

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Except where otherwise indicated, all financial information reflected herein is expressed in Canadian dollars.

This Management Discussion and Analysis (this “**MD&A**”) is dated as of May 30, 2024 and provides an overview of the financial activities of Hero innovation Group Inc. (formerly Euro Asia Pay Holdings Inc.) (“**HERO**” or the “**Company**”) for the six months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023. It should be read in conjunction with the Company’s financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, including the related notes (the “**Financial Statements**”). The Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (“**IFRS**”) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“**IASB**”).

This MD&A contains certain forward-looking information that involves risks and uncertainties, including but not limited to, those described in the “Risk Factors” section. See “Forward-Looking Information” and “Risk Factors” for a discussion of the uncertainties, risks and assumptions associated with these statements. Actual results may differ materially from those indicated or underlying forward-looking information as a result of various factors, including those described in “Risk Factors” and elsewhere in this MD&A.

### Forward Looking Information

Certain information included in this MD&A may constitute forward-looking statements. Statements included in this MD&A that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements involving known and unknown risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to vary from these statements. Forward looking statements are typically identified by the use of words and phrases such as “plans”, “expects” or “does not expect”, “is expected”, “budget”, “scheduled”, “estimates”, “forecasts”, “intends”, “anticipates”, “believes”, “possible” and similar words and phrases or statements that events, conditions or results “may”, “could”, “would”, “might”, “will be taken”, “occur” or “be achieved”. In this MD&A, forward looking statements include such statements as:

- that the Company anticipates earning additional revenue in the future and it will incur substantial expenses in the establishment of its business;
- the Company’s belief that future results will depend on factors such as partnering, regulatory regulations, the competitive environment, and the ability to obtain users in different geographical markets;
- that the Company’s growth and future success will be dependent upon its ability to secure funding to develop products, attract talented management and advisors, establish industry relationships, launch and promote its products, and generate sales;
- that the Company anticipates that its cash on hand, coupled with the proceeds from private placements, will be sufficient to satisfy the Company’s cash requirements during the next 12 months;
- that the Company will likely operate at a loss until its business becomes established and the Company may require additional financing in order to fund future operations and expansion plans;
- that the Company’s ability to secure any required financing to sustain operations will depend in part upon prevailing capital market conditions and business success; and
- that if additional financing is required and adequate funds are not available, or are not available on acceptable terms, the Company may be required to scale back its current business plan or cease operating.

Forward looking information is based upon a number of assumptions made by the Company in light of experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions, and expected future developments and is subject to a number of known and unknown risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the Company’s control, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those that are disclosed in such forward looking information. Readers are cautioned to not put undue reliance on forward-looking

information. The forward-looking statements in this MD&A are based on assumptions management believes to be reasonable, including but not limited to following:

- the Company will be able to achieve its business objectives;
- the Company will be successful in obtaining sufficient financing to carry out its plan of operations; and
- the Company will be successful in obtaining and retaining users for its products.

The forward looking information contained in this MD&A represents the expectations of the Company as of the date of this MD&A, and the Company does not undertake to update or amend such forward-looking information whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required by applicable law.

## **Overview**

The Company was incorporated in British Columbia on October 16, 2017. The head office and principal place of business of the Company is located at 170 – 422 Richards Street, Vancouver, British Columbia. HERO is in the business of delivering innovative financial solutions for the next generation of consumers. The Company's solutions tackle the lack of financial products exclusively designed to promote financial literacy among kids and teens.

HERO has developed a powerful dynamic platform that acts as the heart of all its technology. Extensive integrations with partners combined with its own proprietary development have resulted in a back-end that can be adapted to fit any variety of product needs, giving the expected user experience to customers.

HERO delivers a distinctive service to the international student market with SideKick™, a mobile payment solution that HERO believes addresses many of the problems parents of international students face. This turnkey solution allows parents to send, monitor and control funds for their children while they are studying in Canada. With SideKick™, students have added budgeting tools and resources to make the move to Canada and transition into adulthood more manageable and enjoyable.

On February 25, 2021, the Company completed its initial public offering and its common shares were listed for trading on the Canadian Securities Exchange.

## **Recent Developments**

In January 2022, HERO announced that the Company has partnered with i2c Inc., a leading digital payments and banking technology provider, to establish a footprint for Hero Financials, HERO's latest product, in the United States.

In April 2022, HERO announced that the Company had entered into an agreement with Discover® Global Network to power the Hero Financials product in the United States. Pursuant to the agreement, HERO and Discover will facilitate joint programs via issuers of prepaid cards in the U.S. for acceptance on the Discover Network.

Later that month, the Company announced the entry into a partnership with PrepAnywhere, a K-12 edtech platform specializing in mathematics tutoring. The relationship allows new users of HERO's solutions to benefit from PrepAnywhere's premium plan upon signing up for either a Hero Financials or SideKick Card package at no extra cost for a period of six months. After the six-month period, HERO will receive a commission from users referred by HERO.

In May 2022, HERO announced that its signature product, SideKick™, was named 'Service Provider of the Year' at the 2nd ST Secondary Awards. The awards, organized by Study Travel Network, honour outstanding contributions to the high school education sector from schools, service providers, agencies and associations worldwide.

In August 2022, HERO expanded the market reach of its core technology to also support Canadian parents and their children with a new product, called Hero Financials. Hero Financials is a full-service alternative-to-banking solution, with highly customized products addressing the unmet financial needs of Canadian kids, youth and their parents, such as parent-controlled deposit accounts, budget tools, and access to a physical card.

With the introduction of Hero Financials to the Canadian market, the Company will be able to deliver access to a highly convenient and intuitive tool facilitating financial literacy among children and teenagers, with direct control and involvement from their parents. Hero Financials creates opportunities for Canadian youth to further exercise financial responsibility while providing parents the ability to teach, monitor and track their child's finances.

## Outlook

HERO is working on expanding SideKick's reach into the United States, with other international markets to follow, significantly increasing its total addressable market to over 70 million people.

## Financial Position

The following table presents selected financial information of the Company's operations for the three and six months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023.

|                            | Three months ended |                   | Six months ended  |                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                            | March 31,<br>2024  | March 31,<br>2023 | March 31,<br>2024 | March 31,<br>2023 |
| <b>REVENUE</b>             | \$ 32,116          | \$ 36,099         | \$ 69,381         | \$ 76,209         |
| <b>COST OF REVENUE</b>     | 7,006              | 7,354             | 14,747            | 15,668            |
| <b>GROSS PROFIT</b>        | 25,110             | 28,745            | 54,634            | 60,541            |
| <b>OPERATING EXPENSE</b>   |                    |                   |                   |                   |
| Consulting fees            | -                  | 13,000            | 6,000             | 50,298            |
| Depreciation               | 705                | 696               | 1,417             | 1,380             |
| General and administrative | 81,145             | 272,644           | 152,298           | 502,267           |
| Marketing                  | 73,244             | 114,756           | 149,757           | 339,040           |
| Professional fees          | 6,268              | 19,147            | 9,718             | 46,762            |
| Research and development   | 16,085             | 266,789           | 38,968            | 602,223           |
| Share-based payments       | -                  | 497,189           | -                 | 497,189           |
| Total Operating Expenses   | 177,447            | 1,184,221         | 358,158           | 2,039,159         |
| <b>OTHER ITEM</b>          |                    |                   |                   |                   |
| Interest income            | -                  | 1,020             | 162               | 1,109             |
| Interest expense           | (125,224)          | (86,307)          | (250,416)         | (148,612)         |
| Other income               | (1,475)            | 1,115             | (3,375)           | 1,115             |

|  |                     |                |                     |                |
|--|---------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Total Other Item   | <b>(126,699)</b>    | (84,172)       | <b>(253,629)</b>    | (146,388)      |
| <b>NET LOSS AND COMPREHENSIVE LOSS</b>                       |                     |                |                     |                |
|  | <b>\$ (279,036)</b> | \$ (1,239,648) | <b>\$ (557,153)</b> | \$ (2,125,006) |
| <b>WEIGHTED AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMMON SHARES OUTSTANDING:</b> |                     |                |                     |                |
| <b>BASIC</b>   | <b>73,709,435</b>   | 73,709,435     | <b>73,709,435</b>   | 73,709,435     |
| <b>DILUTED</b>   | <b>73,709,435</b>   | 73,709,435     | <b>73,709,435</b>   | 73,709,435     |
| <b>NET LOSS PER SHARE</b>                                    | <b>\$ (0.01)</b>    | \$ (0.02)      | <b>\$ (0.01)</b>    | \$ (0.03)      |

