



# **Lion Copper and Gold Corp.**

*(Formerly Quaterra Resources Inc.)*

## **Management's Discussion and Analysis For the year ended December 31, 2022**

Dated: March 20, 2023

(In U.S. dollars)

## General

This Management's Discussion and Analysis ("MD&A") of Lion Copper and Gold Corp. and its wholly owned subsidiaries (collectively, "Lion CG" or the "Company"), dated March 20, 2023, should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, and related notes thereto which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("US GAAP"). All dollar amounts in this MD&A are United States dollars unless otherwise noted.

Additional information about the Company, including the Company's press releases, quarterly and annual reports, and Form 10-K, is available through the Company's filings with the securities regulatory authorities in Canada at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) or the United States Securities Exchange Commission at [www.sec.gov/edgar](http://www.sec.gov/edgar). Information about mineral resources, as well as risks associated with investing in the Company's securities is contained in the Company's most recently filed 10-K.

Under U.S. federal securities laws, issuers must assess their foreign private issuer status as of the last business day of their second fiscal quarter. It was announced that more than 50% of the Company's common shares are held by U.S. shareholders, and the Company no longer meets the definition of a foreign private issuer under the United States securities laws. As a result, commencing in 2023, the Company is required to use forms and rules prescribed for U.S. domestic companies, including the requirement that financial statements be presented in accordance with US GAAP instead of International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"). The Company's common shares will continue to be listed on the TSX Venture Exchange and quoted on the OTCQB.

Herbert E. Welhener, an employee of Independent Mining Consultants, Inc., is a Qualified Person under National Instrument 43-101 - Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects ("NI 43-101"), and has approved the scientific and technical information in this MD&A.

## Company Profile

Lion Copper and Gold Corp. is a Canadian-based Company advancing its flagship copper projects at Yerington, Nevada through an Option to Earn-in Agreement with Rio Tinto.

The Company also looks for opportunities to acquire projects on reasonable terms that have the potential to host large mineral deposits attractive to major mining companies. The Company is incorporated in British Columbia, Canada. Its registered and records offices are located at 1200 - 750 West Pender Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V6C 2T8.

On November 22, 2021, the Company changed its name from Quaterra Resources Inc. to Lion Copper and Gold Corp. The shares of the Company commenced trading under the new name at the open of trading on November 23, 2021. The Company's common shares are listed on the TSX Venture Exchange ("TSXV") under the symbol "LEO" and traded on the OTCQB Market under the symbol "LCGMF".

The Company prepares its consolidated financial statements on a going concern basis, which contemplates that the Company will be able to meet its commitments, continue operations and realize its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business for at least twelve months from December 31, 2022. The Company has incurred ongoing losses and expects to incur further losses in the advancement of its business activities. For the year ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company incurred a net loss of \$1,928,000 (2021 - \$6,448,000). As at December 31, 2022, the Company had cash of \$1,365,000 (2021 - \$842,000), working capital deficit of \$556,000 (2021 - deficit of \$522,000) and an accumulated deficit of \$121,834,000 (2021 - \$120,018,000).

The Company continues to incur losses, has limited financial resources, and has no current source of revenue or cash flow generated from operating activities. To address its financing requirements, the Company plans to seek financing through, but not limited to, debt financing, equity financing and strategic alliances. However, there is no assurance that such financing will be available. If adequate financing is not available or cannot be obtained on a timely basis, the Company may be required to delay, reduce the scope of or eliminate one or more of its exploration programs or relinquish some or all of its rights under the existing option and acquisition agreements. The above factors give rise to material uncertainties that may cast substantial doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

If the going concern assumptions were not appropriate for these consolidated financial statements, then adjustments would be necessary to the carrying values of assets, liabilities, the reported expenses, and the consolidated balance sheet classifications used. Such adjustments could be material.

### Mineral Properties

The following table summarizes the balance of exploration and evaluation assets as at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 and the changes in exploration and evaluation assets for the years then ended.

|                                          | Singatse Peak Services |              |              |              | Lion CG                   | Quaterra Alaska |                | Blue Copper Resources Corp |             |              |
|------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------|--------------|
|                                          |                        |              |              |              | Chaco<br>Bear &<br>Ashton | Butte<br>Valley | Blue<br>Copper | Groundhog                  | Blue Copper | Total        |
| (In thousands of U.S dollars)            | MacArthur              | Yerington    | Bear         | Wassuk       |                           |                 |                |                            |             |              |
|                                          | \$                     | \$           | \$           | \$           | \$                        | \$              | \$             | \$                         | \$          | \$           |
| <b>Balance December 31, 2020</b>         | <b>2,489</b>           | <b>1,195</b> | <b>1,339</b> | <b>1,155</b> | -                         | <b>100</b>      | -              | -                          | -           | <b>6,278</b> |
| Acquisition costs                        | -                      | -            | 193          | 250          | -                         | 100             | -              | -                          | -           | 543          |
| Total additions (disposals) for the year | -                      | -            | 193          | 250          | -                         | 100             | -              | -                          | -           | 543          |
| <b>Balance December 31, 2021</b>         | <b>2,489</b>           | <b>1,195</b> | <b>1,532</b> | <b>1,405</b> | -                         | <b>200</b>      | -              | -                          | -           | <b>6,821</b> |
| Acquisition costs                        | -                      | -            | 193          | -            | 602                       | -               | 118            | -                          | 500         | 1,413        |
| Assignment of Butte Valley               | -                      | -            | -            | -            | -                         | (200)           | -              | -                          | -           | (200)        |
| Transfer to BCRC                         | -                      | -            | -            | -            | -                         | -               | (118)          | -                          | 118         | -            |
| Paid by Rio Tinto                        | -                      | -            | (150)        | -            | -                         | -               | -              | -                          | -           | (150)        |
| Total additions (disposals) for the year | -                      | -            | 43           | -            | 602                       | (200)           | -              | -                          | 618         | 1,063        |
| <b>Balance December 31, 2022</b>         | <b>2,489</b>           | <b>1,195</b> | <b>1,575</b> | <b>1,405</b> | <b>602</b>                | -               | -              | -                          | <b>618</b>  | <b>7,884</b> |

During the year ended December 31, 2022, the balance of mineral properties increased by \$1,063,000. The increase is mainly due to the Company making property acquisition payments pursuant to property option agreements on the Chaco Bear and Ashton property, and the Arnold, Snowbird & Montana property. In addition, the Company transferred its 100% interest in the Blue Copper Project in Montana and its 90% interest in the Groundhog property in Alaska to Blue Copper Resources Corp., an entity in which the Company holds 79% ownership of, which also holds a leased interest in the Arnold, Snowbird & Montana property. Additions were offset when the Company entered into a property acquisition agreement to sell and assign its options in the Butte Valley property to Falcon Butte Minerals Corp. (formerly 1301666 B.C. Ltd "Falcon Butte."), as a result the Company derecognized the property value of \$200,000.

Total exploration expenditures recorded on the consolidated statement of operations are listed in the tables below:

*Exploration expenditures incurred for the year ended December 31, 2022*

|                                               | Singatse Peak Services |                |          |             | Lion CG             |           | Quaterra Alaska | Blue Copper Resources Corp |            |             |                |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|
|                                               |                        |                |          |             | Chaco Bear & Ashton |           | Butte Valley    | Blue Copper                |            |             |                |
| (In thousands of U.S dollars)                 | MacArthur              | Yerington      | Bear     | Wassuk      | Ashton              | Groundhog | Valley          | Copper                     | Groundhog  | Blue Copper | Total          |
|                                               | \$                     | \$             | \$       | \$          | \$                  | \$        | \$              | \$                         | \$         | \$          | \$             |
| Property maintenance                          | 167                    | 64             | -        | 55          | -                   | -         | 2               | 161                        | 107        | 41          | 597            |
| Assay & Labs                                  | 86                     | 33             | -        | -           | -                   | -         | -               | -                          | -          | -           | 119            |
| Drilling                                      | 478                    | 437            | -        | -           | -                   | -         | -               | -                          | -          | -           | 915            |
| Environmental                                 | 292                    | 489            | -        | -           | -                   | -         | -               | 11                         | -          | -           | 792            |
| Geological & mapping                          | 1                      | -              | -        | -           | 18                  | -         | -               | 25                         | -          | -           | 44             |
| Geophysical surveys                           | 61                     | 1              | 5        | -           | -                   | -         | 11              | 59                         | -          | 35          | 172            |
| Technical study                               | 341                    | 411            | -        | -           | -                   | -         | -               | -                          | -          | -           | 752            |
| Field support                                 | 635                    | 16             | -        | -           | -                   | 44        | 10              | 56                         | -          | 150         | 911            |
| <b>Total expenses incurred</b>                | <b>2,061</b>           | <b>1,451</b>   | <b>5</b> | <b>55</b>   | <b>18</b>           | <b>44</b> | <b>23</b>       | <b>312</b>                 | <b>107</b> | <b>226</b>  | <b>4,302</b>   |
| <b>Total Expenditures funded by Rio Tinto</b> | <b>(1,637)</b>         | <b>(1,394)</b> | <b>-</b> | <b>(55)</b> | <b>-</b>            | <b>-</b>  | <b>-</b>        | <b>-</b>                   | <b>-</b>   | <b>-</b>    | <b>(3,086)</b> |
| <b>Total Expenditures funded by Lion CG</b>   | <b>424</b>             | <b>57</b>      | <b>5</b> | <b>-</b>    | <b>18</b>           | <b>44</b> | <b>23</b>       | <b>312</b>                 | <b>107</b> | <b>226</b>  | <b>1,216</b>   |

