FOUR NINES GOLD INC.

Suite 1000 – 409 Granville Street Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2 (604) 602 0001



NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 30, 2022

AND

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CIRCULAR

DATED: OCTOBER 21, 2022



#### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the annual general meeting (the "**Meeting**") of Shareholders of Four Nines Gold Inc. (the "**Company**") will be held at Suite 101, 409 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2, Canada on **Wednesday**, **November 30, 2022 at 10:00 a.m**. (Vancouver Time) for the following purposes:

- 1. to receive and consider the audited financial statements of the Company for the financial years ended January 31, 2021 and 2022, together with the report of the auditors thereon;
- 2. to fix the number of directors of the Company at six (6);
- 3. to elect the directors of the Company for the ensuing year;
- 4. to appoint the auditors of the Company for the ensuing year and to authorize the directors of the Company to fix the remuneration to be paid to the auditors for the ensuing year;
- 5. to consider and, if deemed appropriate, to pass, with or without variation, an ordinary resolution affirming, ratifying and approving the Company's new 10% rolling incentive stock option plan; and
- 6. to transact such other business as may properly come before the Meeting or any adjournment(s) or postponement(s) thereof.

The accompanying Information Circular provides additional information relating to the matters to be dealt with at the Meeting and is deemed to form part of this Notice. Copies of any documents to be considered, approved, ratified and adopted or authorized at the Meeting will be available for inspection at the registered and records office of the Company at 1000-409 Granville Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 1T2, during normal business hours up to **November 30, 2022** being the date of the Meeting.

The directors of the Company fixed the close of business on **October 21, 2022** as the record date for determining holders of common shares who are entitled to vote at the Meeting.

A shareholder entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his stead. If you are unable to attend the Meeting in person, please complete, sign and date the enclosed Form of Proxy and return the same in the enclosed return envelope provided for that purpose within the time and to the location in accordance with the instructions set out in the Form of Proxy and Information Circular accompanying this Notice.

Please advise the Company of any change of address.

DATED at Vancouver, British Columbia, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2022.

#### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

/s/Charles Ross

Charles Ross President, Chief Executive Officer & Director

## FOUR NINES GOLD INC.

## **INFORMATION CIRCULAR**

(containing information as of October 21, 2022, unless otherwise noted)

#### INTRODUCTION

This Information Circular is in respect of the annual general meeting (the "Meeting") of the shareholders of Four Nines Gold Inc. the "Company") to be held on November 30, 2022, at the time and place set out in the accompanying Notice of Meeting. This Information Circular is furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by management of the Company for use at the Meeting and any adjournment of the Meeting. The Board of Directors of the Company (the "Board") has fixed the close of business on October 21, 2022, as the record date (the "Record Date"), being the date for the determination of the registered holders of common shares entitled to receive notice of, and to vote at, the Meeting and any adjournment thereof.

#### **PROXY INSTRUCTIONS**

#### Management Solicitation and Appointment of Proxies

The persons named in the enclosed form of proxy are nominees of the Company's management. A shareholder has the right to appoint a person (who need not be a shareholder) to attend and act for and on the shareholder's behalf at the Meeting other than the persons designated as proxyholders in the form of proxy. To exercise this right, the shareholder must either:

(a) on the form of proxy, strike out the printed names of the individuals specified as proxyholders and insert the name of the shareholder's nominee in the blank space provided; or

#### (b) complete another proper form of proxy.

To be valid, a proxy must be dated and signed by the shareholder or by the shareholder's attorney authorized in writing. In the case of a corporation, the proxy must be signed by a duly authorized officer of or attorney for the corporation.

The completed proxy, together with the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which the proxy was signed or a notarially certified copy of the power of attorney or other authority, must be delivered to the offices of National Securities Administrators Ltd. ("**National**"), Proxy Department, Suite 702 – 777 Hornby Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6Z 1S4, on behalf of the Company, so as to arrive not later than 10:00 a.m. (PST) on Monday, November 28, 2022, or if the Meeting is adjourned, at the latest 48 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays) before the time set for any reconvened meeting at which the proxy is to be used; (b) by email to proxy@transferagent.ca; or (c) by fax to 1-604-559-8908 unless the chair of the Meeting elects to exercise his or her discretion to accept proxies received subsequently.

## **Revocation of Proxies**

A shareholder who has given a proxy may revoke it at any time before the proxy is exercised:

(a) by an instrument in writing that is:

(i) signed by the shareholder, the shareholder's attorney authorized in writing or, where the shareholder is a corporation, a duly authorized officer or attorney of the corporation; and

(ii) delivered to National or to Harmony Consolidated Services, at Suite 1000 – 409 Granville Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6C 1T2, at any time up to and including the last business day preceding the day of the Meeting or any adjournment of the Meeting, or delivered to the Chairperson of the Meeting on the day of the Meeting or any adjournment of the Meeting before any vote on a matter in respect of which the proxy is to be used has been taken; or

(b) in any other manner provided by law.

# Exercise of Discretion by Proxyholders

A shareholder may indicate the manner in which the persons named in the form of proxy are to vote with respect to a matter to be acted upon at the Meeting by marking the appropriate space. If the instructions as to voting indicated in the proxy are certain, the shares represented by the proxy will be voted or withheld from voting on any ballot that may be called for in accordance with the instructions given in the proxy.

If the shareholder specifies a choice in the proxy with respect to a matter to be acted upon, then the shares represented will be voted or withheld from the vote on that matter accordingly. If no choice is specified in the proxy with respect to a matter to be acted upon, the proxy confers discretionary authority with respect to that matter upon the proxyholder named in the form of proxy. It is intended that the proxyholder named by management in the form of proxy will vote the shares represented by the proxy in favour of each matter identified in the proxy and for the nominees of the Company for directors and auditor.

The form of proxy also confers discretionary authority upon the named proxyholder with respect to amendments or variations to the matters identified in the Notice of Meeting and with respect to any other matters which may properly come before the Meeting. As of the date of this Information Circular, management of the Company is not aware of any such amendments or variations, or any other matters, that will be presented for action at the Meeting other than those referred to in the Notice of Meeting. If, however, other matters that are not now known to management properly come before the Meeting, then the persons named in the form of proxy intend to vote on them in accordance with their best judgment.

# Solicitation of Proxies

It is expected that solicitations of proxies will be made primarily by mail and possibly supplemented by telephone or other personal contact by directors, officers and employees of the Company without special compensation. The Company will not reimburse shareholders' nominees or agents (including brokers holding shares on behalf of clients) for the costs incurred in obtaining authorization to execute forms of proxy from their principals. The cost of solicitation will be borne by the Company.

# ADVICE TO NON-REGISTERED SHAREHOLDERS

ONLY REGISTERED SHAREHOLDERS OR DULY APPOINTED PROXYHOLDERS ARE PERMITTED TO VOTE AT THE MEETING. SHAREHOLDERS WHO DO NOT HOLD THEIR SHARES IN THEIR OWN NAME (REFERRED TO AS "**NON-REGISTERED SHAREHOLDERS**") ARE ADVISED THAT ONLY PROXIES FROM SHAREHOLDERS OF RECORD CAN BE RECOGNIZED AND VOTED AT THE MEETING.

Non-Registered Shareholders who complete and return an instrument of proxy or voting instruction form must indicate thereon the person (usually a brokerage house) who holds their shares as a registered shareholder.

If securities are listed in an account statement provided to a shareholder by a broker, then in almost all cases those securities will not be registered in such shareholder's name on the records of the Company and will more likely be registered under the name of the shareholder's broker or an agent of that broker. In Canada, the vast majority of such securities are registered under the name of CDS & Co. (the registration name for CDS Clearing and Depository Services Inc., which company acts as nominee for many Canadian brokerage firms). Securities held by brokers or their nominees can only be voted (for or against resolutions) upon the instructions of the beneficial shareholder. Without specific instructions, brokers/nominees are prohibited from voting securities for their clients.

If you are a Non-Registered Shareholder and National has sent Meeting materials directly to you, your name, address and information about your shareholdings have been obtained in accordance with applicable securities regulatory requirements from the intermediary holding on your behalf. Such shareholders can expect to receive a scannable voting instruction form ("**VIF**") with these Meeting materials. The VIF is to be completed and returned to National in the envelope provided or by facsimile. In addition, National provides both telephone voting and internet voting as described in the VIF. National will tabulate the results of the VIFs received from beneficial shareholders and will provide appropriate instructions at the Meeting with respect to the shares represented by the VIFs they receive. A NON-REGISTERED SHAREHOLDER RECEIVING A VIF CANNOT USE THAT VIF TO VOTE SECURITIES DIRECTLY AT THE MEETING. THE VIF MUST BE RETURNED TO NATIONAL WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING IN ORDER TO HAVE THE SHARES VOTED.

Non-Registered Shareholders who have objected to their broker/nominee disclosing ownership information about themselves to the Company are referred to as objecting beneficial owners ("**OBOs**"). In accordance with securities regulatory policy, the Company has distributed copies of the required Meeting materials to the brokers/nominees for onward distribution to OBOs. THE COMPANY DOES NOT INTEND TO PAY FOR A BROKER/NOMINEE TO DELIVER MEETING MATERIALS TO OBOS. THEREFORE, AN OBO WILL NOT RECEIVE THE MATERIALS UNLESS THE OBO'S BROKER/NOMINEE ASSUMES THE COSTS OF DELIVERY.

Brokers/nominees are required to forward the Meeting materials to each OBO unless the OBO has waived the right to receive them. Every broker/nominee has its own mailing procedures and provides its own return instructions, which should be carefully followed by OBOs in order to ensure that their securities are voted at the Meeting. Often the form of proxy supplied to a beneficial shareholder by its broker is identical to the form of proxy provided by the Company to the registered shareholders; however, its purpose is limited to instructing the registered shareholder how to vote on behalf of the beneficial shareholder.

Should a Non-Registered Shareholder receiving a form of proxy or VIF wish to attend and vote at the Meeting or have someone else attend on his/her behalf, the Non-Registered Shareholder may request (in writing) to the Company or its broker/nominee, as applicable, without expense to the Non-Registered Shareholder, that the Non-Registered Shareholder or his/her nominee be appointed as proxyholder and have the right to attend and vote at the Meeting.

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

None of the directors or executive officers of the Company, nor any person who has held such a position since the beginning of the last completed financial year of the Company, nor any proposed nominee for election as a director of the Company, nor any associate or affiliate of the foregoing persons, has any substantial or material interest, direct or indirect, by way of beneficial ownership of securities or otherwise, in any matter to be acted on at the Meeting other than the election of directors and the adoption of the Option Plan (as defined below), approval of which will be sought at the Meeting. Directors and executive officers of the Company may participate in the Option Plan, and accordingly have an interest in its approval. See "Particulars of Matters to be Acted Upon".

#### VOTING SECURITIES AND PRINCIPAL HOLDERS THEREOF

Only shareholders of the Company who are listed on its Register of Shareholders on the record date of October 21, 2022, are entitled to receive notice of and to attend and vote at the Meeting or any adjournment of the Meeting (see "Proxy Instructions" above).

The authorized capital of the Company consists of an unlimited number of common shares without par value. As of October 21, 2022, the Company had 15,537,763 common shares issued and outstanding.

To the knowledge of the directors and executive officers of the Company, no person beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, or exercises control or direction over, shares carrying more than 10% of the voting rights attached to all outstanding shares of the Company.

## Approval of Resolutions

To approve a motion by an ordinary resolution, a majority of the votes cast by shareholders in person or by proxy who vote in respect of that resolution will be required. To approve a motion by a special resolution, a majority of not less than twothirds of the votes cast in person or by proxy by those shareholders who vote in respect of that resolution will be required.

#### PARTICULARS OF MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON

To the knowledge of the Board, the only matters to be brought before the Meeting are set forth in the accompanying Notice. These matters are described in more detail under the headings below.

## **Financial Statements**

The financial statements of the Company for the fiscal year ended January 31, 2021 and 2022 will be placed before shareholders at the Meeting.

#### Setting Number of Directors

Management of the Company proposes that the number of directors for the Company be determined at six (6) for the ensuing year, subject to such increases as may be permitted by the Articles of the Company. Shareholders will therefore be asked to approve an ordinary resolution setting the number of directors at six (6) for the ensuing year.

#### The Board unanimously recommends that shareholders vote FOR the Board Resolution at the Meeting.

#### Election of Directors

The Company's Board of Directors (the "**Board**") proposes to nominate the persons named in the table below for election as directors of the Company. Each director elected will hold office until the next annual general meeting of the Company or until his successor is duly elected or appointed, unless the office is earlier vacated in accordance with the Articles of the Company or the *Business Corporations Act* (British Columbia) (the "**Act**") or he becomes disqualified to act as a director.

MANAGEMENT DOES NOT CONTEMPLATE THAT ANY OF THE NOMINEES WILL BE UNABLE TO SERVE AS A DIRECTOR. THE COMPANY HAS NOT RECEIVED NOTICE OF, AND MANAGEMENT IS NOT AWARE OF ANY PROPOSED NOMINEE IN ADDITION TO, THE NAMED NOMINEES.

The following table sets out the names of management's nominees for election as directors, the jurisdiction in which each is ordinarily resident, the positions and offices which each presently holds with the Company, the period of time for which each has been a director of the Company, the respective principal occupations or employments during the past five years (if such nominee is not presently a director who was elected to his present term of office by a vote of shareholders) and the number of shares of the Company which each beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, or over which control or direction is exercised as of the date of this Information Circular.

Name and Jurisdiction of Residence	Present Position(s) with the Company	Present Principal Occupation and Principal Occupation for the Five Preceding Years <sup>(3)</sup>	Director Since	No. of Common Shares Beneficially Owned, Controlled or Director <sup>(1)</sup>
James Mustard <sup>(2)</sup>	Director	VP Corporate Finance, PI Financial Corp:	May 30,	260,000
Vancouver, BC,		Oct/09 – Feb/16	2016	
Canada		VP Corporate Development and Director,		
		Explorex Resources Inc. (CSE): Oct/16 –		
		Present		
		Director and Chair of the Audit		
		Committee, Kilo Goldmines Ltd. (TSXV):		
		Dec/07 - Present		
		Director, Cipher Resources Inc. (CSE):		
		July 17 – June 19		
Charles Ross <sup>(2)</sup> Vancouver, BC, Canada	Director, President, Chief Executive Officer	President Goldex Resources Corp, Aug/07- present, Tearlach Resources Limited, CFO, Dec 96-Present	May 27, 2019	NIL
Geoff Balderson Vancouver, BC, Canada	Director, Chief Financial Officer	President of Harmony Consolidated Services Ltd. since March 2015.	Dec. 14, 2018	NIL

William Joseph Yelder <sup>(2)</sup> Courtenay, BC, Canada	Director	Self-employed businessman	Dec. 9, 2019	75,000
David Flint <sup>(2)</sup> Reno, Nevada, USA	Director	Nil	Dec 15, 2021	Nil
Winthrop A. Rowe Sparks, Nevada, USA	Director	Self-employed businessman	Sept 12, 2022	Nil

(1) The number of shares held includes shares beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, or over which control or direction is exercised by the proposed nominee.

- (2) Member of the Audit Committee.
- (3) The information as to principal occupation, business or employment and common shares beneficially owned or controlled is not within the knowledge of management of the Company and has been furnished by the respective nominees.

Shareholders will be asked to pass the following ordinary resolutions to elect the Directors as follows:

#### "BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. the election of each of James Mustard, Charles Ross, Geoff Balderson, William Joseph Yelder, David Flint and Winthrop Rowe, as directors of the Company to hold office until the next annual meeting of the shareholders is hereby approved."

