

# **First Quarter Report 2018**

**Management's Discussion & Analysis** 

For the Three Months Ended March 31, 2018 and 2017

#### **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") for Imperial Metals Corporation ("Imperial", the "Company", "we", "us" or "our") should be read in conjunction with the unaudited Condensed Consolidated Interim Financial Statements for the three months ended March 31, 2018 including the notes thereto ("the Interim Financial Statements"), as well as the audited Consolidated Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for the year ended December 31, 2017. This MD&A contains statements that may be considered forward-looking information, and therefore investors are directed to review section "Forward-Looking Statements and Risks Notice" within this MD&A.

The Interim Financial Statements and comparative information have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), including International Accounting Standard 34, Interim Financial Reporting.

The reporting currency of the Company is the Canadian ("CDN") Dollar.

Imperial is a Canadian mining company active in the acquisition, exploration, development, mining and production of base and precious metals. The Company, through its subsidiaries, owns the Red Chris, Mount Polley and Huckleberry copper mines in British Columbia. Imperial also holds a 50% interest in the Ruddock Creek lead/zinc property in British Columbia. Imperial has interests in various other early stage exploration properties, however exploration is currently focused at existing mining operations. The Company also continues to evaluate potential acquisitions.

Imperial's principal business registered and records office address is Suite 200, 580 Hornby Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6C 3B6 Canada. The Company was incorporated under the British Columbia *Company Act*, which was superseded by the British Columbia *Business Corporations Act*, on December 6, 2001 under the name IMI Imperial Metals Inc. Imperial changed its name to Imperial Metals Corporation on April 10, 2002.

The Company is listed on The Toronto Stock Exchange and its shares trade under symbol III. As at May 10, 2018, the Company had 117,675,160 common shares outstanding, and on a diluted basis 134,393,472 common shares outstanding.

Additional Company disclosure can be obtained from imperialmetals.com or sedar.com.

## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AND LIQUIDITY

The Company's Interim Financial Statements have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes the Company will continue operating in the foreseeable future and will be able to realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course as they come due.

Cash balances on hand, the projected cash flow from the Red Chris and Mount Polley mines, as well as the available credit facilities are expected to be sufficient to fund the working capital deficiency and the Company's obligations as they come due assuming the Company is able to successfully extend or refinance the Senior Credit Facility and the Second Lien Credit Facility prior to their maturity in the fourth quarter of 2018 and the Senior Unsecured Notes which mature in the first quarter of 2019. In addition, there are inherent risks related to the operation of the Company's mines which could require additional sources of financing. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to successfully extend or renegotiate this debt, and that adequate additional financing will be available on terms acceptable to the Company or at all, which creates a material uncertainty that could have an adverse impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations and may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

On April 28, 2017 the acquisition of Huckleberry Mines Ltd. ("Huckleberry") closed with Huckleberry becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Huckleberry exercised its right of first refusal to purchase for cancellation all the shares of Huckleberry held by a syndicate of Japanese companies in exchange for cash consideration of \$2.0 million.

On May 30, 2017, the Company completed the sale of the Sterling gold mine property and related assets.

During the latter half of 2017 the Company completed a number of transactions to improve liquidity. These included a rights offering for net proceeds of approximately \$42.3 million, a private placement for gross proceeds of \$5.0 million, amendment of the financial covenants and extension of maturities for both the Senior Credit Facility and Second Lien Credit Facility to October 1, 2018 and December 1, 2018, respectively, and entered into a \$26.0 million bridge loan financing ("Bridge Loan").

On January 5, 2018, the Company issued 2,353,274 common shares in payment of \$6.2 million of interest due on December 31, 2017 for certain debt facilities.

On April 4, 2018, the Company issued 816,414 common shares in payment of \$1.8 million of interest due on March 31, 2018 for the Junior Credit Facility.

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The Company's significant accounting policies are presented in the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2017. The following outlines the new accounting policies adopted by the Company effective January 1, 2018 and those new standards and interpretations not yet adopted by the Company.

#### **ADOPTION OF NEW ACCOUNTING STANDARDS**

The Company applies, for the first time, *IFRS 15, Revenue from Contracts with Customers* and *IFRS 9, Financial Instruments* that require restatement of previous financial statements. As required by IAS 34, the nature and effect of these changes are disclosed below.

## IFRS 15, Revenue from Contracts with Customers

IFRS 15 supersedes IAS 11 Construction Contracts, IAS 18 Revenue and related Interpretations and it applies to all revenue arising from contracts with customers, unless those contracts are in the scope of other standards.

Under IFRS 15, revenue is recognized at an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. The new standard establishes a five-step model to account for revenue arising from contracts with customers. The standard requires entities to exercise judgement, taking into consideration all of the relevant facts and circumstances when applying each step of the model to contracts with their customers. The five steps are to identify the contract(s) with the customer, identify the performance obligations in the contract, determine the transaction price, allocate the transaction price to each performance obligation and recognize revenue as each performance obligation is satisfied.

IFRS 15 also requires enhanced disclosures about revenue to help users better understand the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows from contracts with customers.

The Company adopted IFRS 15 using the full retrospective method of adoption.

The Company has concluded that revenue from the sale of concentrate should be recognized at the point in time when control of the concentrate passes to the customer which generally occurs when title transfers to the customer and on the date of shipment.

Based on management's analysis, the timing and amount of our revenue from product sales did not change under IFRS 15.

## IFRS 9, Financial Instruments

IFRS 9, Financial Instruments ("IFRS 9") replaced IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement ("IAS 39"). IFRS 9 uses a single approach to determine whether a financial asset is measured at amortized cost or fair value, replacing the multiple rules in IAS 39. The approach in IFRS 9 is based on how an entity manages its financial instruments in the context of its business model and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. Most of the requirements in IAS 39 for classification and measurement of financial liabilities were carried forward unchanged to IFRS 9, except that an entity choosing to measure a financial liability at fair value will present the portion of any change in its fair value due to changes in the entity's own credit risk in other comprehensive income, rather than within profit or loss. The new standard also requires a single impairment method to be used, replacing the multiple impairment methods in IAS 39.

We have assessed the classification and measurement of our financial assets and financial liabilities under IFRS 9 and concluded that the adoption of IFRS 9 did not affect the current classification of Company's financial assets and financial liabilities.

The Company has determined that the new measurement requirements under IFRS 9 have impact on the certain financial liabilities (debt) held by the Company as a result of modification to those debt instruments. Under IFRS 9, when the contractual cash flows of a financial liability are renegotiated or otherwise modified and the renegotiation or modification does not result in the de-recognition of that financial liability, the Company recalculates the gross carrying amount of the financial liability and recognizes a modification gain or loss in the statement of income (loss). Previously, under IAS 39, the Company did not recognize a gain or loss at the date of modification of a financial liability.

Based on management's detailed review and analysis the effect of adopting of IFRS 9 had trivial effect on the opening retained earnings as at January 1, 2018.

#### Amendments to IFRS 2 Classification and Measurement of Share-based Payment Transaction

The IASB issued amendments to IFRS 2 Share-based Payment that address three main areas: the effects of vesting conditions on the measurement of a cash-settled share-based payment transaction; the classification of a share-based payment transaction with net settlement features for withholding tax obligations; and accounting where a modification to the terms and conditions of a share-based payment transaction changes its classification from cash settled to equity settled. On adoption, entities are required to apply the amendments without restating prior periods, but retrospective application is permitted if elected for all three amendments and other criteria are met. The Company has no share-based payment transactions with net settlement features for withholding tax obligations and therefore, these amendments do not have any impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

#### **QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **FINANCIAL**

Revenues increased to \$117.9 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to \$115.7 million in the 2017 comparative quarter, an increase of \$2.2 million or 1.9%.

Revenue from the Red Chris mine in the March 2018 quarter was \$81.9 million compared to \$54.6 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. This increase was attributable to a higher quantity of copper concentrate sold along with higher copper prices compared to the 2017 quarter.

Revenue from the Mount Polley mine in the March 2018 quarter was \$36.0 million compared to \$61.0 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. The decrease was attributable to a lower quantity of copper concentrate sold.