*Exploration expenditures incurred for the year ended December 31, 2021*

|                                |              |            |           |            | Chaco Bear & Ashton |            | Butte Valley | Blue Copper |              |
|--------------------------------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| (In thousands of U.S dollars)  | MacArthur    | Yerington  | Bear      | Wassuk     | Ashton              | Groundhog  | Valley       | Copper      | Total        |
|                                | \$           | \$         | \$        | \$         | \$                  | \$         | \$           | \$          | \$           |
| Property maintenance           | 159          | 69         | -         | 55         | -                   | 98         | 147          | 401         | 929          |
| Assay & Labs                   | 231          | -          | -         | -          | -                   | -          | -            | -           | 231          |
| Drilling                       | 892          | -          | -         | 47         | -                   | -          | 500          | -           | 1,439        |
| Environmental                  | 43           | 142        | -         | -          | -                   | -          | -            | -           | 185          |
| Geological & mapping           | 22           | -          | -         | -          | 160                 | -          | -            | 16          | 198          |
| Geophysical surveys            | 20           | -          | 63        | -          | -                   | -          | 47           | 15          | 145          |
| Technical study                | 276          | 11         | -         | -          | -                   | 1          | -            | -           | 288          |
| Field support                  | 46           | 5          | -         | 3          | -                   | 67         | 59           | 47          | 227          |
| <b>Total expenses incurred</b> | <b>1,689</b> | <b>227</b> | <b>63</b> | <b>105</b> | <b>160</b>          | <b>166</b> | <b>753</b>   | <b>479</b>  | <b>3,642</b> |

On March 18, 2022, the Company entered into an Option to Earn-in Agreement with Rio Tinto America Inc. ("Rio Tinto") to advance studies and exploration at the Company's copper assets in Mason Valley, Nevada, see Option to Earn-in Agreement with Rio Tinto below for further details. In connection with Stage 1 of the agreement, the Company received \$4,000,000 for an exclusive earn-in option and agreed-upon Mason Valley study and evaluation works. During the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company incurred expenditures of \$3,387,000 in connection with the work program. The funds incurred in connection with this work program were offset against additions to mineral properties and general expenditures as follows:

|                                                            |            |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| (In thousands of U.S dollars)                              |            |
| <b>Balance December 31, 2021</b>                           | -          |
| Proceeds received                                          | 4,000      |
| Funds applied to capitalized mineral property expenditures | (150)      |
| Funds applied to exploration expenditures:                 |            |
| Property maintenance                                       | (287)      |
| Assay & labs                                               | (66)       |
| Drilling                                                   | (915)      |
| Environmental                                              | (692)      |
| Geological & mapping                                       | (1)        |
| Technical study                                            | (495)      |
| Field support & other                                      | (630)      |
| Funds applied to general operating expenditures            | (151)      |
| <b>Balance December 31, 2022</b>                           | <b>613</b> |

On February 24, 2022, the Company filed a technical report titled "Mineral Resource Estimate" for its MacArthur Project, which can be found on the SEDAR website at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and on the Company's website. Refer to Mineral Resource Estimate below for a summary of the report.

#### **MacArthur Copper Project and Yerington Mine Property, Nevada**

Located in the historic copper district of Yerington, Nevada, the Company's Yerington Copper Projects include the MacArthur Copper Project and Yerington Mine Property, which are 100% owned by Singatse Peak Services LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Lion CG.

The MacArthur Property consists of 897 unpatented lode claims totaling approximately 18,500 acres on lands administered by the U.S. Department of Interior - Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

Lion CG has a National Instrument 43-101 compliant resource.

The MacArthur Project is subject to a 2% net smelter return royalty (the "NSR") upon commencing commercial production, which can be reduced to a 1% NSR in consideration of \$1,000,000.

The Yerington Mine Property covers approximately 11 square miles centered on the former Anaconda open pit copper mine. This includes 2,768 acres of fee simple parcels and patented mining claims as well as 208 unpatented lode and placer claims totaling approximately 4,300 acres on lands administered by the BLM.

Lion CG has a National Instrument 43-101 compliant resource for the Yerington Mine Property and believes that the project has potential for additional copper resources. Historic and current drilling data indicate that horizontal and vertical limits to the mineralization at the Yerington Mine Property have not yet been found.

The Yerington Mine Property is subject to a 2% NSR upon commencing commercial production. The total lifetime royalty is capped at \$7,500,000.

## **Bear Deposit, Nevada**

The Bear deposit consists of approximately 2,300 acres of private land located to the northeast of the Yerington Mine Property.

The Company has five option agreements, entered from March 2013 to May 2015, to acquire a 100% interest in private land in Yerington, Nevada, collectively known as the Bear deposit. Under the terms of these option agreements, as amended, the Company is required to make \$5,673,290 in cash payments over 15 years (\$5,222,290 paid) to maintain the exclusive right to purchase the land, mineral rights, and certain water rights and to conduct mineral exploration on these properties. Two of the properties are subject to a 2% NSR upon commencing commercial production, which can be reduced to a 1% NSR in consideration of \$1,250,000 total.

Outstanding payments to keep the five option agreements current are as follows, by year:

- \$193,000 due 2022 (\$193,000 paid);
- \$201,000 due in 2023;
- \$50,000 due in years 2024 to 2028.

Outstanding purchase payments under the five option agreements are as follows:

- \$1,250,000 for Taylor, purchase option expiring April 4, 2023. The Company is in the process of negotiating an extension;
- \$250,000 for Chisum, purchase option has no expiration date, \$50,000 per year payment required for continuation;
- \$5,000,000 for Yerington Mining, purchase option expiring in 2024;
- \$8,975,000 for Circle Bar N, purchase option expiring in 2024;
- \$22,770,000 for Desert Pearl Farms, purchase option expiring in 2029.

## **Wassuk, Nevada**

The Wassuk property consists of 310 unpatented lode claims totaling approximately 6,400 acres on lands administered by the BLM.

On December 19, 2007, the Company entered into a Mining Lease with Option to Purchase, as further amended, to earn a 100% interest in certain unpatented mining claims in Lyon County, Nevada, and was required to make \$1,405,000 in cash payments (paid) and incur a work commitment of \$50,000 by December 31, 2021 (completed). During 2021, two final option payments were paid and form part of the total payments of \$1,405,000. As at December 31, 2021, the Company had satisfied all conditions required to execute the option to purchase and on January 14, 2023, the option was executed.

The property is subject to a 3% NSR royalty upon commencing commercial production, which can be reduced to a 2% NSR in consideration of \$1,500,000.

## **Groundhog Project, Alaska**

On April 20, 2017, the Company signed an agreement (the "Agreement") with Chuchuna Minerals Company, an Alaska corporation, giving it an option to purchase a 90% interest in the Groundhog copper prospect, a 40,000-acre property located on an established copper porphyry belt, two hundred miles southwest of Anchorage, Alaska.

The Groundhog claims cover the northern extension of a structural zone that hosts a number of porphyry copper-gold prospects. To earn the 90% interest, the Company must fund a total of \$5,000,000 (\$2,839,475 funded) of exploration expenditures and make a lump sum payment to Chuchuna of \$3,000,000 by the end of April 20, 2024. During the year ended December 31, 2021, the lease agreement was further extended from six to seven years, providing the Company more time to make the required exploration expenditures and lump sum payment. The Company can terminate the Agreement at its discretion.

The property is subject to a 1.75% NSR upon commencing commercial production, which can be reduced to a 0.875% NSR royalty in consideration of \$25,000,000.

On December 13, 2022, the Groundhog property was transferred from Quaterra Alaska to Blue Copper Resources Corp.

#### **Butte Valley Prospect, Nevada**

On January 26, 2022, the Company entered into a property acquisition agreement to sell and assign its options to acquire the Butte Valley property to Falcon Butte Minerals Corp. (formerly 1301666 B.C. Ltd., or "Falcon Butte") which is a private British Columbia company established to acquire mineral resource properties.

Pursuant to the agreement, Lion CG's 100% owned subsidiary Quaterra Alaska will be granted an equity position in Falcon Butte. In addition, Quaterra Alaska will maintain a 1.5% NSR on each of the Butte Valley optioned properties, which is subject to a buy-down to a 1.0% NSR in exchange for a payment of \$7,500,000 per property.

On April 5, 2022, the Company completed the assignment of the two option agreements for the Butte Valley Property.

On April 13, 2022, the Company amended the assignment agreement. Pursuant to the addendum Falcon Butte was to pay a total of \$500,000 in exchange for a 0.5% buy-down and retirement of certain NSRs held by the Company. During the year ended December 31, 2022, the full consideration of \$500,000 was received.

On December 13, 2022, the Butte Valley Royalty rights were transferred from Quaterra Alaska to Blue Copper Resources Corp.

#### **Chaco Bear and Ashton Properties, British Columbia**

On August 25, 2021, the Company entered into a non-binding letter of intent (the "LOI") with Houston Minerals Ltd. ("Houston") setting forth the terms of an option whereby the Company may acquire a 100% interest in the Chaco Bear Property located directly east of the Golden Triangle of British Columbia, and the Ashton Property located near Lytton, British Columbia (Collectively, the "Properties").

Under the terms of the LOI, the Company and Houston propose to enter into a definitive agreement whereby the Company can earn up to a 100% interest in the Properties by making the following share issuances and cash payments over a four-year period:

- issuing 8,000,000 common shares of the Company on closing (issued on March 17, 2022);
- making annual lease payments on the Properties after 2021;
- incurring CAD\$150,000 of exploration expenditures on the Chaco Bear Property and CAD\$50,000 of exploration expenditures on the Ashton Property before the end of 2021 (paid);
- incurring exploration expenditures of at least the value of the annual assessment multiplied by 1.5 for periods after 2021 (claims were renewed and extended through to early 2025, resulting in no obligation on exploration expenditures until 2024);
- paying CAD\$1,500,000 for the Chaco Bear Property and CAD\$1,000,000 for the Ashton Property on or before 4 years from the closing, which amounts are payable in cash or common shares of the Company; and
- making annual advance royalty payments in the fourth and fifth year from the closing in the amounts of CAD\$250,000 on the Chaco Bear Property and CAD\$150,000 on the Ashton Property.