#### Corporate Cease Trade Orders and Bankruptcies

Other than as set out below, as at the date of this Information Circular, and within the last 10 years before the date of this Information Circular, no proposed director (or any of their personal holding companies) of the Company was a director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer of any company (including the Company) that:

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

On December 4, 2019 the British Columbia Securities Commission issued a cease trade order against Halio Energy Inc. ("Halio") under Section 164 of the *Securities Act* (British Columbia) for failure to file audited financial statement together with related Management's Discussion and Analysis and certification of audit filings for the period ended July 31, 2019. Halio is still listed on the Exchange but has not yet made the filing required to lift the CTO. Charles Ross acted as a director and the CFO. William Joseph Yelder joined the board of Directors on April 10, 2019.

On February 3, 2017 the British Columbia Securities Commission issued a cease trade order against Tearlach Resources Limited ("Tearlach") under Section 164 of the Securities Act (British Columbia) for failure to file audited financial statement

together with related Management's Discussion and Analysis and certification of audited filings for the period ended September 30, 2016. On February 3, 2017 the Alberta Securities Commission issued a cease trade order under Section 33.1 of the *Securities Act* (Alberta) issued a similar cease trade order. The Company subsequently made the required filings and the cease trade order was lifted on October 11, 2018. Charles Ross acted for Tearlach as a Director and the CFO and William Joseph Yelder acted as a director.

On August 6, 2015 the British Columbia Securities Commission issued a cease trade order against Norzan Enterprises Limited ("Norzan") under Section 164 of the *Securities Act* (British Columbia) for failure to file audited financial statement together with related Management's Discussion and Analysis and certification of audited filings for the period ended March 31, 2015. On August 6, 2015 the Alberta Securities Commission issued a cease trade order under Section 33.1 of the *Securities Act* (Alberta) issued a similar cease trade order. Norzan is still listed on the Exchange but has not yet made the filing required to lift the CTO. Charles Ross acted as a Director and the CFO and William Joseph Yelder acted as a Director and President at the time.

Geoff Balderson, is an officer and director of multiple publicly traded companies. Mr. Balderson has been subject to the following Management Cease Trade Orders (MCTO) or Cease Trade Orders (CTO) imposed by the BCSC for failure to file annual financial statements in the time required. The details acting as an officer or director of the companies: Argentum Silver Corp. a TSXV listed company MCTO November 2, 2015 to December 16, 2015; MCTO November 3, 2016 to December 5, 2016. Core One Labs Inc. a CSE listed company MCTO June 16, 2020 to August 26, 2020; CTO July 15, 2020 to August 26, 2020; MCTO May 3, 2021 to June 29, 2021; MCTO May 3, 2022 to July 11, 2022. Vinergy Capital Inc. a CSE listed company MCTO December 30, 2021 to August 3, 2021 to October 29, 2021; CTO October 7, 2021 to October 29, 2021. Lords & Company Worldwide Holdings Inc. a CSE listed company MCTO July 30, 2021 to October 29, 2021; Thoughtful Brands Inc. a CSE listed company MCTO May 4, 2021 to current; CTO July 8, 2021 to current. Thoughtful Brands Inc. was delisted from the CSE on July 15, 2022. Goldeneye Resources Corp. a TSXV listed company CTO September 2, 2022 to current.

#### Appointment and Remuneration of Auditor

Shareholders will be asked to approve the appointment of Charlton and Company, Chartered Accountants, as the auditor of the Company to hold office until the next annual general meeting of shareholders at remuneration to be fixed by the directors.

The table below discloses the services and related costs provided by the Company's external auditor. The services are divided	
into the four categories of work performed.	

Type of Work	Financial 2020 Fees	Financial 2021 Fees
Audit Services	9,109.80	\$12,652
Audit-Related Services	Nil	Nil
Sub-total	9,109.80	\$12,652
Tax Services	Nil	Nil
All Other Services	Nil	Nil
Total	<u>\$9,109.80</u>	<u>\$12,652</u>

#### Audit Services

Audit fees were paid for professional services rendered by the auditors for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements as well as services provided in connection with statutory and regulatory filings.

#### Audit-Related Services

No audit-related fees were paid; however, these fees may be paid for assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the annual financial statements or interim financial statements and are not reported under the audit services category above. These services may include consultations on International Financial

Reporting Standards and financial statement disclosures, and discussion with management and audit committee members on internal controls and account procedures.

## **Tax Services**

Tax fees may be paid for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning professional services. These services may consist of providing advice regarding transfer pricing issues, intellectual property, commodity and tax reviews, reviewing tax returns, providing advice regarding corporate structure, and assisting in responses to government tax authorities.

## **Other Services**

No other fees were paid for products and services other than the audit services and tax services described above.

THE COMPANY'S AUDIT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THE ELECTION OF CHARLTON AND COMPANY. AS AUDITORS TO HOLD OFFICE, UNTIL THE COMPANY'S NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. UNLESS SUCH AUTHORITY IS WITHHELD, THE PERSONS NAMED IN THE PROXY INTEND TO VOTE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE APPOINTMENT OF CHARLTON AND COMPANY AS AUDITORS.

## Approval of New Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan

The purpose of the Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan (the "**Plan**") is to allow the Company to grant options to directors, officers, employees, and consultants, as additional compensation, and as an opportunity to participate in the success of the Company. The granting of such options is intended to align the interests of such persons with that of the Shareholders.

## Material Terms of the Plan

The purpose of the Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan is to provide the Corporation with a share-related mechanism to attract, retain and motivate qualified Directors, Employees and Consultants of the Corporation and its subsidiaries, to reward such of those Directors, Employees and Consultants as may be granted Awards under this Plan by the Board from time to time for their contributions toward the long-term goals and success of the Corporation and to enable and encourage such Directors, Employees and Consultants to acquire shares as long-term investments and proprietary interests in the Corporation.

Under the Plan, the aggregate maximum number of Shares reserved for issuance shall not exceed 10% of the Corporation's total issued and outstanding Shares from time to time (the "**10% Maximum**"). The 10% Maximum is an "evergreen" provision, meaning that, following the exercise, termination, cancellation, or expiration of any Awards would automatically become reserved and available for subsequent grants.

- the aggregate maximum number of shares that may be issued upon the exercise or settlement of Awards granted under the Plan unless otherwise approved by Shareholders, may not exceed that number which is equal to 10% of the issued and outstanding common shares of the Company at the time of the grant;
- an individual who is an Employee, Director, Officer, or Consultant of the Company can receive awards to purchase no more than 10% of the outstanding shares of common stock on a yearly basis unless the Company has obtained disinterested Shareholder approval;
- if a Participant's employment, consulting agreement or arrangement is terminated or the Participant ceases to hold office or his or her position, as applicable, by reason of voluntary resignation by the Participant or termination by the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation for Cause, then any Option or other Award held by the Participant that has not been exercised, surrendered or settled as of the Termination Date shall be immediately forfeited and cancelled as of the Termination Date;
- if a Participant's employment, consulting agreement or arrangement is terminated by the Corporation or
  a subsidiary of the Corporation without Cause (whether such termination occurs with or without any or
  adequate reasonable notice, or with or without any or adequate compensation in lieu of such reasonable
  notice) then a portion of any unvested Options or other Awards shall immediately vest, such portion to be
  equal to the number of unvested Options or other Awards held by the Participant as of the Termination

Date multiplied by a fraction the numerator of which is the number of days between the Date of Grant and the Termination Date and the denominator of which is the number of days between the Date of Grant and the date any unvested Options or other Awards were originally scheduled to vest;

- if a Participant ceases to be an officer, director, employee, consultant or service provider because of Participant's disability or death, any Award held by the Participant that has not vested as of the date of the Participant's Termination Date shall vest on such date. Any vested Option may be exercised by the Participant at any time until the Expiry Date of such Option. Any vested Award other than an Option will be settled within 90 days after the Termination Date;
- As determined by the Board, Awards granted under the Plan may be subject to vesting. Subject to Exchange policies and any limitations imposed by any other regulatory authority having jurisdiction over the Company, the exercise price of a stock option granted under the Plan shall not be lower than the greater of the closing market prices of the underlying securities on (a) the trading day prior to the date of grant of the Options; and (b) the date of grant of the Options.

## Shareholder Approval

Shareholders will be asked to consider and, if thought fit, pass the following ordinary resolution:

## "RESOLVED, as an ordinary resolution, THAT:

- 1. the Company's new Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan (the "**Plan**") be and is hereby ratified, confirmed, authorized and approved;
- the reservation under the Plan of up to a maximum of 10% of the issued shares of the Company, on a rolling basis, as at the time of granting of the stock option or restricted stock unit (an "Award") pursuant to the Plan be and the same is hereby authorized and approved;
- 3. such amendments to the Plan are authorized to be made from time to time as the Board may, in its discretion, consider to be appropriate, provided that such amendments will be subject to the approval of all applicable regulatory authorities and in certain cases, in accordance with the terms of the Plan and the shareholders; and
- 4. any one director or officer of the Company be and is hereby authorized and directed, for and on behalf of the Company, to execute and deliver all such documents, agreements and instruments, and to do all such other acts and things as such director or officer may determine to be necessary or advisable to give effect to the foregoing resolutions and the matters authorized thereby, such determination to be conclusively evidenced by the execution and delivery of such documents, agreements or the doing of any such act or thing."

The form of the proposed resolution set forth above is subject to such amendments as management may propose at the Meeting, but which do not materially affect the substance of the proposed resolution.

THE BOARD UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE SHAREHOLDERS VOTE IN FAVOUR OF RATIFYING AND APPROVING THE OPTION PLAN. UNLESS THE SHAREHOLDER DIRECTS THAT HIS OR HER SHARES BE OTHERWISE VOTED OR WITHHELD FROM VOTING IN CONNECTION WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE OPTION PLAN, THE PERSONS NAMED IN THE ENCLOSED PROXY WILL VOTE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ABOVE RESOLUTIONS.

## **EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The Company is a venture issuer and is disclosing its executive compensation in accordance with Form 51-102F6V.

The following persons are considered the "Named Executive Officers" or "NEOs" for the purposes of this disclosure:

- (a) the Company's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO");
- (b) the Company's Chief Financial Officer ("CFO");

- (c) each of the Company's three most highly compensated executive officers, other than the CEO and CFO, at the end of the most recently completed financial year whose total compensation was, individually more than \$150,000 as determined in accordance with subsection 1.3(5) of Form 51-102F6V, for the January 31, 2021, financial year end; and
- (d) each individual who would be a Named Executive Officer under paragraph (c) but for the fact that the individual was neither an executive officer, nor acting in a similar capacity as at January 31, 2021.

#### DIRECTOR AND NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMPENSATION, EXCLUDING COMPENSATION SECURITIES

The following table provides a summary of compensation paid or accrued, payable, awarded, granted, given, or otherwise provided, directly or indirectly, by the Company to each Named Executive Officer and director of the Company during the Company's the financial year ending January 31, 2021.

	Table	of compensation e	excluding	compensation	securities		
Name and Position	Year	Salary, consulting fee, retainer or commission <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	Bonus (\$)	Committee or meeting fees <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	Value of perquisites <sup>(3)</sup> (\$)	Value of all other compensation (\$)	Total compensation (\$)
Charles Ross,	2021	Nil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nil
President, Chief Executive Officer and Director <sup>(5)</sup>	2020	Nil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nil
Geoff Balderson	2021	18,500 <sup>(7)</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	18,500 <sup>(7)</sup>
Chief Financial Officer and Director <sup>(4)</sup>	2020	27,500 <sup>(7)</sup>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	27,500 <sup>(7)</sup>
James W. Mustard	2021	Nil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nil
Director <sup>(6)</sup>	2020	Nil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,960
David Flint Director <sup>(8)</sup>	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Winthrop Rowe	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Director <sup>(9)</sup>	2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Paid or accrued salaries and/or consulting fees.

- (1) Paid or accrued salaries and/or consulting fees.
- (2) There is no standard meeting fee or committee fee for attendance at Board meetings or for service on committees.
- (3) The value of perquisites and benefits, if any, was less than \$15,000.
- (4) Mr. Balderson was elected December 14, 2018.
- (5) Mr. Ross was elected May 27, 2019.
- (6) Mr. Mustard resigned as Chief Executive Officer March 12, 2019.
- (7) Fees paid to Harmony Consolidated Services a Company controlled by Geoff Balderson, Director and CFO
- (8) Mr. Flint was elected December 15, 2021
- (9) Mr. Rowe was elected September 12, 2022

#### STOCK OPTIONS AND OTHER COMPENSATION SECURITIES

#### Stock Options and Other Compensation Securities

The following compensation securities were granted or issued to any NEO or director by the Company in the financial year ended January 31, 2021, and subsequent for services provided or to be provided, directly or indirectly, to the Company, as disclosed in the following table:

Name and position	Type of compen- sation security	Number of compen- sation securities, number of underlying securities, and percentage of class	Date of issue or grant	lssue, conversion or exercise price	Closing price of security or underlying security on date of grant	Closing price ofsecurity or underlying security at year-end	Expiry Date
David Flint <sup>(1)</sup>	Options	100,000	Nov 25/21	\$0.59	\$0.58	\$0.60	Nov. 25/24
Winthrop Rowe <sup>(2)</sup>	Options	100,000	Nov 25/21	\$0.59	\$0.58	\$0.60	Nov. 25/24

(1) Mr. Flint was granted 100,000 Options as a Consultant of the Company prior to his appointment as a Director on December 15, 2022.

(2) Mr. Rowe was granted 100,000 Options as a Consultant of the Company prior to his appointment as a Director on September 12, 2022.

#### **Exercise of Compensation Securities by Directors and NEOs**

No compensation securities were exercised by any director or NEO during the financial year ended January 31, 2021.

#### STOCK OPTIONS PLANS AND OTHER INCENTIVE PLANS

The Company is proposing to adopt a new Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan. See "Particulars of Matters to be Acted Upon – *Approval of New Stock Option Plan*" above. The Company does not have any other incentive plan in place.

#### EMPLOYMENT, CONSULTING AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

None of the Named Executive Officers or directors of the Company entered into any employment, consulting or management agreements with the Company during the financial year ended January 31, 2021, nor were any outstanding as of that date. The Named Executive Officers who received compensation did so under verbal agreements with the Company.

#### OVERSIGHT AND DESCRIPTION OF DIRECTOR AND NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMPENSATION

The Board determines director compensation from time to time.

The Board determines executive compensation from time to time. The Company does not have a formal compensation policy. The main objectives the Company hopes to achieve through its compensation are to attract and retain executives critical to the Company's success, who will be key in helping the Company achieve its corporate objectives and increase shareholder value. The Company looks at industry standards and the economic position of the Company when compensating its executive officers.

#### SECURITIES AUTHORIZED FOR ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS

The following table sets out equity compensation plan information as at the end of the financial year ended January 31, 2021.

Plan Category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a) <sup>(1)</sup> (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by securityholders (Option Plan)	1,495,000	\$0.41	1,776
Equity compensation plans not approved by securityholders	Nil	N/A	N/A
Total	1,495,000	\$0.41	1,776

(1) Based on 14,967,763 issued and outstanding shares as at January 31, 2021.

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Company is including the disclosure required by Form 52-110F2 of National Instrument 52-110 Audit Committees ("**NI 52-110**") under this heading. The Company is a "venture issuer" under NI 52-110 and is relying on the exemption in section 6.1 of NI 52-110.

## Audit Committee Charter

The Charter of the Company's audit committee is included as Schedule "A" to this Information Circular.

## Composition of the Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is currently composed of the following three directors: Charles Ross, James W. Mustard and William Joseph Yelder. Charles Ross is an executive officer of the Company and not considered to be independent. James W. Mustard and William Joseph Yelder are not executive officers nor employees of the Company. All three members are financially literate.

## Relevant Education and Experience

Each member of the Company's present Audit Committee has adequate education and experience that is relevant to their performance as an Audit Committee member and, in particular, the requisite education and experience that have provided the member with:

- 1 an understanding of the accounting principles used by the Company to prepare its financial statements and the ability to assess the general application of those principles in connection with estimates, accruals and reserves;
- 2 the ability to assess the general application of such accounting principles in connection with the accounting for estimates, accruals and provisions;
- 3 experience preparing, auditing, analyzing or evaluating financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the breadth and complexity of issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Company's financial statements or experience actively supervising individuals engaged in such activities; and
- 4 an understanding of internal controls and procedures for financial reporting.

