## Looking Glass Labs Ltd.

#### **Management's Discussion and Analysis**

#### For the periods ended October 31, 2023 and 2022

December 15, 2023

This management's discussion and analysis provides an analysis of our financial situation which will enable the reader to evaluate important variations in our financial situation for the three months ended October 31, 2023, compared to the three months ended October 31, 2022. This report prepared as December 15, 2023 intends to complement and supplement our unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements (the "financial statements") as at October 31, 2023, and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements and the accompanying notes. Readers are also advised to read the Company's audited financial statements and accompanying notes for the year ended July 31, 2023, which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Our unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements and the management's discussion and analysis are intended to provide a reasonable base for the investor to evaluate our financial situation.

Our unaudited condensed interim financial statements have been prepared using accounting policies consistent with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). All dollar amounts contained in this MD&A are expressed in Canadian dollars, unless otherwise specified.

Where we say "we", "us", "our", the "Company", "LGL" or "Looking Glass Labs", we mean Looking Glass Labs Ltd. as it may apply.

Management is responsible for the preparation and integrity of the financial statements, including the maintenance of appropriate information systems, procedures and internal controls. Management is also responsible for ensuring that information disclosed externally, including the financial statements and Management Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A"), is complete and reliable.

All dollar amounts included therein and in the following MD&A are expressed in Canadian dollars except where noted. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Such information, although considered to be reasonable by the Company's management at the time of preparation, may prove to be inaccurate and actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in the statements made. Additional information on the Company is available for viewing on SEDAR at www.sedarplus.ca.

#### **Cautionary Statement on Forward Looking Information**

The information provided in this MD&A, may contain "forward-looking statements" about the Company. In addition, the Company may make or approve certain statements in future filings with Canadian securities regulatory authorities, in press releases, or in oral or written presentations by representatives of the Company that are not statements of historical fact and may also constitute forward-looking statements. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, made by the Company that address activities, events or developments that the Company expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to, statements preceded by, followed by or that include words such as "may", "will", "would", "could", "should", "believes", "estimates", "projects", "potential", "expects", "plans", "intends", "anticipates", "targeted", "continues", "forecasts", "designed", "goal", or the negative of those words or other similar or comparable words. Although the Company believes that the expectations reflected in these forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, there are a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from such forward-looking statements. These include, among others, the cautionary statements under "Description of Business".

Specific forward-looking information contained in this MD&A include, among others, statements, management's beliefs, expectations or intentions regarding the following:

• timelines;

- the business and operations of the Company;
- the business, operations, strategies and expectations of the Company;
- the Company's business objectives and discussion of trends affecting the business of the Company;
- the funds available to the Company and the principal purposes of those funds;
- anticipated revenues and cash flows from operations and funding requirements of the Company;
- capital, operating and general expenditures;
- expectations regarding the ability to raise capital;
- anticipated revenues to be realized by the Company from future contracts;
- treatment under governmental regulatory regimes and expectations with respect to regulatory approvals; and
- other forward-looking statements including, but not limited to, information concerning the intentions, plans and future actions of the Company.

Forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, estimates, analysis, and opinions of management made in light of its experience and its perception of trends, current conditions and expected developments, as well as other factors that management believes to be relevant and reasonable in the circumstances at the date that such information is made available. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Although the Company has attempted to identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, there may be other factors that cause results not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended, including the factors and risks described or referred to elsewhere herein, as well as unanticipated and/or unusual events. Many of such factors are beyond the Company's ability to predict or control. Risks and uncertainties that may affect forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, those which relate to the following:

- the limited operating history of the Company and its Subsidiaries;
- the historical lack of profitability of the Company;
- the need to obtain additional financing and uncertainty as to the availability and terms of future financing;
- the ability to acquire funds necessary for general working capital and continuing operations;
- reliance on sale of equity or investments to access funds required;
- the possibility that opportunities will arise that require more cash than the Company has or can reasonably obtain;
- uncertainties associated with business opportunities that may be presented to, or pursued by the Company;
- the Company's operations, strategies and profitability may be adversely affected by competition from other similar entities;
- uncertainties related to early stage of technology and product development;
- uncertainties related to regulatory regimes and laws;
- dependence on key personnel;
- fluctuations in the currency markets and stock market volatility;
- going concern considerations;
- conflicts of interest;
- changes in the regulatory environment;
- competition for, among other things, capital, acquisitions, equipment and skilled personnel;
- operating or technical difficulties in connection with business activities;
- the possibility of cost overruns or unanticipated expenses;
- the requirements of being a public-traded company may strain the Company's resources, divert management's attention and affect its ability to attract and retain executive management and qualified board members;
- the Company's business is reliant on blockchain technology;
- the continuing development and acceptance of NFTs and blockchain technology are subject to a variety of risks;
- regulatory changes or actions may alter the nature of an investment in the Company or restrict the use of NFTs in a manner that adversely affects the Company's operations;

- an NFT's status as a "security" in any relevant jurisdiction is subject to a high degree of uncertainty and if the Company is unable to properly characterize an NFT, the Company may be subject to regulatory scrutiny, investigations, fines, and other penalties, which may adversely affect the Company's business, operating results, and financial condition;
- blockchain transactions are irrevocable and losses may occur;
- the Company's use of proprietary and non-proprietary software, data and intellectual property may be subject to substantial risk;
- the Company's business is exposed to the potential misuse of NFTs and malicious actors;
- the business of the Company will be exposed to cybersecurity risks;
- digital wallets may be hacked;
- uninsured or uninsurable risks;
- a decline in the adoption and use of NFTs could materially and adversely affect the performance of the Company;
- the demand and prices of NFTs are extraordinarily volatile;
- political or economic crises may motivate large-scale sales of NFTs, which would result in a reduction in values and materially and adversely affect the Company;
- market adoption of NFTs and blockchain technology has been limited to date and further adoption is uncertain;
- the Company will have to adapt to respond to evolving security risks;
- the Company may be unable to obtain adequate insurance to insure its operations;
- intellectual property rights claims may adversely affect the operation of the Company's business;
- all active and liquid trading markets in the Company's common shares may fail to develop;
- the Company's compliance and risk management programs may not be effective;
- unexpected market disruptions may cause major losses for the Company;
- foreign exchange risk;
- the Company will depend on its senior management and directors to source suitable investment opportunities for the Company;
- managing different business lines could present conflicts of interest;
- operational risk may materially and adversely affect the Company's performance and results;
- the Company may not be effective in mitigating risk;
- the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may have an adverse effect on the business of the Company;
- force majeure events may materially and adversely affect the business continuity of the Company;
- the Company will be reliant, in part, on attracting and retaining skilled management and directors;
- situations may arise where the directors and/or officers of the Company may be in competition with the Company and may have interests that conflict with, or differ from, the Company's interests;
- the Company may be subject to litigation; and
- the other factors discussed under the heading "Risk Factors".

The reader is cautioned that the foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive of the factors that may affect forward looking statements. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for management to predict all such factors and to assess in advance the impact of each such factor on the business of the Company or the companies in which it is invested, or the extent to which any factor or combination of factors may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. The reader is also cautioned to consider these and other factors, uncertainties and potential events carefully and not to put undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Although the forward-looking statements contained in this MD&A are based upon what management of Company currently believes to be reasonable assumptions; actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements and, accordingly, no assurance can be given that any of the events anticipated by the forward-looking statements will transpire or occur, or if any of them do so, what benefits will be derived therefrom. These forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this MD&A and, other than as specifically required by law, Company does not assume any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which such statement is made, or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, whether as a result of new information, future events or results, or otherwise.

Consequently, all forward-looking statements made in this MD&A and other documents of the Company are qualified by such cautionary statements and there can be no assurance that the anticipated results or developments will actually be realized or, even if realized, that they will have the expected consequences to or effects to the Company.

Readers are cautioned that these factors and risks are difficult to predict and that the assumptions used in the preparation of forward-looking statements, although considered reasonably accurate at the time of preparation, may prove to be incorrect. Accordingly, readers are cautioned that the Company's actual results achieved could vary from the information provided in this MD&A, and the variations may be material. Readers are also cautioned that the foregoing list of factors is not exhaustive. Consequently, there is no representation by the Company that actual results achieved will be the same, in whole or in part, as those set out in the forward-looking statements. Furthermore, the forward-looking statements contained in this MD&A are made as of the date of this MD&A, and the Company does not undertake any obligation, except as required by Applicable Securities Laws, to update publicly or to revise any of the included forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. The forward-looking statements contained in this MD&A are expressly qualified by this cautionary statement.

# **OVERVIEW AND DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS**

### **Description of Business**

The Company is a Web3 innovation platform specializing in consumer engagement applications to leverage immersive metaverse environments and blockchain monetization strategies.

The Pocket Dimension metaverse is a hyper-realistic digital world that is being built using the latest version of Unreal Engine in order to offer users a premium virtual experience. Pocket Dimensions feature 10 different environments. Pocket Dimension is a private virtual space that provides users the ability to explore the virtual space and socialize with other users, through avatars.

The Company released its Alpha version of its Pocket Dimension metaverse on November 1, 2022, its Beta version on February 21, 2023, and publicly released the Pocket Dimension metaverse on May 29, 2023 (https://www.houseofkibaa.com/pocketdimension).