On September 17, 2021, the parties agreed to an amendment to the LOI to include a 2.5% NSR on each property. Prior to feasibility, the Company may reduce the NSR to 1.0% on the Chaco Bear Property in consideration for a payment of CAD\$6,000,000 and 1.0% on the Ashton Property for a payment of CAD\$3,000,000. Post feasibility, the Company may purchase the remaining 1.0% NSR on the Chaco Bear Property for CAD\$12,000,000 and the remaining 1.0% NSR on the Ashton Property for CAD\$6,000,000.

On January 26, 2022, the Company entered into an option agreement with Houston to replace the LOI. The consideration terms under the LOI are unchanged except that the term of the option has changed from a four-year period to a ten-

year period and annual advance royalty payments in the amounts of CAD\$250,000 on the Chaco Bear Property and CAD\$150,000 on the Ashton Property are to be paid starting on the fifth year from closing through to the ninth year from closing instead of only in the fourth and fifth years from the closing. All other consideration terms remain unchanged.

In addition, commencing on January 31, 2022, and on January 31 of each year thereafter during the Option Period, Lion CG shall pay the following option maintenance fees to Houston: (a) CAD\$60,000 in respect of the Chaco Bear Property; and (b) CAD\$40,000 in respect of the Ashton Property.

Lion CG funded an initial work program in 2021 of CAD\$200 on the properties in consideration for the grant of the option, and on March 16, 2022, the transaction was closed. The Company may exercise the Option for a period of up to ten years to acquire (i) the Chaco Bear property by paying CAD\$1,500,000 to Houston, in cash or in common shares of the Company at the Company's option; and/or (ii) the Ashton Property by paying CAD\$1,000,000 to Houston in cash or in common shares of the Company at the Company's option, and in either case common shares will be valued using the volume weighted average trading price of the Company's common shares for the twenty trading day period ending three trading days prior to the date of issuance of such Lion CG shares, with such cash payments being subject to a discount of between 5% and 15% based on the timing of exercise and cumulative exploration expenditures incurred as at the time of exercise. Houston will retain a 2.5% net smelter returns royalty on any of the Properties for which an Option has been exercised by the Company.

### **Blue Copper Prospect, Montana**

During the year ended as of December 31, 2021, Blue Copper LLC acquired and staked a district scale exploration and resource discovery opportunity (the "Blue Copper Prospect"), comprising more than 7,430 acres in Powell County and Lewis & Clark County in Montana, USA. The area is prospective for high grade copper-gold skarns and porphyry copper-gold mineralization.

The Blue Copper Prospect, located approximately 25 miles WNW of Helena, Montana, is centered on the Late Cretaceous Blackfoot City Stock (the "BCS"), which was intruded into the Black Mountain syncline, composed primarily of a Paleozoic sequence of limestone, dolomite, shale and sandstone. The BCS crystallized at the same time as the nearby Boulder batholith, which is host to the world-famous Butte copper mines.

The claim block encompasses a group of more than 14 historic small mines that produced high grade gold, copper and tungsten. Importantly, the streams draining the BCS have a recorded production of almost 200,000 ounces of placer gold through 1959, although the actual production was most likely much higher. Despite the extensive placer production, only one lode gold mine operated historically and produced less than 10,000 ounces. Several major companies conducted exploration programs in the area during the late 1980s and early 1990s. The Company is currently acquiring, compiling and interpreting historic and recent field mapping, sampling and lab data to develop a 2022 work plan which will be provided when available.

As a part of the Blue Copper Prospect, Blue Copper LLC entered into a purchase agreement with Four O Six Mining & Exploration LLC to acquire certain existing and additional unpatented mining claims. In exchange for the unpatented mining claims, as part of the closing of the transaction, the Company issued 1,500,000 common shares of the capital of the Company and provided a NSR of 2% with a buy-down of 1% NSR for \$1,500,000.

Blue Copper LLC has staked an additional 131 claims to expand the Blue Copper Prospect. The Company has provided a NSR of 2% with a buy-down of 1% NSR for \$600,000 to Four O Six Mining & Exploration LLC for these claims.

On February 14, 2022, as a part of the Blue Copper Prospect transaction, the Company issued 1,500,000 common shares as part of the closing of the transaction.

On December 13, 2022, Quaterra Alaska's interest in Blue Copper LLC was transferred to Blue Copper Resources Corp.

On October 28, 2022, Blue Copper LLC entered into a mining lease agreement with Snowshoe Creek LLC ("Snowshoe"), a Montana limited liability company owned by the CEO of the of the Company. Pursuant to the Agreement, Snowshoe will lease the property, including the patented mining claims on the Arnold, Snowbird and Montana, to Blue Copper LLC for a term of 20 years and extendable on the sole decision of Blue Copper LLC.

As consideration, 15,000,000 preferred stock in Blue Copper Resources Corp. was issued to the CEO of the Company. The transaction was measured using the fair value of the asset received as the cost was more clearly evident. The fair value of the asset received was calculated using the original cost incurred to acquire the property and was determined to be \$500,000.

### **Option to Earn-in Agreement with Rio Tinto**

On March 18, 2022, the Company entered into an Option to Earn-in Agreement with Rio Tinto to advance studies and exploration at Lion CG's copper assets in Mason Valley, Nevada. Under the agreement, Rio Tinto has the option to earn a 65% interest in the assets, comprising 34,494 acres of land, including the historic Yerington mine, greenfield MacArthur Project, Wassuk property, the Bear deposit, and associated water rights (the "Mining Assets"). In addition, Rio Tinto will evaluate the potential commercial deployment of its Nuton™ technologies at the site. Nuton™ offers copper heap leaching technologies developed by Rio Tinto to deliver greater copper recovery from mined ore and access new sources of copper such as low-grade sulphide resources and reprocessing of stockpiles and mineralized waste. The technologies have the potential to deliver leading environmental performance through more efficient water usage, lower carbon emission, and the ability to reclaim mine sites by reprocessing waste.

The stages of the Agreement are set out below.

#### **Stage 1**

Rio Tinto will pay up to four million U.S. dollars (\$4,000,000) for an exclusive earn-in option and agreed-upon Mason Valley study and evaluation works to be completed by Lion CG no later than December 31, 2022.

#### **Stage 2**

Within forty-five (45) days of the completion of Stage 1, Rio Tinto will provide notice to Lion CG whether Rio Tinto elects to proceed with Stage 2 (notice provided), upon which Rio Tinto will pay up to five million U.S. dollars (\$5,000,000) for agreed-upon Mason Valley study and evaluation works to be completed by Lion CG within 12 months from the date that the parties agree upon the scope of Stage 2 work (\$7,500,000 paid January 13, 2023, representing \$5,000,000 for Stage 2 and an advance of \$2,500,000 for Stage 3).

Stages 1 and 2 may be accelerated at Rio Tinto's option.

#### **Stage 3 - Feasibility Study**

Within sixty (60) days of the completion of Stage 2, Rio Tinto shall provide notice to Lion CG whether Rio Tinto will exercise its Option and fund a Feasibility Study based on the results of the Stage 1 and Stage 2 work programs. Rio Tinto will fully-fund the Feasibility Study and ancillary work completed by Lion CG in amount not to exceed fifty million U.S. dollars (\$50,000,000).

#### **Investment Decision**

Upon completion of the Feasibility Study, Rio Tinto and Lion CG will decide whether to create an investment vehicle into which the Mining Assets will be transferred, with Rio Tinto holding not less than a 65% interest in the investment vehicle.

- If Rio Tinto elects to not to create the investment vehicle, then Lion CG shall grant to Rio Tinto a 1.5% NSR on the Mining Assets.
- If Rio Tinto elects to create the investment vehicle but Lion CG elects not to create the investment vehicle, then, at Rio Tinto's option, Lion CG shall create the investment vehicle and Rio Tinto will purchase Lion CG's interest in the investment vehicle for fair market value.

#### **Project Financing**

- Following the formation of the investment vehicle, any project financing costs incurred will be funded by Rio Tinto and Lion CG in proportion to their respective ownership interest in the investment vehicle.
- Rio Tinto may elect to fund up to sixty million U.S. dollars (\$60,000,000) of Lion CG's project financing costs in exchange for a 10% increase in Rio Tinto's ownership percentage. In addition, upon mutual agreement of Rio Tinto and Lion CG, Rio Tinto may fund an additional forty million U.S. dollars (\$40,000,000) of Lion CG's project financing costs in exchange for an additional 5% increase in Rio Tinto's ownership percentage.

- If Lion CG's ownership percentage in the investment vehicle is diluted to 10% or less, then Lion CG's ownership interest will be converted into a 1% uncapped NSR.

On April 27, 2022, the Company TSX Venture Exchange approved the Company's Option to Earn-in Agreement with Rio Tinto America Inc.

On May 15, 2022, Rio Tinto approved the Stage 1 Work Program and provided \$4,000,000 to the Company for the development of the Mason Valley projects, which has been completed as of December 31, 2022. The remaining funds of the \$4,000,000 will be spent per agreement with Rio Tinto in 2023 for Stage 2.

Subsequent to December 31, 2022, the Company reached an agreement with Rio Tinto on the scope of the Stage 2 Program of Work. As a result, the Company received \$7,500,000, comprising of \$5,000,000 for Stage 2 work and \$2,500,000 as an immediate advance on part of the Stage 3 financing.

