

## VICTORY NICKEL INC.

# UNAUDITED CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# FOR THE THREE AND SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

**DATED AUGUST 24, 2020** 

### Management's Comments on Unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements

The accompanying unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements of Victory Nickel Inc. for the three months and six months ended June 30, 2020 have been prepared by management, reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the Company.

In accordance with National Instrument 51-102, Continuous Disclosure Obligations of the Canadian Securities Administrators, the Company herewith discloses that the accompanying unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements have not been reviewed by an auditor.

### **Condensed Interim Consolidated Balance Sheets**

(in thousands of United States dollars)	Notes		June 30, 2020	December 31, 2019
ASSETS				
Current assets				
Cash		\$	121	\$ 23
Receivables	4		82	36
Marketable securities			1	1
Inventory	5		878	1,151
Total current assets			1,082	1,211
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	6		1,651	1,868
Mine property and development project	7		13,079	12,800
Exploration and evaluation projects	8		3,430	3,430
Total non-current assets			18,160	18,098
Total Assets		\$	19,242	\$ 19,309
Current liabilities Trade and other payables Loans and borrowings	9 10	\$	3,028 9,583	\$ 2,968 18,886
Total current liabilities			12,611	21,854
Non-current liabilities				
Loans and borrowings	10		10,747	_
Participating Interest	11	•	10,747	1
Total non-current liabilities			10,748	1
Total Liabilities			23,359	21,855
Shareholders' equity				
Share capital	12		53,410	53,410
Contributed surplus			6,178	6,178
Accumulated other comprehensive loss			(3,456)	(3,456)
Deficit			(60,249)	(58,678)
Total shareholders' equity			(4,117)	(2,546)
Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		\$	19,242	\$ 19,309

NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND GOING CONCERN (Note 1)
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements

## **Consolidated Statements of Operations**

			Thre	ee i	months ended	S	ix I	months ended
(in thousands of United States dollars)	Notes	Jun	e 30, 2020		June 30, 2019	June 30, 2020		June 30, 2019
Sales		\$	51	\$	190	\$ 308	\$	351
Cost of goods sold			(109)		(156)	(394)		(323)
Gross loss			(58)		34	(86)		28
Operating expenses								
General and administrative			(208)		(243)	(363)		(385)
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	6		(108)		(142)	(217)		(285)
Writedown of Mine property and development project	11		` -		(17)	` -		(17)
Writedown of Exploration & Evaluation projects	8		(4)		-	(8)		-
Operating loss			(378)		(368)	(674)		(659)
Finance income	15		39		-	283		-
Finance costs	15		(574)		(744)	(1,180)		(1,436)
Net finance costs			(535)		(744)	(897)		(1,436)
Net loss for the year		\$	(913)	\$	(1,112)	\$ (1,571)	\$	(2,095)
Loss per share	13							
Basic and diluted loss per share		\$	(0.01)	\$	(0.01)	\$ (0.02)	\$	(0.02)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements

## **Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss**

	Three months ended S							ix months ended		
(in thousands of United States dollars)	Ju	ne 30, 2020		June 30, 2019		June 30, 2020		June 30, 2019		
Net loss for the year	\$	(913)	\$	(1,112)	\$	(1,571)	\$	(2,095)		
Other comprehensive income ("OCI")										
Net change in fair value of financial assets		-		(84)		-		-		
Foreign exchange gain		-		57		-		33		
Other comprehensive income for the year		-		(27)		-		33		
Total Comprehensive Loss for the year	\$	(913)	\$	(1,139)	\$	(1,571)	\$	(2,062)		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements

## Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity

				A	Accumulated Other			
	Share	Co	ntributed	Co	omprehensive			
(in thousands of United States dollars)	Capital	;	Surplus		Loss	Deficit	Tota	al Equity
Balances as at January 1, 2019	\$ 53,410	\$	6,178	\$	(3,494)	\$ (54,094)	\$	2,000
Total comprehensive loss for the period								
Net loss for the period						(2,095)		(2,095)
Other comprehensive income Foreign exchange on change in functional currency					33			33
Total other comprehensive income					33			33
Total comprehensive loss for the period								(2,062)
Balances as at June 30, 2019	\$ 53,410	\$	6,178	\$	(3,461)	\$ (56,189)	\$	(62)
Balances as at January 1, 2020	\$ 53,410	\$	6,178	\$	(3,456)	\$ (58,678)	\$	(2,546)
Total comprehensive loss for the period								
Net loss for the year						(1,571)		(1,571)
Total comprehensive loss for the period	·				·			(1,571)
Balances as at June 30, 2020	\$ 53,410	\$	6,178	\$	(3,456)	\$ (60,249)	\$	(4,117)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements

## **Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

			Six	months ended
(in thousands of United States dollars)	Notes	Jı	une 30, 2020	June 30, 2019
Cash flows from operating activities				
Net loss for the year		\$	(1,571)	(2,095)
Adjustments for:				
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	6		217	285
Writedown of Mine property and development project	11		-	17
Writedown of exploration and evaluation projects	8		8	-
Net finance costs	15		1,162	1,298
Net change in working capital:				
Change in receivables	4		(46)	(48)
Change in inventory	5		273	3
Change in trade and other payables	9		60	233
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities			103	(307)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	6		-	(6)
Proceeds on sale of marketable securities			-	149
Expenditures on mine property and development project	7		(279)	(17)
Expenditures on exploration and development projects	8		(8)	-
Net cash (used) provided by investing activities			(287)	126
Cash flows from financing activities				
Net receipts of loans	10		253	218
Net receipts of government loan	10		29	-
Net cash provided by financing activities			282	218
Net increase in cash			98	37
Cash balance at beginning of the year			23	43
Cash balance at end of the year		\$	121 \$	80

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

### 1. NATURE OF OPERATIONS AND GOING CONCERN

### **Nature of Operations**

Victory Nickel Inc. ("Victory Nickel" or the "Company") is a company domiciled in Canada. The address of the Company's registered office is 80 Richmond St. West, Suite 1802, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2A4. The consolidated financial statements as at and for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (the "Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements") comprise the Company and its subsidiaries Victory Silica Ltd. ("Victory Silica") and BG Solutions Ltd. ("BG") together referred to as "Victory Nickel" and individually as "Victory Nickel entities". Victory Nickel was primarily engaged in the acquisition, exploration and development of nickel properties in Canada (Minago, Mel and Lynn Lake in Manitoba, and Lac Rocher in Quebec) until the second quarter of 2014 when the Company became a producer and supplier of premium frac sand from its frac sand plant (the "7P Plant"), located near the town of Seven Persons, approximately 18 kilometres southwest of Medicine Hat, Alberta. The 7P Plant comprises a fully-operational wet plant with a nominal capacity of approximately 120,000 tons per annum ("tpa") and a dry plant with a nominal capacity of 500,000 tpa. Frac sand is specialized sand that is used as a proppant to enhance recovery from oil and gas wells, however the sand produced at the 7P Plant also has uses in other markets. The Company was formed on February 1, 2007 pursuant to a plan of arrangement.

The Company is listed on the Canadian Securities Exchange ("CSE") under the symbol NI.

All dollar amounts are quoted in United States dollars ("US\$" or "US dollars"), except for those denoted as Canadian dollars ("CAD\$") or Australian dollars ("AU\$").

### **Going Concern**

These Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared using Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") applicable to a going concern, which contemplates the realization of assets and settlement of liabilities in the normal course of business as they come due. As at June 30, 2020, the Company had a working capital deficiency of \$11,529,000, calculated as current assets less current liabilities, a decrease from a working capital deficiency of \$20,643,000 as at December 31, 2019 mostly due to interest accrued on debt and the fact that the Secured Debt became a long term liability in January 2020 as described further below. At June 30, 2020, the current loans and borrowings and accrued interest of \$9,583,000 were the largest factor in the Company's working capital deficiency.

The Company's main assets are its nickel projects. Minago, the most advanced of its projects, is permitted and ready for development. However, development costs are estimated to be in excess of CAD\$500,000,000 and given the current price of nickel, it is unlikely that financing for this project will be available in the near future. If the Company is unable to finance and develop its nickel projects, the potential recovery via sale of these projects may be below the current carrying amounts. Given the defaults on loans discussed below, there is an increased risk that the Company's creditors could force the Company to liquidate its core assets under less than favourable terms.

Due to market conditions beyond the Company's control the suspension of operations at the 7P Plant until the demand for frac sand improved was announced in April 2015. The 7P Plant was restarted in March 2017. In October 2017 the Company announced that it had completed the refurbishment of its frac sand wash plant at the 7P Plant. The 7P Plant now comprised of a wet and a dry plant continues to serve customers, however sales remain well below the level required to generate positive cash flow.

The near-term outlook in the frac sand market remains unclear. The significant drop in oil adds uncertainty for the demand and price of frac sand. The US dollar continues to negatively impact demand for high-quality Wisconsin frac sand in Canada due to the fact that the relative price for Canadian frac sand has dropped and service companies appear satisfied with using lower-quality domestic frac sand. The Company's existing inventory is Wisconsin frac sand, however the Company is planning to add Canadian sand to its inventory in order to be more competitive.

Cash flows from frac sand sales during 2019 and to date in 2020 were not sufficient to pay financing costs and the Company was not able to make most of its interest payments due.

During 2016, the Company restructured its debt (the "Debt Restructuring Agreement") with holders of promissory convertible notes and trade creditors, by issuing shares of the Company and unsecured promissory convertible notes ("Promissory Convertible Notes"). In 2017, the Company's secured debt ("Secured Debt") increased by the

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

amount of unpaid interest to \$7,050,000 and the maturity date was extended to July 31, 2019. In 2018, the maturity date of the Secured Debt was further extended to January 31, 2020. On January 31, 2020, the maturity date on the Secured Debt of \$7,050,000 and related accrued interest was extended to July 31, 2021. The interest rate on the Secured Debt remained unchanged at 14.8% with interest payable in arrears.

Pursuant to the terms of the Secured Debt, the Company is prevented from making payments under outstanding unsecured debt until the Secured Debt is repaid. The Company has not been able to repay the Secured Debt. The lender of the Secured Debt (the "Secured Lender") has provided a forbearance agreement for the balance of the accrued interest and continues to make advances to cover non-discretionary costs. The Company's ability to make the required interest payments in 2020 is also in doubt and dependent upon frac sand sales and/or third-party funding or asset sales. The Company's Secured Lender continues to demonstrate its commitment to ensuring the protection of the Company's core assets by providing working capital advances and forbearance agreements with respect to the interest due under the Secured Debt. Should the support of the Secured Lender change, the going concern assumption would be in doubt.

During 2016, all of the Promissory Convertible Note holders participated in the Debt Restructuring Agreement, except for one holder of a \$3,000,000 promissory convertible note (the "Outstanding Note"). In March 2016, the Company announced that it had received notice that the holder of the Outstanding Note had filed a statement of claim concerning non-payment of principal and interest. The Company has reviewed the statement of claim with legal counsel to assess its impact on the Company and has concluded that there is no significant impact on the status of the Company's debt. The Outstanding Note matured in July 2016 and the Company has been unable to repay the amounts owing and interest payments due, which has resulted in the Company defaulting on the Outstanding Note.

The Company has not made interest payments due on any of its Promissory Convertible Notes, which has resulted in the Company defaulting on these notes.

On July 31, 2018, the Company obtained approval from certain holders of Promissory Convertible Notes amounting to CAD\$357,000 and \$1,396,000, to extend the maturity date to January 31, 2020, from July 31, 2018, upon the issuance of an aggregate total of 532,899 common shares of the Company. The balance of the promissory notes remained in default as the Company was unable to repay the Promissory Convertible Notes when they became due.

