

AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER

Organization

This Charter governs the operations of the Audit Committee. The Board of Directors shall appoint an Audit Committee (the “Committee”) of at least three members, consisting entirely of independent directors of the Board, and shall designate one member as chairperson or delegate the authority to designate a chairperson to the Committee. For purposes hereof, members shall be considered independent as long as they satisfy all of the independence requirements for Board Members as set forth in the applicable stock exchange listing and securities commission standards.

Each member of the Committee shall be financially literate, or become financially literate within a reasonable period of time.

The Committee shall meet at least quarterly in addition to a meeting for audit planning purposes. The Committee shall meet separately and periodically with management, internal audit and with the independent auditors. The Committee shall report regularly to the Board of Directors with respect to its activities.

Purpose

The purpose of the Committee shall be to:

- Provide assistance to the Board of Directors in fulfilling its oversight responsibility to the shareholders, potential shareholders, the investment community, and others relating to: (i) the integrity of the Company’s financial statements; (ii) the Company’s compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; and (iii) the independent auditors’ qualifications and independence;
- Provide the Audit Committee report that Canadian securities laws require to be included in the Company’s annual information form.

The Committee shall retain and compensate such outside legal, accounting, or other advisors, as it considers necessary in discharging its oversight role.

In fulfilling its purpose, it is the responsibility of the Committee to maintain free and open communication between the Committee, independent auditors, internal audit and management of the Company, and to determine that all parties are aware of their responsibilities.

Duties and Responsibilities

The Committee has the responsibilities and powers set forth in this Charter. Management is responsible for the preparation, presentation, and integrity of the Company’s financial statements, for the appropriateness of the accounting principles and reporting policies that are used by the Company and for implementing and maintaining internal control over financial reporting. The independent auditors are responsible for auditing the Company’s financial statements and for reviewing the Company’s

unaudited interim financial statements. The Company's internal auditor will report to the Chief Financial Officer on a day to day basis but will also have a direct reporting line to the Chair of the Committee. The Committee shall approve the internal auditor's mandate which shall be reviewed annually.

The Company believes that, in carrying out the Committee's responsibilities, its policies and procedures should remain flexible, in order to best react to changing conditions and circumstances. The Committee will take appropriate actions to set the overall corporate "tone" for quality financial reporting and ethical behaviour.

The following shall be the principal duties and responsibilities of the Committee. These are set forth as a guide with the understanding that the Committee may supplement them as appropriate.

- The Committee shall be responsible to advise the Board, for the Board's recommendation to shareholders, in respect of the appointment, compensation and retention of the independent auditors
- The Committee shall be directly responsible for the oversight of the work of the independent auditors (including resolution of disagreements between management and the auditors regarding financial reporting) for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review, or attest services for the listed issuer, and the independent auditors must report directly to the Committee.
- At least annually, the Committee shall obtain and review a report by the independent auditors describing: (i) the firm's internal quality control processes; (ii) sanctions made by any government or professional authorities, respecting one or more independent audits carried out by the firm, and any steps taken to deal with any such issues; and (iii) all relationships between the independent auditors and the Company (to assess the auditors' independence).
- After reviewing the foregoing report and the independent auditors' work throughout the year, and after receiving written confirmation from the auditors declaring their independence, the Committee shall evaluate the auditors' qualifications, performance and independence. Such evaluation shall include the review and evaluation of the lead partner of the independent auditors and take into account the opinions of management and the Company's personnel responsible for the internal audit function.
- The Committee shall determine that the independent audit firm has a process in place to address the rotation of the lead audit partner and other audit partners serving the account as required under Canadian independence standards.
- The Committee shall pre-approve all audit and non-audit services provided by the independent auditors and shall only engage the independent auditors to perform non-audit services permitted by law or regulation. The Committee may delegate pre-approval authority to a member of the Audit Committee. The decisions of any Committee member to whom pre-approval authority is delegated must be presented to the full Committee at its next scheduled meeting.

- The Committee shall discuss with the independent auditors the overall scope and plans for their respective audits, including the adequacy of staffing and compensation.
- The Committee shall regularly review with the independent auditors any audit problems or difficulties encountered during the course of the audit work, including any restrictions on the scope of the independent auditors' activities or access to requested information, and management's response. The Committee shall review any accounting adjustments that were noted or proposed by the auditors but were "passed" (as immaterial or otherwise); any communications between the audit team and the audit firm's national office relating to problems or difficulties encountered with respect to significant auditing or accounting issues; and any "management" or "internal control" letter issued, or proposed to be issued, by the audit firm to the Company.
- The Committee shall review and approve the quarterly financial statements, for submission to the Board of Directors, including Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, with management and the independent auditors prior to the filing of the Company's Quarterly Report. Also, the Committee shall discuss the results of the quarterly review and any other matters required to be communicated to the Committee by the independent auditors under generally accepted auditing standards. The Committee shall discuss and review with management the quarterly certification process.
- The Committee shall review and recommend approval of the annual audited financial statements, to the Board of Directors, including Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, with management and the independent auditors prior to the filing of the Company's financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis. The Committee's review of the financial statements shall include:
 - (i) major issues regarding accounting principles and financial statement presentation, including any significant changes in the Company's selection or application of accounting principles, and major issues as to the adequacy of the Company's internal controls and any specific remedial actions adopted in light of material control deficiencies; (ii) discussions with management and the independent auditors regarding significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial statements and the reasonableness of those judgments; (iii) consideration of the effect of regulatory accounting initiatives, as well as off-balance sheet structures on the financial statements; (iv) consideration of the judgment of both management and the independent auditors about the quality of accounting principles; and (v) the clarity of the disclosures in the financial statements. Also, the Committee shall discuss the results of the annual audit and any other matters required to be communicated to the Committee by the independent auditors under professional standards. The Committee shall discuss and review with management the annual certification process.
- The Committee shall receive and review a report from the independent auditors, prior to the filing of the Company's Annual Report, on all critical accounting policies and practices of the Company; all material alternative treatments of financial information within generally accepted accounting principles that have been discussed with management, including the ramifications of the use of such alternative treatments and disclosures and the treatment preferred by the independent auditors; and other material written communications between the independent auditors and management.

- The Committee shall review and approve all related party transactions not in the ordinary course of business in the absence of a special committee of the Board of Directors designated for such function.
- The Committee shall review earnings press releases for recommendation to the Board.
- The Committee shall discuss with management, internal audit and the independent auditors the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, including any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses identified by internal audit and management of the Company in respect of Canadian securities law requirements, including any proposed securities laws.
- The Committee shall review with management the Company's compliance systems with respect to legal and regulatory requirements.
- The Committee shall review periodically with management and internal audit the risk of fraud with respect to the organization and the controls in place to manage those risks.
- The Committee shall ensure that the Company establish appropriate policies and procedures for the receipt, retention, and treatment of complaints received by the Company regarding accounting, internal accounting controls, or auditing matters, and the confidential, anonymous submission by employees of the Company of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters.
- The Committee shall ensure that the Company has in effect clear hiring policies for employees or former employees of the independent auditors that meet Canadian independence standards and stock exchange listing standards.
- The Committee shall, with the assistance of management, determine the appropriate funding needed by the Committee for payment of: (1) compensation to the independent audit firm engaged for the purpose of preparing or issuing an audit report or performing other audit, review, or attest services for the Company; (2) compensation to any advisers employed by the Committee; and (3) ordinary administrative expenses of the Committee that are necessary or appropriate in carrying out its duties.
- To the extent the Company maintains an internal audit function, the Committee shall meet with the internal auditor(s), discuss the overall scope and plans for the internal audit function, including approval of its mandate on an annual basis, and discuss the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control with the internal auditor(s).
- The Committee shall ensure that the policies established pursuant to the Charter are communicated and to the best of its ability shall ensure that they are implemented by the audit committees of subsidiary companies where appropriate and the Committee shall ensure that the necessary follow-up is undertaken with such other audit committees.
- The Committee shall perform an evaluation of its performance at least annually to determine whether it is functioning effectively.

- The Committee shall review and reassess the Charter at least annually and obtain the approval of the Board of Directors.