## Performance Highlights

### • Mason Valley Stage 1 Work Program

In May 2022, the Company commenced on the Stage 1 Work Program which included the following scopes and ran through to the end of 2022:

- Project Permitting and Baseline Studies
  - Pre-Application Pre-Plan of Operations submitted to agencies
  - MacArthur Exploration Plan of Operations Update
  - Water Resources studies (surface and groundwater)
  - Wildlife Baseline
  - Risk and Opportunity Register
  - Draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan / strategy development
  - Permitting Plan / strategy development
  - Agency kickoff meeting
- Metallurgical Testing of MacArthur and Yerington Samples
  - Column testing for MacArthur oxide ores was substantially completed
  - The Rio Tinto Bundoora and Bingham laboratories have tested MacArthur sulphide, Yerington sulphide and Yerington S23 materials.
- Engineering Studies
  - Yerington Pit Dewatering Evaluation
  - Yerington Starter Facility Infrastructure Evaluation
  - Update of MacArthur 2022 Internal Scoping Study to include Nuton™ technology
  - Concept Study for the Yerington Project to include Nuton™ technology
- Exploration
  - As communicated in the news release dated August 22, 2022, exploration drilling objectives included evaluation of the mineralized potential beneath the legacy Yerington pit, the Montana-Yerington prospect located between the Ann Mason project and the Yerington pit, and verification work around the MacArthur Project. Additionally, an expansion of this year's exploration scope allowed the Company to initiate surface trenching at the Mason Pass oxide copper prospect.
  - Yerington Pit: One core drill hole, YM-046, totaling 1,792.5 feet, was drilled beneath the Yerington pit to test for additional sulphide mineralization below the known resource (NI 43-101 Technical Report, Yerington Copper Project, January 3, 2014). The drill hole was located on the central portion of the southern pit rim, angled northeasterly to prospect beneath the pit. This drill hole identified both oxide (374 ft of 0.12% TCu) and sulphide (1,222 ft of 0.13% TCu, including 75 ft of 0.23% TCu) mineralization. A portion of the sulphide mineralization is located beneath the known resource.

- Montana-Yerington Prospect: One core drill hole, MY-001, totaling 668 feet, was drilled at the Montana-Yerington prospect to test for copper oxide and sulphide potential beneath an outcropping phyllic altered leached cap. Additionally, the drill hole tested for the eastern portion of a sulphide vein that was underground mined in the early 1900s. The drill hole was angled northerly to test beneath the leach cap and prospect for the sulphide vein. This drill hole identified two sulphide vein structures associated with the historical underground mining operations. Intercepts include 23.5 ft of 0.49% TCu and 8.5 ft of 1.64% TCu. Additionally, a low-grade sulphide intercept was identified below these veins (114 ft of 0.10% TCu) which may be an eastward continuation of the Ann Mason copper deposit.
- MacArthur Project: Three core drill holes totaling 2,291 feet were drilled at the MacArthur Project. Two of the drill holes (QM-329 and QM-330) were drilled in the central portion of the resource shell, with each drill hole intersecting oxide and chalcocite mineralization. Significant intercepts include drill hole QM-329 (371 ft of 0.16% TCu, including 76.5 ft of 0.27% TCu) and QM-330 (157 ft of 0.25% TCu, including 58.5 ft of 0.40% TCu). A portion of the QM-330 intercept is below the current resource pit shell. Additionally, QM-329 intersected primary sulphide mineralization (40 ft of 0.17% TCu). QM-331, drilled on the eastern edge of the resource shell, also intersected oxide mineralization (10 ft of 1.06% TCu) and a mixture of chalcocite and chalcopyrite mineralization (16.5 ft of 0.18% TCu).
- Mason Pass Oxide Copper Prospect: An expansion of the 2022 exploration scope included surface trenching at the Mason Pass oxide copper prospect located approximately 1.5 miles south-southwest of the MacArthur pit. Two trenches totaling 848 linear feet were completed initially, and subsequently expanded to five trenches totaling 1,873 linear feet due to the appearance of visible oxide copper in the first two trenches. The trenches range from 6 to 15 ft in depth and were mapped and channel sampled at ten-foot intervals within each trench, with samples analyzed by ALS Chemex in Reno, Nevada. The Company announced in the December 13, 2022 press release further assay results from the Mason Pass prospect surface trenching program, as previously discussed in the November 10, 2022 press release. The highlights of the exploration at the Mason Pass Oxide Prospect include:
  - At-surface, ore-grade, copper oxide mineralization has been encountered in recently excavated trenches at Mason Pass, with mineralization remaining open and untested in most directions.
  - Trench 4 includes 200 ft of 0.28% TCu and 30 ft of 0.22% TCu, and averages 0.14% TCu over the full length of the trench (568 ft).
  - Trench 1 includes 20 ft of 0.70% TCu and 90 ft of 0.34% TCu, and averages 0.14% TCu over 390 ft (from 50 to 440 ft).
  - Trench 2 includes 50 ft of 0.20% TCu, and averages 0.08% TCu over 358 ft (from 50 to 408 ft).

The four trenches that reached bedrock all encountered copper oxide mineralization.. The Company is now planning further exploration to evaluate the extent of this mineralization to the west, south, and at depth, as well as testing for potential to the east, beneath the cover of volcanics that postdate the mineralization. The character of the mineralization observed in the trench exposures is similar to that exposed in the MacArthur pit where historic benching exposes copper oxide mineralization primarily in the footwall of the low angle MacArthur fault and ranging from 30 to 250 feet in thickness. On May 12, 2022, the Company initiated the Project environmental permitting process with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, a first step in formalizing the Company's permitting efforts.

The Company delivered a bulk metallurgical sample to Rio Tinto's Nuton™ labs, where comprehensive metallurgical testing and optimization studies are being undertaken on oxide, transitional and sulphide material sourced from both the MacArthur and Yerington deposits.

The Company announced on February 10, 2023 the commencement of its 2023 exploration program as funded by US\$5,000,000 received for Stage 2 Program of Work and a US\$2,500,000 early advance of the Stage 3 Program of Work.

The exploration program is composed of 10,000 ft of core drilling, 9,500 ft of reverse circulation drilling and various soil and rock chip sampling programs.

Primary exploration targets include:

- Bear Deposit
- MacArthur East
- MacArthur Wedge
- Mason Pass Prospect
- Reno Prospect
- Singatse Target

- **MacArthur Copper Project Resource Estimate**

On February 25, 2022, the Company announced the results of an updated mineral resource estimate for the MacArthur Copper Project located in Mason Valley, Nevada. The mineral resource estimate was prepared pursuant to NI 43-101 by Independent Mining Consultants of Tucson, Arizona.

The resource estimate includes total contained copper within a pit shell using a variable recovery of four relevant oxidation material types.

Highlights:

- a) Measured and Indicated Resource: 300,331,000 tons, grading 0.167% TCu containing 1,000,408,000 pounds of total copper.
- b) Inferred Resource: 156,450,000 tons, grading 0.151% TCu containing 471,714,000 pounds of total copper.
- c) The updated mineral resource estimate results in an increase of over 55% of the Measured and Indicated Resource compared to the prior resource estimate as constrained within the 2014 PEA pit design (MacArthur Copper Project Amended NI 43-101 Technical Report Preliminary Economic Assessment, January 17, 2014).
- d) The oxide and transition mineralized envelope of the deposit is confirmed to be open to the south-southeast. Additional sulfide mineralization remains open to the north and east.

- **Mineral Resource Estimate**

The updated Measured and Indicated and Inferred Resources for the MacArthur Copper Project are reported in Table 1 as set out below. The changes to the mineral resource are based on the 2021 infill drill and assay program, updated geology shapes, and updated metallurgical review and analyses.

Table 1: Mineral Resource Estimate

Measured + indicated Resources  
February 25, 2022

| Material Type | Cutoff Grade | Ktons   | Average Grade<br>% TCu | Contained Copper<br>(lbs x 1000) |
|---------------|--------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Leach Cap     | 0.06         | 15,610  | 0.12                   | 37,482                           |
| Oxide         | 0.06         | 226,524 | 0.159                  | 718,692                          |
| Transition    | 0.06         | 43,382  | 0.213                  | 185,049                          |
| Sulphide      | 0.06/0.08    | 14,815  | 0.2                    | 59,185                           |
| Total         |              | 300,331 | 0.167                  | 1,000,408                        |

| Material Type | Cutoff Grade | Ktons   | Average Grade<br>% TCu | Contained Copper<br>(lbs x 1000) |
|---------------|--------------|---------|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Leach Cap     | 0.06         | 18,579  | 0.085                  | 31,486                           |
| Oxide         | 0.06         | 105,525 | 0.146                  | 309,149                          |
| Transition    | 0.06         | 23,283  | 0.202                  | 94,137                           |
| Sulphide      | 0.06/0.08    | 9,063   | 0.204                  | 36,942                           |
| Total         |              | 156,450 | 0.151                  | 471,714                          |

(%) = percent, TCu = total copper, lbs = pounds, Ktons = short tons x 1000

1. The cutoff grades used for reporting the mineral resources are at or above the internal cutoff grades of between 0.03% and 0.06% TCu for the Leach Cap, Oxide and Transition zones. The sulphide zone internal cutoff grades are 0.06% TCu for the MacArthur and North zones and 0.08% TCu for Gallagher because of a higher acid consumption.
2. Mr. Herbert E. Welhener, MMSA-QPM, an employee of Independent Mining Consultants, Inc. is the Qualified Person for the Mineral Resource estimate.
3. The “reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction” shape has been created based on a copper price of US\$3.75/lb, employment of heap leach extraction methods, processing costs of US\$1.56 or \$2.20 per short ton, and mining costs of \$1.92/short ton for rock and \$1.46/short ton alluvium, a variable copper recovery, and tonnage factor of 12.5 cubic feet per short ton for in situ rock.
4. Rounding as required by Best Practices established by the CIM reporting guidelines may result in slight apparent differences between tonnes, grade and contained metal content.

#### Cautionary Note to Investors

While the terms “measured (mineral) resource,” “indicated (mineral) resource” and “inferred (mineral) resource” are recognized and required by National Instrument 43-101 – Standards of Disclosure for Mineral Projects, investors are cautioned that except for that portion of mineral resources classified as mineral reserves, mineral resources do not have demonstrated economic viability. Investors are cautioned not to assume that all or any part of measured or indicated mineral resources will ever be upgraded into mineral reserves. Additionally, investors are cautioned that inferred mineral resources have a high degree of uncertainty as to their existence, as to whether they can be economically or legally mined or will ever be upgraded to a higher category.

#### • Resource Estimate Methodology

##### Drill Hole Database

The resource estimate was completed using data from 747 drill holes for a total of 299,045 feet drilled. These holes include 23 holes drilled in 2021; 10 as infill holes and 13 holes drilled for metallurgical samples. The total of core drilling is 64,681 ft in 102 holes and the total rotary drilling is 234,360 ft in 636 holes.

