

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

#### General

The Board believes that good corporate governance improves corporate performance and benefits all shareholders. The Canadian Securities Administrators (the "CSA") have adopted National Policy 58-201 *Corporate Governance Guidelines*, which provides non-prescriptive guidelines on corporate governance practices for reporting issuers such as the Company. In addition, the CSA have implemented National Instrument 58- 101 *Disclosure of Corporate Governance Practices*, which prescribes certain disclosure by the Company of its corporate governance practices. This section sets out the Company's approach to corporate governance and addresses the Company's compliance with NI 58-101.

## Constitution and Independence of the Board

A majority of the members of the Board of Directors are independent directors and thus the Board is able to act independently from management. The Board of Directors is currently comprised of four persons, of whom three are independent directors. Directors are considered to be independent if they have no direct or indirect material relationship with the Company. A "material relationship" is a relationship which could, in the view of the Company's Board of Directors, be reasonably expected to interfere with the exercise of a director's independent judgment. 3 of the 4 members of the Board are independent: Pieter Bakker and Trevor Thomas. The non-independent directors are T. Barry Coughlan (President and Chief Executive Officer) and Thomas Wilson (Chief Financial Officer).

Management has been delegated the responsibility for meeting defined corporate objectives, implementing approved strategic and operating plans, carrying on the Company's business in the ordinary course, managing cash flow, evaluating new business opportunities, recruiting staff and complying with applicable regulatory requirements. The board facilitates its independent supervision over management by reviewing and approving long-term strategic, business and capital plans, material contracts and business transactions, and all debt and equity financing transactions. Through its audit committee, the Board examines the effectiveness of the Company's internal control processes and management information systems.

#### **Directorships**

Certain directors are also directors of other public companies.

# Orientation and Continuing Education

Orientation and education of new members of the Board is conducted informally by management and members of the Board. The orientation provides background information on the Company's history, performance and strategic plans.

#### Other Board Committees

In addition to the Audit Committee, the Company has a compensation committee, and a corporate governance and nomination committee.

## Assessments

The Board monitors on an ongoing basis the adequacy of information given to directors, communication between the Board and management and the strategic direction and processes of the Board and committees.