decision and reasons for the hearing and review or until further order of the OSC.

On December 20, 2013 the Company reported the findings of the OSC decision. The IIROC panel had in its decision imposed the following sanctions and costs on the applicants: a fine of \$300,000 and costs of \$150,000 on NSI; a fine of \$625,000, costs of \$125,000, a disgorgement of commissions, a two-year suspension from registration and a permanent ban as ultimate designated person against Alboini; a fine of \$25,000 and costs of \$15,000 against Mr. Chornoboy; and a fine of \$50,000 and costs of \$50,000 against Mr. Vance.

The OSC decided that "the IIROC Panel should have provided reasons on the merits prior to the sanctions and costs hearing in order to permit the Applicants to effectively make submissions." The OSC decided that "the conduct of the sanctions and costs hearing was procedurally unfair to the Applicants," constituted an error in law and the OSC "set aside the IIROC Panel's sanctions and costs imposed on the Applicants."

The OSC decided that it will hold "a hearing de novo solely on the question of the appropriate sanctions and costs to be imposed on the Applicants." The OSC determined that "the Applicants may introduce new evidence concerning the following: "(a) financial commitments received by Alboini from third party investors; (b) background financial information regarding the cross guarantees between the Jaguar Main Account and Jaguar Project Accounts; (c) fees received by NSI through its dealings with the Jaguar Project Accounts; (d) the consequences and impact of the IIROC Decision on sanctions and costs on the Applicants."

The OSC also set aside the IIROC decision that Alboini and Mr. Vance "repeatedly failed to ensure that NSI corrected deficiencies found in three business conduct compliance reviews and one trading conduct review, thereby engaging in conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the public interest" (the deficiencies matter). The OSC decided that "the IIROC Panel made an error in law in concluding that it could overturn an IIROC Staff decision or interpretation only if the interpretation was 'unreasonable, arbitrary, contrary to law or beyond its jurisdiction." The OSC stated that "no deference was owed by the IIROC Panel to the decisions and interpretations of IIROC Staff."

On the deficiencies matter the OSC decided on the following: "We refer that matter back to IIROC for disposition. IIROC shall be entitled to decide whether [this matter] shall be re-heard in a trial de novo before a different IIROC Panel. Given the nature of [this matter], the practical challenges in rehearing it and the level of sanctions imposed by the IIROC Panel in respect of it, we might have simply dismissed [this matter]. However, we have concluded, on balance, that IIROC should have the option to decide whether [this matter] should be re-heard if IIROC considers that to be important from a regulatory perspective. Any such decision to re-hear [this matter] shall be made by IIROC, and communicated to NSI, Alboini and Vance, on or before February 14, 2014, or by such other date as may be agreed to by those Applicants, failing which [this matter] shall be dismissed."

The OSC also decided that, with reference to the IIROC decision that Alboini engaged in a trading practice which improperly obtained access to credit for his client and in doing so risked the capital of both NSI and its carrying broker, "the IIROC Panel was entitled to conclude, as it did, that Alboini's conduct constituted conduct unbecoming or detrimental to the public interest contrary to IIROC Rule 29.1".

With reference to the IIROC decision that Alboini and Mr. Chornoboy filed or permitted to be filed inaccurate monthly financial reports which failed to account for leasehold improvement costs, thereby misstating NSI's risk adjusted capital, the OSC deferred to the IIROC panel's decision on this matter.

## Liquidity, Capital Resources and Cash Flows

The Company had cash and deposits of \$479 as at December 31, 2013 compared to \$41,198 as at March 31, 2013.

The Company used \$99,031 of cash in its operations for the nine months ended December 31, 2013, compared with using \$859,807 during the same period in fiscal 2013.

As at December 31, 2013, the Company had negative working capital of \$3,542,972 compared to negative \$5,090,256 working capital as at March 31, 2013.