##### Geologic Model

The MacArthur Project is an oxidized portion of a porphyry copper system that has been subjected to several weathering, oxidization and enrichment cycles. The copper mineralization is hosted in altered and weathered Middle Jurassic granodiorite and quartz monzonite intruded by west-northwesterly-trending, moderate to steeply north-dipping quartz porphyry dike swarms.

The geology of the deposit has been interpreted on forty-one north-south sections and on thirty-three east-west sections. The deposit was interpreted into four mineral type zones and definition completed as three-dimensional digital models.

Both lithology and oxidization states have been incorporated into the block model based upon geologic domains developed from the drill hole geologic logs. The oxidization zones of leach cap, oxide, transition, and sulphide have been incorporated into the block model and are used as boundaries for the estimation of total copper grades using an inverse distance cubed estimation method. Surfaces of the oxidation zones have been used to create domain boundaries and used to code the assay, composite, and block model. The block model has been created to encompass all of the drill holes available, within 25ft x 25ft x 25ft (vertical) blocks. In plan view, the resource block model covers an area of 14,500 ft in the north-south direction and 18,100 ft in the east-west direction. The block model encompasses three copper mineralization deposits: MacArthur, North Area and Gallagher.

The mineral resource is tabulated within a defined open pit shell based on economic inputs developed from the metallurgical test work and engineering completed on the project to date. The pit shell economics are based on the premise that the Project will employ a heap leach, SX-EW recovery process. The shapes created by open pit optimization software used the following parameters:

- Copper price = US\$3.75/lb
- Leach Cap – recovery of total copper grade = 60%
- Oxide zone – recovery of total copper grade = 71%
- Transition zone – recovery of total copper grade = 65%
- Sulphide zone – recovery of total copper grade = 40%

#### Block Model Validation

The model was validated through comparisons of grades, grade distribution and tonnage-grade curves of the ID grades with the distribution of drill hole composited grades.

- **Water Rights Sale**

On February 24, 2021, the Company announced a purchase and sale agreement to sell certain primary groundwater rights to Desert Pearl Farms LLC ("Desert Pearl"), a Yerington-based company involved in agriculture, for \$2,910,000 (the "Purchase and Sale Agreement"). In early March 2021, the Company filed an application with the State of Nevada Division of Water Resources ("NDWR") to change the manner of use of the water rights from mining to agriculture and their place of use ("Change Application"). The Change Application was subsequently withdrawn on October 17, 2022.

Under the terms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement, Desert Pearl made a \$1,000,000 initial payment to the Company on March 5, 2021. On May 26, 2022, the company announced it had reached an amicable agreement with Desert Pearl Farms to terminate the contract on the sale of the Company's water rights. As a consequence of the termination, the Company will recover the water permit designated for mining and milling use. The \$1,000,000 deposit has been returned to Desert Pearl Farms. This water permit is currently subject to court proceedings and settlement discussions between the Company and the State of Nevada, as discussed in the following paragraph.

On July 23, 2021, the Company received a notice from the State of Nevada that three water rights permits had been forfeited. Further, the application for an extension of time to prevent forfeiture of a fourth certificate was denied. The Company is vigorously appealing the State's decision and hired legal counsel to challenge and reverse the State's decision. As discussed in the previous paragraph, one of the permits affected by the State's letter was subject to the Purchase and Sale Agreement announced on February 24, 2021. On August 20, 2021, the Company filed a Petition for Judicial Review of the Forfeiture Notice and has retained legal counsel to vigorously undertake the appeal process. SPS subsequently filed and was granted a Stay of the Forfeiture Notice on September 15, 2021. SPS filed its Opening Brief on March 28, 2022. The State Engineer filed its Answering Brief on July 8, 2022. SPS filed its Reply Brief on August 25, 2022. A hearing regarding the status of the forfeiture appeal was held in the Third Judicial Court District in Lyon County on November 4, 2022. On December 6, 2022, the Judge remanded the case back to the State for further written findings based on issues raised at the hearing. The Company has not received a response from the State since the Remand Order was issued. Since receipt of the Forfeiture Notice, SPS has been in contact with the State Engineer's office in an attempt to resolve the Forfeiture Notice.

## **Investment in Associate**

On April 5, 2022, the Company received 16,049,444 shares in Falcon Butte Minerals Corp. (formerly 1301666 BC Ltd., "Falcon Butte"), which is a private British Columbia company established to acquire mineral resource properties, in connection with a property acquisition agreement to assign the Company's options to acquire the Butte Valley property. At the time of acquisition, the 16,049,444 shares represented 25.54% of shares outstanding, and as at December 31, 2022, the Company's share ownership was reduced to 19.44%. The Company and Falcon Butte have common directors and managerial personnel, as such, management has assessed that the Company has significant influence over Falcon Butte and that the investment should be accounted for using the equity method of accounting.

The opening balance of the investment was determined to be \$1,906,000 (\$2,374,000 CAD) which represents the fair value of the shares received. The value of the shares was determined based on Falcon Butte's financing that closed concurrently with the property acquisition. The Company's share of net loss for the period from acquisition on April 5, 2022 to December 31, 2022 is \$389,000. The portion of net loss attributable to the Company was determined using the weighted average percentage of voting rights held by the Company throughout the period.

On December 8, 2022, the Company transferred 116,071 shares of Falcon Butte to the CEO of the Company, pursuant to amended terms of the CEO's employment agreement. The cost value of the shares associated with the transfer was determined to be \$13,000 and a gain of \$19,000 was recorded on the transaction.

## **Non-controlling interest**

On December 13, 2022, Quaterra Alaska assigned and transferred all right, title and interest in the Groundhog property, Butte Valley Royalty, 100% of the outstanding membership interest held in Blue Copper LLC, and the interest in the Nieves project to Blue Copper Resources Corp.

As consideration, on the date of transfer of assets to Blue Copper Resources Corp, Quaterra Alaska was issued 57,513,764 common shares of Blue Copper Resources Corp which represented 79.3% of all issued and outstanding shares at December 13, 2022 and December 31, 2022.

## **Simple Agreement for Future Equity**

During the year ended December 31, 2022, Blue Copper Resources Corp. raised \$197,500 with a valuation cap of \$1,450,000 and \$569,000 with a valuation cap of \$4,120,000, respectively, by entering into Simple Agreement for Future Equity Notes ("SAFE Note") with several parties. The valuation cap provides the basis for the price at which the SAFE notes are converted into common stock of BCRC. The SAFE Notes resulted in cash proceeds to the Company in exchange for the right to stock of the Company, or cash at a future date in the occurrence of certain events, as follows:

If there is an equity financing before the expiration or termination of the instrument, the Company will automatically issue to the investor, a number of shares of common stock equal to the purchase amount divided by the conversion price. The conversion price is equal to the price per share equal to the Valuation Cap divided by the Company capitalization immediately prior to the transaction.

If there is a liquidity event before the expiration or termination of the instrument, the investor will, at its option, either (i) receive a cash payment equal to the purchase amount, or (ii) automatically receive from the Company a number of shares of common stock equal to the purchase amount divided by the liquidity price, if the investor fails to select the cash option.

If there is a dissolution event before the instrument expires or terminates, the Company will pay an amount equal to the purchase amount, due and payable to the investor immediately prior to, or concurrent with, the consummation of the dissolution event.

The SAFE notes were classified as liabilities pursuant to ASC 480 as certain redemptions are based upon the occurrence of certain events that are outside of the control of the Company, and were measured at fair value at each reporting period, with changes in fair value recorded within the Consolidated Statements of Operations.

## Proposed Transactions

The Company has no proposed transactions other than as disclosed in this MD&A.

## Results of Operations

The following table summarizes the Company's financial results for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

| <b>Years ended December 31,</b><br>(In thousands of U.S dollars) | <b>2022</b><br>\$ | <b>2021</b><br>\$ | <b>Change</b><br>\$ | <b>Change</b><br>% |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Operating expenses</b>                                        |                   |                   |                     |                    |
| Exploration expenditures                                         | 4,302             | 3,642             | 660                 | 18                 |
| General Office                                                   | 140               | 58                | 82                  | 143                |
| Interest                                                         | 144               | -                 | 144                 | 100                |
| Insurance                                                        | 61                | 30                | 31                  | 103                |
| Investor Relations                                               | 52                | 206               | (154)               | (75)               |
| Professional fees                                                | 715               | 493               | 222                 | 45                 |
| Rent                                                             | 14                | 13                | 1                   | 8                  |
| Rio Tinto deposit                                                | (3,237)           | -                 | (3,237)             | (100)              |
| Salaries and benefits                                            | 733               | 938               | (205)               | (22)               |
| Share-based payments                                             | 1,173             | 1,077             | 96                  | 9                  |
| Transfer agent and regulatory                                    | 104               | 108               | (4)                 | (4)                |
| Travel                                                           | 54                | 87                | (33)                | (38)               |
| <b>Operating loss</b>                                            | <b>(4,255)</b>    | <b>(6,652)</b>    | <b>(2,397)</b>      |                    |
| Fair value gain (loss) on derivative liabilities                 | 429               | (4)               | 433                 | 10,825             |
| Foreign exchange gain (loss)                                     | 13                | 11                | 2                   | 18                 |
| Gain on settlement of debt                                       | 20                | -                 | 20                  | 100                |
| Gain on transfer of shares                                       | 19                | -                 | 19                  | 100                |
| Accretion expense                                                | (108)             | -                 | (108)               | (100)              |
| Gain on sale of Butte Valley                                     | 2,207             | -                 | 2,207               | 100                |
| NSR buy-down                                                     | 500               | -                 | 500                 | 100                |
| Share of loss in associate                                       | (389)             | -                 | (389)               | (100)              |
| Interest and other income                                        | -                 | 8                 | (8)                 | (100)              |
| Loss on revaluation of SAFE notes                                | (364)             | -                 | (364)               | (100)              |
| Realized gain on marketable securities                           | -                 | 189               | (189)               | (100)              |
| <b>Loss and comprehensive loss</b>                               | <b>(1,928)</b>    | <b>(6,448)</b>    | <b>4,520</b>        |                    |

For the year ended December 31, 2022, the Company incurred a net loss of \$1,928,000 compared to a net loss of \$6,448,000 in the prior year. The decrease in net loss of \$4,520,000 is due to a few major transactions including the sale of the Butte Valley property to Falcon Butte whereby the Company received 16,049,444 common shares of Falcon Butte with a fair value of \$1,906,000 and \$500,000 cash for the property, resulting in a gain on sale of \$2,207,000. Pursuant to an addendum to the agreement with Falcon Butte, Falcon Butte was to pay a total of \$500,000 in exchange for a 0.5% buy-down and retirement of certain NSR, which as of December 31, 2022, \$500,000 has been received and included in loss and comprehensive loss for the period. Furthermore, the Company received \$4,000,000 from Rio Tinto for an exclusive earn-in option, of which, the Company incurred \$3,237,000 on agreed-upon Mason Valley study and evaluation works that was completed during the year.