Since inception, the Company has a limited history of operations, and HERO only began generating revenue during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2020. The Company generates revenue from its SideKick™ product which began its soft launch in July 2020 and earned total revenues of \$32,116 during the three months ended March 31, 2024. The Company also generates other miscellaneous income from interest earned on excess cash. The ability to generate future revenue depends on the successful development of the Company's products and ability to attract and retain users for such products. Although the Company anticipates earning additional revenue in the future, it will also incur substantial expenses in the establishment of its business. To the extent that such expenses do not result in revenue gains that are adequate to sustain and expand its business, the Company's long-term viability may be materially and adversely affected.

The Company's expenses primarily relate to marketing, research and development, professional fees, and consulting fees. Future operating results will depend on many factors, including partnering, regulatory regulations, the competitive environment, and the ability to obtain users in different geographical markets. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to implement its strategic business plans in the timeframes estimated by management. The Company's growth and future success will be dependent upon its ability to secure funding to develop products, attract talented management and advisors, establish industry relationships, launch and promote its products, and generate sales.

Operating expenses of \$177,447 and a net loss of \$279,036 were incurred during the three months ended March 31, 2024, and these expenses are reflective of an early-stage company, technology research and development, and securing funds. Future operating results will depend on many factors, including partnering, regulatory regulations, the competitive environment, and the ability to obtain users in different geographical markets. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to implement its strategic business plans in the timeframes estimated by management. The Company's growth and future success will be dependent upon its ability to secure funding to develop products, attract talented management and advisors, establish industry relationships, launch and promote its products, and generate sales.

The Company engages consultants regularly to obtain expertise in various business areas including but not limited to marketing, technology, finance, and administrative services. For the three months ended March 31, 2024, the Company incurred consulting expenses of \$ nil (2023 - \$13,000).

For the three months ended March 31, 2024, there was \$705 (2023 - \$696) in expenses related to the depreciation of the Company's tangible assets.

General and administrative expenses primarily consist of employee salaries and office supplies. For the three months ended March 31, 2024, the Company incurred general and administrative expenses of

\$81,145 (2023 - \$272,644). The decrease was mainly due to the cost reduction measures taken by the company.

Marketing expenses are related to the Company's activities in promoting its mobile application. For the three months ended March 31, 2024, the Company incurred marketing expenses of \$73,244 (2023 - \$114,756). The decrease was mainly related to the decrease in the expenses related to marketing consultants, conferences and online advertising.

Professional fees are primarily related to legal, accounting and audit services. For the three months ended March 31, 2024, the Company incurred professional fees of \$6,268 (2023 - \$19,147). The decrease was mainly related to the decrease in legal fees.

Research and development expenses are related to the development of the Company's SideKick™ and Hero Financials product. For the three months ended March 31, 2024, the Company incurred research and development expenses of \$16,085 (2023 - \$266,789). The decrease was mainly related to the company's realignment of its strategy with its Hero Financials product.

### Summary of Quarterly Results

The following table summarizes the Company's quarterly results.

| Quarters Ended     | Revenue<br>\$ | Net loss<br>\$ | Basic and<br>diluted loss per<br>share<br>\$ |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|--|
| June 30, 2022      | 29,176        | 1,031,119      | 0.01   |
| September 30, 2022 | 42,054        | 990,936        | 0.01   |
| December 31, 2022  | 40,110        | 885,358        | 0.01   |
| March 31, 2023     | 36,099        | 1,239,648      | 0.02   |
| June 30, 2023      | 46,016        | 563,439        | 0.01   |
| September 30, 2023 | 60,067        | 710,357        | 0.01   |
| December 31, 2023  | 37,265        | 278,117        | 0.01   |
| March 31, 2024     | 32,116        | 279,036        | 0.01   |

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

The following table presents selected financial information of the Company's working capital at March 31, 2024 and September 30, 2023.

|                                   | March 31, 2024     | September 30, 2023 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents         | \$ 178,094         | \$ 193,389         |
| Receivables                       | 38,110             | 62,057             |
| Prepaid expenses                  | 127,386            | 399,923            |
| <b>Total current assets</b>       | <b>343,590</b>     | <b>655,369</b>     |
| <b>Total current liabilities</b>  | <b>(5,732,031)</b> | <b>(5,508,073)</b> |
| <b>Working capital deficiency</b> | <b>(5,388,441)</b> | <b>(4,852,704)</b> |