Overall because of the materially adverse events that have occurred in fiscal 2013 including the loss of NSI's brokerage business and its suspension as an IIROC Dealer Member, the Company's assets, revenue and ongoing expenses have all dropped considerably, and its liabilities have increased substantially to the point of testing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. However, in fiscal 2014 the Company reduced its liabilities with the settlement of \$1,047,000 in debt by the payment of \$208,800; the reduction of its secured loan of \$250,000 to \$180,000; and the waiver of interest on unsecured loans of approximately \$1,380,000; and the retirement of a \$20,000 loan plus accrued interest. (see "The Need for a Financial Restructuring").

The Company's advisory business previously carried on by NSI is now carried on by the Company in its division named Added Capital. The financing business previously carried on by NSI where NSI was engaged as an agent or underwriter is no longer carried on by the Company. However there may be limited opportunities for the Company to participate in financings where the Company can introduce potential investors to issuers.

The Company's merchant banking business has been continued. However, the ability of the Company to participate in an investment opportunity will depend on the ability to raise outside capital for this purpose. Periodically, the Company may negotiate credit facilities for the potential acquisition of investments. These facilities are generally acquired on a standby commitment basis and drawn down when required.

In fiscal 2013, Alboini and John Reid, a director of the Company who resigned on May 7, 2013, contributed substantial capital to the Company to finance its operations. Mr. Reid continues as a shareholder of the Company and is owed \$500,000 in loans. Alboini is owed \$592,959 as February 18, 2014.

The Company has a \$300,000 line of credit with its bank which is also a source of funding.

The Company has substantially reduced its expenses and its ability to meet its ongoing obligations will depend on the success of its Added Capital advisory and merchant banking businesses.

While the Company has prepared its consolidated financial statements on the basis of accounting principles applicable to a going concern, certain adverse conditions create some uncertainty relating to this assumption. While the Company had net income of \$1,121,180 in the nine months ended December 31 2013, a large portion of the net income is due to debt write-downs and a provisional adjustment rather than the realization of substantial revenue. In addition, the Company continues to have substantial debt. The Company's continued operation is dependent upon its ability to maintain profitable operations and continue a positive financial restructuring of its debt.

A portion of the cash of the Company is maintained by NSI, the Company's wholly owned subsidiary. The Company must receive consent from IIROC prior to the repatriation of any cash.

Outlined below are the contractual obligations as of December 31, 2013 including payments due for each of the next five years and thereafter:

**Payments Due by Period** 

Contractual Obligations	Total	Less than 3 months	3 months to less than 6 months	6 months to 1 year	1 to 3 years	4 to 5 years	After 5 years
Short-term loans	\$1,760,977	\$1,580,977	\$180,000	-	-	-	-
Operating Leases	\$ 16,800	\$ 6,300	\$ 6,300	\$ 4,200	-	-	-
Total	\$1,777,777	\$1,587,277	186,300	\$ 4,200	-	-	-

## **Management of Capital**

The Company requires capital to fund existing and future operations. The Company's policy is to maintain adequate levels of capital at all times.

The Company's capital structure includes the following:

	December 31,	March 31,	
	2013	2013	
Short-term loans payable	\$ 1,760,977	\$ 2,183,640	
Shareholders' deficiency comprised of:			
Share capital	3,710,034	3,675,678	
Warrants	158,829	158,829	
Contributed surplus	1,760,169	1,764,589	
Deficit	(9,138,047)	(10,259,227)	
	(\$ 1,748,038)	(\$ 2,476,491)	

The Company's objectives when managing capital are to (i) provide financial capacity and flexibility in order to preserve its ability to meet its strategic objectives and financial obligations and continue as a going concern; (ii) maintain a capital structure which allows the Company to respond to changes in economic and marketplace conditions and affords the Company the ability to participate in new investments; (iii) optimize the use of its capital to provide an appropriate investment return to its shareholders equal with the level of risk; and (iv) maintain a flexible capital structure which optimizes the cost of capital at acceptable levels of risk.