The decrease in net loss is partially offset by the recognition of the Company's share of net loss of its investment in associate for the period of \$389,000 coupled with a revaluation loss on the revaluation of SAFE notes issued during 2022.

Other notable variances within expense items are summarized as follows:

- Increase in share-based payments of \$96,000 due to the issuance of 11,394,283 stock options in the year ended December 31, 2022.
- Increase in professional fees of \$222,000 is primarily due to legal fees incurred in connection with the purchase of the Chaco Bear and Ashton property, sale of the Butte Valley property, issuance of convertible debentures, and option to earn-in agreement with Rio Tinto America Inc. The Company also incurred fees for the valuation of the Butte Valley property and transaction based strategic consulting.
- Decrease in investor relations of \$154,000 due to the Company completed significant equity private placements in the prior year. There was no such equity financings in the current year.
- Interest and accretion expense increased by \$144,000 and \$108,000, respectively. This is due to the Company issuing convertible debentures during the year ended December 31, 2022.

### Summary of Quarterly Financial Information

For the three months ended December 31, 2022, the Company incurred a net loss of \$1,133,000 compared to a net loss of \$910,000 during the three months ended September 30, 2022. The increase in net loss is primarily due to a loss on the revaluation of SAFE notes of \$364,000 issued by Blue Copper Resources Corp., and recognized in the quarter, which was not present in the quarter ended September 30, 2022. This is coupled with an increase in share of loss of investment in associate as a result of greater expenses incurred in the quarter for Falcon Butte. See Performance Highlights for further details.

The following table sets out the quarterly financial information for each of the last eight quarters:

| <b>(In thousands of U.S dollars except for per share amount)</b> | <b>Q4'22</b>   | <b>Q3'22</b>  | <b>Q2'22</b> | <b>Q1'22</b>   | <b>Q4'21</b>   | <b>Q3'21</b>   | <b>Q2'21</b>   | <b>Q1'21</b>  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| General administration                                           | (515)          | (1,001)       | (806)        | (868)          | (943)          | (676)          | (1,116)        | (275)         |
| Fair value (loss) gain on derivative liabilities                 | 377            | 17            | (2)          | 37             | (31)           | 84             | (38)           | (19)          |
| Foreign exchange gain (loss)                                     | (11)           | 12            | (4)          | 16             | (38)           | 31             | 15             | 3             |
| Other Income                                                     | -              | -             | -            | -              | -              | 8              | -              | -             |
| Loss on settlement of convertible notes                          | -              | -             | -            | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| Gain on transfer of shares                                       | 19             | -             | -            | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| Gain on settlement of debt                                       | -              | 14            | 6            | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| Accretion                                                        | (57)           | (47)          | (4)          | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| Gain on sale of Butte Valley                                     | -              | -             | 2,207        | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| Loss on revaluation of SAFE notes                                | (364)          | -             | -            | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| NSR buy-down                                                     | -              | 250           | 250          | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| Share of loss of investment in associate                         | (316)          | (42)          | (31)         | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| Exploration Expenditures                                         | (1,370)        | (1,002)       | (1,349)      | (581)          | (1,733)        | (1,019)        | (826)          | (64)          |
| Rio Tinto Deposit                                                | 1,104          | 889           | 1,244        | -              | -              | -              | -              | -             |
| Gain (loss) on marketable securities                             | -              | -             | -            | -              | (9)            | (70)           | 397            | (129)         |
| <b>Net loss</b>                                                  | <b>(1,133)</b> | <b>(910)</b>  | <b>1,511</b> | <b>(1,396)</b> | <b>(2,754)</b> | <b>(1,642)</b> | <b>(1,568)</b> | <b>(484)</b>  |
| <b>Basic income (loss) per share</b>                             | <b>(0.00)</b>  | <b>(0.00)</b> | <b>0.00</b>  | <b>(0.01)</b>  | <b>(0.01)</b>  | <b>(0.01)</b>  | <b>(0.01)</b>  | <b>(0.00)</b> |

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company is an exploration stage company that has not earned any production revenue. Its operations have been dependent mainly on the option agreement with Rio- Tinto and private placements in the last few years without diluting shareholders' value. The Company may have capital requirements in excess of its currently available resources. In the event the Company's plans change, its assumptions change or prove inaccurate, or its capital resources in addition to projected cash flow, if any, prove to be insufficient to fund operations, the Company may be required to seek additional financing. There can be no assurance that the Company will have sufficient financing to meet its future capital requirements or that additional financing will be available on terms acceptable to the Company in the future.

The following table summarizes the Company's cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021:

| <b>(In thousands of U.S dollars)</b>            |           | <b>2022</b>  |           | <b>2021</b> |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| Cash used in operating activities               | \$        | (1,786)      | \$        | (5,503)     |
| Cash provided by (used in) investing activities |           | (554)        |           | 1,355       |
| Cash provided by financing activities           |           | 2,863        |           | 4,289       |
| Increase (decrease) in cash                     |           | 523          |           | 141         |
| Cash, beginning of period                       |           | 842          |           | 701         |
| <b>Cash, end of period</b>                      | <b>\$</b> | <b>1,365</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>842</b>  |

As at December 31, 2022, the Company had cash of \$1,365,000 (December 31, 2021 - \$ 842,000) and working capital deficit of \$556,000 (December 31, 2021 – deficit of \$522,000). The increase in working capital deficit of \$34,000 is primarily due to the issuance of \$767,500 in SAFE notes by Blue Copper Resources Corp., with a fair value of \$1,131,000 at December 31, 2022 which are classified as a current liability. This is partially offset by an increase in cash of \$523,000. The increase in cash is primarily due the \$2,000,000 cash proceeds raise under the Company's private placement of unsecured convertible debentures, the \$767,000 raised on the issuance of SAFE notes, and \$500,000 received pursuant to a NSR buydown. These increases are partially offset by \$613,000 of the Rio Tinto proceeds that have yet to be spent on the work program (Rio Tinto Deposit).

As of December 31, 2022, the Company had convertible debentures with a face value of \$2,000,000 and a carrying value of \$1,874,000. The debentures bear interest at a rate of 14% per annum and mature on February 17, 2024 and March 8, 2024 and are convertible into shares of the Company at \$0.067 (\$0.085 CAD) per share until June 17, 2023 and July 8, 2023, and thereafter at \$0.078 (\$0.10 CAD) per share. The holder also has the option to elect at any time prior to the election date to be repaid by way of shares the Company owns of Falcon Butte at the rate of \$0.25 per Falcon Butte share.

The Company has no operating revenues and therefore must utilize its cashflows from financing transactions to maintain its capacity to meet ongoing operating activities.

## Related Party Information

The Company's related parties include its directors and officers whose remuneration was as follows, subject to change of control provisions for officers:

| (In thousands of U.S dollars)                    | Year ended<br>December 31, 2022 | Year ended<br>December 31, 2021 |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Salaries <sup>(1)</sup>                          | \$ 504                          | \$ 491                          |
| Director's fees <sup>(2)</sup>                   | 13                              | 6                               |
| Share-based payments <sup>(3)</sup>              | 904                             | 504                             |
| Interest on convertible debenture <sup>(4)</sup> | 53                              | -                               |
|                                                  | <b>\$ 1,474</b>                 | <b>\$ 1,001</b>                 |

- (1) Charles Travis Naugle, CEO - \$250 (2021 - \$149); Stephen Goodman, President, CFO and Corporate Secretary - \$200 (2021 - \$126); Thomas Patton, Director - \$54 (2021 - \$100), Gerald Prosalendis, former President and CEO - \$Nil (2021 - \$49), Lei Wang, former CFO - \$Nil (2021 - \$51), Lawrence Page, former Corporate Secretary - \$Nil (2021 - \$16).
- (2) Thomas Pressello, Director - \$13 (2021 - \$Nil), John Kerr, former director - \$Nil (2021 - \$2), Terence Eyton, former director - \$Nil (2021 - \$4).
- (3) Charles Travis Naugle, CEO - \$367 (2021 - \$129); Stephen Goodman, President, CFO and Corporate Secretary- \$251 (2021 - \$129); Thomas Patton, director \$46 (2021 - \$30); Thomas Pressello, director - \$73 (2021 - \$Nil); Tony Alford, director - \$167 (2021 - \$66), Lei Wang, former CFO - \$Nil (2021 - \$30), John Kerr, former director - \$Nil (2021 - \$30), Leroy Wilkes, former director - \$Nil (2021 - \$30), Terence Eyton, former director - \$Nil (2021 - \$30), Lawrence Page, former Corporate Secretary - \$Nil (2021 - \$30).
- (4) Charles Travis Naugle, CEO - \$10 (2021 - \$Nil); Tony Alford, director - \$39 (2021 - \$Nil); Ekaterina Naugle, spouse of the CEO - \$2 (2021 - \$Nil); Stephen Goodman, President, CFO and Corporate Secretary \$1 (2021 - Nil); Thomas Pressello, director - \$1 (2021 - \$Nil)

- a) On January 26, 2022, the Company entered into a property acquisition agreement to assign its options to acquire the Butte Valley property to Falcon Butte, which is a private British Columbia company established to acquire mineral resource properties. Falcon Butte was founded by two individuals that are also directors and officers of Lion CG and as such the transaction is a non-arm's length transaction under TSXV rules.

