

# **BIRD CONSTRUCTION INC.**

# ANNUAL INFORMATION FORM

For the year ended December 31, 2020

Dated March 9, 2021

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# **General Matters**

Unless the context otherwise requires, all references to the "Company" or "Bird" include Bird Construction Inc., its predecessors and subsidiaries and unless otherwise expressly indicated, all references to "\$" or "dollars" are to Canadian dollars.

The industry and other statistical data presented in this annual information form (the "**Annual Information Form**" or "**AIF**"), except where otherwise noted, have been compiled from sources and participants which, although not independently verified by the Company, are considered by the Company to be reliable sources of information.

Bird's website is located at www.bird.ca. The contents of Bird's website are expressly not incorporated by reference into this AIF.

# Caution Concerning Forward-looking Information

Certain information included herein which express management's expectations or estimates of future performance may constitute "forward-looking information" within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities legislation. The words "believe", "expect", "anticipate", "contemplate", "target", "plan", "intends", and similar expressions identify forward-looking information.

Forward-looking information is necessarily based upon a number of estimates and assumptions that, while considered reasonable by management, are inherently subject to significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties and contingencies. In particular, this AIF includes forward-looking information and the Company cautions the reader that such forward-looking information involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual financial results, performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from the Company's estimated future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by those forward-looking information and the forward-looking information is not a guarantee of future performance. Risks that may impact the Company's future results, performance or achievements include those described under "Risks Relating to the Business" in this AIF and in the Company's MD&A dated March 9, 2021 filed and available on SEDAR. The Company expressly disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking information, events or otherwise, except as required by applicable law.

# Terminology

Throughout this report, management uses the following terms that may not be comparable with similar terms presented by other companies and require definition:

• "Backlog" (also referred to in the construction industry as "work on hand") is the total value of all contracts awarded to the Company, less the total value of work completed on these contracts as of the date of the most recently completed quarter. This includes all contracts that have been awarded to the Company whether the work has commenced or will commence in the normal course. It includes all the Company's remaining performance obligations in its contracts with its clients, including work orders issued from Master Service Agreements ("MSAs") related to maintenance, repair and operations ("MRO") services. It does not include amounts for variable consideration that are constrained, agency relationship construction management projects, and estimated future work orders to be performed as part of master services agreements. The Company's Backlog equates to the Company's remaining performance obligations as at December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019; refer to Note 10 of the December 31, 2020 consolidated financial statements.

# **1.CORPORATE STRUCTURE**

# 1.1 Name, Address and Incorporation

Bird Construction Inc. (the "Company" or "Bird") was incorporated on March 5, 2010 under the *Business Corporations Act* (Ontario) for purposes of converting the former Bird Construction Income Fund to a corporate structure. The Company's common shares are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the trading symbol BDT.

The Company's registered and principal office is located at 5700 Explorer Drive, Suite 400, Mississauga, Ontario, L4W 0C6.

# 1.2 Inter-corporate Relationships

Most of the Company's business is conducted through subsidiary entities, including those entities which hold project assets. As of December 31, 2020, its most recent financial year end, the Company conducted its business principally through the following subsidiary entities:

Subsidiary entity	Jurisdiction	Ownership %
Bird Construction Company Limited	Saskatchewan	100%
Bird Construction Group	Ontario	100%
Bird Management Ltd.	Ontario	100%
Bird Design-Build Construction Inc.	Alberta	100%
Bird Construction Industrial Services Ltd.	Alberta	100%
Bird General Contractors Ltd.	Canada	100%
Stuart Olson Buildings Ltd.	Alberta	100%
Stuart Olson Construction Ltd.	Alberta	100%
Stuart Olson Industrial Inc.	Alberta	100%
Stuart Olson Industrial Projects Inc.	Alberta	100%
The Churchill Corporation	Alberta	100%

# 2. GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUSINESS

The Company operates as a general contractor in the Canadian construction market with offices in: St. John's, Halifax, Saint John, Wabush, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Mississauga, Cambridge, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer, Fort McMurray, and Vancouver. The Company and its predecessors have been in operation for over 100 years. The Company focuses primarily on projects in the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors of the general contracting industry.

# 2.1 **Three-Year History**

The following is a description of the general development of the business of the Company over the last three fiscal

#### years.

On February 6, 2018, the Company announced that it, as part of the Hartland Resource Management Group consortium, executed a contract to design, build, finance, operate and maintain a residuals treatment facility for the Capital Regional District ("CRD"). Bird has a 50% interest in the construction joint venture that will design and build the project. Bird has also taken a minority equity interest in the concession responsible for the design, construction, financing, operations and maintenance of the project through Bird Capital. The facility will be located at the Hartland Landfill in Saanich, British Columbia, and is part of the CRD's Wastewater Treatment Project. The facility will have capacity to treat over fourteen thousand dry tonnes of residuals per year over the 20-year term of the contract.

On August 8, 2018, the Company announced that it is part of the CBS JV Corp, an integrated joint venture, selected as the preferred negotiation proponent to execute, under an Integrated Project Delivery ("IPD") contract model, the construction of the Advanced Nuclear Materials Research Centre ("ANMRC") for Canadian Nuclear Laboratories ("CNL") with a budgeted value of \$250 million, located in Chalk River, Ontario. Bird is part of the joint venture that will lead the construction of the project. As part of the IPD process, CBS JV Corp is working through the validation phase, which confirms the project's financial viability. This phase is anticipated to be completed in the third quarter of 2019. At this time, there is no assurance that CBS JV Corp (or Bird) will receive a contract award related to this project.

On August 17, 2018, Bird announced that it had executed a contract with Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation to design, build and finance nine Ontario Provincial Police ("OPP") detachments in nine Ontario communities on behalf of the Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services and the OPP. Bird has undertaken the design and build for the project and also owns the concession responsible for the financing of the project through Bird Capital.

On December 3, 2018, the Company announced that a contract for the engineering, procurement and construction of LNG Canada's Cedar Valley Lodge project (the "Cedar Valley Lodge") has been novated to LNG Canada's EPC contractor ("EPC Contractor") and the EPC Contractor has issued a notice to proceed. In May 2016, LNG Canada announced that the Bird-Civeo JV was the successful proponent for the engineering, procurement and construction of the Cedar Valley Lodge, and the parties signed the contract with a limited notice to proceed until final investment decision ("FID") was confirmed by LNG Canada. Civeo has since, with the consent of Bird, LNG Canada and EPC Contractor, elected to exit its participation in Bird-Civeo JV. Bird, has entered into a joint venture with ATCO Structures LNG Limited Partnership ("Bird-Atco JV"), which is now a party to the novated contract. Cedar Valley Lodge will house workers for the construction of LNG Canada's export terminal project in Kitimat, B.C.

On June 4, 2019, the Company announced that effective June 30, 2019, Mr. Ian Boyd will step down as President & Chief Executive Officer and will take up the position of Executive Vice President – Major Projects, while Mr. Terrance McKibbon, then Chief Operating Officer of the Company, will be appointed President & Chief Executive Officer. In this new role Mr. Boyd is providing senior executive leadership of the Company's major projects including securement, staffing, execution and profitability. As President & Chief Executive Officer, Mr. McKibbon is overseeing the executive leadership of the Company's business, strategic development and profitability including having direct responsibility for the Company's district operations and all corporate functions.

On August 6, 2019, Bird announced that it has signed multiple contracts for services for an undisclosed amount at an LNG Liquefaction Export Terminal Facility in Kitimat, British Columbia. The contracts include a site civil works program and the engineering, procurement, and construction ("EPC") of sixteen administrative and service buildings. The EPC buildings program consists of a combination of pre-engineered and modular buildings. The contracts started immediately and continue into 2022.

On September 24, 2019, the Company announced that it has signed a construction management contract with Westwood Construction to build a mixed-use development located in north Halifax. The contract will be constructed over a three-year period and will include two high rise towers and two levels of underground parking.

On December 20, 2019, Bird announced that it had executed a subcontract with East-West Connectors, the consortium contracted by the City of Ottawa to design, build and finance the Stage 2 Confederation Line Extension project in Ottawa, Ontario. Bird will construct seven Confederation Line Stage 2 light rail transit stations and one light maintenance and storage facility. The Stage 2 Confederation Line East and West Extensions represent a significant advancement of commuter travel in the Greater Ottawa Area and is being funded by all three levels of government. Substantial Completion of the East Extension is expected in 2024 with the West Extension to achieve Substantial Completion in 2025.

On March 31, 2020, the Company proudly marked its centenary year of building Canada 100 years after commencing its first job on March 29, 1920. Hubert John Bird founded the Company in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan with two partners, after returning from World War I as a Captain in the Canadian Engineers. Bird Construction has since grown into one of the leading publicly traded builders in Canada, with offices coast-to-coast.

On May 1, 2020, Bird announced that it had been awarded the Eric Hamber Secondary School Replacement Project in Vancouver, BC for approximately \$92 million, under a design-build contract. As part of the Provincial Seismic Mitigation Program, it is the Ministry of Education's top priority to ensure all students in British Columbia attend seismically safe schools as soon as possible.

On June 2, 2020, the Company announced that it had signed a contract for an undisclosed amount for construction at an LNG Liquefaction Export Terminal Facility located in northwestern British Columbia. The contract is for the construction of concrete foundations and paving inside the battery limits of the LNG trains process area and is one of the largest concrete foundation packages ever awarded to Bird. The contract will start immediately and continue into 2022.

On July 6, 2020, the Company announced the sale of Bird Capital Limited's 20 per cent interest in the P3 concessions responsible for eighteen schools and nine childcare facilities in Saskatchewan to its project partner, Concert Infrastructure. Developed as the Saskatchewan Joint-Use Schools Project I (SJUSP I) and Saskatchewan Joint-Use Schools Project II (SJUSP II), the projects made up the largest school construction program in the history of the province at the time of construction.

On July 29, 2020, the Company and Stuart Olson Inc. ("Stuart Olson"), announced that they had entered into a definitive arrangement agreement (the "Arrangement Agreement") under which Bird will acquire Stuart Olson, pursuant to an arrangement under the Business Corporations Act (Alberta) for aggregate consideration of \$96.5 million (the "Transaction").

On September 25, 2020, the Company and Stuart Olson announced the previously announced transaction to acquire Stuart Olson had been successfully completed. The completion of the transaction resulted in Bird having a total of 53,038,929 common shares issued and outstanding. Bird's fiscal fourth quarter commenced on October 1, 2020 and this would be the first full financial reporting period for the combined business. Former debentureholders and former shareholders of Stuart Olson were shareholders of record of Bird and eligible to receive the September 30, 2020 dividend on the Bird Shares.

On December 7, 2020, the Company announced that it had entered into a three-year, \$200 million committed, Syndicated Credit Facility (the "Credit Facility") with Bank of Montreal ("BMO") as the lead arranger, bookrunner and administrative agent, and includes The Toronto-Dominion Bank, ATB Financial and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce as syndicate lenders (the "Lenders"). Under the terms of the Credit Facility, the Lenders will provide Bird with a \$165 million committed, revolving credit facility and a \$35 million committed, non-revolving term debt facility. There is also an additional accordion for up to an additional \$50 million. This Credit Facility replaces the Company's existing \$100 million committed, revolving credit facility and \$35 million committed, term debt facility. Upon closing of the new Credit Facility, \$86 million was drawn, resulting in \$114 million remaining available under the revolving Credit Facility and up to an additional \$50 million under the accordion.

# 2.2 Significant Acquisition

On September 25, 2020, Bird and Stuart Olson completed a plan of arrangement under the Business Corporations Act (Alberta) (the "Arrangement"), pursuant to which Bird acquired all of the issued and outstanding common shares of Stuart Olson ("SOX Shares") in exchange for common shares of Bird ("Bird Shares"), and completed the payout and termination of Stuart Olson's secured bank credit agreement and Stuart Olson's \$70.0 million aggregate principal amount of 7.00% convertible unsecured subordinated debentures due September 20, 2024 (the "Debentures").

Stuart Olson was, prior to the completion of the Arrangement, a publicly traded construction and industrial services company in Canada that provided general contracting and electrical building systems contracting in the institutional and commercial construction markets as well as general contracting, electrical, mechanical and specialty trades, such as insulation, cladding and asbestos abatement, in the industrial construction and services market, to a wide array of clients in both the public and private sectors. Refer to section 2.1 "Three Year History" for further details pertaining to

the acquisition of Stuart Olson. The Corporation filed a Form 51-102F4 Business Acquisition Report in connection with the acquisition under its profile on SEDAR on October 28, 2020.

# **3. DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS**

# 3.1 **The Business**

#### 3.1.1 General Information

Bird provides a comprehensive range of construction services from new construction for industrial, commercial, and institutional markets; to industrial MRO services, heavy civil construction and contract surface mining; as well as vertical infrastructure including, electrical, mechanical, and specialty trades. The Company operates as a general contractor in the Canadian construction market with offices in: St. John's, Halifax, Wabush, Montreal, Ottawa, Sudbury, Toronto, Mississauga, Cambridge, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Lethbridge, Red Deer, Vancouver, Richmond, Victoria, and Nanaimo. The Company and its predecessors have been in operation for over 100 years.

The Company has also developed expertise in the construction of vertical elements and overall management of transportation-related projects and will continue to enhance its abilities in this market. Bird also selectively invests equity in Public Private Partnerships ("PPP") projects to support construction operations.

#### 3.1.2 Industry Sectors

#### Industrial

Within the industrial sector, Bird has significant experience executing large and complex projects for clients primarily operating in the oil and gas, liquefied natural gas (LNG), mining, renewables, water and wastewater, and nuclear sectors. Bird constructs industrial buildings including manufacturing, processing, distribution, and warehouse facilities, and performs civil construction operations including site preparation, concrete foundations, metal and modular fabrication, mechanical process work, underground piping and earthwork.

These industrial service capabilities have been further enhanced through the recent joining of forces with Stuart Olson. The Company's industrial self-perform capabilities now include insulation, metal siding and cladding, ductwork, asbestos abatement, mechanical and electrical and instrumentation abilities, including high voltage testing and commissioning, as well as power line construction. These maintenance service abilities are augmented with civil services as well as facilities maintenance services, and the combined service offering opens the door to a wider range of clients including those in the LNG, mining, and nuclear sectors. In general, Bird has gained an expanded industrial general contracting business and more noticeably is now an industrial maintenance contractor with opportunities for additional maintenance clients in a broader geographical footprint.

Bird has a strong safety program and track record of safely delivering projects, which has resulted in numerous longstanding relationships. A greater proportion of our industrial work program is self-performed. This is primarily driven by our clients in this sector, who consider subcontracting a higher risk activity, particularly as it relates to safety and quality, and as such encourage self-perform capabilities from their core contractors. Self-perform operations also provide the opportunity to realize higher margin potential, provided productivity targets can be met or preferably exceeded.

The industrial market sector contributed 41% of 2020 revenues (39% in 2019 and 30% in 2018). Historically, in western Canada the Company's industrial work program has been focused on the oil sands where it has secured a reputation as a safe, reliable and cost-effective general contractor. Recently, the Company has been leveraging these proven capabilities to develop clients and work programs more broadly. As a result, the Company has industrial related projects, including heavy civil, across the country.

#### Institutional

Within the institutional sector, Bird constructs and renovates hospitals, post-secondary education facilities, K-12 schools, recreation facilities, prisons, courthouses, government buildings, long term care and senior housing, as well as environmental facilities that include water and wastewater treatment centres, composting facilities, and biosolids treatment and management facilities.

The institutional market sector contributed 37% of 2020 revenues (43% in 2019 and 53% in 2018). In the institutional sector, investment in infrastructure by the various levels of government is expected to remain a priority. The federal government has announced a number of infrastructure funding programs resulting in an increase in activity in certain sectors such as environmental projects and public transit systems. Other funding announcements addressing infrastructure needs in indigenous communities have been slower to materialize. The Company is well positioned to benefit from this increase in infrastructure investment, inclusive of the numerous PPP projects. The Company is targeting to achieve more balance within the risk profile of its work program and is being selective in its pursuit of PPP projects.

#### **Commercial**

The retail and commercial sector contributed 22% of 2020 revenues (18% in 2019 and 17% in 2018). Bird's commercial construction experience has involved the construction and renovation of office buildings, shopping malls and plazas, "big box" stores and grocery stores and hotels for distinguished list of national and local retailers and developers. The Company also constructs high-rise mixed-use condominiums and apartments for select clients. The Company has been leveraging its investment in Stack, a modular construction company with production operations in China, as an alternative manner of delivering projects such as hotels, senior housing, residential apartments and condominiums and commercial office buildings for key clients. The Company and Stack have complementary knowledge, resources and expertise that positions them well to serve the permanent modular construction market in Canada and the United States.

#### 3.1.3 Competitive Conditions

The barriers to entry into the construction industry are relatively low and Bird competes with many international, national, regional and local construction firms. The expertise, capital, equipment and labour pool required to perform in the industrial market and in the institutional market are relatively greater than in the commercial market, and the pool of competitors is therefore smaller. The Company is continuously refining its processes and capabilities for the recruitment, onboarding and retention of qualified employees. Bird endeavors to distinguish itself and reduce the number of its competitors by developing specialized expertise in construction of particular building types by: building long-term relationships with its clients, maintaining a superior safety record and offering a high level of service. Through the Company's investment and partnership with Stack, the Company is diversifying its offerings to include prefabricated modular building elements, lower-risk contracting methods such as construction management and integrated project delivery.

#### 3.1.4 Cyclicality

Activity within the construction industry is generally tied to the state of the economy. Bird manages cyclicality through geographic diversification, market diversification and through its relationship with large and well-financed clients who are more likely to maintain their construction programs during an economic downturn than local clients that are more subject to local economic forces.

#### 3.1.5 Seasonality

Although Bird experiences some seasonality in its business, particularly in its civil construction operations, variations in net income from quarter to quarter primarily reflect the differences in the profitability of the contracts administered in any given quarter. First quarter revenues can be lower than subsequent quarters due to winter weather constraints and construction schedule planning around the coldest months.

#### 3.1.6 Variability in Quarterly Earnings

Construction contracts typically extend over several quarters and sometimes over several years. For purposes of quarterly financial reporting, the Company must estimate the cost required to complete each contract to assess the overall profitability of the contract and the amount of gross profit to recognize for the quarter. Such estimating includes contingencies to allow for certain known and unknown risks. The magnitude of the contingencies will depend on the nature and complexity of the work to be performed. As the contract progresses and remaining costs to be incurred and risk exposures become more certain, contingencies will typically decline or have been utilized, although certain risks will remain until the contract has been completed, and even beyond. In some cases, variations in earnings may occur where costs incurred to date may be recoverable from insurance policies or claims to clients at a future date but cannot be recorded in the current quarter until certainty of the recovery is attained. As a result, earnings may fluctuate

significantly from quarter-to-quarter, depending on whether large and/or complex contracts are completed or nearing completion during the quarter, or have been completed in immediately prior quarters.

#### 3.1.7 Environmental

Bird is subject to, and to the best of its knowledge, is in compliance with federal, provincial and municipal environmental legislation in all of its areas of operations. Bird recognizes that it must conduct all of its business operations in a manner so as to protect and preserve the environment. Management is not aware of any pending environmental legislation which would be likely to have a material impact on any of Bird's operations, capital expenditure requirements or competitive position. The Company is committed to prioritizing sustainability and its Sustainability Overview can be viewed in the 2020 Annual Report.

#### 3.1.8 Employees

Bird employed approximately 2,041 full-time salaried persons and 2,465 hourly persons (of which 1,106 were unionized workers) as at December 31, 2020. The number of hourly employees is dependent on the number, size and status of ongoing projects. Comparable numbers as at December 31, 2019 were approximately 880 full-time salaried persons and 1,578 hourly persons (of which 1,211 were unionized workers).

#### 3.1.9 Geographic Markets

Bird operates across Canada, operating in all provinces and territories including the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Bird has offices in St. John's, Halifax, Saint John, Wabush, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Mississauga, Cambridge, Sudbury, Thunder Bay, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer, Fort McMurray, and Vancouver. In 2020, Bird recorded construction revenue of \$1,504.4 million (2019 - \$1,376.4 million; 2018 - \$1,381.8 million), all of which was earned in Canada.

#### 3.1.10 Surety Support

Many clients and substantially all government clients, require general contractors with whom they conduct business to provide surety bonds. A surety bond is an instrument provided by a surety company that guarantees that a general contractor will perform its contractual obligations. Surety bonds for Bird are provided by Travelers' Guarantee Company of Canada. Bird's agreements with its surety company are on industry standard terms.

#### 3.1.11 Working Capital and Investments

The amount of minimum working capital to be maintained by the Company is substantially determined by the amount required to maintain adequate levels of surety support and to provide other forms of security to its clients, including letters of credit to support contract performance. Bird invests excess cash in accordance with its investment policy in a variety of instruments of varying maturities to match its cash requirements. Excess cash is invested from time-to-time in high interest savings accounts, overnight deposits, bankers' acceptances and term deposits with typical terms to maturity of less than 90 days. The Company invests in guaranteed investment certificates with maturities up to 270 days in Canadian and/or US dollars to improve the returns on cash held for projects.

The Company has previously held investments in preferred shares and on occasion in short-term corporate bonds and debentures. However, the Company has elected not to currently hold such investments because of exposure to significant changes in their market value.

#### 3.1.12 Subcontractors and Suppliers

Upon award of a construction contract where Bird will not self-perform certain scopes of the contract work, Bird will, in turn, make awards to various subcontractors and suppliers required to provide materials, labour and services for the project. These subcontractor and supplier awards are normally made on the basis of fixed-price quotations provided to Bird during the bidding phase. The quotations from the subcontractors and suppliers are typically irrevocable for the same period of time that the price submitted by Bird is open for acceptance by its client. Accordingly, the risk of any fluctuations in material or labour pricing is generally borne by Bird's subcontractors and suppliers.

The scope of the work of each subcontractor or supplier is generally defined by the same drawings and specifications that form the basis of Bird's agreement with its client. The terms of the agreements between Bird and its clients are generally replicated in the agreements between Bird and its subcontractors and suppliers. These "flow-down" provisions

substantially mitigate the risk borne by Bird.

Depending on the value of the subcontractor's or supplier's work, Bird may require some form of performance security and achieves this through the use of surety bonds, subcontractor default insurance or other forms of security from the subcontractors and suppliers to mitigate Bird's exposure to the risks associated with a subcontractor or supplier default under any subcontract.

#### 3.1.13 Specialized Skills and Knowledge

Operation of the business requires staff with specialized skills and knowledge in the management of office and field construction activities. There is generally a shortage of suitably trained and experienced staff available to the Company, which represents an impediment to growth and a risk in the event of staff turnover. There are a number of college and university programs that provide graduates with basic skills required to enter the construction industry.

For many years, the Company has relied on a strategy of hiring staff at an entry level and providing them with the additional training and experience required to move into more specialized roles. However, as the Company grows and with staff turnover, the Company also hires experienced staff available in the market.

## 3.2 **Risks Relating to the Business**

#### 3.2.1 Ability to Hire and Retain Qualified and Capable Personnel

The success of Bird is highly influenced by the efforts of key management, technical, project and business development personnel. The loss of the services of any of Bird's key management personnel could negatively impact Bird. The future success of Bird also depends heavily on its ability to attract, retain and develop high-performing personnel in all areas of its operations.

Most firms throughout the construction industry face this challenge and, accordingly, competition for professional staff is intense. If Bird ceases to be seen by current and prospective employees as an attractive place to work, it could experience difficulty in hiring and retaining an adequate level of qualified staff. This could have an adverse effect on current operations of Bird and would limit its prospects and impair its future success.

#### 3.2.2 Maintaining Safe Work Sites

Despite the Company's efforts to minimize the risk of safety incidents, they can occur from time to time and, if and when they do, the impact on Bird can be significant. Bird's success as a general contractor is highly dependent on its ability to keep its construction work sites and offices safe and any failure to do so can have serious impact on the personal safety of its employees and others. In addition, it can expose Bird to contract termination, fines, regulatory sanctions or even criminal prosecution.

Bird's safety record and worksite safety practices also have a direct bearing on its ability to secure work, particularly in the industrial sector. Certain clients will not engage particular contractors to perform work if their safety practices do not conform to predetermined standards or if the general contractor has an unacceptably high incidence of safety infractions or incidents.