The Company's financial strategy is formulated and adapted according to market conditions in order to maintain a flexible capital structure that is consistent with its objectives and the risk characteristics of its underlying assets. The Company manages its capital structure and makes adjustments to it in light of changes in economic conditions and the risk characteristics of its underlying assets. The Company maintains or adjusts its capital level to enable it to meet its objectives by: (i) realizing proceeds from the disposition of its investments; (ii) utilizing leverage in the form of margin loans on its investments; (iii) raising capital through loans from third party investors who seek to participate in investment opportunities; and (iv) raising capital through the issuance of securities.

The Company's subsidiary, NSI, was required to maintain a certain level of regulatory capital under the IIROC rules. IIROC Dealer Member Rule 17.1 sets a minimum capital requirement for each firm based on its size and business model to ensure that the investment dealer not only has capital available to cover known risks but also excess capital to cover unforeseen risks. IIROC's minimum capital requirements are aimed at ensuring that investment dealers do not assume excessive leverage or engage in business practices which expose them to too much risk. This capital was provided by the Company and is eliminated upon consolidation as a loan between the parent and subsidiary. As at December 31, 2013, the amount of this loan was \$8,600,000 (2012 - \$12,000,000).

To date, the Company has not declared any cash dividends to its shareholders as part of its capital management program. The Company's management is responsible for the management of capital and monitors the Company's use of various forms of leverage on a daily basis.

## **Critical Accounting Estimates**

The preparation of the Company's financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Certain estimates, including the valuation of financial instruments, income taxes, impairments, and provisions require management to make subjective or complex judgments. Accordingly actual results may vary from the current estimates. Accounting policies that require management's judgment and estimates are described below:

#### Valuation of financial instruments

The financial instruments of the Company are measured at fair value or amortized cost. Fair value is determined on the basis of market prices from independent sources, if available. If there is no available market price, fair value is determined using the Black-Scholes model. The inputs to the Black-Scholes model are derived from observable market data where possible, but where observable data is not available, judgment is required to establish fair value. There is inherent uncertainty and imprecision in estimating the factors that can affect fair value when observable data is not available.

#### Income Tax

Accruals for tax liabilities require management to make estimates and judgments with respect to the ultimate outcome of tax filings and assessments. Actual results could vary from these estimates. Deferred tax assets are recognized to the extent that the Company believes it is probable that the assets can be recovered. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recorded using substantively enacted future tax rates. Accordingly, the actual income tax liabilities and deferred tax assets may differ significantly from that estimated and recorded.

### *Impairment*

The carrying value of investment in associated company and property and equipment is reviewed each reporting period to determine whether there is an indication of impairment. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is impaired and an impairment loss is recognized in net income. The assessment of recoverable amount requires the use of estimates and assumptions for discount rates, future capital requirements and operating performance. Changes in any of the assumptions or estimates used in determining the fair value of the assets could impact the impairment analysis.

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are recorded by the Company when it has determined that it has a present obligation, whether legal or constructive, and that it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, provided that a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are recorded based on management's best estimates of timing, and quantum of future outflows.

#### **Financial Instruments**

The Company holds securities, including broker warrants, for investment purposes and receives loans to fund certain of these investments.

Securities are classified, based on management's intentions, as held-for-trading. Securities owned and securities sold short are stated at fair values at the reporting date. Obligations to deliver trading securities sold but not yet purchased are recorded as liabilities. The fair value of securities is determined at the end of the valuation date by the closing bid price for securities owned and closing ask price for securities sold short, on the stock exchange where the investment is listed. For investments where market quotations are not readily available or, if there is no closing bid or ask price on the valuation date, the fair value is determined using valuation models. Realized and unrealized changes in fair value are recognized in income in the period in which the changes occur and reported as trading revenue on the consolidated statement of operations, and comprehensive loss.

Broker warrants received by the Company in respect of underwriting are measured at fair value and are included in securities owned. Fair values determined using the Black-Sholes model require the use of assumptions concerning the volatility of underlying securities and risk-free interest rates. In determining those assumptions, the Company looks primarily to external readily observable market inputs including factors such as price volatilities and interest rates, as applicable. Realized and unrealized changes in fair value are recognized in income in the period in which the changes occur and reported as broker warrants revenue on the consolidated statement of operations, and comprehensive loss.