Charles Ross	Mr. Ross has a strong understanding of accounting principles and an ability to assess the application of these principals. He has over 25 years' experience in the international resources sector as a senior executive. He applies accounting principles regularly when evaluating financial reports of target companies. He has more than 20 years' experience acting as the CFO of various companies in both the resources and manufacturing sectors. He has prepared financial statements, supervised financial statement preparation, coordinated audits and chaired audit committees. He has setup internal controls and procedures over financial reporting in compliance with regulatory regimes in both domestic and foreign environments.
James W. Mustard	Mr. Mustard has over 30 years expertise in the administration, management and financing of venture companies. Mr. Mustard is currently a Director and Chair of the Audit Committee Kilo Goldmines Ltd. (TSXV) and as a past Director (Valley High Ventures) and past President (of Canada Zinc Metals) he has significant audit committee experience and has been involved in a variety of matters requiring financial literacy is familiar applicable to public companies in Canada.
William Joseph Yelder	Mr. Yelder has an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance. He has over 40 years' experience in improving profit involving financial planning, marketing, sales, securities, operations, purchasing, quality assurance, and package development. He has coordinated the preparation of financial statements for various companies and been an active member of audit committees for over 30 years which entailed reviewing internal controls, procedures, compliance with regulatory regimes, analyzing financial statements, and meetings with auditors to discuss their review. Because of his deep understanding of financial principals, he was responsible for developing hedging strategies for \$125 million of aluminum ingot for Pepsi Co bottling operations. As a senior analyst for W.R. Grace Company of New York he analyzed financials statements and market positions of both current and potential business investments.

## **Reliance on Certain Exemptions**

The Company is relying on the exemption provided by section 6.1 of NI 52-110 by virtue that it is a venture issuer. Section 6.1 exempts the Company from the requirements of Parts 3 (Composition of the Audit Committee) and 5 (Reporting Obligations) of NI 52-110.

#### Audit Committee Oversight

At no time since the commencement of the Company's most recently completed financial year was a recommendation of the Audit Committee to nominate or compensate an external auditor not adopted by the Company's board of directors.

#### Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures

The Audit Committee is authorized by the Company's board of directors to review the performance of the Company's external auditors and approve in advance provision of services other than auditing and to consider the independence of the external auditors, including a review of the range of services provided in the context of all consulting services bought by the Company. The Audit Committee is authorized to approve in writing any non-audit services or additional work which the Chairman of the Audit Committee deems is necessary, and the Chairman will notify the other members of the Audit Committee of such non-audit or additional work and the reasons for such non-audit work for the Committee's consideration, and if thought fit, approval in writing.

#### External Auditor Service Fees by Category

See above under the heading "Particulars of Matters to be Acted Upon – Appointment and Remuneration of Auditor" for the disclosure required by this item of Form 52-110F2.

#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

National Instrument 58-101 – Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices ("**NI 58-101**") requires issuers to disclose their governance practices in accordance with NI 58-101. The Company is a "venture issuer" within the meaning of NI 58-101. A discussion of the Company's governance practices in accordance with Form 58-101F2 of NI 58-101 is set out below.

## **Board of Directors**

Directors are considered to be independent if they have no direct or indirect material relationship with the Company. A "material relationship" is a relationship that could, in the view of the Company's Board, be reasonably expected to interfere with the exercise of a director's independent judgment.

Charles Ross and Geoff Balderson are executive officers of the Company and are therefore not considered to be "independent". James W. Mustard, William Joseph Yelder, David Flint and Winthrop Rowe are considered independent under NI 58-101.

The Board facilitates its exercise of independent supervision over management by carefully examining issues and consulting with outside counsel and other advisors in appropriate circumstances. The Board believes that fiduciary duties placed on individual directors by the Company's governing corporate legislation and the common law, as well as the restrictions placed by applicable corporate legislation on the individual director's participation in decisions of the Board in which the director has an interest, have been sufficient to ensure that each director exercises independent judgment in carrying out his responsibilities and acting in the best interests of the Company.

# **Directorship**

Name of Director	Names of Other Reporting Issuers	
James W. Mustard	Getchell Gold Corp.	
Charles Ross	Norsemont Mining Inc., Goldex Resources	
	Corporation, Tearlach Resources Limited, Bounty Oil	
	and Gas N.L., Schwabo Capital Corporation, Norzan	
	Enterprises Ltd.	
Geoff Balderson	Thoughtful Brands Inc.	Eat Beyond Global Holdings Inc.
	InstructionDetermined of a corp.riles RossNorsemont Mining Inc., Goldex Resources Corporation, Tearlach Resources Limited, Bounty Oil and Gas N.L., Schwabo Capital Corporation, Norzan Enterprises Ltd.ff BaldersonThoughtful Brands Inc. Goldeneye Resources Corp. Blender Bites Limited Schwabo Capital Corp.Eat Beyond Global Holdings Inc. Hawkmoon Resources Corp. Blender Bites Limited Schwabo Capital Corp.Four Nines Gold Inc. Shooting Star Acquisition Corp. Spectre Capital Corp.Marvel Discovery Corp. Bettermoo(d) Food Corporatio Plant Veda Foods Ltd. Brascan Gold Inc. Lida Resources Inc.Makara Mining Corp. Lida Resources Inc.Lords & Company Worldwide Holdings Inc.New Wave Holdings Corp. Nexco Resources Inc.Alerio Gold Corp.Nexco Resources Inc.Way of Will Inc.	
	Blender Bites Limited	AmmPower Corp.
	Schwabo Capital Corp.	Falcon Gold Corp.
	Four Nines Gold Inc.	Marvel Discovery Corp.
	Shooting Star Acquisition Corp.	Bettermoo(d) Food Corporation
	Spectre Capital Corp.	Plant Veda Foods Ltd.
	Makara Mining Corp.	Brascan Gold Inc.
	Lida Resources Inc.	Lords & Company Worldwide
	Vinergy Capital Inc.	Holdings Inc.
	New Wave Holdings Corp.	Alerio Gold Corp.
	Nexco Resources Inc.	Way of Will Inc.
	American Future Fuel Corporation	Gold Line Resources Ltd.
	Core One Labs Inc.	
William Joseph Yelder	Tearlach Resources Limited, Norzan Enterprises	
	Limited	
David Flint	Nil	
Winthrop Rowe	Nil	

Certain of the directors of the Company are also directors and/or officers of other reporting issuers (or equivalent) in a jurisdiction or a foreign jurisdiction as follows:

#### **Orientation and Continuing Education**

When new directors are appointed, they receive orientation, commensurate with their previous experience, on the Company's properties, business, technology and industry and on the responsibilities of directors. Board meetings may also include presentations by the Company's management and employees to give the directors additional insight into the Company's business. Individual directors are responsible for maintaining their own education, skills and knowledge at an appropriate level. Board members are encouraged to attend educational courses or presentations in relation to the Company's projects or the industry within which the Company operates.

## Ethical Business Conduct

The Board has not, to date, adopted a formal written Code of Ethical Business Conduct. The current limited size of the Company's operations, and the small number of officers and employees allow the Board to monitor, on an ongoing basis, the activities of management and to ensure that the highest standard of ethical conduct is maintained. The Board is aware of the recommendation in National Policy 58-201 *Corporate Governance Guidelines* to adopt a written code of business conduct and ethics and will review different standards that may be appropriate for the Company to adopt if warranted.

To date, the Board has found that the fiduciary duties placed on individual directors by the Company's governing corporate legislation and the common law and the restrictions placed by applicable corporate legislation on an individual director's participation in decisions of the Board in which the director has an interest have been sufficient to ensure that the Board operates independently of management and in the best interests of the Company. Under the corporate legislation, a director is required to act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Company and exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances. A director must disclose to the Board the nature and extent of any interest of the director in any material contract or material transaction, whether made or proposed, if the director is a party to the contract or transaction, is a director or officer (or an individual acting in a similar capacity) of a party to the contract or transaction or has a material interest in a party to the contract or transaction. The disclosure must be evidenced in writing by being included in the consent resolutions or minutes of the meeting that approved the transaction or in a written disclosure delivered to the Company's records office. Unless the director properly discloses his interest and has the transaction properly approved, he may be liable to account to the Company for any profit he makes as a result of the transaction, unless the court finds that the transaction was fair and reasonable to the Company. Once the appropriate disclosure has been made by the interested director, the transaction must be approved by the directors or by the shareholders by special resolution. An interested director would not be entitled to vote at meetings of directors which evoke any such conflict.

## Nomination of Directors

The Board is responsible for identifying individuals qualified to become new Board members and recommending to the Board new director nominees to fill vacancies and for the next annual meeting the shareholders. The Board considers its size each year when it considers the number of directors to recommend to the shareholders for election at the annual meeting of shareholders, taking into account the number required to carry out the Board's duties effectively and to maintain a diversity of views and experience. New nominees must have a track record in general business management, special expertise in an area of strategic interest to the Company, the ability to devote the time required, show support for the Company's mission and strategic objectives and a willingness to serve.

The Board does not have a nominating committee, and these functions are currently performed by the Board as a whole; however, this policy may be reviewed in the future depending on the circumstances of the Company.

## **Compensation**

The Board periodically reviews the compensation paid to directors, management and other employees based on such factors as time commitment and level of responsibility and the Company's current position as an exploration company with limited operating revenue.

The Board does not have a compensation committee, and these functions are currently performed by the Board as a whole; however, this policy may be reviewed in the future depending on the circumstances of the Company.

#### **Other Board Committees**

The Board has no other committees other than the Audit Committee.

#### **Assessments**

The Board conducts periodic assessments of its members including individual assessments to determine if the Board and the individual directors are performing efficiently. Based on the Company's size, stage of development and the limited number of individuals on the Board, the Board considers a formal assessment process to be unnecessary at this time. As the activities of the Company develop, it will consider the establishment of more formal evaluation procedures, including more quantitative measures of performance.

#### INDEBTEDNESS OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

During the last completed financial year, no director, executive officer, or nominee for director of the Company or any of their associates has been indebted to the Company or any of its subsidiaries, nor has any of these individuals been indebted to another entity which indebtedness is the subject of a guarantee, support in agreement, letter of credit or other similar arrangement or understanding provided by the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

#### INTEREST OF INFORMED PERSONS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS

Except as disclosed herein, since the commencement of the last completed financial year, no "informed person", had any material interest, direct or indirect, in any transaction or any proposed transaction which has materially affected or would materially affect the Company or any of its subsidiaries. "Informed Person" means: (a) a director or executive officer of the Company; (b) a director or officer of a person or company that is itself an informed person or subsidiary of the Company; or (c) any person or company who beneficially owns, or controls or directs, directly or indirectly, voting securities of the Company carrying more than 10% of the voting rights attached to all outstanding voting securities of the Company.

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

No Director or executive officer of the Company, nor any proposed nominee for election as a Director of the Company, nor any of the persons who have been Directors or executive officers of the Company since the commencement of the Company's last completed financial year and no associate or affiliate of any of the foregoing persons has any material interest, direct or indirect, by way of beneficial ownership of securities or otherwise, in any matter to be acted on at the Meeting (other than the election of directors).

#### **Other Matters**

Management knows of no other matters to come before the Meeting of Shareholders other than referred to in the notice of Meeting. However, if any other matters which are not known to the management of the Company shall properly come before the said Meeting, the form of proxy given pursuant to the solicitation by management of the Company will be voted on such matters in accordance with the best judgment of the persons voting the proxy.

## Additional Information

Additional information relating to the Company is available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com. Shareholders may contact the Company to request copies of the Company's financial statements and management's discussion and analysis by sending a written request to Harmony Consolidated Services, Suite 1000 – 409 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC, V6C 1T2, Attention: Geoff Balderson, Chief Financial Officer. Financial information is provided in the Company's comparative financial statements and management's discussion and analysis for its fiscal year ended January 31, 2021 which are also available on SEDAR.

# **Approval of the Directors**

The contents of this Circular and the sending thereof to the Shareholders of the Company have been approved by the Board.

October 21, 2022

## BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Charles Ross Chief Executive Officer & Director

#### SCHEDULE "A"

#### FOUR NINES GOLD INC.

## (the "Company")

#### AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER

#### 1. Mandate and Purpose of the Committee

The Audit Committee (the "Committee") of the board of directors (the "Board") of Four Nines Gold Inc. (the "Company") is a standing committee of the Board whose primary function is to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities relating to:

(a) the integrity of the Company's financial statements;

(b) the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, as they relate to the Company's financial statements;

- (c) the qualifications, independence and performance of the Company's auditor;
- (d) internal controls and disclosure controls;
- (e) the performance of the Company's internal audit function;
- (f) consideration and approval of certain related party transactions; and
- (g) performing the additional duties set out in this Charter or otherwise delegated to the Committee by the Board.

## 2. Authority

The Committee has the authority to:

(a) engage and compensate independent counsel and other advisors as it determines necessary or advisable to carry out its duties; and

(b) communicate directly with the Company's auditor.

The Committee has the authority to delegate to individual members or subcommittees of the Committee.

## 3. Composition and Expertise

The Committee shall be composed of a minimum of three members, each of whom is a director of the Company. A majority of the Committee's members must be "independent" and "financially literate" as such terms are defined in applicable securities legislation.

Committee members shall be appointed annually by the Board at the first meeting of the Board following each annual meeting of shareholders. Committee members hold office until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until they are removed by the Board or cease to be directors of the Company.

The Board shall appoint one member of the Committee to act as Chair of the Committee. If the Chair of the Committee is absent from any meeting, the Committee shall select one of the other members of the Committee to preside at that meeting.

## 4. Meetings

Any member of the Committee or the auditor may call a meeting of the Committee. The Committee shall meet at least four times per year and as many additional times as the Committee deems necessary to carry out its duties. The Chair shall develop and set the Committee's agenda, in consultation with other members of the Committee, the Board and senior management.

Notice of the time and place of every meeting shall be given in writing to each member of the Committee, at least 72 hours (excluding holidays) prior to the time fixed for such meeting. The Company's auditor shall be given notice of every meeting of the Committee and, at the expense of the Company, shall be entitled to attend and be heard thereat. If requested by a member of the Committee, the Company's auditor shall attend every meeting of the Committee held during the term of office of the Company's auditor.

A majority of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. No business may be transacted by the Committee except at a meeting of its members at which a quorum of the Committee is present in person or by means of such telephonic, electronic or other communications facilities as permit all persons participating in the meeting to communicate with each other simultaneously and instantaneously. Business may also be transacted by the unanimous written consent resolutions of the members of the Committee, which when so approved shall be deemed to be resolutions passed at a duly called and constituted meeting of the Committee.

The Committee may invite such directors, officers and employees of the Company and advisors as it sees fit from time to time to attend meetings of the Committee.

The Committee shall meet without management present whenever the Committee deems it appropriate.

The Committee shall appoint a Secretary who need not be a director or officer of the Company. Minutes of the meetings of the Committee shall be recorded and maintained by the Secretary and shall be subsequently presented to the Committee for review and approval.

## 5. Committee and Charter Review

The Committee shall conduct an annual review and assessment of its performance, effectiveness and contribution, including a review of its compliance with this Charter. The Committee shall conduct such review and assessment in such manner as it deems appropriate and report the results thereof to the Board.

The Committee shall also review and assess the adequacy of this Charter on an annual basis, taking into account all legislative and regulatory requirements applicable to the Committee, as well as any guidelines recommended by regulators or the Toronto Stock Exchange and shall recommend changes to the Board thereon.

# 6. Reporting to the Board

The Committee shall report to the Board in a timely manner with respect to each of its meetings held. This report may take the form of circulating copies of the minutes of each meeting held.