On April 5, 2022, the Company completed the assignment of the two option agreements for the Butte Valley property. Pursuant to the assignment agreement, Lion CG received 16,049,444 common shares of Falcon Butte. In addition, the Company received a payment of \$500,000 from Falcon Butte, as a reimbursement of exploration expenditures and related costs incurred by the Company on the Butte Valley Property. The Company recorded a gain of \$2,207,000 on the sale of the Butte Valley property.

On April 13, 2022, the Company amended the agreement. Pursuant to the addendum Falcon Butte was to pay a total of \$500,000 in exchange for a 0.5% buy-down and retirement of certain NSRs. As of December 31, 2022, the Company has received \$500,000.

- b) As per their agreements with the Company, Charles Travis Naugle, CEO and Stephen Goodman President, CFO are entitled to receive an annual grant of options under the Stock Option Plan of the Company on each Annual Review Date. The number of options will be determined by the Board based on a minimum of 50% and maximum of 150% of the annual base compensation. The exercise price per common share of the Company will be equal to the Market Price (as defined in the TSXV policies) of the Company's common shares as at the Annual Review Date, subject to a minimum exercise price per share of CAD\$0.05. The applicable percentage on the annual base salary will be determined by the Board based on an assessment of their performance in achieving the Annual Objectives for the relevant Annual Review Period. On May 25, 2022, Charles Travis Naugle, CEO was issued 1,830,000 bonus options and Stephen Goodman, President and CFO, was granted 1,470,000 bonus options. The bonus options have an exercise price of \$0.085 and an expiry date of May 25, 2027.
- c) On June 29, 2022, Thomas Patton, a director of the Company., exercised 2,000,000 warrants with an exercise price of \$0.05/ share or gross proceeds of \$100,000.
- d) As per their agreements with the Company, Charles Travis Naugle, CEO and Stephen Goodman President and CFO were each granted 4 million Restricted Stock Units ("RSUs") on October 21, 2021, which were granted subject to vesting in three equal installments over three years. The grant of RSUs is subject to shareholder approval and

further subject to Exchange approval of the RSU Plan and the aforementioned grant thereunder. Pursuant to Exchange policies, RSUs granted prior to shareholder approval of the RSU Plan must be specifically approved by a vote of shareholders excluding the votes of the holders of the Restricted Share Units. As a result of these pending approvals, the RSUs cannot commence vesting any earlier than on date of receipt of the same. If at any point the Company divests its interests, including the option to purchase, absent a merger, sale or similar transaction in a) one of either the Chaco Bear or Ashton projects, then 50% of the total RSUs that have not vested will be cancelled, or b) both the Chaco Bear or Ashton projects, then 100% of the total RSUs that have not vested will be cancelled.

On May 18, 2022, at AGM, Charles Travis Naugle, CEO and Stephen Goodman President and CFO were each granted 4 million RSUs.

- e) On June 2, 2022, 1,333,333 RSUs issued to Stephen Goodman President and CFO were voluntarily cancelled.
- f) On June 3, 2022, 1,333,333 RSU's issued to Charles Travis Naugle, CEO, were released. The RSUs were converted into shares on July 28, 2022.
- g) On November 1, 2022, the Company amended an employment agreement with the CEO of the Company. The CEO will continue to receive remuneration of \$250,000, however, 52% of the salary will be paid in shares of Falcon Butte. The deemed price will be equal to the greater of \$0.28 per share and the latest cash financing price raised by Falcon Butte. On November 1, 2022, \$32.5 of the annual salary was converted to Falcon Butte shares and on February 1, 2023, \$32.5 will be converted to Falcon Butte shares. The payment terms are applicable for six months beginning November 1, 2022, and these payment terms can be extended on a quarterly basis.

As a result, for the year ended December 31, 2022, the CEO of the Company was paid as follows:

- \$228,333 in cash
- \$21,667 in Falcon Butte shares.

As at December 31, 2022, there was \$10,833 in prepaid expenses to the CEO of the Company relating to wages paid during the year for services subsequent to year end.

- h) During the year ended December 31, 2022, 3,500,000 options were granted to directors of the Company with an exercise price of \$0.067 and expire on May 25, 2027. In addition, 957,713 options were issued to a director of the Company with an exercise price of \$0.055 and expires on August 18, 2025.
- i) During the year ended December 31, 2022, Tony Alford, director, subscribed for \$250,000 of unsecured convertible debentures in Tranche 1. The debentures bear interest at a rate of 14% per annum and mature on February 17, 2024 and are convertible into shares of the Company at \$0.067 (\$0.085 CAD) per share until June 17, 2023 and thereafter at \$0.078 (\$0.10 CAD) per share. As of December 31, 2022, the Company accrued \$19,000 in interest related to the convertible debentures.
- j) During the year ended December 31, 2022, Tony Alford (director), Charles Travis Naugle (CEO), Stephen Goodman (CFO), Thomas Pressello (director), and Ekaterina Naugle (spouse of CEO) subscribed for \$300,000, \$147,400, \$15,000, \$10,000, and \$27,600 respectively of unsecured convertible debentures in Tranche 2. The debentures bear interest at a rate of 14% per annum and mature on March 8, 2024 and are convertible into shares of the Company at \$0.067 (\$0.085 CAD) per share until July 8, 2023 and thereafter at \$0.078 (\$0.10 CAD) per share. As of December 31, 2022, the Company accrued \$34,000 in interest related to the convertible debentures.
- k) Blue Copper Resources Corp. has a mineral property lease agreement with a company owned by Charles Travis Naugle, to lease a mineral property. The value of the leased property was determined to be \$500,000.

## Outstanding Share Information at Date of Report

Authorized: Unlimited number of common shares

Number of common shares issued and outstanding as of the date of the MD&A: 309,567,975

Number of stock options outstanding as of the date of the MD&A: 29,964,283

Number of warrants outstanding as of the date of the MD&A: 119,626,027

Number of restricted share units outstanding as of the date of the MD&A: 5,333,334

As of the date of the MD&A, the number of stock options outstanding and exercisable were:

| Expiry date                                    | Exercise price (CAD) | Number of options outstanding | Remaining contractual life in years | Number of options exercisable |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| September 20, 2023                             | 0.06                 | 1,470,000                     | 0.47                                | 1,470,000                     |
| June 21, 2024                                  | 0.07                 | 1,900,000                     | 1.23                                | 1,900,000                     |
| August 8, 2024                                 | 0.06                 | 500,000                       | 1.36                                | 500,000                       |
| June 20, 2025                                  | 0.08                 | 2,450,000                     | 2.22                                | 2,450,000                     |
| August 18, 2025                                | 0.072                | 2,394,283                     | 2.39                                | 2,394,283                     |
| June 18, 2026                                  | 0.25                 | 3,950,000                     | 3.22                                | 3,950,000                     |
| September 17, 2026                             | 0.11                 | 4,500,000                     | 3.47                                | 4,500,000                     |
| October 21, 2026                               | 0.09                 | 2,700,000                     | 3.56                                | 2,700,000                     |
| December 12, 2026                              | 0.12                 | 750,000                       | 3.70                                | 750,000                       |
| May 25, 2027                                   | 0.085                | 9,000,000                     | 4.15                                | 9,000,000                     |
| March 2, 2028                                  | 0.095                | 350,000                       | 4.93                                | 350,000                       |
| <b>Outstanding at the date of the MD&amp;A</b> |                      | <b>29,964,283</b>             |                                     | <b>29,964,283</b>             |

As of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021 the number of stock options outstanding and exercisable were:

| Expiry date                           | Exercise price (CAD) | Number of options outstanding | Remaining contractual life in years | Number of options exercisable |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| September 20, 2023                    | 0.06                 | 1,470,000                     | 0.72                                | 1,470,000                     |
| June 21, 2024                         | 0.07                 | 1,900,000                     | 1.47                                | 1,900,000                     |
| August 8, 2024                        | 0.06                 | 500,000                       | 1.61                                | 500,000                       |
| June 20, 2025                         | 0.08                 | 2,450,000                     | 2.47                                | 2,450,000                     |
| August 18, 2025                       | 0.072                | 2,394,283                     | 2.63                                | 2,394,283                     |
| June 18, 2026                         | 0.25                 | 3,950,000                     | 3.47                                | 3,950,000                     |
| September 17, 2026                    | 0.11                 | 4,500,000                     | 3.72                                | 4,500,000                     |
| October 21, 2026                      | 0.09                 | 2,700,000                     | 3.81                                | 2,700,000                     |
| December 12, 2026                     | 0.12                 | 750,000                       | 3.95                                | 750,000                       |
| May 25, 2027                          | 0.085                | 9,000,000                     | 4.40                                | 9,000,000                     |
| <b>Outstanding, December 31, 2022</b> |                      | <b>29,614,283</b>             |                                     | <b>29,614,283</b>             |

| Expiry date                           | Exercise price (CAD) | Number of options outstanding | Remaining contractual life in years | Number of options exercisable |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| June 23, 2022                         | 0.10                 | 1,695,000                     | 0.48                                | 1,695,000                     |
| September 20, 2023                    | 0.06                 | 1,470,000                     | 1.72                                | 1,470,000                     |
| June 21, 2024                         | 0.07                 | 1,900,000                     | 2.47                                | 1,900,000                     |
| August 8, 2024                        | 0.06                 | 500,000                       | 2.61                                | 500,000                       |
| June 20, 2025                         | 0.08                 | 2,450,000                     | 3.47                                | 2,450,000                     |
| June 18, 2026                         | 0.25                 | 3,950,000                     | 4.47                                | 1,975,000                     |
| September 17, 2026                    | 0.11                 | 4,500,000                     | 4.72                                | 2,250,000                     |
| October 21, 2026                      | 0.09                 | 2,700,000                     | 4.81                                | 675,000                       |
| December 12, 2026                     | 0.12                 | 750,000                       | 4.95                                | 187,500                       |
| <b>Outstanding, December 31, 2021</b> |                      | <b>19,915,000</b>             |                                     | <b>13,102,500</b>             |

