



## Audit Committee Charter

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### I. Purpose

The primary objective of the Audit Committee (the “Committee”) of Imperial Metals Corporation (the “Company”) is to act as a liaison between the Board and the Company’s independent auditors (the “Auditors”) and to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities with respect to (a) the integrity of the financial statements and other financial information provided by the Company to its shareholders, the public and others, (b) the Company’s compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, (c) the qualification, independence and performance of the Auditors and (d) the Company’s risk management and internal financial and accounting controls, and management information systems.

The Committee is responsible for overseeing the financial reporting activities and the Company’s management is responsible for: (i) adopting and applying sound accounting principles; (ii) designing, implementing and maintaining effective processes related to internal control over financial reporting; and (iii) preparing the annual and interim financial statements, associated Management’s Discussion & Analysis and other relevant continuous disclosure documents. The external auditor is responsible for conducting an independent audit in accordance with professional standards and for forming an opinion on the annual financial statements.

In performing its duties, the Committee will maintain effective working relationships and provide an avenue for effective and open communication among the Board, management, the external auditor and any internal audit function.

### II. Limitation on the Role of the Committee

The primary role of the Committee is oversight. The members of the Committee are not full-time employees of the Company and may or may not be accountants or auditors by profession or experts in the fields of accounting or auditing and, in any event, do not serve in such capacity. Consequently, it is not the duty of the Committee to conduct audits or to determine that the Company’s financial statements and disclosures are complete and accurate and are in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and applicable rules and regulations. These are the responsibilities of management and the Auditors. As such, in executing its oversight role, the Committee does not provide any expert or special assurances or guarantees regarding the Company’s financial statements, nor does it provide any professional certification as to the external auditor’s work.

The responsibilities of a member of the Committee are in addition to such member’s duties as a member of the Board.

### III. Organization

Members of the Committee shall be directors and the Committee membership shall satisfy the laws governing the Company and the independence, financial literacy, expertise and experience requirements under applicable securities law, stock exchange, and any other regulatory requirements and recommendations, including National Instrument 52-110 – *Audit Committees* (“NI 52-110”).

The Committee will consist of at least three Directors, but not more than five Directors, appointed by the Board annually. The members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board on the recommendation of the Nominating & Corporate Governance Committee. At the time of the appointment, the members of the Committee must elect a chair (the “Chair”) from among their number. The Chair will be in charge of overseeing and managing the affairs of the Committee, including presiding over Committee meetings, coordinating the Committee’s compliance with this Charter, working with management to develop the Committee’s annual work-plan, and delivering reports of the Committee to the Board. All members of the Committee must be independent Directors<sup>1</sup> (subject to any exemptions or relief that may be granted from such requirements).

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<sup>1</sup> Within the meaning of “independence” per the provisions of NI 52-110 and National Policy 58-201 – *Corporate Governance Guidelines*.

At the time of the Director's appointment to the Committee, each member of the Committee shall have, or shall acquire within a reasonable time following appointment to the Committee, the ability to read and understand a set of financial statements that present a breadth and level of complexity of accounting issues that are generally comparable to the complexity of the issues that can reasonably be expected to be raised by the Company's financial statements.

A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. A majority of the members of the Committee shall be empowered to act on behalf of the Committee. No business may be transacted by the Committee at a meeting unless a quorum of the Committee is present. Matters decided by the Committee shall be decided by majority vote. The chair of the Committee shall have an ordinary vote.

Any member of the Committee may be removed or replaced at any time by the Board and shall cease to be a member of the Committee as soon as such member ceases to be a director.

The Committee may form and delegate authority to subcommittees when appropriate.

#### **IV. Meetings**

The Committee shall meet at least four times a year and may meet as frequently as circumstances require. The Committee shall meet with management, the Company's financial and accounting officer(s) and the Auditors in separate executive sessions to discuss any matters that the Committee or each of these groups believe should be discussed privately.

In the absence of the appointed Chair of the Committee at any meeting, the members shall elect a chair from those in attendance at the meeting. The Chair, in consultation with the other members of the Committee, shall set the frequency and length of each meeting and the agenda of items to be addressed at each upcoming meeting.

The Committee will appoint a Secretary who will keep minutes of all meetings. The Secretary may also be the Chief Financial Officer, the Company's Corporate Secretary or another person who does not need to be a member of the Committee. The Secretary for the Committee can be changed by simple notice from the Chair.

The Chair shall ensure that the agenda for each upcoming meeting of the Committee is circulated to each member of the Committee as well as the other directors in advance of the meeting.

The Committee will, where appropriate, invite members of management, the external auditor, and/or any internal audit function to attend meetings. In addition, the Committee may invite to any of its meetings external legal counsel or other external advisors or other persons whose attendance it considers necessary or desirable in order to carry out its responsibilities. The Auditors shall attend any meeting when requested to do so by the Chair of the Committee.

Meetings may be held in person, by teleconference, or through the use of any telecommunication system that permits all persons participating in the meeting to adequately communicate with each other.

The Committee shall maintain minutes or other records of meetings and activities of the Committee in sufficient detail to convey the substance of all discussions held. Upon approval of the minutes by the Committee, the minutes shall be circulated to the members of the Board, with such redaction as the Committee considers appropriate in the case of circulation to directors who are executives of the Company. However, the Committee Chair may report orally to the Board on any matter in their view requiring the immediate attention of the Board.

#### **V. Authority and Responsibilities**

The Board, after consideration of the recommendation of the Committee, shall nominate the Auditors for appointment by the shareholders of the Company in accordance with applicable law. The Auditors report directly to the Audit Committee. The Auditors are ultimately accountable to the Committee and the Board as representatives of the shareholders.

The Committee's role is to provide an independent review of the financial function of the Company and is responsible for supporting management in, and verifying the quality and integrity of, the Company's financial reporting obligations. In fulfilling this role, the Committee's responsibilities include the following:

**(a) Auditors**

1. Recommend to the Board the independent auditors to be nominated for appointment as Auditors of the Company at the Company's annual meeting and the remuneration to be paid to the Auditors for services performed during the preceding year; approve all auditing services to be provided by the Auditors; be responsible for the oversight of the work of the Auditors, including the resolution of disagreements between management and the Auditors regarding financial reporting; and recommend to the Board and the shareholders the termination of the appointment of the Auditors, if and when advisable.
2. When there is to be a change of the Auditor, review all issues related to the change, including any notices required under applicable securities law, stock exchange or other regulatory requirements, and the planned steps for an orderly transition.
3. Review the Auditor's audit plan and discuss the Auditor's scope, staffing, materiality, and general audit approach.
4. Review on an annual basis the performance of the Auditors, including the lead audit partner.
5. Take reasonable steps to confirm the independence of the Auditors, which include:
  - (a) Ensuring receipt from the Auditors of a formal written statement in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements delineating all relationships between the Auditors and the Company;
  - (b) Considering and discussing with the Auditors any disclosed relationships or services, including audit services, that may impact the objectivity and independence of the Auditors;
  - (c) Approving in advance any non-audit related services provided by the Auditor to the Company, and the fees for such services, with a view to ensure independence of the Auditor, and in accordance with applicable regulatory standards, including applicable stock exchange requirements with respect to approval of non-audit related services performed by the Auditors; and
  - (d) As necessary, taking or recommending that the Board take appropriate action to oversee the independence of the Auditors.
6. Review and approve any disclosures required to be included in periodic reports under applicable securities law, stock exchange and other regulatory requirements with respect to non-audit services.
7. Confirm with the Auditors and receive written confirmation at least once per year as to (i) the Auditor's internal processes and quality control procedures; and (ii) disclosure of any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality control review.
8. Consider the tenure of the lead audit partner on the engagement in light of applicable securities law, stock exchange or applicable regulatory requirements.
9. Review all reports required to be submitted by the Auditors to the Committee under applicable securities laws, stock exchange or other regulatory requirements.
10. Receive all recommendations and explanations which the Auditors place before the Committee.

**(b) Financial Statements and Financial Information**

11. Review and discuss with management, the financial and accounting officer(s) and the Auditors, the Company's annual audited financial statements and interim financial statements, including disclosures made in Management's Discussion and Analysis, prior to filing or distribution of such statements and recommend to the Board, if appropriate, that the Company's audited financial statements be included in the Company's annual reports distributed and filed under applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

12. Be satisfied that adequate procedures are in place for the review of the Company's disclosure of financial information and extracted or derived from the Company's financial statements and periodically assess the adequacy of these procedures.
13. Discuss with the Auditors the matters required to be discussed by applicable auditing standards requirements relating to the conduct of the audit including:
  - (a) the adoption of, or changes to, the Company's significant auditing and accounting principles and practices;
  - (b) the management letter provided by the Auditor and the Company's response to that letter; and
  - (c) any difficulties encountered in the course of the audit work, including any restrictions on the scope of activities or access to requested information, or personnel and any significant disagreements with management.
14. Discuss with management and the Auditors major issues regarding accounting principles used in the preparation of the Company's financial statements, including any significant changes in the Company's selection or application of accounting principles. Review and discuss analyses prepared by management and/or the Auditors setting forth significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements, including analyses of the effects of alternative approaches under generally accepted accounting principles.
15. Prepare any report under applicable securities law, stock exchange or other regulatory requirements, including any reports required to be included in statutory filings, including in the Company's annual proxy statement.