In the March 2018 quarter, there were 4.0 concentrate shipments from Red Chris mine (2017-3.0 concentrate shipments) and 1.0 concentrate shipment from Mount Polley mine (2017-1.7 concentrate shipments). Variations in revenue are impacted by the timing and quantity of concentrate shipments, metal prices and exchange rates, and period end revaluations of revenue attributed to concentrate shipments where copper and gold prices will settle at a future date.

The London Metals Exchange cash settlement copper price per pound averaged US\$3.16 in the March 2018 quarter compared to US\$2.65 in the 2017 comparative quarter. The London Metals Exchange cash settlement gold price per troy ounce averaged US\$1,329 in the March 2018 quarter compared to US\$1,219 in the March 2017 quarter. The average CDN/US\$ Dollar exchange rate was 1.265 in the March 2018 quarter, 4.38% lower than the exchange rate of 1.323 in the March 2017 quarter. In CDN dollar terms the average copper price in the March 2018 quarter was CDN\$4.00 per pound compared to CDN\$3.51 per pound in the 2017 comparative quarter and the average gold price in the March 2018 quarter was CDN\$1,681 per ounce compared to CDN\$1,613 per ounce in the 2017 comparative quarter.

Revenue in the March 2018 quarter decreased by \$5.6 million negative revenue revaluation compared to a \$5.1 million positive revenue revaluation in the 2017 comparative quarter. Revenue revaluations are the result of the copper price on the settlement date and/or the current period balance sheet date being higher or lower than when the revenue was initially recorded or the copper price at the last balance sheet date.

Net loss for the March 2018 quarter was \$16.2 million (\$0.14 per share) compared to net loss of \$18.8 million (\$0.20 per share) in the 2017 comparative quarter. The decrease in net loss of \$2.6 million was primarily due to the following factors:

- Income/loss from mine operations went from a loss of \$5.7 million in March 2017 to income of \$17.6 million in March 2018, a decrease in net loss of \$23.3 million.
- Interest expense went from \$18.2 million in March 2017 to \$19.0 million in March 2018, an increase in net loss of \$0.8 million.
- Foreign exchange gains/losses on current and non-current debt went from a gain of \$3.4 million in March 2017 to a loss of \$11.4 million in March 2018, an increase in net loss of \$14.8 million.
- The Company's equity loss in Huckleberry went from loss of \$1.6 million in March 2017 to \$nil in March 2018, a decrease in net loss of \$1.6 million.
- Idle mine costs went from \$nil in March 2017 to \$1.4 million in March 2018, an increase in net loss of \$1.4 million.
- Tax position went from a recovery of \$5.0 million in March 2017 to \$nil in March 2018, an increase in net loss of \$5.0 million.

The March 2018 quarter net loss included foreign exchange loss related to changes in CDN/US Dollar exchange rate of \$11.8 million compared to foreign exchange gain of \$3.1 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. The \$11.8 million foreign exchange loss is comprised of an \$11.3 million loss on the senior notes, a \$0.1 million loss on long term equipment loans, and a \$0.4 million loss on operational items. The average CDN/US Dollar exchange rate in the March 2018 quarter was 1.265 compared to an average of 1.323 in the 2017 comparative quarter.

Cash flow was \$36.0 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to cash flow of \$15.1 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. Cash flow is a measure used by the Company to evaluate its performance, however, it is not a term recognized under IFRS. The Company believes Cash flow is useful to investors and it is one of the measures used by management to assess the financial performance of the Company.

Capital expenditures were \$9.1 million in the March 2018 quarter, down from \$24.0 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. The March 2018 expenditures included \$1.8 million for tailings dam construction, \$5.0 million on mobile equipment and \$2.3 million for other capital items. The 2017 quarter included \$7.2 million of mobile equipment purchases as well as higher costs for tailings dam construction and other capital items.

#### **OPERATIONS**

Metal production target ranges from Red Chris mine and Mount Polley mine for 2018 are 89-96 million pounds copper and 75-80 thousand ounces gold. At March 31, 2018, the Company has not hedged any copper, gold or CDN/US Dollar exchange. Quarterly revenues will fluctuate depending on copper and gold prices, the CDN/US Dollar exchange rate, and the timing of concentrate sales, which is dependent on concentrate production and the availability and scheduling of transportation.

#### **Red Chris Mine**

Metal production for the March 2018 quarter was 19.7 million pounds copper and 12,215 ounces gold, up 21% and 110% respectively from the 2017 comparative quarter.

Copper recoveries were lower for the March 2018 quarter than the last quarter of 2017, as more high clay ore was found in the mineralized fault in the lower benches of the phase 3 pushback. Diagnostic and modelling work is underway to identify the extent of this zone, and whether special processing of these high clay zones may yield better recovery. The gold recovery improved significantly (about 26%) on higher gold grade.

Five haul trucks from the Huckleberry mine are now in operation at Red Chris, and a new electric shovel is expected to arrive on site by mid-year. This equipment will enable an increased mining rate, and access to deeper higher grade ore.

Mining in the phase 3 pushback in the Main zone pit was completed. Mill feed for the remainder of 2018 will come from the phase 4 pushback of the Main zone.

Red Chris Production	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2018	2017
Ore milled - tonnes	2,590,490	2,403,501
Ore milled per calendar day - tonnes	28,783	26,706
Grade % - copper	0.447	0.388
Grade g/t - gold	0.310	0.201
Recovery % - copper	77.22	79.49
Recovery % - gold	47.37	37.43
Copper – 000's pounds	19,725	16,328
Gold – ounces	12,215	5,811
Silver – ounces	34,881	27,952

Exploration, development and capital expenditures were \$4.9 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to \$11.0 million in the comparative 2017 quarter.

## **Mount Polley Mine**

Metal production for the March 2018 quarter was 5.4 million pounds copper and 12,280 ounces gold, down 1.6% and 11% respectively from the 2017 comparative quarter.

Compared to the 2017 fourth quarter, metal recoveries in the March 2018 quarter increased, with copper recovery at 75.67% compared to 56.77% and gold recovery at 73.75% compared to 62.47%. Throughput in the March 2018 quarter was 17,917 tonnes per day compared to 19,635 tonnes per day in 2017 fourth quarter. The decrease was the result of milling a greater proportion of harder but less oxidized ore from the lower benches of the Cariboo pit. Dredging of tailings from the Springer pit began this quarter.

Mount Polley Production	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2018	2017
Ore milled - tonnes	1,612,486	1,692,762
Ore milled per calendar day - tonnes	17,917	18,808
Grade % - copper	0.200	0.205
Grade g/t - gold	0.321	0.355
Recovery % - copper	75.67	71.29
Recovery % - gold	73.75	71.55
Copper – 000's pounds	5,372	5,461
Gold – ounces	12,280	13,811
Silver – ounces	8,965	10,877

Exploration, development and capital expenditures were \$4.2 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to 13.0 million in the comparative 2017 quarter.

The collective agreement with the unionized workforce at the Mount Polley mine expired on December 31, 2017. Since late 2017 the Company has been in the process of negotiating a new contract. On May 7, 2018 the Company served the Union with 72 hour lockout notice. After expiry of the 72 hour period the Company will have the legal right to lockout the employees at a date and time of the Company's choosing.

## **Huckleberry Mine**

On April 28, 2017 the Company became the sole owner of Huckleberry by virtue of Huckleberry exercising its right of first refusal to purchase for cancellation all the shares of Huckleberry held by a syndicate of Japanese companies in exchange for cash consideration of \$2.0 million. Huckleberry became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company on that date. The mine is currently on care and maintenance.

For the quarter ending March 31, 2018, Huckleberry incurred idle mine costs comprised of \$1.0 million in operating costs and \$0.4 million in depreciation expense.

## **EARNINGS AND CASH FLOW**

## **Select Quarter Financial Information**

expressed in thousands, except share and per share amounts	Three Months	Ended March 31
	2018	2017
Total revenues	\$117,912	\$115,749
Net loss	\$16,166	\$18,752
Net loss per share	\$0.14	\$0.20
Diluted loss per share	\$0.14	\$0.20
Adjusted net loss (1)	\$4,754	\$22,296
Adjusted net loss per share (1)	\$0.04	\$0.24
Adjusted EBITDA <sup>(1)</sup>	\$36,392	\$15,187
Working capital deficiency	\$743,096	\$214,646
Total assets	\$1,662,528	\$1,511,120
Total debt (including current portion)	\$829,698	\$846,067
Cash flow (1)(2)	\$35,958	\$15,065
Cash flow per share (1)(2)	\$0.31	\$0.16

<sup>(1)</sup> Refer to table under heading Non-IFRS Financial Measures for further details.

## Select Items Affecting Net Loss (presented on an after-tax basis)

expressed in thousands	Three Months En	ded March 31
	2018	2017
Net income (loss) before undernoted items	\$9,105	\$(7,076)
Interest expense	(13,864)	(13,437)
Foreign exchange gain (loss) on debt	(11,407)	3,350
Share of loss in Huckleberry	-	(1,589)
Net loss	\$(16,166)	\$(18,752)

<sup>(2)</sup> Cash flow is defined as the cash flow from operations before the net change in non-cash working capital balances, income and mining taxes, and interest paid. Cash flow per share is defined as Cash flow divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period.

#### **NON-IFRS FINANCIAL MEASURES**

The Company reports four non-IFRS financial measures: Adjusted net income, adjusted EBITDA, cash flow and cash cost per pound of copper produced which are described in detail below. The Company believes these measures are useful to investors because they are included in the measures that are used by management in assessing the financial performance of the Company.

Adjusted net income, adjusted EBITDA, and cash flow are not generally accepted earnings measures and should not be considered as an alternative to net income (loss) and cash flows as determined in accordance with IFRS. As there is no standardized method of calculating these measures, these measures may not be directly comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies. Reconciliations are provided below.

## **Adjusted Net Loss and Adjusted Net Loss Per Share**

Adjusted net loss in the March 2018 quarter was \$4.8 million (\$0.04 per share) compared to an adjusted net loss of \$22.3 million (\$0.24 per share) in the 2017 comparative quarter. Adjusted net loss reflects the financial results excluding the effect of items not settling in the current period and non-recurring items. Adjusted net loss is calculated by removing the gains or losses, resulting from mark to market revaluation of derivative instruments, net of tax, unrealized foreign exchange gains or losses on non-current debt, net of tax and other adjustments as further detailed in the following table.

#### **Calculation of Adjusted Net Loss**

expressed in thousands, except share and per share amounts	Three Months En	ded March 31
	2018	2017
Net loss reported	\$(16,166)	\$(18,752)
Unrealized foreign exchange (gain) loss on non-current debt, net of tax (a)	11,412	(3,544)
Adjusted net loss	\$(4,754)	\$(22,296)
Basic weighted average number of common shares outstanding	116,858,528	93,586,710
Adjusted net loss per share	\$(0.04)	\$(0.24)

(a) Non-current debt is recorded on the Company's Statement of Financial Position at the foreign exchange rate in effect on that date, with changes in foreign exchange rates, net of taxes, flowing through net income. The amounts of non-current debt ultimately payable may be materially different than reflected in the financial statements due to foreign currency movements. Tax recoveries on unrealized capital losses are recorded only to the extent that they are expected to be realized by offset against available capital gains.

## **Adjusted EBITDA**

Adjusted EBITDA in the March 2018 quarter was \$36.4 million compared to \$15.2 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. We define Adjusted EBITDA as net income (loss) before interest expense, taxes, depletion and depreciation, and as adjusted for certain other items described in the reconciliation table below.

Adjusted EBITDA is not necessarily comparable to similarly titled measures used by other companies. We believe that the presentation of Adjusted EBITDA is appropriate to provide additional information to investors about certain non-cash or unusual items that we do not expect to continue at the same level in the future, or other items that we do not believe to be reflective of our ongoing operating performance. We further believe that our presentation of this non-IFRS financial measure provides information that is useful to investors because it is an important indicator of our operations and the performance of our core business.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a measurement of operating performance or liquidity under IFRS and should not be considered as a substitute for earnings from operations, net income or cash generated by operating activities computed in accordance with IFRS. Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool and therefore Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of discretionary cash available to us to invest in the growth of our business.

## A reconciliation of net loss to Adjusted EBITDA is as follows:

expressed in thousands	Three Months En	Three Months Ended March 31		
Net loss Adjustments: Income and mining tax recovery Interest expense Depletion and depreciation Accretion of future site reclamation provisions Share based compensation Foreign exchange (gain) loss Revaluation (gain) losses on marketable securities Share of loss from Huckleberry	2018	2017		
Net loss	\$(16,166)	\$(18,752)		
Adjustments:				
Income and mining tax recovery	(34)	(4,995)		
Interest expense	18,992	18,158		
Depletion and depreciation	21,657	21,686		
Accretion of future site reclamation provisions	787	353		
Share based compensation	204	270		
Foreign exchange (gain) loss	11,791	(3,132)		
Revaluation (gain) losses on marketable securities	(839)	10		
Share of loss from Huckleberry	-	1,589		
Adjusted EBITDA	\$36,392	\$15,187		

## **Cash Flow and Cash Flow Per Share**

Cash flow in the March 2018 quarter was \$36.0 million compared to \$15.1 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. Cash flow per share was \$0.31 in the March 2018 quarter compared to \$0.16 in the 2017 comparative quarter.

Cash flow and cash flow per share are measures used by the Company to evaluate its performance however they are not terms recognized under IFRS. Cash flow is defined as cash flow from operations before the net change in non-cash working capital balances, income and mining taxes, and interest paid and cash flow per share is the same measure divided by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the year.

expressed in thousands, except share and per share amounts	Three Months Ended March 31			
ess before taxes ems not affecting cash flows quity loss in Huckleberry epletion and depreciation hare based compensation ccretion of future site reclamation provisions hrealized foreign exchange (gain) loss terest expense ther esh flow	2018	2017		
Loss before taxes	\$(16,200)	\$(23,747)		
Items not affecting cash flows				
Equity loss in Huckleberry	-	1,589		
Depletion and depreciation	21,657	21,686		
Share based compensation	204	270		
Accretion of future site reclamation provisions	787	353		
Unrealized foreign exchange (gain) loss	11,357	(3,254)		
Interest expense	18,992	18,158		
Other	(839)	10		
Cash flow	\$35,958	\$15,065		
Basic weighted average number of common shares outstanding	116,858,528	93,586,710		
Cash flow per share	\$0.31	\$0.16		

#### **Cash Cost Per Pound of Copper Produced**

The cash cost per pound of copper produced is a non-IFRS financial measure that does not have a standardized meaning under IFRS, and as a result may not be comparable to similar measures presented by other companies. Management uses this non-IFRS financial measure to monitor operating costs and profitability. The Company is primarily a copper producer and therefore calculates this non-IFRS financial measure individually for its three copper mines, Red Chris, Mount Polley and Huckleberry, and on a composite basis for these mines.

The cash cost per pound of copper produced is derived from the sum of cash production costs, transportation and offsite costs, treatment and refining costs, royalties, net of by-product and other revenues, divided by the number of pounds of copper produced during the period.

Cash costs of production include direct labour, operating materials and supplies, equipment and mill costs, and applicable overhead. Off-site costs include transportation, warehousing, marketing, related insurance and treatment and refining costs for smelting and refining concentrate.

Treatment and refining costs applicable to the concentrate produced during the period are calculated in accordance with the contracts the Company has with its customers.

By-product and other revenues represent (i) revenue calculated based on average metal prices for by-products produced during the period based on contained metal in the concentrate; and (ii) other revenues as recorded during the period.

Cost of sales, as reported on the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, includes depletion and depreciation and share based compensation, non-cash items. The resulting cash costs are different than the cost of production because of changes in inventory levels and therefore inventory and related transportation and offsite costs are adjusted from a cost of sales basis to a production basis. The cash costs for copper produced are converted to US\$ using the average US\$ to CDN\$ exchange rate for the period divided by the pounds of copper produced to obtain the cash cost per pound of copper produced in US\$.

Variations from period to period in the cash cost per pound of copper produced are the result of many factors including: grade, metal recoveries, amount of stripping charged to operations, mine and mill operating conditions, labour and other cost inputs, transportation and warehousing costs, treatment and refining costs, the amount of by-product and other revenues, the US\$ to CDN\$ exchange rate and the amount of copper produced. Idle mine costs during the periods when the Huckleberry mine was not in operation have been excluded from the cash cost per pound of copper produced.