The following table summarizes warrants outstanding as of the date of the MD&A, as at December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021:

| Expiry date        | Currency | Exercise price | Date of MD&A       | December 31,<br>2022 | December 31,<br>2021 |
|--------------------|----------|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| August 28, 2022    | USD      | 0.05           | -                  | -                    | 11,000,000           |
| September 20, 2022 | CAD      | 0.065          | -                  | -                    | 769,230              |
| September 13, 2024 | USD      | 0.10           | 26,488,733         | 26,488,733           | 26,488,733           |
| September 27, 2024 | USD      | 0.10           | 13,152,909         | 13,152,909           | 13,152,909           |
| October 21, 2024   | USD      | 0.10           | 31,672,632         | 31,672,632           | 31,672,632           |
| February 17, 2024  | USD      | 0.067          | 16,044,774         | 16,044,774           | -                    |
| March 8, 2024      | USD      | 0.067          | 13,805,964         | 13,805,964           | -                    |
| November 2, 2024   | USD      | 0.070          | 18,461,015         | -                    | -                    |
| <b>Outstanding</b> |          |                | <b>119,626,027</b> | <b>101,165,012</b>   | <b>83,083,504</b>    |

The following table summarizes Restricted share units outstanding as of the date of the MD&A, as of December 31, 2022 and December 31, 2021:

|                                                                                 | Number of<br>RSUs |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Outstanding at December 31, 2021                                                | -                 |
| Granted                                                                         | 8,000,000         |
| Released                                                                        | (1,333,333)       |
| Cancelled                                                                       | (1,333,333)       |
| <b>Outstanding at December 31, 2022<br/>and as of the date of this MD&amp;A</b> | <b>5,333,334</b>  |

## Risks Factors and Uncertainties

The Company is subject to many risks and uncertainties, each of which could have an adverse effect on the results, business prospects or financial position.

The board of directors has overall responsibility for establishing and oversight of the Company's risk management framework. The Company examines the various financial instrument risks to which it is exposed and assesses the impact and likelihood of those risks. Financial instruments consist of cash, investments, accounts payable, derivative liabilities and convertible debentures.

Financial instruments recorded at fair value on the consolidated balance sheets are classified using a fair value hierarchy that reflects the significance of the inputs used in making the measurements. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are:

- Level 1 – Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- 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 Company's activities expose it to financial risks of varying degrees of significance, which could affect its ability to achieve its strategic objectives for growth and shareholder returns. The principal financial risks to which the Company is exposed are, liquidity risk, currency risk, interest rate risk, credit risk and commodity price risk. The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Company's risk management framework and reviews the Company's policies on an ongoing basis.

The investment in Falcon Butte is considered to represent a level 3 fair value measurement.

a) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Company manages liquidity risk through the management of its capital structure. To mitigate this risk, the Company has a planning and budgeting process in place to determine the funds required to support its ongoing operations and capital expenditures. The Company ensures that sufficient funds are raised from equity offerings or debt financings to meet its operating requirements, after considering existing cash and expected exercise of stock options and share purchase warrants.

b) Currency risk

Foreign exchange risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Company operates in the United States and Canada; therefore, it is exposed to currency risk from transactions denominated in CAD. Currently, the Company does not have any foreign exchange hedge programs and manages its operational CAD requirements through spot purchases in the foreign exchange markets. Based on CAD financial assets and liabilities' magnitude, the Company does not have material sensitivity to CAD to USD exchange rates.

c) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Company is exposed to the interest rate risk on its liabilities through its outstanding borrowings and the interest earned on cash balances. The Company monitors its exposure to interest rates and maintains an investment policy that focuses primarily on the preservation of capital and liquidity.

d) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of a financial loss to the Company if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. The Company is exposed to credit risk through its cash and cash equivalents. Cash and cash equivalents are held in large Canadian financial institutions that have high credit ratings assigned by international credit rating agencies.

### **Subsequent Events**

- I. On January 13, 2023, the Company received \$7,500,000 from Rio Tinto, comprising of \$5,000,000 for stage 2 work and \$2,500,000 as an immediate advance on part of the stage 3 financing.
- II. On March 2, 2023, the Company granted 350,000 stock options with an exercise price of \$0.095 CAD and an expiry date of March 2, 2028.
- III. On March 2, 2023, the Company closed a private placement of unsecured convertible debentures for gross proceeds of \$1,306,172 (\$1,753,796.50 CAD). The debentures bear interest at a rate of 14% per annum, mature on November 2, 2024, and are convertible into shares of the Company at \$0.07 (\$0.095 CAD) per share up to January 2, 2024 and thereafter at \$0.074 (\$0.10 CAD) per share. The holder also has the option to elect at any time prior to the election date to be repaid by way of shares the Company owns of Falcon Butte at the rate of \$0.28 per Falcon Butte share.  
  
In connection with the sale of the Debentures, the Company will also issued 18,461,015 common share purchase warrants to the purchasers. Each Warrant entitles the holder to acquire a common share of the Company at a price of \$0.07 (\$0.095 CAD) until November 2, 2024.
- IV. As at December 31, 2022, the Company had satisfied all obligations of the Wassuk property, allowing the Company to exercise their right to acquire 100% interest in the property. On January 14, 2023, the Company exercised this right, and transfer of claims are expected to occur in April 2023.

- V. On March 2, 2023, BCRC completed a financing of \$2,000,000 by way of a private placement and issued 23,809,524 units at a price of \$0.084 per share. Each unit consists of one common share, and one common share purchase warrant exercisable at \$0.15 for a period of 1 year.

At December 31, 2022, BCRC had received \$767,500 in SAFE Notes, and an additional \$100,000 subsequent to the year. The private placement described above was considered a triggering event, and the face value of SAFE Notes of \$867,500 were converted into common shares of BCRC resulting in 21,629,386 common shares being issued.

As a result, Lion CG's ownership in BCRC was reduced to 48.8% as of March 2, 2023.

- VI. On March 11, 2023, the agreement between Blue Copper LLC and Snowshoe Creek LLC was amended to include an extension term, that after the lease term of 20 years, Blue Copper LLC has the ability to extend the term in 12-month increments upon providing written notice no later than 180 days prior to the expiration of the current term.
- VII. Pursuant to an option agreement for the Chaco Bear and Ashton property, the Company is required to pay \$100,000 in maintenance fees by January 31, 2023. The Company has defaulted on these terms as at January 31, 2023 and has a ninety day period to remedy the default. As of the date of these financial statements, the Company has not paid the maintenance fees.

#### **Off - Balance Sheet Arrangements**

The Company has not entered any off-balance sheet arrangements.

#### **Initial adoption of new accounting standards**

Adoption of new accounting standards have been disclosed in Note 3 of the Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 and 2021.

#### **Significant Accounting Policies**

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 have been prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

See Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements for significant accounting policies used in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements.

#### **Critical Accounting Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty**

The preparation of these consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and judgments that affect the application of policies, reported amounts and disclosures. By their nature, these estimates and judgments are subject to uncertainty and the effect on these consolidated financial statements of changes in such estimates in future periods could be significant. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

See Note 3 to the consolidated financial statements for critical accounting judgements and estimates used in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements.

#### **Changes in Accounting Policies**

The Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2022 are the first the Company has prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP. The Company previously prepared its financial statements, up to and including nine months ended September 30, 2022, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Accordingly, the Company has prepared financial statements that comply with U.S. GAAP applicable as at December 31, 2022, together with the comparative period data for the year ended December 31, 2021. The most significant change in accounting policy is as follows:

### ***Mineral properties***

Under IFRS, the Company capitalized both acquisition and exploration costs relating to the Company's mineral properties. Under U.S. GAAP, the industry standard is to capitalize acquisition costs but expense exploration costs unless a proven or probable reserve can be established at the mineral property. Adjustments has been made to expense previously capitalized exploration costs to be in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This Management's Discussion and Analysis contains "forward-looking information" and "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Section 21E of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and other applicable securities laws.

Any statements that express or involve discussions with respect to predictions, expectations, beliefs, plans, projections, objectives, assumptions or future events or performance (often, but not always, identified by words or phrases such as "expects", "is expected", "anticipates", "believes", "plans", "projects", "estimates", "assumes", "intends", "strategy", "goals", "objectives", "potential", "possible" or variations thereof or stating that certain actions, events, conditions or results "may", "could", "would", "should", "might" or "will" be taken, occur or be achieved, or the negative of any of these terms and similar expressions) are not statements of historical fact and may be forward-looking statements.

The Forward-Looking Statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, performance, or achievements of the Company to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the Forward-Looking Statements. Such factors include, but are not limited to, general business and economic uncertainties; exploration and resource extraction risks; uncertainties relating to surface rights; the actual results of current exploration activities; the outcome of negotiations; conclusions of economic evaluations and studies; future prices of natural resource based commodities; increased competition in the natural resource industry for properties, equipment and qualified personnel; risks associated with environmental compliance and permitting, including those created by changes in environmental legislation and regulation; the risk of arbitrary changes in law; title risks; and the risk of loss of key personnel.

The foregoing lists of factors and assumptions are not exhaustive. The reader should also consider carefully the matters discussed under the heading "Risks Factors and Uncertainties" elsewhere in this MD&A. Forward-Looking Statements contained herein are made as of the date hereof (or as of the date of a document incorporated herein by reference, as applicable). No obligation is undertaken to update publicly or otherwise revise any Forward-Looking Statements or the foregoing lists of factors and assumptions, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise, except as required by law. Because Forward-Looking Statements are inherently uncertain, readers should not place undue reliance on them. The Forward-Looking Statements contained herein are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement.