

NORTHERN IRON CORP.
AMENDED STOCK OPTION PLAN
(Effective as of May 2, 2011)

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Stock Option Plan (the “Plan”) is to provide an incentive to the directors, officers, consultants, and employees of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries to achieve the longer term objectives of the Corporation, to give suitable recognition to the ability and industry of such persons who contribute materially to the success of the Corporation on an ongoing basis, and to attract to and retain in the employ of the Corporation and its subsidiaries, persons of experience and ability, by providing them with the opportunity to acquire an increased proprietary interest in the Corporation.

2. **DEFINITIONS**

When used in this Plan, unless there is something in the subject matter or context inconsistent therewith, the following words and terms shall have the respective meanings ascribed to them as follows:

- a) “**Board of Directors**” means the Board of Directors of the Corporation;
- b) “**Common Shares**” means the Common Shares of the Corporation and any share or securities of the Corporation into which such Common Shares are changed, converted, subdivided, consolidated or reclassified;
- c) “**Corporation**” means Northern Iron Corp. and any successor corporation, and any reference herein to action by the Corporation means action by or under the authority of its Board of Directors or a duly empowered committee appointed by the Board of Directors;
- d) “**Discounted Market Price**” means the Market Price less the maximum discounts based on closing price, subject to such minimum exercise price mandated under the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange or other relevant stock exchange or regulatory authority;
- e) “**Insider**” has the meaning set forth in Policy 1.1 of the TSX Venture Exchange, as it has been or may be amended on one or more occasions;
- f) “**Investor Relations Activities**” has the meaning set forth in Policy 1.1 of the TSX Venture Exchange, as it has been or may be amended on one or more occasions;
- g) “**Market Price**” means the per share closing price for the Common Shares on the TSX Venture Exchange, or if not then listed on the TSX Venture Exchange, on the stock exchange on which the greatest volume of Common Shares is traded on the last Trading Day immediately preceding the date of such grant;

- h) “**Option**” means an option granted by the Corporation to an Optionee entitling such Optionee to acquire a designated number of Common Shares from treasury at a price to be determined by the Board of Directors;
- i) “**Option Period**” means such period as may be determined by the Board of Directors during which an Optionee may exercise an Option, commencing on the date such Option is granted to such Optionee and ending no later than the date ten (10) years thereafter;
- j) “**Optionee**” means a person who is a director, officer, consultant, employee or management company employee of the Corporation or its subsidiaries, or a corporation wholly-owned and controlled by such a person, who is granted an Option pursuant to this plan;
- k) “**Plan**” means the Stock Option Plan of the Corporation as created hereby and as amended from time to time and;
- l) “**Trading Day**” means a day on which at least a board lot of Common Share shall have been sold through the facilities of TSX Venture Exchange or other relevant stock exchange.

3. **ADMINISTRATION**

The Plan shall be administered by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have full and final discretion to interpret the provisions of the Plan and to prescribe, amend, rescind and waive rules and regulations to govern the administration and operation of the Plan, and all decisions and interpretations made by the Board of Directors shall be binding and conclusive upon the Optionees and the Corporation, subject to shareholder approval if required by any relevant stock exchange. Notwithstanding the foregoing or any other provision contained herein, the Board of Directors shall have the right to delegate the administration of the Plan to the President of the Compensation Committee of the Corporation (if created).

4. **ELIGIBILITY**

The Board of Directors may from time to time designate those Optionees who are to be granted an Option pursuant to the Plan and grant an Option to such Optionee. If the Corporation grants stock options to an employee, consultant, management company employee, or to a corporation owned by an employee, consultant, or management company employee then the Corporation must represent that the intended Optionee is a bona fide employee, consultant or management company employee.

The number of authorized but unissued Common Shares that may be subject to Options granted to Optionees under the Plan at any time plus the number of Common Shares that have been issued prior to such time on exercise of Options granted under the Plan, shall not exceed 10% of the issued Common Shares of the Corporation, with no vesting provisions, subject to the following conditions:

- a) No more than five percent (5%) of the issued and outstanding Common Shares of the Corporation may be granted to any one (1) individual in any 12 month period;
- b) No more than two percent (2%) of the issued and outstanding Common Shares of the Corporation may be granted to any one (1) consultant in any 12 month period; and
- c) No more than two percent (2%) of the issued and outstanding Common Shares of the Corporation may be granted to all persons employed primarily to conduct Investor Relations Activities in any 12 month period;

provided that appropriate adjustments shall be made as set forth in Section 10 hereof, both in the total number of Common Shares authorized to be issued hereunder and the number of Common Shares covered by individual grants, and to give effect to any relevant changes in the capitalization of the Corporation. Common Shares in respect of which Options are not exercised will be available for subsequent Options.

5. **PARTICIPATION**

- a) Participation in the Plan shall be entirely voluntary and any decision not to participate shall not affect an Optionee's relationship or employment with the Corporation;
- b) Notwithstanding any express or implied term of the Plan to the contrary, the granting of an Option pursuant to the Plan shall in no way be construed as a guarantee of employment by the Corporation to the Optionee; and
- c) No Optionee shall have any rights whatsoever as a shareholder in respect of any of the Common Shares under an Option, including the right to receive dividends or other distributions therefrom or thereon, other than in respect to Common Shares in respect of which the Optionee shall have exercised the Option and which the Optionee shall have actually taken up and paid in full, pursuant to the Plan.

6. **OPTION AGREEMENT**

A written agreement will be entered into between the Corporation and each Optionee to whom an Option is granted hereunder, which agreement will set out the number of Common Shares subject to option, the exercise price and any other terms and conditions approved by the Board of Directors, all in accordance with the provisions of this Plan (herein referred to as the "**Stock Option Agreement**"). The Stock Option Agreement will be in the form of agreement as the Board of Directors may from time to time approve, and may contain such terms as may be considered necessary in order that the Option will comply with any provisions respecting options in the income tax or other laws in force in any country or jurisdiction of which the Optionee may from time to time be a resident or citizen or the rules of any regulatory body having jurisdiction over the Corporation.

7. **EXERCISE OF OPTIONS**

- a) An Optionee shall be entitled to exercise an Option granted to him at any time prior to the expiry of the Option Period;
- b) The exercise price of an Option granted under the Plan shall be as determined by the Board of Directors when such Option is granted subject to any limitations imposed by any relevant stock exchange or regulatory authority, and shall be an amount at least equal to the Discounted Market Price of the Common Shares;
- c) An Option shall not be exercisable for more than 90 days after an Optionee ceases to be a director, officer, consultant, employee or management company employee of the Corporation for any reason other than death; and
- d) An Option shall not be exercisable for more than 30 days after an Optionee ceases to be a person employed primarily to conduct Investor Relations Activities.

8. **HOLD PERIOD**

In addition to any resale restrictions under relevant securities laws, where the exercise price of an Option is based on the Discounted Market Price, all stock options and any listed Common Shares issued on the exercise of the Option must include the following TSX Venture Exchange hold period commencing on the date the Option was granted:

*Without prior written approval of the Exchange and compliance with all applicable securities legislation, the securities represented by this certificate may not be sold, transferred, hypothecated or otherwise traded on or through the facilities of the TSX Venture Exchange or otherwise in Canada or to or for the benefit of a Canadian resident before **[insert date that is the date following the fourth month after the grant of the option]**.*

9. **OPTIONEE'S RIGHT NOT TRANSFERABLE**

- a) No right or interest of any Optionee in or under the Plan is assignable or transferable, in whole or in part, either directly or by operation of law or otherwise in any manner, except by bequeath or the laws of descent and distribution or if so provided in the Stock Option Agreement with the Optionee. Any such right or interest shall be exercisable:
 - (i) during the lifetime of an Optionee only by such Optionee or his legal representatives; or
 - (ii) after the death of an Optionee, only as specified in the Stock Option Agreement with the Optionee, and up to a maximum of one year from the date of the death of the Optionee.

- b) If an Optionee is an Insider of the Corporation at the time of any proposed amendment that would reduce the exercise price of an Option granted to such Optionee, the Corporation must obtain disinterested shareholder approval for such amendment;
- c) Subject to the foregoing, the terms of the Plan shall bind the Corporation and its successors and assigns, and each Optionee and his heirs, executors, administrators and personal representatives.

10. **ANTI-DILUTION; CORPORATE TRANSACTIONS**

In the event of:

- a) any subdivision, redivision or change of the Common Shares at any time during the term of the Option into a greater number of Common Shares, the Corporation shall deliver, at the time of any exercise thereafter of the Option, such additional number of shares as would have resulted from such subdivision, redivision or change if the exercise of the Option has been made prior to the date of such subdivision, redivision or change;
- b) any consolidation or change of the Common Shares at any time during the term of the Option into a lesser number of Common Shares, the number of shares deliverable by the Corporation on any exercise thereafter of the Option shall be reduced to such number of shares as would have resulted from such consolidation or change if the exercise of the Option had been made prior to the date of such consolidation or change; or
- c) any reclassification of the Common Shares at any time outstanding or change of the Common Shares into other shares, or in case of the consolidation, amalgamation or merger of the Corporation with or into any other corporation (other than a consolidation, amalgamation or merger which does not result in a reclassification of the outstanding Common Shares or a change of the Common Shares into other shares), or in case of any transfer of the undertaking or assets of the Corporation as an entirety or substantially as an entirety to another corporation, or in case of any change of control of the Corporation, at any time during the term of the outstanding Options, the Board of Directors or the board of directors of any successor corporation or entity may, in its discretion:
 - i. upon written notice to the holders of the outstanding Options, accelerate the exercise date or dates of all outstanding Options;
 - ii. if the outstanding Options have been accelerated pursuant to item (i) above, terminate all outstanding Options prior to consummation of the transaction unless exercised within the period prescribed in the written notice to the holders of such Options;

- iii. provide for payment of an amount equal to the excess of the Market Price, as determined by the Board of Directors or the board of directors of any successor corporation or entity over the option price of the Common Shares as of the date of the transaction, in exchange for the surrender of the right to exercise the outstanding Options; or
- iv. provide for the assumption of the outstanding Options, or the substitution therefore of new options, by the successor corporation or entity.

11. **TERMINATION AND ASSIGNMENT**

- a) The Board of Directors may amend or terminate this Plan or any outstanding Option granted hereunder at any time without the approval of the shareholders of the Corporation or any Optionee whose Option is amended or terminated, in order to conform this Plan or such Option, as the case may be, to applicable law or regulation or the requirements of any relevant stock exchange or regulatory authority, whether or not such amendment or termination would affect any accrued rights, subject to the approval of such stock exchange or regulatory authority.
- b) The Board of Directors may amend or terminate this Plan or any outstanding Option granted hereunder for any reason other than the reasons set forth in Section 11 (a) hereof, subject to the approval of the relevant stock exchange or regulatory authority and the approval of the shareholders of the Corporation if required by such authority. No such amendment or termination will, without the consent of an Optionee, alter or impair any rights which have accrued to him prior to the effective date thereof.

12. **APPLICABLE LAW**

This Plan shall be governed by, administered and construed in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario and the laws of Canada applicable therein.

13. **GENDER**

Wherever the singular or masculine or neuter is used in this Plan, the same shall be construed as meaning the plural or feminine or body corporate and vice versa, where the context or the parties so require.

14. **COSTS**

The Corporation shall pay all costs of administering the Plan.

15. **EFFECTIVE DATE**

The Plan shall become effective as and from, and the effective date of the Plan shall be, May 20, 2010, subject to receipt of all necessary Board and regulatory approvals.