As at March 31, 2024, cash on hand was \$178,094 and working capital deficiency was \$5,388,441, as compared to cash on hand of \$193,389 and working capital deficiency of \$4,852,704 at September 30,

2023. The Company defines working capital as current assets minus current liabilities. Working capital measures are used to evaluate the performance of the Company's operations and the ability to meet financial obligations. As at March 31, 2024, the Company had current assets of \$343,590 and current liabilities of \$5,732,031, as compared to \$655,369 in current assets and \$5,508,073 in current liabilities at September 30, 2023.

As the Company does not generate significant funds from operations, it is primarily reliant upon the sale of equity securities in order to fund operations. Since inception, the Company has funded operations through the issuance of equity securities on a private placement basis. This has permitted the Company to pay for initial development costs for its SideKick™ and Hero Financials product, pay consulting fees and marketing costs.

The Company will likely operate at a loss until its business becomes established and the Company will require additional financing in order to fund future operations and expansion plans. The Company's ability to secure any required financing to sustain operations will depend in part upon prevailing capital market conditions and business success. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in its efforts to secure any additional financing or additional financing on terms satisfactory to management. If additional financing is raised by issuing additional securities from treasury, shareholders may suffer dilution. If adequate funds are not available, or are not available on acceptable terms, the Company may be required to scale back its current business plan or cease operating.

### Contractual Obligations

There are no material contractual obligations as at March 31, 2024 or the date of this MD&A.

### Stock Options

Pursuant to the Company's stock option plan, directors of the Company may, from time to time, authorize the issuance of stock options to directors, officers, employees, and consultants of the Company. The terms of the granted options as well as the vesting conditions are at the sole discretion of the directors.

During the three months ended March 31, 2024, the Company recorded \$ nil (2023 - \$497,189) in share-based payments related to the vesting of stock options granted.

Continuity schedule of the incentive stock options is as follows:

|                                 |             |    |      |
|---------------------------------|-------------|----|------|
| Outstanding, September 30, 2022 | 4,425,000   | \$ | 0.19 |
| Granted                         | 2,800,000   |    | 0.18 |
| Cancelled                       | (3,375,000) |    |      |
| Outstanding, September 30, 2023 | 3,850,000   |    | 0.19 |
| Granted                         | -           |    | -    |
| Cancelled                       | (75,000)    |    | -    |
| Outstanding, March 31, 2024     | 3,775,000   | \$ | 0.19 |

Additional information regarding stock options outstanding as at March 31, 2024 is as follows:

| Expiry date       | Exercise Price | Weighted average remaining contractual life | Number of options outstanding | Number of options vested (exercisable) |
|-------------------|----------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| August 23, 2024   | 0.18           | 0.40 years                                  | 200,000                       | 200,000                                |
| December 2, 2024  | 0.18           | 0.68 years                                  | 200,000                       | 200,000                                |
| February 28, 2025 | 0.18           | 0.92 years                                  | 30,000                        | 30,000                                 |
| June 26, 2025     | 0.18           | 1.24 years                                  | 400,000                       | 400,000                                |

|                  |             |                   |                  |                  |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| August 4, 2026   | 0.26        | 2.35 years        | 695,000          | 695,000          |
| April 29, 2027   | 0.15        | 3.08 years        | 600,000          | 600,000          |
| February 7, 2028 | 0.18        | 3.86 years        | 1,650,000        | 1,650,000        |
|                  | <b>0.19</b> | <b>2.81 years</b> | <b>3,775,000</b> | <b>3,775,000</b> |

### Outstanding Security Data

As of March 31, 2024, and the date of this MD&A, the Company's authorized capital consists of an unlimited number of common shares without par value, of which 73,709,435 were issued and outstanding.

### Transactions with Related Parties

#### (a) Key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling activities of the Company. The key management personnel of the Company are the members of the Company's executive management team and the board of directors. During the three months ended March 31, 2024 and 2023, compensation of key management personnel was as follows:

|                          | <b>March 31,<br/>2024</b> | March 31,<br>2023 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
|                          | <b>\$</b>                 | <b>\$</b>         |
| Short-term benefits      | <b>39,725</b>             | 48,167            |
| Share based compensation | -                         | 106,540           |
|                          | <b>39,725</b>             | 154,707           |

As of March 31, 2024, the Company owes \$80,325 (2023 - \$5,250) to key management personnel which is unsecured, non-interest bearing and due on demand.