Bird adheres to very rigorous safety policies and procedures which are continually reinforced on its work sites and offices. Management is not aware of any pending health and safety legislation or prior incidents which would be likely to have a material impact on any of Bird's operations, capital expenditure requirements, or competitive position. Nevertheless, there can be no guarantee with respect to the impact of future legislation or incidents.

#### 3.2.3 Global Pandemics

On January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak to be a public health emergency of international concern, and on March 11, 2020, COVID-19 was declared to be a pandemic. Since that time the sweeping impacts of the virus and the various countermeasures instituted by governments across the globe and at all levels have had significant and unparalleled effects on the global economy and society in general. The operations of the Company are highly sensitive to such sweeping impacts and risks. A global pandemic can result in widespread illnesses and even deaths, can impact the health of the Company's workforce and can prevent the Company from being able to carry on its operations whether due to direct impacts or indirect impacts through its customers and suppliers. These impacts can severely limit the Company's ability to operate and to generate revenues or cash flows, while its

ability to eliminate or reduce costs during such times would be limited. In such circumstances, the Company could suffer significant financial losses and a deterioration in its creditworthiness and therefore have a material adverse effect on the Company.

## 3.2.4 Economy and Cyclicality

Activity within the construction industry is generally tied to the state of the economy. Thus, in periods of strong economic growth, capital spending will generally increase and there will be more and higher quality opportunities available within the construction industry. Investment decisions by our clients are based on long-term views of the economic viability of their current and future projects, sometimes based upon the clients' view of the long-term prices of commodities which are influenced by many factors. If our clients' outlook for their current and future projects is not favourable, this may lead them to delay, reduce or cancel capital project spending and may make them more sensitive to construction costs. A prolonged downturn in the economy could impact Bird's ability to generate new business or maintain a backlog of contracts with acceptable margins to sustain Bird through such downturns.

As noted above, Bird attempts to insulate itself in various ways from the effects of negative economic conditions through diversification of the sources of the Company's earnings; however, there is no assurance that these methods will be effective in insulating Bird from a downturn in the economy. Furthermore, as a result of increased demand in certain regions or industry sectors, the Company has, in the past, earned favourable margins on particular projects. There is also no assurance that above-average margins that may have been generated on historical contracts can be generated in the future.

The Company has a 50% interest in Stack, which is based in China. There is uncertainty around how the recent geopolitical tensions between China and Canada may affect the Company's investment.

#### 3.2.5 **Design Risks**

While many contracts entered into by Bird are for construction or construction services only, certain contracts are undertaken on a design-build basis, under which Bird is responsible for both design and construction of the project, which adds design risk assumed by Bird. While Bird subcontracts all of the design scope in such design-build contracts to reputable designers, there is generally not a full transfer of design-related risks. These risks include design development and potential resulting scope creep, delays in the design process that may adversely affect the overall project schedule, and design errors and omissions.

To manage these risks, Bird manages and oversees the design process, coordinates the design deliverables with the construction process and, for significant design-build projects, purchases errors and omissions insurance.

#### 3.2.6 Completion and Performance Guarantees/Design-Build Risks

Under some contracts, failure to meet a project deadline or other schedule milestone may, in addition to any delayrelated expenses incurred by Bird, expose Bird to liquidated damages or other financial penalties that may include cost impacts to the client resulting from any delay. In particular, PPP infrastructure contracts typically contain more onerous financial penalties for project delays, which further increases Bird's exposure to these risks. The Company mitigates its exposure to these risks by managing and monitoring schedule and completion progress on its projects, as well as by transferring part of the risks to its subcontractors and suppliers.

In addition, under design-build contracts, the work, or portions thereof, may be required to meet certain performance specifications and/or other contractually specified needs of the customer. A failure to meet these requirements could expose Bird to liability for design flaws and/or additional construction costs that may result from such failures. The Company mitigates its exposure to these risks by subcontracting design services work and by subscribing for or otherwise obtaining professional liability insurance.

If Bird fails to meet completion schedules or performance or design obligations, the total costs of the project could exceed original estimates and could result in a loss to Bird for that project. In extreme cases, such situations could have a material negative impact on the operating results and financial position of Bird.

#### 3.2.7 Ability to Secure Work

Bird generally secures new contracts either through a competitive bid process or through negotiation. Awards in both the public and private sectors are generally based upon price, but are also influenced and sometimes formally based

on other factors, such as the level of services offered, safety record, construction schedule, design (if applicable), project personnel, the consortium, joint venture and subcontractor team, prior experience with the prospective client and/or the type of project, and financial strength including the ability to provide bonds and other contract security.

In order to be afforded an opportunity to bid for large projects and in the PPP market, a strong balance sheet measured in terms of an adequate level of working capital and equity is typically required. Bird operates in markets that are highly competitive and there is constant pressure to find and maintain a competitive advantage. In the current economic climate, competition is intense. This presents significant challenges for the Company. If those competitive challenges are not met, Bird's client base could be eroded or it could experience an overall reduction in profits.

A decline in demand for Bird's services from the private sector could have an adverse impact on the Company if that business could not be replaced within the public sector. A portion of Bird's construction activity relates to government-funded institutional projects. Any reduction in demand for Bird's services by the public sector, whether as a result of funding constraints, changing political priorities or delays in projects caused by elections or other factors, could have an adverse impact on the Company if that business could not be replaced within the private sector.

Government-funded projects also typically have long and sometimes unpredictable lead times associated with government review and approval. The time delays associated with this process can constitute a risk to general contractors pursuing these projects. Certain government-funded projects, particularly PPP and alternative finance projects, may also require significant bid costs which can only be recovered if Bird is the successful bidder. A number of governments in Canada have procured a significant value of projects under a PPP and/or alternative finance contract format, which is an attractive market for the Company. A reduction in the popularity of this procurement method or difficulties in obtaining financing for these projects would have negative consequences for Bird.

#### 3.2.8 **Performance of Subcontractors**

Successful completion of a contract by Bird depends, in large part, on the satisfactory performance of its subcontractors who are engaged to complete the various components of the work. Subcontractor defaults tend to increase during depressed market conditions. If subcontractors fail to satisfactorily perform their portion of the work, Bird may be required to engage alternate subcontractors to complete the work and may incur additional costs. This can result in reduced profits or, in some cases, significant losses on the contract and possible damage to Bird's reputation.

In addition, the ability of Bird to bid for and successfully complete projects is, in part, dependent on the availability of qualified subcontractors and trades people. Depending on the value of a subcontractor's work, Bird may require some form of performance security and achieves this through the use of surety bonds, subcontractor default insurance or other forms of security from the subcontractor to mitigate Bird's exposure to the risks associated with the subcontractor's performance and completion. A significant shortage of qualified subcontractors and trades people or the bankruptcy of a subcontractor could have a material impact on Bird's financial condition and results of operations.

#### 3.2.9 Potential for Non-Payment

Before signing any construction contract, Bird conducts due diligence to satisfy itself that the potential client has adequate resources to make payments under the terms of the contract. Throughout the contract, Bird also attempts to ensure that payments are collected from clients before Bird's payments to subcontractors and suppliers for that contract fall due. However, because of the nature of Bird's contracts and occasionally because of delays in receiving customer payments, Bird may be required to utilize its working capital to temporarily fund construction costs where payment from its clients is delayed.

If a customer defaults in meeting its payment obligations to Bird on a project, Bird would generally have the right to register a lien against the project. If the customer was unable or unwilling to pay the amount owing to Bird, a lien against the property will normally provide some security that Bird may collect the amounts owing to it through the enforcement of its lien. However, in these situations, Bird's ability to collect the outstanding payments is never assured. Payment default by a client could result in a financial loss to Bird that could have a material effect on Bird's operating results and financial position.

## 3.2.10 Accuracy of Cost to Complete Estimates

As Bird performs each construction contract, costs are continuously monitored against the original cost estimates. On at least a quarterly basis, a detailed estimate of the costs to complete a contract is compiled by Bird. These estimates

are an integral part of Bird's process for determining construction revenues and profits and depend on cost data collected over the duration of the project as well as the judgments of Bird's field and office personnel. To the extent that the costs to complete estimates are based on inaccurate or incomplete information, or on faulty judgments, the accuracy of reported construction revenues and profits can be compromised. Bird has adopted many internal control policies and procedures aimed at mitigating exposure to this risk.

#### 3.2.11 Competitive Factors

Bird competes with many international, national, regional and local construction firms. Competitors often enjoy advantages in a particular market that Bird does not have, or they may have more experience or a better relationship with a particular client. On any given contract bid or negotiation, Bird will attempt to assess the level of competitive pressure it may encounter and it will attempt to neutralize or overcome any perceived advantage that its competitors have. Depending on this assessment, Bird will decide whether or not to pursue a contract. In addition, this assessment bears directly on decisions that Bird will make, including what level of profit can be incorporated into its contract price and what personnel should be assigned to the contract. The accuracy of this assessment and the ability of Bird to respond to competitive factors affect Bird's success in securing new contracts and its profitability on contracts that it does secure.

#### 3.2.12 Estimating Costs and Schedules/Assessing Contract Risks

The price for most contracts performed by Bird is based, in part, on cost and schedule estimates that are subject to a number of assumptions. Erroneous assumptions can result in an incorrect assessment of risks associated with a contract or estimates of project costs and schedules that are in error, potentially resulting in lower than anticipated profit or significant loss. All significant cost and schedule estimates are reviewed by senior management prior to tender submission in an attempt to mitigate these risks.

#### 3.2.13 Litigation/Potential Litigation

In the normal course of the construction business, disputes sometimes arise between parties to construction contracts. While Bird attempts to resolve any disagreements or disputes before they escalate to litigation, in some situations this is not possible. At any given time, Bird may be involved in a number of disputes that could lead to litigation and there may be a number of disputes in various stages of litigation.

It is management's opinion that adequate provision has been made in Bird's consolidated financial statements for any potential settlements relating to such matters and management does not believe that any existing litigation or pending litigation will ultimately result in a final judgment against Bird that would have a materially adverse impact on the operations of Bird.

Litigation is, however, inherently uncertain and, accordingly, adverse outcomes not currently provided for in any current litigation or pending litigation are possible. These potentially adverse outcomes could include financial loss, damage to Bird's reputation or a reduction in prospects for future contract awards.

#### 3.2.14 Adjustments and Cancellations of Backlog

The performance of the Company in a period depends significantly on the contribution from projects in its backlog. There can be no assurance that the revenues or profits included in backlog at any point in time will be realized. Contract suspensions, reductions and cancellations, which are beyond the control of Bird, do occur from time-to-time in the construction industry. Customers may have the right to suspend, cancel or reduce the scope of their contracts with Bird and, though Bird generally has a contractual right to be reimbursed for certain costs, it typically has no contractual rights to the total revenue or profit that was expected to be derived from such projects. These reductions could have a material adverse impact on future revenues and profitability.

#### 3.2.15 Quality Assurance and Quality Control

Bird enters into contracts which specify the scope and specifications of the project to be designed and/or constructed, including quality standards. If all, or portions of the work fail to meet these standards, Bird would be exposed to additional costs for the correction of non-compliant work.

#### 3.2.16 Access to Capital

The Company requires working capital to support its ongoing and future work program. Bird relies on its cash position and the availability of credit and capital markets to meet these working capital demands. As the Company's businesses grow, the Company is continually seeking to enhance its access to funding in order to finance the higher working capital requirements associated with this growth. Given the expected demand for infrastructure services over the next several years and the size of many of these projects, Bird may be constrained in its ability to capitalize on growth opportunities to the extent that financing or other access to capital is either insufficient or unavailable. Further, instability or disruption of capital markets, or a weakening of the Company's cash position could restrict its access to, or increase the cost of obtaining, financing. Additionally, if the terms of the credit facility are not met, lenders may terminate the Company's right to use its credit facility, or may demand repayment in whole or in part of the Company's outstanding indebtedness, which could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position.

One or more third parties drawing on letters of credit or guarantees could have a material adverse effect on Bird's cash position and operations.

Some of Bird's clients also depend on the availability of credit to finance their projects. If clients cannot arrange financing, projects may be delayed or cancelled, which could have a material adverse effect on the Company's growth and financial position. Diminution of a client's access to credit may also affect the Company's ability to collect payments, negotiate change orders, and settle claims with clients which could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position.

#### 3.2.17 Access to Surety Support and Other Contract Security

On many of its construction contracts, Bird is required to provide surety bonds. Bird's ability to obtain surety bonds depends primarily upon its capitalization, working capital, past performance, capability and continuity of management, as well as its current level of activity and market conditions. As the value of Bird's backlog increases, Bird may be required to maintain higher levels of equity and working capital than it currently maintains in order to secure surety bonds.