**(c) Ongoing Reviews and Discussions with Management and Others**

16. Periodically review separately with management and the Auditors; (a) any significant disagreement between management and the Auditors in connection with the preparation of the financial statements, (b) any difficulties encountered during the course of the audit, including any restrictions on the scope of work or access to required information and (c) management's response to each.
17. Periodically discuss with the Auditors, without management being present, (a) their judgments about the quality and appropriateness of the Company's accounting principles and financial disclosure practices as applied in its financial reporting and (b) the completeness and accuracy of the Company's financial statements.
18. Consider and approve, if appropriate, significant changes to the Company's accounting principles and financial disclosure practices as suggested by the Auditors or management and the resulting financial statement impact. Review with the Auditors or management the extent to which any changes or improvements in accounting or financial practices, as approved by the Committee, have been implemented.
19. Review and discuss with management, the Auditors and the Company's independent counsel, as appropriate, any legal, regulatory or compliance matters that could have a significant impact on the Company's financial statements, including applicable changes in accounting standards or rules, or compliance with applicable laws and regulations, inquiries received from regulators or government agencies and any pending material litigation.
20. Enquire of the Company's financial and accounting officer(s) and the Auditors on any matters which should be brought to the attention of the Committee concerning accounting, financial and operating practices and controls and accounting practices of the Company.
21. Review the principal control risks to the business of the Company, its subsidiaries and joint ventures; and verify that effective control systems are in place to manage and mitigate these risks.

22. Review and discuss with management any material off-balance sheet transactions, arrangements, obligations (including contingent obligations) and other relationships of the Company with unconsolidated entities or other persons, that may have a material current or future effect on financial condition, changes in financial condition, results of operations, liquidity, capital resources, capital reserves or significant components of revenues or expenses. Obtain explanations from management of all significant variances between comparative reporting periods.
23. Review and discuss with management the Company's major risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor, control and manage such exposures, including the Company's risk assessment and risk management guidelines and policies.

**(d) Risk Management and Internal Controls**

24. Ensure that management has designed and implemented effective systems of risk management and internal controls and, at least annually, review the effectiveness of the implementation of such systems.
25. Approve and recommend to the Board for adoption policies and procedures on risk oversight and management to establish an effective system for identifying, assessing, monitoring and managing risk.
26. In consultation with the Auditors and management, review the adequacy of the Company's internal control structure and procedures designed to ensure compliance with laws and regulations, and discuss the responsibilities, budget and staffing needs of the Company's financial and accounting group.
27. Establish procedures for (a) the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and (b) the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
28. Review the internal control reports prepared by management, including management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control structure and procedures for financial reporting.
29. Review the appointment of the chief financial officer and any key financial executives involved in the financial reporting process and recommend to the Board any changes in such appointment.
30. Meeting regularly with management and other appropriate staff to discuss the Company's significant risk exposures, the likelihood of the risks manifesting, the potential impact of the risks manifesting and steps management has taken and is taking to monitor, assess, control and mitigate such exposures (including relevant insurance coverages).

**(e) Other Responsibilities**

31. Create an agenda for the ensuing year.
32. Review and approve related-party transactions if required under applicable securities law, stock exchange or other regulatory requirements.
33. Establish, review and approve policies for the hiring of employees or former employees of the Company's Auditors.
34. Review and reassess the duties and responsibilities set out in this Charter annually and recommend to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and to the Board any changes deemed appropriate by the Committee.
35. Review its own performance annually, seeking input from management and the Board.
36. Perform any other activities consistent with this Charter, the Company's constating documents and governing law, as the Committee or the Board deems necessary or appropriate.

## **VI. Reporting**

The Committee shall report regularly to the Board and shall submit the minutes of all meetings of the Audit Committee to the Board (which minutes shall ordinarily be included in the papers for the next full board meeting after the relevant meeting of the Committee). The Committee shall also report to the Board on the proceedings and deliberations of the Committee at such times and in such manner as the Board may require. The Committee shall review with the full Board any issues that have arisen with respect to quality or integrity of the Company's financial statements, the Company's compliance with legal or regulatory requirements, the performance or independence of the Auditors or the performance of the Company's financial and accounting group.

## **VII. Resources, Access to Information and Authority**

The Committee shall have the authority to retain independent legal, accounting and other consultants to advise the Committee.

The Committee has the authority to conduct any investigation appropriate to fulfilling its responsibilities. The Committee has direct access to anyone in the organization and may request any officer or employee of the Company or the Company's outside counsel or the Auditors to attend a meeting of the Committee or to meet with any members of, or consultants to, the Committee with or without the presence of management. In the performance of any of its duties and responsibilities, the Committee shall have access to any and all books and records of the Company necessary for the execution of the Committee's obligations. The Committee may communicate directly with the internal and external auditors.

The Committee shall consider the extent of funding necessary for payment of compensation to the Auditors for the purpose of rendering or issuing the annual audit report and recommend such compensation to the Board for approval. The Audit Committee shall determine the funding necessary for payment of compensation to any independent legal, accounting and other consultants retained to advise the Committee.

## **VIII. No Rights Created**

This Charter is a statement of broad policies and is intended as a component of the flexible governance framework within which the committees of the Board assist the Board in directing the affairs of the Company. While it should be interpreted in the context of all Applicable Requirements, as well as in the context of the Company's Articles, it is not intended to establish any legally binding obligations.