## 7. Duties and Responsibilities

(a) Financial Reporting

The Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending approval to the Board of the Company's annual and interim financial statements, MD&A and related news releases, before they are released.

The Committee is also responsible for:

 being satisfied that adequate procedures are in place for the review of the Company's public disclosure of financial information extracted or derived from the Company's financial statements, other than the public disclosure referred to in the preceding paragraph, and for periodically assessing the adequacy of those procedures;

- engaging the Company's auditor to perform a review of the interim financial statements and receiving from the Company's auditor a formal report on the auditor's review of such interim financial statements;
- discussing with management and the Company's auditor the quality of applicable accounting principles and financial reporting standards, not just the acceptability of thereof;
- discussing with management any significant variances between comparative reporting periods; and
- in the course of discussion with management and the Company's auditor, identifying problems or areas of concern and ensuring such matters are satisfactorily resolved.

#### (b) Auditor

The Committee is responsible for recommending to the Board:

- the auditor to be nominated for the purpose of preparing or issuing an auditor's report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the Company; and
- the compensation of the Company's auditor.

The Company's auditor reports directly to the Committee. The Committee is directly responsible for overseeing the work of the Company's auditor engaged for the purpose of preparing or issuing an auditor's report or performing other audit, review or attest services for the Company, including the resolution of disagreements between management and the Company's auditor regarding financial reporting.

#### (c) Relationship with the Auditor

The Committee is responsible for reviewing the proposed audit plan and proposed audit fees. The Committee is also responsible for:

- establishing effective communication processes with management and the Company's auditor so that it can objectively monitor the quality and effectiveness of the auditor's relationship with management and the Committee;
- receiving and reviewing regular feedback from the auditor on the progress against the approved audit plan, important findings, recommendations for improvements and the auditor's final report;
- reviewing, at least annually, a report from the auditor on all relationships and engagements for non-audit services that may be reasonably thought to bear on the independence of the auditor; and
- meeting in camera with the auditor whenever the Committee deems it appropriate.
- (d) Accounting Policies

The Committee is responsible for:

- reviewing the Company's accounting policy note to ensure completeness and acceptability with applicable accounting principles and financial reporting standards as part of the approval of the financial statements;
- discussing and reviewing the impact of proposed changes in accounting standards or securities policies or regulations;
- reviewing with management and the auditor any proposed changes in major accounting policies and key estimates and judgments that may be material to financial reporting;

- discussing with management and the auditor the acceptability, degree of aggressiveness/conservatism and quality of underlying accounting policies and key estimates and judgments; and
- discussing with management and the auditor the clarity and completeness of the Company's financial disclosures.
- (e) Risk and Uncertainty

The Committee is responsible for reviewing, as part of its approval of the financial statements:

- uncertainty notes and disclosures; and
- MD&A disclosures.

The Committee, in consultation with management, will identify the principal business risks and decide on the Company's "appetite" for risk. The Committee is responsible for reviewing related risk management policies and recommending such policies for approval by the Board. The Committee is then responsible for communicating and assigning to the applicable Board committee such policies for implementation and ongoing monitoring.

The Committee is responsible for requesting the auditor's opinion of management's assessment of significant risks facing the Company and how effectively they aremanaged or controlled.

(f) Controls and Control Deviations

The Committee is responsible for reviewing:

- the plan and scope of the annual audit with respect to planned reliance and testing of controls; and
- major points contained in the auditor's management letter resulting from control evaluation and testing.

The Committee is also responsible for receiving reports from management when significant control deviations occur.

(g) Compliance with Laws and Regulations

The Committee is responsible for reviewing regular reports from management and others (e.g. auditors) concerning the Company's compliance with financial related laws and regulations, such as:

- tax and financial reporting laws and regulations;
- legal withholdings requirements;
- environmental protection laws; and
- other matters for which directors face liability exposure.
- (h) Related Party Transactions

All transactions between the Company and a related party (each a "related party transaction"), other than transactions entered into in the ordinary course of business, shall be presented to the Committee for consideration.

The term "related party" includes (i) all directors, officers, employees, consultants and their associates (as that term is defined in the Securities Act (British Columbia)), as well as all entities with common directors, officers, employees and consultants (each "general related parties"), and (ii) all other individuals and entities having beneficial ownership of, or control or direction over, directly or indirectly securities of the Company carrying more than 10% of the voting rights attached to all of the Company's outstanding voting securities (each "10% shareholders").

Related party transactions involving general related parties which are not material to the Company require review and approval by the Committee. Related party transactions that are material to the Company or that involve 10% shareholders require approval by the Board, following review thereof by the Committee and the Committee providing its recommendation thereon to the Board.

## 8. Non-Audit Services

All non-audit services to be provided to the Company or its subsidiary entities by the Company's auditor must be pre-approved by the Committee.

## 9. Submission Systems and Treatment of Complaints

The Committee is responsible for establishing procedures for:

(a) the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters; and

(b) the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.

The Committee is responsible for reviewing complaints and concerns that are brought to the attention of the Chair of the Audit Committee and for ensuring that any such complaints and concerns are appropriately addressed. The Committee shall report quarterly to the Board on the status of any complaints or concerns received by the Committee.

## 10. Procedure For Reporting Of Fraud Or Control Weaknesses

Each employee is expected to report situations in which he or she suspects fraud or is aware of any internal control weaknesses. An employee should treat suspected fraud seriously and ensure that the situation is brought to the attention of the Committee. In addition, weaknesses in the internal control procedures of the Company that may result in errors or omissions in financial information, or that create a risk of potential fraud or loss of the Company's assets, should be brought to the attention of both management and the Committee.

To facilitate the reporting of suspected fraud, it is the policy of Company that the employee (the "whistleblower") has anonymous and direct access to the Chair of the Audit Committee. Should a new Chair be appointed prior to the updating of this document, current Chair will ensure that the whistleblower is able to reach the new Chair in a timely manner. In the event that the Chair of the Audit Committee cannot be reached, the whistleblower should contact the Chair of the Board of Directors. Access to the names and place of employment of the Company's Directors can be found in the Company's website.

In addition, it is the policy of the Company that employees concerned about reporting internal control weaknesses directly to management are able to report such weaknesses to the Committee anonymously. In this case, the employee should follow the same procedure detailed above for reporting suspected fraud.

# 11. Hiring Policies

The Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the Company's hiring policies regarding partners, employees and former partners and employees of the present and former auditor of the Company.

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SCHEDULE "B"

# FOUR NINES GOLD INC.

# **OMNIBUS EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN**

October 21, 2022

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#### Four Nines Gold Inc.

#### **Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan**

#### ARTICLE 1 PURPOSE

#### 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Plan is to provide the Corporation with a share-related mechanism to attract, retain and motivate qualified Directors, Officers, Employees and Consultants of the Corporation and its subsidiaries, to reward such of those Directors, Officers, Employees and Consultants as may be granted Awards under this Plan by the Board from time to time for their contributions toward the long-term goals and success of the Corporation and to enable and encourage such Directors, Officers, Employees and Consultants to acquire Shares as long-term investments and proprietary interests in the Corporation.

## ARTICLE 2 INTERPRETATION

#### 2.1 Definitions

When used herein, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms have the indicated meanings, respectively:

- (a) "Affiliate" means any entity that is an "affiliate" for the purposes of National Instrument 45-106 – Prospectus Exemptions of the Canadian Securities Administrators, as amended from time to time;
- (b) "Award" means any Option, Restricted Share Unit, Performance Share Unit or Deferred Share Unit granted under this Plan which may be denominated or settled in Shares, cash or in such other form as provided herein;
- (c) **"Award Agreement**" means a signed, written agreement between a Participant and the Corporation, in the form or any one of the forms approved by the Plan Administrator, evidencing the terms and conditions on which an Award has been granted under this Plan and which need not be identical to any other such agreements;
- (d) **"Board**" means the board of directors of the Corporation as it may be constituted from time to time;
- (e) **"Business Day**" means a day, other than a Saturday or Sunday, on which the principal commercial banks in the City of Vancouver are open for commercial business during normal banking hours;
- (f) **"Canadian Taxpayer**" means a Participant that is resident of Canada for purposes of the Tax Act;
- (g) "Cash Fees" has the meaning set forth in Subsection 7.1(a);

- (h) "Cashless Exercise" has the meaning set forth in Subsection 4.5(b);
- (i) "Cause" means, with respect to a particular Participant:
  - (i) "cause" (or any similar term) as such term is defined in the employment or other written agreement between the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation and the Employee;
  - (ii) in the event there is no written or other applicable employment or other agreement between the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation or "cause" (or any similar term) is not defined in such agreement, "cause" as such term is defined in the Award Agreement; or
  - (iii) in the event neither (a) nor (b) apply, then "cause" as such term is defined by applicable law or, if not so defined, such term shall refer to circumstances where (i) an employer may terminate an individual's employment without notice or pay in lieu thereof or other damages, or (ii) the Corporation or any subsidiary thereof may terminate the Participant's contract without notice or without pay in lieu thereof or other termination fee or damages;
- (j) "Change in Control" means the occurrence of any one or more of the following events:
  - (i) any transaction at any time and by whatever means pursuant to which any Person or any group of two (2) or more Persons acting jointly or in concert hereafter acquires the direct or indirect "beneficial ownership" (as defined in the Securities Act (British Columbia)) of, or acquires the right to exercise Control or direction over, securities of the Corporation representing more than 50% of the then issued and outstanding voting securities of the Corporation, including, without limitation, as a result of a take-over bid, an exchange of securities, an amalgamation of the Corporation with any other entity, an arrangement, a capital reorganization or any other business combination or reorganization;
  - (ii) the sale, assignment or other transfer of all or substantially all of the consolidated assets of the Corporation to a Person other than a subsidiary of the Corporation;
  - (iii) the dissolution or liquidation of the Corporation, other than in connection with the distribution of assets of the Corporation to one (1) or more Persons which were Affiliates of the Corporation prior to such event;
  - (iv) the occurrence of a transaction requiring approval of the Corporation's shareholders whereby the Corporation is acquired through consolidation, merger, exchange of securities, purchase of assets, amalgamation, statutory arrangement or otherwise by any other Person (other than a short form amalgamation or exchange of securities with a subsidiary of the Corporation);
  - (v) individuals who comprise the Board as of the date hereof (the "Incumbent Board") for any reason cease to constitute at least a majority of the members of the Board, unless the election, or nomination for election by the Corporation's shareholders, of any new director was approved by a vote of at least a majority of the Incumbent Board, and in that case such new director shall be considered as a member of the Incumbent Board; or

provided that, notwithstanding clause (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) above, a Change in Control shall be deemed not to have occurred if immediately following the transaction set forth in clause (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv) above: (A) the holders of securities of the Corporation that immediately prior to the consummation of such transaction represented more than 50% of the combined voting power of the then outstanding securities eligible to vote for the election of directors of the Corporation hold (x) securities of the entity resulting from such transaction (including, for greater certainty, the Person succeeding to assets of the Corporation in a transaction contemplated in clause (ii) above) (the "Surviving Entity") that represent more than 50% of the combined voting power of the then outstanding securities eligible to vote for the election of directors or trustees ("voting power") of the Surviving Entity, or (y) if applicable, securities of the entity that directly or indirectly has beneficial ownership of 100% of the securities eligible to elect directors or trustees of the Surviving Entity (the "Parent Entity") that represent more than 50% of the combined voting power of the then outstanding securities eligible to vote for the election of directors or trustees of the Parent Entity, and (B) no Person or group of two or more Persons, acting jointly or in concert, is the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 50% of the voting power of the Parent Entity (or, if there is no Parent Entity, the Surviving Entity) (any such transaction which satisfies all of the criteria specified in clauses (A) and (B) above being referred to as a "Non-Qualifying Transaction" and, following the Non-Qualifying Transaction, references in this definition of "Change in Control" to the "Corporation" shall mean and refer to the Parent Entity (or, if there is no Parent Entity, the Surviving Entity) and, if such entity is a company or a trust, references to the "Board" shall mean and refer to the board of directors or trustees, as applicable, of such entity).

Notwithstanding the foregoing, for purposes of any Award that constitutes "deferred compensation" (within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code), the payment of which is triggered by or would be accelerated upon a Change in Control, a transaction will not be deemed a Change in Control for Awards granted to any Participant who is a U.S. Taxpayer unless the transaction qualifies as "a change in control event" within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code;

- (k) "Code" means the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time. Any reference to a section of the Code shall be deemed to include a reference to any regulations promulgated thereunder;
- (I) "Committee" has the meaning set forth in Section 3.2(b);
- (m) "Consultant" means any individual or entity engaged by the Corporation or any subsidiary of the Corporation to render consulting or advisory services (including as a director or officer of any subsidiary of the Corporation), other than as an Employee, Officer, or Director, and whether or not compensated for such services provided, however, that any Consultant who is in the United States or is a U.S. Person at the time such Consultant receives any offer of Award or executes any Award Agreement must be a natural person, and must agree to provide bona fide services to that Corporation that are not in connection with the offer or sale of securities in a capital-raising transaction, and do not directly or indirectly promote or maintain a market for the Corporation's securities;

- (n) **"Control**" means the relationship whereby a Person is considered to be "controlled" by a Person if:
  - when applied to the relationship between a Person and a corporation, the beneficial ownership by that Person, directly or indirectly, of voting securities or other interests in such corporation entitling the holder to exercise control and direction in fact over the activities of such corporation;
  - (ii) when applied to the relationship between a Person and a partnership, limited partnership, trust or joint venture, means the contractual right to direct the affairs of the partnership, limited partnership, trust or joint venture; and
  - (iii) when applied in relation to a trust, the beneficial ownership at the relevant time of more than 50% of the property settled under the trust, and

the words "**Controlled by**", "**Controlling**" and similar words have corresponding meanings; provided that a Person who controls a corporation, partnership, limited partnership or joint venture will be deemed to Control a corporation, partnership, limited partnership, trust or joint venture which is Controlled by such Person and so on;

- (o) "Corporation" means Four Nines Gold Inc., or any successor entity thereof;
- (p) "Date of Grant" means, for any Award, the date specified by the Plan Administrator at the time it grants the Award or if no such date is specified, the date upon which the Award was granted;
- (q) **"Deferred Share Unit**" or "**DSU**" means a unit equivalent in value to a Share, credited by means of a bookkeeping entry in the books of the Corporation in accordance with Article 7;
- (r) "Director" means a director of the Corporation who is not an Employee;
- (s) **"Director Fees**" means the total compensation (including annual retainer and meeting fees, if any) paid by the Corporation to a Director in a calendar year for service on the Board;
- (t) "Disabled" or "Disability" means, with respect to a particular Participant:
  - "disabled" or "disability" (or any similar terms) as such terms are defined in the employment or other written agreement between the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation and the Participant;
  - (ii) in the event there is no written or other applicable employment or other agreement between the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation, or "disabled" or "disability" (or any similar terms) are not defined in such agreement, "disabled" or "disability" as such term are defined in the Award Agreement; or
  - (iii) in the event neither (i) or (ii) apply, then the incapacity or inability of the Participant, by reason of mental or physical incapacity, disability, illness or disease (as determined by a legally qualified medical practitioner or by a court) that prevents the Participant from carrying out his or her normal and essential duties as an Employee, Officer, Director or Consultant for a continuous period of six months or for any cumulative period of 180 days in any consecutive twelve month period,

the foregoing subject to and as determined in accordance with procedures established by the Plan Administrator for purposes of this Plan;