The following tables reconcile cost of sales as shown on the consolidated statement of comprehensive income to the cash cost per pound of copper produced in US\$ for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and 2017.

Three Months Ended March 31, 2018	
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				Total per	
	Red	Mount	Sterling &	Financial	
	Chris	Polley	Corporate	Statements	Composite
	А	В			C=A+B
Cost of sales	\$63,659	\$36,683	\$ -	\$100,342	\$100,342
Less:					
Depletion and depreciation	(12,991)	(8,275)	-	(21,266)	(21,266)
Share based compensation	(22)	(28)	-	(50)	(50)
Cash costs before adjustment to production basis	50,646	28,380	\$ -	\$79,026	\$79,026
Adjust for inventory change	5,832	(347)			5,485
Adjust transportation and offsite costs	69	75			144
Treatment, refining and royalty costs	6,095	1,461			7,556
By-product and other revenues	(19,303)	(20,128)			(39,431)
Cash cost of copper produced in Cdn\$	\$43,339	\$9,441			\$52,780
US\$ to Cdn\$ exchange rate	1.2650	1.2650			1.2650
Cash cost of copper produced in US\$	\$34,260	\$7,463			\$41,723
Copper produced – pounds	19,725	5,372			25,097
Cash cost per lb copper produced in US\$	\$1.74	\$1.39			\$1.66

Three Mont	hs Endec	l Marc	h 31,	2017
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				Total per	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Red	Mount	Sterling &	Financial	
	Chris	Polley	Corporate	Statements	Composite
	А	В			C=A+B
Cost of sales	\$59,032	\$61,900	\$565	\$121,497	\$120,932
Less:					
Depletion and depreciation	(10,433)	(11,127)	(94)	(21,654)	(21,560)
Share based compensation	(68)	(5)	-	(73)	(73)
Cash costs before adjustment to production basis	48,531	50,768	\$471	\$99,770	99,299
Adjust for inventory change	6,163	(15,500)			(9,337)
Adjust transportation and offsite costs	81	(1,114)			(1,033)
Treatment, refining and royalty costs	6,455	2,150			8,605
By-product and other revenues	(8,718)	(21,948)	_		(30,666)
Cash cost of copper produced in Cdn\$	\$52,512	\$14,356			\$66,868
US\$ to Cdn\$ exchange rate	1.3229	1.3229			1.3229
Cash cost of copper produced in US\$	\$39,695	\$10,852	•		\$50,547
Copper produced – pounds	16,328	5,461			21,789
Cash cost per lb copper produced in US\$	\$2.43	\$1.99			\$2.32

# RESULTS OF OPERATIONS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2018 COMPARED TO THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

#### **Overview**

Revenues increased to \$117.9 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to \$115.7 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. Variations in revenue are impacted by the timing and quantity of concentrate shipments, metal prices and exchange rates, and period end revaluations of revenue attributed to concentrate shipments where copper and gold prices will settle at a future date.

The Company had income from mine operations of \$17.6 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to a loss of \$5.7 million in the 2017 comparative quarter.

Net loss for the March 2018 quarter was \$16.2 million (\$0.14 per share) compared to a net loss of \$18.8 million (\$0.20 per share) in the 2017 comparative quarter.

## Revenue

expressed in thousands of dollars, except quantity amounts			Three Months E	nded March 31
			2018	2017
Revenue before revaluation			\$123,495	\$110,651
Revenue revaluation			(5,583)	5,098
			\$117,912	\$115,749
expressed in thousands of dollars, except quantity amounts			Three Months Ended	March 31, 2018
	Red Chris	Mount Polley	Sterling	
	Mine	Mine	Mine	Total
Sales				
Copper – 000's pounds	19,150	5,210	-	24,360
Gold – ounces	11,477	11,772	-	23,249
Silver – ounces	34,676	8,552	-	43,228
Revenue				
Copper	\$63,474	\$16,679	\$ -	\$80,153
Gold	18,220	19,342	-	37,562
Silver	191	6	-	197
Total Revenue	\$81,885	\$36,027	\$ -	\$117,912
expressed in thousands of dollars, except quantity amounts			Three Months Ended	March 31, 2017
	Red Chris	Mount Polley	Sterling	
	Mine	Mine	Mine	Total
Sales				
Copper – 000's pounds	15,011	8,704	-	23,715
Gold – ounces	4,964	20,722	9	25,695
Silver – ounces	26,056	17,421	-	43,477
Revenue				
Copper	\$47,165	\$27,779	\$ -	\$74,944
Gold	7,420	33,035	12	40,467
Silver	(18)	214	-	196
	54,567	61,028	12	115,607
Corporate		_	-	142
Total Revenue	\$54,567	\$61,028	\$12	\$115,749

During the March 2018 quarter, the Company sold 24.4 million pounds copper and 23,249 ounces gold compared to 23.7 million pounds copper and 25,695 ounces gold in the 2017 comparative quarter.

During the March 2018 quarter there were 4.0 concentrate shipments from Red Chris mine (2017–3.0 concentrate shipments) and 1.0 concentrate shipment from Mount Polley mine (2017-1.7 concentrate shipments).

During the March 2018 quarter, the Company's revenue was derived primarily from the sale of copper and gold in concentrate from the Red Chris and Mount Polley mines. The Red Chris mine accounted for 69.4% and Mount Polley mine accounted for 30.6% of the Company's revenue in the period. Copper accounted for 67.9% and gold accounted for 31.9% of the Company's revenue in the period.

#### **Cost of Sales**

expressed in thousands of dollars	Three Months En	Three Months Ended March 31		
	2018			
Operating expenses	\$56,190	\$70,624		
Salaries, wages and benefits	22,836	29,146		
Depletion and depreciation	21,266	21,654		
Share based compensation	50	73		
	\$100,342	\$121,497		

Cost of sales for the March 2018 quarter were \$100.3 million compared to \$121.5 million for the comparative quarter in 2017, due to the following major factors:

- Red Chris mine operating expenses and salaries, wages and benefits for 2018 were \$50.7 million compared to \$48.9 million in the comparative 2017 quarter;
- Mount Polley mine operating expenses and salaries, wages and benefits for 2018 were \$28.4 million compared to \$50.9 million in the comparative 2017 quarter;
- Depletion and depreciation for the Red Chris and Mount Polley mines was \$21.3 million in 2018 compared to \$21.7 million in the comparative 2017 quarter;
- Included in cost of sales for 2018 are inventory impairment charges of \$1.8 million compared to \$4.0 in the comparative 2017 quarter.

#### **General and Administration Costs**

expressed in thousands of dollars	Three Months End	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2018	2017	
Administration	\$1,036	\$808	
Share based compensation - corporate	154	197	
Depreciation – corporate assets	32	32	
Foreign exchange loss	384	218	
	\$1,606	\$1,255	

General and administration costs were \$1.6 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to \$1.3 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. Administration costs increased due to higher staffing costs while share based compensation costs decreased due to a lower number of options outstanding which still had vesting remaining on them.

The average CDN/US Dollar exchange rate for the March 2018 quarter was 1.265 compared to 1.323 in the 2017 comparative quarter. Foreign exchange gains are attributable to holding US Dollar denominated cash, accounts receivable, and accounts payable. These net US Dollar asset and liability balances are primarily the result of the activities at the Red Chris and Mount Polley mines.

## **Interest Expense**

expressed in thousands of dollars	Three Months	Three Months Ended March 31		
	2018	2017		
Interest on non-current debt	\$17,042	\$16,779		
Other interest	1,950	1,379		
	\$18,992	\$18,158		

Interest expense increased to \$19.0 million in the March 2018 quarter from \$18.2 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. The interest expense increased primarily as a result of the following: interest expense on non-current debt increased from \$16.8 million in the March 2017 quarter to \$17.0 million in the March 2018 quarter, an increase of \$0.2 million related primarily the bridge loan which was not outstanding in the first quarter of 2017. Other interest expense increased from \$1.4 million in 2017 to \$2.0 million in 2018, an increase of \$0.6 million. This increase was primarily due to the additional interest expense on other obligations in 2018 compared to 2017. Higher interest rates on certain debt during the 2018 quarter compared to the comparative 2017 quarter, resulted in higher interest expense. Interest expense is determined by a variety of factors including levels of non-current debt, levels of short term debt on concentrate advances, the interest rate on the debt and foreign exchange rates on interest incurred on US denominated debt.