The following is a description and analysis of the risks associated with financial instruments that may affect the Company:

### Fair Value of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities:

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the Company is not exposed to significant interest rate, foreign exchange or credit risks arising from its financial instruments. The fair values of the Company's financial assets and financial liabilities approximate their carrying amounts due to their imminent or short-term maturity.

#### Market Risk:

Market risk is the risk that a change in market prices, interest rate levels, indices, liquidity and other market factors will result in losses. The Company is exposed to market risk as a result of its principal trading in equity securities and fixed income securities. Securities held for trading are valued at market and as such, changes in market value affect earnings (losses) as they occur. The Company mitigates its market risk exposure through controls to limit concentration levels and capital usage within its inventory trading accounts. As at December 31, 2013, based on a 1% change in the fair value of the Company's securities, the estimated sensitivity of the Company's net loss was (\$400) (March 31, 2013 – (\$400)), based on a decrease and \$400 (March 31, 2013 - \$400), based on an increase.

#### Credit Risk:

Credit risk on financial instruments is the risk of a financial loss occurring as a result of the default of the counterparty on its obligation to the Company. The primary source of credit risk is related to the extension of credit to clients, through the use of margin loans, to purchase securities. Margin loans are due on demand and are collateralized by the financial instruments in the client's account. The Company faces potential financial loss if a client does not meet a margin call when the value of securities held as collateral declines and the Company is not able to recover sufficient value from the collateral.

Credit risk is managed by applying credit standards to the counterparties the Company transacts business with, applying limits to client transactions and requiring settlements of security transactions on a cash basis or delivery against payments. The Company also regularly monitors credit exposure. Margin transactions are collateralized by securities in the client's accounts in accordance with limits established by the Company and applicable regulatory requirements. As a result of NSI operations being discontinued the Company faces minimal credit risk. During the period ended December 31, 2013, the Company did not incur any material loss from counterparty default.

### **Interest Rate Risk:**

Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect the value of financial instruments and fixed income securities held by the Company. The Company holds minimal fixed income securities and does not hedge its exposure to interest rates since the risk is very low. The Company also has issued borrowings that are interest bearing. As at December 31, 2013, based on a 1% change in interest rates, the estimated sensitivity of the Company's net income was (\$4,400), based on an increase and \$4,400, based on a decrease.

# Foreign Exchange Risk:

Foreign exchange risk is the risk that the market value of financial instruments and the associated revenues will fluctuate due to changes in exchange rates. The Company does not use derivatives to modify foreign exchange risk. The Company holds minimal financial instruments in foreign currencies.

#### **Liquidity Risk:**

Liquidity risk is the risk that results from the Company's potential inability to meet its financial obligations as they come due. The Company generates cash flow primarily from its commission and fee based businesses as well as its investments.

The Company manages liquidity risk by reviewing the amount of cash available, on a daily basis, to ensure that it can meet its current obligations. There is no guarantee that the Company will be able to continue to meets its current obligations. See Note 1 of the accompanying financial statements.

The Company has loans outstanding of \$1,760,977 (March 31, 2013 - \$2,183,640).

The Company has available a credit facility in the amount of \$300,000 at prime plus 1.75%, secured by a general security agreement covering all assets of the Company and guaranteed by Alboini and his personal investment company. As at December 31 2013, the balance owing under the credit facility was \$260,000.

### **Share Capital Information**

Outlined below is selected current share capital information related to the Company as at February 18, 2014:

Description	Number
Common shares issued and outstanding	44,320,134
Common share purchase warrants issued and outstanding	Nil
Common share purchase options issued and outstanding	Nil

In connection with listing the Company's common shares on the TSX Venture Exchange, the Company terminated its Equity Incentive Plan ("EIP"). There are no current outstanding awards under the Plan and no new awards may be granted under the Plan.