- (u) "Effective Date" means the effective date of this Plan, being ♦, 2022;
- (v) "Elected Amount" has the meaning set forth in Subsection 7.1(a);
- (w) "Electing Person" means a Participant who is, on the applicable Election Date, a Director;
- (x) "Election Date" means the date on which the Electing Person files an Election Notice in accordance with Subsection 7.1(b);
- (y) "Election Notice" has the meaning set forth in Subsection 7.1(b);
- (z) **"Employee**" means an individual who:
  - (i) is considered an employee of the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation for purposes of source deductions under applicable tax or social welfare legislation; or
  - (ii) works full-time or part-time. on a regular weekly basis for the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation providing services normally provided by an employee and who is subject to the same control and direction by the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation over the details and methods of work as an employee of the Corporation or such subsidiary;
- (aa) "Exchange" means the primary exchange on which the Shares are then listed, if applicable;
- (bb) **"Exercise Notice**" means a notice in writing, signed by a Participant and stating the Participant's intention to exercise a particular Option;
- (cc) **"Exercise Price**" means the price at which an Option Share may be purchased pursuant to the exercise of an Option;
- (dd) **"Expiry Date**" means the expiry date specified in the Award Agreement (which shall not be later than the tenth anniversary of the Date of Grant) or, if not so specified, means the tenth anniversary of the Date of Grant;
- (ee) "In the Money Amount" has the meaning given to it in Subsection 4.5(b);
- (ff) "Insider" means an "insider" as defined in applicable Securities Laws or in the rules of the Exchange;
- (gg) **"Market Price"** at any date in respect of the Shares shall be the greater of the closing market price of the Shares on (i) the trading day prior to the date of grant and (ii) the date of grant, and as otherwise required pursuant to the policies of the Exchange, if applicable. In the event that such Shares are not listed and posted for trading on any Exchange, the Market Price shall be (i) the issuance price per Share of the most recent financing completed by the Corporation within the last three (3) months; or (ii) otherwise, the fair market value of such Shares as determined by the Plan Administrator in its sole discretion and, with respect to an Award made to a U.S. Taxpayer, in accordance with Section 409A of the Code;

- (hh) "Officer" has the meaning defined in applicable Securities Laws;
- (ii) **"Option**" means a right to purchase Shares under Article 4 of this Plan that is non-assignable and non-transferable, unless otherwise approved by the Plan Administrator;
- (jj) "Option Shares" means Shares issuable by the Corporation upon the exercise of outstanding Options;
- (kk) **"Participant**" means a Director, Officer, Employee or Consultant to whom an Award has been granted under this Plan;
- (II) "Performance Goals" means performance goals expressed in terms of attaining a specified level of the particular criteria or the attainment of a percentage increase or decrease in the particular criteria, and may be applied to one or more of the Corporation, a subsidiary of the Corporation, a division of the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation, or an individual, or may be applied to the performance of the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation relative to a market index, a group of other companies or a combination thereof, or on any other basis, all as determined by the Plan Administrator in its discretion;
- (mm) **"Performance Share Unit**" or "**PSU**" means a unit equivalent in value to a Share, credited by means of a bookkeeping entry in the books of the Corporation in accordance with Article 6;
- (nn) "Person" means an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, unincorporated association, unincorporated syndicate, unincorporated organization, trust, body corporate, and a natural person in his or her capacity as trustee, executor, administrator or other legal representative;
- (oo) "Plan" means this Omnibus Equity Incentive Plan, as may be amended from time to time;
- (pp) **"Plan Administrator**" means the Board, or if the administration of this Plan has been delegated by the Board to the Committee pursuant to Section 3.2, the Committee;
- (qq) "PSU Service Year" has the meaning given to it in Section 6.1;
- (rr) **"Restricted Share Unit**" or **"RSU**" means a unit equivalent in value to a Share, credited by means of a bookkeeping entry in the books of the Corporation in accordance with Article 5;
- (ss) "Retirement" means, unless otherwise defined in the Participant's written or other applicable employment agreement or in the Award Agreement, the termination of the Participant's working career at the age of 65 or such other retirement age, with consent of the Plan Administrator, if applicable, other than on account of the Participant's termination of service by the Corporation or its subsidiary for Cause;
- (tt) "RSU Service Year" has the meaning given to it in Section 5.1;
- (uu) "Section 409A of the Code" or "Section 409A" means Section 409A of the Code and all regulations, guidance, compliance programs, and other interpretive authority issued thereunder;

- (vv) **"Securities Laws"** means securities legislation, securities regulation and securities rules, as amended, and the policies, notices, instruments and blanket orders in force from time to time that govern or are applicable to the Corporation or to which it is subject;
- (ww) "Security Based Compensation Arrangement" means a stock option, stock option plan, employee stock purchase plan or any other compensation or incentive mechanism involving the issuance or potential issuance of Shares to Directors, Officers, Employees and/or service providers of the Corporation or any subsidiary of the Corporation, including a share purchase from treasury which is financially assisted by the Corporation by way of a loan, guarantee or otherwise;
- (xx) "Share" means one (1) common share in the capital of the Corporation as constituted on the Effective Date or any share or shares issued in replacement of such common share in compliance with Canadian law or other applicable law, and/or one share of any additional class of common shares in the capital of the Corporation as may exist from time to time, or after an adjustment contemplated by Article 10, such other shares or securities to which the holder of an Award may be entitled as a result of such adjustment;
- (yy) **"subsidiary"** means an issuer that is Controlled directly or indirectly by another issuer and includes a subsidiary of that subsidiary, or any other entity in which the Corporation has an equity interest and is designated by the Plan Administrator, from time to time, for purposes of this Plan to be a subsidiary;
- (zz) "Tax Act" has the meaning set forth in Section 4.5(d);
- (aaa) "**Termination Date**" means, subject to applicable law which cannot be waived:
  - (i) in the case of an Employee whose employment with the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation terminates, (i) the date designated by the Employee and the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation as the "Termination Date" (or similar term) in a written employment or other agreement between the Employee and Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation, or (ii) if no such written employment or other agreement exists, the date designated by the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation, as the case may be, on which the Employee ceases to be an employee of the Corporation or the subsidiary of the Corporation, as the case may be, provided that, in the case of termination of employment by voluntary resignation by the Participant, such date shall not be earlier than the date notice of resignation was given; and in any event, the "Termination Date" shall be determined without including any period of reasonable notice that the Corporation or the subsidiary of the Corporation (as the case may be) may be required by law to provide to the Participant or any pay in lieu of notice of termination, severance pay or other damages paid or payable to the Participant;
  - (ii) in the case of a Consultant whose agreement or arrangement with the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation terminates, (i) the date designated by the Corporation or the subsidiary of the Corporation, as the "Termination Date" (or similar term) or expiry date in a written agreement between the Consultant and Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation, or (ii) if no such written agreement exists, the date designated by the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation, as the case may be, on which the Consultant ceases to be a Consultant or a service provider to the Corporation or the subsidiary of the Corporation, as the case may

be, or on which the Participant's agreement or arrangement is terminated, provided that in the case of voluntary termination by the Participant of the Participant's consulting agreement or other written arrangement, such date shall not be earlier than the date notice of voluntary termination was given; in any event, the "Termination Date" shall be determined without including any period of notice that the Corporation or the subsidiary of the Corporation (as the case may be) may be required by law to provide to the Participant or any pay in lieu of notice of termination, termination fees or other damages paid or payable to the Participant; and

(iii) in the case of a Director or Officer, the date such individual ceases to be a Director or Officer, as applicable,

in each case, unless the individual continues to be a Participant in another capacity.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of a U.S. Taxpayer, a Participant's "Termination Date" will be the date the Participant experiences a "separation from service" with the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code.

- (bbb) **"U.S."** or **"United States**" means the United States of America, its territories and possessions, any State of the United States, and the District of Columbia;
- (ccc) "U.S. Person" shall mean a "U.S. person" as such term is defined in Rule 902(k) of Regulation S under the U.S. Securities Act (the definition of which includes, but is not limited to, (i) any natural person resident in the United States, (ii) any partnership or corporation organized or incorporated under the laws of the United States, (iii) any partnership or corporation organized outside of the United States by a U.S. Person principally for the purpose of investing in securities not registered under the U.S. Securities Act, unless it is organized, or incorporated, and owned, by accredited investors who are not natural persons, estates or trusts, and (iv) any estate or trust of which any executor or administrator or trustee is a U.S. Person);
- (ddd) "U.S. Securities Act" means the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended; and
- (eee) **"U.S. Taxpayer"** shall mean a Participant who, with respect to an Award, is subject to taxation under the applicable U.S. tax laws.

#### 2.2 Interpretation

- (a) Whenever the Plan Administrator exercises discretion in the administration of this Plan, the term "discretion" means the sole and absolute discretion of the Plan Administrator.
- (b) As used herein, the terms "Article", "Section", "Subsection" and "clause" mean and refer to the specified Article, Section, Subsection and clause of this Plan, respectively.
- (c) Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa and words importing any gender include any other gender.
- (d) Unless otherwise specified, time periods within or following which any payment is to be made or act is to be done shall be calculated by excluding the day on which the period

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begins, including the day on which the period ends, and abridging the period to the immediately preceding Business Day in the event that the last day of the period is not a Business Day. In the event an action is required to be taken or a payment is required to be made on a day which is not a Business Day such action shall be taken or such payment shall be made by the immediately preceding Business Day.

- (e) Unless otherwise specified, all references to money amounts are to Canadian currency.
- (f) The headings used herein are for convenience only and are not to affect the interpretation of this Plan.

#### ARTICLE 3 ADMINISTRATION

#### 3.1 Administration

This Plan will be administered by the Plan Administrator and the Plan Administrator has sole and complete authority, in its discretion, to:

- (a) determine the individuals to whom grants under the Plan may be made;
- (b) make grants of Awards under the Plan relating to the issuance of Shares (including any combination of Options, Restricted Share Units, Performance Share Units or Deferred Share Units) in such amounts, to such Persons and, subject to the provisions of this Plan, on such terms and conditions as it determines including without limitation:
  - (i) the time or times at which Awards may be granted;
  - (ii) the conditions under which:
    - (A) Awards may be granted to Participants; or
    - (B) Awards may be forfeited to the Corporation,

including any conditions relating to the attainment of specified Performance Goals;

- (iii) the number of Shares to be covered by any Award;
- (iv) the price, if any, to be paid by a Participant in connection with the purchase of Shares covered by any Awards;
- (v) whether restrictions or limitations are to be imposed on the Shares issuable pursuant to grants of any Award, and the nature of such restrictions or limitations, if any; and
- (vi) any acceleration of exercisability or vesting, or waiver of termination regarding any Award, based on such factors as the Plan Administrator may determine;
- (c) establish the form or forms of Award Agreements;

- (d) cancel, amend, adjust or otherwise change any Award under such circumstances as the Plan Administrator may consider appropriate in accordance with the provisions of this Plan;
- (e) construe and interpret this Plan and all Award Agreements;
- (f) adopt, amend, prescribe and rescind administrative guidelines and other rules and regulations relating to this Plan, including rules and regulations relating to sub- plans established for the purpose of satisfying applicable foreign laws or for qualifying for favorable tax treatment under applicable foreign laws; and
- (g) make all other determinations and take all other actions necessary or advisable for the implementation and administration of this Plan.

#### 3.2 Delegation to Committee

- (a) The initial Plan Administrator shall be the Board.
- (b) To the extent permitted by applicable law, the Board may, from time to time, delegate to a committee of the Board (the "Committee") all or any of the powers conferred on the Plan Administrator pursuant to this Plan, including the power to sub-delegate to any member(s) of the Committee or any specified officer(s) of the Corporation or its subsidiaries all or any of the powers delegated by the Board. In such event, the Committee or any sub-delegate will exercise the powers delegated to it in the manner and on the terms authorized by the delegating party. Any decision made or action taken by the Committee or any sub-delegate arising out of or in connection with the administration or interpretation of this Plan in this context is final and conclusive and binding on the Corporation and all subsidiaries of the Corporation, all Participants and all other Persons.

#### 3.3 Determinations Binding

Any decision made or action taken by the Board, the Committee or any sub-delegate to whom authority has been delegated pursuant to Section 3.2 arising out of or in connection with the administration or interpretation of this Plan is final, conclusive and binding on the Corporation, the affected Participant(s), their legal and personal representatives and all other Persons.

## 3.4 Eligibility

All Directors, Officers, Employees and Consultants are eligible to participate in the Plan, subject to Section 9.1(f). Participation in the Plan is voluntary and eligibility to participate does not confer upon any Director, Officer, Employee or Consultant any right to receive any grant of an Award pursuant to the Plan. The extent to which any Director, Officer, Employee or Consultant is entitled to receive a grant of an Award pursuant to the Plan usuant to the Plan will be determined in the sole and absolute discretion of the Plan Administrator.

#### 3.5 Plan Administrator Requirements

Any Award granted under this Plan shall be subject to the requirement that, if at any time the Plan Administrator shall determine that the listing, registration or qualification of the Shares issuable pursuant to such Award upon any securities exchange or under any Securities Laws of any jurisdiction, or the consent or approval of the Exchange, if applicable, and any securities commissions or similar securities regulatory bodies having jurisdiction over the Corporation is necessary as a condition of, or in connection with, the grant or exercise of such Award or the issuance or purchase of Shares thereunder, such Award may not be accepted

or exercised, as applicable, in whole or in part unless such listing, registration, qualification, consent or approval shall have been effected or obtained on conditions acceptable to the Plan Administrator. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all Awards shall issued pursuant to the registration requirements of the U.S. Securities Act, or pursuant an exemption or exclusion from such registration requirements. Nothing herein shall be deemed to require the Corporation to apply for or to obtain such listing, registration, qualification, consent or approval. Participants shall, to the extent applicable, cooperate with the Corporation in complying with such legislation, rules, regulations and policies.

# 3.6 Total Shares Subject to Awards

- (a) Subject to adjustment as provided for in Article 10 and any subsequent amendment to this Plan, the aggregate number of Shares reserved for issuance pursuant to Awards granted under this Plan shall not exceed 10% of the Corporation's total issued and outstanding Shares from time to time. This Plan is considered an "evergreen" plan, since the shares covered by Awards which have been settled, exercised or terminated shall be available for subsequent grants under the Plan and the number of Awards available to grant increases as the number of issued and outstanding Shares increases.
- (b) To the extent any Awards (or portion(s) thereof) under this Plan terminate or are cancelled for any reason prior to exercise in full, or are surrendered or settled by the Participant, any Shares subject to such Awards (or portion(s) thereof) shall be added back to the number of Shares reserved for issuance under this Plan and will again become available for issuance pursuant to the exercise of Awards granted under this Plan.
- (c) Any Shares issued by the Corporation through the assumption or substitution of outstanding stock options or other equity-based awards from an acquired company shall not reduce the number of Shares available for issuance pursuant to the exercise of Awards granted under this Plan.

## 3.7 Award Agreements

Each Award under this Plan will be evidenced by an Award Agreement. Each Award Agreement will be subject to the applicable provisions of this Plan and will contain such provisions as are required by this Plan and any other provisions that the Plan Administrator may direct. Any one Officer of the Corporation is authorized and empowered to execute and deliver, for and on behalf of the Corporation, an Award Agreement to a Participant granted an Award pursuant to this Plan.

# 3.8 Non-transferability of Awards

Except as permitted by the Plan Administrator and to the extent that certain rights may pass to a beneficiary or legal representative upon death of a Participant, by will or as required by law, no assignment or transfer of Awards, whether voluntary, involuntary, by operation of law or otherwise, vests any interest or right in such Awards whatsoever in any assignee or transferee and immediately upon any assignment or transfer, or any attempt to make the same, such Awards will terminate and be of no further force or effect. To the extent that certain rights to exercise any portion of an outstanding Award pass to a beneficiary or legal representative upon death of a Participant, the period in which such Award can be exercised by such beneficiary or legal representative shall not exceed one year from the Participant's death.

# ARTICLE 4 OPTIONS

## 4.1 Granting of Options

The Plan Administrator may, from time to time, subject to the provisions of this Plan and such other terms and conditions as the Plan Administrator may prescribe, grant Options to any Participant. The terms and conditions of each Option grant shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement.