#### Other Finance Income (Expense)

expressed in thousands of dollars	Three Months Ended March 31		
	2018	2017	
Accretion of future site reclamation provisions	\$(787)	\$(353)	
Foreign exchange gain (loss) on short term debt	5 (		
Foreign exchange gain (loss) on non-current debt	(11,412) 3,		
Fair value adjustment to marketable securities	839	(10)	
	(11,355)	2,987	
Interest income	137	14	
Other finance income (expense)	\$(11,218)	\$3,001	

Other finance expense totaled \$11.2 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to income of \$3.0 million in the 2017 comparative quarter. The expense resulted primarily from the foreign exchange discussed below.

At March 31, 2018, the Company had US Dollar denominated debt of US\$326.6 million compared to US\$328.4 million at December 31, 2017. Foreign exchange gains and losses attributable to US denominated short and non-current debt reflect the foreign currency movement during the three months ended March 31, 2018 and resulted in an \$11.3 million loss on the senior notes and \$0.1 million loss on equipment loans.

#### **CAPITAL RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Company manages its capital to ensure that it will be able to continue as a going concern while maximizing the return to stakeholders through the optimization of the debt and equity balance. The Company's overall strategy remains unchanged from 2017.

The capital structure of the Company consists of non-current debt and equity comprised of share capital, share option reserve, equity component of convertible debentures, warrant reserve, currency translation adjustment and retained earnings.

The Company is in compliance with the debt covenants related to its non-current debt as at March 31, 2018.

#### LIQUIDITY & CAPITAL RESOURCES AND FINANCING

At March 31, 2018, the Company had cash of \$6.5 million, available capacity of \$36.0 for future draws under the Senior Credit Facility, \$10.0 million undrawn on the 2017 LOC loan facility and a working capital deficiency of \$743.1 million, which includes \$696.6 million current portion debt.

Cash balances on hand, the projected cash flow from the Red Chris and Mount Polley mines, as well as the available credit facilities are expected to be sufficient to fund the working capital deficiency and the Company's obligations as they come due assuming the Company is able to successfully extend or refinance the Senior Credit Facility and the Second Lien Credit Facility prior to their maturity in the fourth quarter of 2018 and the Senior Unsecured Notes which mature in the first quarter of 2019. In addition, there are inherent risks related to the operation of the Company's mines which could require additional sources of financing. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to successfully extend or renegotiate this debt, and that adequate additional financing will be available on terms acceptable to the Company or at all, which creates a material uncertainty that could have an adverse impact on the Company's financial condition and results of operations and may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### **Credit Risk**

The Company's credit risk is limited to cash, trade and other receivables, and future site reclamation deposits in the ordinary course of business. The credit risk of cash and future site reclamation deposits is mitigated by placing funds in financial institutions with high credit quality.

The Company sells to a limited number of traders. These customers are large, well-capitalized and diversified multinationals, and credit risk is considered to be minimal. The balance of trade receivables owed to the Company in the ordinary course of business is significant and the Company often utilizes short term debt facilities with customers to reduce the net credit exposure.

From time to time the Company enters into derivative instruments with a number of counterparties to limit the amount of credit risk associated with any one counterparty. The Company did not enter into any derivative instruments during the quarter ended March 31, 2018.

#### **Liquidity Risk**

The Company has in place a rigorous planning and budgeting process to help determine the funds required to support the Company's normal operating requirements on an ongoing basis and its planned capital expenditures. The Company ensures that in addition to cash balances there are sufficient committed credit facilities, including the advance payment facilities with its customers, to provide cash necessary to meet projected cash requirements.

At March 31, 2018, the Company's primary sources of credit are comprised of a \$200.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility, a \$50.0 million second lien revolving loan credit facility, US\$325.0 million senior unsecured notes, \$145.0 million face value of unsecured convertible debentures, a \$75.0 million unsecured junior credit facility, a \$26.0 million Bridge loan facility, a \$10.0 million LOC loan facility, and \$13.5 million in secured equipment loans.

The Company's \$200.0 million senior secured revolving credit facility is due on October 1, 2018 and the second lien revolving loan credit facility, which has been fully drawn, is due on December 1, 2018. At March 31, 2018, the Company has drawn in cash \$121.0 million (\$0.2 million net of deferred financing costs) of the senior credit facility and utilized \$43.0 million of the facility for letters of credit to secure reclamation bond obligations for a total usage of \$164.0 million leaving \$36.0 million available for future draws.

The Company holds mineral properties and marketable securities. While these may be convertible to cash they are not considered when assessing the Company's liquidity as they are part of the risk management program of the Company, long-term strategic holdings, or are only convertible to cash over a longer time horizon if realizable values exceed management's assessment of fair value, respectively. Therefore, as part of the Company's planning, budgeting and liquidity analysis process, these items are not relied upon to provide operational liquidity.

Overall liquidity risk of the Company has not significantly changed since late 2017. Improved copper prices in CDN dollar terms from the lower levels in early 2017 contribute to a reduction of liquidity risk, however this is mitigated somewhat by the requirement to repay the deferred trade payables as at these higher price levels the maximum monthly repayment is required.

Liquidity risk is also impacted by credit risk should a counterparty default on its payments to the Company although the Company considers this risk low as described in the *Credit Risk* section previously.

The Company had the following contractual obligations with respect to financial instruments as of March 31, 2018:

expressed in thousands of dollars	Within				
	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	4 Years	Total
Trade and other payables	\$78,527	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$78,527
Other obligations	43,632	14,857	10,090	3,304	71,883
Current portion of non-current debt	699,258	-	-	-	699,258
Non-current debt		4,303	115,346	30,024	149,673
	821,417	19,160	125,436	33,328	999,341
Less future accretion and unamortized					
finance cost on non-current debt	(2,642)	-	(12,602)	(3,989)	(19,233)
Total	\$818,775	\$19,160	\$112,834	\$29,339	\$980,108

## **Liquidity Enhancements**

#### **Electricity Payment Deferral Plan**

Commencing in March 2016 the Government of British Columbia provided assistance to copper and coal mines during environments of low commodity prices. The mechanism for this assistance was completed in March 2016 when BC Hydro received approval from the British Columbia Utilities Commission for a tariff supplement that allows a mining customer to defer payment on up to 75% of the monthly electricity billing (the "Payment Plan") depending on the average London Metals Exchange ("LME") settlement copper price converted to CDN Dollars at the Bank of Canada's daily average closing exchange rate. The period for calculating the copper price in CDN Dollars is the 30-day period prior to the billing date on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Interest on the deferred payment amounts is charged and added to the deferred payment balance at Bank Prime Rate plus 5%, except for the Huckleberry mine, which has a fixed interest rate of 12%.

The Payment Plan has a five year term with payment deferrals allowed only during the first two years. Repayments of deferred amounts are required at up to 75% of the monthly electricity billing when the copper price exceeds CDN\$3.40 per pound. At a copper price of CDN\$3.40 per pound there is no deferral or repayment. The maximum deferral of 75% is available at a copper price of CDN\$3.04 per pound or less and the maximum repayments are required at a copper price of CDN\$3.76 per pound or more.

Participation in the Payment Plan does not change mine operating costs and increases interest expense, however, it does provide the Company with increased liquidity when copper prices are below CDN\$3.40 per pound. Payment of any balance under the Payment Plan is due at the end of the five year term.

Joining the Payment Plan was optional and in March 2016 the Red Chris, Mount Polley and Huckleberry mines joined the Payment Plan with the resulting payment deferral plan being effective for the March 2016 electricity billings onwards. At the maximum discount or maximum repayment of 75% the estimated monthly payment deferral or repayment for the Red Chris, Mount Polley and Huckleberry mines would be approximately \$2.1 million. Due to the CDN\$ copper prices being higher than CDN\$3.40 per pound during the March 31, 2018 quarter, the deferred trade payables balance fell from \$22.1 million at December 31, 2017 to \$21.0 million at March 31, 2018

#### **Currency Risk**

Financial instruments that impact the Company's net income and comprehensive income due to currency fluctuations include US\$ denominated cash, accounts receivable, derivative instrument assets, reclamation deposits, trade and other payables and debt. If the US\$ had been 10% higher/lower and all other variables were held constant, net income and comprehensive income for the March 31, 2018 quarter would have been higher/lower by \$32.9 million.