In addition to the liquidity and solvency uncertainties described above, the ability to resume full operations at the 7P Plant will require additional financing. As noted, the Company's Secured Lender has been supportive to date, however there are no assurances that this will continue, that the Company will be able to find alternative financing or that sand sales will achieve the level sufficient to generate cash flows to repay its outstanding obligations.

Per guidelines from the province of Alberta, the 7P Plant is considered an essential service and is therefore able to continue operations; the Company intends to continue to operate the 7P Plant for the foreseeable future. Throughout the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company's head office personnel in Toronto have been working remotely and all staff in Ontario and Alberta has complied with applicable provincial and federal regulations and guidelines. The Company will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and adapt as necessary.

Management continues to advance its program to supplement existing sand inventory with domestic "in-basin" sand supply. Given the current situation as it relates to COVID-19, the timeline to development and sand production from the Short Grass Property, defined below, remains to be determined.

The Company has cut non-essential costs in an effort to reduce operating losses and has deferred payments wherever possible. During 2019, the Company, with the agreement of its Secured Lender, sold non-core assets to provide operating funds and liquidated the remainder of its marketable securities, eliminating this source of funds for operations. However, without an injection of capital and/or until the demand and pricing for frac sand returns, the Company will not be able to meet its outstanding obligations or any new obligations as they become due. The defaults on the Company's existing obligations add to the challenge of obtaining additional capital.

There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to restructure its debt further and/or recapitalize, and there is no certainty as to what further steps, if any, the secured and unsecured lenders may take. To date,

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

management and the board of directors have reduced and/or deferred salaries and director fees until business recovers, but there is no certainty that this will continue. Management salary reductions and/or deferrals put the Company at risk of being unable to retain key personnel.

In addition to the above liquidity issues, the Company is subject to the risks and challenges experienced by other companies at a comparable stage. These risks include, but are not limited to, continuing losses, dependence on key individuals and the ability to secure adequate financing or to complete corporate transactions to meet the minimum capital required to successfully fund its projects and operating expenses.

None of the Company's mining projects have commenced commercial production and, accordingly, the Company is dependent upon debt or equity financings, the optioning and/or sale of resource or resource-related assets or interests, exploration results which have the potential for the discovery of economically-recoverable reserves and resources, and/or the ability to generate sufficient cash flow from its other operating activities for its funding. Development of the Company's current nickel mining projects to the production stage will require significant financing. Given the current economic climate, including the low nickel price, and the Company's existing liquidity challenges, the ability to raise sufficient funds will be difficult.

Should the Company not be able to overcome the risks described in this section, the carrying value of the Company's assets would be subject to material adjustment and, in addition, other adjustments may be necessary to these Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements should such adverse events impair the Company's ability to continue as a going concern as contemplated under GAAP. There is no certainty that the Company will be able to generate sufficient cash to fund its activities including debt servicing, project expenditures and corporate costs. These conditions indicate the existence of a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Failure to continue as a going concern would require that the Company's assets and liabilities be restated on a liquidation basis, which would differ significantly from the going concern basis.

### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared using accounting policies consistent with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") and its interpretations adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IASB") applicable to the preparation of interim financial statements, including IAS 34. The accounting policies, methods of computation and presentation applied in these Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements are consistent with those of the previous fiscal year.

The unaudited Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements reflect the accounting policies and disclosures described in Notes 2, 3, 4 and 5 to the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (the "2019 Audited Financial Statements") (with the exception of changes set out below, if any) and accordingly, should be read in conjunction with those financial statements and the notes thereto.

The management of the Company prepares the consolidated financial statements, which are then reviewed by the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors. The Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements were authorized for issue by the Board of Directors on August 24, 2020 and are made available to shareholders and others through filing on SEDAR shortly thereafter.

These Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements are presented in US dollars, which is the Company's functional currency. All financial information is expressed in US dollars unless otherwise stated; tabular amounts are stated in thousands of dollars.

### 3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Company are set out in detail in Note 3 to the 2019 Audited Financial Statements. Such policies have been applied consistently by all Victory Nickel entities and to all periods presented in these Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements.

There have been no new accounting policies adopted by the Company.

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

### 4. RECEIVABLES

	June 30	,	December 31,
	2020	)	2019
Trade accounts receivable	\$ 68	\$	31
Other receivables	14		5
	\$ 82	\$	36

All trade accounts receivable balance is as follows:

	June 3 20	•	December 31, 2019
Trade accounts receivable			
Current	\$ 4	3	\$ 31
Past due 0-30 days	1	5	-
Past due 31-60 days	1	0	-
	\$ 6	8	\$ 31

As at June 30, 2020, one of four customers of the Company's customers accounted for 97% of the trade accounts receivable balance (December 31, 2019 – one of four customers accounted for 87%).

### 5. INVENTORY

	June 30	,	December 31,
	202	)	2019
Raw material stored at 7P Plant Finished goods & other inventory	\$ 306 572		102 1,049
	\$ 878	\$	1,151

### 6. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Balances as at January 1, 2020	Land and Building	7P Plant	Vehicles and Mobile Equipment	a	Equipment nd Furniture	Total
Cost	80	4,889	685		220	5,874
Accumulated amortization	(16)	(3,032)	(551)		(45)	(3,644)
Effect of foreign exchange	(7)	(143)	(41)		(171)	(362)
Carrying Amount	\$ 57	\$ 1,714	\$ 93	\$	4	\$ 1,868
Amortization	(1)	(202)	(14)		-	(217)
Balances as at June 30, 2020						
Cost	80	4,889	685		220	5,874
Accumulated amortization	(17)	(3,234)	(565)		(45)	(3,861)
Effect of foreign exchange	(7)	(143)	(41)		(171)	(362)
Carrying Amount	\$ 56	\$ 1,512	\$ 79	\$	4	\$ 1,651

### 7. MINE PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

	January 1, 2020	Current Expenditures	Writedowns	June 30, 2020
Minago	\$ 12,800	\$ 279	\$ - \$	13,079
	\$ 12,800	\$ 279	\$ - \$	13,079

### Minago

The 100%-owned Minago project covers approximately 19,799 ha, through a combination of mining claims, mineral leases and a mineral exploration licence, on Manitoba's Thompson Nickel Belt. The property encompasses the

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

Nose Deposit, which contains the entire current nickel mineral resource, and the North Limb, a zone of nickel mineralization with a known strike length of 1.5 kilometres located to the north of the Nose Deposit.

From 2006 to date, considerable work has been performed, including diamond drilling, metallurgical testing, engineering studies, the Minago Feasibility Study ("FS") and all other studies required to complete the Environmental Impact Study that was filed in May 2010. As a result, in August 2011, the Company received its Environmental Act Licence ("EAL"). In April 2014, the Company announced the filing of an amendment to the EAL to relocate the permitted Minago tailings facilities, such that it will not interfere with potential nickel resources and also reduce operating costs. Although this amendment would be preferable, it is not necessary for the Minago project to be developed. On completion of First Nations consultation, the government is expected to issue the amendment to the existing EAL which continues to be valid. The results of the FS were announced in December 2009 and improvements thereto announced in June 2010 and July 2011.

Five mineral claims totalling 691 ha located at the north end of the Company's existing Minago property package are subject to a maximum 2% net smelter return royalty ("NSR") with a 50% back-in right; these claims represent approximately 2.4% of the total Minago project and are not contained in the FS pit footprint.

On April 8, 2020, the Company announced the completion of two exploration diamond drill holes at Minago. The two-hole program at the Minago project targeted geophysical responses underlying the northern part of the property and constitutes condemnation testing related to potential infrastructure development for future project purposes. The geophysical targets tested were identified during historic surveys conducted by previous workers as well as a VTEM survey conducted for the Company in 2007. Due to the limitations on personnel movement resulting from restrictions stemming from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, processing of core and receipt of assay results are likely to be significantly delayed.

The Minago project is not in production. Accordingly, the Minago project is not being depreciated.

### 8. EXPLORATION AND EVALUATION PROJECTS

Cumulative costs relating to the acquisition of mineral properties and E&E expenditures have been incurred on the following projects:

	January 1, 2020		Current Expenditures		Writedowns		June 30, 2020
Lac Rocher	\$ 480	\$	4	\$	(4)	\$	480
Mel	 2,950	•	4	_	(4)	_	2,950
	\$ 3,430	\$	8	\$	(8)	\$	3,430

### **Lac Rocher**

The Lac Rocher project, which is 100%-owned, is located 140 kilometres northeast of Matagami in northwestern Québec. The project is subject to a royalty of CAD\$0.50 per ton on any ores mined and milled from the property and a 2% NSR described below.

The Lac Rocher property is subject to a discovery incentive plan (the "DIP") to reward certain individuals involved in the discovery of Lac Rocher with a 2% NSR for mines that were discovered on certain properties prior to the expiry of the DIP. The NSR is payable only on revenues earned after recovery of all development costs for any mine on the property. The terms of the DIP provide the Company with a right of first refusal on any proposed disposition of the NSR. In addition, the DIP contains put/call provisions under which the Company may be required to purchase, or may exercise an option to purchase, the NSR at the value of its discounted cash flows, as defined therein. The Lac Rocher property is the only property subject to the DIP. As the Lac Rocher property is not yet in production, no royalties are currently payable.

### Mel

The Company purchased a 100% interest in the Mel properties located near Thomson, Manitoba from Vale. Vale is entitled to a 10% royalty on "distributable earnings" defined as net revenue less operating expenses, before federal

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and provincial income taxes, after provincial mining taxes and less aggregate pre-production capital but before depreciation.

Vale has a contractual obligation to mill ore mined from the Mel deposit at its cash cost plus 5% provided that the product meets Vale's specifications and that Vale has sufficient mill capacity.

### Lynn Lake

The Lynn Lake nickel property ("Lynn Lake") covers approximately 600 ha in northern Manitoba. In November 2014, the Company announced that it had optioned Lynn Lake to Corazon Mining Limited ("Corazon"). Under the terms of the option agreement, subject to any required regulatory approvals, Corazon can acquire a 100% interest in Lynn Lake by issuing to Victory Nickel, 40,000,000 Corazon shares upon closing and incurring AU\$3,500,000 in exploration expenditures or payments (in cash or Corazon shares at Corazon's option) to Victory Nickel before December 19, 2019. In April 2015, the Company received 40,000,000 shares of Corazon valued at \$192,000 as part of the option agreement. These shares were subsequently sold. On January 14, 2020, the Company received an interim report from Corazon, indicating that over AU\$3,500,000 in exploration expenditures has been incurred. The Company is currently in the process of reviewing the interim report.

If the terms of the option are determined to not have been met, Corazon shall either pay to the Company (in cash or in Corazon shares, at the discretion of Corazon) the difference between AU\$3,500,000 and the amount spent by Corazon on Lynn Lake or elect to return the property to the Company. If the terms of the option are met, Victory Nickel will retain a 1.5% net smelter royalty on production from Lynn Lake and receive a payment of AU\$1,000,000 (in cash or Corazon shares at Corazon's option) within 30 days of the commencement of ore processing activities.

### **Bear Coulee**

In October 2014, the Company entered into an option to acquire a 100% interest in a frac sand land package totalling over 300 acres in Trempeleau County Wisconsin, USA (the "Bear Coulee Property"). The option agreement provides for a cash payment on signing of the agreement, a second cash payment on delivery of permits and a third cash payment on exercise of the option. The option is valid for six months from the receipt of permits with two equivalent extensions available under certain circumstances. Prior to production, the Company will be required to pay \$40,000 per annum as advance royalties on the initial 20,000 tons of sand production. Once the Bear Coulee Property is in production, the Company will be required to pay a royalty of \$2.00 per ton of frac sand sold that is mined from the property.