# 4.2 Exercise Price

The Plan Administrator will establish the Exercise Price at the time each Option is granted, which Exercise Price must in all cases be not less than the Market Price on the Date of Grant, unless otherwise permitted by the rules of the Exchange and applicable Securities Laws.

# 4.3 Term of Options

Subject to any accelerated termination as set forth in this Plan, each Option expires on its Expiry Date.

# 4.4 Vesting and Exercisability

- (a) The Plan Administrator shall have the authority to determine the vesting terms applicable to grants of Options.
- (b) Once an Option becomes vested, it shall remain vested and shall be exercisable until expiration or termination of the Option, unless otherwise specified by the Plan Administrator, or as may be otherwise set forth in any written employment agreement, Award Agreement or other written agreement between the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation and the Participant. Each vested Option may be exercised at any time or from time to time, in whole or in part, for up to the total number of Option Shares with respect to which it is then exercisable. The Plan Administrator has the right to accelerate the date upon which any Option becomes exercisable.
- (c) Subject to the provisions of this Plan and any Award Agreement, Options shall be exercised by means of a fully completed Exercise Notice delivered to the Corporation.
- (d) The Plan Administrator may provide at the time of granting an Option that the exercise of that Option is subject to restrictions, in addition to those specified in this Section 4.4, such as vesting conditions relating to the attainment of specified Performance Goals.

## 4.5 Payment of Exercise Price

(a) Unless otherwise specified by the Plan Administrator at the time of granting an Option and set forth in the particular Award Agreement, the Exercise Notice must be accompanied by payment of the Exercise Price. The Exercise Price must be fully paid by certified cheque, wire transfer, bank draft or money order payable to the Corporation or by such other means as might be specified from time to time by the Plan Administrator, which may include (i) through an arrangement with a broker approved by the Corporation (or through an arrangement directly with the Corporation) whereby payment of the Exercise Price is accomplished with the proceeds of the sale of Shares deliverable upon the exercise of the Option, (ii) through the cashless exercise process set out in Section 4.5(b), or (iii) such other consideration and method of payment for the issuance of Shares to the extent permitted by Securities Laws, or any combination of the foregoing methods of payment.

- (b) Unless otherwise specified by the Plan Administrator and set forth in the particular Award Agreement, if permitted by the Plan Administrator, and subject to compliance with the policies of the Exchange and applicable Securities Laws, if applicable, a Participant may, in lieu of exercising an Option pursuant to an Exercise Notice, elect to surrender such Option to the Corporation (a "Cashless Exercise") in consideration for an amount from the Corporation equal to (i) the Market Price of the Shares issuable on the exercise of such Option (or portion thereof) as of the date such Option (or portion thereof) is exercised, less (ii) the aggregate Exercise Price of the Option (or portion thereof) surrendered relating to such Shares (the "In-the-Money Amount"), by written notice to the Corporation indicating the number of Options such Participant wishes to exercise using the Cashless Exercise, and such other information that the Corporation may require. Subject to Section 8.3, the Corporation shall satisfy payment of the In-the-Money Amount by delivering to the Participant such number of Shares (rounded down to the nearest whole number) having a fair market value equal to the In-the-Money Amount.
- (c) No Shares will be issued or transferred until full payment therefor has been received by the Corporation, or arrangements for such payment have been made to the satisfaction of the Plan Administrator.
- (d) If a Participant surrenders Options through a Cashless Exercise pursuant to Section 4.5(b), to the extent that such Participant would be entitled to a deduction under paragraph 110(1)(d) of the *Income Tax Act* (Canada) (the "**Tax Act**") in respect of such surrender if the election described in subsection 110(1.1) of the Tax Act were made and filed (and the other procedures described therein were undertaken) on a timely basis after such surrender, the Corporation will cause such election to be so made and filed (and such other procedures to be so undertaken).

# ARTICLE 5 RESTRICTED SHARE UNITS

## 5.1 Granting of RSUs

- (a) The Plan Administrator may, from time to time, subject to the provisions of this Plan and such other terms and conditions as the Plan Administrator may prescribe, grant RSUs to any Participant in respect of compensation, a bonus or similar payment in respect of services rendered by the applicable Participant in a taxation year (the "**RSU Service Year**"). The terms and conditions of each RSU grant may be evidenced by an Award Agreement. Each RSU will consist of a right to receive a Share, cash payment, or a combination thereof (as provided in Section 5.4(a)), upon the settlement of such RSU.
- (b) The number of RSUs (including fractional RSUs) granted at any particular time pursuant to this Article 5 will be calculated by dividing (i) the amount of any bonus or similar payment that is to be paid in RSUs, as determined by the Plan Administrator, by (ii) the greater of (A) the Market Price of a Share on the Date of Grant; and (B) such amount as determined by the Plan Administrator in its sole discretion.

## 5.2 RSU Account

All RSUs received by a Participant shall be credited to an account maintained for the Participant on the books of the Corporation, as of the Date of Grant.

#### 5.3 Vesting of RSUs

The Plan Administrator shall have the authority to determine any vesting terms applicable to the grant of RSUs, provided that, with respect to a U.S. Taxpayer, the terms comply with Section 409A.

#### 5.4 Settlement of RSUs

- (a) The Plan Administrator shall have the sole authority to determine the settlement terms applicable to the grant of RSUs, provided that with respect to a U.S. Taxpayer the terms comply with Section 409A to the extent it is applicable. Subject to Section 11.6(d) below and except as otherwise provided in an Award Agreement, on the settlement date for any RSU, the Participant shall redeem each vested RSU for the following at the election of the Participant but subject to the approval of the Plan Administrator:
  - (i) one fully paid and non-assessable Share issued from treasury to the Participant or as the Participant may direct,
  - (ii) a cash payment, or
  - (iii) a combination of Shares and cash as contemplated by paragraphs (i) and (ii) above.
- (b) Any cash payments made under this Section 5.4 by the Corporation to a Participant in respect of RSUs to be redeemed for cash shall be calculated by multiplying the number of RSUs to be redeemed for cash by the Market Price per Share as at the settlement date.
- (c) Payment of cash to Participants on the redemption of vested RSUs may be made through the Corporation's payroll in the pay period that the settlement date falls within, if applicable.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other terms of this Plan but subject to Section 11.6(d) below and except as otherwise provided in an Award Agreement, no settlement date for any RSU shall occur, and no Share shall be issued or cash payment shall be made in respect of any RSU, under this Section 5.4 any later than the final Business Day of the third calendar year following the applicable RSU Service Year.

## ARTICLE 6 PERFORMANCE SHARE UNITS

## 6.1 Granting of PSUs

The Plan Administrator may, from time to time, subject to the provisions of this Plan and such other terms and conditions as the Plan Administrator may prescribe, grant PSUs to any Participant in respect of compensation, a bonus or similar payment in respect of services rendered by the applicable Participant in a taxation year (the "**PSU Service Year**"). The terms and conditions of each PSU grant shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement, provided that with respect to a U.S. Taxpayer the terms comply with Section 409A to the extent it is applicable. Each PSU will consist of a right to receive a Share, cash payment, or a combination thereof (as provided in Section 6.6(a)), upon the achievement of such Performance Goals during such performance periods as the Plan Administrator shall establish.

# 6.2 Terms of PSUs

The Performance Goals to be achieved during any performance period, the length of any performance period, the amount of any PSUs granted, the effect of termination of a Participant's service and the amount of any payment or transfer to be made pursuant to any PSU will be determined by the Plan Administrator and by the other terms and conditions of any PSU, all as set forth in the applicable Award Agreement.

## 6.3 Performance Goals

The Plan Administrator will issue Performance Goals prior to or on the Date of Grant to which such Performance Goals pertain. The Performance Goals may be based upon the achievement of corporate, divisional or individual goals, and may be applied to performance relative to an index or comparator group, or on any other basis determined by the Plan Administrator. Following the Date of Grant, the Plan Administrator may modify the Performance Goals as necessary to align them with the Corporation's corporate objectives, subject to any limitations set forth in an Award Agreement or an employment or other agreement with a Participant. The Performance Goals may include a threshold level of performance below which no payment will be made (or no vesting will occur), levels of performance at which specified payments will be made (or specified vesting will occur), and a maximum level of performance above which no additional payment will be made (or at which full vesting will occur), all as set forth in the applicable Award Agreement.

# 6.4 PSU Account

All PSUs received by a Participant shall be credited to an account maintained for the Participant on the books of the Corporation, as of the Date of Grant.

## 6.5 Vesting of PSUs

The Plan Administrator shall have the authority to determine any vesting terms applicable to the grant of PSUs.

## 6.6 Settlement of PSUs

- (a) The Plan Administrator shall have the authority to determine the settlement terms applicable to the grant of PSUs provided that with respect to a U.S. Taxpayer the terms comply with Section 409A to the extent it is applicable. Subject to Section 11.6(d) below and except as otherwise provided in an Award Agreement, on the settlement date for any PSU, the Participant shall redeem each vested PSU for the following at the election of the Participant but subject to the approval of the Plan Administrator:
  - (i) one fully paid and non-assessable Share issued from treasury to the Participant or as the Participant may direct,
  - (ii) a cash payment, or
  - (iii) a combination of Shares and cash as contemplated by paragraphs (i) and (ii) above.

- (b) Any cash payments made under this Section 6.6 by the Corporation to a Participant in respect of PSUs to be redeemed for cash shall be calculated by multiplying the number of PSUs to be redeemed for cash by the Market Price per Share as at the settlement date.
- (c) Payment of cash to Participants on the redemption of vested PSUs may be made through the Corporation's payroll in the pay period that the settlement date falls within, if applicable.
- (d) Notwithstanding any other terms of this Plan but subject to Section 11.6(d) below and except as otherwise provided in an Award Agreement, no settlement date for any PSU shall occur, and no Share shall be issued or cash payment shall be made in respect of any PSU, under this Section 6.6 any later than the final Business Day of the third calendar year following the applicable PSU Service Year.

## ARTICLE 7 DEFERRED SHARE UNITS

# 7.1 Granting of DSUs

- (a) The Board may fix from time to time a portion of the Director Fees that is to be payable in the form of DSUs. In addition, each Electing Person is given, subject to the conditions stated herein, the right to elect in accordance with Section 7.1(b) to participate in the grant of additional DSUs pursuant to this Article 7. An Electing Person who elects to participate in the grant of additional DSUs pursuant to this Article 7 shall receive their Elected Amount (as that term is defined below) in the form of DSUs. The "Elected Amount" shall be an amount, as elected by the Director, in accordance with applicable tax law, between 0% and 100% of any Director Fees that would otherwise be paid in cash (the "Cash Fees").
- (b) Each Electing Person who elects to receive their Elected Amount in the form of DSUs will be required to file a notice of election in the form of Schedule A hereto (the "Election Notice") with the Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation: (i) in the case of an existing Electing Person, by December 31<sup>st</sup> in the year prior to the year to which such election is to apply (other than for Director Fees payable for the 2022 financial year, in which case any Electing Person who is not a U.S. Taxpayer as of the date of this Plan shall file the Election Notice by the date that is 30 days from the Effective Date with respect to compensation paid for services to be performed after such date); and (ii) in the case of a newly appointed Electing Person who is not a U.S. Taxpayer, within 30 days of such appointment with respect to compensation paid for services to be performed after such date. In the case of the first year in which an Electing Person who is a U.S. Taxpayer first becomes an Electing Person under the Plan (or any plan required to be aggregated with the Plan under Section 409A), an initial Election Notice may be filed within 30 days of such appointment only with respect to compensation paid for services to be performed after the end of the 30-day election period. If no election is made within the foregoing time frames, the Electing Person shall be deemed to have elected to be paid the entire amount of his or her Cash Fees in cash.
- (c) Subject to Subsection 7.1(d), the election of an Electing Person under Subsection 7.1(b) shall be deemed to apply to all Cash Fees paid subsequent to the filing of the Election Notice. In the case of an Electing Person who is a U.S. Taxpayer, his or her election under Section 7.1(b) shall be deemed to apply to all Cash Fees that are earned after the Election Date. An Electing Person is not required to file another Election Notice for subsequent calendar years.

- (d) Each Electing Person who is not a U.S. Taxpayer is entitled once per calendar year to terminate his or her election to receive DSUs by filing with the Chief Financial Officer of the Corporation a termination notice in the form of Schedule B. Such termination shall be effective immediately upon receipt of such notice, provided that the Corporation has not imposed a "black-out" on trading. Thereafter, any portion of such Electing Person's Cash Fees payable or paid in the same calendar year and, subject to complying with Subsection 7.1(b), all subsequent calendar years shall be paid in cash. For greater certainty, to the extent an Electing Person terminates his or her participation in the grant of DSUs pursuant to this Article 7, he or she shall not be entitled to elect to receive the Elected Amount, or any other amount of his or her Cash Fees in DSUs again until the calendar year following the year in which the termination notice is delivered. An election by a U.S. Taxpayer to receive the Elected Amount in DSUs for any calendar year (or portion thereof) is irrevocable for that calendar year after the expiration of the election period for that year and any termination of the election will not take effect until the first day of the calendar year following the calendar year in which the termination notice in the form of Schedule C is delivered.
- (e) Any DSUs granted pursuant to this Article 7 prior to the delivery of a termination notice pursuant to Section 7.1(d) shall remain in the Plan following such termination and will be redeemable only in accordance with the terms of the Plan.
- (f) The number of DSUs (including fractional DSUs) granted at any particular time pursuant to this Article 7 will be calculated by dividing (i) the amount of Director Fees that are to be paid as DSUs, as determined by the Plan Administrator or Director Fees that are to be paid in DSUs (including any Elected Amount), by (ii) the Market Price of a Share on the Date of Grant.
- (g) In addition to the foregoing, the Plan Administrator may, from time to time, subject to the provisions of this Plan and such other terms and conditions as the Plan Administrator may prescribe, grant DSUs to any Participant.

# 7.2 DSU Account

All DSUs received by a Participant (which, for greater certainty includes Electing Persons) shall be credited to an account maintained for the Participant on the books of the Corporation, as of the Date of Grant. The terms and conditions of each DSU grant shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement.

## 7.3 Vesting of DSUs

Except as otherwise determined by the Plan Administrator or as set forth in the particular Award Agreement, DSUs shall vest immediately upon grant.

## 7.4 Settlement of DSUs

(a) DSUs shall be settled on the date established in the Award Agreement; provided, however that if there is no Award Agreement or the Award Agreement does not establish a date for the settlement of the DSUs, then, for a Participant who is not a U.S. Taxpayer the settlement date shall be the date determined by the Participant (which date shall not be earlier than the Termination Date), and for a Participant who is a U.S. taxpayer, the settlement date shall be the date determined by the Participant in accordance with the Election Notice (which date shall not be earlier than the "separation from service" (within the meaning of Section 409A)). On the settlement date for any DSU, the Participant shall redeem each vested DSU for:

- (i) one fully paid and non-assessable Share issued from treasury to the Participant or as the Participant may direct; or
- (ii) at the election of the Participant and subject to the approval of the Plan Administrator, a cash payment.
- (b) Any cash payments made under this Section 7.4 by the Corporation to a Participant in respect of DSUs to be redeemed for cash shall be calculated by multiplying the number of DSUs to be redeemed for cash by the Market Price per Share as at the settlement date.
- (c) Payment of cash to Participants on the redemption of vested DSUs may be made through the Corporation's payroll or in such other manner as determined by the Corporation, if applicable.

# 7.5 No Additional Amount or Benefit

For greater certainty, neither a Participant to whom DSUs are granted nor any person with whom such Participant does not deal at arm's length (for purposes of the Tax Act) shall be entitled, either immediately or in the future, either absolutely or contingently, to receive or obtain any amount or benefit granted or to be granted for the purpose of reducing the impact, in whole or in part, of any reduction in the Market Price of the Shares to which the DSUs relate.