#### **Cash Flow**

Cash flow was \$36.0 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to \$15.1 million in the 2017 comparative period.

Cash flow is a measure used by the Company to evaluate its performance, however, it is not a term recognized under IFRS and may not be comparable to similar measures used by other companies. Cash flow is defined as cash flow from operations before the net change in working capital balances, income and mining taxes, and interest paid. Refer to *Cash Flow and Cash Flow per share* under *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* for further details.

## **Working Capital**

At March 31, 2018, the Company had cash of \$6.5 million, available capacity of \$36.0 for future draws under the Senior Credit Facility, \$10.0 million undrawn on the 2017 LOC loan facility and a working capital deficiency of \$743.1 million, which includes \$696.6 million current portion debt.

#### **Acquisition and Development of Mineral Properties**

Acquisition and development of mineral properties totaled \$9.1 million in the March 2018 quarter compared to \$24.0 million in the comparative 2017 quarter.

expressed in thousands of dollars	Three Months Ended March 31		
	2018 2017		
Capital and Development Expenditures			
Red Chris	\$4,850	\$10,951	
Mount Polley	4,192 12,		
	\$9,042	23,329	
Exploration Expenditures		_	
Red Chris	4	-	
Mount Polley	35	595	
Sterling	- 11		
Other		34	
	39	640	
	\$9,081	\$23,969	

## **Contingent Liabilities**

The Company is from time to time involved in various claims and legal proceedings arising in the conduct of its business. In the opinion of management, none of these matters will have a material effect on the Company's condensed consolidated interim financial position or financial performance.

On August 4, 2014 the tailings dam at the Mount Polley mine near Likely, BC was breached and at March 31, 2017 the Company has a provision of \$5.1 million for future rehabilitation activities related to the Mount Polley Breach. The provision for rehabilitation contains significant estimates and judgments about the scope, timing and cost of the work that will be required and is subject to revision in the future as further information becomes available to the Company

During the third quarter of 2014, a securities class action lawsuit was filed against the Company and certain of its directors, officers and others in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in Toronto (the "Claim"). The Company has engaged independent legal counsel to advise it on this matter. At this time, the Company cannot predict the outcome of the Claim or determine the amount of any potential losses and accordingly no provision has been made as of March 31, 2018. However, the Company is of the view that the allegations contained in the Claim are without merit and intends to vigorously defend its position.

#### **DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS**

In the past, the Company has utilized a variety of derivative instruments including the purchase of puts, forward sales, currency swaps and the use of min/max zero cost collars. The Company's income or loss from derivative instruments may be very volatile from period to period as a result of changes in the copper and gold prices and CDN/US exchange rates compared to the copper and gold prices and CDN/US exchange rate at the time when these contracts were entered into; or the latest balance sheet date and the type and length of time to maturity of the contracts.

The Company had no derivative instruments for copper, gold or foreign exchange at March 31, 2018 or at the date of this document.

#### **DEBT AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS**

At March 31, 2018, the Company's current debt, net of unamortized deferred financing costs and accretion was comprised of the following:

- An unsecured junior credit facility of \$75.0 million
- Senior unsecured notes \$416.7 million (US\$325.0 million)
- A secured revolving senior credit facility of \$200.0 million \$164.0 million utilized comprised of \$121.0 million drawn and \$43.0 million utilized for letters of credit related to reclamation bonding
- A secured revolving second lien credit facility of \$50.0 million
- Bridge Loan \$26.0 million
- A variety of equipment loans denominated in both CDN\$/US\$ with a remaining balance of \$8.9 million

#### **Non-Current Debt**

At March 31, 2018, the Company's non-current debt, net of unamortized deferred financing costs and accretion was comprised of the following:

- Convertible debentures with a face value of \$145.0 million \$128.4 million (book value)
- A variety of equipment loans denominated in both CDN\$/US\$ with a remaining balance of \$4.7 million

Detailed disclosure on the Company's debt including amounts owed, interest rates and security can be found in Note 11 of the Interim Financial Statements.

#### **Financial Covenants**

Giving effect to the covenant amendments on the senior credit facility and second lien credit facility in 2017, the Company has the following financial covenants related to the senior credit facility:

- Minimum liquidity of \$5.0 million
- Secured debt to EBITDA ratio

As at the date of this document the Company is in full compliance with all financial covenants under its debt agreements. Copies of certain agreements can be found on <a href="https://www.sedar.com">www.sedar.com</a>.

#### **Interest Rate Risk**

The Company is exposed to interest rate risk on its outstanding borrowings. At March 31, 2018, debt of the Company totaling of \$170.9 million was at floating interest rates compared to \$202.1 million at December 31, 2017. The Company monitors its exposure to interest rates and is comfortable with its current exposure. The Company has not entered into any derivative contracts to manage this risk.

## **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

At March 31, 2018, the Company did not have any off-balance sheet arrangements that have, or are reasonably likely to have, a current or future effect on the results of operations or financial condition of the Company.

## Other Price Risks

The Company is exposed to equity price risk arising from marketable securities. Marketable securities are classified as held for trading because the Company intends to liquidate the marketable securities when market conditions are conducive to a sale of these securities.

#### **Fair Value Estimation**

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets (such as marketable securities) is based on quoted market prices at the statement of financial position date. The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Company is the current bid price. The fair value of derivative instrument assets and liabilities are determined by the counterparties using standard valuation techniques for these derivative instruments.

The carrying value less impairment provision, if necessary, of trade and other receivables and trade and other payables are assumed to approximate their fair values. Except for the Notes, management believes that the carrying value of remaining non-current and short term debt approximates fair value. At March 31, 2018 the fair value of the Notes is \$384.5 million (December 31, 2017-\$381.2 million) based on a quote received from dealers that trade the Notes.

IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement requires disclosures about the inputs to fair value measurement, including their classifications within a hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to fair value measurement. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

Level 1 – unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities; and

Level 2 – inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability either directly or indirectly; and

Level 3 – inputs that are not based on observable market data.

The fair value of the Company's financial instruments has been classified within the fair value hierarchy as at March 31, 2018 as follows:

expressed in thousands of dollars

Financial Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Total
Cash	\$6,540	\$ -	\$6,540
Marketable securities	3,109	-	3,109
Provisionally priced accounts receivables	-	6,362	6,362
Future site reclamation deposits	14,319	-	14,319
	23,968	6,362	30,330
Financial Liabilities			
Amounts owing on provisionally priced receivables included			
in trade and other payables	-	(856)	(856)
	\$23,968	\$5,506	\$29,474

## **SELECT QUARTER FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Unaudited - expressed in thousands of dollars, except per share amounts, prices and exchange rates