In February 2015, the Company announced that a resource estimate of approximately 11 million tons of sand has been completed on the Bear Coulee Property and was incorporated into a National Instrument 43-101 technical report.

### **Short Grass Property**

In October 2018, Victory Silica entered into an option agreement (the "Exploration and Option Agreement") with Short Grass Ranches Ltd. (the "Owner") giving the Company the option to mine frac sand from one of the Owner's properties (the "Short Grass Property"), located in Alberta, Canada, approximately 52 kilometres from the 7P Plant.

Under the terms of the Exploration and Option Agreement, the Company had a 180-day period to evaluate the Short Grass Property. The Company completed third-party testing of sand resources on the Short Grass Property. In April 2019 the Company notified the Owner of its exercise of the Exploration and Option Agreement.

On February 6, 2020, Victory Silica executed an agreement (the "Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement") with the Owner to develop a commercial frac sand mine. The initial term of the Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement is for five years with the ability to extend for additional five-year terms and will pay the Owner a royalty for net frac sand sold from the Short Grass Property. The Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement gives the Company the potential to produce in-basin domestic sand which has grown in popularity in North America as a means for the Company's customers and potential customers to reduce their overall frac cost. Any sand mined from the Short Grass Property would be trucked to the 7P Plant for processing and sale alongside existing inventory.

The Short Grass Property has a high-quality sand resource, is well-located and gives the Company the opportunity to access new customers in evolving markets.

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

### 9. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	June 30,	December 31,
	2020	2019
Accounts payable		
Mine property and development project	\$ 26	\$ 13
Exploration and evaluation projects	3	3
Frac sand segment	1,796	1,806
Other payables	130	126
Accrued liabilities		
Frac sand segment	347	347
Other payables	726	673
	\$ 3,028	\$ 2,968

As part of the Secured Debt terms with the Secured Lender, the Company agreed to not make any payments, prior to the repayment of the Secured Debt and without the Secured Lender's approval, to settle past unsecured debt or balances outstanding with trade creditors. The balances owing to trade creditors that did not agree to the Debt Restructuring Agreement in 2016 amount to \$975,000 and CAD\$777,000 and remained outstanding as at June 30, 2020.

### 10. LOANS AND BORROWINGS

		June 30,	December 31,
	Notes	2020	2019
Current loans and borrowings			
Secured Debt	(a)	\$ -	\$ 7,050
Promissory notes	(b)	2,303	2,275
Debt due to management & directors	(c)	383	383
Outstanding Note	(d)	3,000	3,000
Other loans with Secured Lender	(e)	-	645
Accrued interest		3,897	5,533
Total current loans and borrowings		9,583	18,886
Long-term loans and borrowings			
Secured Debt	(a)	\$ 7,050	\$ -
Other loans with Secured Lender	(e)	898	-
Accrued interest	, ,	2,770	-
Government loan	<i>(f)</i>	29	-
Total long-term loans and borrowings		10,747	-
		\$ 20,330	\$ 18,886

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2020, the Company also incurred interest expense of \$574,000 and \$1,133,000 (June 30, 2019 - \$515,000 and \$1,013,000) respectively, amortized loan fees of \$nil and \$nil (June 30, 2019 - \$29,000 and \$57,000) respectively, and amortized note discount and embedded derivatives of \$nil and \$47,000 (June 30, 2019 - \$108,000 and \$206,000) respectively.

### (a) Secured Debt

	Jui	ne 30,	December 31,
		2020	2019
Carrying balance at beginning of the period	\$	7,050	\$ 6,990
Amortized loan fees		-	60
Secured Debt	\$	7,050	\$ 7,050

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

As at December 31, 2019, the Secured Debt of \$7,050,000 had a maturity date of January 31, 2020. On January 31, 2020, the maturity date and related accrued interest was extended to July 31, 2021. The interest rate on the Secured Debt and additional loans remained unchanged at 14.8% with interest payable in arrears.

The Secured Debt is due in full on the date of maturity, subject to a cash sweep of 75% of free cash flow ("Free Cash Flow") payable within 45 days following the end of each fiscal quarter and 90 days from each fiscal year end. Free Cash Flow will be calculated based on the Company's quarterly unaudited and annually audited consolidated statement of cash flows, as net cash from operating and investing activities, plus interest and lease payments from financing activities. Allowable investing activities must be approved in advance by the Secured Lender.

### (b) Promissory Convertible Notes

	June 30,	December 31,
	2020	2019
Total principal outstanding at beginning of the period	\$ 5,275	\$ 4,817
Change in present value discount on debt	47	454
Change in unamortized embedded derivatives	-	(13)
Effect of foreign exchange	(19)	17
Carrying balance at the end of the period	5,303	5,275
Less: Outstanding Note	(3,000)	(3,000)
Current portion of Promissory Convertible Notes	\$ 2,303 \$	2,275

During 2016, the Company announced that it had restructured a portion of its debt through private placements of common shares and Promissory Convertible Notes, in settlement of current indebtedness to certain of its unsecured lenders and trade creditors.

The Company has not made any interest payments due on its Promissory Convertible Notes, which has resulted in the Company defaulting on these notes.

### **Promissory Convertible Note Holders**

The Promissory Convertible Notes have the following original terms:

- A maturity date of July 31, 2018;
- An interest rate of 7% per annum, payable annually or at any time in cash or in common shares valued at market, at the option of the Company;
- Convertible at CAD\$0.25 per share, at the option of the holder; and
- Holders of the Promissory Convertible Notes will also receive one common share purchase warrant for every four common shares acquired upon conversion of the Promissory Convertible Notes, with an exercise price of CAD\$0.50 per share, exercisable for a five-year period from the date of conversion.

On July 31, 2018, the Company obtained approval from certain holders of Promissory Convertible Notes amounting to CAD\$357,000 and \$1,396,000, to extend the maturity date to January 31, 2020, from July 31, 2018, upon the issuance of an aggregate total of 532,899 common shares of the Company. These Promissory Convertible Notes increased by the amount of unpaid interest of CAD\$72,000 and \$281,000. Concurrent with the extension of these Promissory Convertible Notes, the conversion option above was also extended to January 31, 2020 with the same terms as noted above. All other terms remain the same as the original terms. Those notes which were not extended to January 31, 2020 remain in default and the conversion rights on those notes expired.

### (c) Debt Owed to Directors and Management

All outstanding debt due to management and director fees due to directors accumulated up to July 31, 2019 were due on January 31, 2020. The short-term debt of \$383,000 owed to directors and management is comprised of a portion of the restructured debt owed to current directors and management amounting to CAD\$224,000, and unpaid director fees incurred by current directors during 2016, 2017, 2018 and the first half of 2019 totalling CAD\$283,000.

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

### (d) Outstanding Note

During 2016, all of the then holders of promissory convertible notes participated in the Debt Restructuring Agreement except for the one holder of the Outstanding Note of \$3,000,000. In March 2016, the Company announced that it had received notice that the holder of the Outstanding Note had filed a statement of claim concerning non-payment of principal and interest. The Company has reviewed the statement of claim with legal counsel to assess its impact on the Company and has concluded that there is no significant impact on the status of the Company's debt. Pursuant to the terms of the Secured Debt, the Company is prevented from making payments under outstanding unsecured debt until the Secured Debt is repaid. As a result, the Company has not paid interest accrued on the Outstanding Note. The Outstanding Note matured in July 2016 and the Company is in default.

### (e) Other loans with Secured Lender

The Company's Secured Lender has provided working capital advances on a monthly basis, to ensure the protection of the Company's core assets. These loans also bear interest at 14.8% per annum, are secured by a general security agreement over the Company's assets and have a maturity date of July 31, 2021.

### (f) Government loan

In April 2020, the Government of Canada implemented the Canada Emergency Business Account ("CEBA"), whereby certain businesses could apply for an interest-free loan of up to \$40,000 to help cover their operating costs. The Company applied for, and received, this loan during April 2020. Up to 25% of the loan will be forgiven if repaid by December 31, 2022.

### 11. PARTICIPATING INTEREST

Pursuant to a participating interest loan (the "Participating Interest") with Nuinsco Resources Limited ("Nuinsco" or the "Lender"), Nuinsco converted its loan balance into a limited participating interest (the "Conversion"), whereby the Lender is entitled to receive a share of cash flows earned from the sale of frac sand from the 7P Plant. The Lender's participation was capped at CAD\$10,000,000, with a minimum of CAD\$7,500,000, and was subject to adjustment under certain circumstances.

The Participating Interest is classified as a financial liability carried at amortized cost. As a result of the continued slowdown in demand for frac sand, the continued negative cash flows at the 7P Plant and the losses incurred during the last few years, the estimated fair value of the Participating Interest was valued at \$1,000 at June 30, 2020 (December 31, 2019 - \$1,000). This is a Level 3 methodology and is subject to the highest level of uncertainty. The Company will continue to review and revise its value of the Participating Interest, as the expectations of payments of the Participating Interest change. Changes in that estimate will be recorded through operations with appropriate adjustment for actual cash flows paid.

### 12. CAPITAL AND OTHER COMPONENTS OF EQUITY

The Company is authorized to issue an unlimited number of common shares with no par value and preferred shares that may be issued in one or more series. The issued and outstanding common shares for the following periods are as follows:

	Number of	Share
	Shares	Capital
Balance as at January 1 and June 30, 2020	97,903,867	\$ 53,410

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

### 13. EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE

The calculation of basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share for the period ended was based on the information in the table below.

	Three	e months ended June 30, 2020	Six months ended June 30, 2020
Weighted average number of common shares at end of the period - Basic and Diluted		97,903,867	97,903,867
Potentially dilutive instruments excluded: Effect of options granted and outstanding Effect of convertible promissory notes		11,900,000 10,426,794	11,900,000 10,426,794
Net loss attributable to shareholders - Basic and Diluted	\$	(913)	\$ (1,571)
Weighted Average Basic and Diluted Loss Per Share	\$	(0.01)	\$ (0.02)

The effect of adjustments to the weighted average number of common shares would be anti-dilutive when the Company incurs losses. The table above provides the weighted average number of common shares on a diluted basis for periods where losses are incurred for information only.

### 14. SHARE-BASED PAYMENTS

### **Stock Options**

The number and weighted average exercise prices of options are as follows:

(amounts in Canadian dollars)	Number of options	Weighted average exercise price
Outstanding as at January 1 and June 30, 2020	11,900,000 \$	0.05
Exercisable as at January 1 and June 30 2020	11,900,000 \$	0.05
	Number of options outstanding	Contractual life (years)
Range of exercise prices (Canadian dollars)		
\$0.05 to \$0.06	11,900,000	1.94
	11,900,000	1.94

During the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 and 2019, the Company recorded \$nil in share-based payments upon the vesting of options. As at June 30, 2020 and 2019, there were no share-based payments remaining to be recognized. Options outstanding at June 30, 2020, expire between February 2022 and June 2022.

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

### 15. FINANCE INCOME AND FINANCE COSTS

		Three	mon	ths ended	Six months ended				
	Notes	June	30, 2020	Jun	e 30, 2019	June 30, 2020	Jun	e 30, 2019	
Net foreign exchange gain		\$	39	\$	-	\$ 283	\$	-	
Finance income			39		-	283		-	
Interest expense on loans									
Accrued and/or cash settled	10		574		515	1,133		1,013	
Amortization of loan fees	10		-		29	-		57	
Amortization of embedded derivatives	10		-		108	47		206	
Net foreign exchange loss			-		88	-		156	
Finance costs			574		740	1,180		1,432	
Net Finance Costs		\$	(535)	\$	(740)	\$ (897)	\$	(1,432)	

### **16. OPERATING SEGMENT**

### **Reporting Segment**

The Company has been engaged in the exploration, evaluation and development of properties for the mining and production of nickel and associated products; since January 1, 2014, it also has been a producer and supplier of premium frac sand from its 7P Plant. Accordingly, the Company has three reporting segments: Corporate, Exploration and Development, and Frac Sand.