The level of equity and working capital required to maintain ongoing surety support is subject to negotiation and other factors that cannot be determined precisely. Furthermore, the overall capacity of the surety market and claims experience of sureties will have an influence on the pricing and availability of bonds. There is no assurance that Bird will have access to surety support on favourable or commercially reasonable terms or at all for contracts it would like to pursue. Bird's agreements with its surety company are on industry standard terms.

To participate in the PPP market, the Company is typically required to support its contractual commitments by posting substantial letters of credit and providing corporate guarantees, both of which are limited by the working capital and equity of the Company. It is therefore possible that the ability of the Company to secure new projects will be constrained by its capitalization.

#### 3.2.18 PPP Project Risk

Bird is selective in the PPP market. Bird's role in these projects is typically to provide design-build services to a concession that is formed to provide design, construction, financing, and management and/or operations to a public authority. Typical in the design-build contract format are performance guarantees and design-build risks. Moreover, the performance guarantees on PPP projects often include responsibility for the energy performance of the facility and achievement of environmental standards. If Bird fails to meet the required standards, it may be liable for substantial penalties and damages.

The PPP design-build contracts entered into by Bird also typically require Bird to pay significant liquidated damages and/or other penalties and damages if the projects are not completed on schedule.

The PPP procurement model also typically results in the transfer of certain risks to the contractor beyond what would be the case for a similar facility under a conventionally non-PPP procurement model. These include responsibility and potential liability for matters such as changes in law and certain force majeure and delay events. In addition, if Bird's contract was terminated for cause, the Company would be exposed to substantial liability for breakage costs to the concession and its lenders.

The security required to support the obligations that the Company undertakes on these projects typically includes

substantial letters of credit which may be drawn upon in the event the Company fails to meet its obligations.

#### 3.2.19 Work Stoppages, Strikes and Lockouts

Bird is signatory to a number of collective bargaining agreements. Future negotiation of these collective bargaining agreements could increase Bird's operating expenses and reduce profits as a result of increased wages and benefits. Failure to come to an agreement in these collective bargaining negotiations or those of its subcontractors and suppliers or government agencies could result in strikes, work stoppages, lockouts or other work action, and increased costs resulting from delays on construction projects. A strike or other work stoppage is disruptive to Bird's operations and could adversely affect portions of its business, financial position, results of operations and cash flows.

#### 3.2.20 Insurance Risk

In the normal course of business, Bird maintains insurance in order to satisfy the requirements of its construction contracts at a minimum, and to insure project and business risks as part of its corporate risk management policies, including risks relating to its assets. Although Bird believes it maintains appropriate insurance coverage with sufficient limits, there can be no assurance that the Company's project-specific and corporate insurance arrangements will be sufficient to cover claims incurred. In addition, there can be no assurance that the Company's insurers and independent third-party insurers will interpret insurance policies and evaluate and adjust claims in the Company's favour in the first instance in all cases.

#### 3.2.21 Information Systems and Cyber-security Risk

The Company relies on information technology to manage, process, store and transmit electronic information. Complete, accurate, available and secure information is vital to the Company's operations and any compromise in such information could result in improper decision making, inaccurate or delayed operational and/or financial reporting, delayed resolution to problems, breach of privacy and/or unintended disclosure of confidential information. Failure in the completeness, accuracy, availability or security of the Company's information systems, the risk of system interruption or failure during system upgrades or implementation, or a breach of data security could adversely affect the Company's operations and financial results.

In addition, cyber-security incidents relating to the Company's information technology systems may disrupt operations and impact operating results. Cyber-security incidents may occur from a range of techniques, from phishing or hacking attacks to sophisticated malware, hardware or network attacks. While the Company has implemented systems, policies, procedures, practices, hardware and backups designed to prevent and limit the effect of cyber-security attacks, there can be no assurance that these measures will be sufficient to prevent, detect or address the attacks in a timely matter or at all. A successful cyber-attack may allow unauthorized interception, destruction, use or dissemination of the Company's confidential information, which could have a material adverse effect on the business. In the fall of 2019, Bird Construction responded to a cyber incident that resulted in the encryption of Company files. Bird continued to function with no business impact, as management worked with leading cyber security experts to restore access to the affected files. At the time, the Company disclosed the incident on our website and notified appropriate authorities.

#### 3.2.22 Acquisition and Integration Risk

The Company has made, and may continue to pursue acquisition opportunities to advance its strategic plan. The successful integration of an acquired business typically requires the management of the pre-transaction business strategy, including the retention and addition of customers, realization of identified cost, revenue and strategic synergies, retention of key staff and the development of a common corporate culture. Failure to adequately address differences in technology, culture, customers, projects, or other issues could negatively affect financial performance. There is no assurance that the Company will be able to successfully integrate an acquired business in order to maximize or realize the benefits associated with an acquisition.

#### 3.2.23 Climate Change Risk

#### Risks in Transitioning to a Lower Carbon Economy

The transition to a lower-carbon economy has the potential to be disruptive to traditional business models and investment strategies. The Company's private and/or public-sector clients may shift their infrastructure priorities due to changes in project funding or public perception of sustainable projects. This risk can be mitigated to an extent by

identifying changing market demands to offset lower demand in some sectors with opportunities in others, forming strategic partnerships and pursuing sustainable innovations.

Government action to address climate change may involve economic instruments such as carbon and energy consumption taxes as well as restrictions on economic sectors, such as cap-and-trade and more stringent regulation of greenhouse gas emissions that could also impact the Company's current or potential clients operating in industries that extract, distribute and transport fossil fuels.

#### Financial Risks

As new climate change measures are introduced or strengthened, the Company's cost of business, including insurance premiums, may increase, and the Company may incur expenses related to complying with environmental regulations and policies in countries or regions where it does business. Such costs may include purchasing new equipment to reduce emissions to comply with new regulatory standards or to mitigate the financial impact of different forms of carbon pricing. In addition, the Company may incur costs related to engaging with governments, regulators and industry organizations for new mandates on infrastructure projects, proactively and regularly monitoring regulatory trends and implementing adequate compliance processes. Although the Company intends to actively monitor all applicable climate change laws and regulations and to fully comply with them, and to be proactive in promoting and supporting climate change mitigation actions, inadvertent compliance shortfalls could result in penalties and reputational damage that may impair the Company's future prospects.

#### Market and Reputational Risk

Investors and other stakeholders in Canada and worldwide are becoming more attuned to climate change action and sustainability matters, including the efforts made by issuers to reduce their carbon footprint. The Company's reputation may be harmed if it is not perceived by its stakeholders to be sincere in its sustainability commitment and its long-term results may be impacted as a result. In addition, The Company's approach to climate change issues may increasingly influence stakeholders' views of the company in relation to its peers and their investment decisions.

#### Weather Related Risks

Many of the Company's construction activities are performed outdoors. The probability and unpredictability of extreme weather events and other associated incidents may continue to increase due to climate change and we may continue to see longer-term shifts in climate patterns. Although weather risk may be mitigated through contractual terms or insurance, construction projects are susceptible to delays as a result of extended periods of poor weather, which can have an adverse effect on profitability arising from either late completion penalties imposed by the contract or from the incremental costs arising from loss of productivity, compressed schedules, or from overtime work utilized to offset the time lost due to adverse weather and additional costs to modify means and methods to perform work in unanticipated weather.

#### 3.2.24 Joint Venture Risk

Bird sometimes forms joint ventures to pursue and execute projects. A joint venture structure can be beneficial by permitting competitive advantages, pooling of resources required to complete a project and risk sharing between the joint venture partners. The joint ventures in which Bird participates are typically formed to undertake a specific project, are jointly controlled by the partners and are dissolved upon completion of the project.

The agreements which govern these joint ventures typically require that the partners supply their proportionate share of operating funds and staff and that they share profits and losses in accordance with specified percentages. Bird selects its joint venture partners based on a variety of criteria, including relevant expertise, past working relationships as well as analysis of the prospective partners' financial and construction capabilities.

Each joint venture party is typically liable for the obligations of the joint venture on a joint and several basis. In the event that any of Bird's joint venture partners fail to perform their obligations due to financial or other reasons, Bird may be required to provide additional resources to the project and assume responsibilities for the obligations of its joint venture partner(s) including responsibility for financial losses.

#### 3.2.25 Ethics and Reputational Risk

One of the Company's competitive advantages rests in its relationships with its customers and its long-standing

reputation as a contractor that delivers high-quality projects and services on time, and in a safe and environmentallyfriendly manner. Damage to the Company's reputation can result from the occurrence of a variety of actual or perceived events. Negative publicity can arise from a number of factors including, without limitation, the quality of service provided, business ethics and integrity, health and safety record and compliance with laws or regulations.

As part of its business dealings with governmental bodies, Bird must comply with public procurement laws and regulations aimed at ensuring that public sector bodies award contracts in a transparent, competitive, efficient, ethical and non-discriminatory manner. Although the Company has adopted control measures and implemented policies and procedures to mitigate the risk of non-compliance, these control measures, policies and procedures may not always be sufficient to protect the Company from the consequences of acts prohibited by public procurement and other laws and regulations committed by its directors, officers, employees and agents. If the Company fails to comply with these laws and regulations it could be subject to administrative or civil liabilities and to mandatory or discretionary exclusion or suspension, on a permanent or temporary basis, from contracting with governmental bodies in addition to other penalties and sanctions that could be incurred by the Company.

Negative opinion concerning any of these factors could potentially have an adverse effect on current operations and could limit the Company's prospects and impair its future success. The Company depends on its reputation as a general contracting firm that abides by the highest ethical standards and has therefore implemented various policies and procedures to help mitigate this risk, including the adoption of: a comprehensive employee code of conduct; an antibribery and corruption policy; and a whistleblower policy. All employees are required to sign an acknowledgement of these policies, and to review and abide by them. In addition, the Company provides training to its employees regarding these policies, which include principles relating to harassment, fairness, conflicts of interest and other ethical business practices.

#### 3.2.26 Internal and Disclosure Controls

Inadequate disclosure controls or ineffective internal controls over financial reporting could result in an increased risk of material misstatements in the financial reporting and public disclosure records of the Company. Inadequate controls could also result in system downtime, give rise to litigation or regulatory investigation, fraud or the inability of the Company to continue its business as presently constituted. Bird has designed and implemented a system of internal controls and a variety of policies and procedures to provide reasonable assurance that material misstatements in the financial reporting and public disclosures are prevented and detected on a timely basis, and that other business risks are mitigated. In accordance with the guidelines adopted in Canada, the Company assesses the effectiveness of its internal and disclosure controls using a top-down, risk-based approach in which both qualitative and quantitative measures are considered. An internal control system, no matter how well it is planned, implemented and operated, can provide only reasonable, and not absolute, assurance to management and the Board of Directors regarding achievement of intended results. In addition, Bird's current system of internal and disclosure controls places reliance on key personnel across the Company to perform a variety of control functions including key reviews, analysis, reconciliations and monitoring. The failure of individuals to perform such functions or properly implement the controls as designed could adversely impact results.

#### 3.2.27 Compliance with Environmental Laws

Bird is subject to numerous federal, provincial and municipal environmental laws, and judicial, legislative and regulatory developments relating to environmental protection occur on an ongoing basis. Bird's projects can involve the handling of hazardous and environmentally sensitive materials, which, if improperly handled or disposed of, could subject Bird to civil and criminal penalties. While Bird strives to keep informed of and to comply with all applicable environmental laws, circumstances may arise and incidents may occur that are beyond Bird's control that could adversely affect Bird. Management is not aware of any pending environmental legislation or incidents that would be likely to have a materially adverse impact on any of Bird's operations, capital expenditure requirements or competitive position, although there can be no assurance that no future legislation will be enacted or incidents will occur which may have a material impact on Bird's operations.

#### 3.2.28 Payment of Dividends

The ability of the Company to pay dividends or make distributions to its shareholders depends on several factors, including its actual and projected earnings and cash flow, capital requirements and general financial condition.

The payment of dividends on common shares is at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Company. In establishing the amount of any dividend, the Board of Directors will take into consideration, amongst other things, the need to meet future requirements for increases in working capital and equity to meet contract security requirements, to provide the financial capacity to withstand a downturn in the construction industry should it occur and to expand the business, as well as the desirability of maintaining the dividend rate. There can be no assurances that the current dividend rate will not change in the future.

#### 3.2.29 **PPP Equity Investments**

In addition to providing design and construction services on certain PPP infrastructure projects, Bird also makes investments in PPP concession entities through its wholly owned subsidiary, Bird Capital Limited. In this role, Bird arranges the financing and provides equity to some of the PPP projects it develops and assumes a degree of equity risk associated with the financial performance of the asset during the concession period.

Most PPP financing is provided on a non-recourse basis with most of the risk limited to the equity participation. Bird typically holds a minority equity investment in the concession and usually expects to sell the investment in the concession soon after construction completion or shortly thereafter, when the terms of the concession investment requires the Company to hold the investment for a longer period of time. All of the concession partners are required to secure their participation at financial close with letters of credit. A concession partner becoming insolvent does not represent a risk to the concession as these letters of credit ensure no short funding occurs. If the entity providing the services to the concession and/or the service provider's guarantor become insolvent, a replacement of the insolvent entity or entities might be required. If the services cannot be provided by a new entity for the same costs, there is risk that the full value of the concession may not be realized after the project has been constructed and is operating within contractual parameters.

Bird does not control the market for the investment, therefore there is a possibility that the value of the investment could become impaired. Also, a replacement of the contractors that perform the facility management services on these transactions exposes the equity investments to an erosion of the expected returns. This risk is partially mitigated by the security packages put in place by these contractors for each transaction. In addition, Bird may be exposed to reputational risk should the project not be delivered on time or in accordance with design specifications. Exposure to the risk of non-performance could lead to a contract termination and loss of injected equity.

# 4. DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

The declaration and payment of dividends is at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors and may vary depending on a variety of factors and conditions. In establishing the dividend rate for a particular period, the Board of Directors will take into consideration, amongst other things, the need to meet future requirements for increases in working capital and equity to meet contract security requirements, to provide the financial capacity to withstand a downturn in the construction industry should it occur, and to expand the business, as well as the desirability of maintaining a stable or increasing dividend rate.

In 2018, the Company paid an annual dividend of \$0.3900 per common share. This is based on 12 payments at \$0.0325 per common share per month (from January 19, 2018 to December 20, 2018).

In 2019, the Company paid an annual dividend of \$0.3900 per common share. This is based on 12 payments at \$0.0325 per common share per month (from January 18, 2019 to December 20, 2019).

In 2020, the Company paid an annual dividend of \$0.3900 per common share. This is based on 12 payments at \$0.0325 per common share per month (from January 18, 2019 to December 20, 2019).

In 2020, the Company declared dividends for the months of January and February of 2021, and in 2021, for the months of March and April 2021, all in the amount of \$0.0325 per common share.

Shareholders who are non-residents of Canada are required to pay all withholding taxes payable in respect of any dividends by the Company.

# **5. DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL AND DEBT STRUCTURE**

# 5.1 Share Capital

The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited number of common shares. Each common share is entitled to receive notice of, and to attend all meetings of shareholders of the Company. Each common share is entitled to one vote at shareholder meetings. The holders of common shares are entitled to receive dividends when declared by the Board of Directors of the Company in such amount and in such form as the Board of Directors may determine from time-to-time. All dividends declared shall be paid in equal amounts per share on all common shares outstanding. In the event of dissolution, liquidation or winding up of the Company, common shareholders shall be entitled to receive the remaining assets of the Company after the prior rights of the holders of any preference shares and any other shares ranking senior to the common shares have been settled.

As of December 31, 2020, and March 9, 2021 the Company had 53,038,929 issued and outstanding common shares.

The Company is authorized to issue such number of preference shares, issuable in one or more series, provided that the number of issued preference shares shall not exceed 35% of the number of issued and outstanding common shares at the time such preference shares are issued. The Board of Directors shall determine the number of series issued and the number of preference shares issued within a series. The Board of Directors shall determine the designation, rights, privileges, restrictions and conditions to be attached to each series of preference shares, including but not limited to, dividend rates, whether dividends are cumulative or non-cumulative, the currency of payment, the date and place of payment, and any redemption, retraction or exchange conditions. As of December 31, 2020, and March 9, 2021, no preference shares were issued and outstanding.

In 2011, the Company introduced a Stock Option Plan. The purpose of the Stock Option Plan is to provide eligible officers and employees of the Company and its subsidiaries with a share-related mechanism designed to develop and increase the interest in the growth and development of the Company by granting stock options from time-to-time to eligible persons and providing them the opportunity to acquire a proprietary interest in the Company through the purchase of common shares. The number of common shares issuable under the Stock Option Plan shall not exceed 10% of the number of common shares outstanding. A full description of the details of the Stock Option Plan is included in the Company's 2010 Management Information Circular which can be found on SEDAR.

On March 15, 2012 the Company issued 625,000 stock options to employees of the Company, of which all expired or were forfeited on or before March 15, 2019.

On January 1, 2015, the Company's Board of Directors approved the award of an additional 100,000 stock options to Mr. Ian Boyd, the newly appointed President and CEO. The total number of stock options are exercisable in equal amount on the first through fourth anniversary dates from the grant date at an exercise price of \$11.87 per Common Share. The exercise price was based on the weighted average trading price of the Company's common shares on the Toronto Stock Exchange for the five days ending on December 31, 2014. These options were set to expire on January 1, 2022. All stock options were forfeited during 2020.

The Board did not grant any stock options in 2020 and, in connection with the approval of the Equity Incentive Plan (described in the Company's 2016 Management Information Circular), the Board has suspended the Stock Option Plan since the Equity Incentive Plan was approved by Shareholders at the annual and special meeting of Shareholders held on May 12, 2017. However, all outstanding stock options at that time would continue to vest and be exercisable in accordance with their terms.

On September 25, 2020, the Company issued a total of 10,522,076 common shares from treasury under the terms of the arrangement agreement to acquire Stuart Olson Inc. The Corporation filed a Form 51-102F4 Business Acquisition Report in connection with the acquisition under its profile on SEDAR on October 28, 2020.

No further shares were sold or issued from treasury in 2020.

## 5.2 Indebtedness

At December 31, 2020, the total amount of outstanding debt was \$72.9 million. The debt was issued to fund the acquisition of Stuart Olson as well as to increase working capital, and to fund the purchase of equipment to support operations.

# **6. MARKET FOR SECURITIES OF THE ISSUER**

The common shares of the Company are listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (symbol "BDT").

The following table outlines the trading price range and volumes of Company shares during 2020:

Month	High (\$)	Low (\$)	Trading Volume
January	\$7.30	\$6.50	745,950
February	\$6.85	\$5.54	660,735
March	\$6.30	\$4.32	1,650,512
April	\$5.61	\$3.96	1,294,238
May	\$6.03	\$4.82	754,513
June	\$6.73	\$5.70	1,044,152
July	\$6.95	\$5.92	796,054
August	\$7.12	\$6.56	1,220,011
September	\$6.90	\$5.92	1,048,246
October	\$6.99	\$6.15	1,459,781
November	\$7.48	\$6.26	2,137,153
December	\$8.18	\$7.17	2,126,935

# 7. DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

# 7.1 Directors and Executive Officers

The names, municipalities of residence and principal occupations of the current Directors and Executive Officers of Bird are set out below. Each Director will hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of shareholders set for May 11, 2021, or until a successor is elected or appointed.

Name of Municipality of Residence	Position <sup>(1)</sup>	Principal Occupation	Director Since <sup>(1)</sup>
J.P. Bergman Moffat, ON	Executive Vice President, Buildings East of Bird Construction Inc. <sup>(7)</sup>	Executive Vice President, Buildings East of Bird Construction Inc.	N/A
J.R. Bird Calgary, AB	Director <sup>(2)(3)(4)</sup>	Corporate Director	1987
K.A. Brooks Calgary, AB	Director Audit Committee Chair <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	Corporate Director	2017

Name of Municipality of Residence	Position <sup>(1)</sup>	Principal Occupation	Director Since <sup>(1)</sup>
P.A. Charette Oakville, ON	Director, Chair of the Board <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	Chair of the Board	1991
C.J. Caza Oakville, ON	Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Bird Construction Inc. <sup>(7)</sup>	Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Bird Construction Inc.	N/A
D.G. Doyle Victoria, BC	Director <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	Corporate Director	2003
B.D. DuPont Calgary, AB	Director, Human Resources, Safety & Governance Committee Chair <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	Corporate Director	2011
W.R. Gingrich Georgetown, ON	Chief Financial Officer of Bird Construction Inc.	Chief Financial Officer of Bird Construction Inc.	N/A
T.L. McKibbon <sup>(5)</sup> Canmore, AB	Director, President & Chief Executive Officer of Bird Construction Inc.	President & Chief Executive Officer of Bird Construction Inc.	2019
L.J. Messier Houston, TX, USA	Director <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	Corporate Director	2017
R.D. Munkley Oakville, ON	Director <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	Corporate Director	2011
P.R. Raboud Toronto, ON	Director <sup>(6)</sup>	Corporate Director	2008
G.G. Royer Edmonton, AB	Chief Operating Officer of Bird Construction Inc. <sup>(7)</sup>	Chief Operating Officer of Bird Construction Inc.	N/A
A.C. Thorsteinson Winnipeg, MB	Director <sup>(3)(4)</sup>	President, Shelter Canadian Properties Limited, a real estate development and management company	1991

<sup>(1)</sup> Information set forth in this Item 7 relating to the Directors and officers of the Company is current as of the March 10, 2020.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes period of time served as a Trustee of Bird Construction Income Fund and as a Director of Bird Construction Company Limited, the predecessors to the Company.

<sup>(3)</sup> Member of the Audit Committee (Chair – K.A. Brooks).

<sup>(4)</sup> Member of the Human Resources, Safety and Governance Committee (Chair – B.D. DuPont).

<sup>(5)</sup> Mr. McKibbon joined Bird on June 5, 2017 as Chief Operating Officer and assumed the role of President & Chief Executive Officer on July 1, 2019.

<sup>(6)</sup> As at March 3, 2020, because his employment as Vice Chair of the Company was terminated on March 3, 2017 and because he no longer has a material relationship with the Company, Mr. Raboud became an independent Director of the Company as defined under applicable securities laws.

<sup>(7)</sup> Mr. Royer assumed the role of Chief Operating Officer on August 11, 2020, after serving the Company as Executive Vice President, – Industrial since 2015. Mr. Bergman assumed the role of Executive Vice President, Commercial in January 2018. On September 28, 2020 Mr. Bergman assumed the role of Executive Vice President, - Buildings East. Mr. Caza assumed the role of Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer on September 28, 2020 after serving the Company as Senior Vice President and General Counsel since 2015

The following are brief biographies of the Directors and Executive Officers:

*J. Paul Bergman* is Executive Vice President, Buildings East of Bird Construction Inc., based in the Toronto office. Mr. Bergman is responsible for the performance of the organization's commercial, institutional, and residential construction portfolio nationally, working directly with Bird's clients and partners. With a broad range of experience working in institutional, commercial, and industrial sectors in the construction industry, Mr. Bergman has held numerous positions at Bird over 20 years, including estimator, project manager, senior project manager, and production manager in various locations across Canada. Mr. Bergman was the VP and District Manager in Winnipeg prior to relocating to the Toronto area where he assumed the role of Senior Vice President. He is now part of the executive team in his role of Executive Vice President – Buildings East. Mr. Bergman obtained a Diploma in Engineering Technology from Red River College in Winnipeg. He completed his co-operative education work terms with Bird Construction, and after graduation, joined Bird's Winnipeg district office full-time as a project coordinator. Paul is a Certified Engineering Technologist and a LEED Canada Accredited Professional, and has also completed the Ivey Executive Program at The Ivey Business School at Western University. He also serves on various boards and committees.

*J. Richard Bird* retired from Enbridge Inc. in early 2015, having served as Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Development, and various other roles, including: Executive Vice President Liquids Pipelines, Senior Vice President Corporate Planning and Development, and Vice President and Treasurer. Mr. Bird has 30 years of experience as an officer of a number of public companies, and serves on the Board of Directors of Bird Construction Inc. He is Founder, President and Chief Investment Officer of the Ptarmigan Charitable Foundation. He is the past Chair of the Board of Directors of the Alberta Investment Management Company. He was named Canada's CFO of the Year for 2010. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Manitoba, and a Masters of Business Administration and PhD from the University of Toronto and has completed the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School.