# ARTICLE 8 ADDITIONAL AWARD TERMS

## 8.1 Dividend Equivalents

- (a) Unless otherwise determined by the Plan Administrator or as set forth in the particular Award Agreement, an Award of RSUs, PSUs and DSUs shall include the right for such RSUs, PSUs and DSUs be credited with dividend equivalents in the form of additional RSUs, PSUs and DSUs, respectively, as of each dividend payment date in respect of which normal cash dividends are paid on Shares. Such dividend equivalents shall be computed by dividing: (a) the amount obtained by multiplying the amount of the dividend declared and paid per Share by the number of RSUs, PSUs and DSUs, as applicable, held by the Participant on the record date for the payment of such dividend, by (b) the Market Price at the close of the first Business Day immediately following the dividend record date, with fractions computed to three decimal places. Dividend equivalents credited to a Participant's account shall vest in proportion to the RSUs, PSUs and DSUs to which they relate, and shall be settled in accordance with Subsections 5.4, 6.6, and 7.4 respectively.
- (b) The foregoing does not obligate the Corporation to declare or pay dividends on Shares and nothing in this Plan shall be interpreted as creating such an obligation.

# 8.2 Black-out Period

In the event that an Award expires at a time when a scheduled blackout is in place or an undisclosed material change or material fact in the affairs of the Corporation exists, the expiry of such Award will be the date that

is 10 Business Days after which such scheduled blackout terminates or there is no longer such undisclosed material change or material fact.

## 8.3 Withholding Taxes

Notwithstanding any other terms of this Plan, the granting, vesting or settlement of each Award under this Plan is subject to the condition that if at any time the Plan Administrator determines, in its discretion, that the satisfaction of withholding tax or other withholding liabilities is necessary or desirable in respect of such grant, vesting or settlement, such action is not effective unless such withholding has been effected to the satisfaction of the Plan Administrator. In such circumstances, the Plan Administrator may require that a Participant pay to the Corporation the minimum amount as the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation is obliged to withhold or remit to the relevant taxing authority in respect of the granting, vesting or settlement of the Award. Any such additional payment is due no later than the date on which such amount with respect to the Award is required to be remitted to the relevant tax authority by the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation, as the case may be. Alternatively, and subject to any requirements or limitations under applicable law, the Corporation or any Affiliate may (a) withhold such amount from any remuneration or other amount payable by the Corporation or any Affiliate to the Participant, (b) require the sale, on behalf of the applicable Participant, of a number of Shares issued upon exercise, vesting, or settlement of such Award and the remittance to the Corporation of the net proceeds from such sale sufficient to satisfy such amount, or (c) enter into any other suitable arrangements for the receipt of such amount.

## 8.4 Recoupment

Notwithstanding any other terms of this Plan, Awards may be subject to potential cancellation, recoupment, rescission, payback or other action in accordance with the terms of any clawback, recoupment or similar policy adopted by the Corporation or the relevant subsidiary of the Corporation, or as set out in the Participant's employment agreement, Award Agreement or other written agreement, or as otherwise required by law or the rules of the Exchange, if applicable. The Plan Administrator may at any time waive the application of this Section 8.4 to any Participant or category of Participants.

# ARTICLE 9 TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT OR SERVICES

## 9.1 Termination of Employee, Consultant or Director

Subject to Section 9.2, unless otherwise determined by the Plan Administrator or as set forth in an employment agreement, Award Agreement or other written agreement:

- (a) where a Participant's employment, consulting agreement or arrangement is terminated or the Participant ceases to hold office or his or her position, as applicable, by reason of voluntary resignation by the Participant or termination by the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation for Cause, then any Option or other Award held by the Participant that has not been exercised, surrendered or settled as of the Termination Date shall be immediately forfeited and cancelled as of the Termination Date;
- (b) where a Participant's employment, consulting agreement or arrangement is terminated by the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation without Cause (whether such termination occurs with or without any or adequate reasonable notice, or with or without any or adequate compensation in lieu of such reasonable notice) then any unvested Options or other Awards shall be immediately forfeited and cancelled as of the Termination Date. Any

vested Options may be exercised by the Participant at any time during the period that terminates on the earlier of: (A) the Expiry Date of such Option; and (B) the date that is 90 days after the Termination Date. If an Option remains unexercised upon the earlier of (A) or (B), the Option shall be immediately forfeited and cancelled for no consideration upon the termination of such period. In the case of a vested Award other than an Option, such Award will be settled within 90 days after the Termination Date;

- (c) where a Participant's employment, consulting agreement or arrangement terminates on account of his or her becoming Disabled, then any Award held by the Participant that has not vested as of the date of the Participant's Termination Date shall be immediately forfeited and cancelled as of the Termination Date. Any vested Option may be exercised by the Participant at any time until the Expiry Date of such Option. Any vested Award other than an Option will be settled within 90 days after the Termination Date;
- (d) where a Participant's employment, consulting agreement or arrangement is terminated by reason of the death of the Participant, then any Award that is held by the Participant that has not vested as of the date of the death of such Participant shall immediately forfeited and cancelled as of the Termination Date. Any vested Option may be exercised by the Participant's beneficiary or legal representative (as applicable) at any time during the period that terminates on the earlier of: (A) the Expiry Date of such Option; and (B) the first anniversary of the date of the death of such Participant. If an Option remains unexercised upon the earlier of (A) or (B), the Option shall be immediately forfeited and cancelled for no consideration upon the termination of such period. In the case of a vested Award other than an Option, such Award will be settled with the Participant's beneficiary or legal representative (as applicable) within 90 days after the date of the Participant's death;
- (e) where a Participant's employment, consulting agreement or arrangement is terminated due to the Participant's Retirement, then (i) any outstanding Award that vests or becomes exercisable based solely on the Participant remaining in the service of the Corporation or its subsidiary will become 100% vested, and (ii) any outstanding Award that vests based on the achievement of Performance Goals and that has not previously become vested shall continue to be eligible to vest based upon the actual achievement of such Performance Goals. Any vested Option may be exercised by the Participant at any time during the period that terminates on the earlier of: (A) the Expiry Date of such Option; and (B) the third anniversary of the Participant's date of Retirement. If an Option remains unexercised upon the earlier of (A) or (B), the Option shall be immediately forfeited and cancelled for no consideration upon the termination of such period. In the case of a vested Award other than an Option that is described in (i), such Award will be settled within 90 days after the Participant's Retirement. In the case of a vested Award other than an Option that is described in (ii), such Award will be settled at the same time the Award would otherwise have been settled had the Participant remained in active service with the Corporation or its subsidiary. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if, following his or her Retirement, the Participant commences (the "Commencement Date") employment, consulting or acting as a director of the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries (or in an analogous capacity) or otherwise as a service provider to any Person that carries on or proposes to carry on a business competitive with the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries, any Option or other Award held by the Participant that has not been exercised or settled as of the Commencement Date shall be immediately forfeited and cancelled as of the Commencement Date:

- (i) the date that the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation, as the case may be, provides the Participant with written notification that the Participant's employment, consulting agreement or arrangement is terminated, notwithstanding that such date may be prior to the Termination Date; or
- (ii) the date of the death, Disability or Retirement of the Participant;
- (g) notwithstanding Subsection 9.1(b), unless the Plan Administrator, in its discretion, otherwise determines, at any time and from time to time, but with due regard for Section 409A, Options or other Awards are not affected by a change of employment or consulting agreement or arrangement, or directorship within or among the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation for so long as the Participant continues to be a Director, Officer, Employee or Consultant, as applicable, of the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation; and
- (h) notwithstanding any other provision of this Section 9.1, in the case of an Award (other than an Option) granted to a U.S. Taxpayer that is vested or that immediately vests (in whole or in part) as a result of a Participant's termination of service, then such Award will, subject to Section 11.6(d), be settled as soon as administratively practicable following the Participant's termination of service, but in no event later than 90 days following the Participant's termination of service. In the case of an Award (other than an Option) granted to a U.S. Taxpayer that remains eligible to vest (in whole or in part) following a Participant's termination of service based upon the achievement of one or more Performance Goals, such Award will be settled at the originally scheduled settlement date for such Award.

# 9.2 Discretion to Permit Acceleration

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 9.1, the Plan Administrator may, in its discretion, at any time prior to, or following the events contemplated in such Section, or in an employment agreement, Award Agreement or other written agreement between the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation and the Participant, permit the acceleration of vesting of any or all Awards or waive termination of any or all Awards, all in the manner and on the terms as may be authorized by the Plan Administrator.

# ARTICLE 10 EVENTS AFFECTING THE CORPORATION

# 10.1 General

The existence of any Awards does not affect in any way the right or power of the Corporation or its shareholders to make, authorize or determine any adjustment, recapitalization, reorganization or any other change in the Corporation's capital structure or its business, or any amalgamation, combination, arrangement, merger or consolidation involving the Corporation, to create or issue any bonds, debentures, Shares or other securities of the Corporation or to determine the rights and conditions attaching thereto, to effect the dissolution or liquidation of the Corporation or any sale or transfer of all or any part of its assets or business, or to effect any other corporate act or proceeding, whether of a similar character or otherwise, whether or not any such action referred to in this Article 10 would have an adverse effect on this Plan or on any Award granted hereunder.

# 10.2 Change in Control

Except as may be set forth in an employment agreement, Award Agreement or other written agreement between the Corporation or a subsidiary of the Corporation and the Participant and subject to this Section 10.2, but notwithstanding anything else in this Plan or any Award Agreement, the Plan Administrator may, without the consent of any Participant, take such steps as it deems necessary or desirable, including to cause (i) the conversion or exchange of any outstanding Awards into or for, rights or other securities of substantially equivalent value, as determined by the Plan Administrator in its discretion, in any entity participating in or resulting from a Change in Control; (ii) outstanding Awards to vest and become exercisable, realizable, or payable, or restrictions applicable to an Award to lapse, in whole or in part prior to or upon consummation of such merger or Change in Control, and, to the extent the Plan Administrator determines, terminate upon or immediately prior to the effectiveness of such merger or Change in Control; (iii) the termination of an Award in exchange for an amount of cash and/or property, if any, equal to the amount that would have been attained upon the exercise or settlement of such Award or realization of the Participant's rights as of the date of the occurrence of the transaction (and, for the avoidance of doubt, if as of the date of the occurrence of the transaction the Plan Administrator determines in good faith that no amount would have been attained upon the exercise or settlement of such Award or realization of the Participant's rights, then such Award may be terminated by the Corporation without payment); (iv) the replacement of such Award with other rights or property selected by the Board in its sole discretion where such replacement would not adversely affect the holder; or (v) any combination of the foregoing. In taking any of the actions permitted under this Section 10.2, the Plan Administrator will not be required to treat all Awards similarly in the transaction. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the case of Options held by a Canadian Taxpayer, the Plan Administrator may not cause the Canadian Taxpayer to receive (pursuant to this Section 10.2) any property in connection with a Change in Control other than rights to acquire shares of a corporation or units of a "mutual fund trust" (as defined in the Tax Act), of the Corporation or a "qualifying person" (as defined in the Tax Act) that does not deal at arm's length (for purposes of the Tax Act) with the Corporation, as applicable, at the time such rights are issued or granted.

- (a) Notwithstanding Subsection 10.2 and unless otherwise determined by the Plan Administrator, if, as a result of a Change in Control, the Shares will cease trading on an Exchange, then the Corporation may terminate all of the Awards, other than an Option held by a Canadian Taxpayer for the purposes of the Tax Act, granted under this Plan at the time of and subject to the completion of the Change in Control transaction by paying to each holder at or within a reasonable period of time following completion of such Change in Control transaction an amount for each Award equal to the fair market value of the Award held by such Participant as determined by the Plan Administrator, acting reasonably, provided that any vested Awards granted to U.S. Taxpayers will be settled within 90 days of the Change in Control.
- (b) It is intended that any actions taken under this Section 10.2 will comply with the requirements of Section 409A of the Code with respect to Awards granted to U.S. Taxpayers.

# **10.3** Reorganization of Corporation's Capital

Should the Corporation effect a subdivision or consolidation of Shares or any similar capital reorganization or a payment of a stock dividend (other than a stock dividend that is in lieu of a cash dividend), or should any other change be made in the capitalization of the Corporation that does not constitute a Change in Control and that would warrant the amendment or replacement of any existing Awards in order to adjust the number of Shares that may be acquired on the vesting of outstanding Awards and/or the terms of any Award in order to preserve proportionately the rights and obligations of the Participants holding such Awards, the Plan

Administrator will, subject to the prior approval of the Exchange, if applicable, and in compliance with applicable Securities Laws, authorize such steps to be taken as it may consider to be equitable and appropriate to that end.

# **10.4** Other Events Affecting the Corporation

In the event of an amalgamation, combination, arrangement, merger or other transaction or reorganization involving the Corporation and occurring by exchange of Shares, by sale or lease of assets or otherwise, that does not constitute a Change in Control and that warrants the amendment or replacement of any existing Awards in order to adjust the number and/or type of Shares that may be acquired, or by reference to which such Awards may be settled, on the vesting of outstanding Awards and/or the terms of any Award in order to preserve proportionately the rights and obligations of the Participants holding such Awards, the Plan Administrator will, subject to the prior approval of the Exchange and compliance with applicable Securities Laws, if applicable, authorize such steps to be taken as it may consider to be equitable and appropriate to that end.

# 10.5 Immediate Acceleration of Awards

In taking any of the steps provided in Sections 10.3 and 10.4, the Plan Administrator will not be required to treat all Awards similarly and where the Plan Administrator determines that the steps provided in Sections 10.3 and 10.4 would not preserve proportionately the rights, value and obligations of the Participants holding such Awards in the circumstances or otherwise determines that it is appropriate, the Plan Administrator may, but is not required to, permit the immediate vesting of any unvested Awards.

# **10.6** Issue by Corporation of Additional Shares

Except as expressly provided in this Article 10, neither the issue by the Corporation of shares of any class or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of any class, nor the conversion or exchange of such shares or securities, affects, and no adjustment by reason thereof is to be made with respect to the number of Shares that may be acquired as a result of a grant of Awards.

## 10.7 Fractions

No fractional Shares will be issued pursuant to an Award. Accordingly, if, as a result of any adjustment under this Article 10 or a dividend equivalent, a Participant would become entitled to a fractional Share, the Participant has the right to acquire only the adjusted number of full Shares and no payment or other adjustment will be made with respect to the fractional Shares, which shall be disregarded.

## ARTICLE 11 U.S. TAXPAYERS

## **11.1** Provisions for U.S. Taxpayers

Options granted under this Plan to U.S. Taxpayers may be non-qualified stock options or incentive stock options qualifying under Section 422 of the Code ("**ISOs**"). Each Option shall be designated in the Award Agreement as either an ISO or a non-qualified stock option. If an Award Agreement fails to designate an Option as either an ISO or non-qualified stock option, the Option will be a non-qualified stock option. The Corporation shall not be liable to any Participant or to any other Person if it is determined that an Option intended to be an ISO does not qualify as an ISO. Non-qualified stock options will be granted to a U.S. Taxpayer only if (i) such U.S. Taxpayer performs services for the Corporation or any corporation or other entity in which the Corporation has a direct or indirect controlling interest or otherwise has a significant

ownership interest, as determined under Section 409A, such that the Option will constitute an option to acquire "service recipient stock" within the meaning of Section 409A, or (ii) such option otherwise is exempt from Section 409A.

# 11.2 ISOs

The terms and conditions of any ISOs granted to a U.S. Taxpayer on the Date of Grant hereunder, including the eligible recipients of ISOs, shall be subject to the provisions of Section 422 of the Code, and the terms, conditions, limitations and administrative procedures established by the Plan Administrator from time to time in accordance with this Plan. At the discretion of the Plan Administrator, ISOs may only be granted to an individual who is an employee of the Corporation, or of a "parent corporation" or "subsidiary corporation" of the Corporation, as such terms are defined in Sections 424(e) and (f) of the Code.

# **11.3** ISO Grants to 10% Shareholders

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Plan, if an ISO is granted to a person who owns shares representing more than 10% of the voting power of all classes of shares of the Corporation or of a "parent corporation" or "subsidiary corporation", as such terms are defined in Section 424(e) and (f) of the Code, on the Date of Grant, the term of the Option shall not exceed five years from the time of grant of such Option and the Exercise Price shall be at least 110% of the Market Price of the Shares subject to the Option.

# 11.4 \$100,000 Per Year Limitation for ISOs

To the extent the aggregate Market Price as at the Date of Grant of the Shares for which ISOs are exercisable for the first time by any person during any calendar year (under all plans of the Corporation and any "parent corporation" or "subsidiary corporation", as such terms are defined in Section 424(e) and (f) of the Code) exceeds US\$100,000, such excess ISOs shall be treated as non-qualified stock options.

# **11.5** Disqualifying Dispositions

Each person awarded an ISO under this Plan shall notify the Corporation in writing immediately after the date he or she makes a disposition or transfer of any Shares acquired pursuant to the exercise of such ISO if such disposition or transfer is made (a) within two years from the Date of Grant or (b) within one year after the date such person acquired the Shares. Such notice shall specify the date of such disposition or other transfer and the amount realized, in cash, other property, assumption of indebtedness or other consideration, by the person in such disposition or other transfer. The Corporation may, if determined by the Plan Administrator and in accordance with procedures established by it, retain possession of any Shares acquired pursuant to the exercise of an ISO as agent for the applicable person until the end of the later of the periods described in (a) or (b) above, subject to complying with any instructions from such person as to the sale of such Shares.

# 11.6 Section 409A of the Code

(a) This Plan will be construed and interpreted to be exempt from, or where not so exempt, to comply with Section 409A of the Code to the extent required to preserve the intended tax consequences of this Plan. Any reference in this Plan to Section 409A of the Code shall also include any regulation promulgated thereunder or any other formal guidance issued by the Internal Revenue Service with respect to Section 409A of the Code. Each Award shall be construed and administered such that the Award either (A) qualifies for an exemption from the requirements of Section 409A of the Code or (B) satisfies the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, (I) distributions shall only be made in a manner and upon an event permitted under section 409A of the Code, (II)

payments to be made upon a termination of employment or service shall only be made upon a "separation from service" under Section 409A of the Code, (III) unless the Award specifies otherwise, each installment payment shall be treated as a separate payment for purposes of Section 409A of the Code, and (IV) in no event shall a Participant, directly or indirectly, designate the calendar year in which a distribution is made except in accordance with Section 409A of the Code. To the extent that an Award or payment, or the settlement or deferral thereof, is subject to Section 409A of the Code, the Award will be granted, paid, settled or deferred in a manner that will meet the requirements of Section 409A of the Code, such that the grant, payment, settlement or deferral will not be subject to the additional tax or interest applicable under Section 409A of the Code. The Corporation reserves the right to amend this Plan to the extent it reasonably determines is necessary in order to preserve the intended tax consequences of this Plan in light of Section 409A of the Code. In no event will the Corporation or any of its subsidiaries or Affiliates be liable for any tax, interest or penalties that may be imposed on a Participant under Section 409A of the Code or any damages for failing to comply with Section 409A of the Code.

- (b) All terms of the Plan that are undefined or ambiguous must be interpreted in a manner that complies with Section 409A of the Code if necessary to comply with Section 409A of the Code.
- (c) The Plan Administrator, in its sole discretion, may permit the acceleration of the time or schedule of payment of a U.S. Taxpayer's vested Awards in the Plan under circumstances that constitute permissible acceleration events under Section 409A of the Code.
- (d) Notwithstanding any provisions of the Plan to the contrary, in the case of any "specified employee" within the meaning of Section 409A of the Code who is a U.S. Taxpayer, distributions of non-qualified deferred compensation under Section 409A of the Code made in connection with a "separation from service" within the meaning set forth in Section 409A of the Code may not be made prior to the date which is six months after the date of separation from service (or, if earlier, the date of death of the U.S. Taxpayer). Any amounts subject to a delay in payment pursuant to the preceding sentence shall be paid as soon practicable following such six-month anniversary of such separation from service.

# 11.7 Section 83(b) Election

If a Participant makes an election pursuant to Section 83(b) of the Code with respect to an Award of Shares subject to vesting or other forfeiture conditions, the Participant shall be required to promptly file a copy of such election with the Corporation.

## 11.8 Application of Article 11 to U.S. Taxpayers

For greater certainty, the provisions of this Article 11 shall only apply to U.S. Taxpayers.

## ARTICLE 12 AMENDMENT, SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF THE PLAN

## 12.1 Amendment, Suspension, or Termination of the Plan

The Plan Administrator may from time to time, without notice and without approval of the holders of voting shares of the Corporation, amend, modify, change, suspend or terminate the Plan or any Awards granted pursuant to the Plan as it, in its discretion determines appropriate, provided, however, that:

- (a) no such amendment, modification, change, suspension or termination of the Plan or any Awards granted hereunder may materially impair any rights of a Participant or materially increase any obligations of a Participant under the Plan without the consent of the Participant, unless the Plan Administrator determines such adjustment is required or desirable in order to comply with any applicable Securities Laws or Exchange requirements; and
- (b) any amendment that would cause an Award held by a U.S. Taxpayer to be subject to income inclusion under Section 409A of the Code shall be null and void ab initio with respect to the U.S. Taxpayer unless the consent of the U.S. Taxpayer is obtained.

# **12.2** Shareholder Approval

Notwithstanding Section 12.1 and subject to any rules of the Exchange, if applicable, approval of the holders of Shares shall be required for any amendment, modification or change that:

- (a) increases the percentage of Shares reserved for issuance under the Plan, except pursuant to the provisions under Article 10 which permit the Plan Administrator to make equitable adjustments in the event of transactions affecting the Corporation or its capital;
- (b) reduces the exercise price of an Option Award except pursuant to the provisions in the Plan which permit the Plan Administrator to make equitable adjustments in the event of transactions affecting the Corporation or its capital;
- (c) extends the term of an Option Award beyond the original Expiry Date (except where an Expiry Date would have fallen within a blackout period applicable to the Participant or within 10 Business Days following the expiry of such a blackout period);
- (d) permits an Option Award to be exercisable beyond 10 years from its Date of Grant (except where an Expiry Date would have fallen within a blackout period of the Corporation);
- (e) changes the eligible participants of the Plan; or
- (f) deletes or reduces the range of amendments which require approval of shareholders under this Section 12.2.

## **12.3** Permitted Amendments

Without limiting the generality of Section 12.1, but subject to Section 12.2, the Plan Administrator may, without shareholder approval, at any time or from time to time, amend the Plan for the purposes of:

- (a) making any amendments to the general vesting provisions of each Award;
- (b) making any amendments to the provisions set out in Article 9;
- (c) making any amendments to add covenants of the Corporation for the protection of Participants, as the case may be, provided that the Plan Administrator shall be of the good faith opinion that such additions will not be prejudicial to the rights or interests of the Participants, as the case may be;

- (d) making any amendments not inconsistent with the Plan as may be necessary or desirable with respect to matters or questions which, in the good faith opinion of the Plan Administrator, having in mind the best interests of the Participants, it may be expedient to make, including amendments that are desirable as a result of changes in law in any jurisdiction where a Participant resides, provided that the Plan Administrator shall be of the opinion that such amendments and modifications will not be prejudicial to the interests of the Participants and Directors; or
- (e) making such changes or corrections which, on the advice of counsel to the Corporation, are required for the purpose of curing or correcting any ambiguity or defect or inconsistent provision or clerical omission or mistake or manifest error, provided that the Plan Administrator shall be of the opinion that such changes or corrections will not be prejudicial to the rights and interests of the Participants.

# ARTICLE 13 MISCELLANEOUS

# **13.1** Legal Requirement

The Corporation is not obligated to grant any Awards, issue any Shares or other securities, make any payments or take any other action if, in the opinion of the Plan Administrator, in its sole discretion, such action would constitute a violation by a Participant or the Corporation of any provision of any applicable statutory or regulatory enactment of any government or government agency or the requirements of any Exchange upon which the Shares may then be listed, if applicable.

## **13.2** No Other Benefit

No amount will be paid to, or in respect of, a Participant under the Plan to compensate for a downward fluctuation in the price of a Share, nor will any other form of benefit be conferred upon, or in respect of, a Participant for such purpose.

## **13.3** Rights of Participant

No Participant has any claim or right to be granted an Award and the granting of any Award is not to be construed as giving a Participant a right to remain as an Employee, Consultant, Officer or Director. No Participant has any rights as a shareholder of the Corporation in respect of Shares issuable pursuant to any Award until the allotment and issuance to such Participant, or as such Participant may direct, of certificates representing such Shares.

## **13.4** Corporate Action

Nothing contained in this Plan or in an Award shall be construed so as to prevent the Corporation from taking corporate action which is deemed by the Corporation to be appropriate or in its best interest, whether or not such action would have an adverse effect on this Plan or any Award.

## 13.5 Conflict

In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Plan and an Award Agreement, the provisions of the Award Agreement shall govern. In the event of any conflict between or among the provisions of this Plan or any Award Agreement, on the one hand, and a Participant's employment agreement with the Corporation

or a subsidiary of the Corporation, as the case may be, on the other hand, the provisions of the employment agreement or other written agreement shall prevail.

# **13.6** Anti-Hedging Policy

By accepting an Award each Participant acknowledges that he or she is restricted from purchasing financial instruments such as prepaid variable forward contracts, equity swaps, collars, or units of exchange funds that are designed to hedge or offset a decrease in market value of Awards.

## **13.7** Participant Information

Each Participant shall provide the Corporation with all information (including personal information) required by the Corporation in order to administer the Plan. Each Participant acknowledges that information required by the Corporation in order to administer the Plan may be disclosed to any custodian appointed in respect of the Plan and other third parties, and may be disclosed to such persons (including persons located in jurisdictions other than the Participant's jurisdiction of residence), in connection with the administration of the Plan. Each Participant consents to such disclosure and authorizes the Corporation to make such disclosure on the Participant's behalf.

# 13.8 Participation in the Plan

The participation of any Participant in the Plan is entirely voluntary and not obligatory and shall not be interpreted as conferring upon such Participant any rights or privileges other than those rights and privileges expressly provided in the Plan. In particular, participation in the Plan does not constitute a condition of employment or engagement nor a commitment on the part of the Corporation to ensure the continued employment or engagement of such Participant. The Plan does not provide any guarantee against any loss which may result from fluctuations in the market value of the Shares. The Corporation does not assume responsibility for the income or other tax consequences for the Participants and Directors and they are advised to consult with their own tax advisors.

## **13.9** International Participants

With respect to Participants who reside or work outside Canada and the United States, the Plan Administrator may, in its sole discretion, amend, or otherwise modify, without shareholder approval, the terms of the Plan or Awards with respect to such Participants in order to conform such terms with the provisions of local law, and the Plan Administrator may, where appropriate, establish one or more sub-plans to reflect such amended or otherwise modified provisions.

## **13.10** Successors and Assigns

The Plan shall be binding on all successors and assigns of the Corporation and its subsidiaries.

# **13.11** General Restrictions or Assignment

Except as required by law, the rights of a Participant under the Plan are not capable of being assigned, transferred, alienated, sold, encumbered, pledged, mortgaged or charged and are not capable of being subject to attachment or legal process for the payment of any debts or obligations of the Participant unless otherwise approved by the Plan Administrator.

## 13.12 Severability

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of the Plan shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision and any invalid or unenforceable provision shall be severed from the Plan.

## 13.13 Notices

- (a) All written notices to be given by a Participant to the Corporation shall be delivered personally, e-mail or mail, postage prepaid, addressed as noted on the Corporation's SEDAR profile: Attention: Chief Financial Officer; and
- (b) All notices to a Participant will be addressed to the principal address of the Participant on file with the Corporation. Either the Corporation or the Participant may designate a different address by written notice to the other. Such notices are deemed to be received, if delivered personally or by e-mail, on the date of delivery, and if sent by mail, on the fifth Business Day following the date of mailing. Any notice given by either the Participant or the Corporation is not binding on the recipient thereof until received.

# 13.14 Effective Date

This Plan becomes effective on a date to be determined by the Plan Administrator, subject to the approval of the shareholders of the Corporation.

## 13.15 Governing Law

This Plan and all matters to which reference is made herein shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Province of British Columbia and the federal laws of Canada applicable therein, without any reference to conflicts of law rules.

## 13.16 Submission to Jurisdiction

The Corporation and each Participant irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of competent jurisdiction in the Province of British Columbia in respect of any action or proceeding relating in any way to the Plan, including, without limitation, with respect to the grant of Awards and any issuance of Shares made in accordance with the Plan.

## SCHEDULE A

## FOUR NINES GOLD INC. OMNIBUS EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN (THE "PLAN")

#### **ELECTION NOTICE**

All capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan.

Pursuant to the Plan, I hereby elect to participate in the grant of DSUs pursuant to Article 7 of the Plan and to receive [insert amount]% of my Cash Fees in the form of DSUs.

If I am a U.S. Taxpayer, I hereby further elect for any DSUs subject to this Election Notice to be settled on the later of (i) my "separation from service" (within the meaning of Section 409A) or (ii) \_\_\_\_\_\_.

I confirm that:

- (a) I have received and reviewed a copy of the terms of the Plan and agreed to be bound by them.
- (b) I recognize that when DSUs credited pursuant to this election are redeemed in accordance with the terms of the Plan, income tax and other withholdings as required will arise at that time. Upon redemption of the DSUs, the Corporation will make all appropriate withholdings as required by law at that time.
- (c) The value of DSUs is based on the value of the Shares of the Corporation and therefore is not guaranteed.
- (d) To the extent I am a U.S. taxpayer, I understand that this election is irrevocable for the calendar year to which it applies and that any revocation or termination of this election after the expiration of the election period will not take effect until the first day of the calendar year following the year in which I file the revocation or termination notice with the Corporation.

The foregoing is only a brief outline of certain key provisions of the Plan. For more complete information, reference should be made to the Plan's text.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Participant)

(Name of Participant)

## SCHEDULE B

## FOUR NINES GOLD INC. OMNIBUS EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN (THE "PLAN")

#### **ELECTION TO TERMINATE RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL DSUs**

All capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan.

Notwithstanding my previous election in the form of Schedule A to the Plan, I hereby elect that no portion of the Cash Fees accrued after the date hereof shall be paid in DSUs in accordance with Article 7 of the Plan.

I understand that the DSUs already granted under the Plan cannot be redeemed except in accordance with the Plan.

I confirm that I have received and reviewed a copy of the terms of the Plan and agree to be bound by them.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Participant)

(Name of Participant)

**Note:** An election to terminate receipt of additional DSUs can only be made by a Participant once in a calendar year.

## SCHEDULE C

# FOUR NINES GOLD INC. OMNIBUS EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN (THE "PLAN")

# ELECTION TO TERMINATE RECEIPT OF ADDITIONAL DSUs (U.S. TAXPAYERS)

All capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Plan.

Notwithstanding my previous election in the form of Schedule A to the Plan, I hereby elect that no portion of the Cash Fees accrued after the effective date of this termination notice shall be paid in DSUs in accordance with Article 5 of the Plan.

I understand that this election to terminate receipt of additional DSUs will not take effect until the first day of the calendar year following the year in which I file this termination notice with the Corporation.

I understand that the DSUs already granted under the Plan cannot be redeemed except in accordance with the Plan.

I confirm that I have received and reviewed a copy of the terms of the Plan and agree to be bound by them.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Participant)

(Name of Participant)

**Note:** An election to terminate receipt of additional DSUs can only be made by a Participant once in a calendar year.