The Corporate segment operates to support the Company's activities, including exploration and development projects and the frac sand business.

Senior management makes decisions with respect to Exploration and Development by considering exploration and development potential and results on a project-by-project basis. The exploration and development projects are all located in Canada.

The Frac Sand segment is managed and operated by Victory Silica's executives and employees, although the business and operating assets are part of Victory Nickel. The segment is located in Canada. The following tables provide information on the assets of the Company's segments:

	June 30, 2020	December 31, 2019
Canada		
Corporate	\$ 1,637 \$	1,531
Exploration and development	16,509	16,230
Frac sand	2,537	2,989
Intersegment elimination	(1,441)	(1,441)
Total Assets	\$ 19,242 \$	19,309

There have been no changes in the segments or the treatment of segmented assets and revenues during the period.

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

For the three months ended June 30, 2020	Coi	rporate	Exploration and Development	Frac Sand	Total	June 30, 2019
Revenues	\$	- \$	- \$	51 \$	51	\$ 190
Cost of goods sold		-	-	(109)	(109)	(156)
Gross (loss) profit		-	-	(58)	(58)	34
Operating expenses						
General and administrative		(146)	(3)	(59)	(208)	(243)
Amortization of property, plant and equipment		-	-	(108)	(108)	(142)
Writedown of mine property and development project		-	-	-	-	(17)
Writedown of exploration and evaluation projects		-	(4)	-	(4)	-
Operating loss		(146)	(7)	(225)	(378)	(368)
Finance income		39	-	-	39	-
Finance costs		(574)	-	-	(574)	(744)
Net finance costs		(535)	-	-	(535)	(744)
Net loss for the period	\$	(681) \$	(7) \$	(225) \$	(913)	\$ (1,112)

For the six months ended June 30, 2020		Exploration and Corporate Development Frac			Total	June 30, 2019	
Revenues	\$	- \$	- \$	308 \$	308	\$ 351	
Cost of goods sold		-	-	(394)	(394)	(323)	
Gross (loss) profit		-	-	(86)	(86)	 28	
Operating expenses							
General and administrative		(245)	(5)	(113)	(363)	(385)	
Amortization of property, plant and equipment		-	-	(217)	(217)	(285)	
Writedown of mine property and development project		-	-	-	-	(17)	
Writedown of exploration and evaluation projects		-	(8)	-	(8)	-	
Operating loss		(245)	(13)	(416)	(674)	(659)	
Finance income		283	-	-	283	-	
Finance costs		(1,180)	-	-	(1,180)	(1,436)	
Net finance costs		(897)	-	-	(897)	(1,436)	
Net loss for the period	\$	(1,142) \$	(13) \$	(416) \$	(1,571)	\$ (2,095)	

### 17. RELATED PARTIES AND MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

### **Related Party Balances and Transactions**

Short-term employee benefits provided by the Company to key management personnel include salaries, directors' fees, statutory benefit contributions, paid annual vacation and sick leave as well as non-monetary benefits such as medical care. The Company may also issue options and common shares as part of the stock option plan and share bonus plan. Other payables and accrued liabilities due to key management personnel relate to director's fees, consulting fees and expense reimbursements. Balances with related parties as at and for the periods ended are shown in the following table:

	June 30,	December 31,
	2020	2019
Balances Outstanding		
Debt due to key management personnel	\$ 383	\$ 383
Other payables and accrued liabilities due to key management personnel	800	675
	\$ 1,183	\$ 1,058

(all tabular amounts in thousands of United States dollars, except common share and per share information)

Key management personnel compensation is composed of:

	Three months ended				Six months ended			
	June	30, 2020	June	30, 2019	Jun	e 30, 2020	Jun	e 30, 2019
Short-term employee benefits	\$	115	\$	168	\$	230	\$	276
	\$	115	\$	168	\$	230	\$	276



## **VICTORY NICKEL INC.**

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FOR THE THREE AND SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

**DATED AUGUST 24, 2020** 

# VICTORY NICKEL INC. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For The Three and Six Months Ended June 30, 2020

The following discussion of the results of operations, financial condition and cash flows of Victory Nickel Inc. ("Victory Nickel" or the "Company") prepared as of August 24, 2020 consolidates management's review of the factors that affected the Company's financial and operating performance for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020, and factors reasonably expected to impact on future operations and results. This discussion is intended to supplement and complement the Company's unaudited condensed interim consolidated financial statements for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (the "Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements") and the notes thereto, which were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

Certain information and discussion included in this management's discussion and analysis ("MD&A") constitutes forward-looking information. Readers are encouraged to refer to the cautionary notes contained in the section Forward-Looking Statements at the end of this MD&A.

Readers are also encouraged to consult the audited consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 (the "2019 Audited Financial Statements"). The Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements and the 2019 Audited Financial Statements are available at www.sedar.com and at the Company's website www.victorynickel.ca. All amounts disclosed are in United States dollars ("US\$" or "US dollars") unless otherwise stated as Canadian dollars ("CAD\$") or Australian dollars ("AU\$"). All tabular amounts are in thousands of US dollars.

Common shares of the Company trade on the Canadian Securities Exchange ("CSE") under the symbol NI.

### **COMPANY OVERVIEW**

The Company was formed on February 1, 2007 as an exploration and development mineral resources company primarily engaged in the acquisition, exploration, evaluation and development of nickel projects and associated products in Canada. Victory Nickel owns 100% of four advanced sulphide nickel projects: the Minago, Lynn Lake (under option to Corazon Mining Ltd. ("Corazon"), an Australian public company (ASX: CZN)) and Mel projects in Manitoba, and the Lac Rocher project in Québec. The Minago project is the Company's most advanced nickel project. A feasibility study on the Minago Project ("Minago FS") was completed and the results were announced in December 2009. The Environmental Impact Study ("EIS") was filed in May 2010 and receipt of the Environmental Act Licence ("EAL") was announced in August 2011. Subsequent improvements to the project were announced in June 2010 and July 2011. In April 2014, the Company announced the filing of an amendment to the EAL to relocate the permitted Minago tailings facilities such that it will not interfere with potential nickel resources and should also reduce operating costs. Although this amendment would be preferable, it is not necessary for the Minago project to be developed. On completion of First Nations consultation by the government of Manitoba, it is expected that the government of Manitoba will issue the requested amendment to the existing EAL which remains valid.

The Company's decision to enter the frac sand business was initially based on the need to generate cash flow and the desire to highlight the value of frac sand, which can be sold into the oil & gas industry, as a co-product at its Minago nickel project in Manitoba. Based on the Minago FS, approximately 11 million tonnes of frac sand exist within the Minago pit footprint. The pit footprint represents only a small portion of the Minago property. The frac sand is a significant contributor to the economics of the Minago project.

During 2014, Victory Nickel became a producer and supplier of premium Wisconsin frac sand from its frac sand plant (the "7P Plant") located near Seven Persons, Alberta, approximately 18 kilometres southwest of Medicine Hat, Alberta. High-quality Northern White frac sand is sourced from Wisconsin, USA, through the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary Victory Silica Ltd. ("Victory Silica"). Northern White occurs predominantly in the US Midwest and generally exceeds American Petroleum Institute ("API") specifications for frac sand. For this reason, it is a highly-desirable and preferred frac sand. Frac sand is used as a proppant to enhance recovery from oil and gas wells. The 7P Plant comprises a wash plant with a nominal capacity of approximately 120,000 tons per annum ("tpa") and a fully-operational dry plant with a nominal capacity of 500,000 tpa. The Company established itself as a frac sand producer by acquiring concentrated sand in Wisconsin, USA, washing it prior to shipment to the 7P Plant for processing into four main categories of finished frac sand products.

Crucial to the success of its frac sand operations is the Company's ability to build a solid customer base within an economic distance of its production facilities or to acquire/build additional frac sand processing facilities to serve additional



markets. The Company was able to establish itself as a preferred supplier in the areas around Medicine Hat, Alberta through spot-market sales and short-term contracts. The Company's 7P Plant is located in close proximity to oil and gas producing plays in Alberta, BC, Saskatchewan and North Dakota, allowing customers to purchase sand FOB the 7P Plant and use their own trucks to deliver to the wellhead or, alternatively, to have the Company deliver frac sand directly to the wellhead. A small portion of finished sand is delivered by rail.

To ensure long-term supply of concentrated sand, the Company entered into an option to acquire a 100% interest in a frac sand land package totalling over 300 acres in Trempeleau County, Wisconsin, USA (the "Bear Coulee Property"). The option is valid for six months from receipt of permits with two equivalent extensions available under certain circumstances. Prior to production the Company will be required to pay \$40,000 per annum as an advance royalty on the initial 20,000 tons of sand production. Once the Bear Coulee Property is in production, the Company will be required to pay a royalty of \$2.00 per ton of frac sand sold from the property. In February 2015, the Company announced that a resource estimate of approximately 11 million tons of sand has been completed by Summit Envirosolutions Inc. on the Bear Coulee Property and was incorporated into a National Instrument 43-101 technical report.

The Company's board of directors approved the construction of a wash plant in Wisconsin or Minnesota and has considered building a second 1,000,000 tpa dry plant in or near Winnipeg, Manitoba. Market conditions necessitate the deferral of any such construction until more certainty returns to the oil and gas sector.

Due to the sudden drop in the price of oil during late 2014, drilling activity by oil and gas exploration and production ("E&P") companies decreased significantly and sustained relatively low oil and gas prices continued to negatively affect frac sand demand into 2019. The drop in sales required a temporary suspension in production at the 7P Plant in April 2015. The 7P Plant operates on an as-needed basis only (see Going Concern below). In March 2017, the Company announced that due to increasing market demand for frac sand, it had restarted the dry plant at its 7P Plant. In October 2017, the Company announced that it had completed the refurbishment of its frac sand wash plant at the 7P Plant, enhancing the ability to produce and sell frac sand.

In October 2018, the Company entered into an option agreement (the "Exploration and Option Agreement") "with Short Grass Ranches Ltd. (the "Owner") giving the Company the option to mine frac sand from one of the Owner's properties (the "Short Grass Property"). The strategy is in line with the Company's view to provide a full suite of import and domestic frac sand products to the northern oil and gas markets. Under the terms of the Exploration and Option Agreement, the Company had a 180-day period to evaluate the Short Grass Property and exercise its right to develop a commercial frac sand mine (the "Option"). On April 5, 2019, the Owner was notified of the exercise of the Option.

On February 6, 2020, Victory Silica executed an agreement (the "Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement") with the Owner to develop a commercial frac sand mine. The initial term of the Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement is for five years with the ability to extend for additional five-year terms and will pay the Owner a royalty for net frac sand sold from the Short Grass Property. The Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement gives the Company the potential to produce in-basin domestic sand which has grown in popularity in North America as a means for the Company's customers and potential customers to reduce their overall frac cost. Any sand mined from the Short Grass Property would be trucked to the 7P Plant for processing and sale alongside existing inventory.

### **Going Concern**

The Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements have been prepared using Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") applicable to a going concern, which contemplates the realization of assets and settlement of liabilities in the normal course of business as they come due. As at June 30, 2020, the Company had a working capital deficiency of \$11,529,000, calculated as current assets less current liabilities, a decrease from a working capital deficiency of \$20,643,000 as at December 31, 2019 mostly due to interest accrued on debt and the fact that the Secured Debt became a long term liability in January 2020 as described further below. At June 30, 2020, the current debts of \$9,583,000 were the largest factor in the Company's working capital deficiency.