#### (b) Transactions with other related parties

During the three months ended March 31, 2024, the Company entered into two loan agreements with a company related to a director of the Company (the "Lender"). Under the agreements, the Company received total loans of \$90,000 which are unsecured, interest bearing at a rate of 18% per annum and mature in June 2024 and June 2025. For the three months ended March 31, 2024, the Company has accrued interest expense of \$125,616 related to the series of related party loans.

On December 13, 2022, the Company amended a series of loans with the Lender entered on February 8, 2022, February 24, 2022, March 8, 2022, March 31, 2022, April 6, 2022, April 27, 2022, May 11, 2022, May 26, 2022, June 16, 2022, June 30, 2022, July 21, 2022, August 10, 2022, August 23, 2022, September 21, 2022, and October 20, 2022 (collectively, the "Loan Agreements"), with an aggregate principal amount of \$2,400,000 (collectively, the "Loan").

The Company and the Lender agreed to amend the terms of the Loan Agreements to provide for the convertibility of the Loan and any accrued and unpaid interest thereon into units of the Company (each, a "Conversion Unit") at a conversion price of \$0.08 per Conversion Unit. Each Conversion Unit will consist of one common share (each, a "Share") in the capital of the Company and one Share purchase warrants (each, a "Warrant"), with each Warrant entitling the holder to acquire one additional Share at a price of \$0.45 per Share for a period of 24 months from the date of issuance.

## **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company does not currently have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a material current or future adverse effect on its financial condition, revenue or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

## **Risk Factors**

The Company's financial instruments are exposed to a variety of financial risks, which periodically include credit risk, liquidity risk, market risk, foreign exchange risk and interest rate risk which could impact results of operations and financial position.

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The Company's primary exposure to credit risk is on its cash and cash equivalents. The Company manages its credit risk relating to cash and cash equivalents through the use of a major financial institution which has a high credit quality as determined by rating agencies. The Company assesses credit risk as low.

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Company's liquidity and operating results may be adversely affected if its access to the capital market is hindered. The Company has nominal sources of revenue and has obligations to meet its administrative overheads and to settle amounts payable to its creditors. The Company has been successful in raising equity financing; however, there is no assurance that it will be able to do so in the future. The Company assesses liquidity risk as high.

Market risk is the risk of loss that may arise from changes in market factors such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates, and commodity and equity prices.

Foreign exchange risk is the risk that the Company's financial instruments will fluctuate in value as a result of movements in foreign exchange rates. The Company is not exposed to any significant foreign exchange risk.

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Company's cash and cash equivalents consist of cash held in bank accounts and redeemable short-term investment certificates. The Company is not exposed to significant interest rate risk.

## **Financial Risk Management**

Financial instruments are measured at fair value on the statement of financial position and are summarized into the following fair value hierarchy levels: Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

The Company has exposure to credit risk, liquidity risk, and market risk. The significant financial risk management policies of the Company are described in the Financial Statements.

## **Critical Accounting Policies, Estimates and Judgments**

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make estimates, assumptions and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during

the reporting period. Actual results may differ from those estimates. Estimates and assumptions are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The significant accounting policies of the Company are described in the Financial Statements. These critical judgments, estimates and assumptions in applying the Company's accounting policies could result in a material effect on actual results.

### **Accounting Standards Issued but Not Yet Effective**

The Company did not elect to adopt early any new IFRS standards or amendments to IFRS standards which have effective dates in future fiscal years.

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

### **Subsequent Events**

During the period April to May 2024, the Company entered into a loan agreement with a company related to a director of the Company. Under the agreement, the Company received loans of \$85,000, which are unsecured, interest bearing at a rate of 18% per annum and mature in June 2025.

Effective April 1, the Company announced that it has appointed Ze Xin Chen as the Chief Executive Officer in place of Mao Sun, who has stepped down as Chief Executive Officer. Mao Sun will continue to act as a director. David Strebinger has resigned as a director. The Company would like to thank Mr. Strebinger for his many contributions to the Company.