On September 25, 2006, the shareholders of the Company approved the establishment of an employee share purchase plan ("ESPP"). The ESPP allows qualifying employees to purchase common shares of the Company equal to 8% of their annual compensation to a maximum amount of \$8,000 per year, unless the Board of Directors waives the individual maximum. The Company matches the number of shares purchased at no additional cost to the employee over a three-year vesting period or such other period determined by the Board of Directors.

In February, 2014 directors and officers invested \$10,474 under the ESPP. The Company intends to satisfy its ESPP obligation including matching shares by acquiring shares in the market on behalf of such directors and officers.

## **Subsequent Events**

- 1. Subsequent to December 31, 2013, Alboini was repaid \$10,000 by the Company, with the result that Mr. Alboini is owed approximately \$592,959 as at February 18, 2014. In lieu of receiving salary, the Company has repaid part of the principal amount owing to Mr. Alboini in an amount that would otherwise be a salary payment.
- 2. Subsequent to December, 31, 2013 directors and officers invested \$10,474 under the ESPP. The Company intends to satisfy its ESPP obligation including matching shares by acquiring shares in the market on behalf of such directors and officers.

### **Related Party Transactions**

The Company had related party transactions in Fiscal 2014 with directors or officers of the Company, or companies with which they were associated, as follows:

- 1. The Company repaid amounts owing to Jaguar of \$541,181 through a payment to Jaguar of \$108,236.
- 2. The Company recovered \$18,332 in certain operating expenses from Jaguar during the period ended December 31, 2013 (December 31, 2012 \$183,741). NSI acted as investment advisor and financial advisor with respect to Jaguar receiving commissions and fees in the amount of \$nil (December 31, 2012 \$36,414) for the three month period ended December 31, 2013, and \$nil (December 31, 2012 \$94,498) for the nine month period ended December 31, 2013. NSI also received 1,300,000 common shares under Jaguar's equity compensation plan in the three month period ended June 30, 2012, which were recorded at fair value of \$65,000. The Company earned \$4,000 in other fees from Jaguar for the period ended December 31, 2013 (December 31, 2012 \$nil) and paid \$3,250 in other fees (December 31, 2012 \$nil).
- 3. During the nine months ended December 31, 2013 Alboini provided net loan advances to the Company of \$230,500 (2012 \$372,459), resulting in a balance of \$602,959 as at December 31, 2013 (March 31,

2013 - \$372,459). During the period Alboini and Stature waived all historical and future interest on their total loans to the Company.

- As at December 31, 2013 the Company had \$500,000 in loans payable to a former director of the Company and a promissory note in the amount of \$nil (March 31, 2012 - \$20,000) payable to a former officer of NSI.
- 5. Under the governance terms and conditions of transactions with Jaguar, the Company may receive, at the discretion of Jaguar, certain override payments of up to 25% on any realized gains from any investment made by Jaguar, such decisions to be approved by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of Jaguar consisting of independent directors of Jaguar. The Company received fees in the amount of \$74,536 pertaining to certain investments by Jaguar.
- 6. Compensation paid to persons and corporation in charge of the planning, direction and control of the Company, including executive and non-executive directors was \$39,183 for the nine months ended December 31, 2013.

# **Commitments and Contingencies**

The future minimum annual payment for 2014 on office premises under existing operating leases is approximately \$16,800.

NSI indemnified Penson for all obligations to pay for securities purchased and to deliver securities sold by clients. In the event of default by any of its clients on payments due on delivery of securities to Penson, NSI has agreed to pay Penson an amount up to its "excess risk adjusted capital". Penson ceased active operations on December 31, 2012.