The Company's main assets are its nickel projects. Minago, the most advanced of its projects, is permitted and ready for development. However, development costs are estimated to be in excess of CAD\$500,000,000 and given the current price of nickel, it is unlikely that financing for this project will be available in the near future. If the Company is unable to finance and develop its nickel projects, the potential recovery via sale of these projects may be below the current carrying amounts. Given the defaults on loans discussed below, there is an increased risk that the Company's creditors could force the Company to liquidate its core assets under less than favourable terms.



Due to market conditions beyond the Company's control the suspension of operations at the 7P Plant until the demand for frac sand improved was announced in April 2015. The 7P Plant was restarted in March 2017, and in October 2017 the Company announced that it had completed the refurbishment of its frac sand wash plant at the 7P Plant. The 7P Plant continues to serve customers, however sales remain well below the level required to generate positive cash flow.

The near-term outlook in the frac sand market remains unclear. The significant drop in oil prices subsequent to year-end adds further uncertainty for the demand and price of oil and gas as well as associated products including frac sand. The US dollar continues to negatively impact demand for high-quality Wisconsin frac sand in Canada due to the fact that the relative price for Canadian frac sand has dropped and service companies appear satisfied with using lower-quality domestic frac sand. The Company's existing inventory is Wisconsin frac sand, however the Company is planning to add Canadian sand to its inventory in order to be more competitive.

Cash flows from frac sand sales during 2019 and to date in 2020 were not sufficient to pay financing costs and the Company was not able to make most of its interest payments due.

During 2016, the Company restructured its debt (the "Debt Restructuring Agreement") with holders of promissory convertible notes and trade creditors, by issuing shares of the Company and unsecured promissory convertible notes ("Promissory Convertible Notes"). In 2017, the Company's secured debt ("Secured Debt") increased by the amount of unpaid interest to \$7,050,000 and the maturity date was extended to July 31, 2019. In 2018, the maturity date of the Secured Debt was further extended to January 31, 2020. On January 31, 2020, the maturity date on the Secured Debt of \$7,050,000 and related accrued interest was extended to July 31, 2021. The interest rate on the Secured Debt remained unchanged at 14.8% with interest payable in arrears.

Pursuant to the terms of the Secured Debt, the Company is prevented from making payments under outstanding unsecured debt until the Secured Debt is repaid. The Company has not been able to repay the Secured Debt. The lender of the Secured Debt (the "Secured Lender") has provided a forbearance agreement for the balance of the accrued interest and continues to make advances to cover non-discretionary costs. The Company's ability to make the required interest payments in 2020 is also in doubt and dependent upon frac sand sales and/or third-party funding or asset sales. The Company's Secured Lender continues to demonstrate its commitment to ensuring the protection of the Company's core assets by providing working capital advances and forbearance agreements with respect to the interest due under the Secured Debt. Should the support of the Secured Lender change, the going concern assumption would be in doubt.

During 2016, all of the Promissory Convertible Note holders participated in the Debt Restructuring Agreement, except for one holder of a \$3,000,000 promissory convertible note (the "Outstanding Note"). In March 2016, the Company announced that it had received notice that the holder of the Outstanding Note had filed a statement of claim concerning non-payment of principal and interest. The Company has reviewed the statement of claim with legal counsel to assess its impact on the Company and has concluded that there is no significant impact on the status of the Company's debt. The Outstanding Note matured in July 2016 and the Company has been unable to repay the amounts owing and interest payments due, which has resulted in the Company defaulting on the Outstanding Note.

The Company has not made interest payments due on any of its Promissory Convertible Notes, which has resulted in the Company defaulting on these notes.

On July 31, 2018, the Company obtained approval from certain holders of Promissory Convertible Notes amounting to CAD\$357,000 and \$1,396,000, to extend the maturity date to January 31, 2020, from July 31, 2018, upon the issuance of an aggregate total of 532,899 common shares of the Company. The balance of the promissory notes remained in default as the Company was unable to repay the Promissory Convertible Notes when they became due.

In addition to the liquidity and solvency uncertainties described above, the ability to resume full operations at the 7P Plant will require additional financing. As noted, the Company's Secured Lender has been supportive to date, however there are no assurances that this will continue, that the Company will be able to find alternative financing or that sand sales will achieve the level sufficient to generate cash flows to repay its outstanding obligations.

Per guidelines from the province of Alberta, the 7P Plant is considered an essential service and is therefore able to continue operations; the Company intends to continue to operate the 7P Plant for the foreseeable future. Throughout the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Company's head office personnel in Toronto have been working remotely and all staff in Ontario and Alberta has complied with applicable provincial and federal regulations and guidelines. The Company will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and adapt as necessary.



Management continues to advance its program to supplement existing sand inventory with domestic "in-basin" sand supply. Given the current situation as it relates to COVID-19, the timeline to development and sand production from the Short Grass Property, defined below, remains to be determined.

The Company has cut non-essential costs in an effort to reduce operating losses and has deferred payments wherever possible. During 2019, the Company, with the agreement of its Secured Lender, sold non-core assets to provide operating funds and liquidated the remainder of its marketable securities, eliminating this source of funds for operations. However, without an injection of capital and/or until the demand and pricing for frac sand returns, the Company will not be able to meet its outstanding obligations or any new obligations as they become due. The defaults on the Company's existing obligations add to the challenge of obtaining additional capital.

There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to restructure its debt further and/or recapitalize, and there is no certainty as to what further steps, if any, the secured and unsecured lenders may take. To date, management and the board of directors have reduced and/or deferred salaries and director fees until business recovers, but there is no certainty that this will continue. Management salary reductions and/or deferrals put the Company at risk of being unable to retain key personnel.

In addition to the above liquidity issues, the Company is subject to the risks and challenges experienced by other companies at a comparable stage. These risks include, but are not limited to, continuing losses, dependence on key individuals and the ability to secure adequate financing or to complete corporate transactions to meet the minimum capital required to successfully fund its projects and operating expenses.

None of the Company's mining projects have commenced commercial production and, accordingly, the Company is dependent upon debt or equity financings, the optioning and/or sale of resource or resource-related assets or interests, exploration results which have the potential for the discovery of economically-recoverable reserves and resources, and/or the ability to generate sufficient cash flow from its other operating activities for its funding. Development of the Company's current nickel mining projects to the production stage will require significant financing. Given the current economic climate, including the low nickel price, and the Company's existing liquidity challenges, the ability to raise sufficient funds will be difficult.

Should the Company not be able to overcome the risks described in this section, the carrying value of the Company's assets would be subject to material adjustment and, in addition, other adjustments may be necessary to the Condensed Interim Consolidated Financial Statements should such adverse events impair the Company's ability to continue as a going concern as contemplated under GAAP. There is no certainty that the Company will be able to generate sufficient cash to fund its activities including debt servicing, project expenditures and corporate costs. These conditions indicate the existence of a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Failure to continue as a going concern would require that the Company's assets and liabilities be restated on a liquidation basis, which would differ significantly from the going concern basis.



### OUTLOOK

The severe impact of COVID-19 has persisted through the second quarter of 2020, and the known, and yet to be felt, worldwide economic and social challenges are expected to be with us for some time to come. Regardless of the timing, however, management believes in the strength of its sulphide nickel assets in Manitoba and Quebec.

The 7P Plant continues to generate revenue from ongoing sand sales, albeit not in sufficient volume to fully fund Victory Nickel's operations. Management is looking for new opportunities and markets into which the 7P Plant can sell its products, and intends to continue to do so.

With regard to the Company's sulphide nickel assets, all of the projects remain in good standing. As previously announced, a small drill program took place at Minago early in the year, however reporting of results continues to be delayed due to travel and other limitations arising from COVID-19.

Events during the first quarter sent shockwaves through all sectors, negatively impacting commodity prices. However, since the end of the first quarter, the nickel price has increased by 34% on the London Metal Exchange. Standard & Poor's ("S&P") predicts nickel prices will move up in the second half of this year this despite cuts in global stainless steel output that they expect will lead to an 8.5% contraction in nickel demand in 2020.

Much has been made of the electric vehicle ("EV") revolution and its impact on "energy metals" including Class 1 sulphide nickel, the type of nickel that is found at all of Victory Nickel's properties. The EV market is not immune to the forces impacting every segment of global life in 2020. For example, S&P foresees a weakness in battery-sector nickel demand this year. Significantly though, analysts like Roskill believe the momentum generated in EVs during 2019 will return, and they remain positive on the longer-term prospects for EVs, including the battery technology needed to power them and the sulphide nickel necessary to produce those batteries. Roskill forecasts the demand for nickel in batteries to be "explosive" over the coming decade, stating that "battery applications may have the potential to be the next largest application of nickel after stainless steel by 2029." As such, they expect nickel demand for use in batteries to grow from around 3-4% currently to 15-20% by 2029. This will drive new production of nickel sulphate, a crucial raw material in the Li-ion batteries used to electrify EVs, in significant volumes from primary nickel feedstock like Victory Nickel's Class 1 nickel resources.

A recent appeal by Tesla CEO Elon Musk for companies to extract nickel in an efficient and environmentally manner with the prize being "a giant contract over a long period of time" has led to nickel being referred to as the New Gold. Musk also points out that Li-ion batteries should actually be called nickel-graphite, "because the primary constituent in the cell as a whole is nickel." Private equity firm Regent Advisors adds that as a result, the ramp-up of nickel demand is just beginning. Victory Nickel is actively seeking ways to participate in this growth.

It is important to remember that the Company's sulphide nickel resources at Minago, Mel, Lac Rocher and Lynn Lake are rare, well located and combine to give your company one of Canada's most significant in-situ sulphide nickel inventories. We thank our shareholders, lenders and suppliers for their continued patience and support. Victory Nickel will continue to evaluate the impact of COVID-19 on its business and will promptly disclose any material impact on its operations.



### **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

For the three months ended June 30, 2020	Co	orporate	Exploration and Development	Frac Sand	Total	June 30, 2019
Revenues	\$	- \$	- \$	51 \$	51	\$ 190
Cost of goods sold		-	-	(109)	(109)	(156)
Gross (loss) profit		=	-	(58)	(58)	34
Operating expenses						
General and administrative		(146)	(3)	(59)	(208)	(243)
Amortization of property, plant and equipment		-	=	(108)	(108)	(142)
Writedown of mine property and development project		-	-	-	-	(17)
Writedown of exploration and evaluation projects		-	(4)	-	(4)	-
Operating loss		(146)	(7)	(225)	(378)	(368)
Finance income		39	-	-	39	-
Finance costs		(574)	-	-	(574)	(744)
Net finance costs		(535)	-	-	(535)	(744)
Net loss for the period	\$	(681) \$	(7) \$	(225) \$	(913)	\$ (1,112)
For the six months ended June 30, 2020	Co	rporate	Exploration and Development	Frac Sand	Total	June 30, 2019
Revenues	\$	- \$	- \$	308 \$	308	\$ 351
Cost of goods sold		-	-	(394)	(394)	(323)
Gross (loss) profit		-	-	(86)	(86)	28
Operating expenses						
General and administrative		(245)	(5)	(113)	(363)	(385)
Amortization of property, plant and equipment		-	-	(217)	(217)	(285)
Writedown of mine property and development project		-	-	-	-	(17)
Writedown of exploration and evaluation projects		-	(8)	-	(8)	-
Operating loss		(245)	(13)	(416)	(674)	(659)
Finance income		283	-	-	283	-
Finance costs		(1,180)		-	(1,180)	 (1,436)
Net finance costs		(897)	-	-	(897)	(1,436)
Net loss for the period	\$	(1,142) \$	(13) \$	(416) \$	(1,571)	\$ (2,095)

### Overall

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2020, the Company had a net loss of \$913,000 and \$1,571,000, or a loss of \$0.01 and \$0.02 per share (June 30, 2019 - \$1,112,000 and \$2,095,000, or a loss of \$0.01 and \$0.02 per share), respectively. The following narrative discusses the relevant operations of the Frac Sand and Exploration and Development segments first, and then addresses the corporate segment.

### **Frac Sand Segment**

Due to the decline in the price of oil beginning in 2014, demand for frac sand in the Company's target markets was under pressure throughout 2019 and into 2020. The Company holds inventory of 13,000 tons as at June 30, 2020 (December 31, 2019 – 17,000 tons) at various stages of the process and made sales of 812 and 4,046 tons of various grades of frac sand during the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (June 30, 2019 – 2,065 tons and 4,141 tons) by drawing down inventories and/or brokering sand, generating a gross loss of \$225,000 and \$416,000 (June 30, 2019 – \$213,000 and \$398,000), respectively.

### Revenues

The Company recognized revenue on frac sand sales during the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 aggregating \$51,000 and \$308,000, or \$62.81 and \$76.12 per ton, on frac sand sales (June 30, 2019 - \$190,000 and \$351,000, or \$92.00 and \$84.76 per ton), respectively. Revenue includes freight for sales delivered to certain customers at certain times. While sales and pricing periodically show signs of improvement, the market has not improved sufficiently in the



Company's target areas where it can generate positive cash flow sufficient to service debt.

### Cost of goods sold

The cost of goods sold includes the cost of concentrated sand purchased in Wisconsin, the cost of delivery to the 7P Plant including handling and trans-loading costs and the operating cost to dry and screen the concentrated sand into four main dry products. Cost of goods sold may also include sand purchased from third parties. These costs are capitalized as a component of inventory on a normalized basis and are charged to cost of goods sold when title to the product passes to the customer. Cost of goods sold may also include any write-down or recovery of impairment of inventory values to the lower of cost or net realizable value.

The cost of goods sold was \$109,000 and \$394,000 during the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (June 30, 2019 - \$156,000 and \$323,000), respectively. The 7P Plant continues to operate on an as-needed basis, resulting in higher operating costs per ton of product produced than what is expected on a continuous operating basis. The Company has reduced manpower to a level sufficient to start production as demand returns on a consistent basis.

Costs per ton are per dry ton, unless otherwise stated.

### Gross profit (loss)

The 7P Plant generated a gross loss during the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 and a gross profit during the three and six months ended June 30, 2019. The 7P Plant continues to operate on an as-needed basis, resulting in higher operating costs per ton of product produced than what is expected on a continuous operating basis, while finished goods inventory is written-down when impaired to the lower of cost of net realizable value.

### General and administrative and other costs

General and administrative costs for the frac sand segment amounted to \$59,000 and \$113,000 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (June 30, 2019 - \$105,000 and \$141,000), respectively. These costs include Victory Silica salaries, administration, marketing and logistics management. The Company reduced manpower and overhead as noted above.

Amortization of property, plant and equipment of \$108,000 and \$217,000 was recorded for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (June 30, 2019 - \$142,000 and \$285,000), respectively, for items in use at the 7P Plant.

### **Net loss**

All of the above items combined to produce a net loss for the frac sand segment of \$225,000 and \$416,000 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (June 30, 2019 – \$213,000 and \$398,000), respectively.

### **Exploration and Development Segment**

For the three and six months ended June 30, 2020, the Company recorded an impairment of \$4,000 and \$8,000 on its exploration and evaluation projects (June 30, 2019 - \$17,000 and \$17,000), respectively.

### **Corporate Segment**

The corporate component of net loss for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 was \$681,000 and \$1,142,000 (June 30, 2019 – \$882,000 and \$1,680,000), including operating expenses of \$146,000 and \$245,000 (June 30, 2019 – \$138,000 and \$244,000) and net finance costs of \$535,000 and \$897,000 (June 30, 2019 – \$744,000 and \$1,436,000), respectively.

Operating expenses were mainly related to general and administrative expenses. These costs include statutory costs incurred as a public company, general investor relations expenses, consulting, travel, health benefits, salaries and director costs.

### Net finance income (costs)

The Company considers financing activities to be part of the Corporate segment.

Finance costs were \$574,000 and \$1,180,000 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (June 30, 2019 - \$744,000 and \$1,436,000), representing the Company's most significant expense. Cash and accrued interest expense were \$574,000 and \$1,133,000 for the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 (June 30, 2019 - \$515,000 and \$1,013,000), respectively. The increase in interest expense during 2020 compared with 2019 is mainly related to the compounding of interest outstanding on various unsecured debts.



The Company has several tranches of Promissory Convertible Notes issued. There are several elements of finance costs associated with these notes: accrued and cash-settled interest expense, non-cash amortization of loan fees, non-cash amortization of the embedded derivatives related to the value of the convertibility feature, the change in the fair value of the embedded derivatives, and the non-cash amortization of the present value discount on the Promissory Convertible Notes. All amortizable elements are calculated using the effective interest rate method. During the three and six months ended June 30, 2020, the amortization of the embedded derivatives on the Promissory Convertible Notes amounted to \$nil and \$47,000 (June 30, 2019 - \$108,000 and \$206,000), respectively.

The embedded derivatives are calculated using the Black-Scholes option-pricing methodology and are a function of share price, the conversion price, risk-free interest rate, length of time to expiry and share price volatility as well as the US dollar exchange rate for loans denominated in US dollars, but convertible using a Canadian dollar price. All other things being equal, one would expect the value of the option to decline as time approaches the expiry date. However, because of the volatility of exchange rates and the Company's share price, this may not always be the case.

Finance income during the three and six months ended June 30, 2020 was \$39,000 and \$283,000 (June 30, 2019 - \$nil and \$nil), respectively, which relates to a net foreign exchange gain due to the change in the foreign exchange rate between US and Canadian dollars.

### Income tax expense (recovery)

The Company does not allocate income taxes between segments. The Company has significant deferred tax assets that do not meet the criteria for recognition and as a result, did not record a tax recovery. Certain components of finance income and finance costs are not taxable, and their volatility has an apparent effect on the effective income tax rate.

### Other comprehensive income

Other comprehensive income ("OCI") for the three and six months ended June 30, 2019 relates to the net change in fair value of financial assets of \$84,000 and \$nil. These changes are a result of the net market value changes and/or gain or loss in the sale of the Company's marketable securities. The Company sold a majority of its marketable securities for \$149,000 during the six months ended June 30, 2019. There were no changes in the fair value of financial assets during the three and six months ended June 30, 2020.

The foreign exchange gain in OCI during the three and six months ended June 30, 2019 of \$57,000 and \$33,000, respectively, was due to the translation of the Company's subsidiaries' functional currency of CAD\$ to the Company's functional currency of US\$.

### Deferred tax asset

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized for temporary differences between the carrying value of the balance sheet items and their corresponding tax values, as well as for the benefit of losses available to be carried forward to future years for tax purposes that are considered probable to be realized. The deferred tax amount reflects a rate of 27% (June 30, 2019 - 27%).



### SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY RESULTS

Selected financial information for each of the last eight quarters is as follows:

(in thousands of United States dollars)

Fiscal year 2020/2019	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter		1st	Quarter	4 <sup>th</sup>	Quarter	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	
Sales	\$	51	\$	257	\$	54	\$	56
Gross (loss) profit	\$	(58)	\$	(28)	\$	(343)	\$	30
General and administrative	\$	(208)	\$	(155)	\$	(224)	\$	(207)
Net finance costs	\$	(535)	\$	(362)	\$	(785)	\$	(625)
Net loss	\$	(913)	\$	(658)	\$	(1,545)	\$	(944)
Total comprehensive loss	\$	(913)	\$	(658)	\$	(1,555)	\$	(929)
Loss per share - basic and diluted	\$	(0.01)	\$	(0.01)	\$	(0.02)	\$	(0.01)
Fiscal year 2019/2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter		1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter		3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	
Sales	\$	190	\$	161	\$	35	\$	207
Gross profit (loss)	\$	34	\$	(6)	\$	(371)	\$	(19)
General and administrative	\$	(243)	\$	(142)	\$	(220)	\$	(220)
Net finance costs	\$	(744)	\$	(692)	\$	(168)	\$	(132)
Net loss	\$	(1,112)	\$	(983)	\$	(28,239)	\$	(205)
Total comprehensive (loss) income	\$	(1,139)	\$	(923)	\$	(28,288)	\$	154
Loss per share - basic and diluted	\$	(0.01)	\$	(0.01)	\$	(0.30)	\$	(0.00)

The gross profit or loss includes cost of goods sold, which contain operating costs for a full period despite production being at less-than-full capacity. During the last quarter of 2019, the Company recorded impairment on inventory to net realizable value. During the last quarter of 2018, the Company recorded a significant impairment in its exploration and evaluation ("E&E") projects and its Minago project. Impairment on inventory to net realizable value was also recorded during the same period.

Net finance income and costs have fluctuated period-over-period during 2018 and 2019, due to the gain in restructuring of debt, change in the fair value of the embedded derivatives, change in the fair value of the Participating Interest (defined below), and amortization of embedded derivatives and loan fees on the Promissory Convertible Notes.

### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

As at June 30, 2020, the Company had a working capital deficiency of \$11,529,000, compared with a working capital deficiency of \$20,643,000 as at December 31, 2019. The decrease in the working capital deficiency resulted mainly from the movement of debt from short-term to long-term.

### **Participating Interest**

Pursuant to a participating interest loan (the "Participating Interest") with Nuinsco Resources Limited (or the "Lender"), the Lender converted its outstanding balance into a limited participating interest (the "Conversion"), whereby the Lender is entitled to receive a share of cash flows earned from the sale of frac sand from the 7P Plant. The Conversion constituted payment of the loan in full. This obligation will be settled through a 52.16% participation in net operating cash flows from the frac sand business after recoupment of capital costs for phase one and pre-operating expenses. The participation is capped at CAD\$7,667,124 provided the Company proceeds with phase two (see FRAC SAND SEGMENT below for a description of phases one, two and three), otherwise the cap is approximately CAD\$10,222,831. Distributions under the Participating Interest terms are calculated based on operating cash flow after recovery of capital and pre-operating costs and take into account working capital. Until there is an improvement in the frac sand market from the uncertainty seen in recent years and given the operating losses incurred since 2014, it is not likely that any payments will be made on the participating interest. As a result, at June 30, 2020, the carrying value of the Participating Interest was \$1,000, compared with \$1,000 at December 31, 2019. Any change in value is recorded through Finance Income or Cost in the statement of operations. The Company will continue to reassess the carrying value of the Participating Interest as circumstances warrant.



### **Secured Debt**

The Secured Debt of \$7,050,000 had a maturity date of January 31, 2020. On January 31, 2020, the maturity date on the Secured Debt of \$7,050,000 and related accrued interest was extended to July 31, 2021. The interest rate on the Secured Debt and additional loans remained unchanged at 14.8% with interest payable in arrears.

The Secured Debt is due in full on the date of maturity, subject to a cash sweep of 75% of free cash flow ("Free Cash Flow") payable within 45 days following the end of each fiscal quarter and 90 days from each fiscal year end. Free Cash Flow will be calculated based on the Company's quarterly unaudited and annually audited consolidated statements of cash flows, as net cash from operating and investing activities, plus interest and lease payments from financing activities. Allowable investing activities must be approved in advance by the Secured Lender.

In addition, the Company has agreed to not make any payments to settle past unsecured debt prior to the repayment of the Secured Debt, without the Secured Lender's approval. Based on current conditions, no payments are expected to be made under the terms of the cash sweep during 2019.

### **Promissory Convertible Notes**

During 2016, the Company announced that it had restructured a portion of its debt through private placements of common shares and Promissory Convertible Notes, in settlement of current indebtedness to certain of its unsecured lenders and trade creditors.

The Company has not made any interest payments due on its Promissory Convertible Notes, which has resulted in the Company defaulting on these notes.

### **Promissory Convertible Note Holders**

The Promissory Convertible Notes have the following original terms:

- A maturity date of July 31, 2018;
- An interest rate of 7% per annum, payable annually or at any time in cash or in common shares valued at market, at the option of the Company;
- Convertible at CAD\$0.25 per share, at the option of the holder; and
- Holders of the Promissory Convertible Notes will also receive one common share purchase warrant for every four common shares acquired upon conversion of the Promissory Convertible Notes, with an exercise price of CAD\$0.50 per share, exercisable for a five-year period from the date of conversion.

On July 31, 2018, the Company obtained approval from certain holders of Promissory Convertible Notes amounting to CAD\$357,000 and \$1,396,000, to extend the maturity date to January 31, 2020, from July 31, 2018, upon the issuance of an aggregate total of 532,899 common shares of the Company. These Promissory Convertible Notes increased by the amount of unpaid interest of CAD\$72,000 and \$281,000. Concurrent with the extension of these Promissory Convertible Notes, the conversion option above was also extended to January 31, 2020 with the same terms as noted above. All other terms remain the same as the original terms. Those notes which were not extended to January 31, 2020 remain in default and are presented as current. The conversion rights on those notes expired.

### **Debt Owed to Directors and Management**

Current directors and management deferred payment, until January 31, 2020, of all outstanding debt and director fees accumulated up to July 31, 2019. As a result, the long-term debt of \$383,000 owed to directors and management is comprised of a portion of the restructured debt owed to current directors and management amounting to CAD\$224,000, and unpaid director fees incurred by current directors during 2016, 2017, 2018 and the first half of 2019 totalling CAD\$283,000.

### **Outstanding Note**

During 2016, all of the then holders of promissory convertible notes participated in the Debt Restructuring Agreement except for the one holder of the Outstanding Note of \$3,000,000. In March 2016, the Company announced that it had received notice that the holder of the Outstanding Note had filed a statement of claim concerning non-payment of principal and interest. The Company has reviewed the statement of claim with legal counsel to assess its impact on the Company and has concluded that there is no significant impact on the status of the Company's debt. Pursuant to the terms of the Secured Debt, the Company is prevented from making payments under outstanding unsecured debt until the Secured Debt is repaid. As a result, the Company has not paid interest accrued on the Outstanding Note. The Outstanding Note matured in July 2016 and the Company has been unable to repay the amounts owing and interest payments due. This has resulted in the Company defaulting on the Outstanding Note.



### Other loans with Secured Lender

The Company's Secured Lender has provided working capital advances on a monthly basis, to ensure the protection of the Company's core assets. These loans also bear interest at 14.8% per annum and are secured by a general security agreement over the Company's assets and have a maturity date of July 31, 2021.

### Canada Emergency Business Account ("CEBA")

In April 2020, the Government of Canada implemented the CEBA, whereby certain businesses could apply for an interest-free loan of up to \$40,000 to help cover their operating costs. The Company applied for, and received, this loan during April 2020. Up to 25% of the loan will be forgiven if repaid by December 31, 2022.

### Cash Flows during the period

Cash as at June 30, 2020 was held with major Canadian banks. The Company has a policy of investing its available cash in Canadian government instruments and certificates of deposit or other direct obligations of major Canadian banks. For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Company generated cash of \$103,000 through operating activities (June 30, 2019 - \$307,000 was used by operating activities).

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, net cash used by investing activities was \$287,000 (June 30, 2019 – provided \$126,000). During the six months ended June 30, 2020, the company incurred \$279,000 on drilling activities at its Minago property. The Company generated \$149,000 in net proceeds on the sale of marketable securities during the six months ended June 30, 2019.

The Company received \$282,000 from net financing activities during the six months ended June 30, 2020 (June 30, 2019 - \$218,000), mainly due to net receipts of loans from the Secured Lender to support working capital.

The Company's activities during the six months ended June 30, 2020 provided cash of \$98,000 (June 30, 2019 – \$37,000).

### **Other Potential Sources of Cash Flow**

The Company has over 13,000 tons of sand in inventory at June 30, 2020. The Company has eliminated all discretionary costs that should not have a negative impact on its ability to resume production. Staffing, salaries and director fees have been previously reduced or accrued and deferred where possible.

### REPORTING SEGMENT

The Company is engaged in the exploration, evaluation and development of properties for the mining and production of nickel and associated products. The Company also produces frac sand for the oil and gas industry in Canada and the northern US. The Company has three reporting segments: Corporate, Exploration and Development, and Frac Sand. The Corporate segment supports all of the Company's activities.

Senior management makes decisions with respect to exploration and development by considering exploration and development potential and results on a project basis. The Company's projects are all located in Canada.

The frac sand segment is managed and operated by Victory Silica's executives and employees although the business and operating assets are part of Victory Nickel. The segment is located in Canada.

The following table provides additional information on the Company's total segment assets:

	June 30, 2020	December 31, 2019
Canada		
Corporate	\$ 1,637 \$	1,531
Exploration and development	16,509	16,230
Frac sand	2,537	2,989
Intersegment elimination	(1,441)	(1,441)
Total Assets	\$ 19,242 \$	19,309



### **EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES**

Paul Jones is a "qualified person" as defined under NI-43-101 and has approved the preparation of the information relating to the material mineral projects of the Company described herein.

### MINE PROPERTY AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

### Minago Project

During the six months ended June 30, 2020, \$279,000 was incurred on the Minago project (June 30, 2019 - \$17,000).

The Company's 100%-owned Minago project is a permitted project ready for development. It is located on the unexposed southern part of the Thompson Nickel Belt in Manitoba, and is one of Canada's largest undeveloped sulphide nickel deposits. Minago has been shown to be capable of producing a nickel concentrate grading from 22.3% up to 35.0%, making it reportedly the world's highest grade nickel concentrate. In addition to metal by-products such as copper, cobalt, gold, platinum, palladium, silver and rhodium, a layer of silica sand averaging approximately nine metres thick overlies the nickel mineralization within the open pit. Approximately 84% of the sand is marketable as frac sand. The frac sand forms part of the overburden that must be removed prior to mining the nickel ore. According to the Minago FS, production of frac sand could begin 20 months after the start of mine development.

The analytical data and geological interpretations obtained from a work program in 2010 were incorporated into an updated geological model and resource estimate. The updated resource incorporates a 24% increase (over the previous resource estimate) in the NI 43-101 measured and indicated and pit-constrained sulphide nickel resource used in the Minago FS. The Minago FS is available at www.sedar.com. Note that all resources are contained in the Nose Deposit and the update below does not include the results of the 2011 drilling program.

	April 2011 Pit-Constrained Resource <sup>1</sup>			March 2	2010 In-Pit R	Increase (Decrease) in Contained Metal			
	Tonnes	Grade	Ni Content	Tonnes	Grade	Ni Content	Ni Content	Change	
Category	Millions	%NiS <sup>3</sup>	M Lb	Millions	%NiS <sup>3</sup>	M Lb	M Lb	%	
Measured	8.2	0.473	85.0	6.6	0.488	71.4	13.7	19.2	
Indicated	22.8	0.432	217.2	19.1	0.410	172.6	44.6	25.9	
M&I	31.0	0.443	302.2	25.7	0.430	243.9	58.3	23.9	
Inferred	0.2	0.380	1.4	1.4	0.402	12.2	(10.8)	(88.4)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lerch-Grossman pit optimization shell

On August 23, 2011, the Manitoba Government issued Victory Nickel's final EAL for the Minago project. The licence was to expire on August 22, 2014 unless the Company completes a certain amount of work to move the project forward. During 2014, the Company complied with the conditions of the EAL and, in December 2014, filed an Environmental Act Proposal ("EAP") to amend the EAL to relocate the proposed tailings and waste rock management facility. The construction of drainage ditches installed to lower the water table within the pit shell limits, the installation of Flow Gauging and Telemetry systems and the implementation of a comprehensive environmental monitoring program are considered part of the site development necessary to maintain the EAL. Consultations with First Nations by the government of Manitoba continue. The existing EAL continues to be valid and although the amendment would be preferable, it is not necessary for the Minago project to be developed. On completion of consultations, the government is expected to issue the amendment to the existing EAL.

On April 8, 2020, the Company announced the completion of two exploration diamond drill holes at Minago. The two-hole program at the Minago project targeted geophysical responses underlying the northern part of the property and constitutes condemnation testing related to potential infrastructure development for future project purposes. The geophysical targets tested were identified during historic surveys conducted by previous workers as well as a VTEM survey conducted for the Company in 2007. Due to the limitations on personnel movement resulting from restrictions stemming from the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, processing of core and receipt of assay results are likely to be significantly delayed.

### Minago Frac Sand

An indicated resource of 15 million tonnes of sandstone has been estimated to occur within the current Minago pit



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Whittle pit optimization shell

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Nickel in sulphide form

shell. The frac sand component of this resource is approximately 11 million tonnes and is a significant contributor to the positive economics at Minago. As part of the FS, Outotec produced a feasibility-level design for a frac sand plant complete with capital and operating costs to produce 1,140,000 tonnes of frac sand annually for a ten-year period. Considerable potential exists to expand the resource beyond the limits of the current pit.

### **EXPLORATION AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES**

For the six months ended June 30, 2020, the Company incurred \$8,000 on exploration expenditures on its E&E projects (June 30, 2019 – \$nil). Expenditures have been reduced due to the tight equity markets and management's focus on Victory Silica and the frac sand business.

### Frac Sand

Bear Coulee Property

In October 2014, the Company entered into an option to acquire a 100% interest in a frac sand land package totaling over 300 acres in Trempeleau County Wisconsin, USA (the "Bear Coulee Property"). The option agreement provides for a cash payment of \$10,000 on signing of the agreement (paid in 2014), a second cash payment on delivery of permits (which has not yet been completed) and a third cash payment on exercise of the option. The option is valid for six months following receipt of permits with two equivalent extensions available under certain circumstances. Prior to production, the Company will be required to pay \$40,000 per annum as advance royalties on the initial 20,000 tons of sand production. Once the Bear Coulee Property is in production, the Company will be required to pay a royalty of \$2.00 per ton of frac sand sold from the property.

In February 2015, the Company announced the completion of a National Instrument 43-101 technical report describing a resource estimate of approximately 11 million tons of frac sand on the Bear Coulee Property.

### **Short Grass Property**

In October 2018, Victory Silica entered into the Exploration and Option Agreement with Short Grass Ranches Ltd. giving the Company the option to mine frac sand from the Short Grass Property, located in Alberta, Canada, approximately 52 kilometres from the 7P Plant.

Under the terms of the Exploration and Option Agreement, the Company had a 180-day period to evaluate the Short Grass Property. The Company completed third-party testing of sand resources on the Short Grass Property. In April 2019 the Company notified the Owner of its exercise of the Exploration and Option Agreement.

On February 6, 2020, Victory Silica executed the Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement with the Owner to develop a commercial frac sand mine. The initial term of the Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement is for five years with the ability to extend for additional five-year terms and will pay the Owner a royalty for net frac sand sold from the Short Grass Property. The Non-Metallic Mineral Rights Agreement gives the Company the potential to produce in-basin domestic sand which has grown in popularity in North America as a means for the Company's customers and potential customers to reduce their overall frac cost. Any sand mined from the Short Grass Property would be trucked to the 7P Plant for processing and sale alongside existing inventory.

The Short Grass Property has a high-quality sand resource, is well-located and gives the Company the opportunity to access new customers in evolving markets.

### Nickel

Lac Rocher

Lac Rocher, with year-round access, is located in northwestern Québec and has measured (0.29 million tonnes grading 1.23% Ni) and indicated (0.51 million tonnes grading 1.05% Ni) resources of 0.80 million tonnes grading 1.12% nickel, at a 0.5% nickel cutoff, for approximately 20 million pounds of in-situ nickel located between surface and 125 vertical metres. Additional inferred resources total 0.44 million tonnes grading 0.65% Ni. Mineralization remains open to the southwest. The breakeven price of nickel per pound in the Lac Rocher PEA was US\$9.74 with copper at US\$3.65 with an exchange of CAD\$0.95 / US\$1.00.

The Lac Rocher property is subject to a discovery incentive plan (the "DIP") to reward certain individuals involved in the discovery of Lac Rocher with a 2% net smelter royalty ("NSR") for mines that were discovered on certain properties prior to the expiry of the DIP. The NSR is payable only on revenues earned after recovery of all development costs for any mine on the property. The terms of the DIP provide the Company with a right of first refusal on any proposed



disposition of the NSR. In addition, the DIP contains put/call provisions under which the Company may be required to purchase, or may exercise an option to purchase, the NSR at the value of its discounted cash flows, as defined therein. The Lac Rocher property is the only property subject to the DIP. As the Lac Rocher property is not yet in production, no royalties are currently payable. No work has been conducted on site since December 2009.

### Mel Project

The 100% owned Mel project is located on the Thompson Nickel Belt, just north of Thompson, Manitoba and remains underexplored.

Mel has an indicated resource of 4.3 million tonnes grading 0.88% nickel (approximately 83 million pounds in-situ nickel) and an additional inferred resource of one million tonnes grading 0.84% nickel (approximately 19 million pounds in-situ nickel) and offers significant exploration upside as well as near-term production potential.

The re-evaluation of the Mel dataset has been completed for both the drill hole data on the Mel deposit and the considerable drilling (111 drill holes) conducted on the claims portion of the property. The study has included reinterpretation of the geological context in order to evaluate new or under-tested target areas for future work that can be incorporated into further, more refined, modelling of the Mel resource. No fieldwork has been conducted since 2011. An application to renew Mel mining lease ML-007 was successful and the lease has been renewed for a 21-year term.

Under the terms of the Mel option agreement with Vale, Vale must mill ore from the Mel project at cash costs plus 5% subject to capacity availability and metallurgy – this is unaffected by Vale's decision not to exercise its back-in right. Furthermore, in accordance with the terms of the agreement with Vale, they now are entitled to a 10% royalty on "distributable earnings" as defined in the agreement. Distributable earnings is defined as net revenue less operating expenses, before federal and provincial income taxes, after provincial mining taxes and less aggregate pre-production capital but before depreciation.

### Lynn Lake

The Lynn Lake property is located in the historic mining town of Lynn Lake in northern Manitoba, about 320km by road northwest of the Thompson mining camp. The property is the former Sherritt Gordon Mines Limited ("Sherritt") mine site known as the Lynn Lake A Mine and Farley Mine, comprised of 13 mining claims, 14 mining claim leases and 2 mineral leases covering an area of 2,170.26 hectares. The property was operated by Sherritt from 1953 to 1976 with reported production of 22.2 million tons at an average grade of 1.023% nickel and 0.535% copper.

The Lynn Lake nickel property covers approximately 600 ha in northern Manitoba. In November 2014, the Company announced that it had optioned Lynn Lake to Corazon. Under the terms of the option agreement, subject to any required regulatory approvals, Corazon can acquire a 100% interest in Lynn Lake by issuing to Victory Nickel, 40,000,000 Corazon shares upon closing and incurring AU\$3,500,000 in exploration expenditures or payments (in cash or Corazon shares at Corazon's option) to Victory Nickel before December 19, 2019. In April 2015, the Company received 40,000,000 shares of Corazon valued at \$192,000 as part of the option agreement. These shares were subsequently sold. On January 14, 2020, the Company received an interim report from Corazon, indicating that over AU\$3,500,000 in exploration expenditures has been incurred. The Company is currently in the process of reviewing the interim report.

If the terms of the option are determined to not have been met, Corazon shall either pay to the Company (in cash or in Corazon shares, at the discretion of Corazon) the difference between AU\$3,500,000 and the amount spent by Corazon on Lynn Lake or elect to return the property to the Company. If the terms of the option are met, Victory Nickel will retain a 1.5% net smelter royalty on production from Lynn Lake and receive a payment of AU\$1,000,000 (in cash or Corazon shares at Corazon's option) within 30 days of the commencement of ore processing activities.

### **FRAC SAND SEGMENT**

As explained above, the frac sand segment is managed and operated by Victory Silica, although the business and operating assets are part of Victory Nickel. The segment is located in Canada although sand as raw material is currently imported from the United States. The plan is to eventually produce both domestic and imported sand.



The Company completed phase one of its three phase business plan. Phase one provided for the refurbishment and upgrading of the 7P Plant to a capacity of 500,000 tpa of high-quality frac sand. Phase one was completed in 2014.

The Board of Directors approved proceeding with phase two, provided non-dilutive financing could be arranged. However, in 2015, the Company announced that phase two had been deferred due to the uncertainty caused by the drop in the price of oil. However, phase two remains a desirable next step which could not only make the Company more competitive, but also provide significant flexibility to target certain markets which often require different grades of sand.

Phase two is to build a wash plant on a Wisconsin sand resource. Frac sand production is a two-stage process: the wet stage (washing) and the dry stage. The Company has historically contracted out the wet stage in Wisconsin prior to shipping the wet sand to its plant in Alberta. The wet stage removes impurities, enabling transport of only the desired sand size fractions. The dry stage, where the sand is dried and separated into several products of different sizes, is completed at the Company's 7P Plant.

Phase three of the business plan is to build a second dry processing facility in or around Winnipeg, Manitoba capable of producing 1,000,000 tpa. A site serviced by multiple rail carriers would give the Company more flexibility in accessing only the highest quality sand from the Wisconsin/Minnesota region. The ultimate plan is to provide customers with a variety of qualities, which would include domestic sand from the Company's Minago project in Manitoba (see above). The Minago project is a nickel project overlain by overburden, which includes high-purity silica sand. The sand located at Minago is the highest-quality domestic sand and would be a welcome addition to the Company's mix of products as not all of the Company's customers' applications require Wisconsin sand.

As a result of commodity market uncertainty, the 7P Plant operates on an as-needed basis only. Due to continued uncertainty in the oil price E&P companies have reduced capital expenditure programs, placing pressure on Victory Nickel's oilfield service company customers to reduce E&P company drilling costs. These companies, in turn, look to their suppliers, including frac sand producers, to help lower their costs. Accordingly, frac sand prices in Canada have decreased to levels that do not appear to be sustainable over the long term.

### TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

### Related Party Balances and Transactions for Services

Short-term employee benefits provided by the Company to key management personnel include salaries, directors' fees, statutory contributions, paid annual vacation and paid sick leave as well as non-monetary benefits such as medical care. The Company may also issue options and common shares as part of the stock option plan and the share bonus plan. Payables to key management personnel generally relate to directors' fees, consulting fees and expense reimbursements.

Balances with related parties are shown in the following table for the periods ended:

(in thousands of United States dollars)	June 30,	December 31,
	2020	2019
Balances Outstanding		
Debt due to key management personnel	\$ 383	\$ 383
Other payables and accrued liabilities due to key management personnel	800	675
	\$ 1,183	\$ 1,058

Key management personnel compensation is comprised of:

(in thousands of United States dollars)		Three months ended				Six months ended			
	June	30, 2020	June	30, 2019	June	e 30, 2020	June	e 30, 2019	
Short-term employee benefits	\$	115	\$	168	\$	230	\$	276	
	\$	115	\$	168	\$	230	\$	276	



### **OUTSTANDING SHARE DATA**

As at August 24, 2020, the Company had 97,903,867 common shares issued and outstanding. In addition, there were 11,900,000 stock options outstanding with a weighted average exercise price of CAD\$0.05.

### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

### Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Company's Interim Chief Executive Officer and Acting Chief Financial Officer (the "Certifying Officer"), is responsible for designing a system of disclosure controls and procedures, or causing them to be designed under their supervision, to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in reports filed with or submitted to, securities regulatory authorities is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified under Canadian securities laws and that material information relating to the Company is made known to them with respect to financial and operational conditions to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Such controls are facilitated by the small size of the Company's senior management team and their access to material information.

### Internal Control over Financial Reporting

The Company's Certifying Officer is responsible for designing a system of internal controls over financial reporting, or causing them to be designed under their supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of consolidated financial statements for external purposes in accordance with Canadian GAAP. Management of the Company was required to apply its judgement in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. The result of the inherent limitations in all control systems means no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, have been detected.

### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This MD&A contains forward-looking information. All statements, other than statements of historic fact, that address activities, events or developments that the Company believes, expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future (including, without limitation, statements regarding estimates and/or assumptions in respect of production, revenue, cash flow, costs, economic return, net present value, mine life and financial models, mineral resource estimates, potential mineralization, potential mineral resources, timing of possible production, the Company's development plans and objectives and the ability of the Company to restructure its debt with the relevant lenders and the ability of the Company to pay future interest and other payments in connection with such debts) constitute forward-looking information

The forward-looking information contained in this MD&A reflects the current expectations or beliefs of the Company based on information currently available to the Company. Forward-looking information is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties that may cause the actual results of the Company to differ materially from current expectations, including, but not limited to, an unwillingness of the Company's lenders to refinance the Company's debts on terms favourable to the Company or at all and the ability of the Company to continue selling frac sand. Additionally, if the Company is unable to restructure its debts, obtain additional financing and/or continue generating revenue through the sale of frac sand, the Company may be required to curtail activities and/or liquidate its assets or the Company's creditors may seek to seize its assets. For a discussion in respect of risks and other factors that could influence forward-looking events, please refer to the factors discussed in the Company's MD&A for the year ended December 31, 2019, under the heading "Risk Factors". These factors are not and should not be construed as being exhaustive.

Factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from current expectations include, among other things: uncertainty of estimates of capital and operating costs, production estimates and estimated economic return; the possibility that actual circumstances will differ from estimates and assumptions; uncertainties relating to the availability and costs of financing needed in the future; failure to establish estimated mineral resources; fluctuations in commodity prices and currency exchange rates; inflation; recoveries being less than those indicated by the testwork carried out to date (there can be no assurance that recoveries in small scale laboratory tests will be duplicated in large tests under on - site conditions or during production); changes in equity markets; operating performance of facilities; environmental and safety risks; delays in obtaining or failure to obtain necessary permits and approvals from government authorities; unavailability of plant, equipment or labour; inability to retain key management and personnel;



changes to regulations or policies affecting the Company's activities in exploration and development and the frac sand processing business; the uncertainties involved in interpreting geological data; and the other risks disclosed under the heading "Risks and Uncertainties" and elsewhere. Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made and, except as may be required by applicable securities laws, the Company disclaims any intent or obligation to update any forward-looking information, whether as a result of new information, future events or results or otherwise. Although the Company believes that the assumptions inherent in the forward-looking information are reasonable, forward-looking information is not a guarantee of future performance and accordingly undue reliance should not be put on such information due to the inherent uncertainty therein.

August 24, 2020