_			Three I	Months Ended
	March 31	December 31	September 30	June 30
<u> </u>	2018	2017	2017	2017
Total revenues	\$117,912	\$140,466	\$90,157	\$106,741
Equity income in Huckleberry	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,032
Net income (loss)	\$(16,166)	\$33,914	\$(2,129)	\$64,080
Basic income (loss) per share (1)	\$(0.14)	\$0.36	\$(0.02)	\$0.68
Diluted income (loss) per share (1)	\$(0.14)	\$0.36	\$(0.02)	\$0.68
Adjusted net income (loss) (2) (3)	\$(4,754)	\$536	\$(18,615)	\$(22,251)
Adjusted net income (loss) per share(1)(2)(3)	\$(0.04)	\$0.01	\$(0.20)	\$(0.23)
Adjusted EBITDA (2)	\$36,392	\$44,141	\$16,275	\$12,853
Cash flow (2)	\$35,958	\$43,009	\$17,966	\$12,341
Cash flow per share (1)(2)	\$0.31	\$0.46	\$0.19	\$0.13
Average LME copper price/lb in US\$	\$3.16	\$3.09	\$2.88	\$2.57
Average LME gold price/troy oz in US\$	\$1,329	\$1,275	\$1,278	\$1,257
Average CDN/US\$ exchange rate	\$1.265	\$1.271	\$1.253	\$1.345
Period end CDN/US\$ exchange rate	\$1.289	\$1.255	\$1.248	\$1.298
_				
	March 31	December 31	September 30	June 30
<u>-</u>	2017	2016	2016	2016
Total revenues	\$115,749	\$78,125	\$97,108	\$116,200
Equity loss in Huckleberry	\$(1,589)	\$(3,326)	\$(2,346)	\$(1,697)
Net loss	\$(18,752)	\$(47,060)	\$(20,589)	\$(4,160)
Basic loss per share (1)	\$(0.20)	\$(0.57)	\$(0.25)	\$(0.05)
Diluted loss per share (1)	\$(0.20)	\$(0.57)	\$(0.25)	\$(0.05)
Adjusted net loss (2)(3)	\$(22,296)	\$(30,690)	\$(20,038)	\$(1,214)
Adjusted net loss per share(1)(2)(3)	\$(0.24)	\$(0.37)	\$(0.25)	\$(0.01)
Adjusted EBITDA (2)	\$15,188	\$(441)	\$16,726	\$40,488
Cash flow (2)	\$15,065	\$(405)	\$18,244	\$40,327
Cash flow per share (1)(2)	\$0.16	\$ -	\$0.22	\$0.49
Average LME copper price/lb in US\$	\$2.65	\$2.39	\$2.17	\$2.14
Average LME gold price/troy oz in US\$	\$1,219	\$1,218	\$1,335	\$1,259
Average CDN/US\$ exchange rate	\$1.323	\$1.334	\$1.305	\$1.289
Period end CDN/US\$ exchange rate	\$1.332	\$1.343	\$1.312	\$1.301

<sup>(1)</sup> The sum of the quarterly net income per share, adjusted net income per share and cash flow per share may not equal the annual total due to timing of share issuances during the year.

The financial information for each of the most recently completed eight quarters has been prepared in accordance with IFRS other than in respect of the non-IFRS financial measures described in more detail under the heading *Non-IFRS Financial Measures*.

<sup>(2)</sup> Refer to tables under heading *Non-IFRS Financial Measures* for details of the calculation of these amounts.

<sup>(3)</sup> The adjusted net income (loss) of quarters prior to December 2016 have been adjusted to conform to the presentation adopted for the December 2016 quarter.

Variations in the quarterly results are impacted by two primary factors:

- (a) Fluctuations in revenue are due to the timing of shipping schedules and quantities of copper and gold sold on each ship, production volumes at the mines, changes in the price of copper, gold and the CDN\$/US\$ exchange rate.
- (b) Fluctuations in net income are due to the revenue changes described above and realized and unrealized gains/losses on derivative instruments based on movements in the reference item hedged, changes in foreign exchange rates on US\$ denominated debt, changes in production cost inputs and changes in tax rates and in 2017 the gain on bargain purchase of Huckleberry and revaluation of equity investment in Huckleberry.

In addition to the variations in quarterly results caused by the primary factors discussed above the following periods had non-recurring transactions that further impacted net income:

- (a) The net loss in the June 2016 quarter was primarily due to an increase in finance costs which were \$18.4 million in the June 2016 quarter compared to finance income of \$6.7 million in the March 2016 quarter and finance income of \$1.7 million in the June 2015 quarter. Lower realized foreign exchange gains and lower amounts of interest expense capitalized in the June 2016 quarter were the primary reasons for the increase in finance costs.
- (b) The primary reason for the increase in net loss in the September 2016 quarter compared to the June and March 2016 quarters was a decrease in income from mine operations due to an increase in costs and decrease in grade leading to lower sales volumes. The Company incurred a loss from mine operations of \$2.1 million in the September 2016 quarter compared to income from mine operations of \$20.2 million in the June 2016 quarter and \$20.3 million in the March 2016 quarter.
- (c) The primary reasons for the increase in net loss in the December 2016 quarter compared to the September and June 2016 quarters was a decrease in revenues, higher costs of sales, higher interest and finance costs and an impairment charge of \$7.3 million on the Sterling mine. Revenues were lower as production was lower at both Red Chris and Mount Polley mines due to the mining and treatment of lower grade ore in those periods. Other finance costs were higher as the Company incurred higher foreign exchange losses on its non-current debt in the December quarter compared to the September and June quarters.
- (d) The primary reasons for the decrease in net loss in the March 2017 quarter compared to the December 2016 quarter was due to increased revenues and improved income from mine operations in the current quarter resulting from higher sales quantities and foreign exchange gains compared to foreign exchange losses on non-current debt in the December 2016 quarter as a result of the movement in the US/CDN Dollar. In the December 2016 quarter, the Company also took an impairment of \$7.3 million on the Sterling Mine. There were no impairment charges during the March 2017 quarter.
- (e) The primary reasons for the large increase in net income in the June 2017 quarter compared to the December 2016 quarter was largely due to the \$74.8 million gain on bargain purchase that was recognized by the Company on the acquisition of the remaining 50% share of Huckleberry. Revenues were lower as production was lower at both Red Chris and Mount Polley mines due to the mining and treatment of lower grade ore in those periods.
- (f) The primary reason for loss in the September 2017 quarter compared to the June 2017 quarter was that there was a \$74.8 million gain on bargain purchase that was recognized in the second quarter of 2017. However, that was slightly off set by a foreign exchange gain relating to the Company's US denominated debt in the September 2017 quarter compared to the June 2017 quarter.
- (g) The primary reasons for the increase in net income in the December 2017 quarter compared to the September 2017 quarter was due to higher production at both Red Chris and Mount Polley which led to higher revenues of approximately \$50.3 million. There was also an additional \$35.0 million recognized on the initially estimated \$74.8 million gain on the bargain purchase of Huckleberry and revaluation of equity investment in Huckleberry after finalization of the fair values during the last quarter of 2017.
- (h) The loss in the March 2018 quarter was lower than the loss in the March 2017 quarter due to significantly higher income from mine operations partially offset by higher foreign exchange losses on debt. The primary reasons for the increase in the loss in the March 2018 quarter compared to the December 2017 quarter was that the December 2017 quarter had a gain of \$35.0 million in relation to the gain on bargain purchase of Huckleberry, higher foreign exchange losses on debt totaling \$9.2 million and \$11.5 million higher tax expense.

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

#### **Corporate**

The Company incurred the transactions and balances noted below in the normal course of operations. Expenses have been measured at the fair value which is determined on a cost recovery basis. Related party transactions and balances with N. Murray Edwards, a significant shareholder, companies controlled by N. Murray Edwards including Edco Capital Corporation ("Edco"), companies in which directors are owners, and with directors and officers are as follows:

#### Statement of Income

expressed in thousands of dollars		Three Months Ended March 31	
		2018	2017
Loan guarantee fee for guarantee of second lien credit facility	(a)	\$478	\$416
Interest expense	(e)	\$4,138	\$3,973
Statement of Financial Position			
expressed in thousands of dollars		March 31	December 31
		2018	2017
Accrued interest on senior unsecured notes and convertible debentures	(e)	\$2,990	\$5,088
Junior Credit Facility	(b)	\$75,000	\$75,000
Senior unsecured notes (US\$53,300)	(c)	\$68,725	\$66,865
Convertible Debentures	(d)(f)	\$59,000	\$59,000
Bridge Loan	(h)	\$13,000	\$13,000
Share issue expenses (backstop fees)	(i)	\$ -	\$310
Deferred Financing fees for debt	(g)	\$ -	\$138

- (a) The loan guarantee fee is related to the guarantee by Edco of the second lien credit facility which provided additional liquidity for the commissioning of the Red Chris mine.
- (b) The \$75.0 million junior credit facility from N. Murray Edwards was used to fund any cost overruns at the Red Chris mine and for general working capital purposes.
- (c) N. Murray Edwards, directors and officers hold US\$53.3 million of the US\$325.0 million senior unsecured notes offering which closed in March 2014 and provided part of the long term financing for the Red Chris mine.
- (d) N. Murray Edwards holds \$40.0 million of the \$115.0 million 2014 convertible debentures which provided funding for completing and commissioning the Red Chris mine, remediating the effects of the Mount Polley Breach, and for ongoing operations.
- (e) Interest expense is related to the senior unsecured notes, the junior credit facility, convertible debentures and on factored accounts receivables and related financing transactions.
- (f) N. Murray Edwards and directors hold \$19.0 million of the \$30.0 million 2015 convertible debenture which closed on August 24, 2015.
- (g) The loan commitment fees paid in 2017 were to companies controlled by N. Murray Edwards which relate to the \$10.0 million 2017 LOC and \$13.0 million of the \$26.0 million bridge loan.
- (h) \$13.0 million portion of the \$26.0 million Bridge Loan held by a company controlled by N. Murray Edwards.
- (i) Backstop fee paid to N. Murray Edwards in relation to the rights offering.