The Company had previously recorded a provision of \$450,000 (2012 - \$75,000) as a result of a decision of an IIROC Hearing Panel on November 10, 2012 on an IIRO enforcement proceeding regarding failures to correct deficiencies and an incorrect recording of leasehold improvements. The Hearing Panel imposed a fine of \$300,000 on NSI and costs of \$150,000. The Hearing Panel also imposed sanctions on Alboini, Fred Vance, the former Chief Compliance Officer and Doug Chornoboy, the former Chief Financial Officer ("individual respondents"). On application by NSI and the individual respondents, the Ontario Securities Commission ("OSC") held a hearing and review of the Hearing Panel's decision in February 2013. The OSC stayed the Hearing Panel's sanctions and penalties pending the OSC decision and reasons on the appeal. On December 20, 2013 the Company announced that the OSC decided that "the IIROC Panel should have provided reasons on the merits prior to the sanctions and costs hearing in order to permit the Applicants to effectively make submissions." The OSC decided that "the conduct of the sanctions and costs hearing was procedurally unfair to the Applicants," constituted an error in law and the OSC "set aside the IIROC Panel's sanctions and costs imposed on the Applicants." As a result of this decision the provision was reversed during the quarter ended December 31, 2013.

The Company recorded a provision as at December 31, 2013 of \$176,000 relating to a civil action against IPO Capital Inc., a former Dealer Member at IIROC which was acquired by Northern in 2003. The Company acquired IPO Capital in March 2003. IPO Capital has no net assets and the Company is not a party to the civil action by the plaintiff. In Q2 2013 the plaintiff commenced a new action against the Company, NSI and Alboini. None of the Company, NSI and Alboini was involved in the dispute between IPO Capital and the plaintiff as the dispute occurred prior to the acquisition of IPO Capital by the Company and the Company did not assume any liability for the dispute as part of the acquisition of IPO Capital in 2003.

The Company settled a civil action in 2010 which required the payment by Northern of \$800,000 to the plaintiff, Mrs. Sookochoff over an extended period of time. Prior to April 1, 2013, the Company had paid the plaintiff \$296,000. The Company terminated the monthly payments to the plaintiff in March 2013. The plaintiff has since obtained a judgment against the Company for an effective amount owing of \$504,000. Mrs. Sookochoff was a former retail client of NSI and the client's son-in-law (David Smith) was an investment advisor at NSI. The client sued her son-in-law and NSI which resulted in the settlement. As part of the settlement, Mrs. Sookochoff assigned all of her right, title and interest in her claims against David Smith to Northern which assignment would enable Northern to commence an action against Mr. Smith to recover the \$296,000 paid by Northern to Mrs. Sookochoff. Northern has not yet commenced an action against Mr. Smith. In Q2 fiscal 2014 the Company paid Mrs. Sookochoff \$100,800 to settle the amount owing of \$504,000, recording a gain on settlement of \$403,200.

The Company recorded a provision as December 31, 2013 of \$164,640 relating to a penalty assessed by the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada ("FINTRAC"). The penalty relates to the findings of non-compliance during a Compliance Examination that took place on November 2, 2012. Subsequent to year end, the Company submitted an appeal of the penalty, which FINTRAC has stated was made after the period in which an appeal is permitted. The Company maintains that it has properly appealed FINTRAC's decision.

## **Future Accounting Policies**

Financial Instruments: IFRS 9 is the first of a multi-phase project to replace IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. It addresses the classification, measurement and derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities.

IFRS 9 divides all financial assets that are currently in the scope of IAS 39 into two classifications – those measured at amortized cost and those measured at fair value. Classification is made at the time the financial asset is initially recognized when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. The transition guidance is complex and mainly requires retrospective application.

Most of the requirements in IAS 39 for the classification and measurement of financial liabilities have been carried forward unchanged to IFRS 9. Where an entity chooses to measure its own debt at fair value, IFRS 9 now requires the amount of the change in fair value due to changes in the issuing entity's own credit risk to be presented in other comprehensive income. An exception to the new approach is made where the effects of changes in the liability's credit risk would create or enlarge an accounting mismatch in profit or loss, in which case all gains or losses on that liability are to be presented in profit or loss.

The requirements in IAS 39 related to derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities have been incorporated unchanged into the new version of IFRS 9. IFRS 9 is effective for annual years beginning on or after January 1, 2015. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of IFRS 9 on its financial statements.

#### **Additional Information**

Additional information on the Company has been filed electronically through the System for Document Analysis and retrieval ("SEDAR") and is available online at <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>.