*Karyn A. Brooks* retired from BCE and Bell Canada in March 2014, having served as Senior Vice-President and Controller for 11 years. Ms. Brooks has almost 20 years of executive experience as an officer of several large Canadian public companies. She serves on the Board and Audit Committee of Information Services Corporation and The Calgary Zoological Society, as well as chairing the Finance and Legal Committee of The Calgary Zoological Society. She was elected a Fellow of CPA Ontario and named one of Canada's Top 100 Women, both in 2009. In a volunteer capacity, Ms. Brooks has contributed significantly to accounting standard setting and its oversight, both domestically and internationally. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) from Queen's University.

*Charles J. Caza* is the Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer of Bird Construction Inc., and serves as Corporate Secretary to the Board of Directors. Mr. Caza previously served as Senior Vice President Risk Management and General Counsel sine 2015. Mr. Caza obtained his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Waterloo in 1986. Subsequently, he studied law at the University of Western Ontario where he obtained his Bachelor of Laws in 1990. Mr. Caza was called to the Bar in Ontario in 1992 and has been certified as a Specialist in Construction Law by the Law Society of Upper Canada since 2002. Prior to joining Bird in 2009 and prior to studying law, he was employed as an engineer, then in the role of Vice President, Operations in the construction industry with a Torontobased general contractor. He later developed his legal and management career with an international construction and engineering organization (before joining Bird Construction), where he was involved in a number of large international engineering and construction projects and was Commercial Director of a global operating division. In 2017, Mr. Caza completed the Directors Education Program offered by the Institute of Corporate Directors and obtained his ICD.D designation.

**Paul A. Charette** is the Chair of the Board of Directors. He joined Bird in 1976 as a Project Coordinator and progressed to President and Chief Operating Officer in 1988 and to President and Chief Executive Officer in 1991. Mr. Charette was also appointed as Chair of the Board in 2001. In September 2008, Mr. Charette retired from his position as Chief Executive Officer of Bird. He is a past Director of the Colleges and Institutes Canada and the past Chair of the Canadian Construction Association ("CCA"). In 2004, Mr. Charette was named Ontario Entrepreneur of the Year in Real Estate/Construction by Ernst & Young LLP. In 2010, Mr. Charette was chosen as CCA's Person of the Year. Mr. Charette has a diploma in Civil Technology from Red River College in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**D. Greg Doyle** is a former partner of KPMG LLP. He joined KPMG LLP (formerly Peat Marwick) in 1974, was elected as a Partner in 1982 and Managing Partner of the Winnipeg office in 1985. In 1997, Mr. Doyle transferred to Warsaw, Poland and served as Senior Partner of KPMG Polska until he retired in 2003. During his time in Poland, Mr. Doyle also served as the member of the Board of KPMG Europe and the management committee of KPMG Central and Eastern Europe. He was a Director of the Winnipeg Airports Authority and served as chair of their audit committee, retiring both roles in April 2020 after a nine-year term. Mr. Doyle holds a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Manitoba and is a Chartered Professional Accountant.

Bonnie D. DuPont was appointed as a Director effective January 1, 2011. Ms. DuPont is retired from Enbridge Inc. where she served for 12 years as the senior executive responsible for information technology, human resources, public and government affairs, corporate governance matters, and corporate social responsibility (CSR). She holds a Bachelors degree (Great Distinction) from the University of Regina and earned her Masters degree at the University of Calgary. She has been a Fellow of the Institute of Corporate Directors since 2015 and is a 2006 graduate of the ICD Corporate Directors' Education Program. She is also a Certified Human Resources Professional (CHRP) and is a member of the International Women's Forum (IWF). Ms. DuPont was named to the top 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada list each year from 2001 to 2006, and in 2007, was inducted into the Top 100 Hall of Fame. In 2008, she was presented with an Honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Regina and in 2011 was presented with an Honorary Bachelor's Degree in Technology by the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology. Ms. DuPont also received an Honorary LLD from the University of Calgary in 2017. In 2019, Ms. DuPont was appointed to the Alberta Order of Excellence, the highest honour accorded an Alberta citizen. She has lectured in the Directors' Education Program offered by the Institute of Corporate Directors and is the past chair of the Board of Governors at the University of Calgary. Ms. DuPont was recently appointed chair of the Public Health Group within the O'Brien Institute of Public Health at the University of Calgary. She also serves on the board of NavCanada, is the chair of the Human Resources & Compensation Committee and serves as well on the Governance Committee.

*Wayne R. Gingrich* is Chief Financial Officer of Bird Construction Inc. Having joined Bird on April 4, 2016, Mr. Gingrich assumed his current role on July 1, 2016 and brings with him over twenty-five years of experience in finance and accounting roles and seventeen years of service as a financial executive in the architecture, engineering, construction ("AEC") sector. Prior to joining Bird, he served as the Chief Financial Officer for MMM Group Limited, acquired by WSP Global Inc., in late 2015. Prior to joining MMM Group, he worked for AECOM, Earth Tech and General Electric. Wayne obtained his honours Bachelor of Business Administration ("BBA") from Wilfrid Laurier University, with a minor in economics. He is a chartered professional accountant ("CPA") and certified management accountant. In 2020, Mr. Gingrich completed the Directors Education Program offered by the Institute of Corporate Directors and obtained his ICD.D designation.

**Terrance L. McKibbon** was appointed President and CEO of Bird Construction Inc. on July 1, 2019, after serving as Chief Operating Officer since June 2017. Prior to joining Bird in June 2017, Mr. McKibbon spent 20 years at Aecon Group. He served as President and Chief Executive Officer from June 2014 to December 2016, as well as a Non-Independent Director in that time. From June 2013 until June 2014 he served as President and as Chief Operating Officer from March 2011 until June 2014. He served as the President of Aecon's Civil and Utilities division from June 2005 until March 2011 and as an Executive Vice President of Aecon Group Inc. from 2005 until 2016. Mr. McKibbon has been involved with the management of construction-related companies for over 30 years including founding, acquiring and integrating companies and the overall management of companies that are active in all aspects of infrastructure construction. He was an Independent Trustee of Northview Apartment Real Estate Investment Trust from May 2015 until November 2020 when the business was sold. Mr. McKibbon served as a Trustee of the Operating Engineers Local 793Training Fund from 2005 until 2014 and as a Health & Safety Fund Trustee at Labourers International Union of North America from 2004 to 2013. He served as the Chairman and Board Member at Aecon: Lafarge Caledon BOD from 2000 to 2011. Mr. McKibbon is a member of the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD).

*Luc J. Messier* is currently the president of Reus Technologies LLC, a company focusing on the development of new technologies. Between 2007 and 2015, Mr. Messier served as senior vice president for ConocoPhillips where he was responsible for global projects and global supply chain with the addition of global aviation in 2012. Before joining ConocoPhillips, Mr. Messier served as president and chief executive officer of Technip USA. Prior to joining Technip, Mr. Messier was Managing Director of Dragages Hong Kong, a subsidiary of Bouygues and held before engineering and project management positions at Bouygues Construction and at Pomerleau. Mr. Messier also serves on the board

of Sodexo. He holds degrees in civil engineering from the University of Sherbrooke, enology and viticulture from UC Davis and studied business administration at INSEAD.

*Ron D. Munkley* was appointed as a Director in October 2011 and to the position of Lead Director in March 2017. He retired in 2009 as vice chair and Head of the Power and Utility Business of CIBC World Markets where he had acted as advisor on most Canadian utility and independent power transactions since joining CIBC World Markets in 1998. Mr. Munkley was named as a top Global Investment Banker by Brendan Wood International in 2008/9. Prior to 1998, Mr. Munkley was employed at Enbridge Consumers Gas for 27 years, culminating as chair, president and chief executive officer. He led Consumers Gas through deregulation and restructuring in the 1990s. In 2018, Mr. Munkley retired as a Director of Fortis Inc., where he was chair of the Governance Committee, and as Lead Director of Greystone Capital Management Inc. He holds a B.Sc. Hons. (Eng.) from Queens University and PDO certification from the Canadian Securities Institute.

*Paul R. Raboud* was the Vice Chair of Bird Construction Inc. until his retirement from that position on March 3, 2017. Mr. Raboud was appointed as a Director in September 2008. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta where he was awarded the gold medal in civil engineering. He earned a Masters of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington and an MBA from the University of Alberta. He is a registered Professional Engineer with the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario. Mr. Raboud joined Bird in 1984 in the Toronto office. He progressed through Bird as a field engineer, estimator, project manager and assistant district manager. In 1990, he was appointed manager of the Vancouver District, and in 2000, returned to the corporate office in Toronto as Executive Vice President. He was appointed President and Chief Operating Officer in March 2006 and appointed Chief Executive Officer in September 2008. In June 2010, Mr. Raboud is the Past Chair of the Ontario General Contractors Association and is a Director of Revera Inc. and Stephenson's Holdings Inc.

*Gilles G. Royer* is Chief Operating Officer of Bird Construction Inc., based in the Edmonton office. Mr. Royer joined Bird as a project coordinator through the Company's Civil Engineering Co-op Program in the Edmonton District in 1991. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta, Mr. Royer accepted employment at Bird on a full-time basis as project coordinator. He assumed progressively more responsible roles within the Company on various industrial projects and in early-2008, was promoted to Assistant District Manager. In 2009, he was appointed to the position of Edmonton District Manager; in January 2011, he was appointed as Vice President and Edmonton District Manager; effective January 1, 2012, he was appointed Senior Vice President, in January 2015, he was appointed Executive Vice President, Industrial; and on August 11, 2020 he was appointed Chief Operating Officer.

*Arni C. Thorsteinson* has been the President of Shelter Canadian Properties Limited, a diversified real estate development and management company, since 1990. He joined a predecessor company in 1976. He is also a Director or trustee of Lanesborough Real Estate Investment Trust, and Onex Corporation. Mr. Thorsteinson holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) and a Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, from the University of Manitoba and a Chartered Financial Analyst designation.

# 7.2 Collective Shareholdings

As a group, the Directors and Named Executive Officers of the Company beneficially own, directly or indirectly, a total of 2,145,203 common shares, representing approximately 4.0% of the issued common shares as at December 31, 2020.

# 7.3 Corporate Cease Trade Orders and Bankruptcies

None of the Directors or executive officers of the Company or, to the Company's knowledge, shareholders holding sufficient common shares to materially affect the control of the Company is, or within the previous 10 years, has been a trustee, director, chief executive officer or chief financial officer of any other issuer that, while acting in such capacity; (i) was subject to a cease trade or similar order or order that denied the issuer access to any exemptions under Canadian securities legislation for a period of more than 30 consecutive days, or (ii) became bankrupt, made a proposal under any legislation relating to bankruptcy or insolvency or was subject to or instituted any proceeding, arrangement or compromise with creditors or had receiver, receiver manager or trustee appointed to hold the assets of such issuer.

#### 7.4 **Penalties or Sanctions**

None of the Directors or officers of the Company, or to the Company's knowledge, shareholders holding sufficient common shares to materially affect the control of the Company, has been subject to; (i) any penalties or sanctions proposed by a court relating to Canadian securities legislation or by a Canadian securities regulatory authority or have entered into a settlement agreement with a Canadian securities regulatory authority, or (ii) any other penalties or sanctions imposed by a court or regulatory body that would likely be considered important to a reasonable investor in making an investment decision.

## 7.5 **Conflicts of Interest**

To the Company's knowledge, there are no existing or potential material conflicts of interest between the Company or a subsidiary of the Company and the Board of Directors and officers of the Company or any other subsidiary of the Company. (See "Interest of Management and Others in Material Transactions").

## 7.6 Board Committees

The Company currently has an Audit Committee and Human Resources, Safety and Governance ("**HRS&G**") Committee. The Company does not currently have any other board committees in place.

Director	Audit Committee	Human Resources, Safety and Governance Committee
Independent Directors		
J. Richard Bird	$\checkmark$	✓
Karyn A. Brooks**	Committee Chair	√
Paul A. Charette	$\checkmark$	√
D. Greg Doyle	$\checkmark$	√
Bonnie D. DuPont	$\checkmark$	Committee Chair
Luc J. Messier	$\checkmark$	√
Ron D. Munkley	$\checkmark$	√
Paul R. Raboud*	-	-
Arni C. Thorsteinson	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Non-Independent Directors		
Terrance L. McKibbon	-	-

Current Committee membership is shown in the following table:

\* Under applicable securities laws, Mr. Raboud, who was previously Vice Chair of the Company, became an independent Director of the Company on March 3, 2020. To date Mr. Raboud has not been appointed to either the Audit or HRS&G Committee.

\*\*Ms. Brooks was appointed Chair of the Audit Committee on May 12, 2020

# 8. AUDIT COMMITTEE INFORMATION

# 8.1 Audit Committee

The Audit Committee of the Company is currently comprised of eight members, being J.R. Bird, K. Brooks, D.G. Doyle, B.D. DuPont, L.J. Messier, R.D. Munkley, P.A Charette and A.C. Thorsteinson. Ms. Brooks is Chair of the

Audit Committee. All the members are independent and financially literate. The following profiles outline the relevant education and experience of each member relating to the Audit Committee (Also see brief profiles of each member in section 7 "Directors and Officers").

*J. Richard Bird* has been on the Board of the Fund or the Company since December 1987 and has been a member of the Audit Committee since that time. Mr. Bird was the Chair of the Audit Committee from March 24, 1988 until March 7, 2006. He was named Canada's CFO of the Year for 2010. He has served as a trustee, director, senior officer, and audit committee member of several issuers listed in Canada and the U.S., and has had responsibility for the oversight of preparation of financial statements, disclosure controls, internal financial controls and certification of financial statements to the U.S. Sarbanes-Oxley 404 Standards.

*Karyn A. Brooks* was appointed as a Director in March 2017. Ms. Brooks obtained her Chartered Accountant (Ontario) designation in 1978 and was elected a Fellow of the Chartered Professional Accounts of Ontario in 2009. She is a member of the boards and audit committees of Information Services Corporation and The Calgary Zoological Society, and chairs the Finance and Legal Committee of the Calgary Zoological Society. She has held a number of other audit committees. She has also served as a senior officer of other listed issuers, and has had responsibility for the oversight of preparation of financial statements, disclosure controls, internal financial controls and certification of financial statements to the U.S. Sarbanes-Oxley 404 Standards. Ms. Brooks was appointed Chair of the Audit Committee on May 12, 2020.

*Paul A. Charette* is Chair of the Board of Directors. On October 7, 2011, Mr. Charette was appointed a member of the Audit Committee. Prior to September 2, 2011, Mr. Charette held non- independent director status as he had been the Chief Executive Officer of the Company until his retirement on September 2, 2008. In 2014, Mr. Charette resigned from the Audit Committee and was reappointed on May 9, 2015. With his 33 years of experience at the Company in a variety of senior management positions, including Chief Executive Officer, he has comprehensive understanding of accounting principles and financial analysis.

**D. Greg Doyle** has been on the Board of the Fund or the Company since May 2003, and has been a member of the Audit Committee since that time. Mr. Doyle has been the Chair of the Audit Committee from March 2006 to May 2020. As former Managing Partner of KPMG LLP's Winnipeg office and as former Senior Partner at KPMG Polska, Mr. Doyle has a breadth of experience relating to the application of accounting principles, financial statement disclosure and understanding internal controls and procedures.

**Bonnie D. DuPont** has been on the Board of the Company since January 2011 and has been a member of the Audit Committee since that time. Having held a variety of positions at a senior management level during her working career, as well as being a graduate of the ICD Corporate Directors' Education Program, Ms. DuPont has a thorough understanding of accounting principles and financial analysis.

*Luc J. Messier* has been on the Board of the Company since February 2017 and a member of the Audit Committee since that time. Through his experience as Senior Vice-President Projects, Aviation and Chief Procurement Officer at ConocoPhillips, Mr. Messier has been closely involved with Enterprise Risk Management, including reviewing on a regular basis his global responsibilities with the Board Finance and Audit Committee. He currently serves on the board of Sodexo. He has also served on the Board of Joint Venture Companies and subsidiaries of ConocoPhillips. Mr. Messier served on the Boards of Mercury and Da Camera, in Texas, and has been on the Finance and Audit Committee of Mercury.

**Ron D. Munkley** has been on the Board of the Company since October 2011 and has been a member of the Audit Committee since that time. He was appointed to the position of Lead Director in March 2017. Mr. Munkley retired in April 2009 as Vice Chairman and Head of the Power and Utility Business of CIBC World Markets. He had acted as an advisor on most Canadian utility transactions since joining CIBC World Markets in 1998. Prior to that, he was employed at Enbridge Consumers Gas for 27 years, culminating as Chairman, President and CEO. He led Enbridge Consumers Gas through deregulation and restructuring in the 1990s.

*Arni C. Thorsteinson* has been on the Board of the Fund or the Company since May 1991 and has been a member of the Audit Committee for most of that time. Mr. Thorsteinson is President of Shelter Canadian Properties Limited, a diversified real estate development and management company. He is also a director or trustee of Lanesborough Real Estate Investment Trust and Onex Corporation. Mr. Thorsteinson holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) with a major in Accounting & Finance and a Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, from the University of Manitoba and is a Chartered

Financial Analyst.

# 8.2 **Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures**

The Audit Committee has adopted specific policies and procedures for the engagement of non-audit services provided by the Company's external auditors. These procedures are contained in the Audit Committee Charter (included as Appendix B), which requires that the committee pre-approve, in accordance with applicable law, any non-audit services to be provided to the Company by the external auditor, with reference to compatibility of the service relative to the external auditor's independence.

# 8.3 External Auditor Service Fees (By Category)

Fees paid or payable to the external auditor for the last two fiscal years are summarized in the following table:

Fees paid or payable to the external auditor for the last two fiscal years are summarized		
	2020	2019
Annual Audit Fees	\$886,000	\$447,500
Audit Related Fees	\$509,220	\$21,800
Other Fees	\$527,910	\$18,275
Tax Fees	\$162,900	\$25,750
TOTAL FEES	\$2,086,030	\$513,325

Audit fees in 2020 and 2019 include fees for professional services rendered for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements. In 2020, due to the acquisition of Stuart Olson Inc., the scope of the audit and resultant fees increased.

Audit related fees in 2020 and 2019 include fees for the audit of related entities at the Company's proportionate ownership. In 2020, audit related fees include fees to review Bird's financial statements for period endings ending June 30, 2020 and 2019 as well as the closing balance sheet audit related to the Stuart Olson acquisition.

Other fees in 2019 relate to an ethical bidding practices audit required by all bidders to fulfill the procurement requirements of a government agency. Other fees in 2020 relate to advisory services during due diligence of Stuart Olson.

Tax fees incurred in 2020 and 2019 relate to advice provided on compliance matters, due diligence services and advice relating to PPP entities. In 2020, the external auditor provided tax due diligence support.

#### 8.4 Audit Committee Charter

See Appendix B for text of the Audit Committee Charter.

# 9. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In the normal course of business, the Company's wholly-owned operating entities engage in business activities that may expose it to potential legal proceedings. The Company and its operating entities are not currently party to legal proceedings that are considered material to the operations either individually or in the aggregate. Reasonable estimates for the cost of settlement of any known legal matters have been made by management and are included in the Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020.

# 10. INTEREST OF MANAGEMENT AND OTHERS IN MATERIAL TRANSACTIONS

During 2020, Bird was involved in several construction contracts with Shelter Canadian Properties Limited or companies affiliated with them. Shelter Canadian Properties Limited is controlled by the family of Mr. A.C. Thorsteinson, a Director of the Company. All contracts with Shelter Canadian Properties Limited or companies affiliated with them were completed on construction terms typical in the industry.

# **11. TRANSFER AGENTS AND REGISTRARS**

Computershare Trust Company of Canada Watermark Tower Suite 600, 530 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue SW Calgary, AB T2P 3S8

# **12. MATERIAL CONTRACTS**

There were no material contracts, other than contracts entered into in the ordinary course of business, entered into by the Company or its subsidiaries during the most recently completed financial year ended December 31, 2020 or before the most recently completed financial year but that are still in effect.

# **13. INTERESTS OF EXPERTS**

KPMG LLP are the auditors of the Company and have confirmed, with respect to the Company, that they are independent within the meaning of the relevant rules and related interpretations prescribed by the relevant professional bodies in Canada and any applicable legislation or regulations.

# **14. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information, including information as to the Directors' and Officers' remuneration and principal holders of securities of the Company, as applicable, is contained in the Company's Management Information Circular for the Annual General Meeting of shareholders to be held on May 11, 2021. Additional financial information is provided in the Company's financial statements and MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2020. A copy of these documents may be obtained upon request from Investor Relations, at 5700 Explorer Drive, Suite 400, Mississauga, Ontario L4W 0C6. Such reports have also been filed with applicable securities regulatory authorities and are available, along with additional information relating to the Company, on SEDAR at www.sedar.com.

# **15. APPENDIX A - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MANDATE**

#### BOARD MANDATE - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Bird Construction Inc. (the "Company" or "Bird") is responsible for the stewardship and oversight of the management of the Company in accordance with obligations under the articles of incorporation, by-laws and applicable laws.

Within its stewardship responsibility, the Board's role is to preserve and enhance the viability of the Company and to ensure that it is managed with a view to the best interests of the Company and the Company's shareholders ("**Shareholders**"). In carrying out these responsibilities and discharging its obligations, the Board will, either directly or through its committees, perform the duties and adhere to the guidelines set out in the Mandate of the Board of Directors & Corporate Governance Guidelines.

The duties and responsibilities of the Board include stewardship and oversight in the following areas:

## 1.1 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE

- a) Approving the Company's vision, mission and value statements.
- b) Reviewing the effectiveness of the Company's strategic planning process and annually approving the business plan and strategic plan.
- c) Monitoring the Company's performance against the overall business objectives and strategic plans and taking action when performance falls short of its goals or when other special circumstances (for example acquisitions) warrant it.
- d) Establishing annual performance expectations and corporate goals and objectives for the President & Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"), monitoring progress against those expectations and taking appropriate action when performance falls short.
- e) Reviewing and approving all major strategic initiatives, investments and transactions.

## 1.2 **PRINCIPAL RISKS**

- a) Overseeing risk management at the Company, balancing risks and rewards while ensuring that management has in place policies, processes and procedures designed to identify and effectively measure, manage and mitigate the principal risks of the Company's business.
- b) Reviewing the systems implemented by management to manage the Company's risk and approve the Company's risk appetite.
- c) Reviewing and approving significant policies and practices that ensure compliance with applicable regulatory, corporate, securities and other legal requirements.
- d) Reviewing the principal risks of the Company's business and the appropriateness of the systems put in place to measure, manage and mitigate these risks.

#### 1.3 **EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM**

- a) Selecting the CEO and approving the selection of the other executive officers of the Company.
- b) Satisfying itself, to the extent feasible, of the integrity and effectiveness of the CEO and the other executive officers of the Company.
- c) Establishing an effective system of remuneration that is congruent with the Company's strategic plans.

- d) Overseeing the Company's succession planning process including the appointment, training, compensation and performance assessment of the non-executive Chair of the Board (the "Chair"), Board committee chairs, directors of the Board ("Directors"), the CEO and other executive officers of the Company.
- e) Delegating to management powers to effectively manage the Company. In particular, in respect of, the day-to-day business of the Company, within a policy and budget framework established by the Board.

## 1.4 **FINANCIAL REPORTING AND INTERNAL CONTROLS**

- a) Reviewing the effectiveness of the Company's internal controls and management information systems.
- b) Reviewing and approving the Company's annual and quarterly financial statements and management discussion and analysis, annual information form, management proxy circular and other public disclosure documents that require board approval.
- c) Overseeing compliance with applicable audit, accounting and reporting requirements.
- d) Approving dividends, as well as capital allocations, expenditures and transactions which exceed threshold amounts set by the Board.

## 1.5 **GOVERNANCE**

- a) Providing stewardship and using its collective expertise, skills, experiences and competencies, to probe, provide proactive, timely, objective and thoughtful guidance to, and oversight of, senior management.
- b) Developing the Company's approach to corporate governance, including establishing and maintaining corporate governance guidelines.
- c) Establishing appropriate structures and procedures to allow the Board to function independently of management.
- d) Establishing Board committees, appointing Board committee chairs and approving their respective charters to assist the Board in carrying out its duties and responsibilities.
- e) Evaluating, on a regular basis, the Board, its committees and individual directors, and reviewing the composition and size of the Board and its committees with a view to the skills, contribution, effectiveness and independence of the Board and its members.

# **16. APPENDIX B - AUDIT COMMITTEE CHARTER**

# 1. PURPOSE

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Bird Construction Inc. (the "Company") has established the Audit Committee (the "Committee") as a standing committee of the Board. Its purpose is to assist the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities for:

- i. the integrity of the Company's financial reporting;
- ii. the effectiveness of the Company's internal control systems;
- iii. the qualifications, independence, performance and appointment of the external auditors of the Company (the "external auditors");
- iv. the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- v. transactions involving related parties;
- vi. the management of the Company's major financial risks; and
- vii. any additional duties set out in this Charter or otherwise delegated to the Committee by the Board.

# 2. OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES

This section establishes the framework of operations and procedures of the Committee, provided that, subject to the powers and duties of the Board, the Committee shall have all the powers available at law and necessary for it to carry out its mandate, responsibilities and obligations as set out herein.

# 2.1 Composition and Qualifications

The Committee will consist of minimum of four (4) or more directors of the Company ("**Directors**") as determined by the Board. Each member of the Committee will be: (i) a Director who is not an officer or employee of the Company or an affiliate of the Company; and (ii) "independent" for the purposes of applicable corporate and securities legislation of Canada.

The Board will, having considered the recommendation of the Human Resource, Safety & Governance Committee, appoint the members of the Committee (the "Members") and the chair of the Committee (the "Chair") annually following the meeting of the shareholders of the Company at which Directors are elected each year.

All members of the Committee shall be financially literate. Members will not serve on more than three public company audit committees without the prior approval of the Board.

# 2.2 Orientation

The Committee shall adopt an orientation program for new Members. All Members are encouraged to attend educational programs to enhance their Audit Committee membership, as they feel appropriate, and any reimbursement of the costs of each program may be paid by the Company in accordance with the Director Reimbursable Expense Policy.

# 2.3 Duties and Responsibilities of the Committee Chair

The Board will in each year appoint the Chair. The Chair shall have accounting or related financial expertise. The Chair will have the right to exercise all powers of the Committee between meetings but will attempt to involve all other Members as appropriate prior to the exercise of any powers and will, in any event, advise all other Members of any decisions made or powers exercised.

The Chair is responsible for:

- a) convening Committee meetings and designating the times and places of those meetings;
- b) ensuring Committee meetings are duly convened and that a quorum is present when required for matters to be voted upon;
- working with the Company's Corporate Secretary and/or the Assistant Corporate Secretary, as applicable, Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), as required, on the development of agendas and related materials for Committee meetings;
- d) ensuring Committee meetings are conducted in an efficient and effective manner;
- e) ensuring the Committee has sufficient information to permit it to properly make decisions when required;
- f) providing leadership to the Committee and leading the Committee in reviewing and monitoring its responsibilities;
- g) reporting to the Board on the recommendations and decisions of the Committee; and
- h) receiving and bringing to the Committee for review complaints delivered pursuant to the Company's Whistleblower Policy.

# 2.4 Delegation of Authority

In its discretion, the Committee may delegate all or a portion of its duties and responsibilities to a subcommittee of the Committee, provided that any such subcommittee shall be governed by the terms of reference upon such delegation.

# 2.5 Meetings

The following rules shall govern the constitution of and procedures in relation to the Committee's meetings:

- a) the Committee shall meet at the request of the external auditors, Chair of the Board or any member of the Committee, at least once every quarter and as many additional times as circumstances may require;
- b) notices of meetings shall be sent to all Committee members, to the Chair of the Board, to all other Directors, to the CEO and to the CFO;
- c) a majority of Members, whether present in person, by teleconference or by videoconference shall constitute a quorum. Any decision or determination of the Committee reduced to writing and signed by all of the Members shall be fully as effective as if it had been made at a meeting duly called and held;
- d) in the absence of the Chair, the Members may choose another Member to be chair of the meeting;
- e) the Corporate Secretary, or such other person as may be appointed by the Chair, will act as secretary of the Committee and keep minutes of Committee meetings;
- f) the minutes of the Committee will be in writing and, upon approval by the Committee, duly entered into the books of the Company and circulated or otherwise made available to all members of the Board; and
- g) the Committee will invite other members of the Board, members of management or others to attend meetings and provide pertinent information, as necessary.

The external auditors are entitled to receive notice of every meeting of the Committee and, at the expense of the Company, to attend and be heard, and, if so requested by a Member, shall attend every meeting of the Committee held during the term of office of the external auditors.

# 2.6 Resignation, Removal and Vacancy

A Member may resign from the Committee or may be removed at any time by and at the discretion of the Board. A Member will automatically cease to be a Member as soon as the Member ceases to be a Director.

The Board may, and where the number of Members falls below the minimum requirement shall, fill vacancies on the Committee which occur between annual elections by appointment from amongst the Directors in accordance with this Charter.

Subject to quorum requirements, if a vacancy exists on the Committee, the remaining Members will be authorized to exercise all the Committee's powers.

#### Experts, Professionals, Advisors and Resources

The Committee may retain or appoint, at the Company's expense, such professionals, experts and advisors, and otherwise obtain and deploy such resources, as it deems necessary to carry out its duties, including to investigate any matter or activity within its mandate in accordance with this Charter, and, if so retained, shall set and pay the compensation of duly appointed professionals, experts and advisors. The Committee shall provide notice to the Board of its actions in this regard.

# 3. MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee is hereby delegated the duties and powers in section 158 of the *Business Corporations Act* (Ontario) and without limiting these duties and powers, the Committee will, either directly or through one or more subcommittees, perform the duties set out in this Charter and such other duties as may be necessary or appropriate including:

# 3.1 Financial Reporting

- a) review, together with management and the external auditors, and recommend to the Board approval of, the audited annual financial statements and related management's discussion and analysis ("**MD&A**"), the annual information form ("**AIF**"), the management information circular ("**MIC**") and any other related financial or non-financial (as considered appropriate) information in material public disclosure;
- b) review, together with management and, where necessary, the external auditors, and recommend to the Board approval of the public release of, the unaudited interim financial statements and related MD&A, and any other related financial or non-financial (as considered appropriate) information in material public disclosure;
- c) each reporting period review, together with management and the external auditors:
  - the appropriateness of, and any changes to, the Company's accounting policies and financial reporting, including the selection or application of accounting principles and the appropriateness of non-GAAP measures;
  - ii. the accounting treatment, presentation and impact of significant risks and uncertainties, including legal claims and contingencies;
  - iii. any material relevant proposed changes in accounting standards, securities policies or regulations and all applicable laws or regulations;
  - iv. key estimates and judgments of management;
  - v. significant accounting and financial reporting issues and the method of resolution; and
  - vi. tax and tax planning matters that are material to the financial statements;
- d) seek confirmation from management that the Company's annual and interim financial filings, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Company as of the relevant date and for the relevant periods, prior to recommending to the Board for approval; and
- e) satisfy itself that adequate procedures are in place for the review of financial information extracted or derived from the Company's financial statements that is to be publicly disclosed and has not otherwise been reviewed by the Committee.

# 3.2 Internal Controls

- a) review the Company's internal controls (including management information systems and information technology security and control) and oversee the maintenance and effectiveness of the Company's internal controls, including those related to the prevention, identification and detection of fraud;
- b) require management to design, implement, and maintain appropriate internal controls and internal audit procedures;
- c) review and monitor the Company's corporate policies as the Committee considers appropriate;
- d) understand the scope of the external auditors' review of the Company's internal controls over financial reporting, and obtain reports on significant findings and recommendations, together with management's responses;
- e) review interim certificates on the design effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures;
- f) review, annually, management's certifications and assessment of the Company's internal control over financial reporting;
- g) review as required, correspondence relating to inquiries or investigations by regulators concerning internal controls or financial reporting;
- h) review expenses incurred by the chair of the Board and CEO and confirm that the CEO reviews all expenses incurred by direct reports; and
- i) review complaints received pursuant to the Company's Whistleblower Policy and make recommendation to the Board.

# 3.3 Internal Audit

a) at least annually, assess the adequacy of the Company's internal audit systems/procedures and consider whether the Company should establish a separate internal audit function.

## 3.4 External Audit

- a) oversee the work and review and evaluate the performance and independence of the external auditors, and make recommendations to the Board regarding the appointment or discharge of the external auditors. In performing this oversight and review, the Committee will:
  - i. at least annually, obtain and review a report by the external auditors describing: (A) the external auditors' internal quality control procedures and internal procedures to ensure independence; (B) any material issues raised by the most recent internal quality control review, or peer review, of the external auditors, or by any inquiry or investigation by governmental or professional authorities, within the preceding five years, respecting one or more independent audits carried out by the external auditors, and any steps taken to deal with any such issues; and (C) all relationships between the external auditors and the Company, including details of all non-audit services provided;
  - ii. take into account the opinions of management; and
  - iii. evaluate the lead partner of the external auditors and review the external auditors' partner rotation;
- review the terms of the external auditors' engagement, the total fees payable, the annual audit plan and scope of the external audit, including assurance that the audit plan is risk-based and appropriately addresses the risks of material misstatement and make recommendations to the Board as appropriate;
- c) receive and review from the external auditors any notice/report on items required to be communicated to the Committee by applicable rules and regulations, and take such action and make recommendations to the Board as appropriate in connection therewith;
- review external auditors' audit findings reports with the external auditors and management including: (A) the quality of the financial statements; (B) the external auditors' evaluation of the Company's internal control over financial reporting; (C) the degree of cooperation the external auditors received from management, including any difficulties

experienced and any restrictions imposed; (D) any concerns expressed by the external auditors related to accounting and auditing matters, including the risk of material misstatements; (E) the appropriateness and quality of all critical accounting policies and practices used by the Company and of the selection of new policies and practices; and (F) any material judgments that have been discussed with management, the ramifications of their use and the external auditors' preferred treatment, as well as any other material communications with management, and advise the Board of these matters as considered appropriate;

- e) pre-approve any non-audit services to be provided to the Company by the external auditors, with reference to compatibility of the service and the external auditors' independence;
- f) review any other material communication received from the external auditor;
- g) review and approve the Company's hiring policies for employees or former employees of the present or former external auditors;
- h) resolve any disagreements between management of the Company and the external auditors; and
- i) at least annually, meet separately with the external auditors, outside the presence of management of the Company, to discuss any matters that the Committee or external auditors believe should be discussed privately.

## 3.5 Legal and Regulatory Compliance

- review the effectiveness of the system for monitoring compliance with laws and regulations and the results of related monitoring and oversight, including management's investigation and follow-up of any instances of noncompliance;
- b) review any anticipated major claims and actual litigation, including tax assessments, which could have a material current or future effect on the Company's consolidated financial statements, and the manner in which these have been reflected in the consolidated financial statements or other public documents; and
- c) annually review of the policies of the Company with respect to financial risk and ensure adequate and effective systems are in place to enforce compliance; and

## 3.6 Financial Risk Management

- at least annually, review and assess the adequacy of the Company's major financial risk management policies and procedures with regard to the identification of the Company's major financial risks. "Major financial risk" includes counterparty, credit, currency, interest rate, capital markets, commodity pricing, and such other risk identified by the Board;
- b) review and assess the adequacy of the implementation of appropriate systems to mitigate and manage the Company's major financial risks;
- c) monitor the Company's major financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such exposures; and
- d) at least annually review, the Company's insurance programs, including insurance coverages, and make recommendations to the Board in light of the Company's strategic plans and risk appetite.

# 3.7 Related Party Transactions

a) review, approve as considered appropriate and monitor as considered necessary, all related party transactions and the measurement criteria and benchmarks for permitted related party transactions.

# 3.8 Other Reporting and Communication Responsibilities

- a) oversee appropriate disclosure of this Charter, and other information required to be disclosed by applicable legislation, in the AIF, MD&A and MIC and all other disclosure documents as applicable;
- b) report regularly to the Board on Committee activities, issues and related recommendations, including as specifically required in this Charter; and
- c) establish and maintain direct communication channels with management of the Company, the external auditors and the Board.

# 3.9 Annual Review and Assessment

- a) conduct an evaluation of the Committee's performance and assess the adequacy of the Audit Committee Charter, at least annually, and recommend to the Board such amendments to the Charter as the Committee deems necessary; and
- b) confirm annually that all responsibilities outlined in the Audit Committee Charter have been carried out.