The Company incurred the above transactions and balances in the normal course of operations. Expenses have been measured at the fair value which is determined on a cost recovery basis.

Additional details on related party transactions can be found in Note 22 to the Interim Financial Statements for the three months ended March 31, 2018.

#### **CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

#### **Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to provide reasonable assurance that all relevant information is gathered and reported on a timely basis to senior management, so that appropriate decisions can be made regarding public disclosure. As at the end of the period covered by this MD&A, management evaluated the effectiveness of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as required by Canadian securities laws. As at March 31, 2018 the Company's senior management have designed disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in National Instrument 52-109 of the Canadian Securities Administrators), or caused them to be designed under their supervision, to provide reasonable assurance that

material information relating to the Company is made known to them by others, particularly during the period in which the interim or annual filings are being prepared; and information required to be disclosed by the Company in its annual filings, interim filings or other reports filed or submitted by it under securities legislation is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in securities legislation.

#### **Internal Controls**

The Company's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures. The Company's internal control system over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance to management and the Board of Directors regarding the preparation and fair presentation of published financial statements in accordance with IFRS. The Company's internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that:

- (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that accurately and fairly reflect, in reasonable detail, the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the Company;
- (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS, and that receipts and expenditures of the Company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the Company; and
- (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of the Company's assets that could have a material effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

There have been no changes in the Company's internal controls over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures during the March 31, 2018 period ended that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, internal control over financial reporting and disclosure.

#### Limitations

The Company's management believes that any disclosure controls and procedures or internal controls over financial reporting, no matter how well designed and operated, can only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that the objectives of the control system are met. Therefore, even those systems determined effective cannot provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud within the Company, if any, have been prevented or detected.

#### **RISK FACTORS**

The Company's business involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks described below and all of the information contained in this MD&A and the audited Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only risks and uncertainties that we face. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business operations. If any of those risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flow would suffer.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND RISKS NOTICE

This MD&A is a review of the Company's operations and financial position as at and for the period ended March 31, 2018, and plans for the future based on facts and circumstances as of May 10, 2018. Except for statements of historical fact relating to the Company, certain information contained herein constitutes forward-looking information which are prospective in nature and reflect the current views and/or expectations of Imperial. Often, but not always, forward-looking information can be identified by the use of statements such as "plans", "expects" or "does not expect", "is expected", "scheduled", "estimates", "forecasts", "projects", "intends", "anticipates" or "does not anticipate", or "believes", or variations of such words and phrases or statements that certain actions, events or results "may", "could", "should", "would", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved. Such information in this MD&A includes, without limitation, statements regarding: the necessity to extend or refinance the Senior Credit Facility and the Second Lien Credit Facility prior to their maturity in the fourth quarter of 2018 and the Senior Unsecured Notes in the first quarter of 2019; metal production target ranges from Red Chris and Mount Polley for 2018; ongoing diagnostic and modelling work to identify the extent of high clay ore at Red Chris and determine whether special processing of these high clay zones may yield better recovery; a new electric shovel anticipated to arrive on site by mid-year which is expected to increase the mining rate and access to deeper higher grade ore at Red Chris; expectations that mill feed for the remainder of 2018 will come from the phase 4 pushback of the Red Chris Main zone; the use of proceeds from financings and credit; production and marketing; capital expenditures; the

adequacy of funds for projects and liabilities; the receipt of necessary regulatory approvals or other consents; the expected outcome and impact of litigation; cash flow; working capital requirements; the requirement for additional capital; results of operations, production, revenue, margins and earnings; future prices of copper and gold; future foreign currency exchange rates and impact; future accounting changes; and future prices for marketable securities.

Forward-looking information is not based on historical facts, but rather on then current expectations, beliefs, assumptions, estimates and forecasts about the business and the industry and markets in which the Company operates, including, but not limited to, assumptions that: the Company will be able to successfully extend or refinance the Senior Credit Facility, the Second Lien Credit Facility and the Senior Unsecured Notes prior to their maturity dates and adequate additional financing will be available on terms acceptable to the Company; the Company will have access to capital as required and satisfy and/or obtain amendments of financial covenants and/or terms contained in its credit facilities and other loan documents; the high clay ore encountered in the mineralized fault in the lower benches of the phase 3 pushback at Red Chris is limited and special processing of these zones may yield better recovery; expectations that Mount Polley mine will reach a new contract with the unionized workforce; the Company will be able to advance and complete remaining planned rehabilitation activities within expected timeframes; there will be no significant delay or other material impact on the expected timeframes or costs for completion of rehabilitation of the Mount Polley mine and implementation of Mount Polley's long term water management plan; the Company's initial rehabilitation activities at Mount Polley will be successful in the long term; all required, project-related permits and approvals will be obtained in a timely manner; there will be no material operational delays at the Company's mines; equipment will operate as expected; there will not be significant power outages; there will be no material adverse change in the market price of commodities and exchange rates; and the Company's mines will achieve expected production outcomes (including with respect to mined grades and mill recoveries). Such statements are qualified in their entirety by the inherent risks and uncertainties surrounding future expectations. We can give no assurance that the forward-looking information will prove to be accurate.

Forward-looking information involves known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause Imperial's actual results, revenues, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the statements constituting forward-looking information.

Important risks that could cause Imperial's actual results, revenues, performance or achievements to differ materially from Imperial's expectations include, among other things: that the Company may not be able to successfully extend or refinance the Senior Credit Facility, the Second Lien Credit Facility and the Senior Unsecured Notes prior to their maturity dates and adequate additional financing may not be available on terms acceptable to the Company or at all; that the Company may be unable to satisfy and/or obtain amendments of financial covenants or terms contained in its credit facilities and other loan documents; that the Red Chris mine may encounter unexpectedly extensive high clay ore and is unable to achieve better recovery through special processing of such ore; risks relating to the timely receipt of necessary, project-related approvals and consents; risks relating to the remaining costs and liabilities and any unforeseen longer-term environmental consequences arising from the Mount Polley Breach; uncertainty as to actual timing of completion of rehabilitation activities; risks relating to the impact of the Mount Polley Breach on Imperial's reputation; the quantum of claims, fines and penalties that may become payable by Imperial and the risk that current sources of funds are insufficient to fund liabilities; risks that Imperial will be unsuccessful in defending against any legal claims or potential litigation; risks of protesting activity and other civil disobedience restricting access to the Company's properties; failure of plant, equipment or processes to operate in accordance with specifications or expectations; cost escalation, unavailability of materials and equipment, labour strike, unrest or lockout, power outages or shortages, and natural phenomena negatively impacting the operation or maintenance of the Company's mines; changes in commodity and power prices; changes in market demand for the Company's concentrate; inaccurate geological and metallurgical assumptions (including with respect to the size, grade and recoverability of mineral reserves and resources); and other hazards and risks disclosed within this Management's Discussion and Analysis for the three months ended March 31, 2018 and other public filings which are available on Imperial's profile at sedar.com. For the reasons set forth above, investors should not place undue reliance on forwardlooking information. Imperial does not undertake to update any forward-looking information, except in accordance with applicable securities laws.



## **Imperial Metals Corporation**

200-580 Hornby Street Vancouver, BC V6C 3B6

imperialmetals.com

604.669.8959 | inquiries@imperialmetals.com 604.488.2657 | investor@imperialmetals.com