The Company's short-term focus for the upcoming quarters is to continue to seek monetization avenues for its Pocket Dimension product and to obtain additional financing for working capital

# **COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS**

On November 23, 2023, the Company closed a non-brokered private placement offering of 10,005,000 units at a price of \$0.10 per Unit, for gross proceeds of \$1,000,500 of which \$35,000 was received in advance. Each Unit will consist of one common share in the capital of the Company and one common share purchase warrant. Each Warrant will entitle the holder thereof to purchase one additional Share of the Company at an exercise price of \$0.10 for a period of two years from the closing date of the Offering.

Additionally on November 23, 2023, the Company issued 10,000,000 Units of the Company to arm's length creditors for outstanding promissory notes. Each Unit consists of one common share in the capital and one common share purchase warrant. Each Warrant will entitle the holder thereof to purchase one additional Share of the Company at an exercise price of \$0.10 for a period of two years from the closing date of the Offering.

On October 17, 2023, the Company announced that Lucas Stemshorn-Russell has resigned as a director with immediate effect. Following the resignation of Mr. Stemshorn-Russell, the Company is pleased to announce the appointment of Armita Jalooli to the board of directors with immediate effect.

On October 6, 2023, the Company consolidated all of its issued and outstanding common shares on the basis of every 75 old common shares into one new common share. Unless otherwise noted, all share, option, loss per share and warrant information have been retroactively adjusted to reflect this consolidation.

The Company continues to work on establishing partnerships with media companies, marketing organizations, automotive brands, fashion companies and others, in order to create the most diverse and realistic metaverse experience for all users and brands. This is expected to allow brands to create further value by monetizing existing products, services and/or intellectual properties.

# OVERALL PERFORMANCE

At October 31, 2023, the Company had accumulated deficit of 24,943,582 (July 31, 2023 – 25,211,782) since its inception, and has working capital deficit of 3,938,044 (July 31, 2023 – 2,448,345). The Company incurred net income of 296,268 for the three months ending October 31, 2023 (2022 – net loss of 2,349,024). The Company used 28,127 of cash (2022 - 929,078) in operating activities, raised cash in investing activities of 1,2022 - 426,600) and raised a net of 47,000 of cash (2022 - 386,450) from financing activities.

As part of the acquisition of HOK in fiscal 2022, the Company acquired a platform for a blockchain-based virtual world and metaverse. In addition, certain costs incurred in connection with the development of internally generated digital platforms including the those related to the Pocket Dimension metaverse and the Overlords mobile game have been capitalized to intangible assets as development costs.

Internally developed intangible assets are recorded at cost, which consists of directly attributable costs necessary to create such intangible assets. The costs mainly include the compensation paid to the software developers. During the year ended July 31, 2023, the Company recorded an impairment of \$1,477,329 of capitalized development costs related to the Overlords video game and the Pocket Dimension metaverse. The Company also recorded an impairment of \$445,167 and \$1,131,355 of acquired intangible assets related to the platforms acquired from HOK and Web 3.0 respectively. An impairment loss is recognized for the amount, if any, by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of the asset or CGU).

The events and circumstances that led to the recognition of the impairment losses included a decrease in forecasted growth and revenues as a result of a general downturn in the economy, as well as a downturn in the cryptocurrency industry and the value of cryptocurrencies. As a result, the Company has significantly decreased the value the Company could obtain if these assets were sold. It has also significantly decreased the future cash flows expected to be generated by the assets.

Considering the volatility of the industry, the Company as of July 31, 2023 has recorded the total impairment of \$3,053,851 of intangible assets and an impairment of \$3,323,409 of goodwill related to the acquisition of HOK.

The Company had also capitalized costs related to the creation of a live-action NFT based series produced by the Company. Investment in a film series includes the unamortized costs of producing a live-action NFT based series produced by the Company. Costs of producing a film series and costs to develop digital platforms are recognized as intangible assets when the following criteria are met: - it is technically feasible to complete the product so that it will be available for use; - management intends to complete the product; - it can be demonstrated how the product will generate future economic benefits; adequate technical, financial, and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the products are available; and - the expenditure attributable to the product during its development can be reliably measured.

During the year ended July 31, 2023, the Company disposed of the film series as described above. The intangible asset recorded for the film series was included in the calculation of the \$428,307 loss on disposition of GenZeroes recorded during the year ended July 31, 2023. As part of the sale of GenZeroes, the Company received a Promissory Note Receivable and at July 31, 2023, the Company had recorded an impairment equal to the carrying value of the Note of \$223,948 due to uncertain collectability.

# **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

For the three-month period ended October 31, 2023, the Company incurred net income of \$296,268 compared to a net loss of \$2,349,024 in the comparative period. The increase in net income was mainly as a result of lower operating expenses during the period ended October 31, 2023 compared to October 31, 2022 and the increase in revenues generated, as NFT sales generated \$651,586 of revenue and costs of revenue of \$96,376 in the period compared to design services income of \$137,066 generated in the comparative period.

Some of the significant charges to operations are as follows:

- Consulting fees of \$11,750 (2022 \$46,584) were charged as the Company engaged consultants to assist in the execution of the Company's business plan. The Company has curtailed spending as it seeks additional working capital.
- Corporate service fees of \$7,000 (2022 \$126,153) decreased in 2023 as a result of decreased corporate activity, whereas the acquisition of Web 3.0 in the comparative period led to higher corporate service fees in 2022.
- Development costs of \$Nil (2022 \$79,915) decreased in 2023 as the Company's development projects were complete in 2023.
- Marketing fees of \$9,574 (2022 \$87,567) were paid to marketing companies and was higher in 2022 as the Company continued to increase its awareness campaigns related to its operations.
- Professional fees of \$29,388 (2022 \$330,138) decreased significantly due to the decrease of legal and accounting fees as a result of the additional accounting and legal costs associated with the acquisition of Web 3.0 and as well in relation to the additional operations associated with the Alpha Release of the Company's metaverse and various technical development projects in 2022 compared to no such transactions or operations in 2023.
- Salaries decreased to \$8,356 (2022 \$444,425) as the Company decreased the need of employees compared to 2022 where employees were hired to advance its business operations. The Company relied on consultants for any development work.
- Share-based compensation of \$88,400 (2022 \$1,105,245) decreased as a result of the grant of 9,693,750 stock options on September 13, 2022 and the grant of 1,500,000 RSUs on September 13, 2022 in the comparative period, whereas there were no stock option grants in 2023 and stock-based compensation had incurred due to vested options.

# Use of Proceeds

The following is a comparison of the Company's anticipated use of proceeds from previous financings to the Company's actual use of proceeds.

Intended use of proceeds of				
estimated working		Amount incurred		
capital as of		to date October		
February 1, 2022		31, 2023		Variances
Estimated Transaction		Estimated		No variances anticipated.
costs	\$300,000	Transaction costs	\$150,000	
		Strategic		No variances anticipated.
Strategic Investment /		Investment /		
Partnerships	\$1,000,000	Partnerships	\$150,000	
Technological		Technological		Additional unanticipated costs
development	\$2,250,000	development	\$3,153,000	were incurred for development
		Launch of HOK		No variances anticipated.
Launch of HOK		"Origins"		
"Origins" Metaverse	\$1,000,000	Metaverse	\$928,000	
General and		General and		Additional unanticipated costs
administrative		administrative		were incurred for miscellaneous
expenses	\$250,000	expenses	\$865,000	office expenses

	<b>*</b> 1 <b>*</b> 00 000		<b>*</b> 4 004 000	Additional unanticipated costs were incurred for additional staff
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,500,000	Salaries & Benefits	\$1,801,000	required and related costs
		Rent and IT		No variances anticipated.
Rent and IT Expenses	\$300,000	Expenses	\$302,000	
		Legal &		Additional unanticipated costs
		Compliance,		were incurred for legal and
Legal & Compliance,		Insurance,		accounting costs
Insurance, Accounting		Accounting &		-
& Audit Fees	\$450,000	Audit Fees	\$1,002,000	
		Marketing, Public		Additional costs incurred were
Marketing, Public and		and Investor		for additional marketing related
Investor Relations	\$1,000,000	Relations	\$2,546,000	to the company's land NFT sale.
		Earn-Out		No variances anticipated.
Earn-Out Payments	\$750,000	Payments	\$750,000	1
Unallocated	\$347,750	Unallocated	\$0	No variances anticipated.
Total	\$9,147,750	Total	\$11,647,000	

# SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS

The following selected financial data has been prepared in accordance with IFRS and should be read in conjunction with the Company's financial statements. All dollar amounts are in Canadian dollars.

Quarter Ended	Income (Loss) for the period	Earnings (Loss) per Share (Basic & Diluted)	Total Assets
October 31, 2023	\$296,268	\$0.15	\$519,385
July 31, 2023	\$(1,305,255)	\$(0.88)	\$836,925
April 30, 2023	\$(2,838,332)	\$(1.50)	\$2,668,918
January 31, 2023	\$(6,053,301)	\$(3.00)	\$5,448,039
October 31, 2022	\$(2,349,024)	\$(1.42)	\$8,912,131
July 31, 2022	\$(5,331,582)	\$(8.46)	\$7,462,687
April 30, 2022	\$(9,000,391)	\$(6.00)	\$13,949,175
January 31, 2022	\$(3,500,385)	\$(2.25)	\$14,661,433
October 31, 2021	\$5,770,700	\$7.50	\$17,949,671

# SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS - DISCUSSION

The net income and earnings per share during the quarter ended October 31, 2021, was a result of the acquisition of HOK. During the period ended October 31, 2021 HOK generated \$6,496,863 of revenue. Net assets increased mainly as a result of an increase, in cash, digital assets and goodwill. Cash increased as a result of proceeds from sales and equity issuances. Digital assets increased as a result of proceeds from sales. Goodwill was recorded as result of the acquisition of HOK during the quarter.

Net loss and net loss per share during the quarter ended January 31, 2022, was the result of additional expenditures as a result of the increase in operations as HOK's business operations were increased. The Company also had less revenue during the quarter compared to the quarter ended October 31, 2021, as the previous quarter included a large sale of NFTs for proceeds of \$6,245,675 which was not replicated during the quarter ended January 31, 2022. Net assets decreased compared to October 31, 2022, mainly as a result

of a decrease in cash and digital assets as a result of expenditures for operations. Goodwill also decreased as a result of adjustments to the purchase price allocation related to the acquisition of HOK.

The increase in net loss and net loss per share during the quarter ended April 30, 2022, was mainly the result of increased stock-based compensation resulting from the grant of stock options and RSUs during the period. The Company also incurred additional marketing expenses associated with the Company's Land Sale during the quarters as well as associated with the upcoming release of the live-action web series. The Company also had decreased revenues for the period as the proceeds of the Company's Land Sale did not meet the criteria for revenue recognition and was recorded as deferred revenue.

The increase in net loss and net loss per share during the quarter ended July 31, 2022, was mainly the result of the of the loss on disposal of equipment. The Company also had decreased revenues for the period as the NFT sales took place in the previous period.

The decrease in net loss and net loss per share during the quarter ended October 31, 2022 when compared to July 31, 2022, was mainly the result of loss on disposal of equipment or large fluctuation in the revaluation of digital assets. The increase in net assets was the result the acquisition of intangibles as part of the Web 3.0 acquisition.

The increase in net loss and net loss per share and decrease in net assets during the quarter ended January 31, 2023 was mainly the result of recording an impairment of goodwill of \$3,488,996 during the three months ended January 31, 2023. The increase in net loss and decrease in net assets during the quarter ended April 30, 2023 was mainly the result of recording an impairment of intangibles of \$1,895,186 during the three months ended April 30, 2023.

The increase in net loss and net loss per share during the quarter ended July 31, 2023, was mainly the result of the impairment of loss on disposal of equipment. The Company also had decreased revenues for the period as the NFT sales took place in the previous period.

The increase in net income and earnings per share during the quarter ended October 31, 2023, was mainly the result of lower operating expenses and increased revenues for NFT sales recognized during the period. The decrease in assets at October 31, 2023, was mainly the result in the decrease in ROU asset as a result of the termination of its office lease.

# FINANCIAL CONDITION, LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Company's capital structure consists of shareholders' equity. The Company's objective when managing capital is to maintain adequate levels of funding to support the development of its business and maintain the necessary corporate and administrative functions to facilitate these activities. This is done primarily through equity financing and related party loans.

Future financings are dependent on market conditions and there can be no assurance the Company will be able to raise funds in the future. The Company invests all capital that is surplus to its immediate operational needs in short-term, highly-liquid, high-grade financial instruments. There were no changes to the Company's approach to capital management since the year ended July 31, 2022. The Company is not subject to externally imposed capital requirements. The Company does not currently have adequate sources of capital for the development of its business and will need to raise additional capital by obtaining equity financing through private placements or debt financing. The Company may raise additional debt or equity financing in the near future to meet its current obligations.

The Company's working capital deficiency at October 31, 2023 was a 3,938,044 (July 31, 2023 - 2,448,345) including cash of 65,852 (July 31, 2023 - 46,979), digital assets of 21,951 (July 31, 2023 - 21,951). As at October 31, 2023, the Company owed loans of 1,418,305 (July 31, 2023 - 1,374,415) to a non-arm's length party. The Company also recorded deferred revenue of 1,519,324 (July 31, 2023 - 2,170,910).

# **RELATED PARTIES**

The Directors and Executive Officers of the Company are as follows: Page 8 of 26 Dorian Banks – CEO Francis Rowe – CFO James Henning – Director & Audit Committee Chair (appointed on January 25, 2023) Kevin Cornish – Director (appointed on May 23, 2023) Armita Jalooli– Director (appointed on October 17, 2023) Lucas Russell – Director (appointed on December 29, 2022, resigned October 17, 2023) Adam Deffett – Former Director (resigned on January 25, 2023) Carl Chow – Former Director (resigned on December 29, 2022) Patrick O'Flaherty – Former Director (resigned on May 23, 2023) Neil Stevenson-Moore – Former CPO (resigned on March 30, 2023)

# TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

The following amounts due to related parties are included in trade payables and accrued liabilities:

	October 31, 2023 \$	July 31, 2023 \$
Amounts owed to directors of the Company	30,042	89,808
	30,042	89,808

### **Related party transactions**

During the three months ended October 31, 2023, the Company paid and/or accrued accounting, management, corporate development and consulting fees of \$15,750 (2022 - \$87,250) to the Company's key management.

During the three months ended October 31, 2023, the Company also incurred stock-based compensation to key management personnel related to the vesting of granted options of \$3,732 (2022 - \$115,028).

All related party transactions are in the normal course of operations and have been measured at the agreed to amounts, which is the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties.

# PROPOSED TRANSACTIONS

There is no material proposed transactions to report on.

# SIGNIFICANT JUDGEMENTS

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires the Company to make judgments, apart from those involving estimates, in applying accounting policies. The most significant judgments in applying the Company's statements include:

#### Going concern

The assessment of the Company's ability to continue as a going concern and whether there are events or conditions that may give rise to significant uncertainty involves significant judgement based on historical experience and other factors, including the expectation of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

#### Deferred tax assets

The ability of the Company to recognize deferred tax assets involves judgement of the probability that the Company will be able to generate taxable income in the future.

#### Digital assets

Digital assets are considered to be an identifiable non-monetary asset without physical substance. Management has determined that the digital assets are accounted for as intangible assets in accordance with IAS 38 Intangible Assets.

Stock-based compensation

The fair value of stock-based compensation requires judgement to estimate probability of achieving vesting conditions of RSUs.

#### **Business combinations**

Judgement is required to determine if the Company's acquisition represented a business combination or an asset purchase. If estimates or judgments differed, this could result in a materially different allocation of net assets on the consolidated statement of financial position. In a business combination, substantially all identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired are recorded at the date of acquisition at their respective fair values. One of the most significant areas of judgment and estimation relates to the determination of the fair value of these assets and liabilities, including the fair value of contingent consideration, if applicable. If any intangible assets are identified, depending on the type of intangible asset and the complexity of determining its fair value, an independent external valuation expert may develop the fair value, using appropriate valuation techniques, which are generally based on a forecast of the total expected future net cash flows. These valuations are linked closely to the assumptions made by management regarding the future performance of the assets concerned and any changes in the discount rate applied.

#### Leases

Determining whether lease contract contains an identified asset, whether the Company has the right to control the asset, and the lease term requires judgement. The lease term is based on considering facts and circumstances, both qualitative and quantitative, that can create economic incentive to exercise renewal options.

#### *Recoverability of long-lived assets*

The Company assesses at each reporting date if the intangible asset has indicators of impairment. In determining whether the intangible asset is impaired, the Company assesses certain criteria including observable decreases in value, significant changes with adverse effect on the entity, a change in market interest rates, and evidence of technological obsolescence. The application of the Company's accounting policy for intangible asset expenditures requires judgment in determining whether it is likely that the future economic benefits will flow to the Company, which are based on assumptions about future events or circumstances. Estimates and assumptions may change if new information becomes available. If, after expenditures are capitalized, information becomes available suggesting that the recovery of expenditures is unlikely, the amount capitalized in excess over the recoverable value is written off to profit or loss in the period the new information becomes available.

#### Estimated useful life of long-lived assets

Judgment is used to estimate each component of a long-lived asset's useful life and is based on an analysis of all pertinent factors including, but not limited to, the expected use of the asset and in the case of an intangible asset, contractual provisions that enable renewal or extension of the asset's legal or contractual life without substantial cost, and renewal history. If the estimated useful lives were incorrect, it could result in an increase or decrease in the annual amortization expense, and future impairment charges or recoveries.

#### Revenue recognition

Management has exercised significant judgement in determining appropriate accounting treatment for the recognition of income, including whether contracts meet the definition of a contract within the scope of IFRS 15.

#### SIGNIFICANT ESTIMATES AND ASSUMPTIONS

The preparation of the Company's financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make estimates and assumptions concerning the future. Estimates and assumptions are continuously evaluated and are based on management's experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. However, actual outcomes can differ from these estimates.

Areas requiring a significant degree of estimation relate to the fair value measurements for financial instruments, the fair value of these assets and liabilities acquired in a business combination, the useful lives of long-lived assets, and stock-based compensation and other equity-based payments, and the recoverability and measurement of deferred tax assets and liabilities. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

# CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES INCLUDING INITIAL ADOPTION

Other accounting standards or amendments to existing accounting standards that have been issued but have future effective dates are either not applicable or are not expected to have a significant impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

The significant accounting policies were the same as those that applied to the Company's audited financial statements for the year ended July 31, 2023.

# FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISKS

Financial instruments recorded at fair value are classified using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of inputs used in making the measurements. The hierarchy is summarized as follows:

Level 1: Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities; Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly from observable market data; and

Level 3: Inputs that are not based on observable market data.

The following is an analysis of the Company's financial assets and liabilities measured at fair value as at October 31, 2023 and July 31, 2023:

As at October 31, 2023		
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
\$	\$	\$
65,852	-	-
-	21,951	-
As at	July 31, 2023	
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Level 1 \$	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$
Level 1 \$ 46,979	Level 2 \$	Level 3 \$
	Level 1 \$ 65,852	Level 1 Level 2   \$ \$   65,852 -

# Digital assets and risk management

Digital assets are measured using Level 2 fair values, determined by taking the rate from www.finace.yahoo.com.

Digital asset prices are affected by various forces including global supply and demand, interest rates, exchange rates, inflation or deflation and global political and economic conditions. A decline in the market prices for digital assets could negatively impact the Company's future operations. The Company has not hedged the conversion of any of its sales of digital assets.

Digital assets have a limited history and the fair value historically has been relatively volatile. Historical performance of digital assets is not indicative of their future price performance. The Company's digital assets currently solely consist of Ethereum. As October 31, 2023, had the market price of Ethereum increased or decreased by 10% with all other variables held constant, the corresponding digital assets value increase or decrease respectively would amount to \$2,195.

The Company's risk exposures and the impact on the Company's financial instruments are summarized below:

# Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of potential loss to the Company if the counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. The Company's credit risk is primarily attributable to its liquid financial assets including cash. The Company limits its exposure to credit risk on liquid financial assets through maintaining its cash with high-credit quality financial institutions. The credit risk is considered low.

# Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. As at October 31, 2023, the Company has cash of \$65,852 (July 31, 2023 - \$46,979) and digital assets of \$21,951 (July 31, 2023 - \$21,951) available to apply against short-term business requirements and current liabilities of \$4,203,279 (July 31, 2023 - \$2,701,723).

# Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: foreign currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The Company is exposed to market risk of its digital assets held. As at October 31, 2023, Management concludes the exposure to market risk is not material.

# **OTHER INFORMATION**

# Off Balance Sheet Items

The Company has no off-balance sheet arrangements.

# Contingencies

From time to time, the Company and/or its subsidiaries may become defendants in legal actions and the Company intends to take appropriate action with respect to any such legal actions, including by defending itself against such legal claims as necessary. Other than the claims described below, as of the date of this report, The Company is not aware of any other material or significant claims against the Company.

During the year ended July 31, 2023, a claim was commenced against the Company by Thanh Khiet Nguyen against Looking Glass Labs Ltd. The claim is brought against the company, its directors and former directors, and third parties for conspiracy to extract all of the value out of the Plaintiff's former company and is brought under section 227 of the BC Business Corporations Act.

While this matter is ongoing, the Company disputes the allegations and intends to vigorously defend against the claims. Estimating an amount or range of possible losses resulting from litigation proceedings is inherently difficult, particularly where the matters involve indeterminate claims for monetary damages and are in the stages of the proceedings where key factual and legal issues have not been resolved. For these reasons, the Company is currently unable to predict the ultimate timing or outcome of or reasonably estimate the possible losses or a range of possible losses resulting from the matter described above.

During the year ended July 31, 2023, a claim was commenced against the Company by Permanent Enterprises Limited against Looking Glass Labs Ltd. The claim is brought against the Company for breach of an office lease.

# Additional share information

At the date of this MD&A the Company had the following number of securities issued and outstanding:

Options	166,444
Restricted share units	37,773
Warrants	20,138,743
Fully diluted share capital	42,333,724

## Disclaimer

The information provided in this document is not intended to be a comprehensive review of all matters concerning the Company. It should be read in conjunction with all other disclosure documents provided by the Company, which can be accessed at <u>www.sedarplus.ca</u>. No securities commission or regulatory authority has reviewed the accuracy or adequacy of the information presented herein.

# **RISKS AND UNCERTAINITIES**

# COVID-19 Outbreak Risks

The Company's business, operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected by public health crises, including epidemics, pandemics and or other health crises, such as the outbreak of COVID-19. The current COVID-19 global health pandemic is significantly impacting the global economy, including commodity and financial markets. The full extent and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is unknown and, to date, has included volatility in financial markets, volatility in commodity prices (including precious metals), significant restrictions on travel, temporary business closures, quarantines, and a general reduction in economic and consumer activity, globally, all of which raise concern about a prolonged global recession. In addition, the COVID-19 outbreak may result in operating, supply chain and project development delays which may have material adverse effects on the operations of third parties in which the Company has an interest. Such third party operations may be suspended for precautionary purposes, or due to the imposition of emergency measures or other government action to combat the spread of COVID-19. If the operation or development of one or more third party businesses in which the Company holds an interest is suspended, it may have a material adverse impact on the Company's results of operations and financial condition, or on the trading price of the Company's securities.

Additional pandemic-related risks to Company's business include without limitation, the risk of breach of material contracts, employee health, workforce productivity, limitations on travel, the availability of industry experts and personnel, unknown adverse global public health developments, and other factors beyond the Company's control, any of which may have a material and adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition, results of operations, and securities.

# The Market price of the Common Shares may experience significant volatility

The market price for Common Shares may be subject to general volatility. Factors such as variations in the Company's financial results, announcements by the Company, developments affecting the business and customers, general interest rate levels, the market price of the Common Shares and general market volatility could cause the market price of the Common Shares to fluctuate significantly.

In addition, future sales or the availability for sale of substantial amounts of Common Shares in the public market could adversely affect the prevailing market price of the Common Shares and could impair the Company's ability to raise capital through future sales of its securities.

#### Market Acceptance

The operating results of the Reporting Issuer's business is subject to the market acceptance of the HOK Products and Services. If the HOK Products and Services do not gain market acceptance, its operating results may be negatively affected. If the markets for the HOK Products and Services fail to develop, develop more slowly than expected or become subject to increased competition, its business may suffer. As a result, the Company may be unable to: (i) successfully market its products; (ii) develop new products or services; or (iii) complete new products and services currently under development. If the HOK Products and Services are

not accepted by its customers or by other businesses in the marketplace, the Company's business, operating results and financial condition will be materially affected.

The growth of the NFT market and the digital asset industry in general, and distributed ledger technology that supports digital assets, is subject to a high degree of uncertainty. The factors affecting the further development of the digital asset industry, as well as distributed ledger technology, include: continued worldwide growth in the adoption and use of digital assets; government and quasi-government regulation of digital assets and their use, or restrictions on or regulation of access to and operation of applicable distributed ledger technology or systems that facilitate their issuance and secondary trading; the maintenance and development of the open-source software protocols of certain blockchain networks used to support digital assets; advancements in technology, including computing power, that may render existing distributed ledger technology obsolete or inefficient; the use of the networks supporting digital assets for developing smart contracts and distributed applications; changes in consumer demographics and public tastes and preferences; the availability and popularity of other forms or methods of buying and selling goods and services, including new means of using fiat currencies; and general economic conditions and the regulatory environment relating to digital assets.

# Conflicts of Interest

The directors and officers of the Company will not be devoting all of their time to the affairs of the Company. The directors and officers of other companies, some of which will be in similar businesses as those of the Company. The directors and officers of the Company are required by law to act in the best interests of the Company. They have the same obligations to the other companies in respect of which they act as directors and officers. Discharge by the directors and officers of their obligations to the Company may result in a breach of their obligations to the other companies, and in certain circumstances this could expose the Company to liability to those companies. Similarly, discharge by the directors and officers of their obligations to act in the best interests of the Company. Such conflicting legal obligations may expose the Company to liability to others and impair its ability to achieve its business objectives.

# Failure to Grow at the Rate Anticipated

The Company is a start-up company with no sustained history of sales or profitability. If the Company is unable to achieve adequate revenue growth, its ability to become profitable may be adversely affected and the Company may not have adequate resources to execute its business strategy.

# Attracting and Retaining Key Personnel

The Company may be unable to attract or retain key personnel with sufficient experience, and the Company may be unable to attract, develop and retain additional employees required for the Company's development and future success. The Company's success is largely dependent on the performance of its board and management team. Qualified individuals are in high demand, and the Company may incur significant costs to attract and retain them. The loss of the services of any key personnel, or an inability to attract other suitably qualified persons when needed, could prevent the Company from executing on its business plan and strategy, and the Company may be unable to find adequate replacements on a timely basis, or at all. The Company does not currently maintain key-person insurance on the lives of any of the Company's key personnel.

# Expenses May Not Align With Revenues

Unexpected events may materially harm the Company's ability to align incurred expenses with recognized revenues. The Company incurs operating expenses based upon anticipated revenue trends. Since a high percentage of these expenses may be relatively fixed, a delay in recognizing revenues from transactions related to these expenses (such a delay may be due to the factors described elsewhere in this risk factor section or it may be due to other factors) could cause significant variations in operating results from quarter to quarter, and such a delay could materially reduce operating income. If these expenses are not subsequently matched by revenues, the Company's business, financial condition, or results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

## The Company has a Limited Operating History

The Company has a very limited history of operations and is in the early stage of operations. As such, the Company will be subject to many risks common to such enterprise including, undercapitalization, cash shortages, limitations with respect to personnel, financial and other resources, and lack of revenue. There is no assurance that the Company will be successful in achieving a return on shareholders' investment and the likelihood of success must be considered in light of its early stage of operations. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to earn material revenue or that any of its activities will generate positive cash flow.

The Company generated net income of \$296,268 for three months ended October 31, 2023. The Company's accumulated deficit as of October 31, 2023 was \$24,915,514. The Company intends to continue to expend significant funds to develop its business. As the Company grows, the Company expects the aggregate amount of these expenses will also continue to grow. There is no assurance that sufficient funding will be available in the future. Management has the option to raise funds through a combination of equity and/or debt financing, along with a sale of investments. The success of these plans will depend upon the ability of the Company to generate cash flows from its portfolio investments.

The Company's efforts to grow the business may be more costly than expected and the Company may not be able to increase its revenue enough to offset higher operating expenses. The Company may incur significant losses in the future for a number of reasons, including as a result of unforeseen expenses, difficulties, complications and delays, the other risks described in this document and in the Company's public disclosure record and other unknown events. The amount of future net losses will depend, in part, on the growth of the Company's future expenses and its ability to generate revenue. If the Company continues to incur losses in the future, the net losses and negative cash flows incurred to date, together with any such future losses, will have a material adverse effect on the Company's stockholders' equity and working capital. Even if the Company is unable to achieve and sustain profitability, the market price of the Common Shares may significantly decrease and the Company's value may also cause investors to lose all or part of their investment.

#### Ability to Secure Adequate Sources of Funding

The continued development of the Company's business will require additional financing and there is no assurance that the Company will obtain the financing necessary to be able to achieve its business objectives. The Company's ability to obtain additional financing will depend on investor demand, the Company's performance and reputation, market conditions and other factors. The Company's inability to raise such capital could result in the delay or indefinite postponement of the Company's current business or in its inability to continue to carry on its business. There can be no assurance that additional capital or other types of financing will be available if needed or that, if available, the terms of such financing will be favorable to the Company.

In addition, from time to time, the Company may enter into transactions to acquire assets. The Company's continued growth may be financed, wholly or partially, with debt, which may increase the Company's debt levels. Any debt financing secured in the future could involve restrictive covenants relating to capital raising activities and other financial and operational matters, which may make it more difficult for the Company to obtain additional capital and to pursue business opportunities, including potential acquisitions. Debt financings may also contain provisions that, if breached, may entitle lenders or their agents to accelerate repayment of loans or realize upon security over the Company's assets, and there is no assurance that the Company would be able to repay such loans in such an event or prevent the enforcement of security granted pursuant to any such debt financing.

#### Risk Management Efforts May Not Be Effective

The Company could incur substantial losses and its business operations could be disrupted if the Company is unable to effectively identify, manage, monitor and mitigate financial risks, such as credit risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk, and other market-related risk, as well as operational risks related to the Company's

business, assets and liabilities. The Company's risk management policies, procedures and techniques, may not be sufficient to identify all of the risks that the Company is exposed to, mitigate the risks that are identified or identify concentrations of risk or additional risks to which the Company may become subject in the future.

### Dependence on Third Party Relationships

The Company may become highly dependent on a number of third party relationships to conduct its business and implement expansion plans. It cannot be assured that all of these partnerships will turn out to be as advantageous as anticipated or that other partnerships would not have proven to be more advantageous. In addition, it is impossible to assure that all associated partners will perform their obligations as agreed.

#### Tax and Accounting Changes

The Company is subject to numerous tax and accounting requirements, and changes in existing accounting or taxation rules or practices, or varying interpretations of current rules or practices, could have a significant adverse effect on the Company's financial results, or the manner in which the Company conducts its business. The Company may expand its operations into foreign jurisdictions in the future. These operations, and any expansion thereto, will require the Company to comply with the tax laws and regulations of multiple jurisdictions, which may vary substantially. Complying with the tax laws of these jurisdictions can be time consuming and expensive and could potentially subject the Company to penalties and fees in the future if the Company were to fail to comply.

### Additional Costs to Maintain Public Listing

The Company is a reporting issuer and incurs significant legal, accounting and other expenses. The Company will incurs increased costs as a result of operating as a publicly-traded company and its management will be required to devote substantial time to compliance. In addition, securities laws and regulations and stock exchanges rules and polices impose various requirements on public companies, including requirements to file annual, quarterly and event-driven reports with respect to the Company's business and financial condition and operations and to establish and maintain effective disclosure and financial controls and corporate governance practices. The Company's existing management team will need to devote a substantial amount of time to these matters, and may need to hire additional personnel to assist the Company with complying with these requirements. Moreover, these rules and regulations will increase the Company's legal and financial compliance costs and will make some activities more time consuming and costly.

In addition, changing laws, regulations and standards relating to corporate governance and public disclosure are creating uncertainty for public companies, increasing legal and financial compliance costs and making some public Company required activities more time consuming. These laws, regulations and standards are subject to varying interpretations, in many cases due to their lack of specificity and, as a result, their application in practice may evolve over time as new guidance is provided by regulatory and governing bodies. This could result in continuing uncertainty regarding compliance matters and higher costs necessitated by ongoing revisions to disclosure and governance practices.

Being a public Company and complying with applicable rules and regulations will make it more expensive for the Company to obtain director and officer liability insurance, and the Company will incur substantially higher costs to obtain coverage. These factors could also make it more difficult for the Company to attract and retain qualified executive officers and board members.

#### Investor Tax Issues

Income tax consequences in relation to the Common Shares will vary according to the circumstances of each investor. Prospective investors should seek independent advice from their own tax and legal advisors.

#### Internal Controls

Proper internal control systems and disclosure are critical to the operation of a public company. However, the Company does not expect that its internal controls will prevent all errors and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the Page 16 of 26

control system's objectives will be met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints and the benefits of such controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, have been detected. Due to the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and may not be detected in a timely manner or at all. If the Company cannot provide reliable financial reports or prevent fraud, the Company's reputation and operating results could be materially adversely affected, which could cause investors to lose confidence in the Company and its reported financial information, which in turn could result in a reduction in the value of the Common Shares.

### Dividends

The Company has not paid any dividends on its outstanding Common Shares. Any payments of dividends on the Common Shares will be dependent upon the financial requirements of the Company to finance future growth, the financial condition of the Company and other factors which the Company's Board of Directors may consider appropriate in the circumstance. It is unlikely that the Company will pay dividends in the immediate or foreseeable future

### Political and Economic Instability

The Company may be affected by possible political or economic instability. The risks include, but are not limited to, terrorism, military repression, extreme fluctuations in currency exchange rates and high rates of inflation. Changes or shifts in political attitude towards blockchain technology in certain countries may adversely affect the Company's business.

#### Going Concern Assumption

The financial statements of the Company and HOK have been prepared in accordance with IFRS on a going concern basis, which presumes that the Company and HOK will be able to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business for the foreseeable future. The Company and HOK, and therefore the Company's continuation as a "going concern" is uncertain and is dependent upon, amongst other things, attaining a satisfactory revenue level, the support of its customers, its ability to continue profitable operations, the generation of cash from operations, and its ability to obtain financing arrangements and capital in the future. These material uncertainties represent risks to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern and realize its assets and pay its liabilities as they become due. If the "going concern" assumption was not appropriate for the financial statements, then adjustments would be necessary to the carrying values of assets and liabilities, the reported expenses and the balance sheet classifications used. Such adjustments could be material.

#### Need to Manage Growth

The Company could experience rapid growth in revenues, personnel, complexity of administration and in other areas. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to manage the impact that growth could place on the Company's administrative infrastructure, systems and controls. If the Company is unable to manage future growth effectively, the Company's business, operations and operating results and financial condition may be materially adversely affected.

#### Minority Shareholder Risk

Insiders of the Company own approximately a portion of the Company's outstanding Common Shares. Accordingly, insiders of the Company will likely be able to exercise effective control over all matters requiring the approval of the Common Shareholders, including the election of directors and significant corporate transactions.

# Global Financial Developments

Stress in the global financial system may adversely affect the Company's finances and operations in ways that may be hard to predict or to defend against. Financial developments seemingly unrelated to the Company

or to its industry may adversely affect the Company over the course of time. For example, material increases in any applicable interest rate benchmarks may increase the debt payment costs for any credit facilities. Credit contraction in financial markets may hurt its ability to access credit in the event that the Company requires significant access to credit for business expansion. A reduction in credit, combined with reduced economic activity, may adversely affect business. Any of these events, or any other events caused by turmoil in world financial markets, may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, operating results, and financial condition.

### Regulatory Risks

The business and activities of the Company may be heavily regulated in all jurisdictions where it will carry on business. The proposed activities of the Company may be subject to various laws, regulations and guidelines by governmental authorities, grant government agencies and self-regulatory bodies broad administrative discretion over the activities of the Company, including the power to limit or restrict business activities as well as impose additional disclosure requirements on the Company's products and services. The Company's business objectives are contingent upon, in part, compliance with regulatory requirements enacted by these governmental authorities and obtaining all regulatory approvals, where necessary, for the provision of its services. Although the operations of the Company are currently carried out in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations, no assurance can be given that new rules and regulations will not be enacted or that existing rules and regulations will not be applied in a manner which could limit or curtail the Company's ability to conduct business in the jurisdictions and industries in which it currently operates or intends to operate. Amendments to current laws and regulations governing the Company's current and/or intended operations, more stringent implementation thereof or other unanticipated events could have a material adverse impact on the business, financial condition and operating results of the Company.

## Permits and Licenses

The Company believes it currently has all permits and licences that are necessary to carry on its business. It may require additional licences or permits in the future and there can be no assurance that we will be able to obtain all such additional licences and permits. In addition, there can be no assurance that any existing licences and permits will be renewable if and when required or that such existing licences and permits will not be revoked.

# Changes in Laws, Regulations and Guidelines

The Company's operations will be subject to various laws, regulations, guidelines and licensing requirements in the United States, Canada and potentially other jurisdictions. Although the Company is expected to comply with all such laws, any changes to such laws, regulations, guidelines and policies due to matters beyond the control of the Company could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, results of operations and financial condition.

#### Litigation

The Company may become involved in litigation that may materially adversely affect it. From time to time in the ordinary course of the Company's business, it may become involved in various legal proceedings. Such matters can be time-consuming, divert management's attention and resources and cause the Company to incur significant expenses. Furthermore, because litigation is inherently unpredictable, the results of any such actions may have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, operating results or financial condition. More specifically, the Company may face claims relating to information that is retrieved from or transmitted over the Internet or through the solution and claims related to the Company's products. In particular, the nature of the Company's business exposes it to claims related to intellectual property rights, rights of privacy, and personal injury torts. Furthermore, there is no assurance that any liability incurred as a result of litigation can be recovered from the Company's insurance policy.

# Foreign and Crypto Currency Exchange Risk

The Company is a Canadian company, and a material amount of its expenses and fund raising is done in Canadian dollars. Certain of the expenses of the Company may be denominated in U.S. dollars and the initial Page 18 of 26

revenues generated from the sale of NFT products will be in Ethereum. As a result, the Company is subject to foreign and cryptocurrency exchange risks relating to the relative value of the U.S. dollar or Ethereum compared to the Canadian dollar. A decline in the U.S. dollar or Ethereum would result in a decrease in the real value of the Company's revenues and adversely impact financial performance.

# General Blockchain and NFT Risks

# Valuation of NFTs

The Company will offer, hold, or have funds associated with NFTs. NFTs are unique, one-of-a- kind digital assets made possible by certain digital asset network protocols. Because of their non-fungible nature, NFTs introduce digital scarcity and have become popular as online "collectibles," similar to physical rare collectible items, such as trading cards or art. Like real world collectibles, the value of NFTs may be prone to "boom and bust" cycles as popularity increases and subsequently subsides. Certain metadata pertaining to NFTs may be stored "offchain," i.e., not on a decentralized digital asset network. If the entity behind an NFT project ceases hosting relevant metadata relating to NFTs, such NFTs may become worthless. If any of these events were to occur, it could adversely affect the value of certain of the Company's future strategies. In addition, because NFTs generally rely on the same types of underlying technologies as digital assets, most risks applicable to digital assets (including phishing, hacking, blockchain risks) are also applicable to NFTs and hence any investment into NFTs will be subject to general digital assets risks as described elsewhere in these risk factors.

There is uncertainty in determining the value of NFTs when the Company introduces an NFT collection to the market. The valuation of NFTs depends considerably on uniqueness, scarcity and the perception of owners and buyers alongside the availability of distribution channels. It is extremely difficult to anticipate the possible factors which can drive a potential buyer's purchase. Therefore, the value of NFTs would basically depend on how the buyer perceives the NFT in terms of desirability, thereby leading to fluctuations in demand and price.

# Difficulty of Market Forecast

The Company must rely largely on its own market research to forecast sales as detailed forecasts are not generally obtainable from other sources at this early stage of the NFT industry. A failure in the demand for its products to materialize as a result of competition, trends, technological change or other factors could have a material adverse effect on the business, results of operations and financial condition of the Company.

# Demand for NFTs and Volatility.

NFTs are unique, one-of-a- kind digital assets made possible by certain digital asset network protocols. Because of their non-fungible nature, NFTs introduce digital scarcity and have become popular as online "collectibles," similar to physical rare collectible items, such as trading cards or art. Like real world collectibles, the demand for and value of NFTs may be prone to "boom and bust" cycles as popularity increases and subsequently subsides. The demand for the Company's products and services will correlate with the general NFT market conditions.

# NFT Specific Fraud Risks

The growth in popularity of NFTs has resulted in prominent cybersecurity and fraud risks. NFT risks of replica stores that appear similar to original NFT stores with the same logo and content from authentic stores. Another prominent challenge associated with the risks and challenges related to NFTs in cybersecurity refers to fake NFT stores. The fake NFT stores could sell off NFTs which are not present in the first place. At the same time, buyers must also be wary of the concerns due to artist impersonation or counterfeit NFTs. Bad actors cam impersonate well known NFT artists and sell fake NFTs in their names. Other risks relates to copyright theft whereby the NFT creator is not the owner of the underlying copyrighted work.

# Smart Contract Risks and NFT Maintenance

Smart contracts on the public blockchain network are susceptible to hackers. There have been instances where hackers were able to exploit the smart contract vulnerability of a blockchain network to alter transactions or re-direct transactions in favour of the hackers.

Although software is being developed to curtail speculative and malicious activities, there can be no assurance that those measures will sufficiently deter those and other illicit activities in the future. Advances in technology, such as quantum computing, could lead to a malicious actor or botnet (a voluntary or hacked collection of computers controlled by networked software coordinating the actions of the computers) being able to alter the blockchain on which NFT transactions rely. In such circumstances, the malicious actor or botnet could control, exclude or modify the ordering of transactions, or generate new NFTs or transactions, using such control.

The security procedures and operational infrastructure of the Company may be breached due to the actions of outside parties, error or malfeasance of an employee of the Company or otherwise, and, as a result, an unauthorized party may obtain access to the Company's infrastructure. Additionally, outside parties may attempt to fraudulently induce employees of the Company to disclose sensitive information in order to gain access to the infrastructure of the Company. As the techniques used to obtain unauthorized access, disable or degrade service, or sabotage systems change frequently, or may be designed to remain dormant until a predetermined event, and often are not recognized until launched against a target, the Company may be unable to anticipate these techniques or implement adequate preventative measures.

# Dependence on Internet Infrastructure; Risk of System Failures, Security Risks and Rapid Technological Change

The success as a developer of blockchain-based offerings and platforms will depend by and large upon the continued development of a stable public infrastructure, with the necessary speed, data capacity and security, and the timely development of complementary products such as high-speed modems for providing reliable internet access and services. It cannot be assured that the infrastructure that supports blockchain-based technologies will continue to be able to support the demands placed upon it by this continued growth or that the performance or reliability of the technology will not be adversely affected by this continued growth. It is further not assured that the infrastructure or complementary products or services necessary to make blockchain-based technologies viable will be developed in a timely manner, or that such development will not result in the requirement of incurring substantial costs in order to adapt the Company's services to changing technologies.

#### Reliance of Blockchain Technology

The Company will rely on blockchain technology to continue to function and carry out its operations as intended. The Company's business plan depends upon the growth and adoption of blockchain technology generally and NFTs, bitcoin and Ethereum specifically. If industry participants determine that such crypto asset ecosystems are not effective protocols, due to security risks or other shortcomings, or if another technology emerges which is superior to the blockchain technology, then the value of the Company's products and services may fall or become worthless.

In particular, current NFT offerings by HOK rely on the Ethereum decentralized network to create, sell and transfer NFTs. Ethereum is a decentralized, open-source blockchain with smart contract functionality. Ether is the native cryptocurrency of the platform. The platform allows anyone to deploy permanent and immutable decentralized applications onto it, with which users can interact. In this regard, Ethereum allows for the creation, exchange and application of NFTs. In the event that the Ethereum network is not available to the Company on a temporary or permanent basis, such event will adversely affect the Company's business of creating NFTs and offering its products.

# Limited History of the Blockchain and NFT Markets

Blockchain technology is a new technological innovation with a limited history. The use of NFTs for various purposes on blockchain networks commenced on in 2015. There is no assurance that usage of blockchain or NFTs will continue to grow. A contraction in the use of blockchain or NFTs may result in increased volatility and have an adverse impact on the success of the Company's blockchain-based and NFT offerings.

The risks associated with blockchain and NFT technologies may not emerge until the technology is widely used. Blockchain systems could be vulnerable to fraud, particularly if a significant minority of participants colluded to defraud the rest. Access to a given blockchain requires an individualized key, which, if compromised, could result in loss due to theft, destruction or inaccessibility. There is little regulation of blockchain technology other than the intrinsic public nature of the blockchain system. Any future regulatory developments could affect the viability and expansion of the use of blockchain and NFT technologies. Because blockchain technology systems may operate across many national boundaries and regulatory jurisdictions, it is possible that blockchain technology may be subject to widespread and inconsistent regulation.

#### Timely Adaptation to Technology Innovations

The blockchain and telecommunications markets are experiencing rapid technological changes. Failure to anticipate technology innovations or adapt to such innovations in a timely manner, or at all, may result in the Company's products becoming obsolete at sudden and unpredictable intervals. To maintain the relevancy of the Company's products and services, the Company may invest in product and service planning and research and development. The process of developing and marketing new products and services is inherently complex and involves significant uncertainties. There are a number of risks, including the following: (a) the Company's product and service planning efforts may fail in resulting in the development or commercialization of new technologies or ideas; (b) the Company's research and development efforts may fail to translate new products may not be well received by consumers; (d) the Company may not have adequate funding and resources necessary for continual investments in product planning and research and development; (e) the Company's products may become obsolete due to rapid advancements in technology and changes in consumer preferences; and (f) the Company's newly developed technologies may not be protected as proprietary intellectual property rights.

Any failure to anticipate the next-generation technology roadmap or changes in customer preferences or to timely develop new or enhanced products in response could result in decreased revenue and market share. In particular, the Company may experience difficulties with product design, product development, marketing or certification, which could result in excessive research and development expenses and capital expenditure, delays or prevent the Reporting Issuer's introduction of new or enhanced products and services. Furthermore, the Reporting Issuer's research and development efforts may not yield the expected results, or may prove to be futile due to the lack of market demand.

#### Risk of Regulatory Restrictions on NFTs

As NFTs have grown in both popularity and market size, governments around the world may reacted differently. Ongoing and future regulatory actions may alter, perhaps to a materially adverse extent, the ability of the Company to continue to operate. The effect of any future regulatory change with respect to the use of NFTs is impossible to predict, but any such change could be substantial and adverse to the Company. Governments may in the future take regulatory actions that prohibit or severely restrict the right to acquire, own, hold, sell, use or trade digital assets, or to exchange digital assets for fiat currency. These government actions may result in the restriction of the acquisition, ownership, holding, selling, use or trading in NFTs. Any such restriction could result in decreased market demand for the Company's products and services, and may adversely affect the price of the Common Shares.

# Risk of Dependency on the Future Regulatory Environment in the United States and elsewhere

It is likely that the ability to conduct business in the United States and with U.S. customers will be critical to the Company's products and services.

Notwithstanding that U.S. legislators and regulators generally express support for innovation in financial markets and products, they have arguably not moved quickly to clarify the status of cryptocurrencies and other digital assets under U.S. laws, especially securities, commodities, banking and money-transmitter laws, or to accommodate proposals for new businesses or offerings. In recent years, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), the United States' primary securities and financial markets regulator,

has taken noteworthy actions to, among other things, sanction many issuers of digital tokens, reject applications for crypto-related exchange-traded funds and suggest that bitcoin and other digital assets are not suitable holdings for traditional investment funds. It is impossible to predict what directions U.S. regulation might take in the future in respect to NFTs, which depend among other things on agency priorities and budgets, agency personnel turnover and appointments following presidential elections, legislation, judicial decisions, public perception and economic conditions. There can be no assurance that U.S. regulation will advance in a way that is favorable for the Company.

In the event that the Company conducts business in other jurisdictions other than the U.S. and Canada, it will be required to comply with applicable regulatory requirements in those jurisdictions which could be as onerous or more onerous than those of the U.S.

### Irrevocability Digital Asset Transactions

Digital asset transactions are not reversible without the consent and active participation of the recipient of the transaction. Once a transaction has been verified and recorded in a block that is added to the blockchain, an incorrect transfer of digital assets, such as NFTs, will not be reversible. To the extent that the Company is unable to effect a corrective transaction with a third party, or is incapable of identifying the recipient of its NFTs through error or theft, the Company will not be able to revert or otherwise recover any incorrectly transferred NFTs, or to convert or recover NFTs transferred to uncontrolled accounts.

### Software and Intellectual Property

The Company's operations may rely on the use of proprietary and non-proprietary software, data and intellectual property of third parties. The operation of any electronic platform, may be severely and adversely affected by the malfunction of technology. For example, an unforeseen software or hardware malfunction could occur as a result of a virus or other outside force, or as result of a design flaw in the design and operation of the network or platform. Further, the Company's software, hardware, data or other intellectual property is found to infringe on the rights of any third party, the underlying value of the Company's products and services could be materially and adversely affected. Regardless of the merit of any intellectual property or other legal action, any threatened action that reduces confidence in the underlying value or functionality of an NFT offered by the Reporting Issuer may adversely affect the value of the Reporting Issuer's products and services. Additionally, a meritorious intellectual property claim could prevent the Company and other end-users from accessing various networks or holding, using or transferring their NFTs.

#### Violation of Third Party Intellectual Property Rights

The only significant intellectual property rights are certain intellectual property the Company has in its products, and in other future products and solutions it develops. Although the Reporting Issuer is not aware of violating commercial and other proprietary rights of third parties, there can be no assurance that its products do not violate proprietary rights of third parties or that third parties will not assert or claim that such violation has occurred. Although no legal disputes in this respect or perceptible detrimental effects on the Reporting Issuer business have arisen to date, any such claims and disputes arising may result in liability for substantial damages which in turn could harm the Reporting Issuer's business, results of operations and financial condition.

#### Status of NFTs as a "Security"

A particular NFT's status as a "security" in any relevant jurisdiction is subject to a high degree of uncertainty and if the Company is unable to properly characterize an NFT, the Company may be subject to regulatory scrutiny, investigations, fines, and other penalties, which may adversely affect the Company's business, operating results, and financial condition.

Although recent years have seen some guidance emerge with respect to the question of whether a digital asset constitutes a security for certain purposes under Canada and U.S. law, there remains little or no clear legal authority or established practice with respect to the application to digital assets of concepts like fungibility, settlement, clearing, trade execution and reporting, collateralization, rehypothecation, custody, repo, margin, restricted securities, short sales, bankruptcy and insolvency and many others. Some or all of these concepts

may be needed for crypto-related marketplaces to continue to grow, mature and attract institutional participants; there can be no assurances that rules and practices for such concepts will develop in Canada and the United States in a manner that is timely, clear, favorable to the Company or compatible with other jurisdictions' regimes.

There have been a number of proceedings and investigations conducted by securities authorities regarding digital assets and initial coin offerings but none on NFTs in particular. Due to the lack of direct guidelines relating to NFTs, a registered broker-dealer sent a petition to the SEC in April 2021 requesting that the SEC publish a concept release on the regulation of NFTs and propose rules to address when NFTs are securities. The petition echoed unofficial comments made by the SEC's Commissioner Hester Pierce who warned people to be cautious selling fractionalized NFTs. She pointed out that the main concept of NFTs is that they are non-fungible and therefore less likely to be a security. However, she added that whether NFTs qualify as securities would largely depend on their use. The SEC's view appears to be that since NFTs lose their uniqueness when they are fractioned, they are more likely to qualify as "securities".

If Ethereum, or any other supported digital asset such as an NFT, is deemed to be a security under any Canadian provincial, U.S. federal, state, or foreign jurisdiction, or in a proceeding in a court of law or otherwise, it may have adverse consequences for such supported digital asset and would have a material and adverse effect on the Company and its business and prospectus. For instance, all offerings in such supported digital asset would have to be registered with the applicable Canadian provincial securities authorities, SEC or other foreign authority, or conducted in accordance with an exemption from registration, which could severely limit its liquidity, usability and transactability. Moreover, the networks and platforms such as the Company's on which such supported digital assets are utilized may be required to be regulated as securities intermediaries, and subject to applicable rules, which could effectively render the network impracticable for its existing purposes. Further, it could draw negative publicity and a decline in the general acceptance of the digital asset. Also, it may make it difficult for such supported digital asset to be traded, cleared, and custodied as compared to other digital asset that are not considered to be securities.

# Cybersecurity Risks

Cyber incidents can result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events, and may arise from internal sources (e.g., employees, contractors, service providers, suppliers and operational risks) or external sources (e.g., nation states, terrorists, hacktivists, competitors and acts of nature). Cyber incidents include unauthorized access to information systems and data (e.g., through hacking or malicious software) for purposes of misappropriating or corrupting data or causing operational disruption. Cyber incidents also may be caused in a manner that does not require unauthorized access, such as causing denial-of-service attacks on websites (e.g., efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users). A cyber incident that affects the Company or its service providers might cause disruptions and adversely affect their respective business operations, and might also result in violations of applicable law (e.g., personal information protection laws), each of which might result in potentially significant financial losses and liabilities, regulatory fines and penalties, reputational harm, and reimbursement and other compensation costs. In addition, substantial costs might be incurred to investigate, remediate and prevent cyber incidents.

# Dependence on Digital Keys

The loss or destruction of a private key required to access certain cryptocurrencies or digital wallets may be irreversible. The Company's loss of access to its private keys or its experience of a data loss relating to its cryptocurrency or digital asset wallets could adversely affect the Company. Certain cryptocurrencies and digital wallets are controllable only by the possessor of both the unique public key and private key relating to the local or online digital wallet. Private keys typically must be safeguarded and kept private to prevent a third party from accessing the relevant cryptocurrencies and NFTs held in the wallet. If a private key is lost, destroyed or otherwise compromised and no backup of the private key is accessible, the Company will be unable to access the cryptocurrencies and NFTs held in the wallet. Any loss of private keys relating to digital wallets used to store the Company's cryptocurrencies and NFTs could materially and adversely affect the Company's operations.

# Dependence on Cryptocurrency Exchanges

As the Company transacts on the blockchain in connection with the sale of NFTs, the initial payment of the products will be in cryptocurrency. In this regard, the Company will be dependent on cryptocurrency exchanges and the fluctuation of the value of cryptocurrencies. Cryptocurrency market prices depend, directly or indirectly, on the prices set on exchanges and other trading venues, which are new and, in most cases, largely unregulated as compared to established, regulated exchanges for securities, derivatives and other currencies. For example, during the past few years, a number of cryptocurrency exchanges have been closed due to fraud, business failure or security breaches. In many of these instances, the customers of the closed cryptocurrency exchanges were not compensated or made whole for the partial or complete losses of their account balances in such cryptocurrency exchanges. While smaller exchanges are less likely to have the infrastructure and capitalization that provide larger exchanges with additional stability, larger exchanges may be more likely to be appealing targets for hackers and "malware" (i.e., software used or programmed by attackers to disrupt computer operation, gather sensitive information or gain access to private computer systems) and may be more likely to be targets of regulatory enforcement action.

#### Cryptocurrency is not covered by deposit insurance.

Transactions using cryptocurrency are not covered by deposit insurance, unlike banks and credit unions that provide guarantees or safeguards.

# Uninsured or Uninsurable Risks.

The Company intends to insure its operations in accordance with technology industry practice. However, given the novelty of the business, such insurance may not be available, uneconomical for the Company, or the nature or level may be insufficient to provide adequate insurance cover. The Company may become subject to liability for hazards against which it cannot insure or against which it may elect not to insure because of high premium costs or for other reasons. The payment of any such liabilities would reduce or eliminate the funds available for operations. Payments of liabilities for which the Company does not carry insurance may have a material adverse effect on its financial position.

## Risk of a decline in the Adoption and Use of NFTs

Because NFTs are a relatively new asset class and a technological innovation, they are subject to a high degree of uncertainty. The adoption, growth and longevity of any digital asset such as NFTs will require growth in its usage and in the blockchain for various applications. A lack of expansion in use of NFTs and blockchain technologies could adversely affect the financial performance of the Company. In addition, there is no assurance that any particular NFT will maintain their value over the long term. Even if growth in the use of any NFT occurs in the near or medium term, there is no assurance that such use will continue to grow over the long term. A lack of expansion of NFTs into the retail and commercial markets may result in increased volatility or a reduction in the market price of these assets. Further, if fees increase for recording transactions on these blockchains, demand for NFTs may be reduced and prevent the expansion of the networks to merchants and commercial businesses, resulting in a reduction in the price of these assets. A contraction in use of any NFT may result in increased volatility or a reduction in the value of the Company's assets and the value of any investment in the Common Shares.

# Risk of a decline in the continuing development and acceptance of digital assets and distributed ledger technology

The growth of the digital asset industry (of which NFTs are a party of) in general, and distributed ledger technology (blockchain technology) that supports digital assets, is subject to a high degree of uncertainty. The factors affecting the further development of the digital asset industry, as well as distributed ledger technology, include: continued worldwide growth in the adoption and use of digital assets; government and quasi-government regulation of digital assets and their use, or restrictions on or regulation of access to and operation of applicable distributed ledger technology or systems that facilitate their issuance and secondary trading; the maintenance and development of the open-source software protocols of certain blockchain networks used to support digital assets; advancements in technology, including computing power, that may render existing distributed ledger technology obsolete or inefficient; the use of the networks supporting digital assets for developing smart contracts and distributed applications; changes in consumer demographics and public tastes and preferences; the availability and popularity of other forms or methods of buying and

selling goods and services, including new means of using fiat currencies; and general economic conditions and the regulatory environment relating to digital assets.

Many digital asset networks, including Ethereum, operate on open-source protocols maintained by groups of core developers. The open-source structure of these network protocols means that certain core developers and other contributors may not be compensated, either directly or indirectly, for their contributions in maintaining and developing the network protocol. A failure to properly monitor and upgrade network protocol could damage digital asset networks. As these network protocols are not sold and their use does not generate revenues for development teams, core developers may not be directly compensated for maintaining and updating the network protocols.

Consequently, developers may lack a financial incentive to maintain or develop the network, and the core developers may lack the resources to adequately address emerging issues with the networks. There can be no guarantee that developer support will continue or be sufficient in the future. To the extent that material issues arise with certain digital asset network protocols and the core developers and open-source contributors are unable or unwilling to address the issues adequately or in a timely manner, such digital asset networks, and any corresponding digital assets held may be adversely affected.

#### Values of digital assets have historically been highly volatile.

As digital asset, a decline of value in NFTs that the Company offers or holds would negatively impact its financial position. A significant portion of demand for digital assets such as NFTs is generated by speculators and investors seeking to profit from the short- or long-term holding of these assets. Speculation regarding future appreciation in the value of a digital asset may inflate and make more volatile the price of that digital asset.

Several factors may affect the price of digital assets, particularly cryptocurrencies, including, but not limited to: supply and demand, investors' expectations with respect to the rate of inflation, interest rates, currency exchange rates or future regulatory measures (if any) that restrict the trading of cryptocurrencies or the use of cryptocurrencies as a form of payment. Additionally, some purportedly decentralized digital assets may be more centralized than widely believed, or may become more centralized over time, increasing the risk that an adverse event impacting an individual personality or entity could result in a reduction in the price of digital assets. While digital assets networks are typically decentralized and do not need to rely on any single government or institution to create, transmit and determine value, in reality a single personality or entity exerts an outsize influence, an adverse event impacting that individual or entity, such as an insolvency proceeding, could result in a reduction in the price of a digital assets.

There is no assurance that cryptocurrencies will maintain their long-term value in terms of purchasing power in the future, or that acceptance of cryptocurrency payments by mainstream retail merchants and commercial businesses will continue to grow. Only a limited number of cryptocurrencies, including Ethereum and Bitcoin, have become sometimes accepted as a means of payment for some goods and services, and use of cryptocurrencies by consumers to pay at retail and commercial outlets remains very limited. In part, this is because cryptocurrencies face significant scaling obstacles that can lead to high fees or slow transaction settlement times and attempts to increase the volume of transactions may not be effective. A lack of expansion by cryptocurrencies into retail and commercial markets, or a contraction of such limited use as has developed to date, may result in increased volatility or a reduction in the value of that cryptocurrency or cryptocurrencies generally, either of which could materially and adversely affect the Company's investment strategies, the value of its assets and the value of any investment in the Company.

#### Other Risks Relating to the Company's Business

#### Competition

The Company will compete with other NFT businesses. Any market participant with sufficient capital and know-how has the ability to compete with the Company's core businesses. As a result, the Company will face significant competition in the blockchain and NFT sectors. The Company's competitors may include other acquisition vehicles and major blockchain-based businesses worldwide which may have greater financial,

technical and human capital than the Company, in addition to superior expertise and experience in the blockchain business.

The NFT market in which the Company competes requires continuous innovation and are highly competitive, rapidly evolving, subject to changing technology, shifting customer trends, competition for new content, and frequent introductions of new products and services. New competitors could launch new businesses in the Company's markets at a relatively low cost since technological and financial barriers to entry are relatively low. Some of the Company's current and potential competitors may have competitive advantages, such as greater name recognition, longer operating histories, broader geographic scope, and larger marketing budgets, as well as substantially greater financial, technical, personnel, and other resources. The Company may also experience competitors may be able to respond more quickly and effectively than the Company can to new or changing opportunities, technologies, standards or customer requirements or provide competitive pricing. As a result, even if the Company's products are more effective than the products and services in lieu of purchasing the Company's products and services. For these reasons, the Company may not be able to compete successfully against the Company's current and future competitors, which could negatively impact the Company's future sales and harm the Company's business and financial condition.

# **Operational Risk**

Operational risk is the risk of an adverse outcome resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people, systems or from external events. The Company's exposure to operational risk arises from routine processing errors, as well as extraordinary incidents, such as major systems failures or legal and regulatory matters. As the Company offers produces and services that are reliant on both technology and human expertise and execution, the Company is exposed to material operational risk arising from a number of factors, including, but not limited to, human error, processing and communication errors, errors of the Company's service providers, counterparties or other third parties, failed or inadequate processes and technology or system failures.